Minutes of Red Rope NC held by Zoom on 3 February 2022

Present: David S, Humphrey, Mark R., Janet, Becky, Sarah B., Jon M., Barbara

1.a) Accuracy of & Matters Arising from Meeting on 2 December.
None

1.b) Grievance/Complaints Procedure.
Merseyside had raised this at the December meeting. Agreed to prioritise this section of the policies at the meeting on Feb 10th.

Action: Barbara to let Steve & rest of NC know.

2.a) GDPR
A West Midlands member had raised concern about personal emails showing to other members. Agreed that Bcc should be used, though Barbara was uncomfortable as to who else had received an email when recipients weren't visible. Senders should try to find some other way of indicating recipients in the body of the email, eg. "To all members who have not yet renewed".

Action: All NC members to note

2 b). Greener membership cards
West Midlands had asked whether such an alternative was possible. Discussion inconclusive as we need more information, so decision deferred to a future meeting.

Actions: Secretary to note; Janet to discuss with Gill P re. printing on card; Mark to find out whether Scottish members need a card for SMC discounts.

3. a) Update on constitution & Policies.
Barbara reported on where she & Steve were up to. Any comments on draft documents (circulated by Steve on 23 Jan & Barbara on 31 Jan) should be sent to them in advance of the meeting on 10th Feb.

3. b) Arrangements for AGM (including item 3.c on empty secretary post)
Pretty much under control! Jon agreed to act as host. Documents to go out on 6 March.

Actions: Officers to ensure that their written reports are with the secretary in good time for the mailing; Secretary to email regions asking for regional reports and nominations for officer posts, especially secretary & training officer, both of which will be vacant following the AGM.

(**Minute-taker's note**: ideally we need to earmark a chair & minute-taker(s) in advance – to be ratified by the meeting on the day)

4. National trips
Kinder Trespass weekend has 16 bookings to date. Becky to investigate space/ventilation at Thorpe Farm; also the possibility of booking additional accommodation there, so that we can encourage more members to come, while maintaining social distancing. Those who have booked to be asked how they feel about shared space, including shared cars. If necessary we will try and hire additional transport locally, eg taxi minibus.

Sarah reported on bookings for the year – a great programme already available! Barbara to investigate a booking at Cae Ysgubor for the autumn for longer than just a weekend.

Action: Becky, Barbara

5. a) Treasurer's report.
Humphrey presented draft accounts for 2021. The club is in good shape financially. Thanks to lots of work from Humphrey & Gill P, the change to automatic renewal of direct debits went relatively smoothly, with most members now signed up to this. In view of some confusion on the part of members paying directly to the club, by cheque or bank transfer, Humphrey proposed that we change the name of the 'main' (as opposed to trips) account. Agreed that this was desirable, and after some discussion compromised on changing the name to: 'Red Rope Admin Account'.

Action: Humphrey

5.b) Operation of the NC
Recent confusion over the dates and composition of NC meetings (full NC or subgroup) has raised the need to review the procedures and operation of the NC, as has the lack of involvement of some regions. Meeting online, although effective in many respects, has added to numbers of emails, and hence exacerbated the confusion. Agreed that this needs attention and that it should be a major item at the Face-to-Face NC meeting in June.

Action: Secretary to note

AOB
Barbara proposed that we send a further £50 to Riseup. Agreed.

Action: Humphrey

Next meeting: June 11th, Face-to-Face meeting in Birmingham, 11.0am – 4.00pm
Action: Barbara to contact Steve (who is booking a room) to see if he can find a venue with facilities for a hybrid meeting, enabling participation by members on Zoom

Barbara, 12 February 2022