

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SCARBOROUGH GROUP
OF THE RAMBLERS HELD AT THE **FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE ON THURSDAY 29
NOVEMBER 2012**

Present;

Chairman;	Phil Trafford
Sec	Pam Grimwood
Treasurer	David Grimwood
Footpath secretary	Les Atkinson
Minute Secretary	Robert Clutson

Chairman welcomed the 21 members.

Also present: Margaret Atkinson Newsletter editor; Harry Whitehouse PRO & webmaster

1. Apologies; Ray Johnson (Rambles organiser), Lis Crozier, Rosemary Broadhead and Peter Fahy

2 Acceptance of minutes of 2011 AGM: Proposed by Judy Trafford and seconded by Margaret Atkinson.

3. Matters arising from minutes: none

4. Chairman's report:

4.1 Chairman welcomed members to the meeting, thanking the dedicated and efficient team of helpers, particularly Ray for the programme of Sunday and summer evening walks. Particularly noteworthy are those who at short notice have filled in the gaps in the programme. The Cawthorne Camp short notice walk attracted 17 members. David and Pam Grimwood have between them denuded the post office of 2nd class stamps, kept a very tight rein on expenditure while efficiently filtering out the drivel which flows from head office. (Sorry – have efficiently paraphrased head Office circulars briefing the Chairman as necessary). They have also hosted and provided refreshments for the bi-monthly committee meetings.

4.2 Chairman also paid tribute to another team, Les & Margaret who have between them worked tirelessly with NYMNP and NYCC on footpath problems and editing and producing the Group newsletter.

4.3 The Group now has an eye catching and timely web-page, thanks to Harry Whitehouse which is first stop for information on the walk programme and has attracted already four new walkers.

4.4 Chairman noted that one careless member had jeopardised the safety of other members by falling and breaking a limb. Although not on the committee, Lisa has again organised our social programme which is much appreciated.

4.5 Chairman urged members to consider joining the committee which meets every two months. New blood will be most welcome, particularly for the Area Council which meets four times each year.

5. Treasurer's report;

5.1 Balance sheet presented. Balance £250.10

Administration costs rose because of buying all available second class stamps. Recommended the ramblers Holidays who will make a contribution to the Ramblers for each member taking up a holiday.

5.2 Suggestion by that money could be saved by members opting for email distribution of correspondence relating to the AGM. Harry reminded members that the newsletters and the programme are immediately available on the group website.

6. Footpath Officer's report

6.1 A frustrating year. Footpath conditions have deteriorated because of the poor summer conditions, and local authority resources reduced by up to 70% resulting in the NYMNP cutting ROW officers to one, who must now cover the whole of the Park. A cut in maintenance staff and Park rangers results in reports of problems being added to an ever lengthening priority list indicating that only those problems considered a safety matter will be done.

6.2 A further frustration is the greater priority in finance and resources accorded to bridleways over paths because the former are considered multi-use.

6.3 Specific problem highlights of the year:

6.3.1 Leaf Howe in Cropton Forest – A culvert cleared thus improving drainage and the route cleared of brushwood and overgrowth.

6.3.2 Folkton House – RoW dispute on route connecting the Folkton Road to the Wolds Way resulted in expensive legal conflict with a subsequent appeal. There is encouraging progress, the outcome hopefully being a bridleway.

6.3.3 Spiker's Hill – Wrench Green above the Everley. Landowner wants to change the line of a County Road and Ramblers would like the footpath which ends in the middle of a field to continue to the wood line. Les awaits a site meeting to discuss and hopefully resolve the matter.

6.3.4. Coast to Coast path (MayBeck to Hawsker). A particularly boggy stretch of path requires realigning, but the loss of Emma the NYMNP footpath officer is likely to delay implementation of this suggestion.

6.3.5 Coastal Path Scarborough to Hartlepool may need resurveying for Natural England. This would be done in co-operation with Tom Halstead of York and Bill Dell of the Cleveland group, for the benefit of all walkers.

7. Proposals for consideration: None

8. Election of Chairman for 2012-2013: Phil Trafford proposed by Pam, seconded by Bob Clutson

9. Election of :

Secretary Pam Grimwood

Treasurer, David Grimwood

Rambles organiser. Ray Johnson

Footpath officer. Les Atkinson

Social secretary (Lisa is willing to continue proposing the locations but does not want the formal post)

Minute secretary Robert Clutson

Countryside Officer None

Publicity and webmaster: Harry Whitehouse

Remaining committee members; Mrs

10 Election of Auditor; Ms Oulton

Harry suggested writing a letter of thanks to the previous auditor – action Secretary

11. Any other business

11.1 Chairman detailed why the Christmas walk with a lunch at the carvery at the Hayburn Wyke would be delayed until 27 January. The date was agreed. Chairman will advise the landlord of a provisional booking

11.2 Possible Dales walk, weekend after Whitsuntide at Hawes led by Les & Margaret - will be published in the Newsletter. Contributions to the newsletter should be supplied to Margaret by mid December.

11.3 Sunday walks car sharing: Angela questions the best method of offering or requesting lifts. The e-group was suggested as a contact forum for both offering and requesting lifts to and from walks. A list of phone numbers indicating the area of residence without necessarily identifying names will be compiled via the newsletter.

11.4 Shorter walks. The web page has been used to identify these walks, Lisa has offered to lead one. Pam has offered to organize a short walk programme without wishing to lead all of them.

11.4.1 A local group has been running a programme of shorter pub-lunch walks

12 Date of next AGM: Thursday 28 November 2013