



West Berks Ramblers Annual General Meeting

Draft Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 12th November 2025 at 7.30pm

Location – Falklands Cricket Club

Present: Forty-seven members of West Berkshire Ramblers

Apologies: Pauline Davis, Christine Essex, Graham Godwin, Karen Job, Mary Murphy, Andy Parker, Jane Pike, Neal Pike, Tina Rowell, Ian Tempest, Wendy Walker, Susan Wright, Peter Wright

Approval of the 2024 AGM Minutes

A draft copy of the 2024 AGM Minutes has been available to read on the West Berkshire Ramblers website since November 2024.

Approval of Minutes

Proposed – Dawn Tait

Seconded – Neil Lawrence

The Minutes of the 2024 AGM were accepted as correct.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman's report has been available for members to read on the West Berkshire Ramblers website and on the night a hard copy was posted on the notice board. A summary of the report was read to the members present. The extensive walks programme, the coach walks and the enjoyable social activities the group has had this year were noted. In particular, the holiday in the Elan Valley, the Christmas meals, the picnic walks and evening walks in the summer were mentioned. An account of this year's coach walks and those lined up for next year were detailed.

The Area AGM on the 29th November was highlighted and the request for potential new Area committee members, especially Chair, Treasurer and Secretary was made. Both existing and new walk leaders were thanked along with the request for more of our members to take up a walk leadership role. Finally, thanks were given to departing committee members, Eugene Futchter and Shona Kelly, remaining committee members and the holiday and coach walk sub committees.

Treasurer's Report

The accounts have been available for members to scrutinise on the West Berkshire Ramblers website prior to the AGM. On the night they were posted on the Ramblers notice board. They have been audited and sent to Head Office.

Approval of the Accounts

Proposed – Bruce Blaine

Seconded – Debbie Bradshaw

The accounts for 2024/2025 were accepted as correct.

Appointment of an Independent Examiner for Group Accounts

Thanks were given to Jane Pike for being the Independent Examiner of the accounts. Jane has decided to step back from the role after being our auditor for many years. As an appreciation of her role, she will be sent an engraved wine glass and bottle of wine as she was unable to attend the AGM.

John Hughesdon, a retired accountant, has offered to step in as our independent auditor for next year.

Proposed – Graham Smith

Seconded – Richard Moore

Officer's Reports

Reports from the Secretary, Walks Coordinator, Membership Secretary, Footpath, Secretary, Publicity Officer, Walking Environment, and Coach Walks have all been available to read on the West Berkshire Ramblers website prior to the AGM. On the night copies were posted on the Ramblers notice board.

There were no questions from the members with regard to any of the reports.

Election of Committee Members and Officers

The Chair, Treasurer and Group Secretary all agreed to continue in role for another year.

Chair: Nomination - Andrew Jackson Proposed – Eugene Fletcher

Seconded - Jonathan Sayers

The membership re-elected Andrew Jackson as Chair

Treasurer: Nomination – Peter Bennet

Proposed – Siân Williams

Seconded - Tony Key

The membership re-elected Peter Bennett as Treasurer.

Group Secretary: Nomination – Gill Lawrence

Proposed – Neil Lawrence

Seconded – Graham Smith

The membership re-elected Gill Lawrence as secretary.

Following the resignation of Shona Kelly as Events Coordinator from the Committee, Gill Key and Janet Montefiore put themselves forward for the following roles.

Social Secretary: Nomination - Gill Key

Deputy Social Secretary: Nomination – Janet Montefiore

Proposed – Dennis Tucker

Seconded – Dawn Tait

Both Gill and Janet were elected into the positions.

The remainder of the committee were elected on block.

Walking Environment Officer: Graham Smith

Footpath Secretary: Neal Pike

Webmaster: Steve Collins

Membership Secretary: Robin Clugston

Assistant Membership Secretary: John Gardner

Walks Coordinator: Siân Williams

Assistant Walks Coordinator: Debbie Bradshaw

Publicity Officer: Jonathan Sayers

Proposed – Charles Campbell

Seconded – Eugene Fletcher

All positions were approved by the membership.

Any Other Business

There were no questions raised by the membership.

Meeting Ended – 7.55pm

The meeting was followed by a talk by Daniel Bashford on the Historic Ridgeway Project.