

## MOURNE RAMBLING GROUP

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Time and Venue: 7.30pm in Harry's house, 40 Clontara Park, Lisburn, BT27 4LB

Present: George Acheson, Fionnuala Carragher, Harry Goodman, Raymond Gray, Domnall McComish, Robert Roulston, Trevor Russell, Cecilia Sochor and Vincent Trainor

Harry started the meeting by welcoming everyone

1. **Apologies:** Alex Curry, Laura Fawcett and Maggie Pridgen
2. **Minutes of previous meeting:** agreed
3. **Matters arising:** First Aid Forms – David has checked the MC of S site so that Maggie can look at it. He is prepared to purchase the latest cards for leaders if asked. (ACTION – Maggie to look at the MC of S site and make recommendations re. update of First Aid Forms and MC of S leader cards)  
Christmas Dinner – venue decided and committee informed  
Personal information Tag/ICE - (ACTION - article in next Newsletter)  
Membership tag – matter in hand (ACTION – Harry to organise)  
Update to Guidelines for Leaders (ACTION – Trevor will amend to give leaders greater discretion)
4. **Correspondence :** - from Irene Cauley re. draft AGM minutes for the website, Taster Walks and amendment to Guidelines for Leaders. All points were considered during the meeting  
-from David Oldfield re. leading an away trip in April 2015, follow-up navigation course and co-option to MRG Committee. All points considered later in the meeting. The Committee is pleased to co-opt David on to the Committee.  
Launch of paths at Castlewellan Forest Park – Raymond to attend.
5. **Roles of Committee Members:**
  - Minutes Secretary – George
  - Email link person with members – Vincent
  - Web Manager – Robert
  - Members and Documents Secretary – Maggie
  - Training Officer – Laura
  - Taster Walks – Fionnuala, who will liaise with Trevor
  - Environmental Issues Officer – Ray
  - AGM and Special Events Officer – Cecilia
  - Membership Officers – Fionnuala and Ray
  - Mourne Heritage Trust/MORF link person – Maggie
  - UFRC representation – David and George

6. **Report of AGM:** The AGM had gone well. Draft minutes were agreed (ACTION – Vincent will include these in our next Newsletter; Irene and Robert will put these on our website)
7. **Business arising from AGM:**
  - Facebook (ACTION - Maggie will develop and promote)
  - Mountain Rescue meeting (ACTION – Domnall will contact the NW Mountain Rescue Team to set up a meeting after a walk next spring)
  - “D” group – the following guidance criteria for the new “D” group was agreed:
    - 4 hours at a relaxed pace with approximately 1500 feet/470m ascent
  - Taster Walk – with the introduction of “D” walks it may not be necessary to organise separate Taster Walks. (ACTION – Fionnuala will liaise closely with Trevor – then review at the end of the year)
8. **Agree 2015 Programme of Sunday Walks and Special Events:**

Vincent had contacted previous leaders and asked others if they would lead a walk/s next year. A draft programme had been prepared and using this as a basis a programme for 2015 was agreed- however, there are several walks when a leader is “to be announced”. (ACTION – Vincent to do a final check and contact Tollymore NOC re picnic venue; Robert will print the programme)
9. **Training:** no discussion though it is important that David’s offer to offer a follow up navigation course is considered. (ACTION – Laura to speak with David and other members about training needs)
10. **Membership matters:**
  - Vincent brought the Committee up to date with the number of paid up members and new banking arrangements. It was agreed that 4 members who had paid their membership fee in September and who have now paid the fee for 2015 should have their “September” fee reimbursed.
  - Membership Officer matters – Fionnuala reported there had been a few enquiries
  - Current situation – there had been 7 walkers out on the most recent “A” walk; “B” and “C” walk numbers remain steady.
11. **Newsletter:** this will include the following: articles about Square McCartney, Roy Allen and Peter Allister, “D” group walk, Christmas Dinner, draft AGM minutes, renewing subs, star trek, personal tag, leaders/mobiles, U tube sequences (ACTION – information to be sent to Vincent by Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> November; Vincent to gather/collate items and organise the production and distribution of the Newsletter)
12. **UFRC update:** George reported that the recent AGM had been well attended and worthwhile. Key topics included access related matters, development of links with the Ulster Farmers Union and Funding Bid Sport NI/Active Programme. UFRC membership cards should be available shortly.
13. **Mourne Heritage Trust matters:** no report
14. **AOB:**

- Christmas Dinner – ref. agenda item 3. (ACTION – Vincent to send out information to members; Cecilia to ascertain numbers)
  - Slide Show (ACTION – Harry to organise)
  - Guidelines for Leaders – ref. agenda item 3
  - U Tube – Harry said that he had put together several short sequences re. away trips and sought permission to put these on U tube. (ACTION – Harry to write a piece for the Newsletter to ascertain how members feel about this)
15. Agree time and date of next meeting: 7.30pm, Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015 in Fionnuala's apartment.

Joan and Harry were thanked for their hospitality.