

Dereham WaW Committee Meeting : 25 August 2022

1	<p>Minutes and matters arising from the meeting on 20 April 2022</p> <p>1.1 <u>Minutes</u> have been circulated and an edited version for the website has been written and uploaded.</p> <p>1.2 <u>Matters arising</u> not elsewhere on the agenda - none</p> <p>1.3 <u>Annual Public Meeting</u>: matters arising:</p> <p><u>Income from the walks</u>: we are getting on average more than £1 per person via donations. It was agreed that this level of donations is enough to keep us afloat, and we will not re-instate a fixed charge. We particularly wish to ensure everybody can come on a walk and no-one should be deterred by the cost.</p> <p><u>Footpath maintenance work</u>: as a result of our request at the APM for any volunteers to assist with footpath clearing, we have a new volunteer who has worked on the paths with us on three occasions now. We have raised the issue with DTC, who have confirmed their intention to re-appoint the Footpath Warden (it is 10 years now since the initial appointment). They will take the opportunity to place the role on a more formal footing involving the appropriate risk assessments. DTC agreed that if we supply the names of two assistants or deputies, they will also be formally appointed to their role, and be covered by the Footpath Warden's delegated powers.</p> <p><u>Discussion on ending the walks with refreshments</u>: there had been some support for returning to this arrangement, as the social aspect of it is appreciated. It was agreed that if we organise one walk involving the train and use of the station café, and one starting from the windmill and using The Partea Hut, plus the garden party, we are making sure that a walk ending in refreshments will occur several times in the year.</p>												
2	<p>Website and IT</p> <p>2.1 <u>Website issues</u>: We are up to date with current events, but the write-ups are a bit behind. The statistics show that there are between 400 and 500 separate visits to the website every month, and the walks are being regularly downloaded. The Short Walks booklet is particularly popular. This is confirmation that our website is being well used and looked at.</p> <p>2.2 <u>Rehab 4 Addiction</u>: an organisation called Rehab 4 Addiction have contacted us to request that we put their link on our website. It was agreed that we should decline this request, and that we would only put links to the website to organisations that we are working with and have personal knowledge of.</p>												
3	<p>Finance update</p> <p>3.1 <u>Update and regular outgoings</u></p> <p>Since the last meeting, payments of £217.10 have been banked from walks, plus £127 from the quiz. Payments have been made of £30 (Webtec), £25 (APM room hire), £99.31 (Zurich insurance), and £15 (Dorothy Sneesby for cakes for the Jubilee walk).</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Cash at bank last statement 16 August 2022</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1758.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Donations from walks about to be banked</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£57.85</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1816.65</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">less Dereham society gift</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£856.78</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">less Co-Op Community Fund balance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£489.07</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Available to use</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£470.80</td> </tr> </table> <p>Due next 12 months: £291 approx: AGT cost (Aug £0), aboutDereham (Jan £12), WaW sub (Jan £110), website (May £30), Independent Examiner gift (May £10), insurance (May £99), APM (June £30).</p> <p>Reserve: target £400.</p>	Cash at bank last statement 16 August 2022	£1758.80	Donations from walks about to be banked	£57.85		£1816.65	less Dereham society gift	£856.78	less Co-Op Community Fund balance	£489.07	Available to use	£470.80
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<p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p> <p>3.6</p>	<p><u>Financial year</u>: it was proposed that we change our financial year to January to December to match our reporting year. We would bring our APM forward to around March time. We would need to change our constitution as well. After a short discussion, this was agreed to.</p> <p><u>PACT Animal Sanctuary</u>: we have received a request from PACT to hold a fundraising event for them. It was agreed to turn down this request.</p> <p><u>Printing expenses</u>: we have printed the booklets for two of the three town walks (Industrial and Georgian). It has cost around 70p a booklet. It was agreed that expenses can be claimed for this.</p> <p><u>Future sales of the town walks booklets</u>: as the booklets were a joint enterprise with Dereham Heritage Trust, it is planned to put them for sale in the museum, and come to an agreement with DHT regarding sharing any money received. We have also agreed with DHT that a group which is visiting the museum later in the year will have an electronic version of the booklet that they can print, with donations invited.</p> <p><u>Future funding source</u>: We will investigate the Tesco book table as a possible source of future funding for a reprint of the Short Walks booklet.</p>
<p>4</p> <p>4.1</p> <p>4.2</p> <p>4.3</p> <p>4.4</p> <p>4.5</p> <p>4.6</p>	<p>Publicity</p> <p><u>Contact list</u>: the list currently stands at 153 emails. Of these about 40 or 50 are regular attenders on our walks. All emails we send include a message that the recipient can let us know if the contact is no longer wanted.</p> <p><u>Logos</u>: initial distribution was made on 7 July. We will follow up to check that the logos are still in place.</p> <p><u>Leaflet</u>: The past decision to limit distribution to the Library, Town Council Offices (when open) plus only a very small number of other outlets was confirmed.</p> <p>We will take more leaflets to the café in Yaxham (formerly Poppies, now re-opening under a different ownership and name).</p> <p><u>Short walks booklets</u>: distribution (2828 of 5000) so far has been to GP Surgeries (50 each plus 500 to the NCC Social Prescribing Team), the Co-op (340), the library (401), the Windmill (540), The Partea Hut (550), MNR (40) and to walk participants and others; not all of these have been given out to individuals. We will look at any revision needed before a reprint.</p> <p>We will check whether the Orchard Surgery, Theatre Road Surgery and Toftwood Surgery require more booklets.</p> <p>We will contact the Social Prescribing Team to ask for further information as to where they are distributing the booklets and whether they have been given to the Swanton Morley and North Elmham surgeries.</p> <p><u>Media/publicity update</u>: We continue to send events information to Parish Newsletters. We are picking up one or two attendees as a result.</p> <p><u>Data Protection Policy</u>: we had planned to review this policy. It will be circulated for people to check. Nothing has changed so it should be fine as it is.</p>
<p>5</p> <p>5.1</p>	<p>Future work and plans</p> <p><u>The Neatherd</u>: plans and proposals – this was discussed at the Open Spaces Committee (HOSC) meeting on 23 August. The discussion was mostly about planting and seeding arrangements. DWaW expressed some concern regarding how the Public Rights of Way will fit in with and be connected to the planned new paths. Some councillors were of the view that people will make their own paths and walk where they wish.</p>

6 Events programme

Debrief

6.1	<u>Short Walks</u>	6 May	22 walkers, £21 donations
		2 Jun	28 walkers, £61.60 donations (Jubilee Walk)
		1 Jul	16 walkers, £22 donations
		5 Aug	22 walkers, £25.50 donations
		<u>Town walk</u>	9 Jul
		20 Aug	16 walkers, £32.35 donations
	<u>APM walk</u>	18 Jun	10 walkers, £13.00 donations
	<u>MNR walk</u>	27 Jul	16 walkers, £29.50

6.2 Very short walks: it was suggested that occasionally we run a very short walk, less than 3 miles, for people who are trying to get back to walking possibly following ill health. After some discussion, it was agreed that we could do this a few times a year. We could put posters up in GP surgeries advertising the walks.

6.3 Feedback from 5 August short walk:

Late start: the walk had some delays, eventually turning into a 15 minute wait, due to the late arrival of a new attendee who had got caught up by the roadworks. In hindsight, we wondered if we should not have kept everybody waiting this long - it had initially seemed that the wait would be 5 minutes or so, but that gradually got extended. It was agreed that it was the right thing to do to wait for people where possible, and a wait as long as this is an infrequent occurrence.

Crossing of the A47: the walk included crossing the A47 where there is a gap in the barriers in the middle. Three people were reluctant to make the crossing and turned back. Also the actual crossing was not as organised as planned, as a few people didn't follow instructions and made a quick dash across the road. It was agreed that in the future we would let people know in advance when an A47 crossing is planned, so that they have the choice as to whether to attend the walk or not. The process of crossing will also be much more tightly controlled. It was pointed out that the presence of the gap indicated that Highways had already assessed that spot as a suitable crossing point.

6.4 Wasp hazard on Footpath 14: during path clearing on this footpath, we came across a wasp nest and one of us was stung several times. We put a temporary notice up, warning people not to use the footpath, but has since found that the notice has been dislodged and discarded on the ground. NCC will not take any action to remove the nest, but DTC have agreed to provide two warning signs and will liaise with us regarding where they will be placed. The nest will be on the ground, and the hole should be blocked up when the wasp season is over to prevent a return of the wasps next year.

For review - Planned Events

6.5 Litter pick: We will be undertaking routine monitoring of all the footpaths and it was agreed that if a substantial litter problem on any path is identified, we will organise a litter pick. It is possible that the litter problem is better than it has been. It could be the work of the Dereham Community Litter Pickers.

Short walks (first Fridays) – 2 Sep, 7 Oct, 4 Nov, 2 Dec (dual), 6 Jan 23 and continuing.

Other events

Mon 29 Aug garden party – Philip and Brigitte have agreed to host

Sat 17 Sep HODs walk

Wed 12 Oct walk, part of NCC Access Friendly Festival

Fri 2 Dec dual length walk

Sun 1 Jan 23 to confirm

Due to high demand, there will be an additional Georgian HODs walk on September 12th, as the 17th September one is already fully booked. We will consider using a megaphone.

	<p><u>NCC Access Friendly Festival</u>: we will register our 12 October walk on their system, and it will be bus to North Elmham and walk back to Dereham.</p> <p><u>2023</u>: it was agreed to continue a similar pattern of walks for 2023, including use of public transport and a trip out of Dereham.</p>
7	Footpath issues
7.1	<p><u>Footpath work</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Issues raised with DTC – see report submitted to HOSC for 23 August covering FP2, RB3, FP14, FP14a, RB30, RB31, RB32, FP34, RB36, RB37 and the Hurn Road path, together with litter at FP13/14, Wendling Way (FP20) and Potters Fen. 2 Clearance work has been done on a number of paths 3 Rolling Pin lane (FP14) - a resident has been in contact requesting that DWaW assist with dealing with the potholes on the lane. It was agreed initially that NCC would provide the shingle and DWaW would lay it out. Since then, the lane has been covered over with some fresh shingle - although the resident is of the opinion that the potholes will still emerge later in the year. After some discussion, it was agreed that assisting with filling in the potholes is not in the remit of DWaW, as the lane is perfectly suitable for walkers. It is up to the residents to manage the potholes to make the lane more suitable for drivers.
7.2	<p><u>Dereham Town Council</u></p> <p>A report was submitted to the Town Council's Heritage and Open Spaces Committee meeting for 23 August:-</p>
7.3	<p><u>BDC</u>: Nothing to report</p>
7.4	<p><u>NCC</u>: A proposed Dereham LCWIP (Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan) was now apparently to be incorporated into a Norfolk wide LCWIP.</p>
8	Walkers are Welcome regional
	<p><u>Eastern England</u>: A Zoom meeting was held on 4 May. The Eastern area is now reduced to 4 members, having lost Aylsham and Cromer from Norfolk, Shotley from Suffolk and Horncastle from Lincolnshire. It is not proving possible to convene a meeting at present between the remaining 4 members – Clare, Dereham, Eye and Spilsby & Hundleyby.</p>
9	Walkers are Welcome national
	<p><u>Newsletter</u>: May to August issues, and the external <i>Walk this Way</i> in June have been circulated. Dereham will appear in the next <i>Walk this Way</i>.</p>
11	Next meeting
	<p>It is proposed to arrange another meeting for November.</p>