



## CAERFFILI AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

### Thirtieth Annual General Meeting - 17<sup>th</sup> October 2024

#### Minutes - Draft

**Note:** Same format as last 3 years used: i.e. with a couple of walks preceding the meeting, followed by a buffet at 1 pm at Caerphilly Golf Club and the meeting commencing at 2 pm.

1. **Apologies:** Paul Burnett, Barrie Cole, Sue Driscoll, Clive Elsbury, Linda Hughes, Carolyn Llewellyn-Roberts, Marie Macey, Steve Nicholls.  
Fifty-eight members attended the meeting - 43% (58/136).
2. **Minutes 2023 AGM:** It was agreed that the minutes were a true record.
3. **Matters arising:** None
4. **Officers' Reports:**

- a. Chair – Val Steel

Val covered the following topics in her report out:

- Walks – busy year, good programme of walks. Thank you to our leaders and all the work they put in recce'ing their walks, and also to previous leaders who may have stepped away from leading now. Thank you to Ron for his work as Walks Secretary, and for organising the Caerphilly Challenge event. New leaders are most welcome. Gentle reminder to all to arrive 5-10 minutes before walk start time.
- Social Events and Holidays – Thanks go to those responsible for organising our 2023-2024 activities: Dolgellau holiday, Bryn Meadows Xmas do, planning of Cornwall trip (unfortunately cancelled). Cedar Tree New Year do, Alpaca Walk and afternoon tea, and Spain holiday. 2024-2025 events well underway: Bryn Meadows Xmas lunch, New Year do, St Davids holiday.
- Media and IT – Facebook – Thanks to all photographers and to Clive for administration. Website – Updated this year with more current information. Contains walks programme, walk leader guidance, trip information and much more. Thanks go to Wilf for set up and management of the site.
- Finance – Thanks go to Judith for her efficient management and production of a clear end of year report. We are now able to collect payments for social events and holidays using online banking in our Ramblers Bank Account. Thanks go to Margaret for auditing the group's finances last year and agreeing to do so again this year.
- Committee Meetings – 3 per year at the Twyn. Thanks go to Carol for organising the meetings, recording and documenting the minutes.
- Committee – All members with the exception of Margaret Wallis have agreed to stand for another year. Val presented Margaret with a bottle of wine for her hard work on the Committee over the years, most recently as Health and Safety Officer and managing the Risk Assessments.

- More Thank You's – Val reiterated how grateful we are for the Committee, the Walk Leaders and, of course, our members!

b. Treasurer - Judith Jones

Judith issued a copy of the Financial Report – 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

- 136 members last year (down from prior year).
- Main source of income is from membership fees, £100 from Ramblers Worldwide holidays (note to anyone going on a Ramblers Holiday, if you nominate Caerphilly Ramblers, we get a £10 donation. Thank you to all who have done so!).
- These funds cover our insurance premium and other running costs including our affiliation fee to Ramblers, room hire, our website, postage and printing. Some of our surplus funds subsidised last year's and today's buffet. We changed from Ramblers Insurance to Zurich which gave us a £130 saving.
- We have a healthy balance (Year end 2023 - £1,835, end August 2024 - £2,238), so we're in the black!
- Thanks go to our signatories: Pam and Ron.
- Judith proposed that we keep our fees at £6 which was agreed by all.
- There were no questions from the members.

c. Walks Secretary – Ron Freeman

- Thanks go to Wilf for updating the website programme and to Clive for the Facebook page.
- Very mixed weather this year, resulting in 20 walks being cancelled.
- There have been 86 walks equating to 600 miles! Well done! 1200 walkers, averaging 28 per week, which is down on last year.
- Thanks go to the walk leaders of which we've had 24.
- Caerphilly Challenge - 3 teams led by Caerphilly Ramblers and 3 by Islwyn Ramblers. 464 attendees for all levels of walk. Numbers were down to about 50 for the 11-12 mile led walk. Next event is on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2025, starting from Crosskeys College.
- We've had 3 coach trips offered to us from Cardiff Ramblers. Thank you to the members that have supported these.

d. Health & Safety – Margaret Wallis

- No accidents have been reported this year.
- Note to walk leaders – If there is an accident, complete an accident form for Insurance and send to the Health and Safety Officer ASAP, as they must notify Insurance Company if someone is making a claim against us.
- Risk Assessments – on average there are about 10 walks per month.

A copy of the full Officer Report, the Financial Report, and/or Walking programme stats can be requested from the Secretary, or respective Officer.

**5. Election of Officers:**

- Chair - Val Steel. Proposed: Sandy, Seconded: Mike.
- Treasurer – Judith Jones. Proposed: Wilf, Seconded: Pam.
- Walks Secretary – Ron Freeman. Proposed: John A, Seconded: Lawrence.
- Secretary – Carol Franks. Proposed: Anna, Seconded: Annette.

- e. Health & Safety Officer – vacant. No nominees from the floor, will be discussed at next Committee Meeting.
- f. Election of four additional members – currently Sian, Pam, Sandy and Peter. Peter asked to stand down as he has not been active enough. Lawrence volunteered to take his place. Proposed: Colin, Seconded: John A.

The Committee is now as follows:

**Chair:** Val Steel, **Treasurer/Membership Officer:** Judith Jones, **Secretary:** Carol Franks, **Walks Secretary:** Ron Freeman, **Health & Safety:** tbc, **Ordinary Members:** Pam Lyons, Sian Van Gemeren, Sandy Halliday, Lawrence Andrews

**6. Walking Holidays & Coach Trips:**

- Next holiday will be St Davids in June 2025, organised by Jane Wilcock. There is also a trip to Spain in September 2025, organised by Pam.
- No volunteers to organise a 2025 coach trip, however, we will continue to support those offered to us by Cardiff Ramblers.

**7. Festive Lunch and Cabaret:**

- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December at Bryn Meadows Golf Club.

**8. New Year Dinner:**

- Tuesday 21st January at the Cedar Tree Toby Carvery. Pam will message members in November.

Members were asked for any other ideas for social events. Sian asked if there was interest for a skittles night (venue: Rugby club). Members were in favour, so she will look into it.

**9. Any other Business:** None.

The meeting closed at 2.30 pm.

C. Franks 20/10/2024