

# Whitchurch Rambling Club

## Minutes of Committee Meeting 14 January 2009

held in The Bell at 8:00pm

Present:

Jeff Geary, Sue Reynolds, Nick Copp, Brian Bent, Vic & Eve Jordan, Richard Cann, Julie & Charles Roach, Dave Middleton and Keith Watts

Apologies from Jean Watts

### NOTE: ACTIONS ARE IN **BOLD UNDERLINED>**

#### 1. Wednesday Walks

Jeff explained the preparatory material which Nick had previously distributed. Various new walks were discussed including: The Forton Loop at Longparish, which Vic had investigated and reported to take 1 hour 20 minutes; Ashley Warren, which Sue had tried – 7km, park at White Hill; Dave suggested an extended Tufton walk of 5½ miles, a 4½ mile walk at Vernham Dean, and several others. **Dave** offered to email Nick details of the walks so they could be put on the website.

The following programme of Wednesday walks was agreed:

Date	Start/Finish	Via	Km	Leader	Ref
01/04/09	Bell St Car Park	Tufton	4.1	JG	45
08/04/09	Bell St Car Park	Old Railway/Sheepcrook	3.6	CR	39
15/04/09	Overton	Heritage Trail	5	EJ	56
22/04/09	Larksbarrow	Bradley Wood	6.8	BB	13
29/04/09	Micheldever Wood	Micheldever Wood	4.7	RC	17
06/05/09	Longparish	The Forton Loop	5	VJ	59
13/05/09	Carnarvon Arms	Burghclere	3.3	BB	54
20/05/09	Farley Mount	Clarendon Way	7.7	VJ	8
27/05/09	Bell St Car Park	Mystery Walk	?	DM	57
03/06/09	Chilbolton	Anton & Test Rivers	7.3	RC	5
10/06/09	Vernham Dean	Vernham Dean	7.2	DM	61
17/06/09	Laverstoke	Pot Bottom	?	SR	62
24/06/09	St Cross Hospital	St Catherine's Hill	5.1	JG	24
01/07/09	Cheesefoot Head	Longwood Warren	10	RC	4
08/07/09	White Hill	Watership Down	7.6	SR	51
15/07/09	Hurstbourne Tarrant	Doyley Manor	6.8	RC	10
22/07/09	White Hill	Ashley Warren (long)	7	DM	63
29/07/09	Wootton St Lawrence	Malshanger	9.8	RC	53
05/08/09	Newtown	North Sydmonton	7.7	BB	19
12/08/09	Bell St Car Park	Southfield Farm	6.9	JG	41
19/08/09	White Hill	Ashley Warren (short)	?	SR	60
26/08/09	Bell St Car Park	Down Farm/Larksbarrow	6.4	RC	37
02/09/09	Bell St Car Park	The Hangings/Bere Mill	5.5	VJ	42
09/09/09	Beacon Hill	Beacon Hill	2.1	JR	2
16/09/09	Bell St Car Park	The Lynch	4.6	BB	43

With the AGM at the town hall on September 23 at 8:00pm.

## **2. Arrangements for Post-Christmas Dinner**

Julie related that The Plough at Sparsholt was excellent, but did not have any firm details. Vic & Eve recommended The Red Lion, Overton (Fish & Chips was £6.95). Whitchurch locations were discussed with a view to minimising travel, but The Red House was reported to be expensive and The White Hart to be variable in quality.

It was decided to approach The Red Lion, Overton with a view to a Saturday in late February, for a small selection of main dishes including vegetarian to be ordered 1 week in advance at a price of around £15 per head. **Julie** said "Leave it to me" and would contact the committee via email prior to **Nick** distributing an invitation.

## **3. Walking Weekend**

Vic offered 3 suggestions – Masons Arms, Branscombe – Pines Hotel, Swanage – Bankes Arms, Studland (but not all the rooms there are en-suite), and **volunteered to investigate further**. Nick stated that there were other members who had expressed a wish to be involved, and it was agreed that **Jeff would perform the communications** in consultation with Vic.

There was a query as to why the walking weekend was always the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in October and Brian related that it was because of the date when the clocks used to change, but now that this occurs later in October it was no longer a concern. Julie & Chas would not be able to attend the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend but did not wish this to unduly influence the planning.

## **4. Summer Party**

Keith confirmed Jean's offer of their premises for a party probably in June. Julie asked about the possibilities of an alternative venue if the weather was inclement, and after some discussion it was suggested that a small marquee could be hired if the attendees were too numerous to fit indoors.

## **5. Date of Next Meeting**

As the business prior to the Summer Party would be performed electronically it was agreed that a meeting would be held at The Bell after the walk on 29 April. **Jeff** volunteered to book the venue.

## **6. AOB**

Dave complained heatedly and at length that the secretary had failed to correctly interpret the decision of the AGM to ask the members to vote for an earlier start time for the Wednesday walks in that the proposal should have been to start at 18:45, and that no mention of longer walks should have been made. The question actually asked had been "I would like the walks to be longer and to start at 6 pm/6:30 pm\*" and further comments were invited. Five comments in favour of a change had been received, and 5 comments against along with 9 uncommented votes (5 in favour, 14 against, 84 abstentions). Several people generously leaped to the defence of the secretary and further animated discussion ensued until Jeff called for a show of hands for all in favour of a change, to which none were raised.

The meeting closed at 22: ?.