

NORTHUMBRIA GROUP LDWA
AGM 2015
Discussion Paper - Monthly meetings

The Group has always had a get-together every month and these meetings have been held around Tyneside

However

- In 2014 we had 312 members who live between the Scottish Border and North Yorkshire. For most of these members a meeting in Newcastle on a weekday evening has not been relevant
- The most we have had at one of these meetings over the last 5 years has been 23. Last year 28 different people turned up at meetings with an average of 12 people at each meeting
- Comments have been made that our current venue is not particularly conducive to conviviality. We decided on a different venue for the December meeting. 3 of us turned up.

The committee are going to continue to meet regularly. We have things to organise -The Durham Dales Challenge and a Walks Programme for example. The questions we have for you are

1. Is a regular group meeting something that you want to see continue. The committee feels that these meetings are important as they allow members to take an active part in reaching decisions about what happens within the group
2. Is a monthly meeting actually meeting the needs of the group. Would every other month be enough
3. Is a permanent venue appropriate given the wide spread of the Northumbria area? Would more people attend if a meeting was held nearer their home. A programme of meetings circulating between, say, Bishop Auckland, Hexham, Morpeth and Newcastle for example.
4. Do we need to use a function room if we are not having a speaker. Would just getting together in a pub be more appropriate.
5. What do people want to see happening at the group meetings. If you would like more focussed events with speakers, quizzes etc., would you be prepared to help to organize these