

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SCARBOROUGH GROUP  
OF THE RAMBLERS HELD AT THE **FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE ON THURSDAY 28  
NOVEMBER 2013**

**Present;**

Chairman;	Phil Trafford
Secretary	Pam Grimwood
Treasurer	David Grimwood
Footpath secretary	Les Atkinson
Minute Secretary	Robert Clutson
Rambles Organiser	Ray Johnson
Web Manager	Harry Whitehouse

Chairman welcomed the 22 members.

Also present Margaret Atkinson.

Apologies; Liz Sourbutts, Lisa Crozier, Richard Bedford

2 minutes of 2012 AGM were accepted without amendment

3. Matters arising from minutes: none

4. Chairman's report:

4.1 Chairman welcomed members to the meeting, acknowledging the support received from the members of the committee, particularly noting the contribution from the rambles organiser, Ray, who has filled that role for 13 years, but will be standing down this year.

4.2 He noted also the enormous input from our energetic footpath officer, Les Atkinson, who has devoted much time to attending meeting throughout the county on our behalf  
Pam and David Grimwood, in addition to their roles of secretary and treasurer, have hosted the bi-monthly minutes, keeping the committee supplied with biscuits, crisps and drinks.

4.3 Our website, hosted and maintained by Harry Whitehouse attracts much positive comment and many visitors, also getting reports into the Scarborough News, which on occasion they manage to achieve accurately.

4.4 Thanks again to Lisa for organising our monthly meals out, all at establishments with a 5 star hygiene rating. He is looking forward to our Christmas meal at the Downe Arms a week on Saturday.

4.5 He put it a plea for volunteers for the committee, which entails the duty of attending only six times per annum.

## 5. Treasurer's report;

5.1 A remarkably healthy balance boosted by £140 received from Ramblers holidays taking the credit balance to £399.91

5.2 A late surprise sum of £871.93 was received from Head Office in response to Les Atkinson's request for equipment to equip the volunteer group who have offered to assist the National Park in maintaining footpaths. (He had requested £1000)

## 6. Footpath Officer's report

6.1 Following extensive lobbying of the NYMNP Les has received confirmation that the section of the coast-to-coast route from May Beck farm will be diverted away from the road on to the moorland on the opposite side of the wall.

Les has offered to pay for and erect new signs identifying the new route..

6.2 At the 26 November meeting with the CEO of the NYMNP (and others) at Helmsley, he outlined the financial difficulties now affecting the NP, exacerbated by costs (£600,000) in dealing with the York Potash proposal

6.3 Les drew their attention that his offer to create a volunteer group to assist in FP maintenance has still drawn no positive response from the NYMNP.

6.4 A request to have the Lyke Wake walk recognised as a recreational long distance route was refused.

6.5 English Coastal Path – problems north of Whitby at the golf course because of erosion, also Farside House near RHB and at Primrose Valley caravan site, Owners of both being unhelpful to obstructive. It was noted that the Scarborough Marine Drive section is not a ROW. The route will continue south over the Humber Bridge.

6.6 The long-standing problem in identifying group areas of FP responsibility by parishes and the allocation of new members by post codes has finally been resolved. Les is now in regular amicable contact with Bill Dell of Cleveland and Durham our neighbouring group to the north.

6.7 Potash mine: the wellhead site is now capped and sealed behind locked gates. The promised geo-science centre, visitor centre and jobs have not materialised and the planning application has been withdrawn following the break-up of a cartel which fixed the international price of the mineral

6.8 A government proposal to transfer planning control responsibility from National Park authorities to Local authorities is likely to have a negative impact on ROW applications

6.9 Folkton Old Road bridleway from Flixton: planning Inquiry attended by FP secretary and chairman. Result expected probably in the new year.

## 7 Webmaster's report:

7.1 Posting a copy of the track and photographs following the Sunday walks immediately attracts many site visitors

7.2 Additional to UK visitors there have been site visitors from the US, France, Netherlands, Canada, Australia and Guinea (Yes! Guinea) It was not noted how many visitors went on to purchase that renowned product – Tripsdale Premium boot waterproofer.

7.3 The walks programme has proved effective in attracting new active walkers, although not all who express an interest follow by actually joining the Sunday walks.

## 8. Election of committee

8.1 With the exception of the Rambles Organiser, the existing committee were re-elected:

Chairman	Phil Trafford
Secretary	Pam Grimwood
Treasurer	David Grimwood
Footpath officer	Les Atkinson
Social Secretary	No volunteers. Lisa agrees to continue organising this
Minute Secretary	Bob Clutson.
Webmaster	Harry Whitelhouse
Ramblers organiser	Trish Mumford proposed by Pam Grimwood, seconded by Phil Trafford

Chairman sought volunteers for the committee, Margaret and Ray volunteered David Grimwood proposed thanks to Harry for his work on the Scarborough Ramblers website

Trish suggested a navigation course for possible new leaders, with a venue at RHB. Who at Ryedale runs these courses? - action Clutson

Date of next AGM 27 November 2014