

WELSH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of WCEC meeting held on 8 November 2019
At The Gateway Education Centre, Shrewsbury
10.30am – 3.00pm

		Actions
325/19	<p style="text-align: center;">Present</p> <p>Members: CH(Chair), JC(Treasurer), GL, DMc, SW, EW, GF</p> <p>Co-opted Members: RH, RT</p> <p>Observer guests and representatives: VG (CEO, Ramblers GB)</p> <p>Ramblers Cymru Staff: AC (Director, Wales), RB (Policy and Advocacy Manager) and MH (Governance Officer, Wales)</p>	
326/19	Welcome: The Chair gave a warm welcome to everyone and introduced VG, CEO Ramblers.	
327/19	Apologies: GA, AL and WR.	
328/19	Declaration of Interests: None received.	
329/19	Announcements: The Chair wished a member a speedy recovery.	
330/19	AoBs as notified prior to the meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment of new chair for WCEC 	
331/19	Minutes of 21 September 2019 WCEC meeting: The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.	
332/19	Matters arising from the Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Welsh Government's Strategy to reduce and prevent obesity, Healthy Weight: Healthy Wales was launched in October. 	
333/19	<p>The following actions were updated and reported on:</p> <p>317/19: The Welsh Language translation link will be included in the January newsletter. http://www.comisiynyddygydraeg.cymru/hybu/en/Pages/Proofreading.aspx WCEC were asked to share the link accordingly.</p> <p>319/19: Motions Review Committee: RT kindly offered to be the WCEC rep on the MRC. Members of the committee are: RT, DD, GW and AC (advisory role).</p>	BD
334/19	<p>Chair's Update</p> <p>The Chair updated on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will be attending 7 AGMs around the country. The briefing provided is useful and informative. Attended European Ramblers Conference. Excellent conference with good 	

	opportunities to network.	
335/19	<p>Ramblers CEO update</p> <p>VG spoke about the GB Business Plan (BP) highlighting that real progress is being made with lots of things being fixed but there are still some items outstanding. She referred to the 4 key themes of the BP and how the 'App' is evolving.</p> <p>The meeting discussed how the public are offered walks and member benefits such as insurance. A discussion around partnership working and corporate offers took place with WCEC agreeing to explore this subject further at a later meeting.</p> <p>VG offered to follow-up on enquiries regarding a technical issue with 'Assemble' when using a certain internet browser and Investors in Volunteers quality standard.</p> <p>The importance of Values and Culture was discussed. VG informed the meeting that a problem solving team is now in place and that the Board of Trustees are also supporting the team with this work. WCEC want to see this being flagged at AGMs and also suggested that 'Culture and Behaviours' could be a topic for Welsh Council 2020.</p> <p>The Chair thanked VG.</p>	<p>MH for WCEC agenda</p> <p>VG</p> <p>MH for agenda</p>
336/19	<p>Director's update</p> <p>AC updated on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership Report was noted. Information on membership can be accessed via the 'Insight Hub' • The media report was warmly received. A new tool is being looked at that will capture more data. The meeting was pleased to see media exposure and online petitions with wording provided for tweets. • RoWAG update: The report was noted. Further questions and information can be directed to RB. • Cambrian Way Update: Waiting on People's Postcode Lottery film to be finalised. • Business Plan Qtr 4: Since Let's Walk Cymru project has ceased, short walks haven't progressed. • Healthy working standard not progressing. • Roll out for Paths for People • Building a Communications team and BD has been started running sessions which are being well received by our members. The need to build a communications forum is a priority for BD. • Signpost Campaign: Working with colleagues across the Nations. Piloting the scheme in the Monmouthshire and Torfaen areas. • Top lines: One voice across Wales, a WCEC member may wish to sponsor this group with BD as staff member lead. 	
337/19	<p>Financial Reports Qtr 4</p> <p>WCEC Budget</p> <p>The following was highlighted from the report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All monies are committed. • Significant increase showing on travel and subsistence, but staff have been using the wrong finance coding. Finance GB are aware and cost codes will be re-adjusted • £9k was contributed to Cardiff office for a staff member and an end balance of £1200 is in bank • London has approved £7k for the current year income. <p>The Treasurer informed the meeting that last year's accounts have been submitted</p>	

	<p>for auditing in readiness for Welsh Council AGM in March 2020.</p> <p>The Chair spoke about the need to submit expense claims in good time preferably within the month of outlay. WCEC agreed this practice going forward.</p> <p>The Chair asked to be the first to authorise all expense claims and if he is not available then he will delegate to the next in authority being GA and EW.</p>	
338/19	<p>Management Accounts for 12 months until end of 30 September 2019</p> <p>The report was noted.</p>	
339/19	<p>Manifesto</p> <p>RB gave a verbal update to the meeting and the following was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing thinking with Wales through Rights of Way and Access group and starting to plan our political engagement • Will be looking to quickly identify key asks for Welsh Government • Application process for Welsh Government's Access Reform expert groups has been released and RB is still reading through the details. • Expected that the Farmers Union will be around the table • Access Reform Process going to be quite time consuming for Ramblers staff – but links well to manifesto development work. • 2021 will also see the Local Authority elections and this is another opportunity to influence policy <p>Organisations with common asks will be identified and RB will provide a timeline and regularly update WCEC.</p>	RB
340/19	<p>Areas – Test and Trail</p> <p>DMc and AC gave a joint presentation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AC spoke about facts and figures in the various areas and reiterated that the information was only as accurate as the data that has been inputted. • DMc spoke about representation of members from Areas on the WCEC and that areas do not have the chance to contribute to our strategic direction. • He referred to the cost of the Big Welsh Walk registration fees. • DMc opened for discussion a proposal for a reduction to the number of areas and having a rep from areas on the WCEC. <p>The meeting discussed the proposals and it was agreed to invest some resources and engage an external facilitator to look at the challenges and structures. The meeting felt that there was a need to energise groups and have a positive improvement model rather than a structure model. DMc and AC to draft a proposal and engage a facilitator.</p>	AC/DMc
341/19	<p>Corporate Training Package Proposal</p> <p>AC spoke about a training proposal and corporate links. A proposal has gone to South Wales Fire Rescue Service and a meeting has been arranged with the NHS Wales Staff Welfare Manager. AC is keen to test the model as per the Business Plan 2020/21. WCEC approved the approach.</p>	
342/19	<p>Update on Signage Motion</p> <p>The update paper was noted. The campaign will be presented to the Senior Leadership Team next week. Optimistic that this can get underway this year and</p>	

	enthusiastic feedback has been received from local authorities.	
343/19	<p>AOBs</p> <p>The meeting discussed chair recruitment and the following was noted during discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current Chair's term of office is coming to an end at Welsh Council 2020 AGM. • Noted that both Vice Chairs were are unable to attend today's meeting so the Chair will inform both Vice Chairs of the discussion today. • Look at procedures for chair proposals, nominations and election. • Provide a comprehensive chair recruitment pack with job role and defined procedures and ask WCEC for comments. 	Chair MH
344/19	<p>Date of next meeting.</p> <p>Friday 7 February 2020 in Cardiff.</p> <p>It was agreed to change the date and location of the Friday 5th June 2020 to Friday 12 June 2020 and hold the meeting near Chirk to fit in with the Big Welsh Walk being held on Saturday 13 June 2020.</p>	
	Signed Date	
	(Chair) Chris Hodgson	