

Important Items from the January 20011 Committee Meeting

Keith Budd was welcomed as an observer and subsequently co-opted as a committee member.

It was agreed that the four main priorities for the coming year were:

- (i) Appointing footpath officer and becoming involved in footpath maintenance.
- (ii) Recruiting new members and
- (iii) Progressing the website and electronic distribution.
- (iv) Continuing with short walks on Sundays

The procedure for walks cancellation was discussed. It was agreed that wherever possible information would be given on the website and maybe sent by email to those on the electronic distribution list. Ideally, if a walk is cancelled, someone should attend the start point to tell people.

In future the programme should give words as follows:

In extreme weather conditions or if walks are likely to be cancelled due to, strikes or fuel shortages people should check on the Bristol Ramblers website to see if a walk has been cancelled.

Pauline circulated a report giving details of income and outgoings for the quarter starting 01/10/10. The funding we received is what we can expect for future quarters this financial year. It is likely we will have surplus funds and Pauline asked for suggestions of what we could spend money on. Suggestions were:

- i) Buying tools for footpath maintenance.
- ii) Buying waymarks for the Triangle walk.
- iii) Having a leadership course and/or a First Aid course. Perhaps have these alternative years.
- iv) May want some money for website updates.

The Ramblers have made available free postage postcards to comment on footpaths in an area. These can be filled in by members on walks and returned to central office. They will then be forwarded to the appropriate council. It was agreed we would order some of these.

To encourage groups to recruit new members any membership fees from new members joining a group in March and paying by direct debit will be paid to the group.

Central office has a new scheme for 'mystery walkers' to walk footpaths and report problems. The aim of the scheme is to produce a map of the best and worst places to walk across the country, highlighting which local authorities' paths are unwalkable, as well as congratulating those who are doing a good job.

It was agreed (after the meeting) that the petrol allowance of 8p a mile should be increased to 10p a mile.