

The Dales Way Association
Committee Meeting – Thursday 6th Sep 2019
12- 2pm Flying Duck, Ilkley

Present: Colin Speakman (Chair), Chris Grogan, Tony Grogan, Gordon Tasker, Kath Doyle (Minutes).

Apologies: Frank Sanderson, Tony Hill, Donald Holliday, Ryk Downes.

Minutes of Committee Meeting July 5th 2019 agreed

Matters arising: none.

Meeting called to review the 50th Anniversary celebrations.

Feedback from Dales Way 50th Anniversary events

The walk

This was a great success on a glorious sunny day and had gone very smoothly thanks to the careful planning by Chris, Tony and Colin and the excellent volunteer stewards who ensured the safety of all the walkers on the route from Ilkley to Bolton Abbey. This was particularly needed at the difficult road crossing on the B6160 near Farfield Meeting House.

Some participants dropped out at various stages of the walk and were escorted to bus stops or provided with taxis or lifts to get them back to Ilkley. The vintage buses were the highlight of the day and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the journey back to Ilkley.

Action: Gordon to follow up with Barbara Henderson on the B6160 as to what progress has been made with the authorities regarding this stretch of road.

The exhibition

The opening and launch of the exhibition went very well on the Saturday and Sunday of the first weekend, with lots of visitors sharing their memories of walking the Dales Way. Subsequent changes made to the layout of the display by the Manor House were very disappointing given the months of planning by Gordon and Kath and the contributions from our stakeholders/ partner organisations.

Action: Kath to write to the Chair of the Manor House to offer lessons learned to assist with future exhibitions.

Action: Colin to raise at Colvend meeting if TIC at Grassington would like to have the DW banners on display in the Spring of 2020.

The Ultramarathon

This was hugely successful and very well organised by Ryk. Colin went up to Dentedale on the Saturday to greet the runners as they came down from Bowness, which was much appreciated. Colin stated that the impact of the runners on the Dales Way was minimal as they were well spread out along the route. First home was Keith Wigley who ran the Dales Way in an amazing 14 hours, 35 minutes and 53 seconds!

DW talk and the Coffee Morning

Colin said these had both been very well attended and received.

Other events include: The Friends of the Dales walked the DW Harrogate Link on 31st August; Shipley Walkers are Welcome are walking the Bradford DW link on Saturday 14th September and Colin will be giving a Dales Way talk at Otley Courthouse on 6th December 2019.

Action: Kath and Gordon to support Colin at the Courthouse event, bring banners etc. Chris to provide copies of the commemorative book for sale at the event.

AGM – the AGM will take place on Saturday October 19th at 2pm in The Flying Duck in Ilkley. A lunch of sandwiches and chips will be provided at 1pm. There will be a presentation by Colin of photographs from the DW 50th celebrations. This will be preceded by a walk.

Action: Colin to agree the details of the walk with Tony G and place on the website.
Chris to issue an email invitation to members to attend the AGM.

Autumn Newsletter- it was agreed that a Autumn Newsletter would not be issued, following a very busy period of activity for the committee. A Spring 2020 Newsletter will be a special edition to highlight the DW 50th Anniversary events which took place throughout 2019.

The committee -strengthening the membership and Donalds's roles

Tony Hill has agreed to remain on the committee for 2020 in his current role liaising with accommodation providers; Donald will continue to liaise with Kendal Ramblers and deal with issues at the Lake District end of the DW. Gordon agreed to stand at the next AGM for the position of Treasurer.

It was agreed that we need to seek other members to join the committee to future proof the organisation and a variety of ways of achieving this were discussed.

Reports from the areas, accomodation, web and membership reports – none

Finance Report – Chris reported that the balance as at 1st August 2019 is £5,514

Date of next committee meeting - Thursday 16th January 2020 - venue to be agreed.

Any other business. There being no other business the meeting closed at 2pm