



MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING AT MYLCHREEST COURT, PEEL MONDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 2025

Those present: Alistair Lothian – AL, Lesley Parkington – LP, Angela Weston – AW,

David Leiserach – DL, Paul Castle – PC. Paul de Weerd – PdW, Louise Whitelegg – LW,
Peter Gunn - PG

1. **Apologies:** Geoff Clague

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, Little London: AL and LP have a meeting with Ffinlo Williams of Dol on 18.09.25 to finalise details regarding MFCG contribution. AL has been in touch with Ramblers to ask for the grant of £1000 towards the project be deferred due to delay by Dol, they are agreeable.
- AL and LP met with Callum Staley to discuss updating the website. The archived books are now on the history page of the website (the pages turn when touched). The photographic headings are yet to be done. LP said that Callum has done very good job.
- Privacy Policy: LW has created a very good updated Privacy Policy. This will now be put on the website.
- AL asked if the Raad ny Foillan is still closed between Maughold Church and Port Mooar. DL replied that the closure will be in place until at least Easter 2026, possibly longer.
- Tuesday Afternoon Tea at St. Marks: LP advised that this will be on 16th December. LP will lead the walk.
- Carol Service at St. Lukes: 14th December. LP has spoken to Sue Sayle regarding format. It has been agreed that the service will be 'low church' with 'popular' carols. LP has also asked Rev. Jo Dudley if she is available to play the organ, she is thrilled to be asked. LP will arrange a lift for Jo Dudley.
- Tax Residency Self Certification Form: AW replied that it has been sent off on 04.08.25.

4. **Correspondence:** Lesley Parkington

- LP handed a letter of thanks to AW from Manx Birdlife for the donation for the guided tour of the Ayres Nature Reserve.

- Douglas City Corporation re: a tour of Douglas Town Hall. They are happy to do the tour on Wednesday 4th February at 6pm.

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

AW reported that our current account stands at £1615.09, savings account 10,800.98 and £10,000 in a deposit account. A donation of £150 was given to Manx Birdlife and approx. £130 in membership fees.

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

LW suggested that we should have a reminder on the 'Join Us' page to set up a standing order. This has been done.

7. **Data Protection:** Louise Whitelegg

The Government has devised a new Data Base. LW has applied for MFCG to be on the new Data Base (which holds many thousands of people and charities etc who have registered). This needs to be renewed annually.

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

- Risk Assessments: Risk Assessments are being regularly received.
- Incident Report: No incidents reported since last meeting.

LP stated that as committee members we need to be aware when leaders are leading members into danger. What might be a lovely walk on a calm, sunny day could be regarded as dangerous in a strong wind or rain when people are being blown over. Leaders should be made aware that they should have an alternative route (maybe away from the coast) and if necessary they can cancel the walk if conditions are considered dangerous. AL has mentioned this in his Autumn Newsletter which will be sent out with the Winter Schedules. DL said that leaders can also refuse to let people walk with the group if they are clearly not up to the route/terrain.

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

PC continues to report defects to DoI but is not informed when defects are corrected.

10. **Any other business:**

- DL showed a book titled Summits and produced by Lily Publications which shows a route which goes over private land. He has informed the Dept. of Enterprise and asked that they advise Lily Publications to put a sticker on all of the books.
- LW advised that Maughold Church is working on a 'Pilgrimage Project' as part of other Pilgrimage Routes across Europe and Scandinavia. This will take in Churches along the east coast of the Island. LW asked if any of our members would like to help plan a route. LP said that the East coast is not the easiest to avoid road walking and if no-one from our group wanted to get involved Andrew Foxon will help as he has already produced a book 'The Triskellion Way' detailing a Pilgrimage route from Rushen Abbey to Maughold Church following the West Coast. PdW suggested that the organisers mark their proposed stops on a map and we will try to make the route fit. It was agreed to forward this project to Andrew Foxon.
- AW suggested that the committee annually reviewed all 'Policy' documents and send 'Guideline' documents out to members yearly. DL suggested this is best done when a new committee comes in after the AGM. This should be added to the Agenda under 'Compliance'
- PG has asked the committee to persuade members to lead walks.

- PdW asked for the date of the AGM. LP replied that it was agreed at the last meeting that it would be 7pm Tuesday 31st March at Mylchreest Court so that we have a full quota of committee members. The committee will do the catering.
- LP advised the committee of dates for forthcoming events:

Sunday 14th December - Carol Service at St. Lukes

Tuesday 16th December – Afternoon Tea at St. Marks Church Hall

Winter Talks: Mylchreest Court, Peel

Wednesday 12th November – The Life & Times of Cregneash and it's People with Lindsay Quayle

Wednesday 14th January – Marine Monsters – Manx Whale & Dolphin Watch

Wednesday 4th February – Tour of Douglas Town Hall 6pm

Sunday 18th January – New Year Lunch at Talk of the Town, Douglas

LP has also contacted The Isle of Man Woodland Trust for dates of tree planting in memory of Mrs. Pat Mudie. The dates are: 12th & 19th October and 2nd November. LP has contacted Mr. Mudie for his preferred date and will send out details once this has been decided. Due to extremely limited parking we will have to limit numbers and use car share.

11. Date & Time of next meeting: 2pm Monday 17th November

12. Meeting Closed at 3pm.

ALISTAIR LOTHIAN

CHAIRMAN