Glasgow Ramblers Committee Meeting 19th September, 2022

	Present Frances Arthur (FA), Annette Bonar (AB); Geoff Der GD); Gareth Morgan (GM); Barry Pottle (BP); Helen Sweeting (HS); Alan Watt (AW); Sandra West (SW). **Also attending** Jim Riddell (JR).
1.	**Interim arrangements - chairing** Barry Pottle agreed to chair the meeting (whilst remaining unwilling to accept the title of Group Chair).
2.	**Apologies** None.
3.	**Minutes of Committee meeting held on 5th July 2022** **a - Accuracy as record of meeting** While not strictly 'accuracy', two points were made: • AW asked for the Treasurer report 3rd bullet point to end at 'keyrings' as the remainder was not relevant. • CW noted that in the past, Treasurer reports were not included in the minutes posted on the website since they may include sensitive financial information. It was agreed that they would be excluded from the July minutes onwards – with an 'available on request' note. Those present agreed the record was accurate and so could be approved. BP signed his hard copy. **b - Matters arising (ACTION points from minutes of 5th July)** **re #2 – Minutes of meeting of 15th March** • SW to circulate previous minutes along with Committee papers in future – DONE. • CW to contact Simon Cuthbert about leading a geology walk – DONE – scheduled for Sat 8th October. • HS to amend and save 'final' version of minutes for website in future - DONE. **Re #3 - Reports** • BP to send the Sheffield Round Walk link to Gary Linstead – DONE – GL has said he will contact Sheffield. • BP to email Mag11 thanks to Gerard McCrear and Ian Brooke - DONE. • AW to draft next year's group budget, circulate for comments and submit - DONE. • AW to check whether the £500 Area funds grant can be used for general Glasgow Ramblers promotional materials - DONE. • AW, AB and HS to meet re promotional materials – DONE – AW has purchased some items – see #4b Treasurer's report below. • ALL to send any good potential website images to GD – ONGOING – SW has sent an image; AW suggested that if we spot a good image on any of the blogs, we should ask those responsible to share their original. **Re #5 – Committee roles** • BP to email thanks to CW – DONE. **Re # 7 – Next AGM** • AW to ask CW to contact Dee Heddon re speaking at AGM – DONE- see #7 Next AGM below **Re #8 - AOCB** • AW to draft text re possible Rob Roy walk for the next newsletter – DONE – insufficient interest for bus hire. **ACTIONS** • HS to amend July minutes as above and arrange for them to be posted on website.

4.	**Reports and matters arising** **a – Chair** • No report as we do not currently have a Group Chair. **b – Treasurer** • AW noted that his Treasurer's report (circulated to the committee, available on request) showed relatively healthy finances. • £338 of the £500 grant from North Strathclyde Area funds designated for promotional material has been spent (Mag11 stickers; Ramblers pens and business cards). Ramblers Scotland have committed funds to redesign the Mag11 leaflet with the new Ramblers branding, but these do not cover the amount of printing required (large orders massively reduce the unit cost price), so the remainder of the North Strathclyde Area grant will go towards this. • GD asked why auger (a device for drilling holes – used for Mag11 marker posts) hire costs could not come from the £500 grant. AW noted that the grant was solely for promotional materials. **c – Membership** • The report shows a total of 309 members of the Ramblers currently allocated to Glasgow Group, an increase of 10 since the July committee meeting. • CW wondered if any had been prompted to join by the introductory walk. FA reported that although several had joined in early July, there is no information on reasons for joining. AB thought the timing suggested the introductory walk may have been the reason. **d – IT / website** • Nothing to report. **e – Access** • JR has reported hedgerow blocking a narrow pavement on Balmore Road to Glasgow City Council. Although he has received no response, there has been partial hedge trimming, however the road remains dangerous for walkers. • CW wondered if the narrow section around the bridge en route from Kelvindale to Dawsholm had ever been reported. Although it could not be widened, a new white edge line could be painted on. It was noted that a planned new housing development at Temple Road and Dalsholm Road should include safer pedestrian access across this bridge – see https://www.scottishconstructionnow.com/articles/consultation-launched-for-new-affordable-homes-in-kelvindale
5.	**Walk and Events Programme** **a – Magnificent 11** Brochure • As noted above, Ramblers Scotland have employed a designer to incorporate the new Ramblers logo and make some other slight changes. SW had circulated the designer's suggestions to the committee. It was agreed that Ian Brooke should be asked to decide on this. GD was concerned that changes to the Mag11 website may be required, CW thought that since only the branding (not content) was changing, the website need not be changed. Castlemilk and Carmunnock Community Windfarm Trust bid • This bid, with Thenue Housing, to pay for improvements to the muddy section outside Linn Cemetery is ongoing. Magazine articles • Scottish Walks and Cycling Magazine have now published an article on the Mag11, written by Steve Cartwright on behalf of Ramblers Scotland. • The route is now on Walkhighlands. • Cameron McNeish has written an article about the walk and launch for the next edition of the Scots Magazine; AW has supplied photos. Promotional • CW noted that the Facebook page continues to attract people. • There is also still demand for leaflets – including from VisitScotland.

	Rebranding • The Committee noted thanks to Ian Brooke for his invaluable contribution to this exercise. **b – Walks programme and Walk Leaders meeting** • AW noted that a Walk Leader meeting has been set up for 27th Sept. He hopes to get a longer term programme (re)established and so aims to decide on a programme until the end of Jan 2023 during the meeting. In the past (pre COVID) 6-month programmes were decided and available to print; he hoped to be able to run with a rolling programme for 3 or 4 months ahead. GD suggested that it might be possible to generate a printable PDF dynamically for anyone who wanted a hard copy. CW highlighted potential chaos if members relied on a 'fixed' printed programme, since it might change. It was agreed it might be OK with a sentence reminding members to also check the website. AW suggested checking whether it would be technically possible and then discussing further. • AW wondered if we still needed standard text re COVID regulations as a boilerplate on walk descriptions. It was agreed that this was not necessary, but some standard text re contacting walk leaders etc should be included. AW will circulate a draft around walk leaders. **c – Dog Friendly Walk** • FA has now led two short evening dog walks and a longer New Lanark day walk is scheduled for October. • FA reported that Jeannie Cranfield (Ramblers Scotland Delivery Officer) is interested and has suggested wording to position these walks differently so they attract members without dogs too. She has also suggested: (1) paying for a Facebook advert before the New Lanark walk; and (2) opening up dog walks to other local groups. FA is concerned that a FB ad might make it appear that we are offering regular dog walks when this is impossible as we don't have the leaders. It was agreed that while some publicity is needed in order to attract participants, a FB ad might increase expectations and so would not be wise. These walks will therefore be included as extras to our main programme. CW wondered if dog walks could be run at an Area level, since Bearsden group also do them. BP suggested this could be raised at the next Area meeting but that it might be difficult to get volunteers to coordinate an Area Programme. **d – Incidents on walks or anything to report** • SW reported a trip on one recent walk which has been reported to Ramblers – no serious injury sustained. **E – Deeside weekend 23-26 September** • Twenty-one participants are expected, staying in the Braemar / Ballater area. Six walks have been arranged plus a group meal on Saturday 24th. **F – Walks Manager pilot** • AW reported that this continues to be delayed. **ACTIONS** • AW to co-ordinate longer walks programme • GD to check whether it might be possible to automatically generate a printable PDF of future walks. • AW to redraft boilerplate text for walk descriptions and circulate round walk leaders. • BP to raise the possibility of dog walks coordinated at Area level at the next Area meeting.
6.	**Committee Roles** **A – Treasurer** • No volunteers. AW will be stepping down at the AGM. **B – Walks Programme Coordinator** • AW wishes to continue in this role for now since his long experience should help with the introduction of the new Ramblers Walks Manager system. He will raise the issue of the need for someone to take over at the Walk Leaders meeting. **ACTIONS** • AW to raise future walks coordinator role with walks leaders.

7.	**Next AGM** **A – Date** • Tues 15th November, 7pm. **B – Agenda, Annual Report and Accounts** • BP agreed to prepare a draft of the Agenda and Annual Report for approval by the Committee, and AW agreed to prepare the Accounts. **C – Arrangements for circulation of meeting papers** • BP noted that our constitution obliges us to give notice of the AGM to all members. SW agreed to do this and will liaise with FA for contact details – last year 36 needed hard copies. **D – Speaker and linked walk** • Dee Heddon has agreed to speak and has asked for guidance. It was agreed that she should speak on the Walk Create project after the main AGM business for around 20 minutes plus 10 for questions. She is unable to lead a walk; CW, SW and HS will put together a walk with a creative theme for the following weekend (Saturday 19th Nov). **E – Next Scottish Council meeting** • Saturday 4th March on the University of Stirling campus. **ACTIONS** • BP to prepare draft Agenda and Annual Report forapproval by the Committee. • AW to prepare Financial Report for AGM. • SW and FA liaise over member contact details and emailing / printing and posting AGM notices. • CW, SW and HS liaise over AGM walk.
8.	**Next committee meeting** • It was agreed that a brief meeting (rather than emails) would be the most efficient way to approve the draft Agenda and Annual Report, discuss / agree nominees (for committee posts and other roles) and any committee motions. • **Monday 24th October – 30 mins zoom meeting (restricted to business related to the AGM and urgent AOCB).**

SUBMITTED REPORTS

Chair's report – none as no current Group Chair.

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Treasurer's Report – available on request.

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Membership Report

Since the last Committee meeting in July 2022 memberships figures are as follows:

New to Ramblers	16
Rambler members who have moved to Glasgow Ramblers	0
Rambler members who have re-joined Glasgow Ramblers	1
Members who have resigned	3
Members whose membership has	4
Members who have moved to another Group	0
Members who moved to another Area	0

On 15/09/2022 the total **membership for Glasgow Ramblers is 309** this is an increase of 10 since the last Committee meeting in July 2022

Frances Arthur
15/09/2022

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IT / Website Report – nothing to report

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Access Report

I recently reported to Glasgow City Council on an issue I am concerned about. This is a narrow pavement blocked by hedgerow, on Balmore Road, extending from the cemetery opposite Possil Marsh to near the roundabout at Boclair Road. The pavement is adjacent to a narrow two way road with very fast moving traffic. Pedestrians must fight their way through the hedgerow as stepping onto the road would be very dangerous.

Jim Riddell