



ramblers
at the heart of walking

Scarborough Group
Pam Grimwood(Sec)
16 Stone Quarry Rd
Scarborough
YO13 0DF
Tel 01723 870156
10/11/2011

Dear member,

You are cordially invited to our group's A.G.M. on **Thursday 24th Nov. 7.30** at The Friend's Meeting House, Quaker Close, Woodlands drive, Scarborough. The agenda and proposal form are printed overleaf and the minutes of the last meeting are enclosed. It would be helpful if you brought these along for reference.

As members, we share a love of the countryside and support the efforts of Ramblers in making it more accessible for us to enjoy and our footpath officer, Les Atkinson, continues doing a tremendous amount of work to further this. This year Harry Whitehouse has created a website for our club, where you can access all our walks and all sorts of related information: www.scarboroughramblers.co.uk.

Ray Johnson, our walks secretary and his team of walk leaders, have offered a splendid choice of walks through the last year and The A.G.M. is an opportunity to thank all the committee for the work put in over the past year and of course to elect a new committee. All posts are open for election and we are especially seeking someone to fill the role of Countryside Officer to look at plans that might affect the areas we walk in.

If you are considering standing for any position but unsure of the commitment, please contact the chairman, philip.trafford@ukgateway.net. (01723 863975)

Following the main business of the evening, we can enjoy refreshments and view a presentation Winter Walking in the Lake District, which was undertaken by some of our hardier members.

We would really appreciate your attendance and look forward to welcoming you there.

Yours sincerely,
Pam Grimwood (Secretary)

**Ramblers Association – Scarborough Group
Annual General Meeting. Thursday 24th November 2011.**

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Acceptance/amendment of the minutes of the 2010 AGM
3. Any Matters arising from the minutes of the 2010 AGM
4. Chairman's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Footpath Officer's report
7. Proposals for consideration; Please submit any proposals to our group secretary, Pam Grimwood by 17th November 2011.
8. Election of Chairman for 2011-12
9. Election of Secretary, treasurer, rambles organiser, footpath officer, social secretary, minute secretary, countryside officer and remaining committee members for 2010-11.
10. Election of auditor.
11. Any other business.
12. Date of next AGM

If you intend standing for a committee position, please complete, detach and send to Pam Grimwood, 16, Stone Quarry Road, Scarborough, YO13 0DF

Name; _____

Proposed by; _____

Seconded by; _____

Position; **Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Rambles Organiser, Footpath Officer, Social Secretary, Minute Secretary, Countryside Officer, Committee member.** (Please delete as appropriate)

Scarborough Ramblers AGM 25 November 2010 at Friend's Meeting House

Present:

Chairman: Phil Trafford
Rambler's Organiser: Ray Johnson
(Treasurer): Malcolm Hunter
Minute Secretary: Robert Clutson

also present: Harry & Maureen Whitehouse, Dennis & Sylvia Muir, Ann Thornton, Richard Bedford, Sue Hunter, Judy Trafford

1. **Apologies:** P & D Grimwood, C Bibby, P Fahy, M & L Atkinson, M Ingham, L Crosier
2. **Minutes of 2009 AGM** were proposed by Judy Trafford, seconded by Chairman

3. Chairman's report

3.1 First of all, I must start by thanking all committee members, walk leaders and everyone else who has helped us manage the group over the past year.

I would rather not mention people individually, as I'm bound to miss someone out. However a couple of special mentions are due:

You will recall that, at last year's AGM, we were unable to elect a successor to Malcolm Hunter as treasurer. However, Malcolm has quietly carried on doing the job for another year, for which I'm very grateful. I have every confidence that tonight will produce at least one volunteer to take the job on.

I must also thank Les because he has put in more time than ever this year in his efforts as your footpath secretary. In fact, I know he has been attending a meeting at the North York Moors Nation Park Office at Helmsley this afternoon.

3.2 You will recall at last years AGM, we spent a lot of time discussing the proposed Central Office burdening of walk leaders with excessive responsibilities. Thankfully, following a lot of work, particularly by Roy Hunt from our area executive committee, common sense has now prevailed and what was initially, billed as being compulsory is now advisory. As I understand it, our area have now been empowered to produce it's own guidance, which accords with the way we are already doing things. When this document is finally approved, I will put a copy on our egroup, so that walk leaders can print it off.

3.3 Another subject discussed last year and which has continued to be topical this year is the worry that Central Office is losing sight of the core purposes of The Ramblers, ie to organise walks, to campaign for better access to the countryside, and to ensure the rights of way network is kept accessible. Our leaders have claimed that this is still the case and that they are listening to member's concerns. However, one of our group members, who had forgotten to pay his subs recently received a reminder, which included the paragraph; "However, you may not know the Ramblers are now involved in a much broader range of challenges that walking can help solve, such as health and wellbeing, community engagement and helping people in deprived areas." Our member duly sent in his cheque together with a letter asking; "what does the fourth paragraph refer to and why have I, and others, not been told?" Sadly, he has not yet received a reply.

3.4 You may remember that at our AGM of three years ago, Les proposed the motion; "The members of the Scarborough Group of the RA request that the a new area called "North York Moors Area" be created to include the whole of the North York Moors National Park and

towns immediately around the park boundary based on the current Cleveland, Northallerton, Ryedale and Scarborough Groups.”, which was carried unanimously. I sent this off to central office, but did not get a reply until I had followed it up with several emails, when I got an acknowledgement stating the staff intended reviewing the designated areas of all groups and areas. We have heard no more since. A few months ago, Sam Bowman, Ryedale group’s chairman said that he had been speaking to the chairman of Cleveland group who agreed that the National Park should be split more evenly between Cleveland, Scarborough and Ryedale, in order to make the best use of The Ramblers resources. Myself, Les and Bob met up with Sam and Wendy and wrote to Cleveland requesting a meeting to discuss this further and hopefully to agree on some proposed changes. However, Cleveland group committee then decided that they would not entertain any changes. We feel that this problem will never be solved by agreement at local level, but it is time that the issue was resolved. I think, the only way would be for a staff member from central Office to come to a meeting between representatives from Scarborough, Ryedale and Cleveland and listen to our respective views and arguments and then come to a decision to which we should all agree to be bound by. We are planning to meet with Sam and Wendy in the new year to try and move this idea forward, assuming that the area give us approval to do so.

3.5 At group level, Ray has again put together a good programme of Sunday and summer evening walks. Also, where there has been a gap, members have often offered to lead extra walks, which have been well supported. My one concern is that we could do with more members volunteering to lead walks. Any ideas as to how to bring this about would be appreciated.

3.6 Attempts at organising weekend away have met with a mixed response. Pam and David organised a weekend in Middleham, which I understand went well, although most of the participants were from the LDWA, rather than our group. Les and Margaret had to call off the proposed weekend at Kettlewell as there were insufficient people wanting to go. Lisa has again organised regular group meals out and we are all looking forward to next weekend at the Yew Tree.

4. Treasurer’s report:

4.1 The 2010 detailed balance sheet was distributed. Expenditure for the year was limited to AGM costs, newsletter and a small photocopying charge. (The allocation by head office to group is £155 for 2011, i.e. £80 per group and 65p per member).

4.2 Thanks to Harry Whitehouse who found a local auditor - John Kidd – secretary to write a letter of appreciation.

4.3 Harry suggested that the AGM invitations could be distributed by email could save money. Chairman responded that for many members who did not walk this was the only information sheet coming from their area. This would be for those members “opting in”.

5. Footpath Officer:

5.1 Pre-walk of the New Year’s day Flixton walk showed farm gate still blocked by farm trailer. Following a request to NYCC ranger (unsuccessful) Brian Mullins (NYCC footpath officer) personally cleared this obstruction allowing the walk to proceed as planned.

5.2 June - attended a meeting of the County Council Area 3 Footpath Team at Helmsley for reports on bridges, footpaths, the cutting back of vegetation and route surveys and diversion

orders.

5.3 On-site meeting with Emma, the National Park Access Officer, at Irton Moor just above Raincliffe Woods. This area of land had just changed hands and the new owner had offered to make some changes to the footpath. We walked the proposed change and agreed it was a necessary improvement. However, so far the N.P. hasn't been able to obtain permission from the landowner to proceed with these orders although Emma told me that she hopes there will be some movement before Christmas.

5.4 August Second on-site meeting with Emma on Spiker's Hill to Cockrah farm road, Wrench Green. The NYCC had agreed to some movement on the route of the old road, but they still haven't said which is the true route and until they do, the Right of Way across the field can't be sorted. It is a 'wait and see' game.

5.5 Missing bridge across the Murk Esk to the old railway cottages near Grosmont. It is a bridleway and the river is too deep to ford. We found a notice saying it had been closed. NP advise it is a big job to install a bridge and make a path up to the cottages because a garage had now been built across the path. Unfortunately it is not in our area but in the Cleveland group's area.

5.6 Access problem at Folkton - local Council have put in an application to modify the Definitive map, a Section 53, which is an order to correct errors and omissions. In October Margie, Phil and I went to a hearing of the Planning Sub-Committee in Scarborough. Huge amount of evidence submitted including pages of maps, enclosure acts and of course, 'evidence of use' forms (of which you must have at least 20) I stood up and spoke for the allotted 3 minutes on behalf of the Ramblers and put our point of view along with several locals from Folkton. Vote, passed now going to public consultation.

5.7 Involved in correspondence with Nick Harvey, Scarborough Council over Filey way, as the local Council there were trying to extend the coast footpath past Primrose Valley and the old Butlin's site to Reighton Gap. The original application failed because the route did not connect with a highway. A meeting was arranged and held at the Royal Oak near Primrose Valley. Margie, Ray and Harry and I attended with representatives from SBC and NYCC as well as by local residents. The conclusion was that the route would have to be re-submitted correctly with at least 20 'evidence of use' forms from local people as we had no evidence of use ourselves. Aim is a coastal path from Filey to Spurn Head. This was supposed to be one of the five pilot schemes put forward by Natural England as part of the Coastal Access scheme. In the meantime, East Riding Council, who were a lead authority and to receive part of the funding, took a vote and pulled out of the programme and urged everyone else to abandon the scheme. Consequently, Natural England has now moved the pilot scheme to Durham.

5.7.1 I recently attended another meeting at Filey with National Park, Rangers from East Yorks CC and the Chairman of Natural England. He confirmed that the pilot had been moved and it would be several years before it would come back to Filey. So all the talk and effort has come to nothing. Without the backing of Natural England and East Yorks CC, creating this new coastal path cannot happen.

5.7.2 Wrote to our M.P., Robert Goodwill, regarding this and he says we are facing tough financial times and spending has to be considered carefully. He says, (quote)

This path is more remote from areas of very high population and therefore is unlikely to be used to the same extent" These people don't seem to understand that the very fact that

these paths are remote and away from areas of high population is *why* they are walked and visited and are needed to get people out of the cities and towns and into the fresh air. They seem to completely miss the point of why we do it.

6. Also during the year we have drawn attention to numerous broken stiles and gates, paths blocked with vegetation, a pheasant rearing pen built across a Right of Way and a whole forest of wind-blown trees which have been completely blocking a Right of Way for several years. We have been assured that these will be cleared in February/March next year. So we have planned a walk for April in the same place and we shall see! Another busy year.

6. Election of Officers:

Chairman: no volunteers, Phil Trafford agreed to stand again –

Secretary: Pam Ray prop, Richard seconded

Treasurer: Malcolm wishes to retire, Harry volunteered, Ray proposed, Malcolm seconded

Rambles organiser: Ray proposed,

Footpath Officer: Les volunteered and was accepted.

Committee members: volunteers sought, none forthcoming at the meeting. Chairman outlined duty which requires attending a meeting once every two months.

Minute Secretary : Robert Clutson

Auditor: Harry proposed John Kidd, this was accepted

Detail; John Kidd FCA, garden Flat, 37 Esplanade Gardens, Scarborough YO11 2AW.

6.2 Area Council Meetings representatives; no volunteers – remitted. Dennis asked if the number of meetings had been reduced, Chairman explained that in essence the number of committees had been reduced to one.

AOB. Date of 2011 AGM: last week in November 2011 – treasurer to arrange in the new year.

Chairman will advise committee members of the first meeting in 2011. These will in future take place at the Duchess pub.

Sue reminded Chairman that the post of Social Secretary be considered. Lisa cannot attend committee meetings but is willing to arrange the restaurant programme by email. Accepted.

Following a short break Ray Johnson gave an illustrated account of his 2010 expedition to the Gross Glockner region of Austria, for which he was thanked by the members.

Ramblers' Association, Scarborough and District Group

1 October 2010 – 30 September 2011

INCOME

B/f from 2010	203.93
Bank interest	0.22
Area	155.00

359.15

EXPENDITURE

Meetings, inc AGM	70.57
Admin	13.91
Walks programme	15.98
Newsletters	25.00
c/f to 2011-12	233.69

359.15

I have examined the above accounts and confirm that they give a true and fair view of the Group's finances for the year to 30th September 2011.



John Kidd FCA
13 October 2011

37 Esplanade Gardens
Scarborough

Christmas lunch

This year's Christmas carvery lunch will be held at the

Hayburn Wyke Inn (TA 008 970)

at 1pm

on Sunday 18th December.

To book, please phone Harry or Maureen Whitehouse on

01723 375770, or email hltw@peaksoft.co.uk

by Wednesday 14th.

A 5-6 mile walk will leave the Hayburn Wyke's car park at 10am.

*Copying and posting AGM documents remains a significant expense. This year, 13 members have agreed to receive the documents as email attachments. To opt in to email delivery for future years, please email philip.trafford@ukgateway.net. The documents can also be downloaded from the Archives page on our website, www.scarboroughramblers.co.uk.