

## **MAIDSTONE RAMBLERS**

Minutes of the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Maidstone Group of the Ramblers on Saturday October 25<sup>th</sup> 2025 at 10:30am at Aylesford Community Centre.

### **Committee Members Present: -**

Desmond Relf (DR)	Chairman
Sue Bennett (SB)	Secretary
Anne Hughes (SB)	Treasurer
Linda Hooker (LH)	Membership Secretary
Graham Smith (GS)	Local Footpath Officer
Robert Hooker (RH)	Local Footpath Officer
Colin Philpott (CP)	Walks Co-ordinator
Tony Bushe (TB)	IT Coordinator
Les Holmans (LH)	Footpath Clearance

### **Ad Hoc Committee Member Present: -**

Total Members present including committee 30

### **1. Chairman's Opening Remarks**

DR welcomed everyone to the 45<sup>th</sup> AGM and thanked them for attending. He also thanked BM for the very welcome refreshments. He reminded everyone that if the fire alarm sounded, it would be a genuine alarm and to leave by the closest fire exit.

### **2. Apologies for Absence**

Bob Buist, Penny Buist, Joan Jenner, Debbie Dunster, Carol Davis, David Law

### **3. Minutes of the Last Annual General Meeting**

Copies of the 2024 minutes were sent to the membership via email and were also on the website. These were put to the attending members for acceptance. There were no comments on the minutes. The acceptance of the official minutes of the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was unanimous and Des signed and dated them and passed them to the secretary for filing.

### **4. Matters arising**

The question was raised last year as to what is the procedure when on a walk and the group wishes to split or walkers wish to leave the group early. Colin answered the question on behalf of the Committee. Tony has reviewed and revised the Walk Leader Guidance to include this answer.

### **5. Honorary Officers Reports**

#### **5i. Secretary's Report**

I'd like to start by thanking Barbara for our very welcome tea and coffee and for those who helped to set up the hall.

My duties consist of answering queries that come by email and phone, planning, attending and minuting the Committee and AGM meetings. I also arrange some events. These are not part of the secretary's role but I do enjoy doing them. Shortly we will be having Gordon

Belcher and Roy Wheatley's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration lunch, which Tony and I have been sorting out between us.

One of my favourite events is our 10 pin bowling evening. I will be organising another one shortly. If you haven't joined us before, do come along and give it a try.

The biggest event is, of course our annual holiday which was this year to Porthcawl in beautiful South Wales. We had 48 people attending. We had some really lovely walks, a long and short walk most days, with some of them being quite taxing due to the undulating terrain. Unusually for Wales we had sunshine all week, with not a cloud in the sky.

Our coach driver was excellent and very helpful and was the same driver as last year. As we like to drink and dance the evening away, we were helped along by having a half price bar from 8 in the morning until 11 at night. I'm surprised we managed to walk at all.

Our amazing walk leaders once again came forward and volunteered to plan and lead the walks. We owe them a big thank you for their time and effort for sorting out some wonderful walks in places they had never led before. Not an easy feat but they work closely together and support each other. These holidays couldn't go ahead without them. They are already working on our holiday planned for next April, which will be walking in Torquay. Next year we have a full coach of 49 booked in and a reserve list in case anyone has to drop out. I must say once again we have a half price bar. We welcome Colin Philpott as he has agreed to join us as a walk leader.

As most of you know I will be standing down after this meeting, but I must make it clear that your new secretary will not have to arrange events and holidays. With the Committees permission, which I already have been given, I will continue to arrange the holidays and maybe more events, such as possible weekends away. Watch this space!!!

## **5ii. Treasurer's Report**

### **Year End Accounting as at 30 September 2025**

The Cash and Bank sheet shows that everything reconciled at year end and both accounts have funds in them. I completed all the required forms on 1 October and arranged to meet with our auditor, Steve Songhurst, on 2 October. He examined the accounts, approved them and returned them to me on 7 October. I am therefore in a position to present the Annual Account, along with my report, for approval at this AGM, before being sent to Area. In the meantime the Annual Return was submitted to Area on 8 October.

As usual we will now also make our charitable donation of £50 as a token of thanks for the work of the auditor, who takes no payment for auditing our accounts, which he has been doing since 1982.

The accounts were sent out by email to the membership prior to the AGM.

### **Main Fund**

This has a year-end balance of £1098.35 which is an acceptable amount to carry forward, with the reserve percentage being at 72.8%. This reserve is needed to cover any costs we may incur before we begin to receive our budgeted monies from Area funding. Historically these have always been paid quarterly to us, with the first payment coming in November.

This year we received £390 from our Members booking Rambler Holidays. This is great, but it does reduce our net running costs and hence the amount of funding we can apply for via our June budgeting process. We also purchased 10 Hi Vis vests this year for our marshals to wear at the KSS charity event.

I have recently heard from Area that our next years budget has been agreed.

### **Self Funded Activities**

This has a year end balance of £2331.82, with two events currently planned for the coming year: the Christmas lunch and the 2026 Torquay holiday.

In June 2025 a very enjoyable and successful quiz was held and thanks go to Colin for all his hard work. Having not run such an event previously it was difficult to accurately predict potential level of interest from Members and hence level of receipts. In the end we collected entry fees totalling £225 and final costs amounted to £122.50.

After a request in 2024 from the previous Treasurer that Member payments for the Christmas lunch be payable only in the same financial year as the event itself, this has been successfully implemented. Therefore at year end the account has funded the £250 deposit, with Member confirmation of attendance and full payment now being required by 5 November. This change is much appreciated and has made this year end process far more straight forward - thank you!

The deposit for the 2026 Torquay holiday was paid in June following receipt of all deposits from those attending. Having now accounted for all costs and expenses incurred at the 2025 Porthcawl holiday, there is a total surplus in the holiday fund from holiday activities since 2023 of £1888. Having brought this to the attention of the committee in September, we have agreed this surplus will be used to fund our general costs and expenses for Torquay 2026.

**The annual financial statement was sent by email to the membership prior to the AGM.**

### **Report of the Independent Examiner**

Having carried out procedures in accordance with Area and Group Independent examination guidelines, I consider the Maidstone Group (KT02) accounts to have been properly prepared and that they give a true and fair view of the Group's finances for the year to 30th September 2025.

This report was signed and dated 6 October 2025 by:

**Name of Examiner: S. Songhurst.**

### **Acceptance of the annual accounts.**

Proposed by: Mike Tracey

Seconded by: Gerald Carr

## **6. Committee Members Reports**

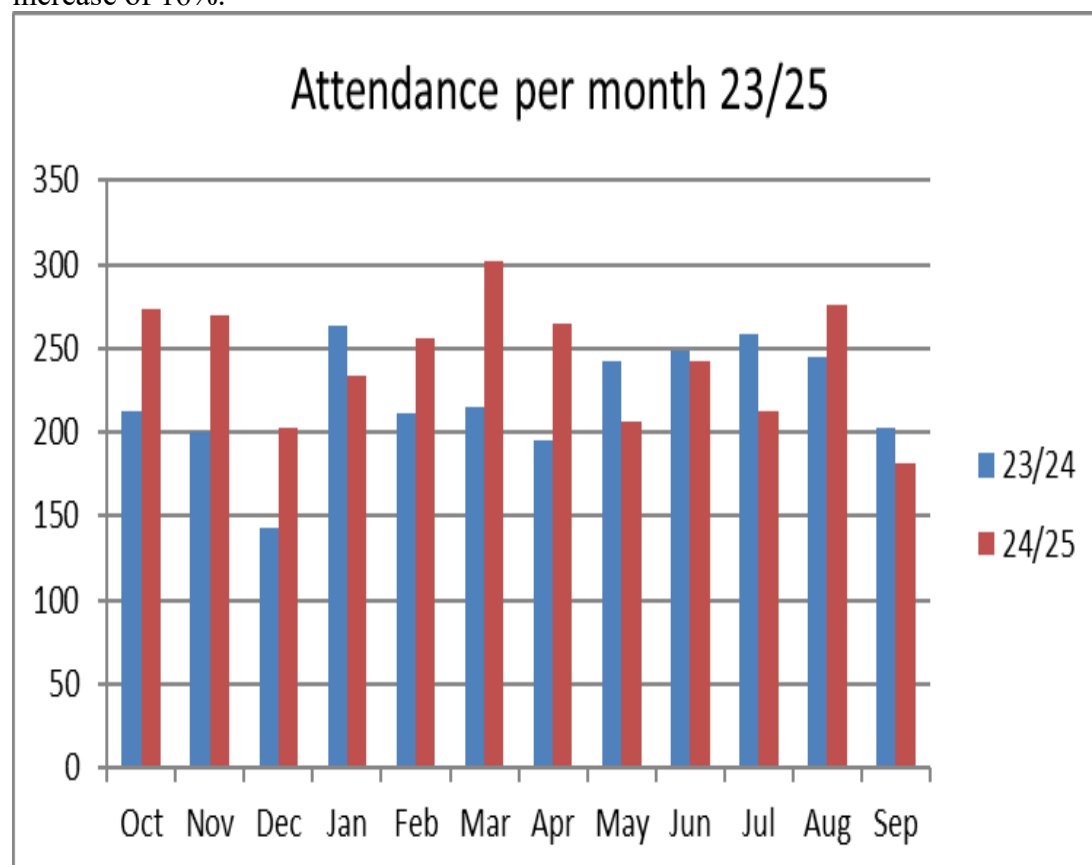
### **6i Membership Secretary October '24 to September '25**

Membership is currently 338, six more than last year. We had 41 new members during the last 12 months.

351 individuals have walked with us this year, comprising:

- 161 of our members (48% of our membership)
- 146 members of other groups
- 45 non-members

On display is a graph showing attendance on walks since October '23, representing an increase of 16%.



The league table for the year, shows the 100 members who have walked the most miles during the year – Ranging from 39.7 to 662.85.

The top three walkers are: Bob Buist  
Sue Bennett  
Ian Tandy

## 6.ii Local Footpath Officers

At last year's AGM I made a plea for more assistance in anticipation of Robert's retirement from the committee, and in the face of a surge in PRow diversion applications, with which I was finding it difficult to cope.

I am pleased to report that Alan Lawson and Ian Tandy stepped forward and have already capably dealt with proposals for footpath alterations which have since arisen. They have been duly appointed by Kent Area.

We have divided the Maidstone District Parishes into three roughly equal areas. Ian has taken the Northern section, Alan the South East and I retain the South West.

So for the time being we have the job of dealing with diversion applications well covered. However we still have vacancies for Parish Observers. For this job we like our volunteers to

walk all the footpaths in their chosen parish at least once a year and report any deficiencies to KCC Public Rights of Way department. Applications eagerly awaited.

We would like to encourage all of you to be involved in helping to look after our footpaths. Please everyone report any footpath problems that you find to KCC, preferably via their fault reporting website which is easily accessed from our own website . Our website also has a section with advice on how to use the KCC on-line system, with an e-mail address and a phone number if you prefer to report that way. I don't recommend the phone method, it is not always active, as KCC staff work from home most of the time.

Please be patient, some problems take considerable time to resolve. However if you have registered a serious complaint and believe that it is not being adequately attended to, please let one of us Local Footpath Officers know. We have the opportunity to raise serious outstanding complaints at our twice yearly meetings with KCC. Our next meeting is in just over two weeks time on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November. So if you have such a complaint, please let one of us know as soon as possible, and in any case no later than Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

As an alternative, if your complaint is one of overgrown vegetation you may wish to inform Les. He may be able to fit it in to his busy clearance programme.

I would also like to draw your attention to a Kent Area Public Rights of Way meeting which is to be held at Lenham on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November. Free lunch is provided. I believe our existing registered volunteers will be routinely notified. However if there is anyone else who would like to go, please let me know. I will then send you the necessary information for booking, which will be necessary for you to access the lunch.

A major issue which will affect Public Rights of Way in the near future, is the proposed widening of the A229 Bluebell Hill road. This is not due to happen for a couple of years but it will cause significant disruption to adjacent Public Rights of Way. A major problem will arise where the combined North Downs Way and Pilgrims Way pass through an existing tunnel under the road. The tunnel is to be extended which will require a lengthy temporary diversion of these important routes for a considerable period. No details of the length or the timescale for the diversions have yet been given.

**Finally I would like to express my thanks to Robert for his considerable assistance over several years and wish him well for the future.**

Mike Tracey added that the tunnel extension could be brought forward. The engineers are road engineers with footpaths being far down on the priority list.

### **6.iii Footpath Clearance Officer**

I would like to express my gratitude to our clearance team for their time and great work that they perform each week. We are very fortunate to have a team of 19 members to call upon to help keep our network of paths in the Maidstone area accessible to walkers. If this appeals to you and you would like to become a new member just speak to me or email [pathclearance@maidstoneramblers.org.uk](mailto:pathclearance@maidstoneramblers.org.uk) and I will make the necessary arrangements to register you as a volunteer with national Ramblers. Our area covers 43 parishes and our clearance season is from April to October on Monday mornings starting at 10am and finishing approximately within two hours. I send an email to volunteers once a week and if you are available you just reply saying that you are attending. You are not committed to come every week of the season and we supply tools for the work. We have dealt with 36 clearances this year covering 18 different parishes and a distance of 8.25 kilometres. We get thanks from many quarters with one special one from the Maidstone and District Riding Club for clearing a bridleway that was used for a Ride for Life Charity Event that raised in excess of £10,000 for Cancer Research UK. Well done team. Our work can be viewed on the Maidstone Ramblers Facebook group at

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/414973832893559/?locale=en\\_GB](https://www.facebook.com/groups/414973832893559/?locale=en_GB) or on the Facebook app

#### **6. iv Walk Co-ordinator's Report**

This has been a very good year for the walks programme, with a bumper 226 walks offered by almost 30 leaders over the last twelve months. This is the largest number in the 6 years I have coordinated the programme.

We have averaged 19 walks per month during the last year. There has almost always been at least one walk each Sunday and at least two walks each Wednesday, plus fortnightly shorter walks on Thursday and some walks on other days too.

Leaders have the option of making walks bookable or not. The majority of walks are now non-bookable, but some leaders like to retain booking, in order to limit numbers or to allow for accurate numbers to be booked into a lunch stop.

We have fine-tuned the monthly review – introduced four years ago – as this is a useful way of allowing updates and additional walks. We now aim to give members at least three weeks' advance notice of the definitive walks programme for the month ahead. In practice, half of the walks in the original printed programme each month are changed, cancelled or replaced by new walks.

It is important for members to check emails and the programme online for the latest information, as there will inevitably be many updates from the original 4-month published programme.

The full 4-month programme now appears on the national website and our own local website. This responds to requests for members to be allowed more time to plan walks in advance. Given that the programme is now such a dynamic and changing document, the committee decided to discontinue the printed and posted 4-month programme. The August-November 2025 programme was the last. Members will receive the newsletter and 4-month programme by e-mail and will also receive frequent updates – including the reviewed monthly programme 3 weeks before the start of the new month.

We are always looking to recruit new walk leaders, and we inducted two new leaders this year. We will be looking to offer the training programme again in Spring 2026.

We were able to offer First Aid training to leaders in March. The Red Cross provided a very useful 90-minute session to 16 of our leaders. We hope to repeat the training next year.

We have responded to the national association's new directives regarding the training of leaders. Those who have not led a minimum of 12 walks over the last three years and have not undertaken online training have been required to update their skills. To this effect a session on 14<sup>th</sup> October delivered the training to a number of leaders. We do not believe that any of our currently active leaders will need to stop leading walks.

I would like to thank all the leaders who have offered walks and enabled us to establish one of the most comprehensive programmes in Kent. I would also like to thank Tony Bushe for his ongoing support with the online booking system and the efficient creation of the schedule. Finally, the new programme for December 2025 – March 2026 is in production and will be sent out with a newsletter in early November.

Gerald Carr asked what would happen where some members don't have access to, or are unable to use a computer. He commented that he would personally like a hard copy.

Colin answered that we are prepared to off 10 to 12 copies for people that don't have access. Gerald said he would supply stamped addressed envelopes to get his copy.

#### **6.v IT Co-ordinator**

##### **IT Co-ordinator's Report**

Access to the group's website has remained consistent with the previous two years. With

approximately 10,000 visits, viewing 21,000 pages of information. The busiest month was again January.

Summary of website activity for the year:

- Republish the Maidstone Leader's guidance and Walker Information documents, updated following a question about splitting groups raised at the AG
- Loading new walk programmes each month to maintain a rolling two-month programme
- Publish the three newsletter and four-month programmes, make it more obvious to where it can be found on the website.
- Publication of fifteen news items, related to the walk programme or the group
- Publish the latest update of Leader's guidance documents and include national ramblers safeguarding contact details on our contacts page

Support for the walk programme process has included:

- Monitor progress as our leaders responded to national ramblers latest leader training and experience initiative
- Providing support for leaders and updates for central office as the initiative progressed through the second half of the year.
- Review leader training material provided by central office and assisting in training session for some of our leaders
- Downloading on-line walk offer submissions for each four-month programme, and the monthly reviews
- Acknowledging on-line walk submissions and applying any agreed corrections
- Liaising with Colin as the programme is scheduled and finalised

## **6.vi Publicity officer Report**

In the past year we have participated in two events which were in themselves worthwhile but also raised our profile in the South East. I would like to emphasise that fellow Maidstone Ramblers were instrumental in instigating, coordinating and participating in both of these events.

The first of these events resulted in the brief appearance of several Ramblers, including myself, on an ITV Meridian regional news program! The subject of the article concerned the safety of rural paths in Kent. Several of us were interviewed whilst out on a ramble led by Anne Hughes on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 from Marden. The programme was aired on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

The second event involved several fellow ramblers who volunteered as Marshalls for the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance sponsored walks which were part of their annual fund-raising event on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025. There were two sponsored walks both starting from Aylesford Priory, one of 3.5 miles the other of 7.5 miles with about 250 participants all of whom completed the course in a timely and safe manner. We have received some very complementary feedback and the rumour is that we will be invited back next year. We may wish to explore the possibility of securing a stand to promote Maidstone Ramblers at next year's event.

Colin Philpott forwards to me each month a suitably annotated version of the following months Walks Programme which I in turn forward to The Net magazine (Maidstone edition though it also has wider on-line distribution) and to the Bearsted magazine. I have been trying to get our details publicised on the Active Kent website but this has not yet happened due to ongoing discussions regarding safeguarding. We continue to distribute our business cards.

We now have 539 members of our Facebook page compared with 436 members last year. There are some members who regularly post photos of our weekly walks as well as the annual holiday and footpath clearance activities.

## **7. Kent Area Reps Report**

**Governance Review** The paper circulated prior to the meeting was NOTED. CS reminded members that the final decision on the Governance proposals would be made at an extraordinary meeting of General Council on 6 December 2025. Kent's delegates were himself and RP as appointed at the Kent Area AGM in February. They would listen to everyone's views but ultimately were obliged to vote in what they believe to be in the best interests of the Ramblers. ML (who is a member of the Board of Trustees) advised that draft articles of association and standing orders would be available soon.

**Solar Farms.** TB produced a map showing the substantial areas totalling around 5000 acres covered by current applications for solar farms across Romney Marsh. He reported that the Planning Inspector's report on the Stone Street Green proposed farm (at Aldington) has gone to the Secretary of State and a decision is expected in November. The huge Cleve Hill farm between Faversham and Whitstable alongside the Saxon Shore Way and the Coast Path became operational a fortnight ago.

**Annual Review** The deadline of 15 November for contributions was noted and RP said that he was looking for around 400 words for Group reports, focusing on the exciting things Group members had been doing during the year rather than statistical information. RP was keen to receive independent contributions and could help with photographs, maps and diagrams if asked.

## **8. Chairman's Statement**

Maidstone Ramblers was formed 45 years ago in 1980, and was the second group formed in Kent

That is funnily enough 45 years after the formation of the national organisation which happened on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1935 ie less than 3 years after the mass trespass which happened in April 1932, on a very wild day of horrible wind driven sleet. The national Ramblers started as an affiliation of walking groups in Manchester and Sheffield near where the Mass trespass had taken place. By 1980 when Maidstone Ramblers was formed the enthusiasm for walking and walking groups had spread. Like the original groups in Manchester and Sheffield membership was mostly working people whose weekend social activity revolved around walking. So, walks were mainly at weekends. The long-distance paths had also started to open with South Downs way in March 1963 and Pennine way in April 1965. 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, Ramblers have been a bit slow in advertising that fact. So, 1980 was an era of massive expansion for Ramblers.

As a national organisation Ramblers has in recent years, some would say drifted, some would say moved on to a more professional organisation, from that original loose affiliation of local walking groups. A political lobbying group, a campaigning group legally representing walkers in high profile legal cases, with paid staff members. This has led to tension between the board of Trustees and the General council. In the last three years there has been a feeling that something has to change, The structure where groups report to area, which in the case of Kent have 2 representatives at general council who have the right to vote on motions put forward on governance is possibly a bit clunky, but I would also say there is a lack of trust, that the board of trustees understands, or will act in a way that is beneficial to groups. This has led to an extraordinary meeting to be held 6<sup>th</sup> December this year, where a vote will be held on governance. However, this has already fallen apart with most of the proposal being dropped and the remaining part being opposed by Kent Area and others. However, because



Turkeys don't vote for Christmas, i.e. disbanding of general council, I believe it will be soundly defeated but the basic problem remains unresolved.

Why am I mentioning this when it is, at present, out of our control? And believe me, I thought long and hard about whether it is relevant to this meeting. Because I think it gives context on what is going on and in the face of these fundamental changes which go to the very root of what Ramblers are trying to do, demonstrates why we need to be a strong group. We in particular need a strong committee, who can deal with changes caused by conflict over governance etc and plenty of volunteers in general. In the words of one of the other area secretaries "The need for strong local involvement has never been more critical". National membership is drifting slowly down, I believe this reflects the expansion of Ramblers in the 1980, and now new membership is not replacing all of that enthusiastic group. But also lack of engagement at local level to attract new members. Many groups, and even areas are very short of committee members or any type of volunteer to a point where some will disband. It is the view of many representatives at the General council that the board of trustees has lost touch with what our excellent LFO and Footpath clearance teams do. To a point where many groups are limiting what they do or even leave national organisation. Recent governance change had not even considered how the maintenance of paths was to be run and was one of main reasons why the proposal had to be dropped.

But against this backdrop of disunity and slow decline Maidstone group is a beacon of light. You will have heard each committee members report and they are all positive. Even Linda has been able to tell me membership is up and number of people walking each week is up. Graham with all the fantastic work he does looking at the footpath alterations, has at last got two new members to his team. I should mention at this point that our LFO's are essentially the only organisation which reviews these proposals and without us it would be a planning consent free for all, which against a backdrop of restructuring of local authority, and severe shortage of cash will probably lead to footpath budget being cut. So, our work is even more essential

Les and his amazing team (Which I would like to point out includes me) have cleared what I believe is a record amount of our local footpaths. I know that some here, would tell me there is much more to do, no names given. But this is against a backdrop of statements from one Ramblers area "the biggest obstacle to people walking in UK is paths which are blocked". As well as other areas where the cooperation with the local authority has completely broken down. Our team even got a box of biscuits from the local authority contact. Les what happened to the remaining biscuits. There is also mention of tin of heroes, very appropriate. Colin was able to tell us that we offer more walks than at any of previous 5 year. We are attracting walkers from many of the surrounding groups; in addition, he and Tony have got all our walk leaders accepted as suitably trained to lead walks by the national organisation as well as run a first aid training course.

Tony is at the heart of all this, he is much more than just the IT guy, in a world of social media he is the one who has most influence on attracting new members as well as facilitating our excellent walk leaders in what they do.

The two newest recruits to our committee Bob and Anne, are proving to be a fantastic asset to the committee. Anne, I will eventually get the hang of predicting budgets for each category of expenditure.

One additional event this year has been the Air Ambulance charity walk back in September. We were approached by them to assist with the Marshalling of their two charity walks they run on the day. That involved Putting out temporary signage and providing Marshals at all the key points. I am so grateful for the 15 people who, so willingly, came forward to help on the day. KSS air ambulance want me to thank everyone involved. We obviously did too good a job as we have already been asked to consider doing the same next year. For those who did

help this year I still have some pens and badges which I have been given by KSS as a thank you.

Much of what I have spoken about has been a bit intense even solemn. But that is not the impression I want to leave you with. The people who come on our walks want to have an enjoyable experience as well as getting a bit of exercise. They are looking forward to their pint at lunch time and enjoying the friendly chats they have along the way. So, the social side of what we do is very important. Sue has for what I believe is 9 years organised social events as well as the secretary role. So, it is a big loss that she has decided to step down this year, although I would say that after 9 years she has certainly done more than we could expect. So, we need a new secretary. Please! Sue has even offered to continue organising the social events and we have made things like taking minutes very easy. So, the role shouldn't take too much time, honestly!

Last year I pleaded for more volunteers, this year again I am pleading for more volunteers. Looks like I will always be pleading for more volunteers either to do footpath clearance, footpath observation, helping with organising events, or replacing members of the committee. This year we are losing three members the committee. Linda and Robert who have been on the committee for 11 years, as membership secretary and LFO. I feel that is more than we should expect, Ramblers mention 3 years although there is no minimum or maximum. So, I would like to thank them for all they have done for the group, with this little token of our appreciation.

As I mentioned before Sue is giving up her role as secretary. This is a very important role in the group. Traditionally the secretary is a very important position. The national organisation was originally run by one paid member of staff, the secretary, and much of what happens at area level is done by the secretary. In this same way much of what has been done in Maidstone Ramblers, in recent years, has happened with assistance of Sue. So, a very big thank you to her and please accept this little token of our appreciation.

## **9. Election of Honorary Officers**

Honorary Officers standing for re-election and duly elected unchallenged by a majority show of hands:

- |            |           |             |
|------------|-----------|-------------|
| <b>i</b>   | Chairman  | Des Relf    |
| <b>ii</b>  | Secretary |             |
| <b>iii</b> | Treasurer | Anne Hughes |

One nomination was received for position of Secretary.

Mike Tracey was proposed by: Maureen Pearson

and seconded by: Barbara Mead

There were no objections from the floor, Mike was duly elected.

## **10. Election of Committee Members**

The Committee Members standing for re-election and duly elected unchallenged by a unanimous show of hands:

- |             |                            |                |
|-------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| <b>iv</b>   | Membership Secretary       |                |
| <b>v</b>    | Local Footpath Officers    | Graham Smith   |
| <b>vi</b>   | Footpath Clearance Officer | Les Holmans    |
| <b>vii</b>  | IT Co-ordinator            | Tony Bushe     |
| <b>viii</b> | Walks Co-ordinator         | Colin Philpott |

One nomination was received for position of Membership Secretary.

Les Holmans was proposed by: Colin Philpott  
and seconded by: Desmond Relph  
There were no objections from the floor, Les was duly elected.

One nomination was received for Alan Lawson as a new Footpath Officer, to join the Committee.

Proposed by: Gerald Carr

Seconded by: Graham Roach

There were no objections from the floor, Alan was duly elected.

#### **11. Election of Ad Hoc Committee Members**

No positions to fill

#### **12. Appointment of Representatives to Kent Area Council**

David Law and Gerald Carr were re-elected by an unanimous show of hands

#### **13. Motions and Submitted Questions**

None submitted

#### **14. AOB**

Des reminded the floor that there were a number of books and maps at the back of the room for anyone that would like them.

#### **14. Date and Venue of the Next Annual General Meeting**

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2026. To be held at Aylesford Community Centre. Meeting will start at 10:30

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 11:31

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_