



MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING AT MYLCHREEST COURT, PEEL

Monday 18th May 2026

Present: Alistair Lothian – AL, Lesley Parkington – LP, Angela Weston – AW, Peter Gunn – PG, John Struthers – JS, David Leiserach – DL, Helen Robinson - HR

Welcome: Chairman Alistair Lothian welcomed new committee member Helen Robinson to the group.

1. **Apologies:** Paul Castle, Louise Whitelegg.

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

- PC to contact Ranald Caldwell re Rangers. DL is in contact with Ranald regularly and is one of the Rangers. The Rangers are volunteers and are in the process of being trained to carry out tasks on the footpaths. They are not yet in a position for more members to join them. AW asked if it could be arranged for us to meet with Ranald so we could discuss offering them some funds. It was noted that the previously arranged meeting with Ffinlo Williams had not taken place.

ACTION: DL to see if a meeting can be arranged with Ranald Caldwell.

AL/LP to try to re arrange the meeting with Ffinlo.

- Review of Safety Policy: AW had circulated the Safety policy for review. It was suggested that wording about Co-ordinators giving out high-vis jackets and the requirement for leaders to bring a first aid kit be amended. The manual reference to risk assessments also to be removed.

ACTION: HR to change wording and circulate for comment. AL to mention that First Aid kits will no longer be issued, but we advise people to bring their own.

Review of website: Agreed that the committee would review the Frequently Asked Questions section of the website at the next meeting

ACTION: Committee members to read the FAQ's before next meeting.

- Photographs for websites. This is ongoing.(LP).

4. **Correspondence:**

- Letter re Groudle Glen development: HR to reply explaining that, as the development does not involve a footpath, it falls outside our remit.
- Emails from DL re PROW 17 : DL explained the plans for the extension to the area that is to be mined by Island Aggregates. They previously came to an agreement with DOI as to where the footpath would be re routed to, but it was never officially diverted. The route of the diverted path is where further mining is planned in the future. DL has drafted a letter for planning. Agreed the letter should be sent in AL's name with the club's address.

ACTION Helen to add her address to letter and send to AL for signature and delivery.

- Email from DL re Ballafesson permissive path: Discussion re removal of permissive path from Ballafesson to the Sloc.

ACTION: PG agreed to contact the landowner for informal discussion about why permission has been removed.

- Complaint re footpath description in MFCG walking book: An email has been received from a member regarding the description of the route up Beary Mountain.

ACTION: HR to reply to apologise for the inaccurate description and explain that the book has become dated and will not be republished.

5. **Treasurers Report:** Angela Weston.

Received £15.19 from Lily Publications for sales. This includes the 41 books he has in stock and as a goodwill gesture he has paid commission on these too. The publisher is retiring and there will not be any more income. Received: £350 donation from Walking.im for our support.

Current Account Balance: £3578.50

Reserve: £10,859.64

Fixed Term: £10k

Outgoings: £81 in May to Ramblers. Food for AGM £287.50 and expenses for committee member leavers £105.

Lloyds have changed our account to Island Community Account and we will be charged £4.25 maintenance fee per month.

ACTION: AL to thank walking.im for the donation and to mention in the newsletter that the group have benefitted considerably from supporting walking.im

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

7. **Data Protection report:** No report. LP noted that she had inadvertently sent a group email without BCC and reported this to LW.

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

Risk Assessments: 71% compliance in May.

Incident reports: None

ACTION: AL to mention the need for all walk leaders to complete and return risk assessments and incident forms in the newsletter.

9. Footpaths Officer's Report: Paul Castle

Paul sent the following report to the committee:

Approximately 10 more footpath issues have been reported since the last meeting. Highways acknowledge these but never indicate what (if any) action is taken.

10. Event Updates: Lesley Parkington

Slavery Event – LP has contacted Phil Craine who would prefer to lead a walk on a Saturday. Agreed this event could be carried forward for the next schedule.

No other updates.

Website password has been updated and members informed.

11. First Aid Course: Another course will be arranged for September. It was noted that of the members will be asked to express an interest in the next Newsletter and we will see if we have enough regular walkers interested.

ACTION -AL to ask for expressions of interest from regular walkers in the newsletter. Responses to be sent to HR before the end of June.

12. Secretary Role handover: This is ongoing until the bank signatories are changed. HR thanked LP for her ongoing support during the transition.

13. Any other business:

- James Hargreaves has emailed to say he would like to do a pop up walk this Wednesday or next week.

ACTION: Lesley to ask him to leave it until after TT.

- **ACTION:**LP to change 30th May to “no walk” on the website.
- AW received information from the Ramblers detailing where commission payments had come from. Nov – April £40 received.

ACTION: AL to mention the commission we receive on bookings in the newsletter

- The committee thanked Jane and Angela for providing the buffet after the Annual Walk.

14. Date and Time of next meeting: 13th July 2026 2p.m. at Mylchreet Court.

15. Meeting closed at: 3.30p.m.

Alistair Lothian

Chairman