

**The Dales Way Association**  
**Committee Meeting – Thursday 16 January 2014**  
**11am Friends Meeting House, Settle**

**Present:** Alex McManus (Acting Chair), Tony Grogan, Donald Holliday, Chris Grogan, Tony Hill, Kath Doyle (Minutes).

**Apologies:** Frank Sanderson, Colin Speakman.

The Chair warmly welcomed new committee member Tony Hill to the meeting. Tony will represent the accommodation providers on the Dales Way.

**Minutes** of the Committee Meeting of August 8 2013 were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

**Matters arising** from these minutes not dealt with elsewhere on this agenda.

New alternative path at Burneside- publicise diversion from road

**Action** – Alex to approach Cumbria County Council about a sign post

**Action** – Tony H to raise at the next Burneside County Council meeting

**Footpath Officer's Report.** Alex presented his comprehensive report. The majority of DW information boards have been replaced with the new ones. Tony H reported that the Burneside board should be in place by Easter on Millennium Green. There are two spare boards. The committee debated the value of replacing the faded board at Shipley Glen and agreed it would be better to remove it and put a new one on the route.

**Action** – Alex to approach Bradford Council regarding the placing of a board near the start of the Dales Way Link route by Bradford Cathedral.

Alex provided an update on the stocks of Dales Way way marks now that YDNPA are integrating the design into their own way marks.

**Action** – Alex to retain the Dales Way markers with possibility of issuing to members at the next AGM.

Alex stated that he had phoned YDNPA re the completion of the replanking work on the Hebden Suspension Bridge. They reported that the recent bad weather had delayed completion however they were hopeful the work will be completed by the end of March 2014.

**Action-** Alex to look into a commemorative plaque being added to the bridge once the work is completed.

At the AGM Eileen King had asked if it would be possible to have a memorial bench.

**Action-** Alex to approach the authority formally with a request. If this is not forthcoming then Chris suggested that the local Parish councils on the route might be approached to see if they were willing to agree.

Tony G asked what was happening with the diversion around Burton House

**Action-** Alex will provide the latest information and Tony G will update the website.

Alex reported that we had sold 9 DVDs since July. The committee discussed ways of continuing to promote the DVD

**Action-** Tony H to remind all accommodation providers. Alex to produce new DVD flyer.

**Finance Report.** Donald presented the Finance Report. He stated that £500 was committed to the YDNPA to rebuild 3 sections of river wall, along side of the footpath, to the west of Barth Bridge.

Chris provided the most recent bank statement and reported that we had sent our first claim for Gift Aid for memberships between April and September 2013, an acknowledgement from Inland Revenue had been received but the payment had not appeared on the December statement. Chris has followed this up with the Revenue who confirmed that it had been passed for payment, so should appear on January 2014 statement.

**Membership Report.** Chris provided a verbal update, reporting that membership remains steady . She would still like to encourage members to provide their email addresses to the association as there are still many who have not done so to date. There was a short discussion about how we could all promote both the route and membership.

**Action** – Tony H to approach Kevin Smith at YDNPA Colvend re a supply of DW leaflets.

**Website Report.** Tony G gave the Website Report. He provided the committee members with draft versions of how the new Dales Way logo might look on the new way marks. It was agreed we would wait for the YDNPA to take the next steps.

**Action-** Tony G to produce a revised draft with “the” dropped from Dales Way so that it would be more prominent.

#### **Accommodation Providers Report.**

Tony Hill provided a verbal update. He reported that he had begun to make personal contact with each of the accommodation providers and reactions had been very favourable. In his new role he is keen to improve the layout of the Accommodation list on the website and to have a standard approach to how this information is updated, with the input being written by the accommodation providers. Tony G requested that entries to the Accommodation section of the website be sent to him ready to cut and paste straight in.

**Action-** Tony H to devise a pro forma for Accommodation Providers to complete which he will issue with his next correspondence to them.

**Correspondence.** We received an approach from Safe Hands for Mothers ( a charity promoting a world where no woman should die in pregnancy or childbirth) who are undertaking a Walk for life along the Dales Way from 9th – 14th June 2014. Colin Speakman has responded offering to support them on one of the early stages.

**Action-** Colin to agree the date this with SHFM. Potentially the first stage from Ilkey to Burnsall.

**Date of next Committee Meeting.** Thursday 17th July 2014 11am- 1pm, Friends Meeting House Settle

#### **Any other business.**

Tony G provided a comprehensive presentation on how committee members can post news stories on the Dales Way News blog.

**Action** Tony G to send an email requesting the necessary information from committee members and set them up with a WordPress account.