

Sevenside Ramblers Annual General Meeting

Sunday 24th November 2024

All Group Members are invited to attend our Annual General Meeting on Sunday 24 November 2024 at Mafeking Hall, Redwick Road, Pilning BS35 4LL

Please do try to attend the AGM. Sevenside is **YOUR** group and it needs your active interest and support to continue. New members of the committee are always welcome and indeed necessary otherwise it will have difficulty operating so do please consider offering your help.

There will be a short walk in the area starting at 10.30am sharp from The Mafeking Hall.

Prior to the meeting a buffet lunch will be provided. The meeting will commence at 13:30.

Please take the opportunity to hear from your current Committee Members as they report on the year's activities and plans for the year ahead. There will also be time to ask questions and to make your views known.

Should you have any items for the agenda please submit them by 16 November at the latest to Christine Pankhurst, by email to info@sevenside-ramblers.org.uk Please head your email: **Sevenside AGM Agenda Item**. Alternatively by post to 249 High Kingsdown BS2 8DF

All of the Group Officers and Committee Members stand for election each year and if you wish to volunteer for election to the Group Committee, please complete the reply slip below and return it to Christine by 16 November. Please indicate the post for which you will be seeking election.

This year in particular we are looking for a new Chair, Membership Secretary and Publicity Officer to take Sevenside forward into 2025.

If you have any topics for discussion, please submit them to Christine by 16 November.
Group annual accounts up to 30 September 2024, Minutes of the 2023 AGM and an Agenda will be published on our website.

Details of committee roles are given overleaf. Your Group needs you!

Yours sincerely

Chris Turner

I wish to volunteer to join the Sevenside Group Committee:

Option 1		Option 2	
First Name		Surname	
Address			
Tel No		Email Address	
Signature		Date	

Managing Severnside Ramblers

For over 20 years Severnside has been a successful Group of the Ramblers and that success is due to its members, particularly those who lead walks, arrange social events or take on a role in the management committee. This latter task may not be attractive to many members but without the management committee the walks programme would not be put together, printed, paid for and circulated; social events would not be arranged and advertised. To state the obvious – there would be no programme.

So please will you consider helping with the running of Severnside Ramblers? Speak to one of the Committee members and find out what they do for the Group. It isn't as onerous as you may think It is actually fun, sociable, you find out what is going on and you are able to help shape the future of the Group.

What it involves

The Group is managed by a committee of volunteers elected by Severnside members each year at our AGM. This team of "management" volunteers take overall responsibility for all the processes involved in running our successful Group. The committee meets three times a year and when appropriate works with the other volunteers who support Avon Area through projects such as footpath maintenance.

The committee roles

The **Chairman** facilitates the committee meetings, ensuring they run smoothly, are democratic and productive and plays a key role in decision-making. The Chairman works very closely with the Secretary.

The **Secretary** acts as the central point of contact for our Group with Ramblers central office and Avon Area. He/she keeps the Group Committee running effectively through good administration arranging Group meetings and the AGM as required by the constitution; maintaining up-to-date records of Group Office Holders.

The **Treasurer** is charged with "holding the purse strings": recording income and expenditure and administering the Group bank account; arranging for the payment of bills and processing volunteer expenses; once a year putting together the budget with the help of the Committee, liaising with the Area Treasurer as necessary.

The **Membership Secretary** acts as a point of contact for new members, welcoming them and providing information on our Group activities. The Membership Secretary also analyses the membership figures; arranges distribution of the programme to members; and may play an active part in recruiting new members. This role is currently undertaken by our Secretary but the roles could be split.

The **Walks Programme Co-ordinator** compiles the programme of Led Walks on behalf of the Group liaising with Walk Leaders to provide a full and varied programme. The post holder encourages members to become Walk Leaders and maintains a contact list of Walk Leaders; ensures that walks are entered onto the Ramblers Walks Manager so that potential members have a full range of walks to choose from; liaises with the Group Membership Secretary to ensure the programme is distributed to Group members.

The **Footpath Secretary** contributes by working to protect and improve the local rights of way network in our Group's area by reporting footpath problems to the local authority and monitoring progress and any action taken. He/she may be involved in looking for opportunities to extend the footpath network; commenting on proposals to close, divert and create paths, or commenting on local authority plans and strategies such as Rights of Way Improvement Plans. Organising footpath surveys and liaising with Group Publicity Officer to publicise the results. Occasional training workshops are run by Ramblers.

The **Publicity Officer** enables the Ramblers to grow by attracting new members and supporters to our Group by promoting the Group and its activities to non-members in and around our patch. This is done by producing publicity material (e.g. posters, leaflets, displays) and arranging for their distribution in suitable local locations; keeping the local media informed about our Group's activities through articles, regular features or advertisements; organising publicity stands at local fairs or public places.

The **Social Secretary** encourages members to run social events such as quiz nights, skittles, or weekends away, and organises the Christmas meal.

The **Website Editor** looks after and maintains/improves our website. The website is one of the ways we communicate with our members and it is therefore vital that it is kept up to date and provides walking information for Group Members and the wider public. The aim is to inform people of the concerns facing walkers locally and the valuable work of the Group to address them. The website is a platform to publicise Severnside walk's programme.

A **Committee Member** may not have a specific role but will bring expertise and a view from the ranks of our Group. Being a Committee Member provides an opportunity to see how our Group is managed and it can be a steppingstone to taking on a specific role at a later date. A willingness to assist is also appreciated. There are two 'general' Committee Member posts.

Further Information

Contact a Committee Member or visit our website at <https://www.severnside-ramblers.org.uk/> or Ramblers website at <https://www.ramblers.org.uk/volunteer>