

SCOTTISH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minute of meeting held on Monday, 11 May 2015, 16.00-20.00
at Scottish Environment Link Office, Shore Road, Perth

29/15 ATTENDANCE

SCEC

Jim Lawson, Convener
Alison Mitchell, Vice Convener
Alistair Cant, Hon Treasurer
John Andrews

Jane Catto
Andy Malby
Vic Royce
David Thomson

Staff

Jess Dolan, Director Scotland
Jeannie Cranfield, Games Legacy Advisor
Roxanne Kerr, Office Administrator

30/15 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Liz Lawie, SCEC member, Ben Douglas, SCEC member and Benedict Southworth, Ramblers GB CEO

31/15 SCEC noted the death of Ramblers Scotland Vice President Dick Balharry. Dick was a great asset to Ramblers Scotland and SCEC were very sad at his passing.

32/15 Jess informed SCEC that Ben Douglas had written a letter to state that he was resigning from SCEC with immediate effect.

Confidential minute

AP1: Jim Lawson to discuss with Ben Douglas

33/15 WELCOME

Jim Lawson welcomed the new members of SCEC, Andy Malby and Jane Catto to the meeting

34/15 INDUCTION TRAINING

Jane and Andy received induction training from Jess and Alistair prior to the SCEC meeting.

Jess explained that we had created a new SCEC induction pack which is available on the WIKI page and will be kept up to date.

AP2: Roxanne Kerr to email all SCEC members the link for the SCEC induction pack

John felt there was too much paperwork surrounding SCEC. Jess agreed and said she would look at rebalancing and see if it was possible to reduce paperwork

Jess also said she would ensure that paperwork was sent out at least a week in advance

AP3: Jess to see how we can restructure the agenda to make it more acceptable.

35/15 APPROVAL OF MINUTE FROM MEETING HELD ON MON, 9 Feb 2015 (App 1)

The approval of the minute was proposed by Alison Mitchell and seconded by Vic Royce subject to amendments in 08/15.5 and 12/5.3

Amendments:

- 1) 08/15.5 Delete 'an Appendix outlining a summary of each Area AGM's main features and should also include the AGM's attendance figures.' And substitute with 'the work of Areas'

Proposed by Alison Mitchell and seconded by Alistair Cant.

- 2) 12/5.3 Alison Mitchell proposed a motion be put forward to General Council congratulating them on the Ramblers 80th Anniversary. To add at end of this sentence. 'This mirrored a motion to General Council in 1985 from Ramblers Scotland.'

Proposed by Alison Mitchell and seconded by Vic Royce.

36/15 APPROVAL OF MINUTE FROM MEETING HELD ON SAT. 7 MARCH 2015 (App 1A)

Amendments:

Insert apologies from Jonathan Kipling for both meetings on this date. 15/15 and 19/15.

The minute was proposed by Alistair Cant and seconded by David Thomson.

37/15 REVIEW OF ACTION POINTS AND MATTERS ARISING 9 Feb 2015 (App 1B)

All action points had been completed apart from AP1. Due to resignation of Ben Douglas, Alison Mitchell will put herself forward for the Volunteer Sounding Board.

AP4: Roxanne to get in touch with Ed Wilson to let him know this.

38/15 REVIEW OF ACTION POINTS AND MATTERS ARISING 7 March 2015 (App 1B)

AP 1 & 2: Alison Mitchell put forward some ideas and will discuss at later point in the agenda.

AP 8-11: Discussed in minute below

39/15 FINANCE REPORT (App 2, 2A)

Alison requested clearer identification on the unspent training budget and what it could be spent on.

AP

40/15 QUARTERLY REPORT ON BUSINESS PLAN (App 3)

The following points were highlighted in the RS Business Plan report for the period:

- 1) Jess felt that there is weakness in the way the outputs and milestones are currently formatted, although there is a huge amount of activity taking place it is difficult to track.

- 2) In relation to point 2.1.2 (Scottish Access Legislation): The first draft was written over the Christmas holidays and John Andrews and Helen Todd have reached an agreed text. Helen now needs to consult on accuracy to ensure it is intelligible to target audience, mainly members of Ramblers Scotland. There is also a need to ensure that people who are not aware of access provision can understand it. SCEC agreed that it should be reviewed by the FVFT Area Council to determine if it is understandable.
- 3) In relation to point 2.1.8 (Pathwatch) - John asked 'Is it relevant to Scotland and how are we going to implement it?' Jim would like everyone to walk a right of way and/or core path 1km square area and extend Pathwatch to Scotland. John made a point about the right of way disputes between local authorities and other organisations. Jim was going to trial this first. Alison Mitchell raised the point that no money had been allocated to Scotland for the Pathwatch scheme. SCEC agreed that we should freeze this project depending on the success in England and Wales.
- 4) In relation to point 2.3.6 (Creating diverse groups) - John showed concern regarding the lack of walk leaders with Tayside Young Walkers. Roxanne Kerr offered to support Tayside Young Walkers to help change this situation.
- 5) Vic Royce suggested spending more time on the RS Business Plan. An extra column with what has been decided at SCEC. Jess agreed that important role of SCEC is to help ask difficult questions with RS Business Plan. Jess asked SCEC if she can spend more time on RS Business Plan and put where priorities should sit and discuss more in detail at next meeting.
- 6) In relation to point 3.2 (Membership): It was agreed that the action points were not clear enough.

AP5: Jess to update the business plan with suggested amendments and circulate in advance of next full SCEC meeting

AP6: Roxanne to send membership figures to SCEC

41/15 GENERAL COUNCIL 2015 UPDATE (App 7)

- 1) Jim Lawson gave an update from General Council and explained that there were two new members on the Board of Trustees and a new Treasurer.
- 2) Jim Lawson explained that the one member one vote motion was withdrawn.
- 3) John Andrews proposed that we write to Jonathan Kipling thanking him for his help and Jim agreed to do this.
- 4) SCEC thanked Alison Mitchell for suggesting the motion on 80th anniversary congratulations

AP7: Jim Lawson to write to Jonathan Kipling

42/15 SCOTTISH COUNCIL (App 4,6 & 7)

- 1) It was agreed that based on the analysis that Scottish Council was broadly successful (although consensus was that members wanted less formal business), Jess stated that we should not encourage motions unnecessarily but support discussion.
- 2) It was agreed that numbers have been decreasing.
- 3) Alison stated that Appendix 6 (draft minute of Scottish Council 2015) was too wordy and it was agreed that she would reduce it.
- 4) Alistair has written a paper for the governance debate. Alistair suggests we should consider doing some strategic thinking and change the way we operate. He proposed that we discuss his paper at separate meeting.
- 5) Jess suggested discussion with **sportscotland** about governance. It was decided Ramblers Scotland should have some framework in place before going to **sportscotland**.

- 6) It was agreed that it was necessary to have an extra meeting to discuss governance in detail. SCEC agreed that Alistair Cant and Jess Dolan would prepare an agenda for this meeting.

AP8: Alison to reduce length of Appendix 6

AP9: Alistair and Jess to decide on agenda for Governance meeting

- 7) It was decided that the venue of SC cannot be decided until the format had been agreed.
- 8) SCEC agreed that the date for SC 2016 was to be March due to constraints placed on this by the constitution but this may change in 2017.
- 9) A sub-committee consisting of Jane Catto, Alison Mitchell, Vic Royce and Andy Malby was to be set up to formalise the format for SC 2016. It was agreed that they would report back as quickly as possible

AP 10: Roxanne to send the full results of SC survey to the subcommittee.

AP11: Sub-committee to look at Scottish Council and to circulate a brief paper with recommendations in advance of the next SCEC meeting.

43/15 RAMBLERS VISION: NEXT STEPS

Due to time restraints it was agreed this would be discussed in full at a later session.

44/15 SPORTSCOTLAND INVESTMENT PROPOSAL (App 9)

SCEC discussed Ramblers Scotland demonstrating training effectively and **sportscotland** are very keen to see a training framework proposal.

Jess asked permission to develop a proposal about what the training framework will look like in order to draw more funding from **sportscotland**. **sportscotland** are potentially in a position to fund us for 3 or 4 years and they have stated they potentially have this in their budget line for future financial years. SCEC agreed with the proposal.

45/15 SCEC MEETINGS (App 8)

Future SCEC dates have been arranged for the 17th August and 16th November 2015 at 4:30pm at the Link Office in Perth. An additional meeting to discuss governance has been arranged for Monday 8th June at 4:30pm. Venue TBC

AP12: Ramblers staff to find guidance on behaviours at meetings

AP13: Roxanne to email SCEC the Ramblers Code of Conduct. SCEC agreed to complete and return this.

AP14: To add a declaration of interest to the beginning of the agenda for meetings going forward

46/15 EVENTS (App 10)

Jeannie explained aim of Get Outdoors weekend in August. It was agreed that £2,500 would be allocated to the cost.

47/15 RAMBLERS CYMRU

AP15: Jim Lawson to email out report

48/15 ACCESS UPDATE ISSUE

Access update- John Andrews said he was frustrated that the access update is at bottom of agenda. There is still an issue with the level crossing at Walnut Grove and Network Rail is refusing to open up the level crossing. John would like to see if there is a legal case to prosecute Network Rail. Jeannie said that through **sportscotland** we are entitled to an hour's free legal advice. Jess agreed to pursue the possibility of seeking legal advice with a view to prosecuting Network Rail

AP16: Jeannie to find out more about **sportscotland** legal fund and Jess to follow up

49/15 AFFILLIATED ORGANISATIONS

AP17: Staff to prepare a list of affiliated organisations and the nature of the relationship.

50/15 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Alison Mitchell indicated that Dave's retirement event on 8 May was a great success.

AP 18: Roxanne to bring Dictaphone to next meeting.