



MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING AT MYLCHREEST COURT, PEEL

THURSDAY 9th April 2026

Those present: Alistair Lothian – AL, Lesley Parkington – LP, Angela Weston – AW, Peter Gunn – PG, Paul Castle – PC, John Struthers – JS

1. **Welcome:** Chairman Alistair Lothian welcomed new committee member John Struthers to the group.
2. **Apologies:** David Leiserach, Louise Whitelegg, Helen Robinson
3. **Minutes of last meeting:** having been circulated beforehand were approved by the committee and signed by Alistair Lothian, Chairman
4. **Matters arising from previous meeting:** Alistair Lothian
 - An email forwarded by David Leiserach from Sarah Maltby regarding the Government working group report. It appears to suggest that the budget of £700,000 is for capital projects and not for maintenance. Louise Whitelegg suggested that the MFCG should lobby Visit IoM to contribute to maintenance of PRoW in order to attract visitors to the island. It was decided that this would not benefit the MFCG.
AW stated that there is a group called Rangers, volunteers who appear to be maintaining PRoW's. The committee will gather more information as some of our members might like to join them.
ACTION: PC to contact Ranald Caldwell for details of Rangers Group
 - Annual Walk 16.05.26. AL will lead the longer walk from St. Johns to arrive at Mylchreest Court for 3pm for tea and Cake. The lounge will be available from 12pm
ACTION: AW will set up Mylchreest Court with help from Jane Lothian.
ACTION: AL to lead walk
 - Special Events:
Slavery Walk with Phil Craine. LP to contact Mr. Craine is happy to do the walk date TBC
Calf Trips dates: 09.45 Tuesday 28th July and 11am Sunday 2nd August – confirmed.
Tour of IoM Creamery Monday am 22nd June. Confirmed for 10.30am Monday 22.06.26.
Manx Wildlife Trust – Visit to Manx Temperate Rainforest Sunday 16th August and Wednesday 16th September. Confirmed for 10.30am on each day at Milntown, Ramsey
Fish 'n chip night Wednesday 7pm 8th July.

- The new members page password will be snuffthewind26.

ACTION: LP to confirm change with CJS websites.

5. **Correspondence:** see Aob

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

Current Account Balance: £3242.94

Reserve: £10,845.59

Very few subscriptions are coming in at the moment.

AW has bank forms to change signatories from LP to Helen Robinson.

It was decided to continue with a fixed term account.

7. **Membership Secretary's report:** No report.

8. **Data Protection report:** No report.

9. **Safety Officer's report:** John Struthers.

- JS has so far received 5 Risk Assessments relating to upcoming walks.
- Incident Report – No incidents.

It was decided that leaders who don't produce a R.A. should be reminded that it is a requirement to do so.

ACTION: AW to forward copy of insurance policy to JS.

ACTION: Committee to review and update the MFCG Safety Policy

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

There have been 56 reports forwarded to DoI so far this year which is a slight increase on this time last year.

11. **Wednesday Evening Walks:**

Due to lack of leaders Wednesday evening walks will become monthly:

13th May, 10th June, 8th July (Chippy Night Trawlerman, Ramsey) 16th September.

12. **Matters Arising from AGM 31.03.26**

No matters arising.

13. **Secretary Role handover:**

This will take place at the next committee meeting.

14. **Any other business:**

- LP has received an email from Ramblers regarding 'Denied Access Rights of Way' in the UK. Ramblers have asked the MFCG to join them in lobbying for open access. It was agreed to forward this to the members.
- Website update:

ACTION: The committee should review the website and bring suggestions to next meeting.

LP stated that as she will be administering the website she will need a website email address.

ACTION: LP to contact CJS websites for website email address.

- John Struthers has taken on the role of Safety Officer safety@manxfootpaths.org

Helen Robinson will be the new Secretary secretary@manxfootpaths.org

Lesley Parkington will be the website/social media co-ordinator

All other roles remain unchanged.

- JS asked how we can encourage more members to come forward to lead walks and take on committee roles.

It was agreed that the best way to encourage members to support the club is by personal approach. It has been stated many times that the committee are always happy to help new leaders.

15. Date and Time of next meeting: 2pm Monday 18th May

16. Meeting closed at 15.15

Alistair Lothian

Chairman