



## South Gwent Ramblers

Minutes of the committee meeting held on  
18 September 2002



Members present - Ken Phillips (KP), Brian Williams (BW),, Adrian Sheehan (AS), Fred Fee (FF), Keith Cooper (KC), Ian Reese (IR), Andrew Wilmott (AW).

1. *Apologies for absence* Val, Howard and Kath (Sadler)
2. *Minutes of last meeting* were accepted with the following amendments
  - para 4.a.i* Change “notice” to “noticed”.
  - para 4.b.i* Change “£1917” to “£1611” due to a double entries being noticed.
  - para 5.c* Delete “and will investigate”.
3. *Matters arising from the minutes*
  - para 3.a* KP has written to thank Irene.
  - para 3.b* FF completed material. KP and BW put up the display.
  - para 4.a.ii* IR will receive any nominations for rambler-friendly pubs.
  - para 4.a.iv* KP wrote to Ray Wensley’s son.
  - para 4.d.v* **KP noted that the Christmas Dinner has been booked for Friday 13 December at Newport Golf Club, price £10. Ring Val Clark on 01633 421550: cheques, payable to South Gwent Ramblers, to Val Clark, 42, Lodge Avenue, Caerleon, NP18 3EJ.**
  - para 4.d.vi* AS reports that the bookings for the Germany trip are going well.
  - para 5.a* 30 is the minimum quantity - sweatshirts only @ £11.50 in traditional blue. AS indicated that a list of previous buyers and new members will be contacted.
  - para 5.c* BW will investigate having the barbecue.
4. *AGM*
  - a. We agreed that the AGM will be held in the Civic Centre on Thursday 7 November after briefly discussing possible alternative venues.
  - b. AW said that he would not stand for re-election at the AGM.
  - c. KP will ring Bronwen Williams to ask if an officer of the RA could speak at the AGM.
5. *Officers’ reports*
  - a. *Secretary* KP
    - i. KP has forwarded received literature to the other officers of the committee as appropriate. Other and recently arrived literature:

1.	R.A.E.C. Minutes	April 2002	File
2.	R.A.E.C. Minutes	May 2002	File
3.	R.A.W.C.E.C. Minutes	June 2002	File
4.	R.A.W.C.2003 Date	July 2002	File
5.	R.A.W.C.E.C. Bulletin 12	July 2002	File
6.	R.A.Details of Wales Staff Team	Aug 2002	File
7.	R.A.A.G.M. Request	Aug 2002	File
8.	R.A.National Parks	Aug 2002	File
9.	R.A.Recruitment leaflets	Aug 2002	Discus/File
10.	R.A.Recruitment Conference	Aug 2002	File
11.	R.A.G.C. Motion on Recruitment	Aug 2002	File
12.	G.G.Minutes	May 2002	Discus/File
13.	G.G.Area Annual Report	Aug 2002	File
14.	Ruperra Castle Development	Aug 2002	File
    - ii. A young RA group has started in Chepstow.
    - iii. KP received £50 from the RA for supporting the Walk and Talk scheme by our Wednesday walks. AS will note.
    - iv. KP asked IR if the Newport Outdoor Group to which IR subscribes would consider affiliating to the RA. IR will discuss this with the NOG.

v. *Ruperra Trust* now have a 3-day-a-week woodland manager and are opposing a proposal to build houses on the site of Ruperra Castle. KP wrote to the planning officer of Caerphilly council on our behalf: a response appears to say that we will be kept informed.

b. *Treasurer BW*

i. We now have £1661 in hand including £17.32 from the Caldy and London trips.  
ii. John Ridley, despite some investigation, still can't say why the money we received from the RA for our membership appeared to be too low and will see how much we are given for the last quarter before pursuing the matter.

iii. The Unity bank account is open with a nil balance. Barclays still will not transfer money to the new account. BW will give a mandate to awaken the new account at the start of the new financial year, 1 November.

iv. BW asked for expenses to be submitted asap, at least by the end of September.

v. The accounts will not have been sanctioned before the AGM, but they will have been audited by then. FF will type the audited accounts in preparation for the AGM.

vi. RA company and charity numbers change on 1 October - all stationery is to reflect the changes. The new charity number is 1093577.

c. *Footpaths Officer RC* was not present.

d. *Rambles Officer AS*

i. The current program is progressing albeit with a few gaps.  
ii. Tessa has offered a walk in the Sirhowy Valley on Sunday 29 December - AS suggested walk for a maximum of 8 miles with sherry and mince pies.

iii. If Gill can't lead the Christmas walk, Derek has agreed to stand in. The walk, followed by a meal at the Huntsman, will take place on Friday 27 December.

iv. AS suggested a Christmas cake swap walk, again to general approval.

v. Beryl Beer suggested to AS that a meeting to discuss the rejigging of the walks program could be held in a pub. We agreed it was a good idea and that it would encourage a wider membership to get involved. A date towards the end of October was putatively agreed.

vi. A few walkers had asked FF to propose a Summer break in the walks program. This would allow time for working walkers to pre-walk fresh routes and for the ensuing walks to be enjoyed all the more. AS said the people would probably organise alternative walks and IR said that we may lose walkers who were creatures of habit and walked elsewhere on the blank days. We agreed to try to fill all available dates.

vii. KP suggested a Severn Bore trip, the best day being Tuesday 8 October at 9:58am at Minsterworth - off J12 of the M5.

viii. KP suggested recce walks (walks not previously pre-walked) to spice up the program and AS will consider any.

ix. KP is organising a ceilidh for Sunday 6 November at Graig Community Hall with tickets @ £5.

e. *Membership Secretary VC* was not present. AS reported that we now have 177 members, a rise due to re-allocation from other groups.

f. *Publicity Secretary KS* was not present

g. *IT Officer's report KC*

i. the counter on the site is no longer available so no estimate of the number of hits can be made.

ii. The Area rambles database of walks has, surprisingly, received a lukewarm response.

iii. Area has organised a forum for 6 March at the Civic Centre entitled Waymarking the Future to be chaired by Derek Hynam, the chairman of the Area Executive Committee.

6. *Any other business.* FF will take pictures of the exhibition in Newport library.

7. *Next Meeting* - AGM on Thursday 7 November