

## Ross and District Walking Group

### Minutes of the 41<sup>st</sup> AGM Meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025

		Action
Apologies	Jan Beaton, Brian Bunting, Alison Chalmers, Andrew Chalmers, Clive Davies, Linda Davies, Sue Dowdeswell, Frank Endersby, Mary Hacker, Roy Matthews, Dave and Katrina Mcintosh, Brenda Pomfret, John Smart, Pauline Thomas <i>A note of appreciation from Jan Beaton was read out.</i>	
Present:	Mike and Sally Adye, Katy Baldwin, Penny Bowyer, Harry Britten-Austin, Bob Carter, Geoff Cooper, Sue Edney, Carol Endersby, Kevin and Linda Graddon, Peter Gratton, Gill James, Jean Harrison, Ruth Harrison, Sue Hodges, Jan and Robert Horton-Smith, Bob and Chris Houghton, Martin Hudson, Diane Hudson (by Zoom), Sylvia Jardine, Phil Lear, Jan Lelievre, David Mason, Gill and John Moxham, Norman Pomfret, Mary Richards, Mary Sears, Beverley Sinclair, Hilary Smart, Cindy Smith, Gail Spolton, Chris Sutton, Rosemary Sutton, Margaret and Roger Williams, Helen Willingham, Don and Margaret Wood, Jane Wright	
Minutes of the last meeting	These were approved and signed as a true record of the 40 <sup>th</sup> AGM.	
Chairman's Report:	<p>The chair, Kath Baldwin, welcomed members to the 41<sup>st</sup> AGM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ I am now at the end of my second year as Chairman of the Ross and District Walking Group. That should be a reminder to you all to think about whether you might be able to do this job from 2026 and also to encourage people who might do the job to think seriously about it!</li> <li>○ We have had a good year in 2024-5. We still have a membership of more than 100, but numbers for the next year won't be known until all have paid their subs. We have had a fairly good programme of walks, but sometimes we have had weeks with only one walk. As always, we need more people to contribute to the club by leading a walk. Experienced leaders are always willing to help if you ask. It is good to have a few more shorter walks on the programme so more people can join in with at least some walks.</li> <li>○ We continued with the tradition of a Summer Social event at the Yew Tree at Peterstow in 2024. Sadly we missed the late Graham Brown who had done BBQs for us for several years. However, we had a good time with lovely food prepared by Hilary from Broome Farm. We will follow the same format in 2025. The second hand charity stall did not raise much money but the club rounded up what had been raised from sales and donations to £200. This was presented to Hope Support Services by some of the Committee members on behalf of the Club. Thanks to Harry for organising the social and</li> </ul>	

	<p>to Rosemary for raising the money for charity. It has been decided not to have a stall at our next Summer Social.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ We had a Group holiday in the Elan Valley in September. This was rather spoiled by the weather! We went walking in pouring rain on the Saturday and most of us agreed we would not have ventured out if we had been at home! However we enjoyed ourselves and the social times in the evenings. There will be no holiday in 2025, but Harry and Bob have been busy organising a trip to Sidmouth in March 2026, which is almost fully booked. So thanks to them for their efforts and we look forward to next March.</li> <li>○ We had a Round the Gardens Walk in July on probably the hottest day of the year, and one of the few days when the sun shone in 2024! We also had a Petanque morning in September followed by coffee and chat. We had a pre-Christmas walk and Lunch at the Axe and Cleaver and a New Year walk and lunch, which was at The Old Court Hotel in Whitchurch. Thanks to Jean, Bob and Harry for organising these and leading walks.</li> <li>○ We were invited to take part in a Health and Wellbeing market, organised by the Town Council. We did this on a very cold Saturday in February. Thanks to those members who manned the stall, but unfortunately the weather was so grim that we didn't have much passing trade!</li> <li>○ The Committee has reviewed the Walk Grades. There will be 5 grades instead of 4. These will be on the website shortly, so can Walk Leaders try to use them from the beginning of June onwards? We hope that this will spread the levels of difficulty a bit wider to give better guidance for walkers.</li> <li>○ Thanks to the leaders of this morning's walk, Mary Sears and Chris Sutton.</li> </ul> <p>Heartfelt thanks to all the Committee members who have helped in the past year. Three are retiring this year and we will thank them later. Special thanks to Carol who has been acting Secretary for the last few months whilst Diane has been unwell.</p>	<p><b>Action</b></p> <p>All walk leaders</p>
<p>President's Comment</p>	<p>Gill James thanked Kath for her comprehensive Report and for being an excellent Chair. She also thanked Kath's helpers for their support within the Group.</p> <p>Gill joined the RWG in 2002 and endorsed the friendship qualities gained, improved physical and mental health and a greater appreciation for the surrounding environment. She wished club members well for many further successful years.</p>	
<p>Membership and Treasurer's Report</p>	<p>Don Wood's Report is attached:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ We currently have 129 members with only half who have paid their 2025 subs. The Group's funds stand at £2,910.00.</li> <li>○ Cindy Smith was thanked for auditing the accounts.</li> </ul>	<p>Subs due for those who haven't paid!</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Geoff Cooper will be taking over as Auditor of the accounts. This was proposed by Bob Carter and seconded by Gail Spolton.</li> <li>○ The annual accounts were signed and approved after being proposed by Harry BA and seconded by Phil Lear</li> </ul>	<b>Action</b>
Walk Co-coordinator's Report	<p>Pauline provided her Report to be read out as she was currently away in Dorset:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ We have had a reasonable number of walks over the last 12 x months with an average of x 7 per month, but there is always room for more!</li> <li>○ The majority of walks have been Grade 3's although a few more Grade 2's have been creeping into the Programme along with some shorter walks which have been well supported.</li> <li>○ It was noted that we have few long walks; the longest last year was 8 x miles in February and Grade 4 walks are almost non- existent, perhaps some of our new, younger and fitter Walk Leaders would like a challenge?</li> <li>○ During the last 3 x years I have noted RWG move forward into embracing new technology with all actions now able to be completed online. There were a few hiccups as members got used to it, but now all seems to be running smoothly. The OS maps facility provided by the group is a great tool for everyone, not just Walk Leaders.</li> <li>○ It is good to see a steady flow of new members and hopefully in the future some of you will feel able to step up and help decided the future of the group by joining the Committee and ensuring RWG continues to thrive.</li> </ul> <p>I am sorry to be standing down and I hope the next Walk's Coordinator gets as much enjoyment form the role as I have.</p>	
Walking Statistics	<p>Rosemary Sutton presented her report on statistics from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There were 83 walks in total up by x 8 from the same period last year.</li> <li>○ Grade 1 – 3, Grade 2 – 18, Grade 3 – 59 and Grade 4 – 2</li> <li>○ The top x 3 walks with the most members participating were: The Summer Social (30), Coppet Hill in the Spring (28) and Round the Houses in December (28)</li> <li>○ RTVD: There wasn't much difference in walk attendance whether the RTVD was £1 or £5 which is encouraging.</li> <li>○ New Walk Leaders this year: Mike and Sally Adye, Jan Beaton and Beverley Sinclair</li> <li>○ Most Walks Led: A tie for third place between Bob Carter and Rosemary Sutton (14 walks) and in 1<sup>st</sup> place, (20 walks) Mary Richards, who was presented with a certificate.</li> <li>○ Mary Sears (64 walks) 364.15 miles was presented with the Group's knitted walker trophy, "Monty" and a certificate Jane Wright was in 2<sup>nd</sup> place (60 walks) 353.55 miles and Carol Endersby 3rd, (58 walks) 325.9 miles.</li> </ul>	

	<p>If anyone requires a copy of the stats or graphs, please contact Rosemary directly.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Rosemary for all her work on manipulating the year's data and to Harry BA for providing the certificates and running the photo slide show.</p>	
Election of Officers:	<p>There being one nomination for each of the vacant positions, the following were elected unopposed:</p> <p>President: Gill James  Chair: Kath Baldwin  Secretary: Gail Spolton  Treasurer: Cindy Smith  Walks co-ordinator: Bob Carter  Committee Member: Mike Adye  Committee Member: Carol Endersby  Committee Member: Phil Lear</p> <p>Grateful thanks were extended to the retiring committee members; Diane Hudson, Pauline Thomas and Don Wood for their sterling work for at least the last three years.</p>	<b>Action</b>
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ OS Maps: the password for OS Maps for RWG members will change after the AGM each year. Please contact Bob Carter for the new password.</li> <li>○ The committee had purchased weatherproof identity tags for all members so that the nearest kin details could be easily accessed should that be necessary during a walk. Please contact Carol Endersby if you would like any tags.</li> </ul>	All
	The AGM concluded at 12.35.	

# ROSS AND DISTRICT WALKING GROUP

Statement of Accounts for Year 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Receipts	2023-24	2024-25		
Subscriptions 2023/24	£320.00			
Subscriptions 2024/25	£345.00	£285.00		
Subscriptions 2025/26		£275.00		
AGM24	£520.00	£26.00		
AGM25		£429.00		
Summer social		£1000.22		
Holiday23	£9,915.00			
Holiday24	£750.00	£100.00		
Holiday26		£600.00		
New year lunch		£660.00		
Calendars	£243.50			
Skittles 24 surplus	£16.60			
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>£12,110.10</b>	<b>£3,375.22</b>		
<b>Payments</b>				
AGM24	£400.00	£686.74		
AGM23 prizes	£20.00			
Summer Social		£900.00		
Skittles23 prizes	£16.95			
Holiday23	£10,020.00	£0.00		
Holiday24	£750.00	£138.77		
Insurance	£100.80	£100.80		
IT expenses	£71.93	£55.19		
Parking donations	£75.00	£257.00		
OS Maps Subscription	£28.99	£28.99		
Charitable donations		£200.00		
Advertising	£30.00			
Bank Charges	£60.00	£60.00		
New year lunch		£680.00		
Calendars	£247.80			
Miscellaneous Expenses	£84.92			
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£11,906.39</b>	<b>£3,107.49</b>		
Receipts	£12,110.10	£3,375.22		
Payments	£11,906.39	£3,107.49		
<b>SURPLUS</b>	<b>£203.71</b>	<b>£267.73</b>		
<b>Funds &amp; Assets as at end of</b>				
Current Account	<b>£3,671.24</b>	<b>£3,938.97</b>	Funds b/f	£3,671.24
Cash	£0.00	£0.00	Surplus	£267.73
<b>Total Funds &amp; Assets</b>	<b>£3,671.24</b>	<b>£3,938.97</b>	Funds c/f	£3,938.97
Less payments held for AGM lunch	(£520.00)	(£429.00)		
Less payments held for Holiday 26		(£600.00)		
<b>General Account Funds &amp; Assets</b>	<b>£3,151.24</b>	<b>£2,909.97</b>		

Signed:

Chairman

Date:

Signed:

Treasurer

Date:

The above statements give a true and fair view of the Receipts and Payments of the Group based on the books and records presented to me.

Signed:

Cindy Smith, Independent Examiner

Dated: