

Minutes of the Meeting of Glasgow Ramblers Group Committee 15th June 2021

The meeting was held on Zoom.

1. Present – Gerard McCrear, Alan Watt, Catherine Watt, Annette Bonar, Geoff Der, Betty Stowe, Barry Pottle. Jim Riddell also attended.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th April

- a) The minutes were deemed to be accurate
- b) Matters arising -
 - (i) Clarification was given that maps of routes traced on walks were sent to Urban Good for inclusion on the Urban Nature Glasgow Map. GD explained that there are nearly 100 such routes on our website.
 - (iii) other matters arising covered elsewhere

3. Reports were received from - Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Walks Programme Coordinator and Mag 11

Discussion and Matters arising from the reports -

Chair – Distribution of the 10 free copies of Urban Nature Glasgow Maps. Maps to given to those who have helped with the Mag 11 project, the Winter Challenge, three committee members and Ramblers Scotland.

Volunteers Meeting on the 14th June – CW was unable to attend

Secretary – Not many general emails have been received

Treasurer – Balance in Main Account looks high but £1299 is Wee Green Grant money allocated for the Magnificent 11. Still a healthy amount so we didn't take the 3rd quarter grant but we will take the 4th one. Budget needs to be prepared in July and the Treasurer will circulate before submission.

Membership – Disappointing to have lost 13 members between the end of April and May. . However, numbers have dropped in many Ramblers groups. Many potential new members have been coming out on our walks. Secretary has also had quite a few enquiries. CW reported that she had had three emails from new members about the lack of weekend walks and we need to be a bit vaguer on the website about committing to every weekend.

GD

Access – not a lot of activity. The path on the east side of the canal at Spiers Wharf has opened. The Spaces for People Survey circulated to members asked the public to comment on pop up cycle ways and the closure of Kelvin Way

Website – JR mentioned that information on website is available to members and non-members. GD pointed out that the alternative is to give all members a username and password. This would produce more problems than we could solve.

4. Walk Programme

- a) When we were in Level 3, we felt a bit marooned and not much information was available from Ramblers Scotland.
- b) No incidents to report. Can have up to 50 but 10-15 seems reasonable. Numbers are up to walk leader. As things develop walk leaders may feel more relaxed about numbers on walks, car sharing and public transport.
- c) It is prerequisite of our insurance that we have a Risk Assessment(RA) for each walk. To ensure that we comply, leaders will be reminded of this when they get an email saying that their walk is published. **SC**

Contact information - Email addresses are sufficient. The Ramblers App can be used to register walkers. Masks – on train or bus but not on walk unless the trail is busy or walkers have to get close to another walker. Hand sanitiser to be brought on the walk.

- d) & e) More walks are being proposed by leaders and a monthly reminder in the newsletter has helped. We'll continue to publish about a fortnight in advance. We now seem to have a different pool of walk leaders. Those of us out walking frequently should encourage other members to lead a walk as direct approach often works.

Walk Proposal Form – the whole section needs deleting from the website. **GD**

- f) The Blog is now being kept up to date (SC, BP, AW), Twitter(AW), Facebook (BP) Barry will link blog posts to the FB page. He has followed up several enquiries about membership on FB.

5. Future Training Needs

Come January, a lot of our leaders will no longer have an up to date First Aid Certificate. Secretary did mention to Ramblers Scotland that First Aid was not on the list of potential training days. Treasurer to add the cost of a course to the budget submission. **AW**

6. Magnificent 11 Update

Leaflet is ready and now at the stage of putting the info onto the website. The leaflet won't be circulated until the web link is live and the route waymarked.

JR asked about three old routes which we were asked about but not this is not same Pedmyre lane as the one on the Mag11.

7. Other matters

- a) Photos have now been sent to GD to update the website when time permits.
- b) BR and IB are visiting the hostel on 1st August. The weekend has been postponed twice and 20 people have paid a deposit of £20. There is a sum of £520 still to be paid. 16 people have said so far that they would still like to go. It was agreed that deposits would be refunded to the 4 members who may opt out. **IB/BR/AW**

8. Next meeting **Tuesday 10th August** by Zoom

AW

9. AOCB

There was a question about whether the The Rob Roy Way had been completed by the group. The sad answer is No as a certain virus got in the way.

Reports which were circulated before the meeting are below

Chair's Report June 2021

Talk 20th April We had a 3rd successful evening talk 'Reading the map' with Sofia Evemalm Graham from the University of Glasgow. She was awarded her PhD for her thesis 'Theory and Practice in the Coining and Transmission of Placenames – A Study of the Norse and Gaelic Anthro-po-Toponyms of Lewis'. Several years ago we had a very enjoyable talk about thirty or so Gaelic names allowing an interpretation of words like sgurr and bealach. Sofia's approach was more academic and I received many emails thanking us for organising the evening. She herself was really excited that there are people interested in the origins of names.

Urban Nature Map of Glasgow

We are in receipt of 10 copies of the Urban Nature Map for Glasgow. 1:20000 and created by Urban Good. It is based on the OS Greenspace map but with lots and lots of added and interesting information. Our Magnificent 11, Southside Danner, Springburn Round and many more of our routes are there plus many cycling routes

For discussion- suggestions for how we distribute these maps.

Ian the creator of the Springburn Walk has already bought one but perhaps the others in the Mag 11 team(3), Sandra for her walks(1). The walks are taken from our website so Geoff will know the other contributors.

For publicity Charlie Peel of Urban Good has asked for a photo of our group out on a walk looking at the map. I am going on Thursday's Southside Dauner walk so will do that then.

Minutes

Minutes I've checked with both Annette and Steve, they are both happy to have their names in the Minutes published on the website.

Valuing and Thanking Volunteers I am attending an online training meeting on 14th June on the above topic. I'll report back to the committee on Tuesday.

Secretary's Report

In May, Glasgow remained at Level 3 which led to the planned walks in mid- May being cancelled. The walks in early June were confined to within the city limits. When restrictions eased Walk Leaders responded with Group walks out with the city limits from 5th June. To allow the AGM minutes to appear on the website, permission was sought from members whose name appeared as a proposer and/or seconder in the minutes. Permission has been granted by the named members.

Scottish Walking Awards results have been well publicised. The GG nomination for the Social Housing Association Walking Champion, Cassiltoun Housing Association won for their involvement in Castlemilk Park.

Ramblers Scotland sent out a skill/training needs survey. A return on behalf of GG was submitted stating the following areas/skills: Navigation, Growing membership, Rewilding, Promoting & Protecting paths and First Aid.

Please note the First Aid certification for some GG members will end in January 2022.

Scottish Land Commission have launched a brand new content hub MyLand.Scot to inspire people to think about land differently as part of a campaign #MyLandScotland which will run for the next four weeks. The campaign aims to connect people in urban areas to the land around them. It's effect on everyday life, work, employment, green spaces, climate change, ensuring land is used fairly and effectively.

MyLand.Scot will be shining a light on various local organisations that are making a positive impact. As part of the campaign they are launching a new podcast, The Lay of the Land hosted by broadcaster, Calum Maclean.

Recent Ramblers Scotland Newsletters covered the following points: Covid walk guidelines & restrictions, Scottish Walking Awards, Wild Camping Video, Your Movement Matters, Forest Bathing.

Ramblers GB newsletter topics included: Assemble, Coronavirus update, GWEM development coming,

Also received various emails from holiday, IT companies and Facebook notifications.

Treasurer's Report for Glasgow Ramblers' Committee Meeting 15th June 21

Main Account

There has been no income since the April Committee meeting, the Committee having agreed that we would not request the 3rd quarterly payment from Ramblers.

Significant items of expenditure were-

£228 to Centurion Signs for two metal poles for Magnificent 11 signage in Castlemilk Park (WGG)

£75 to Richard Dill for graphic design of print-ready copy of Magnificent 11 leaflet.

£409.20 to Metrosigns 2000 for signage for Magnificent 11 large roundels. (WGG)

£166.88 to Stewart Timber for 40 wooden posts for Magnificent 11 waymarking. (WGG)

£43.17 for Zoom account covering 2 Committee meetings, 1 walk leaders meeting and 3 evening talks from February to May.

Balance at 11/6/21 was £2534.44

Self-funded account

No transactions. Argyll Backpackers hold our deposit of £480 for accommodation for the Ardrishaig Weekend in September. Assuming the event goes ahead, the balance of the payment will be required in August.

Balance at 11/6/21 was £861.91

Membership Report June 2021

There have been several enquiries about joining a walk with the group. The present limitations on numbers has made the policy of allowing potential members 3 walks before joining very difficult but we do have new members.

Since the last meeting new to Ramblers 5

“	“	“	“	“	the Group 4
“	“	“	“	“	resigned from Ramblers 12
“	“	“	“	“	moved Group Nil
“	“	“	“	“	moved Area 1

Membership total is 273 on June 12th 2021

Walks Programme June 2021

Since the last GGC walks have been confined, mainly, to the city limits. The stop'n'start of restrictions disrupted the planned walks which has been very disappointing for all members. Since the city has moved to Level 2 the Walk Leaders have submitted walks onto GWEM but please note walks will be only displayed a few weeks in advance. It is hoped that the easing of regulations will continue.

Magnificent 11 June 2021

Posts are being prepared for the insertion of route signage

Signage has all been received

Waymarking – insertion of posts will be completed by contractors

Route signs will be inserted into wooden posts by volunteers plus signage will be attached to Lamposts by volunteers

Pedmyre Lane will be cleared and improved to a walkable path. Community fund grant will pay for this work.

Leaflet has been completed. Discussion is now on the number required and distribution