**St Andrews & NE Fife Ramblers Group**

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Cupar Community Fire Station at 7pm on Monday 7th November 2022

Attendance: 14 members present, the meeting was chaired by the Convenor, Jane Houston (JH)

Apologies: Stewart & Linda Collier, Val Mowat, Susan Richmond

Adoption of Minutes: The minutes of the previous AGM on 15th November 2021 were, with the change of date noted for this AGM, were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Jim Forret (JF), seconded by Colin Brown (CB).

**Annual Reports:** Copies of reports will be sent electronically to all members with such access.

Convenors’ Report: This report had been sent out prior to the meeting and was read out by the Convenor. No comments were made on the report.

Press Secretarys’ Report: The report was read out by the Press Secretary (JH) and it was noted that the updates to the group website can now include more photographs from the walks.

Walks Coordinators’ Report: The Walks Coordinator (CB) outlined the report and was pleased with the increase in numbers compared with the previous year, but it was thought this was probably down to Covid restrictions.

Secretarys’ Report: Due to illness, there was no Secretarys’ report but the members present sent out good wishes for a speedy recovery for the Secretary Jim Coates (JC).

Webmaster Report: Michael Hammond (MH) reported that we migrated to a new version on 5th October. The new version allows us to display full size photos and MH added that if members were to send in photos to him, they would need a caption/file name eg View west from E Lomond, so that he can identify where the pictures are from. All agreed that the new website is much improved and more user friendly. Thanks were expressed to MH for all his hard work.

Area Representative: JF outlined the contents of the report, stating that the return of the Area booklet was very welcome, particularly for those members with no internet. JF intimated that there were still places available for First Aid training and asked for volunteers. He also took the opportunity to remind members of the importance of the ICE card, considering the illness to the Secretary.

Treasurers’ Report: Will Aitken (WA) gave a precis of the balance sheet and the accounts had been submitted to the Area and independent auditor for scrutiny. After a brief discussion, it was decided to increase the mileage allowance for recce purposes to 30p per mile, in view of the increased cost of petrol etc. This was agreed unanimously.

Independent Examiners’ Statement: Nicky Haxell (NH) was pleased to state that the accounts were in good order and were signed off to this effect.

Nominations for Committee Office Bearers:

The following nominations were proposed by the Committee, all were elected to acclamation by the members:

Convenor – Jane Houston

Secretary – Jim Coates (to be confirmed)

Walks Coordinator – Colin Brown

Press Correspondent – Jane Houston

Treasurer – Will Aitken

Independent Accounts Examiner – Nicky Haxell

Webmaster – Michael Hammond

Area Representative – Jim Forret

Appointment of Committee Members: The following nominations by the Committee were elected by acclamation of the members present:

Carol Philp, Christine Arnold, Robert Stirrat & Yvonne Stevenson

There then followed a brief discussion as to how attendance at Committee & general level meetings would be carried out. It was decided by those present that the Committee meetings (2 per year) would be via Zoom, the AGM and Walks Planning meetings would be face-to-face at the Cupar Fire Station.

Group Delegates/Representatives to Area, Scottish & General Councils:

The Area representative outlined the various meetings held by these Councils and intimated that any interested party is to inform the Convenor should they wish to attend.

Adoption of Motions to Scottish Council: There were no proposals or motions that the members would like to bring to the attention of the Scottish Council.

Any Other Business: A motion was put forward for the Group to donate a sum (£50) to the Fire Service charity for the use of the meeting room. Proposed by WA, seconded by CB.

The Group holiday may go ahead next year, either June/July in the Aberdeen or Inverness areas. Further details will be promulgated when available.

The Xmas lunch is proving popular and there are currently 30 names on the list. The members were informed that there was no need to pay a deposit as the organiser (CB) had visited Elmwood to enquire about this. The menu and prices would be put on the Group website as soon as is convenient.

Date of next AGM: The date of the next AGM was set at Monday 6th November 2023, at Cupar Community Fire Station at 7pm. There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8:20pm.