

**Minutes of The Meeting of Ramblers Association Strathkelvin Group
held online using ZOOM at 7:15pm on Thursday 2nd November 2023**

Present: Jim Lawson - Chairperson and Footpaths; Martha Thom – Secretary; Neil Kitchener - Programme Co-ordinator; Stuart Ferguson - Membership Secretary;
Robert Bain – Treasurer and Bus Convenor; Barbara Martin - Halls Convenor;
Marjory Dunn – Independent Member; Anne Wilkie – Independent Member

1. Apologies:

Pauline Anderson – Independent Member

2. Minutes from Previous Committee Meeting

Minutes of meetings still to be issued will be sent out ASAP.

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7th September 2023 were approved. Proposed by Neil Kitchener and seconded by Anne Wilkie.

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5th October 2023 were approved. Proposed by Barbara Martin and seconded by Marjory Dunn.

3. Matters Arising

Anne - Uptake for Christmas lunch so far is 21. I have 2 lots of cash and 1 cheque which I will pass on to Robert on Saturday. I feel uptake is a bit slower this year and will ask Neil to send out an email before AGM reminding everyone that we will take cash or cheque on the night.

4. Secretary's Report – Martha Thom

Only correspondence was an email I was copied into about The Ramblers End of Year Returns. I am sure Robert has dealt with.
Nothing else to report.

5. Programme Sub Committee – Neil Kitchener

Programme of Walks

As usual, the high walkers have been out every weekend although some walks were rescheduled because of forecasts of bad weather. There have been no low walks during October but two are programmed for November.

The programme is complete up to Christmas and 4 walks have been posted from January onwards. I will be asking leaders to submit walks for the period up to Easter.

The current system of emails and use of the website/App seems to be working well. In the long term, the plan to issue the programme to those members who do not have access to the internet or are unable to use the new technology has still to be finalised.

It is proposed that the selection of photographs for the website will be arranged for the AGM.

Social Events

A games evening is planned for Monday 27th November in the Kirkintilloch Miners Club and 16 members have signed up so far. It is anticipated that there will be a £5 charge for food.

The Christmas lunch has been arranged at the Glazert Country House on Sunday 3rd December. A formal invitation has been sent out to members but the menu options have still to be confirmed and sent around.

Any suggestions for other social events will be gratefully received.

Walk Leader Training.

Ramblers have arranged a series of walk leader/navigation training sessions and two members attended at Mugdock Country Park last week.

6. Treasurer's Report – Robert Bain

Treasurer's Report					
For the month ended	31 October 2023				
				Social	General
				Fund	Fund
Receipts				£	£
Area Funding Group				-	-
Recce monies				-	-
Social event	Christmas Lunch			425	-
				425	-
Payments					
Barbara Martin	First Aid Kits			-	123
				-	123
Net receipts / (payments)				425	- 123
Balance brought forward				666	691
Balance carried forward				1,091	568
Outstanding items					
				-	-
Bank Account				1,091	568
				1,091	568

Excess on General Fund

According to Ramblers Association Guidance groups should not have funds in excess £500 at the year-end – 30 September. Our group exceeded this amount and therefore our funding for next year has been adjusted to bring us into line with the guidance by 30 September 2024. All calculations have been based on current activity for the 2022/23 year.

7. Training – see Programme Sub-committee report.

8. Membership Secretary's Report – 01/11/2023 – Stuart Ferguson

This report covers the period from the previous report on 03 October 2023, and includes all membership changes since that date.

Total Membership	128
New Members	0
Reinstated Members	0
Lapsed	0
Resigned	4

Details:

Resigned: Angela Rigg
 Catherine Urquhart
 Fiona Gilmour
 Sheila Smith

The overall membership now stands at 128, a decrease of 4 from the previous report, and the email contacts list has been amended as per the membership changes listed above.

Membership continues to decrease slowly from the number of 158 three years ago.

9. Website

A discussion on how to obtain reports from Walk Finder of Strathkelvin Walks ensued.

Jim - When producing the SR Annual Report, I used to extract the information required from the SR Group Walks and Social Events Programme. Can past walk information be extracted from Walk Finder. Robert said yes and will advise how it can be done.

Jim – I find accessing The Strathkelvin Ramblers Database containing our minutes, old programmes, walk pictures, etc is not straightforward.

Jim asked about adding SR minutes to the SR Database. Stuart advised that Archie was still looking after SR Database.

10. Access Report – James Lawson

Strathkelvin Railway Path (SRP) just North of Lennoxton where the Glazert Water is cutting into the banking and a mesh barrier has been erected a new loop has been added providing an alternative should the existing path collapse.

The path into Merkland NR from Bute Road has been improved and a new bridge installed to replace the old one which was past its sell by date.

Noted a new bench seat on Christine's Way and on it the inscription 'Walk, Run, Cycle East Dunbartonshire.' At Merkland NR there is also a new Bench Seat. Both Benches have lots of carvings depicting the local wildlife.

A bridge over the Luggie Water at Waterside Bing is understood to be bundled with the new housing development behind Waterside Miners Club.

Barbara said that a path is being developed between Auchinloch and Stepps.

11. Short Walks Report – James Lawson

Thu, 12 th Oct 2023	Start at Canal Bridge @ Twechar walkalong Forth & Clyde Canal to Auchinstarry. Then up to and along the road to Bar Hill diverting onto forestry track down to Twechar Primary School. Community centre Café for soup. Number on walk = 8 Walk Leader James Lawson
Thu, 19 th Oct 2023	Walk cancelled due to weather.
Thu, 26 th Oct 2023	Start at St Mary's Church – along Forth & Clyde Canal and over Prow Bridge – Christines Way – Boghead Wood – Lenzie Moss – SRP – St Mary's Church. Number on walk = 8 Walk Leader James Lawson
Thu, 2 nd Nov 2023	Start at St Mary's Church – follow the Luggie Water to Waterside – path up to Primary School - Merkland NR – then back to Redmoss Road and along the Luggie Water back to St Mary's Church. Number on walk = 7 Walk Leaders James Lawson /Margaret Gibb

12. Bus Convenor's Report - Robert Bain

Nothing to report.

13. Hall Convenors Report - Barbara Martin

Barbara is going to the Kirkintilloch MWC next week to check everything is ok. The person who is lending us the microphone is also going along to check it works and has offered to come along on the night of the AGM. This offer was accepted.

Barbara is also bringing the First Aid Kits to the AGM.

Games Night - Barbara to check if oven is available.

STRATHKELVIN RAMBLERS ZOOM/HALL BOOKINGS 2023				
COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2023		PROGRAMME MEETINGS		STRATHKELVIN RAMBLERS A.G.M.
7.00p.m. - 9p.m.		6.30p.m. - 9p.m.		6.30p.m. - 9p.m.
ZOOM MEETING UNTIL ADVISED		KIRKINTILLOCH MWC		KIRKINTILLOCH MWC
WE CAN RESUME KMWC		JOE COOKE ROOM		JOE COOKE ROOM
NIL - Jan		Kitchen use for hot water		Kitchen use for hot water
2nd Feb - ZOOM		for tea/coffee		for tea/coffee
2nd Mar - ZOOM				
6th Apr - ZOOM		23rd Jan 2023		13th Nov 2023
4th May - ZOOM - CXD				
8th June - ZOOM		6.30p.m. - 9p.m.		GAMES NIGHT
NIL - July		PARK CENTRE		
3rd Aug - ZOOM		MACKAY HALL & KITCHEN		6.30p.m. - 9p.m.
7th Sept - ZOOM				KIRKINTILLOCH MWC
5th Oct - ZOOM		26th June 2023		JOE COOKE ROOM
2nd Nov - ZOOM				
7th Dec - ZOOM		FIRST AID COURSE		Kitchen use for hot water
				for tea/coffee/hot food
		TBC		
				27th Nov 2023
				CHRISTMAS LUNCH
				3rd Dec 2023 - 2.00P.M.
				GLAZERT COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL

14. A.O.C.B

It was agreed to go ahead with a ZOOM Subscription – Jim

A copy of the 'New Strategic Proposals' were received from NS Area. Jim to copy to committee. The Secretary was still not receiving copies of Area documents so Jim will contact the Area Chairman.

There being no more business the meeting closed at 20:10hrs.

* Due to ZOOM time limits the meeting was in two parts 19.15 – 19:45 then 20:00 – 20.30.

James Lawson (Jim)

Chairperson Strathkelvin Ramblers