

BRISTOL RAMBLERS GROUP

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

29th OCTOBER 2025

REDLAND GREEN BOWLS CLUB

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chair, Heather Toyne (HT), welcomed everyone to the 2025 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Bristol Ramblers Group. There were about 28 attendees. Copies of the Agenda, the Group Annual Report 2024/2025 and the Treasurer's Report 2024/2025 had been made available to all attendees. Apologies for absence had been received from Julie Westgarth, Keith Budd and Margeret Ruse.

2. ACCEPTING THE MINUTES OF THE 2024 AGM

The minutes of the 2024 AGM, held on 16th October 2024, were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting. There were no matters arising.

3. ANNUAL REPORT 2024/2025

HT referred to the Annual Report and mentioned a few highlights, thanking all those who had been involved.

- This was Year 4 for HT as Chair of the Bristol Group. HT will be stepping down as Chair at this meeting (see agenda item 6).
- Membership numbers had increased most months compared with 2023/2024.
- The numbers of people on the Group's walks had increased compared to 2023/2024.
- Bristol Ramblers is a major contributor of walks for Walk Fest and there had been 30 such walks for Walk Fest 2025. HT thanked Carew Reynell and walk coordinators, in particular, for their efforts.
- The Group website has been re-designed and improved by the work of Tony Parsons and Sarah Marshall. The use of the feedback button was encouraged.
- Ceiswyn (Ky) Blake has produced original and informative issues of the eBoot newsletter again this year.
- The continuing diligent work of Roger Britton on Public Rights of Way (PROW) and Susan Carter on local environmental issues was mentioned.
- The approximately 30 people who have completed the online leaders' training following the requirements of Ramblers HQ had provided positive feedback. However, there are still a number of leaders who need to complete the training by the deadline of 31st December this year.
- HT thanked members of the Committee for their work in 2024/2025.

The involvement of Sustrans in the PROW initiative was queried in subsequent questions. Roger Britton replied that only Bristol Council and Bristol Ramblers were currently involved. Susan Carter added that Sustrans had been involved earlier in the work and could be again. However, it seems that they see no benefit to them at present.

HT then requested the meeting's approval of the 2024/25 Annual Report. There were no objections and the 2024/2025 Annual Report was approved by those present.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2024/2025

The Treasurer, Bob Gibson, summarised the state of the Group's finances, referring to the annual accounts for 2024/2025. The verified accounts had been circulated ahead of the meeting and should be consulted for full details of income and expenditure. The total amount in the Group's bank account reduced in the year from about £3427 to about £3206 and remains consistent with the advice of Ramblers HQ. The main difference in expenditure between 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 was that there had been no expenditure on first aid training this year compared to over £700 in 2023/2024.

The annual accounts for 2024/2025 were then approved by those present.

5. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The annual accounts for 2024/2025 had been endorsed by John Wrigley in his role as Independent Examiner. John has offered to continue in this role for 2025/2026; this was agreed by those present.

6. ELECTIONS FOR 2025/2026

The Chair noted the status of Group roles – see the following list. It was noted that, in particular, both the Chair and the Minutes Secretary, Peter Budden, are standing down at this meeting. Ceiswyn Blake and Tony Parsons have agreed to take on the roles of Chair and Minutes Secretary, respectively. Graham Symonds is also joining the Committee as Project Officer. A number of vacancies for Group roles remain unfilled.

Committee

Chair	Ceiswyn Blake
Secretary	Carew Reynell
Treasurer	Bob Gibson
Minutes Secretary	Tony Parsons
Membership Secretary	Julie Westgarth
Webmaster	Tony Parsons
Walks Editor	Tony Parsons
Web Page Editor	Tony Parsons/ Sarah Marshall
Footpaths Officer	Keith Budd
eBoot Editor	Ceiswyn Blake
Wednesday & Saturday Walks Representative	Sue Fox
WalkFest Co-ordinator	Carew Reynell
Projects Officer	Graham Symonds
Planning and Environment Officer	(Vacant)
Publicity/Communications Officer	(Vacant)
Vice Chair	(Vacant)

Other Key Volunteer Roles

Walk Coordinator A Group	Bob Gibson
Walk Coordinator B Group	Paula Cannings
Walk Coordinator Saturday Walks	Aubrey Newport

Walk Coordinator Wednesday Walks
Walk Coordinator Evening Walks
PROW Liaison/Lead
DLYW Co-ordinator

Margaret Ruse
Keith Budd
Roger Britton
Bob Gibson

A motion for the listed individuals to assume or continue in these roles was then raised. The motion was formally proposed, seconded and agreed by those present.

The new Chair then took over the running of the meeting.

7. RAMBLING "PUB QUIZ"

Paula Cannings delivered a two-part quiz based on rambling themes. Those present divided into a number of teams. The first part of the quiz asked for identification of ten photographs taken both within and outside the UK; the second part asked ten questions. A small prize was awarded to the winning team. The quiz was highly appreciated by those present and the Chair thanked Paula on everyone's behalf for her efforts in preparing and delivering the entertaining quiz.

8. AOB & CLOSE

There was no other business raised. The Chair thanked everyone for their participation and closed the meeting.

Peter Budden (Minutes Secretary)

6th November 2025