

## **Dales Way Association Committee Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

**Location:** The Red Lion, Burley-in-Wharfedale.

**Attendees:** Colin Speakman, Chris Grogan, Ryk Downes, Gordon Tasker, Kath Doyle.

**Apologies:** Tony Grogan

Minutes of the last committee meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> January 2023 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

### **Matters Arising**

Colin confirmed he had approached Paul Wilkinson and Kendal Ramblers re Footpath Officer role for Lake District. He also confirmed he had passed on the enquiry re Farfield Meeting House to Friends of the Dales, however they were unable to take ownership.

Ryk confirmed John Harpham happy to undertake role for Sedbergh to Burneside.

Gordon confirmed he had contacted Frank Sanderson's partner and she will let him know if she locates DWA archive material.

### **Update on Progress with the Staithe**

Colin provided a draft of his letter to Ben Heyes to the committee outlining progress to date and a potential way forward. He stated that he had previously contacted Draughton Parish Council who responded that they were unable to provide a guarantee on maintenance of this section.

Following discussion, the committee agreed to Colin's suggested solution that the DWA would look after the maintenance of the path. David Asher from Burley Walkers are Welcome had indicated that they had volunteers who regularly undertake work on footpaths for Bradford Council and subject to site visit and appraisal, they may be willing to construct the path if and when we receive permission from the Chatsworth Estate.

### **Footpath Reports**

#### **Bradford MDC/ North Yorkshire**

##### **Ilkley to Bolton Bridge**

Gordon reported that there had been no new issues raised since the last committee meeting and he and Kath intended to walk the section over the summer and replace some of the tired and worn Dales Way markers.

#### **YDNPA**

Chris said she and Tony had walked the section from Burneside to Staveley at the end of last year. No further issues to report.

## Membership Report

Chris reported there had been no feedback from members on the changes made to the website /membership status. Payments are being received regularly. We lost 7 Paypal members in February 2023.

## Finance Report -2022/23

The DWA Current Account balance at 31st March 2023 was £12,057.23. £1,000.00 has been earmarked as a contribution to the proposed work on the Staithe.

Gordon reported he had investigated the DWA Deposit Account and since the last transaction in May 2015 there has only been one minor interest accrual and the account balance currently stands at £2,643.51.

The Committee agreed to close the Deposit Account and transfer the sum to the Current Account for ease and transparency. A letter of authorisation was signed by Colin, Chris and Gordon.

Having received the 31st March 2023 bank statement Gordon will work with Martin Bairstow, Spenser Wilson & Co Chartered Accountants, to start the process of auditing the 2022/23 accounts.

**Action:** Gordon to instruct the bank to close the Deposit Account and transfer funds to the Current Account. **COMPLETED** on 13th April 2023.

**Action:** Gordon to analyse funds contributed by DWA to Storm Desmond repairs so the committee can continue to support any future impacts of climate change on the route.

## Accommodation Provider Liaison Report

Kath reported she had contacted those Dales Way Accommodation providers with email addresses to introduce herself and to ask them to review their entry on our website; of the 64 sent replies were received from 14; 10 email addresses proved to no longer exist. There are also 23 entries without email addresses who require telephone calls to see if they are still operating.

**Action:** Kath to send a second email to those who have not responded with a 2-week deadline for reply. Committee members will then double check these before we delete from the website.

**Action:** Gordon and Kath will telephone those without email addresses to check status.

## AGM 2023

Rearranged AGM agreed for Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023 12-.14.30 at the Red Lion, Burley in Wharfedale.

**Action:** Kath to draft note and send to Chris. **COMPLETED.** Chris to issue via email to members.

**Action:** Kath to book private dining room and light buffet at Red Lion. **COMPLETED**

**Action:** Colin to agree details of DWA walk for the morning of Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2023- possibly from Grassington -and publicise to members.

## **Dales Way Newsletter**

The committee agreed to produce a Newsletter in August.

**Action:** Content to be sent to Kath by 1<sup>st</sup> August 23.

**Colin** -Chairmans Report (to include tribute to Alex)

**Chris**- Westmoreland Changes

**Gordon** -Board restoration/ Walk on Dales Way

**Ryk** - Dark Skies/ Grassington to Kettlewell Conistone Pie

**Kath**- ask Charlotte – Rivers Trust for article on the Wharfe. **COMPLETED**

## **Date of next DWA Committee Meeting**

The committee will meet on Thursday 17th August 2023 at 12:00 noon at the Red Lion, Burley-in-Wharfedale.

**Action:** Kath to book room with the Red Lion and confirm arrangements with committee members. **COMPLETED.**

**Action:** Agenda items from committee members to Kath by Tuesday 1st August 2023.

## **AOB**

**Annual Membership of Friends of the Dales.**

**Action:** Chris to renew on line and Gordon to forward cheque for £40.

The Meeting closed at 2:45pm