

MOURNE RAMBLING GROUP

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 10th February 2015

Time and Venue: 7.30pm in Fionnuala's apartment, 12 Cherrytree Walk, Belfast

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

Harry started the meeting by welcoming everyone and commenting, with sadness, on the recent deaths of Aileen Hamilton and Aileen Finch.

1. **Apologies:** *Laura Fawcett, David Oldfield, Maggie Pridgen and Cecilia Sochor.*
2. **Minutes of previous meeting:** *agreed*
3. **Matters arising:** *MC of S card and first aid form – final decision on revision/production to be taken (ACTION – Maggie to liaise with David and update web site; Maggie to speak with NWMR team re. first aid form and adjust accordingly)*
 - *Guidelines for Leaders – updated*
 - *NWMR team meeting with MRG: will take place at Meelmore Lodge on Sunday, 12th April 2015 at 3pm after our walks (ACTION: Domnall to look after the overall organisation, contact leaders and inform our membership via Newsletter)*
4. **Correspondence:** *points raised by an email from David Oldfield – BCC should be used for information going out to complete membership – agreed; sending incoming information out to membership (ACTION: Vincent/George to filter information)*
 - *Email from Rodney Magowan re. Spartan Red Sox note. The committee felt most of the points were well covered by our own arrangements (ACTION: include a sentence re. “medical information to walk leader” in the 2016 Programme of Walks*
5. **Finance:** *Vincent gave a comprehensive report which included that we have 103 paid up members and that the MRG is in a healthy financial position (ACTION: Vincent to email spreadsheet to George for attachment to the minutes and circulation to committee members; Vincent to speak with Gary Browne about some financial details and to speak with Robert about an invoice for work completed*
6. **Membership issues:** *subs are coming in well;*
 - *New members – there have been a number of enquiries recently though these have not been followed up by the contacting walkers*
 - *Numbers in walks fluctuate; attendance on “D” walks is encouraging*
7. **Forthcoming events – Slide Show – two definite “shows” to date (Shelagh/Alaska; George/Birds of the Mournes) (ACTION: Vincent to send out an email reminder re. booking a meal)**
 - *Trips – to the Dingle area and Westport area – plans well underway*
 - *Club Picnic – will be held in Meelmore Lodge on 7th June. There will be a wet weather facility should this be required*

8. **Training:** David had held a navigation course in the Pigeon Rock area. Conditions were very misty – Ray said it was very useful
9. **UFRC:** George outlined plans for the Spring Meeting and reported that that UFRC hoped to run two courses later in the year ie. GPS and historical aspects of the Mournes
10. **Mourne Heritage Trust** – Domnall reported that the MHT were running a story telling/folk lore session
11. **Web Site matters:** Irene had met with Robert; any prep work necessary had been completed; everything up to date. Information about the next month's walks will be added during the last week of the previous month. Robert commented on the advantages of using PDF for documents) ACTION – Robert to liaise with Irene re. moderating content)
12. **Newsletter:** this will be sent out towards the end of February – articles to include appropriate tributes, forthcoming trips, membership list, "D" group walks, club picnic, NWMR activity and Noticeboard (ACTION – Vincent to gather/collate items and organise the production and distribution of the Newsletter)
13. **AOB:** - the MRG had been contacted by the Galway Rambling Group which will be visiting the Mournes in May (ACTION – we will welcome this club and help if we can)
 - Leaders' mobile numbers and email addresses (ACTION – Vincent will update and distribute as appropriate)
 - U tube – Harry has put together 26 different sequences under the heading "Harry Goodman Mourne Mountains" (ACTION – Robert to put these on as a link in the MRG web site; Harry and Robert to liaise)
 - Alex mentioned possibly missing emails re. MRG from Vincent.
14. **Agree date, time and venue of next meeting:** 7.30pm, Tuesday 23rd June 2015 in Harry's house.

Fionnuala was thanked for her hospitality.