

Minutes of the Meeting of Glasgow Ramblers Group Committee

10th August 2021

The meeting was held on Zoom.

1. **Present** – Gerard McCrear, Alan Watt, Catherine Watt, Annette Bonar, Barry Pottle, Gareth Morgan. Jim Riddell also attended.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th June

- a) The minutes were deemed to be accurate but a few comments by Barry. Minutes will be amended as follows

3. under Reports

Membership add the word Groups "numbers have dropped in many Ramblers Groups"

4a. added Scotland to make it clear that Ramblers Scotland is being referred to.

4c. amend to "hand sanitiser should be brought on the walk"

AOCB the RRW has not been completed by the group.

Use of we, us and our is perhaps ambiguous and to be avoided.

The Chair asked that those members present at the meeting check the minutes when they are received so that anything ambiguous is sorted out before the meeting.

- b) Matters arising - covered elsewhere in the Minutes CW

3. **Reports** were received from - Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Access and the Magnificent 11

Discussion and Matters arising from the reports –

Chair – nothing to add

Secretary - Four GR members have signed up for Walk Leadership Training.

Treasurer – Update on accounts, Group budget submitted, nothing else to add

Membership Secretary– moving in the right direction; walks are filling up quickly which can lead to disappointment

Access – Since 2017, the Kelvin/Allander path at Dobbies has been a problem but it has now been fixed by Loudens. JR to write to Loudens to thank them. Near the bridge across Balmore Rd where there is no speed limit a car has crashed into the parapet. The metal gate is now locked from Glasgow side. Walkers must go north and cross the river and through another gate. Needs signage. Maybe GR will have some spare arrow roundels. **JR**

There are rumours that the pedestrian tunnel across the M8 may be privatised. This may be a core path. Parking in Pollok Park – the experiment to stop parking at the weekends seems to have ended but Glasgow Life is looking into it. Cars in the park may be minimised once the Burrell reopens when it is planned that local busses will come into the park.

Closure of several golf courses. The one at Lethamhill is being redeveloped by R&A as a family facility.

To the report AW added that access on to the canal from Garscube Rd at Queens Cross is now open leading up to the new Garscube Bridge and then up to Hamiltonhill where there is an amazing viewpoint.

Website – Geoff, Alan and Ian are working on the pages for the Magnificent 11

Magnificent 11 – nothing to add

4. Ardrishaig Weekend 17th/19th September is going ahead, walks will be put on GWEM, deposits generously being donated by the three people no longer going. 18 people staying in the hostel plus 2 or 4 staying locally.

5. Arrangements for AGM

Paddy McKenna and Stuart Whittaker of Cassiltoun Housing Association (CHA) are both happy to speak at the AGM. This links very well with the Scottish Walking Awards 2021. GR nominated CHA and they won the award for the development of Castlemilk Park in the Housing Association Category.

Venue or Zoom is a committee decision. Venues discussed as long term the group would hope to get back to holding an AGM in person.

This year we will have AGM on a Tuesday evening and walk on the Saturday. One committee member easy either way but the majority present happy to hold the AGM by zoom

For future committee meetings, we will need to look for premises with plenty of ventilation – halls and schools are a possibility.

Agreed that AGM would be by Zoom on the evening of Tuesday, 23rd November followed by a walk at Castlemilk Park on Saturday 27th November.

Before the next meeting Annual Report (**CW**) and Accounts (**AW**) will be prepared

Minutes, circulation of papers, nominations, dates for these to be checked.

6. Walk Programme

- a) No incidents to report. There were two walks where the weather was very hot and not everyone had enough water. On the hill walk, the Leader saved the day.
- b) Future walks – it is proving difficult to get folk to lead walks
- c) Four GR members have signed up for Walk Leadership Training.

7. Amendments to Ramblers Scotland Constitution

Nothing to add. The chair will email Hildegard of Ramblers Scotland saying that the committee are in agreement with the minor amendments

CW

8. **Next meeting** 5th October by zoom

9. **AOCB** – nothing to add

Reports from the received prior to the meeting and circulated to the committee.

Chair's Report August 2021

Come Monday and the easing of restrictions, we should have some revised guidelines from Ramblers Scotland.

The Urban Good Glasgow Maps have been distributed to members who helped with The Winter Challenge, committee members and Ramblers Scotland.

2nd Edition of Glasgow Council's Parklife Magazine was published in June. There was a very pleasing article about Glasgow Ramblers Winter Challenge. At the bottom of the article there were links to the website and to info@glasgowramblers.org.uk. All good publicity. I have sent all the photos in the article to Danny Carden for another write up.

Magnificent 11

wb 14th August the work on Pedmyre Lane should start and wb 21st August the waymarking posts will be installed by a contractor.

Ardishaig Weekend

The weekend is going ahead. Ian and Bobby visited the hostel on 1st August. Ian sent an email on Thursday, outlining the plans for accommodation at the hostel. He is fairly confident that everyone, apart from the person we cannot contact, will come on the weekend. Plans for meals and walks have been prepared. The five walks will be published on GWEM but marked as full.

Secretary's Report August 2021

There has been an easing of restrictions since the last GGC and it is hoped this will continue thus allowing an extended walk programme to be published

GG winter challenge was featured in Glasgow City Council magazine, Parklife.

Plus a photo of group members undertaking path maintenance featured in the recent RS newsletter.

Several members undertook Walk Leader training, others have enrolled for online training sessions.

There was a Volunteer survey in July by Ramblers Scotland, results to follow in the coming months.

Introductory Walks project postponed from 2020 is due to take place in September.
Catherine Watt has volunteered to lead a walk around Lochwinnoch.

Recent Ramblers Scotland Newsletters covered the following points: Trespass case, How to wild camp, Become a Walk Leader, WL conversations, Route of month, Walk reader survey, Know your rights –Access Rights events, Rewilded Glenfeshie0, Outdoor swimming, Nature emergency petition, Path maintenance,

Ramblers GB newsletter topics included: Document hub, Coronavirus update, Volunteer survey, Group walks, Local recruitment,

Also received various emails from holiday, IT companies and Facebook notifications.

Membership Report August 2021

Since the last meeting new to Ramblers 8

“ “ “ “ “ the Group 0

“ “ “ “ re-joined the Group 3

“ “ “ “ resigned from Ramblers 2

“ “ “ “ lapsed 3

“ “ “ “ moved Group 1

“ “ “ “ moved Area 0

Membership total is 278 on August 7th 2021 which is an increase of 5 since the last meeting

Report to GGC, August 10 , 2021, Access and Countryside, JR

1. Kelvin/Allander Path near Dobbies fixed. New problems on path near Balmuilty Bridge. Signage needed.

2. Garscube estate path problems near river at sports fields. Best to detour round them at present.

3. Stockingfield Junction on Forth & Clyde canal. Work for new bridge is intensifying, temporary structures in place - not public useable, no access to Port Dundas branch. Lochburn Rd stoppages to all traffic imminent (9/8/21 for 5 days).

4. Caldercuilt Rd (car access to Kelvin Walkway at John Paul Academy) also stopped up from 9/8/21 for 5 days. (same period).

5. Pedestrian Bridge over M8 at Sighthill, main structure put in place last week.

6. Cop 26 will entail many path, road etc. closures around city.

7. SEC. Talk of privatising the Smartie Tube. (Important part of cycle network)

8. Pollok Country Park. Cars in Park. Glasgow Life looking into this.

9. Govan to Partick Opening bridge. Work may start soon, to last 70 weeks.

10. Sell off/reprovisioning of Municipal Golf courses. Lethamhill bought by R&A. Community Golf Facility. In conjunction with Glasgow Life. Seven Lochs Wetland Park. New nature trails to join up with existing walking routes. Family days.

11. Planned new pedestrian and cycle bridge over the M80 to link with new Robroyston Station. (Wins and losses)

Treasurer's report available on request.