**LONG DISTANCE WALKERS ASSOCIATION - BEDS BUCKS NORTHANTS GROUP
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 19TH JANUARY 2017**

**AT 1 ABBEY WAY, BRADVILLE, MILTON KEYNES**

The meeting commenced at 7.50 pm

**Present:** Gill Bunker (Newsletter/Website), Roy Carter, Norman Corrin (Chairman), Dave Findel-Hawkins (Membership), Mary Knight (Social Walks), Peter Simon (Secretary/Local Groups Rep), Alan Leadbetter, Ian Sage (Treasurer)

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|  |  | **ACTION** |
| **1.** | **Apologies:** None |  |
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| **2.** | **Minutes of Previous Meeting (1st September 2016) and Matters Arising:** |  |
|  | Gill has not researched banners. Norman suggested looking at flag banners. | ***Gill*** |
|  | Other matters will be picked up later in the meeting. |  |
|  | The Minutes were accepted as a true record. |  |
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| **3.** | **Reports:** |  |
|  | **(a)** | **Chairman**: **Norman Corrin** |  |
|  |  | Thanks to Gill for hosting the meeting and welcome to Roy.I’ve done the following:**New Members/ Enquiries from Public:** Dave has notified me of 34 new LDWA members who live within our group’s catchment area. I’ve contacted them all including some who provided no phone number or email address……… |  |
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|  | **(b)** | **Secretary: Peter Simon** |  |
|  |  | No surplus copies of Strider received this time. I have not pursued this since we haven't decided what to do with them. As previously discussed, it seems to be a waste of time distributing them to libraries. Do we still want extra copies, and what for?Received and responded to e-mails.Almost no phone enquiries.Spam filters and unsubscribing seem to be working.Regular news updates put onto website and link emailed to members.Keeping e-mail distribution list up to date. |  |
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|  | **(i)** | **Spare Striders:** It was agreed that Peter will ask for 12 spare Striders and these will be taken to BBN events and, where possible, walking/running events locally.  | ***Peter/Ian*** |
|  | **(ii)** | It was suggested that we put out copies of the BBN walks programme at our events. | ***Gill*** |
|  | **(iii)** | **LDWA Groups and Surplus Group Funds**Peter had received a note from Julie Cribb, Local Groups Secretary: |  |
|  |  | *The Dorset Group has found over a period of time that it has accumulated a surplus cash balance beyond that for which it has a reasonable need. (This surplus has* ***not*** *arisen from the Dorset 100 and none of the surplus from that event is referred to here.) The Dorset Group is considering spending what it considers as surplus funds, having regard to the aims and objectives of the group stated in its constitution. It will ensure that it retains appropriate funding for its day-to-day activities and that it has sufficient funding to cover costs in the event of cancellation of a challenge event (due to circumstances beyond its control).The Dorset Group would be keen to learn whether any other group has found itself in the position of having an ongoing surplus of funds and what action, if any, that group has taken.  With this in mind, the Dorset Group would welcome any feedback on the following to Martin Callow, Dorset Group Secretary* *dorset.ldwa.secretary@gmail.com* *. If you don’t want to respond to a particular question then that’s fine. Many thanks for your help.1. Does your group consider that it holds more funds than it generally needs* *for its day to day activities?2. What financial balance did your group have at the end of its last audited*  *financial year?**3. Does your group run challenge event(s)?**4. What does your group consider is a reasonable level of funding for it to*  *hold?**5 Has your group or will your group spend any excess funding that it does not*  *require and, if so, on what?**6. How many primary members of your group are there?**7. Any other comment?* |  |
|  |  | These questions and the appropriate responses were discussed. Peter to respond to Dorset group. | ***Peter*** |
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|  | **(c)** | **Treasurer: Ian Sage** |  |
|  |  | Significant activity since AGM: 1. Steppingley Step surplus £592
2. Purchase of 50 BBN Buffs £333
3. AGM Meal subsidies £270

Signed accounts have been received.Need to discuss and set up signatories for when I step down at the end of this year. |  |
|  |  | **LDWA BEDS/BUCKS/NORTHANTS GROUP****STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE****1st October 2016 - 30th September 2017** |  |
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|  |  |  |  |  |  | **2017** |  | **2016** |
|  | **INCOME** |  |  |  | **£** |  | **£** |
|  | MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS |  | **17.00** |  | **118.00** |
|  | MERCHANDISE |  |  |  | **0.00** |  | **50.50** |
|  | INTEREST |  |  |  | **0.23** |  | **1.82** |
|  | MISCELLANEOUS |  |  | **0.00** |  | **30.00** |
|  | RED ROSE 100 CONTRIBUTION |  | **0.00** |  | **250.00** |
|  | DORSET 100 CONTRIBUTION |  | **0.00** |  | **300.00** |
|  | SUNDON SAUNTER 2015 |  | **0.00** |  | **1401.00** |
|  | PICK N MIX 2016 |  |  | **0.00** |  | **909.08** |
|  | HERE TO THERE 2016 |  |  | **0.00** |  | **1020.64** |
|  | GREENSAND RIDGE WALK 2016 |  | **0.00** |  | **755.00** |
|  | STEPPINGLEY STEP 2016 |  | **1431.66** |  | **454.20** |
|  | CHILTERN KANTER 2017 |  |  | **150.00** |  | **17.40** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | **1598.89** |  | **5307.64** |

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|  |  |  |  |  |  | **2017** |  | **2016** |
|  | **EXPENDITURE** |  |  |  | **£** |  | **£** |
|  | PRINTING & POSTAGE |  |  | **82.64** |  | **337.00** |
|  | MERCHANDISE |  |  |  | **333.27** |  | **202.74** |
|  | EQUIPMENT |  |  |  | **0.00** |  | **111.37** |
|  | DONATIONS |  |  |  | **0.00** |  | **200.00** |
|  | AGM |  |  |  |  | **0.00** |  | **265.00** |
|  | CHRISTMAS WALK |  |  | **0.00** |  | **45.78** |
|  | MISCELLANEOUS |  |  | **328.84** |  | **640.47** |
|  | RED ROSE 100 CONTRIBUTIONS |  | **0.00** |  | **237.50** |
|  | DORSET 100 CONTRIBUTIONS |  | **0.00** |  | **306.00** |
|  | SUNDON SAUNTER 2015 |  | **0.00** |  | **1146.01** |
|  | PICK N MIX 2016 |  |  | **0.00** |  | **470.44** |
|  | HERE TO THERE 2016 |  |  | **0.00** |  | **806.51** |
|  | GREENSAND RIDGE WALK 2016 |  | **0.00** |  | **874.01** |
|  | STEPPINGLEY STEP 2016 |  | **1292.99** |  | **0.00** |
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|  |  |  |  |  |  | **2037.74** |  | **5642.83** |
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| INCOME |  |  |  |  | **1598.89** |  |  |
| EXPENDITURE |  |  |  |  | **2037.74** |  |  |
| SURPLUS(LOSS) |  |  |  | **-438.85** |  |  |
| 01/10/16 (start of year) |  |  |  | **6836.02** |  |  |
| BALANCE 05/01/2017 |  |  |  | **6397.17** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **REPRESENTED BY** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **NatWest Current Account** |  |  | **2390.25** |  |  |
| **NatWest Business Reserve Account** |  | **4006.92** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | **6397.17** |  |  |
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| **(i)** | **Signed accounts**: Ian will forward the signed accounts to Sandy Gee, LDWA National Treasurer, as required. | ***Ian*** |
| **(ii)** | **Planning for when Ian stands down**. Peter Engledow had previously indicated he would be willing to take on the position of Treasurer. Ian advised that Peter be co-opted on to the committee and made a cheque signatory as soon as possible. Ian will contact Peter. | ***Ian*** |

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|  | **(d)** | **Membership Secretary: Dave Findel-Hawkins** |  |
|  |  | Eight new members. All members emailed to let them know if need to pay or had already paid. 32 still outstanding for 2017, so expect to lose some. No one yet indicated they wish to leave.Started transfer to LDWA website. Now have a Core Members sub group. Some BBN members are not primary/associated on LDWA database so emailed them and asked them to amend their details. So far two have made amendments. Checked BBN email list against LDWA website list of those accepting emails from local group. As to be expected we have some on BBN email list who have NO to accept emails from local group and some who have YES to accept emails from local group who are not on the BBN email list. Suggest we email both lists to explain situation and get them to make necessary changes.Propose we switch over on 31st March as that is the deadline for 2017 administration fee. |  |
|  |  | It was agreed that we should ask National IT for Peter, Dave, Mary and Gill for authority to access to bulk emails. | ***Gill*** |
|  |  | In the meantime, Mary needs a copy of the up-to-date email list. | ***Peter*** |
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|  | **(e)** | **Social Walks: Mary Knight** |  |
|  |  | May to August programme complete and sent to Gill Bunker.Walk leaders identified for all available dates, however as some leaders subsequently changed dates the distribution of walks is not exactly as planned. Where this has led to longer gaps on weekend walks perhaps we could fill some informally (Chairman’s cream tea?).Dates have been identified for the following September to December programme and a couple have been filled already.Better information now coming in for number of walkers on walks. Thank you to everyone who supplies this information. I don’t mind if it comes from more than one source.I will continue to put available dates for walk programme in newsletter. |  |
|  |  | Gill said all walks had been input for Strider. |  |
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|  | **(f)** | **Merchandising/Equipment: Lynn Yorston/Merrian Lancaster (non-committee)** |  |
|  |  | Merchandise – Lynn: Merrian has taken the whole stock and will hold onto it until the new person responsible has been appointed.  |  |
|  |  | **Merchandise – Merrian:** I have the box of merchandise. I'll take it to events, but I'm not going to be proactive about buying anything. |  |
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|  |  | **Equipment – Lynn:** I have sent the up to date list to Gill and Peter to publish on the web site.  |  |
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|  | **(i)** | **Walkie Talkies**: Merrian has the walkie talkies. If anyone wants to use them on social walks or events, please let Merrian know so she can arrange handover. |  |
|  | **(ii)** | **Buffs:** Norman has ordered these and they should be delivered next week. He has emailed the supplier who said they were delayed due to the UK closing down over Christmas…… Mary will take them to walks to sell. | ***Norman/Mary*** |
|  | **(iii)** | **Equipment List** is on the website. |  |
|  | **(iv)** | **Group Tally cards – Lynn & Dave Yorston** |  |
|  |  | It has been suggested that the group has a generic tally card to use at all our challenge events. This would save holding various stock with individual event names throughout the years. They would be on waterproof paper and would show ‘BBN EVENTS’ on the top. A walk number box would then be below that and the smaller boxes for checkpoint below that. We need 6 of these CP boxes to allow for the Pick & Mix routes to be recorded. Other events would only need to use the first 1, 2 or 3 boxes, ignoring the last 3. Is this something the committee and event organisers would agree to? If so, we will get a price from the printers as a bulk order should work out cheaper. The cost would then have to come out of group finances not from the event.  |  |
|  |  | It was agreed we could use generic tally cards for our events. They should say *BBN Event*, have 6 boxes and a space for a bar code (for future use). Norman needs tallies for the Chiltern Kanter. He will liaise with Lynn and Merrian. | ***Norman/Lynn/******Merrian*** |
|  | **(v)** | **Personal Information Cards**: Norman has received these and handed some out on the BBN New Year walk. Mary is also handing them out. |  |
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|  | **(g)** | **Website: Gill Bunker** |  |
|  |  | 1. Continue to add photos and keep website updated.
2. Updated Equipment List put on website.
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|  | **(h)** | **Newsletter: Gill Bunker** |  |
|  |  | 1. Next Newsletter is the Spring issue (February). Deadline: Friday 3rd February.
2. Five articles so far, and will include May to August 2017 walks programme.
3. Anything to come from committee members?
4. Will include info re Wendover Gap Anytime Challenge received from Lynn & Dave
5. I note Ian’s comment in his AGM Treasurer’s Report: “*Printing and Postage costs remain fairly high at £337 for the year. This could be reduced if more members elected to receive their newsletters by email rather than hardcopy*.” Is this something to work towards?
6. Considering emailing the Newsletter to members rather than emailing the link to Newsletter on website (Start doing this when we commence use of bulk emails?)
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|  |  | Gill will try to hand out Newsletters on walks/events to save postage. | ***Gill*** |
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|  | **(i)** | **Local Group Rep: Peter Simon** |  |
|  |  | Reported at last AGM on 2016 meeting at YHA Stratford-upon-Avon.Next meeting 2nd weekend in November 2017 at YHA Hawes (Wensleydale). |  |
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|  | **(j)** | **Other committee members:**   |  |
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|  |  | Roy reported that Bedford Borough Rights of Way has opened up a 5 year improvement plan for consultation with the public, planning for 2017 to 2022, and have opened a link to their questionnaire. Roy has already responded individually. |  |
|  |  | It was agreed we should encourage members to respond individually and that Roy would also respond on behalf of the group. The deadline for responses is 3rd March 2017. | ***Roy*** |
|  |  | Roy to prepare item for Peter to circulate giving the link to the questionnaire and encouraging members to respond. It could also go in the Newsletter. | ***Roy/Peter/Gill*** |
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| **4.** | **Insurance Issues – Incident Reports** No incidents to report. |  |
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| **5.** | **LDWA** |  |
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|  | **(a)** | **National AGM 2017 - Norman Corrin** |  |
|  |  | RoutesA route * This is being led by Dave and Merrian. The coach leaves the hotel at 0800 to drop the group off at Little Gaddesden. The coach will then return to the hotel to pick up the party for the tour round Milton Keynes and Bletchley Park.
* Lunch is at Wing Village Hall. ETA at Wing at 1300.

B route * This is being led by Teresa Brown and Dee Brockway. I’ll also walk it and if the numbers on this route are large then I’ll suggest that it will split into 2 groups and I’ll lead the 2nd group. There were 41 on last year’s AGM.
* Terry and I recced it last Sunday and 18.2 miles turned out to be 20.5. It was a long wet and muddy day! We’ll be walking it out again on Sunday 29th January. It also gave us a chance to try out our head torches…..
* Terry has said she will provide some notes about the various villages that we will pass along the route. On the day it will leave the hotel at 0830 and if need be the 2nd group at 0900.
* Due to not being certain at what exact time we’ll finish the route and any possible delays with the coach returning from Horwood House I’ve spoken to The Rose and Crown at Ivinghoe and asked them that there may be 40 walkers turning up for coffees and alcohol. It would not be good to have that amount of people waiting outside Pitstone Memorial Hall for the coach if the weather is inclement.
* Lunch is at Wing Village Hall. ETA at Wing between 1200 and 1230 (if split into 2 groups.

C Route * This is being led by Sylvie Eames and Norman Smith. However in light of the tragic news of last Sunday I might have to find another walk leader. The pub lunch was supposed to be at The Carpenters Arms at Mursley which is now closed… The route has been changed to go via Winslow and lunch is at The Bell Hotel where I’ve booked an area for 25.

D Route * This is now being led by Chris Bent or Frances Craven. On the day they were due to recce the walk she injured her toe when getting out of bed…
* In addition the Betsey Wynne pub is now closed for refurbishment over the AGM week end and lunch is now at The Green Man at Mursley. Brian Graves has offered to send Chris and Frances a revised route.

**Catering**I met Mary and Dennis at Wing Village Hall on the 7th Jan and have checked the facilities. It’s a posh hall! Gill and Dave and Lynn Yorston are helping on the day.The meal for the A and B walkers will be a ham and cheese ploughman’s with a variety of breads, the potential option of a butternut squash soup, followed by dessert. This will cost a maximum of £2.50 a head. I’ve asked Mary to allow for 80. The December Strider article mentioned about real ale at this refreshment stop. The food and drink have to be self-financing and as a 72 pint barrel costs £120 and a 36 pint one costs £72 and not everyone drinks this may not happen. I’ve sent the costs over to Katie Hunt and she will be asking Sandy Gee to approve them. Walk Leaders (for the C & D) routes will be given a list of who has ordered what and this will be phoned through to the pub the day before.**Quiz**Steve and Pearl and I are meeting up in Feb to go over this. He’s got his 4 rounds I just have to come up with mine….**Coach Trip**I’m meeting Dianne Sutton next week to discuss this. The original plan may be a bit ambitious. **Non-AGM attendees who wish to walk**I’ve asked Peter if anyone wishes to walk on the AGM walks but is not staying at the hotel please could they contact him. However I’ve not sent anything out to the group yet so that is on my list of things to do.**Helpers on Friday 10th** So far the following have offered to help as meeters and greeters at the hotel: Gill Howe, Andrew Gilbertson, Ian Sage, Pat Sage, Teresa Brown and Me. I’ll get details from Katie of what time we should be there. **Other Stuff**I’ve asked Gill if she could produce a timeline of the history of BBN for display in the hotel.I’m going to produce something about our gates project and the bench.  |  |
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|  |  | Norman to let Peter have information to circulate for BBN members not staying at the hotel but wanting to join one of the walks – advising that their choice of walk needs to be confirmed beforehand; and coach and meal need to booked, plus any special dietary requirements confirmed.Mary to check wording before this is circulated. | ***Norman/Peter/******Mary*** |
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|  | **(b)** | **Group Constitution** |  |
|  |  | Minor amendments were agreed at the AGM, and the new constitution needs to be sent to the National LDWA for approval. | ***Peter*** |
|  |  | Approved version then needs to go on BBN website. | ***Gill*** |

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|  | **(c)** | **Data Protection Issues: Appointment of responsible Committee member** |  |
|  |  | Gill volunteered, but she will check with National LDWA what this involves. | ***Gill*** |
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|  | **(d)** | **Bulk Emails** Already discussed. |  |
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|  | **(e)** | **Publicity** |  |
|  |  | We will try and publicise the LDWA via spare Striders, handing out LDWA business cards, publicity at festivals, etc but the meeting agreed that BBN are attracting plenty of new members at present so we will continue to do what we are already doing.  |  |
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|  | **(f)** | **Facebook & Other Social Media – Daniel Jamin (non-committee)** |  |
|  |  | I published the BBN Facebook as a public group. This is the standard way to do things. (The London Gliding Club and the Vintage Club are two groups I belong to and they are public groups.)In a private group, only members can publish photos, see the photos, the albums and the comments.With a public group, only members can publish photos and comments, but everyone, including the general public can see these. This is a huge advantage if, as I thought was suggested at the AGM, we want people to know of our existence and be enticed to join us.I understand some people are wary about privacy, and also about the risks of people publishing undesirable comments or photos on the page, and would prefer the group to be private.My view...PrivacyIn my experience over the past 15 years of using FB, there has not been a single time when I have felt people were party to aspects of my personal life that was no business to them (that includes regarding the two groups I mentioned about plus the 4 or 5 others I belong to). All it requires is some discipline in publishing information; just common sense really.There is of course a possibility for people to access our own individual FB pages but the same applies here.I think we are quite safe with the possibility of just approved members being able to publish on our page. Plus Gill, Norman and I, for the moment, have the privileges to take off the page anything we would deem inappropriate.So, my suggestion is that the group remains public to allow the public to see the great things we do. However, I will of course keep or change the group type as the committee advise me to do.The second issue is regarding advertising future events.You may have noticed that in December I started (advertised!) the next events as they appeared on the website. The idea is to alert people about the next event(s) and to encourage people to attend and to publish stuff after the event (the photos and Merrian's traces have been great!). I and others can continue to do that if you think this is useful. |  |
|  |  | All I do is to pick up the starting point map and details, process these before putting them on the FB page with a link to the website events' page. Perhaps the committee could let me know if they want me to continue with that (or for someone else to do this as well for that matter)?Thirdly, is there anything you would like me to do, not do, or do differently, as for example changing the group photo?Regarding new members, I added some to get started but now I think it is more appropriate for Gill and Norman to deal with this (although it is not a problem if you wanted me to do that).  |  |
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|  |  | Most of those present with Facebook experience did have concerns about privacy and it was agreed that the Facebook page should be run as a closed group. | **Daniel** |
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| **6.** | **LDWA 100s** |  |
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|  | **(a)** | **2017 100 – North York Moors – Merrian Lancaster** |  |
|  |  | The BBN checkpoint is at 28 miles, a Bunkhouse in Rosedale. Merrian is organising the group checkpoint: |  |
|  |  | 19 people offered to help, 10 have confirmed that they're still available. I don't need to call for more help…....yet. I still don't know what refreshments we're providing. Also, I don't know if we'll be doing electronic checking-in or good old paper, pencils and clippers. Also, I still haven't heard if the marshals may use the bunks in the bunkhouse on Saturday and Sunday night.The website has the following information:

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| Description: | Rosedale Bunkhouse |
| Grid Reference: | [SE 723 959](http://www.streetmap.co.uk/map.srf?X=472350&Y=495950&A=Y&Z=115) |
| Manned By: | Beds Bucks & Northants LDWA |
| Open: | Sat 16:00 to Sat 23:30 |
| Menu: | Hot/Cold drinks. Note Food Menu is "Under Development" |
| Supporters' Information: | TBC |
|   | Stage | Done | Left | Time |
| Grid Ref. | km | miles | km | miles | km | miles | Local | Total |  Stage |
| SE 724 959 | 10.90 | 6.77 | 51.19 | 31.81 | 113.09 | 70Z.27 | 22:43 | 12:43 |  02:42 |

We know that the bunkhouse has been booked for the 100 on Saturday and Sunday night. Lynn has suggested that BBN book it for the Friday night and make it available to BBN members. I think it would cost about £120. The contribution we usually get from the 100 organising committee could be used for that. |  |
|  |  | It was agreed that the bunkhouse should be booked for the Friday night as suggested. | ***Merrian*** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **(b)** | **2018 100 – Kent - Norman Corrin** |  |
|  |  | We’ve been offered a checkpoint at Rye 13 miles.  |  |
|  |  | Norman will circulate a request for a volunteer to organise the checkpoint. | ***Norman*** |
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|  | **(c)** | **2019 100 - Northumbria** |  |
|  |  | No information yet about checkpoints. |  |
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| **7.** | **BBN Challenge Events** |  |
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|  | **(a)** | **Chiltern Kanter 2017 – Norman Corrin** |  |
|  |  | * Details are in December Strider
* All Checkpoint halls are booked and Safran Power Systems have allowed us to use their car park.
* Current entries stand at 103 (@ 16/01/2017).
* The 18 mile route is now 19 miles. £7 LDWA and £10 non-LDWA. No entries on the day and Entry Limit of 300. Online or Postal entries accepted.
* All routes have been checked and grid reference sheets are available from Mike.
* Mary is handling the catering.
* Appeal for Marshals has gone out and I’ve had some more members offer their services. I now have 20.
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|  |  | The closing date for entries is 25th February. Mary will need final numbers via Mike Hyland or SI Entries. |  |
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|  | **(b)** | **From Here to There & Back 2017 – Alan Leadbetter** |  |
|  |  | Have walked the changed middle route to confirm mileage as 21 miles so will need to change the distance on the website, in Strider and on Sientries. I am looking at changing all routes either next year or the year after, also will be dropping the **& Back** part to make it just **From Here to There**. Will be looking for someone to check the route description when I have done them. Looking at doing Pin Badges instead.Will be appealing for marshals. Hall and checkpoints sorted. Deposits paid for OGs and Holcot. Broughton paid in full. Will be asking Jane Bayes if she can help with checkpoint food and if she could make some bread pudding. | ***Alan/Gill*** |
|  |  | Alan will need marshals - Plea to go in Newsletter/Peter’s Update. | ***/Peter*** |
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|  | **(c)** | **Shillington Shuffle 2017** |  |
|  | **(i)** | **Dave Findel-Hawkins:** |  |
|  |  | Date 19th November. Entries open and eight already entered. Limit 300 with reserve list of 20. No postal entries.Three checkpoints Lilley, Pirton and Meppershall all booked. Routes basically same as 2014 but 12ml will be in reverse. |  |
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|  | **(ii)** | **Merrian Lancaster:** |  |
|  |  | Entries for Shillington Shuffle are now open. We're only taking entries on-line and will have a small waiting list. We're not allowing runners on the 12 mile route. We're going to have generic tallies. DFH is doing the routes, Lynn is organising the food, Mike is dealing with queries, Dave Y is organising the checkpoints and marshals and I'll do the paperwork. I now have access to SiEntries. We have a generic email address bbn-sswalks@ldwa.org.ukI'm going to take a look at PACER to see if it would be feasible to use on SSS events and to find out what the implications are - costs, etc. PACER stands for “Participant Activity Control for Events and Results” and is a new web-based system to allow the management and tracking of entrants in LDWA Challenge events. |  |
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|  | **(d)** | **Pick & Mix 2018 – Lynn & Dave Yorston** |  |
|  |  | We will approach the school during this term to book the HQ. We have also started looking at the routes as we are going to change the 12 mile to make the water stop easier for us. We will also have to keep as informed as possible on the status of HS2 because this will progressively close some of our footpaths on the Chesham side of the valley. |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **(e)** | **Wendover Gap Anytime Challenge - Lynn & Dave Yorston** |  |
|  |  | We intend to do a flyer to advertise this anytime challenge. These will be put out at other walks. |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **8.** | **Donations/Projects** |  |
|  | **(a)** | **Lynn Yorston**: I held a charity table top sale at this year’s Steppingley Step to support 1st Prestwood Brownies raising monies for The Hearing Dogs for Deaf People charity. We sent a cheque for over £200. Many thanks.  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **(b)** | **Dave & Lynn Yorston**: We would like to suggest that the group supports the cost of installing more hand or kissing gates on local footpaths. As none of us are getting any younger we would find these easier than stiles!!!  |  |
|  |  | This was agreed. Members to be asked to suggest suitable places via Update/Newsletter. | *Gill* |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **(c)** | Following a reminder from Jim Robinson at the AGM that the East Midlands Air Ambulance covers the north of our area, it was agreed to donate £100 to them. | *Ian* |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **(d)** | It was agreed to donate £70 to the Beds Festival of Walking. Roy is leading a BBN walk of the Kingfisher Way as part of the Festival. Roy to let Ian have contact information for Barry Ingram, the Festival organiser. | *Roy/Ian* |
|  |  |  |
| **9.** | **Group Activities/Weekends/Social Events** |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **(a)** | **Round Corby Walk** |  |
|  |  | Mary confirmed this was a 34 mile walk on Saturday 15th July, 8 am start from Great Oakley, must be booked by 30th June. Led by Wayne Rowlett. |  |
|  |  | Mary is suggesting to Wayne that, in view of the length of the walk, he have a co-leader to support him on the day. |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **(b)** | **AGM: 26th November 2017**  |  |
|  |  | The date was agreed. It was agreed it be held somewhere in Bucks. Gill will check if Cosgrove village hall is available, with lunch at the Barley Mow. | ***Gill*** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **(c)** | **MK50:** Milton Keynes is celebrating its 50th birthday with a year of walks, events and activities. Norman will look into BBN organising a walk later in the year that could be included in the programme of events. | ***Norman*** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **10.** | **AOB** |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **(a)** | **Next meeting:** Thursday 8th June 7.45 at Dunstable**.**  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **(b)** | **Generic email addresses:** We have generic emails for secretary, walks secretary etc and now *bbn.sswalks@ldwa.org.uk* for the SSS events. Could do similar for Chiltern Kanter, Pick & Mix, and FTAB?  |  |
|  |  | This was agreed. | ***Gill*** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **(c)** | **BBN mugs:** Norman suggested getting mugs for BBN’s 35th Anniversary (2018). |  |
|  |  | Agreed in principle. To be discussed at next meeting, together with other ideas to celebrate the anniversary. | ***Peter******Agenda***  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **(d)** | It was agreed to make a payment of £30 to each committee member towards expenses for the year. | ***Ian*** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **(e)** | **AGM Minutes**: Mary to amend the AGM minutes by adding written comments to her tables The Minutes then need to be sent to LDWA Local Groups Secretary. | ***Mary/Peter*** |
|  |  | . |  |
|  |  |  |
|  | The meeting closed at 10.20 pm |  |

**The next committee meeting will be held on Thursday 8th June at 7.45 pm**

**at 18 Brandreth Avenue, Dunstable LU5 4JP**