

STRATHKELVIN RAMBLERS COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday 5th December 2024 @ 7.15pm and 7.45pm

Online via Zoom

Minutes

Present:

James Lawson	Chairperson & Access Officer
Neil Kitchener	Vice Chairperson & Programme Co-Ordinator
Robert Bain	Treasure & Webmaster
Stuart Ferguson	Membership Secretary
Barbara Martin	Halls Convenor
Jim Dougall	Ordinary Member
Gillian Bentley	Ordinary Member

1. Apologies: Martha Thom Secretary
Pauline Anderson Minute Member
Marjory Dunn Ordinary Member
Geoff Bell Ordinary Member
2. Minutes from previous Committee Meeting 9th October 2024 approved. Proposed by Barbara Martin and seconded by Neil Kitchener.
3. Minutes from previous Committee Meeting 30th October 2024 approved. Proposed by Barbara Martin and seconded by Neil Kitchener
4. **Matters arising:**

3.1 Future Committee Meetings

Barbara has submitted the following table:

Table showing suggested frequency of future Strathkelvin Ramblers meetings		
Jan	No meeting	(suggest Walk Leader meeting at EoM)
Feb	Meeting	
Mar		
Apr		
May	Meeting	
June		
July	No meeting	(suggest Walk Leader meeting at EoM)
Aug	Meeting	
Sept		
Oct	Meeting (Pre AGM)	
Nov	AGM	
Dec	Meeting (Post AGM)	

Suggested number of meetings was agreed. Barbara to go ahead and check availability of venue for Walk Leaders Meetings and produce a new schedule. It was also agreed committee meetings be on the second Thursday of the month

3.2 Xmas Lunch update (Anne Wilkie)

Hi Folks. I feel I would be surplus to requirements at tonight's meeting and hope all goes well with the new members.

Please find attached Christmas lunch update.

Hotel has been given final number of 39. Because of smaller numbers ,we will be in the Hamilton Suite which has fewer tables.

Lunch will be served at 2pm.

I have tried to arrange seating for people to sit beside those they walk with and seating plans will be on the tables.

Robert has agreed to round up the gratuity given to staff to £100. The lunch costs £24.50 and we have all paid £26.00 leaving only a tip of £1.50 per person.

Unfortunately, it will mean that the Christmas lunch will run at a loss for the first time ever I think. Maybe time for some new ideas for this event.

3.3 First Aid Training (Robert)

On checking my notes for last meeting, I remembered that I was to look into this.

According to Rambler's Guidance (copy attached) First Aid training for members should not be paid out of the main account but should be paid out of the self-funded account and run on a break-even basis.

Examples of the activities to be paid out of the Main Account are detailed at the top of the 2nd page of the attachment (numbered page 37 at the foot of the page). Immediately following that paragraph is a heading 'Self-Funded-Activities' which explains how self-funded activities should aim to break even and gives First Aid Courses, as an example.

5. Secretary's Report: Martha Thom

I have had no correspondence since last meeting.

5. Programme Sub-Committee Report: Neil Kitchener

5.1 Programme of Walks

During November, we had a full programme of high walks except that Stuart's Walk to the Pentland Reservoirs was cancelled because of bad weather, all were well attended but there were no low walks.

The high walks programme is full up to 4th January with only 5 gaps up to Easter but only two low walks have been submitted so far up to Easter. It is anticipated that more walks will be submitted before the leaders meeting on Monday 9th December to review the forthcoming programme.

5.2 Social Events

- The draughts championship is still progressing.
- 10 members have booked for the pantomime in December.
- Only 39 members have booked for the Christmas Lunch on Saturday.
- Any suggestions future social events will be gratefully received.

6. Training: James Lawson

A. What training do I need to do to be a walk leader with the Ramblers?

All new walk leaders must do three things:

- Read and sign up to the Walk Leader Handbook
- Complete the Walk Leadership Foundations e-learning (approx. 60-90 minutes)
- Complete the Preventing & Managing Incidents e-learning (approx. 60 minutes)

These are all available in our online training once you become a Ramblers volunteer. If you join our Ramblers Wellbeing Walks team, you will also shadow a walk leader and attend and in person session with your programme co-ordinator. If you are in Scotland, we also highly recommend attending Walk Leader Next Steps course.

B. GDPR training new volunteer e-learning

If your role includes accessing the Insight Hub, that means handling significant amounts of personal data or financial information. To help everyone who does so understand their responsibilities, it's essential they complete the new volunteer GDPR e-learning.

This e-learning doesn't take long to complete - about 15 minutes - and will bring everyone up to date on how to manage data safely and in line with Ramblers' policies. Once completed, you'll be able to access volunteer data via the Insight Hub, an important resource for your role. Complete the training.

C. Walk Leader sign in sheet

We have updated the sign in sheet, part of our walk leader resources pack, to clarify that walkers can opt-out of giving their details. If you have downloaded this document to keep locally, please delete this and re-download the latest version. If in doubt, please do always check the version on our website as this will always be the most up to date.

6. Treasurers Report – Robert Bain

Strathkelvin Group

Treasurer's Report					
For the month ended	30 November 2024				
				Social	General
				Fund	Fund
Receipts				£	£
Area Funding Group				-	-
Recce monies				-	-
Christmas Lunch				546	-
				546	-
Payments					
Martha Thom	Sundry item			-	-
				-	-
Net receipts / (payments)				546	-
Balance brought forward				1,102	512
Balance carried forward				1,648	512
Balances					
Bank Account				1,336	512
Cash on hand				286	-
Outstanding Cheque				26	-
				1,648	512
Outstanding items				-	-
Glazerbank Hotel	Christmas Lunch			956	-
Staff Gratuity	Christmas Lunch(Est)			100	-
				1,056	-

8. Membership Secretary Report: Stuart Ferguson

This report covers the period from the report of 30 October 2024, and includes all membership changes since that date.

Total Membership	126
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New Members	2
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Details:

New Members:	Diane MacKenzie Fraser MacKenzie
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There were no other changes and the overall membership is now 126.

The new members have been sent a welcome email and the One.com email contacts list has been amended accordingly

9. Web Report: Robert Bain

Archie and I have transferred the administration of One.Com web and mail to me from Archie.

Jim Dougall has volunteered to curate the GPX tracks element of the website.

I have a couple of minor adjustments to make then I will contact Ramblers Webs to take over our web hosting.

I have confirmed with One.com that we can retain their services for e-mail hosting however they advise that the transfer of web hosting along with the transfer of Domain Name Server may result in a disruption in our emails of up to 24 hours.

There is a facility to write blog reports. Is someone prepared to do this. So far, no takers so I will exclude this from the website.

There is a photo gallery page if someone prepared to curate this. Again, so far, no takers and I will exclude this from the website.

10. Access Report: James Lawson

- A. Core paths at level crossings** - We're concerned that Scotland's councils and National Parks have been told to review all 'core paths' that cross railways at private level crossings.

Our director Brendan Paddy blogged about the issue earlier this month. Since then, both the Holyrood and Westminster governments have committed to further discussion and we'll meet with Scottish Government officials at next month's National Access Forum.

Also, we'd love you to help us illustrate the importance of level crossings by emailing photos of any you encounter during your walks. (Obviously, never pause while crossing the railway.) [Read the blog](#).

- B. Standing up for Taymouth access** - Alongside residents and local Ramblers volunteers, we're fighting to ensure that public access is protected at Taymouth Castle, a scenic site near Aberfeldy that's being developed to create a golf course and 145 luxury homes.

The developers previously made encouraging promises about access, yet their newly-published plans suggest they want to hem visitors into narrow pathed corridors, rather than supporting broader public access throughout the area.

We're speaking with officials and urging the developers to go back to the drawing board, to ensure they recognise the spirit, as well as the letter, of our world-class access rights.

- C. Access in Scotland - Rights, Responsibilities and Realities, Weds 29 January 2024** - We're looking for a mix of walk leaders - some new, some more experienced - to join us for a short one-off online discussion about access rights in Scotland. We're keen to support walk leaders and understand what you really want to know and discuss how to deal with any access issues you come across when out on walks. Once we know what information is useful to you, we'll be able to roll something out for all volunteers

- D. Consultation on Galloway National Park** - We believe that the proposed Galloway NP - if delivered well - has exciting potential to boost walking and be a win-win for locals and visitors.

National parks have a track record of attracting funding, investing in outdoor recreation and supporting people from all backgrounds to enjoy nature.

That is why we hope walkers who live in south-west Scotland, or who love visiting this beautiful corner of the country, will share your opinions during NatureScot's public consultation.

11. Short Walk Report: James Lawson

Thu, 10 th Oct 2024	SR Short Linear Walk from Kirkintilloch to Torrance Route – St Mary's Church - Along Canal – Penny's Path – Hayston – railway path – Torrance - Return by bus. Info: Distance 3.05 miles Total Ascent 38 ft Number on Walk = 11 Walk Leader – James Lawson
Thu 17 th Oct 2024	SR Short Linear Walk from Kirkintilloch to Twechar Route – St Mary's Church – walk South Side of Canal via Tintock – through woods to Healthy Habits Twechar - Return by bus. Info: Distance 3.41 miles Total Ascent 123 ft Number on Walk = 08 Walk Leader – David Kennedy

Thu 24 th Oct 2024	SR Short Circular Walk – Kirkintilloch Canal and Kelvin Route - St Mary's Church – Canal – Flood Defences – Broomhall – St Mary's Info: Distance 2.97 miles Total Ascent 57 ft Number on Walk = 12 Walk Leader – James Lawson
Thu 31 st Oct 2024	SR Short Circular Walk – Culzean Waterfalls Route - Bus Stop opposite Kilsyth Swimming Pool – Burnside Park – old railway line to Culzean – up to waterfalls – coffee at Visitors Centre – back to start. Info: Distance 3.31 miles Total Ascent 369 ft Number on Walk = 9 Walk Leader/s – James Lawson & Margaret Gibb
Thu 07 th Nov 2024	SR Short Linear Walk – Cumbernauld Town Centre to Village Route: Cumbernauld Town Centre Bus Station (North Side) Walk to Cumbernauld Village via Arria Statue - Bus back to Cumbernauld Town Centre Info: Distance 3.16 miles Total Ascent 274 ft Number on Walk = 8 Walk Leader – James Lawson
Thu 14 th Nov 2024	SR Short Circular Walk - Kirkintilloch - Birdston - Milton of Campsie Route: St Mary's Church – SRP – Birdston – MoC Bowling Club – SRP – St Mary's Church. Info: Distance 4.17 miles Total Ascent 160 ft Number on Walk = 7 Walk Leader – James Lawson
Thu 21 Nov 2024	SR Short Linear Walk - Bishopbriggs to Kirkintilloch Route: M&S Strathkelvin Retail Park – Cadder – Forth and Clyde Canal – Kiky Puffer Info: Distance 3.34 miles Total Ascent 29 ft Number on Walk = 7 Walk Leader – James Lawson
Thu 28 Nov 2024	SR Short Linear Walk – Kirkintilloch to Waterside Route: St Mary's Church – Miners Club – SRP – Woodilee (Path following the Railway) – Waterside. Bus back to start. Info: Distance 3.06 miles Total Ascent 169 ft Number on Walk = 11 Walk Leader – James Lawson

12. Hall Convenor's Report: Barbara Martin

Covered under Matters Arising.

13. AOCB:

Digital Edition of Walk Magazine - The winter 2024 digital edition of Walk magazine is out now. Celebrate Ramblers Scotland's 60th birthday and 20 years of our national park legislation, discover cosy pub walks, and get tips on the best winter walking jackets with our video buyer's guide. You'll receive the spring issue as usual in the post. [Read now](#)

James Lawson - Strathkelvin Ramblers Group Chairperson