



South Gwent Ramblers



Minutes of the committee meeting held on 24 January 2008

Members present - Ken Phillips, Christine Plateeuw, Adrian Sheehan, Derek Humble, Brian Turner, Diana Osman, Kath Carter, Julie Hepburn, Brian Williams, Jan Waagener.

1. *Apologies for absence* Val Clark, Ted Clevely, Fred Fee
2. *Minutes of last meeting* were adopted
 - 2.1. *Matters arising from the minutes*
 - 2.1.1. Adrian is preparing a new constitution for our group in line with the new Area constitution.
 - 2.1.2. Diana is going to look for a venue for this years AGM, which will be on a Sunday and include a walk before the AGM.
 - 2.1.3. Ken and Kath are going to investigate further re group sweatshirts and put something in the next newsletter.
 - 2.1.4. Christine suggested obtaining badges of our logo which could then be put on rucksacks etc.
 - 2.1.5. Diana to contact Maggie at the Islwyn group to obtain their new walks in Cwmcarn publication.
 - 2.1.6. Diana to contact Lower Wye to obtain their new walks publication.
 - 2.1.7. Adrian to chase up with Area re membership figures.
3. *Possible future events*
 - 3.1. Jan Trip to the Pyrenees - approx £500 per person.
 - 3.2. Ken Trip to Slimbridge and/or Kennet and Avon Canal and/or Elan Valley.
 - 3.3. Brian W Trip to North Wales or Shropshire "Long Mynd Hotel", using the train.
 - 3.4. Julie Trip in 2009 to NEC "Outdoor Show".
 - 3.5. Brian T Trip to Sculpture Trail, Forest of Dean or Rotherhythe & Dymchurch Railway, Kent or Duffryn Gardens.
 - 3.6. Adrian is organising a joint walk with Islwyn group and also suggested a trip to Cader Idris area.
 - 3.7. Ken Coach trip to Gower and coach trip to Bristol docks area.
 - 3.8. Ken Weekend in Newquay 5-9 October 2008
 - 3.9. Fred has arranged a trip to Scotland in September.
 - 3.10. Diana Possible coach trip to Carreg Cennan, Abernethy Gardens area for 2009. Diana to investigate further for 2009.
4. Events definitely agreed for 2008
 - 4.1.1. 21 February - **Slide show** by Dave Fereday and Peter Elliot.
 - 4.1.2. 27 March - **Skittles evening** Kath informed us that the Cwmcarn venue is now shut. St Julians pub (Kath investigating) or Whitehead Sports Centre (Jan investigating) were suggested.

- 4.1.3. September - Fred's **trip to Scotland**
- 4.1.4. October - Trip to **Newquay** early
- 4.1.5. **Gower** coach ramble
- 4.1.6. **Barbeque** - to be held at either Cwmcarn, Forest of Dean sculpture trail, Garnwant Forest near Merthyr, Wentwood or Mountain Centre, Libanus - Ken investigating.

5. *Officers' reports*

5.1. *Secretary* - nothing to report

5.2. *Treasurer* Brian W

The SGR. current balance stands at £2,001.70. We have received from the RA Area Treasurer 50% of the budgeted request for the year i.e. £388.00. An overpayment has been made by the Ramblers Association Holiday Department for advertising in our news sheet. This will be rectified by the next issue being free of charge.

5.3. *Footpaths Officer* Derek

- 5.3.1. There have been numerous applications for footpath alterations since my last report, although none of them have been a cause for concern.
- 5.3.2. Nine diversions have been applied for and only one was found to be against our best interests. I duly objected and it is now unlikely that we will have to walk around the field boundary rather than across it.
- 5.3.3. One path is to be extinguished at Berryhill Farm and two others diverted to make a usable route round the farm, where access has been virtually non-existent for twenty years. Unfortunately this is in the path of the proposed M4 relief road.
- 5.3.4. There have been further planning applications for Hanbury Garage, Caerleon, and Robert Price's Transport Yard in Corporation Road. There are plenty of objections to the former and none for the latter.
- 5.3.5. The housing developments at Lawrence Hill, and Cot Hill, Llanwern seem to have been approved.
- 5.3.6. The proposed changes to three paths at Newport Golf Club have been thwarted by a dog walker who doesn't want one path moved from Risca Comprehensive School into the golf course. As he doesn't appear to have any valid reasons for the alteration it is possible that the City's Legal Department can overrule him, given the backing of other interested parties. (See my next report).
- 5.3.7. We now have a copy of the Draft ROWIP report from the City Council as promised.
- 5.3.8. I don't think there are any problems within it, but a copy is available for anyone interested. Research has started into finding possible new right's of way in conjunction with coastal access on behalf of Newport City Council. This mainly involves using old maps and historical records, following some very muddy site visits.

5.4. *Rambles Officer* Christine – nothing to report

5.5. *Membership Secretary* No report – Val not present

5.6. *Publicity Secretary* No report – Fred not present

5.7. *IT Officer's report* No report – Officer not present

6. *AOB*

6.1. Ken has been asked by the Three Salmons Hotel, Usk if we could provide leaders for a short and long walk in Usk area for a walking holiday they are arranging. It was agreed by the group to do this.

6.2. Brian asked for all walks leaders to claim for prewalks and will now send a blank claim form with each cheque to the claimant.

6.3. Paul Coleman had asked if Winter walks could start at 9am but due to confusion about start times changing, it was agreed to start Winter walks at 9.30am.

6.4. A request was made for the grid refs of the start of the walk to be put on the programme but it was decided not to do this due to possibly alerting car thieves to the location of our empty cars.

7. *Next Committee Meeting* is on 24 April 2008 at the Civic Centre, Room 2 at 7:30pm