

The Dales Way Association
Committee Meeting – Thursday 18th January 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 17 August 2017 were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record with one minor amendment.

3-Matters arising. Gordon confirmed that he had been in touch with Buckden Parish Council and it is understood there are new tenants at the Buck Inn, Buckden but latest on Facebook states it is not yet open for business.

4- Footpath Officers Report. Alex reported that the 5th new video has been added to the DW collection on the Home Page and Alex provided Tony Hill with a video fact sheet to be passed to all accommodation providers so walkers can be made aware.

Alex contacted LDNPA regarding the state of the fingerposts on route. Den Porter responded to say he will walk the route. Colin felt it would be useful to remind walkers that they can help by reporting issues to the DWA.

Action –Alex to progress and provide photos of fingerposts and Tony G to place reminder to walkers on the website.

Alex stated that YDNPA have no data collected by the counter after 2014 and that the authority plan to include a new counter as part of their current review.

Action- Alex to stress to Josie Simpson the importance of capturing this statistical data both for the Authority and the DWA.

5- Bolton Road, Lob Wood Alex provided an update and reported that Alan Hulme YDNPA Head Ranger is meeting Ben Heyes on 19 January where this project will be discussed.

Action – Alex to follow up with Alan to establish the outcome of the discussion at the meeting and update committee members.

6- Dales Way route through Burneside. After a long discussion the committee agreed that the DWA supports the concept of the new route in principle and welcomes the opportunity to comment when there is a firm proposal in place. The committee wished to record that the DWA are unable to commit financially.

Action: Alex to ensure Tony Hill is provided with an update on his return in February.

7- Finance Report- Donald confirmed that the balance of our bank account at end of December was £5486 less one un-cleared cheque of £500 for Fisherman's Bridge, leaving a revised balance of £4986.

8- Feedback from 2017 AGM and plans for 2018. Feedback from the 2017 AGM had been very positive, particularly having Alan Hulme as guest speaker. One attendee asked if more details of the route of the walk could be provided in advance. Two other members had asked if the 2018 AGM could be held before the clocks go back.

The committee agreed that the 2018 DWA AGM will be held on Saturday 13th October 2018 in Ilkley. A walk will take place prior to the meeting and the route will be confirmed nearer the time and details provided on the website.

Actions- Chris to contact the Flying Duck to arrange meeting room/refreshments. Alex to write to Paul to ask if a Ranger could be provided to speak at the AGM. Gordon to explore

whether there is a local amateur photographer / blogger who would be prepared to volunteer to provide a slideshow of their photos of the DW at the AGM.

9-Fisherman's Bridge The opening ceremony will be held on Fri 23rd February 2018 at 2pm and the Committee have been invited to send representatives.

Action- Chris to email to confirm 2/3 members will attend. Members attending to liaise with one another regarding transport arrangements.

10-Spring Newsletter – Kath requested items for inclusion in the newsletter by 16 March 2018. Kath will forward the final version to Tony G. by 16 April 2018 for publishing on the website.

Action- Colin to write welcome/ introduction, Alex to provide update on footpaths, Gordon to provide DW photographs . Other committee members to provide articles as per discussion at meeting.

11- Accommodation, Web and Membership reports. Chris reported that there had been no changes to the number of Members since the AGM.

Chris stated that Tony H had provided a number of updates to accommodation providers details and that these were yet to be changed on the website. Chris stated the good news that Dent Stores B and B was to continue and that there was a new B and B provider at Burneside, Braeside Studios, 1 Ivy Crescent. A new camping site on route at Lincolns Inn Bridge Farm provides toilet and hot and cold water facilities and will take dogs.

Tony G. had nothing new to report on the website.

12- Date of next committee meeting Our next meeting will be Thursday 12th April 2018 at either Burneside or Settle dependent on Tony Hill's availability. **Action:** Chris to provisionally book the Friends Meeting House.

13- Any other business

Colin asked committee members to consider ways in which we might encourage financial contributions towards the upkeep of the DW by the growing number of holiday /courier companies who cover the DW route and now number in excess of a dozen.

Action- Chris to add to the agenda for the April meeting.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 12.50 pm