

**The Dales Way Association**  
**Committee Meeting – Thursday 12th April 2018**  
**11am Friends Meeting House, Settle**

**Present:** Colin Speakman (Chair) Alex McManus, Donald Holliday, Chris Grogan ,Tony Grogan, Gordon Tasker, Kath Doyle (Minutes).

**1- Apologies:** Frank Sanderson, Tony Hill.

**2-Minutes** of the Committee Meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018 were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

**3-Matters arising.** There were no matters arising

**4- Footpath Officer's Report.** Alex reported that discussions are taking place regarding the proposed footpath at Bolton Road across the chipping staithe and through Lob Wood. The latest news is that Phil Richards from YDNPA is meeting Ben Heyes from Bolton Abbey Estate next week.

The Burneside Initiative ,as has already been reported, DWA supports the concept of the route in principle.

**Action-** Tony Hill to inform us when a proposal is ready for our consideration.

Improvements have taken place between Burton House and Oak Bank Road under Cumbria County Councils Flood Recovery Programme including a swing gate to replace a stone step stile and a proper footbridge replacing a damaged plank crossing.

A request has been made to LDNPA to upgrade some of their fingerposts. They have suggested a scheme where gates, stiles and fingerposts can be adopted with a suitable plaque and have placed 5 fingerposts on their website at £250 each. It was agreed at the meeting should these remained unsponsored the DWA would contribute £750 at the end of the season for the standard blade at £150 each.

**Action-** Tony G to provide a feature for the front page of our website to encourage individuals to adopt a fingerpost.

Another video "The Watershed Alternative" is now available on our Home Page. Alex reported that he had sold 4 DVD's since our last committee meeting.

**5- Finance Report.** Donald confirmed the balance of our bank account at the end of March 2018 as £5077. This does not include a recent deposit of £499.36 from PayPal.

**6- Accommodation, Web and Membership Reports inc new Data Protection.**

Tony Hill provided a written **Accommodation update** for the meeting. He has contacted accommodation providers to ask them to update their information for our website. He commented that it was a great shame that the Buck Inn at Buckden had not yet reopened as it created a gap in the trail

**Action-** Gordon to contact Buckden local Councillor for a progress update.

Tony commented on the increasing number of walking companies using the route and the now £9 per day cost of baggage handling. Sherpavan have ceased their taxi service from Bowness to Ilkley and a taxi from Bowness to Ilkley now costs £120 pounds. The train journey can be tedious requiring a number of changes.

**Action** – Colin to write an article for the website suggesting an alternative where walkers could leave their car in Skipton and use the X84 bus service.

Reports from walkers on the quality of accommodation providers is highly encouraging, by and large. Visitors to the DW are still coming from across the Globe, particularly Australia, Germany, Holland and Scandanavia. We have also had walkers from China, Venezuela, Israel and New Zealand.

Sadly Tony reports that even after over 2 years Ford Bridge, damaged after Storm Desmond in Burneside remains closed to all traffic except pedestrians.

Chris reported under her **Membership** update that she had taken the necessary steps to ensure the DWA is compliant with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) which come in to effect on May 25th 2018. To this end she has identified:

- the Spreadsheet held of expired memberships should be deleted by 25th May 2018.
- in the email accompanying the Spring 2018 enewsletter Chris highlighted to each member their data held i.e. name, address, email and the purpose for which we hold the data and that we don't share this with any other organisation. Members are asked to notify if they wish this to be deleted.
- members who have no email address have received a letter containing the same message and asking them to notify us of an email address, if they have one, so we can share the DWA enewsletters with them.
- we need a written Data Protection Policy for our website.

**Action:** Chris to write the statement which is to be ratified by DWA committee members via email and Tony G to place in the Members area of the website.

The committee wished to record their grateful thanks to Chris for undertaking this important piece of work to comply with the Data Protection legislation.

Tony G confirmed there was nothing to report on the Web update.

**7- Plans for the 50th Anniversary of the creation of the Dales Way in 2019.** Wide ranging discussions took place regarding how we might celebrate this important milestone. Currently under consideration are:

- **Official Event**- a lunch of invited guests . Provisional date Thurs 20 or Fri 21 Jun 2019. Possible venues Crook Barn Appletreewick or Fleece at Addingham

**Action-** Colin and Fleur to provide a guest list.

**Action-** Chris and Tony to investigate venues.

- **Volume of poetry** celebrating the Dales Way.

**Action-** Colin to discuss at his meeting with the Wharfedale Poets.

- **Public Walk** on the Dales Way to Addingham to celebrate 50 years to be held in August 2019.

- **Exhibition** to mark the Dales Way 50th in 2019

**Action-** Kath and Gordon to develop the concept, explore venues and dates etc.

**Action** - Colin, Alex and others to provide materials for the exhibition.

Kath mentioned that we have already asked members ,via the newsletter, to let us know of their ideas for the 50th celebration.

**8- -Date of next committee meeting** Thursday 16th August 2018 at 11am in the Friends Meeting House, Settle

**9- Any other business**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 12.57pm