

**Annual General Meeting of the South Cotswold Ramblers
Group held on Saturday 26th November 2022 at the Rodborough Tabernacle,
Tabernacle Walk. Rodborough, Stroud, GL5 3UJ.**

Everyone was welcomed by the Chairman, Ann Adams.

Ann reported

- Walks getting back to normal due to receding pandemic
- She asked people to check website regarding an upcoming walk in case there are any changes e.g. unwell leader, change of start point etc.
- Please can members inform the committee of any changes to their e-mail addresses.

1. **Present**

Ann Adams, Andrew Hawkins, Brian Witcombe, Sheelagh Witcombe , Sally Davis, Richard Davis, Diana Davis, Charlie Morris, Olivia Gunn, Lenneke Jansens, Lawrence Arnall, Michele Holden, , Janet Hale, Penny Fernando, Keith Eyles, Colin Boosey, Joe Culluck, Karen D'Amico, Tina Draper, Geraldine Atkins, Rosemary Burne, Steve Priddey

2. **Apologies**

Ros Burnip, Ron Burnip, Chris Cheswick, Jill Stuart, Trevor Stuart, Sue Jones, Peter Jones, Mike Garner, Heather Garner, Marie McClure, Angela Marks, Patrick Marks, Trish Lane, Goff Lane, Sue Clark, Loren Holgate, James Skinner, Linda Skinner, Brian Ruther, Annie Ruther, Margaret Turner, John Geoghagan, Ray Floater, Charles Hartley

3. **Agreement of the Minutes of 2021 AGM**

The minutes were approved as accurate and signed by the Chairman, Ann Adams.

4. **Matters Arising**

There were no Matters arising from the previous meeting.

5. **Annual Reports**

5a Chairman's Report

- Ann presented her report which included the purchase of 4 kissing gates, 3 of which have been installed.

5b Footpath Secretary's Report

- There was no Footpath Secretary's report as we currently do not have a Footpath Secretary

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5c Treasurer's Report

- Accounts were distributed at the meeting.
- His report is as follows:

HOLIDAY ACCOUNT:

- The reserve in the Holiday Account remains as it has done for some years at **£241.02**. Seasonal lunches have been deferred because of the corona-virus epidemic and, although members have continued to holiday together, financial arrangements have been made without using the SCR account.

GENERAL ACCOUNT

- We are entering a new financial era. The balance in the general account which was about £2000 in 2012 increased to nearly £5000 in 2016 as a result of our allocation from the Ramblers, donations, advertising income and particularly from the sale of guide books. Profiteering is contrary to the guidelines of the Charities Commission which suggest that a group's balance should not exceed its annual expenditure. Consequently, in 2016 we sought to increase expenditure on local walking facilities and agreed to relinquish our central allocation. There was also a marked reduction in profit from guide books which had become out-dated. The corona-virus infection also led to loss of income from other sources so by 2021 the balance was down to £2485. In the last year the routine expenditure on Publications (£83.16), Administration (£102.15), Website and Newsletter (£240) and Promotion (£50) totalled **£475.31** which was less than in the previous year (**£912.72**). However we also spent £1200 on kissing gates so the balance at the year end on 30th September was **£809**. This balance now meets the Charities Commission guidelines so we have requested the reinstatement of our central allocation which is expected to be **£473**. However it should be noted that our annual expenditure has often been roughly two to three hundred pounds greater than this allocation and the discrepancy will be greater if or when an upgrade of computer software is needed. Our attitude to spending in the future therefore needs to be more restrained and we must also strive to increase income particularly from advertising, and from donations, which in the past have mainly accrued when members holidayed with Ramblers Worldwide Holidays.
- *Conclusion:* Both accounts hold enough reserves to meet likely expenditure in 2022-2023 but a new prudence is needed and we should seek

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to increase our income to the general account by encouraging donations and advertising income.

The reports 5a, and 5c were accepted and this was proposed by Charlie Morris and Olivia Gunn

6. Election of Officers and Committee Members

Officer	Nomination		Proposed	Seconded
Group Chairman	Ann Adams)		
Vice Chairman	Sally Davis)	Block Vote	
Hon Secretary	Andrew Hawkins)		
Hon Treasurer	Brian Witcombe)	Charlie Morris	Richard Davis
Membership Secretary	Ros Burnip)		
Dep Membership Secretary	Sue Jones)		
Newsletter Editor	Sally Davis)	Karen D'Amico	Keith Eyles
Website Editor	Sally Davis)		
Deputy Website Editor	Mike Garner)		
Walks Programme Coordinator	Karen D'Amico)		Sally Davis	Andrew Hawkins
Publicity Officer	Vacant)		
Environment Officer	TBC)		
Committee Members	Richard Davis) Mike Garner) Karen D'Amico)		Charlie Morris	Brian Witcombe
<u>Footpath Support Group</u>				
Footpath Chairman	Vacant)		
Footpath Secretary	Vacant)		
Footpath Vice Chairman	Vacant)		
Footpath Minutes Secretary	John Corry)	Karen D'Damico	Ann Adams
Committee Members	Penny Fernando)		
	Charlie Morriss)		
Area Council Rep's	Ann Adams)	Andrew Hawkins	Charlie Morris

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7. Appointment of Hon Independent Examiner (Auditor)

- Steve Priddey to continue as the Auditor.

Proposed by Rosemary Burne and Seconded by Brian Witcombe

8. Area Matters

Michelle Holden, Area Chairman, gave her report. She explained what Area do:

- Getting feedback from all of the individual Groups.
- Overseeing footpath maintenance.
- Liaising with other Partners.

She also explained current campaigns/project they are/have been involved with:

- Saving a footpath in the Leckhampton area. This was successful.
- Eco Park application at M5 Jnc 13
- National Grid cables
- Missing Link – Saving Barrow Wake Car Park, Bridge crossings over the new road for the Cotswold way and Gloucestershire Way
- Solar farm development at Arlingham, Milton Farm. Making sure paths are restored after construction. Area have objections about this development.
- Don't Lose Your Way Project – 2026 deadline removed. Charlie Morris asked if there was anybody who would help him with the Don't Lose Your project
- Gloucester Walking Group are hosting the getting together walk from Birdlip on 22/04/2023. All walks will start at 10:00. Any member can walk on any walk. Different Groups will put on a walk.
- Area AGM is on 14/01/2023 at Chedworth Village Hall.

9. Motions Received by the Due Date

There were no Motions.

10. Any Other Business

There were no "any other business" items given in writing to the Secretary prior to the meeting.

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There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 13:50.