

**Minutes of the Dales Way Association Committee Meeting**  
**26<sup>th</sup> February 2011 St Chads Parish Centre, Headingley, Leeds**  
**1.30pm**

**Present: Colin Speakman, Chris Musson, Nikki Trask, Carol Crossland, Douglas Cossar, Alex McManus, Don Holliday, Tony Grogan**

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Were received from Frank Sanderson and Gareth Tracey.

Colin welcomed Tony Grogan to the meeting and all agreed that he be elected to the Committee. Gareth Tracey was also elected as Committee Secretary.

**2. Minutes of the Committee Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2010** were agreed as being a true record of the meeting.

**3. No matters arising not covered elsewhere.**

**4. Proposed new changes to the route of the Dales Way**

Douglas outlined proposals to avoid the large amount of road walking in Dentdale. Discussion then took place regarding the various options available. It was agreed that the walk planned for 2<sup>nd</sup> May for the Committee would be the opportunity to explore the options available and possibly two walks could be held led by Alex and Douglas, publicised in the Newsletter and on the website. A meeting could then be held prior to the AGM to agree the next steps, and any proposal could then be raised at the AGM.

**5. Treasurer/Membership Secretary's Report**

Copy of the report attached. Finances remain healthy and it was noted that it might be necessary to utilise some of the available funds in the future in order to support the National Parks in maintaining the path - as a result of budget cuts. It was agreed that a timescale of 14 days be quoted on the website for delivery of promotional items and processing of membership applications.

**6. Web Masters Report**

Report attached.

Chris reported that loading the bus timetable information on the website was proving to be too complex and it was agreed that this should not be pursued - Colin indicated that a link to the Dales Bus website would provide this information. Alex provided Chris with some information regarding temporary closures to be removed from the website.

The future of the website was discussed as it was felt that in order to keep it up to date more access to change items was required by the Committee than is currently available. Colin indicated that we might need to make an investment in this. Carol informed the Committee that Gareth may be able to provide a contact who may be able to help. Colin suggested a meeting with Gareth and Carol to discuss the possible ways forward. Carol to liaise with Colin and Gareth to arrange.

**7. Footpath Officers Report**

Report attached which indicated that fewer complaints were being received as a result of the improved waymarking now in place. Alex highlighted that due to the proposed spending cuts the DWA may need to become more involved in the maintenance of the paths and be asked to provide financial support to the National Parks for waymarking, broken stiles etc. The LDNPA has requested a contribution to the cost of a finger post at the BOAT junction at Cleabarrow. A contribution of £150 was agreed. Alex informed the Committee that he had sent a copy of his DVD of the Dales Way to the people who contributed to the last newsletter with good feedback. It was agreed that this should be added to the souvenir collection on the website at a cost of £4.99. Carol would forward Alex the orders and the DVDs to be dispatched by Alex.

**8. Accommodation Providers Representative Report**

Report attached. Nikki has followed up on some contacts provided by Douglas in Kettlewell, with one confirmed new member and another possible. Discussion followed about the way forward in identifying new accommodation providers and it was suggested that all the Committee could help by passing any contacts they might find to Nikki. Colin raised the request from the LDWA for a spreadsheet of our members which could be used on their website, however Douglas reported that the amount of work needed to provide the required information was too onerous.

**9. Newsletter**

Alex reported that this was almost complete. Colin to provide an introduction. Carol to provide the notice of AGM. The impending cost of postage was raised and again the possibility of sending by email was discussed. However, It was agreed that the newsletter would continue to be sent by hard copy.

Envelope stuffing on 8<sup>th</sup> April, at Alex's home, all volunteers most welcome, refreshment provided!

**10. Handbook**

All received a copy. Carol to send reminder to Harveys for their advert fee and to review all adverts to ensure payments received.

**11. Next Committee Meeting**

To be held in conjunction with AGM.

**12. AGM 2011**

To be held on 21<sup>st</sup> May at Linton. Carol to book.

**13. Any Other Business**

Tony Grogan presented copies of Colin's new book Dales Way- The Complete Guide to the Committee, together with an invitation to the launch on 30<sup>th</sup> March at the Riverside Hotel in Ilkley, preceded by walk to Addingham at 1pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.30pm.

**Treasurer & Membership Secretary's Report for 26<sup>th</sup> February 2011  
DWA Committee Meeting.**

**FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 4 MONTHS OCT 2010 TO JAN 2011**

**Income £1154.00 Expenditure £698.41**

**Main items:**

<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
Subscriptions	£696.00	Website	£183.01
Donations	£184.00	Donation to Ramblers	£100.00
Handbook	£78.00	General Postage	£62.50
		Expenses	£312.35

**Surplus at end of January £455.35**

**Total bank account balance at end Jan £11572.58**

**MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

9 new members during this reporting period. Membership currently stands at 424, following the usual audit, and removing any members who have not paid within the three months grace.

My main focus continues to be managing the transition of the increased subscription fee for our members who pay by bankers order – approx 50%. Results are encouraging with subscriptions now coming through at the new level, but there are still some anomalies where new standing orders have not been paid at the right level etc, and I will continue to work on these.

**HANDBOOK/CERTIFICATE & BADGE ORDERS/MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS**

I would like to propose that some timescales for delivery are quoted on the website as people are unaware that we collect our post on a weekly basis. On most occasions orders are posted each Monday after collection on the previous Friday or Saturday. However, if an order is posted on a Thurs/Fri it may not arrive until Monday/Tuesday. If we ask people to allow 10 days for delivery, this would manage expectations of delivery times.

*\* Newsletter*

Carol Crossland  
18<sup>th</sup> February 2011