

## MOURNE RAMBLING GROUP

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

Time and Venue: 7.30pm in Fionnuala's apartment – 12 Cherry Tree Walk, Belfast

Present: George Acheson, Fionnuala Carragher, Ray Gray, Rennie Gribbin, Bert Rima, Victor Knox, Peter McGowan, Joe McKnight, Trevor Russell and Vincent Trainor.

1. **Chairman's Remarks:** Peter welcomed everyone
2. **Apologies:** Harry Goodman, Derek Stewart
3. **Agree minutes of previous meeting:** agreed
4. **Matters arising:** these will be dealt with during the business of the next committee meeting
5. **Correspondence:**
  - A voucher from WIYC for £100.00 (ACTION: George to make enquiries re tick removers for members – then purchase)
  - A thank you letter from Mary Conlin, Irish Ramblers for our assistance during IR's recent visit to the Mournes. The MRG has been invited to walk/weekend with them next year in the Wicklow Hills
  - Mourne Mountain Rescue – thanks for our donation of £256.00
  - Christmas Dinner information from Harry (ACTION: Vincent to send this out to members via email or post).
6. **Roles of Committee Members:**
  - Chairperson – Peter
  - Minutes Secretary – George
  - Email link person – Vincent
  - Treasurer – Vincent
  - Newsletter – Vincent
  - Web Manager – Robert Roulston
  - Training – Joe
  - Membership officers – Fionnuala and Ray
  - Environmental Issues – Ray
  - AGM and Special Events Organiser – Cecilia (assisted by Harry)
  - MHT/MORF representation: Fionnuala
  - UFRS representation- George, Joe, Ray and Victor
  - Facebook manager – Maggie
  - Walk Leader Co-ordinators: A group – Del; B group – Bert; C group - Fionnuala and D group – Trevor
7. **Draft Report of AGM:** this will be considered at the next committee meeting
8. **Business arising from AGM:** this will be dealt with at the next committee meeting
9. **Agree 2018 Programme of Sunday Walks and Special Events:** Vincent, having contacted many members regarding leading walks had produced and distributed a draft programme. This was considered, some adjustments made and agreed. Vincent was thanked for all his "spade work" – it certainly has made the Committee's life easier. As in previous years leaders who are unable to lead a walk should seek a substitute leader – however, Vincent said he was prepared to seek a replacement leader if he was given advance notice. (ACTION:

Vincent to produce a final draft which would be printed – then distributed; Vincent to contact leaders re mobile phone numbers and with their agreement, send these out to other leaders)

10. **Training:** the navigation event organised for 21<sup>st</sup> October had been cancelled due to unsuitable conditions. Another navigation training event has been organised for 18<sup>th</sup> November at Meelmore Lodge – 6 people have expressed an interest in taking part. (ACTION: Joe to organise)

The Committee also discussed the Hill and Moorland Leadership scheme (ACTION: UFRC reps to find out more information; Committee to consider at a later date the possibility of asking TNOC to organise an appropriate course for our leaders)

**11. Membership matters:**

- Collection of subs/finance matters - a steady trickle of enquiries and new members. To date 50 people have paid their subscriptions for 2018.

Vincent, having circulated a revenue account outlined recent spending. The closing balance is £5,355.07. The Committee discussed donating some money towards path repair in the Mourne (ACTION – George to contact the MHT)

A, B, C and D update – all going well

12. **UFRC update:** the invitation event had been successful – hopefully this will become an annual event. There will be another Spring Gathering next March.
13. **MHT matters:** no report
14. **Newsletter** – articles to include Donegal trip report, Tour du Mt Blanc, list of members names, article re tick remover, AGM Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports (ACTION – items to Vincent asap, Newsletter distributed about 27<sup>th</sup> Nov)
15. **AOB:** 50th Anniversary preparations (ACTION – meetings with agendas, dates, deadlines and roles of responsibility to be established)
16. **Agree date and time of next meeting:** Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.30pm in Fionnuala's apartment.  
Thanks to Fionnuala for her hospitality.  
The meeting finished at 9.30pm.