

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SCARBOROUGH GROUP
OF THE RAMBLERS HELD AT THE **FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE ON THURSDAY 27
NOVEMBER 2014**

Present;

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

Other committee members: Margaret Atkinson

1. **Apologies;** Rosemary .Jennie , Lisa Crozier
- 2 minutes of 20123 AGM were accepted as a true record
3. **Matters arising from minutes:** Query about navigation course by Sam Bowman.
Sam Bowman of Ryedale ramblers has agreed to run a navigation course, but having just moved house will advise when he is available

4. **Chairman's report:**

4.1 Chairman welcomed members to the 2014 group and started by thanking all who have contributed to the successful running of the group over the year, including committee members, walk leaders, working party volunteers and, last but not least, Lisa for making sure the group dined well throughout the year.

It has been great to finally get going on helping with footpath maintenance. We are gradually learning new skills and Les has been spending our Central Office grant on tools as our requirements have become apparent. Volunteering is going to become increasingly important as the National Park's budget becomes more and more constrained. Les and he attended a meeting at Helmsley with the park big wigs last Friday where they were informed that since 2010, the parks budget has been cut by 44%.

As far as he knew, all the group's officers were willing to stand again. However, there is room on the committee for new members should anybody be able and willing. The commitment is not onerous as we only meet once every two months and the meetings themselves are made a pleasure by our kind hosts who supply a superior selection of drinks, biscuit and crisps.

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5. Treasurer's report;

5.1 income and expenditure both up from previous year. .Donations also increased. £140 received from Ramblers Worldwide holiday. £1014.43 carried forward to next FY. Ramblers HO audits 20 groups accounts p.a but no indication yet that Scarborough group will soon be included in that number...

5.2 Accounts proposed and accepted.

6. Footpath Officer's report .

6.1 Les supplied photographs of typical problems to circulate among the group

6.2 FP sec has met NYCC and NYMNP in various meetings during the year with a further meeting at Northallerton this month with the definitive map team to discuss a proposed Whitby FP diversion.

6.3 Government cutbacks will reduce the NYMNP budget of £8M in 2010 to £5.3M in 2015. ROW team lost 7 members of staff., Carl Gerhardson's post merged with that of South Yorkshire, Emma then being made redundant, Carl also taking on the responsibility of Head of Park Management.. Coast to Coast diversion to move route away from road has been one of the year's successes. Volunteer groups will be expected to supervise themselves on tasks with the rangers concentrating on the planning, ensuring there are no infrastructure problems and ordering of materials.

6.4 Recent successes include clearing and defining a new FP at Ayton quarry also diverting the coast to coast route near to the potash mine away from the road

6.5 NYCC notes that 80% of people who walk use only 20% of paths, which is where effort and resources will in future be concentrated. Cutting verges will be abandoned from 2015 saving £0.5M

6.6 It is of concern that one NYCC ranger believed contractors to be more cost effective than volunteers., yet claims to have an outstanding list of 10.000 jobs.

7 Webmaster's report:

7.1 Site stable throughout the year, but there have been developments typically photographs taken on walks and the GPS track including height .

7.2 An improvement to the site could be the inclusion of advice on how to locate the start of the walk (this should be supplied by leaders)

7.3 Facebook and video accounts now added.

7.4 Webmaster welcomes input for enhancements from members, such as narrative description of walks or anything related.

7.5 Chairman noted how successful the website has been in attracting new members.

7.6 The full webmaster's report can be found at "http://www.scarboroughramblers.co.uk/archive/resources/agms/2014/webmaster_report.pdf"

8. Ramblers organiser

8.1 50 Sunday walks, from 11 leaders. 4 extra walks were added during the year. Plus a further four at the area camp.. Average distance a little over 10 miles.

8.2 Tuesday evening walks averaged five miles with 5 leaders

8.3 There were also 9 Tuesday shorter walk by 8 leaders averaging 5.7 miles

8.4 The area news requests that the programme be prepared twice a year rather than the present once a year and this appeared to be generally welcome.

9. Election of committee

8.1 the following committee was proposed and seconded.

Chairman Phil Trafford

Secretary Pam Grimwood

Treasurer David Grimwood

Footpath officer Les Atkinson

Social Secretary No volunteers.

Minute Secretary Bob Clutson.

Webmaster Harry Whitehouse

Ramblers organiser ; Trish Mumford

Social meals organizer; Lisa presumed agreeable

Adam Brown continues with the role of obtaining the details of new members

Chairman invited members to join the committee

8.2 Group representatives are required to attend the four Area meetings each year
But no volunteers were forthcoming.

8.3 Chairman will attend the forthcoming meeting at Wetwang.

8.4 Auditors as last year. Mrs R Oulton

9. AOB Nil

10. Date of next meeting; 26 November 2015

11. Following the business of the meeting and a short coffee break, Mr Matt Parsons, External Affairs Manager of York Potash gave an illustrated talk on the history and future plans of the proposed potash mine .

The meeting closed at 9:50 pm