

South Cheshire Ramblers committee meeting 14th December 2022

Attendees Hazel Wallis, Jim Eckersley, Nigel Hallam, Phil Guest, Christine Ashton, Alan Edwards, Trevor Park

Apologies Kevin Bush

1.Spring and Summer walk programme

Phil presented the layout of the spring & summer walk programme which will go out to the walk leaders in January (circa 30 walk leaders) see attachment 1.

This programme runs from April through to the end of September and will include the summer pub walks.

The recently introduced shorter Sunday walks are to be maintained as these meet the needs of existing members and also act as an entry point for people new to walking with a group.

It was also recognised that we need a champion for the mid week walks, which tend to be the longer and stronger walks.

It was agreed to approach one of the regular mid week walkers to see if they would be interested in this role.

2. Walk protocol

The following points were confirmed

Walk leaders to complete a walk register before the walk starts, the exception being the evening pub walks.

Walk leaders to inform Phil Guest of the number of walkers on their walks, so trends can be monitored.

Walk leaders to be reminded that risk assessments are mandatory and the filing of these is their responsibility.

3. Advertising

Now that we have a more robust forward looking walks programme it was agreed that we can revert to the pre-pandemic way of advertising the SCR group.

That is replacing the current advert in the link which advertises the group to one that shows the actual walks programme on a monthly basis.

This will be using text against a plain background formatted by the link.

Trevor to discuss with the Link editor the exact procedure.

In addition to the Link advertising it was strongly suggested that we have a Facebook page that advertises the group and its walk programme.

A request for volunteer(s) is to be included in the January message to members.

Action Trevor

4. Key Dates & Events 2023

These currently included:

Annual Dinner January

SCR committee meetings - February, June (1st week), August and October

Committee meetings dates to be confirmed.

Action Kevin

AGM - November

Group holidays - Eastbourne 6th to 10th March, Keswick 22nd to 26th May

Midsummer walk and meal - 21st June

SCR 30th anniversary event - July 21st (TBC)

Looking at some of the events above which are not yet planned.

Midsummer walk, it was agreed to repeat the Kinder Scout walk(s) from a few years ago.

Two walks were organised, a longer and a shorter walk, with both parties meeting up for an early evening meal.

Action Phil

30th anniversary event

It was decided that this would be in two parts.

Firstly a meal for friends old and new that would include activities aimed at getting people to circulate within the group.

It was confirmed that we should not progress any memorabilia for the event.

Venue and catering to be investigated and proposed.

Action Alan

Secondly there would be a walk to celebrate the milestone but this will be separate to the day of the meal (same practice as other groups in East Cheshire)

Action Phil

5. Footpath Officer

Nigel Hallam has volunteered to take on the role of footpath officer, a move welcomed by other members of the committee.

This is in addition to his role in championing the short walks programme.

Alan will support Nigel as he moves into this role, particularly introducing him to key contacts in Cheshire East (Jenny Butler) and members of the footpath working group in East Cheshire and Congleton Ramblers.

6. Fuel Share

Chris reported that the increase in fuel share from 6p to 10p per mile was causing consternation both with passengers and drivers, who thought the increase was excessive.

When fuel share was set some years ago the price of fuel was circa 130p per litre.

The increase was set when fuel was heading towards 200p per litre. It has since started to fall so a review is legitimate.

A quick review of other walking clubs has not offered any reference to this issue. East Cheshire Ramblers have a policy of meeting at the walk start and rely on people making individual arrangements for car sharing.

Congleton Ramblers do use a regular meet point but there is no reference to car share costs (I will double check with John Peck if they have a policy).

Jim has checked with Sandbach U3A, who have a system which takes into account the number of people in the car.

So for example if the journey is 50 miles, the driver looks does a calculation with a fuel share of 20p per mile (to make the calculation fair and simple).

There are 3 passengers + the driver, the cost would be $(50 \times 0.20) / 4 = £2.50$ each. With 2 passengers it would be £3.50 (rounding up).

This departs from our usual method, but takes into account the number of passengers and seems fair.

Hence ranging from 5p per mile with a car of 4 to 10p per mile with just the driver and one passenger.

I will draft a note to this effect to those who are regular drivers and see if they are in agreement.

Action Trevor

Attachment 1

Week Commencing	Pub Walk	Date	Location	Midweek 1	Date	Location	Midweek 2	Date	Weekend	Location	Date	Short Sunday	Date
20th March				Helen Lee	23-Mar				A Webb	Oakamoor	26-Mar		
27th March													9th April
3rd April													
10th April													
17th April													
24th April													
1st May									Coronation		6th May		7th May
8th May		9th May											
15th May		16th May											
22nd May		23rd May											
29th May		30th May											4th June
5th June		6th June											
12th June		13th June											
19th June		20th June		Mid Summer	21/06								
26th June		27th June											2nd July
3rd July		4th July											
17th July		18th July											
24th July		25th July											
31st July		1st August											6th August
7th August		8th August											
14th August		15th August											
21st August		22nd August											27th August
28th August		29th August											

Eastbourne Holiday 6-10th March

Keswick Holiday 22nd to 25th May