



MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING AT MYLCHREEST COURT, PEEL MONDAY 4th AUGUST 2025

Those present: Alistair Lothian – AL, Lesley Parkington – LP, Angela Weston – AW,
David Leiserach – DL, Paul Castle – PC. Paul de Weerd – PdW, Geoff Clague – GC

1. **Apologies:** Louise Whitelegg, Peter Gunn
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
 - Bridge at Rhenass Ford: AL stated that the grant of £1000 from Ramblers has now been confirmed. Ramblers will provide a plaque for the bridge and require us to generate advertising and require their involvement to be noted on Facebook etc.. We have three months to complete the project but unfortunately our DoI contact, Ffinlo Williams, is on long term sick leave. AL will try to make contact with someone at DoI with the authority to get this project started.
ACTION: AL to contact DoI as soon as possible
 - AL will contact CJS websites for the cost of transferring our archive walks onto the website and updating the current photos with new ones. AW suggested a deadline of 30.09.25
ACTION: AL to contact CJS websites.
 - Happy Hikers: AW has had no response regarding maintenance of the Happy Hikers. It was decided to draw a line under this.
 - Tree Planting in memory of Mrs. P. Mudie. LP showed the certificate to the committee. The Woodland Trust will be planting in October. LP has advised Mr. Mudie of the details and will contact him closer to the time to arrange to help with the planting.
ACTION: LP to advise D. Mudie and committee when planting is confirmed.
 - Privacy Policy: Membership Secretary, Louise Whitelegg has produced a Privacy Policy. The committee will check the details and come back with suggestions for any amendments required.
ACTION: LP to forward draft to committee for approval.
 - PC advised that he asked DoI for feedback when Footpath Defects have been resolved. This is not possible as their system doesn't allow for it.

4. **Correspondence:** Lesley Parkington

- The Woodlands Trust have confirmed that the planting will be at Creg-y-Cowin in East Baldwin and that family and friends are welcome to help plant in October.
- Ken Harding from Walking.im has offered to put on two MFCG holidays for 2026. One will be Norfolk in early April and the other The Shropshire Hills in early September. Also, he has a group of 40 walkers from Ireland coming to the Island in 15th – 19th April 2026 and asks if the MFCG members would be able to help lead and support walks which would be arranged by Ken.

ACTION: LP to confirm with Ken and put out a request for helpers closer to the time.

5. **Treasurer's Report:** Angela Weston

Current Account: £1656

Reserve: £10,780

Fixed Rate Deposit: £10,000 to mature in January 2026 to give £185 interest.

AW has been unable to see where our £10,000.00 is on our bank account.

Two new members subscriptions since our previous committee meeting.

Expenses: Ramblers subscription (which is now on Direct Debit) and CJS Websites £110.

6. **Memberships Secretary's Report:** LP in Louise Whitelegg's absence

We currently have 242 members

7. **Data Protection Report:**

There have been no data breaches

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

Risk assessments are being received regularly and there have been no incidents since the last committee meeting.

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

PC is receiving regular reports of defects from members and is referring them to DoI. He is not informed when defects have been rectified.

PdW reported that the Raad had DoI "path closed" signs at Maughold Church and Port Mooar, but he could not find a closure online. It was unclear whether these were old signs, or DoI had failed to publicise a closure.

ACTION: PC TO check with DoI whether a closure was or was not in force.

10. Winters Walks Schedule: LP will contact members at the end of August to remind them to book their dates with the relevant co-ordinators.

11. Archived Books for website: Discussed in item 3.

12. Any other business:

- Winter Talks: Club member Lyndsey Quayle would like to give a talk on Cregneash in November. (Date confirmed as

ACTION: LP will approach Manx Whale and Dolphin Watch and Douglas Town Council for a tour of the Town Hall.

- Tuesday After Tea in December: LP suggested St. Marks Church Hall in December at a cost of £12.50 p.p.

ACTION: LP to confirm a date with St. Marks

- Carol Service at St. Lukes.

ACTION: LP to contact the church warden to arrange details.

- Club holidays: discussed in correspondence
- AGM Venue: As the restaurant at the Peel Golf Club will shortly be changing hands it was decided that the committee will supply the buffet for the AGM which will be held at Mylchreest Court, Peel

ACTION: LP to book the Lounge at Mylchreest Court. For Tuesday 31st March 2026 (confirmed).

- GC asked about First Aid Kits. We are only aware of who has 4 of the 8 kits. DL suggest buying 4 more. LP disagreed and said that it is not a legal requirement and most members have their own. We cannot keep track of who has club kits so therefore they are ineffective. The committee agreed not to replace missing First Aid Kits.
- AW asked for news about better funding for Footpath maintenance by government. Sarah Maltby has tried to push this forward. DL has no further definite information at this time.
- LP asked the committee to agree that members who don't turn up for events must pay the full cost e.g. Calf Trips etc. All agreed.
- Manx Birdlife: The committee agreed to give a donation of £150 to the charity in recognition of the work of Manx Birdlife volunteers in giving guided tours to MFCG members. Manx Birdlife have also offered to give us a tour of Langness.
- New Year Lunch: The committee agreed that the Talk of the Town is very good. Date to be arranged. (Confirmed for 18th January 2026 at same price as 2025).
- Tax Residency Self Certification Form for Entities: The Treasurer has received a form which Lloyds Bank requires the Group to complete. The Committee resolved to confirm to the Bank that the Walking Group is a not-for profit organisation, and is a Non-Financial Foreign Entity in the U.S. terminology which is used in the form. The Chairman signed the form on behalf of the Group.

13. Date & time of next meeting: 2pm Monday 15th September

14. Meeting closed: 15.30

A. LOTHIAN

CHAIRMAN