



## MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING at MYLCHREEST COURT, PEEL

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024

Those present: Alistair Lothian – AL, Peter Corkish – PC, Peter Gunn – PG, Lesley Parkington – LP, Paul de Weerd – PdW, Louise Whitelegg – LW, Angela Weston

1. **Apologies:** Geoff Clague, Paul Castle, David Leiserach.
2. **Minutes of last meeting:** having been circulated beforehand were approved by the committee and signed by Alistair Lothian, Chairman.
3. Matters Arising from previous meeting: Alistair Lothian
  - LW and PG will meet to draft an article for the local press. PG gave an album of old photos for reference. LW suggested a 'banner' on Facebook saying that we are open for new members.
  - AL confirmed that the online walks are now under a separate heading on the website and are now up to 80+.
4. **Correspondence:** Lesley Parkington
  - LP said that we often have good comments about our website and that a new member had commented that it was one of the best he had seen for ease of use.
  - LP has received a circular from Manx Wildlife asking if we would like to put on an events. It was decided last year that we do not have the expertise for this.
  - A member has written saying how much he has enjoyed being with the group and how friendly and helpful everyone was..
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Angela Weston

### **Manx Footpath Conservation Group**

#### **Treasurer's Report – Accounts Y/E 31st December 2023**

**Firstly, apologies for my absence and not being there for my first AGM but family duty calls.**

It has been an eventful year. Our main priority has been to try and resolve the banking permissions and mandates to reflect the current committee members. Due to the poor service we have encountered with the Isle of Man bank specifically in relation to the amendment of the banking mandates, the committee made the decision to move the Group's banking to the Lloyds Banking Group. In comparison this has been a smooth and relatively easy transition. I am pleased to say we are now up and running with the new bank account and we managed to get this completed in time to receive the 2024 subscriptions. Thank you to all members for taking the time to amend their standing orders etc to the new bank account.

It is our intention for 2024 to transfer all the funds currently held with the IOM bank to Lloyds and look to close down the old accounts as soon as it is feasible.  
 On to the accounts for 2024. There has also been a change to the layout of the account to now incorporate a comparison to the previous years

### **Balance Sheet**

Focusing on the position on the bank accounts we can see the total opening balance equates to £19,436 with a closing of £20,666 creating a movement overall all as an increase to the balance of £1,231.

	2023	2022	Movement
Current Account - Lloyds	£585	£0	£585
Current Account - IOM	£5,309	£4,962	£347
Reserve - IOM	£14,772	£14,474	£298
Reserve - Lloyds	£0	£0	£0
Total	£20,666	£19,436	£1,231

This coupled with a movement in the deferred income of £240, Accruals of £30 and prepayment and accrued income of £101 gives us our overall increase in assets of £1,062. Prepayment and Accrued income relate to £33 of expenses for the 2024 year and £69 of income from Lily publications for the commissions received for the sale of books. Deferred income relates to the subscription income received from members in the bank account in the financial year 2023 that relate subscriptions for 2024. The revenue will be shown in the Income/Expenditure account in 2024. The £30 of accruals relates to a payment for a winter talk held in November for a talk that took place in November.

### **Moving onto the Income and Expenditure report**

The income is mainly driven from the yearly subscriptions which is currently sets at £10 per annum. We had one member who paid the old £6 which is being rectified for 2024. The current number of members for 2023 was 258 a reduction of 28 from the previous year.

Bank interest increased by £250 on the previous year of £48. This is due to the increase in bank interest rates on the reserve account. In 2024 we will as a committee research the possibility of increasing the potential return whilst ensuring no risk to the funds. Current

Other income £120 relates to commission received from Ramblers for members booking holidays and referencing the Walking group

This brings the total income for the year to £3,209 a reduction on the previous year of £678. Last year included £439 of revenue for the sale of books via Lily Publications compared to £69 for this year and prior years donations totalling £539 included a one off of £240 for assisting another walking group.

### **Expenditure**

The overall expenditure for 2023 totalled £2,147 an increase of £607 on the previous 12 months.

The majority increase on costs has been driven by the following items

Website costs of £361 has increased by £214 on the prior year. In 2023 there have been a few changes and editing required to the groups' website, i.e. the inclusion of walks and thus an increase in the cost of the service required.

Health and safety costs of £527 include a first aid course attended by 12 of our members totalling £360, plus the addition of 10 new first aid kits for the group.

Training cost for 2023 equated to £180. 4 members of the group attended a Hills skills course whereby 50% of the cost has been covered by the group. This has resulted in a surplus for the financial year of £1,062.

If there are any question please do not hesitate to ask and if they cannot be answered by the committee I can always follow up on these upon my return.  
Many thanks.

6. **Membership Secretary's Report:** Louise Whitelegg

Current members 222 including 30 new members. 9 members have replied to LW to say they will not be renewing their membership mainly due to age and health. 65 members have not renewed making a total of 74 members not paid up to now. LP suggested that we remind members to pay or reply stating that they do not wish to so.

7. **Data Protection Report:** Louise Whitelegg

- LW has now registered the club with GDPR. LW will contact our web administrator to ask for Mr/Mrs/Ms etc to be added to the Application Form and DoB removed.

8. **Safety Officer's Report:** Paul de Weert

- Risk Assessments: The rate of completion remains very high.
- Incident Report: PC has submitted a very thorough Incident Report regarding a member of the club becoming detached from the group and the police being informed. After a lengthy discussion it was decided that it was not necessary to inform the Insurers. It was also decided that we should ask all members to provide an up-to-date mobile phone number and next of kin in case of accident.

9. **Footpaths Officer's Report:** Paul Castle

In total 96 footpath concerns were reported in 2023  
So far in 2024 10 issues have been reported  
The department of Infrastructure have official closure orders affecting 10 paths/unmade roads, and state that these should not be used.

**PRoW Closures:** David Leiserach

D54 - Surby Mill Road Closed until Feb 2

159 - Baldhoon to Laxey Glen closed until July 2024. This will be extended

268 - Ballahick Farm Lane closed to August 2024

307 - Ballafesson closed to 31.03.24 – may be extended

360 - Heritage Trail Glen Vine to Crosby closed to 15.03.24

412 - Mines to Baldhoon, Laxey closed to closed to 31.01.24 may be extended

423 - Scout Glen to Grenably closed to 03.07.24 may be extended

615 – Foxdale from Steps to Ballanass Road closed to 30.09.24 may be extended

638 – Clypse Reservoir closed to 31.01.24 may be extended

10. **Annual General Meeting 21.03.24:** Lesley Parkington

- It was agreed that the Notice, Resolution Form, List of current Officers & Position and nomination form should be sent on 5<sup>th</sup> January.
- The Fairways Restaurant is booked and will provide a buffet for £9.75 for 25 people.

## 11. Future Events:

- Walking Holiday with Ken Harding
- Walking Holiday with Debbie Broom
- A relative of a member has offered to give us a guided tour of his land in Narrowdale. This would be ideal for a Wednesday evening event for 15 people. This could also be incorporated into a Tuesday, Saturday or Sunday walk. As Wednesday evening attendance is poor we need more 'special events' to entice members.
- PC suggested having a meal once per month.
- PdW suggested supper on the Train or the Gaiety Theatre tour.  
**ACTION:** PdW to provide details.
- AL suggested a visit to the Apiary at Glen Truan where members could get up close to the bees.
- **ACTION:** AL to contact the Apiary secretary.
- LP suggested a long distance walk from Barrule to Barrule.  
**ACTION:** LP to liaise with others regarding route to encompass car share.
- Annual Walk 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at Mylchreest Court. AL will lead long walk. LP will lead the short walk.

## 12. Happy Hikers:

There has been no update regarding the new plaque for the Happy Hiker. LP suggested that it should be maintained yearly. AL stated that he & PC will oil the carving twice yearly. AW and another member will help.

**ACTION:** AL to organise maintenance team.

## 13. Summer Schedule: Deferred until next meeting

## 14. Any other business:

As our independent Financial Advisor is standing down AW suggested that we should thank him for his contribution with a small gift.

## 15. Date & Time of next meeting: 2pm Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024

## 16. Meeting closed at 4.25pm

ALISTAIR LOTHIAN

CHAIRMAN