

**Minutes of Severnside Ramblers Committee meeting held on  
Wednesday 6 September 2017**

1	Ken welcomed everyone, and thanked Peter for hosting the meeting.
2	<u>Present:</u> Ken Mill, Peter Randall, Peter Spring, Chris Gaymer, Andy Pearson, Gill King, Jean Williams and Mike Doherty. Apologies for absence received from Gloria Drury.
3	The minutes of the last meeting held on 10 May had been circulated, and were approved.
4	Matters arising from the last meeting were to be covered as items on the agenda.
5	<p><u>Reports</u></p> <p><u>Chairman</u> Ken mentioned the success of the 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations in July, and reported that very positive feedback had been received on the way it was run. He thanked all those who had helped in any way. The coach trip to the Mumbles had been much enjoyed.</p> <p><u>Secretary/Membership</u> Chris reported that current membership stood at 134 members. We had lost two long standing members, Jill Fysh and Steve McNeill, and that Christine Pankhurst had transferred into the group from Bristol. Membership fees had been increased slightly from 1 October 2017.</p> <p><u>Treasurer</u> Peter Randall presented the current accounts. The Group fund was £828.58 in credit, but with a £500 contribution to the Forgotten Landscape project yet to be made. The Social Fund was £861.72 in credit. The budget for the year was on target, and for the next financial year Severnside would only receive the basic sum based on membership numbers.</p> <p><u>Programme Secretary</u> Peter Spring said there was again a full programme, with varied walks. Peter mentioned the idea raised previously of some 4 – 5 mile walks being offered on Sundays, as well as the traditional longer ones, possibly once a month. Ken would put a paragraph on the next programme asking for suggestions for shorter Sunday walks.</p> <p><u>Footpaths</u> Michael had nothing to report.</p> <p><u>Publicity</u> Andy had been sending input to the Bristol Observer, but felt that social media, e.g. Facebook and the website was the more likely way to get publicity.</p> <p><u>Webmaster</u> Ken reported all running smoothly, and thanked everyone for their contributions and photographs.</p> <p><u>Social –</u> Gill's items of Brecon Trip, Christmas meal, and proposed trip to Simonsbath on Exmoor in April 2018 were covered in separate items on the agenda.</p> <p><u>Avon Area -</u> No report of previous meeting</p>
6	<p><u>Brecon Weekend</u> Gill reported that 40 members had signed up for this, and that the trip was fully booked. Severnside would be the only guests for a 3-night break from Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October at the HF Nythfa House Hotel. A full programme of walks was planned, starting with a short walk on Friday afternoon.</p>

7.	<p><u>Forthcoming Events</u></p> <p><u>Christmas meal</u> This was to be held at the Failand Inn on Saturday 16 December, 6.00 for 6.30 pm. A menu was awaited, and details would be on the website and included in the next programme.</p> <p><u>Simonsbath Weekend</u> Weekend walking on Exmoor 12/13 April. Further details of this to be included on the programme for 2018.</p> <p><u>Quiz</u> A quiz was planned for February 2018, and it was agreed that Filton golf club was a good venue to use.</p>
8	<p><u>Forgotten Landscape</u> Andy had been in touch with Katie Scaife regarding the wording for the Severnside sponsored information board. It was agreed he would try to set up a meeting to include Ken, Katie, Peter R and himself to attempt to move the scheme forward and to decide on the wording for the plinth. Peter pointed out that it would be good to be able to pass the £500 being held for this project to the Forgotten Landscape scheme before the end of September, but this was looking unlikely. Andy would circulate proposed wording for the board. Severnside would be willing to test-walk the proposed walking routes, and report on parking, refreshments, accessibility, etc.</p>
9	<p><u>Group AGM</u> To be held at the Mafeking Hall in Pilning on Sunday 19 November. Heather had offered to lead a walk before the meeting, and the usual light buffet lunch would be arranged. A representative of Avon Area – probably the Chair or the Secretary - would be attending to encourage members to offer to go to the General Meeting, either as a delegate or as a visitor. Ken asked who would be prepared to stand for committee for a further year. Mike would like to give up the Footpath Secretary post, but was happy to stay on the committee. Other members were prepared to continue in current posts.</p>
10	<p><u>Avon Area Summer Gathering</u> Andy had attended the meeting in July, which had dealt largely with aspects of recruitment. He felt that Severnside were doing all they could in this respect.</p>
11	<p><u>20<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations</u> Several comments and emails had been received from guests saying how much they had enjoyed this event, and when were we holding another! A great success.</p>
12	<p><u>MV Balmoral Trip</u> Chris would re-circulate the details about this trip, and remind to people to book with White Funnel if they wanted to go.</p>
13	<p><u>Footpath Maintenance</u> Mike had nothing to report.</p>
14	<p><u>Coach Trip to the Mumbles</u> This was well supported, and had been a successful day. Possible suggestions were made for an outing for 2018.</p>
15	<p><u>Avon Area AGM, 3/2/2018.</u> Mike had booked the Patchway Community Centre. Severnside would arrange a buffet lunch, and Andy was willing to re-walk the route used for the 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday walk.</p>
16	<p><u>Next Avon Area meeting</u> This would be at Chipping Sodbury on Thursday 21 September. Ken was planning to</p>

	attend.
17	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p><u>English Coast Path</u> – Ken has been invited to a meeting with Natural England on 19 Sept. There was a target of a finish date of 2020, and Severnside were especially interested in the Aust to Brean Down section.</p> <p><u>Ramblers Wales</u> had emailed asking for support in getting consultation on opening up footpaths in Wales to both cyclists and horse riders. Chris would circulate this to the committee for response.</p> <p><u>Short Break</u> Peter R was researching Pembrokeshire for a suitable hotel to use for a break.</p>
18	Date of next committee meeting to be arranged after the AGM.