Minutes of Red Rope NC Meeting, 24 July 2025 (6.30 pm on zoom)

Final reviewed and amended Minutes, amendments in italics dark blue

Attendees

Pete Watson (Chair), Janet Saunders (Minutes), Peter Billington (Minutes), Jon Marsden, Steve Wright, Sarah Bates, Hugh Wallis, Becky Bates, Gill Platt, David Symonds, Sue Whittle. Stuart Bloom (Sheffield).

Apologies: Humphrey Southall

It was agreed that Pete Watson would chair, and Peter Billington/Janet Saunders would take minutes.

Item		Action
1	**Minutes of the previous meeting (May 2025) Accepted**	**none**
2	**Matters Arising and Action Points from January/May NC**	
2.1	**Guidelines on room sharing on trips – results of piloting of proposals to be discussed at January 2026 NC. Becky reported that 2 rooms in accommodation was not enough.**	Becky and Sarah to monitor
2.2	**AGM streamlining – to be discussed further at the September NC.**	Sept NC
2.3	**NC stand in arrangements - Steve Wright, Assistant secretary, would stand in for Pete Watson if necessary.**	Steve/Pete
2.4	**NC Meeting Beddgelert (September)**	
	Meeting must be Sat morning at NC Beddgelert as Steve may have to leave Sat night. Steve to organise meeting and liaise with Pete.	Steve, Pete
	Gill has agreed to be the trip organiser	Gill
	Sue has offered to organise food.	Sue
	Book onto trip	All
	Trips and Banding groups to bring proposals to the meeting	Trips & Banding groups
2.5	**Handbook**. Gill & Humphrey had done some work. Gill says nothing has been done since, busy with other RR things. It is a WIP.	Gill
2.6	**Jon's safety article** on what to do in an emergency has been uploaded to RR website.	none
2.7	**Route card** to be checked, and amended if needed, then uploaded to website. Becky to check it and amend.	Becky
2.8	**Facebook**: as there is no practical alternative, Facebook will continue to be used	none
2.9	Sue to add **safeguarding** to Trips Information – this remains WIP	Sue
2.10	**BMC definition of 'unemployed'** – members should adapt Humphrey's email calling on the BMC to review its policy on eligibility for discounted rate membership and formally raise it at Regional BMC Area Committee meetings**.** Steve and Peter volunteered to do this in their areas.	Steve, Peter Others?

	Agenda Items	
3	**Transport**	
	Becky reported on transport meeting. Hugh – Making rules is better than Trip treasurers' discretion. *Sarah pointed out that we have rules, but we need to make sure people follow them.* Discussed what are *'Banded cars'* – not yet concluded, another meeting to take place What about public transport policy? If you have to travel by train? We need to maintain the individual's incentive to get as cheap public transport as possible.	Becky/Sarah
4	**Banding Group**	
	Dave reported, an email summary had been sent. 2 good meetings.	
	Some discussion at the NC. The banding group were not in agreement about household size. We need to make an allowance for accommodation.	
	Steve – 2 issues, how we let people decide their income, then we also have to have new thresholds.	
	Savings are an issue. Sue suggested take the capital into account, but not in a way that refers to 'specific amount'. E.g. if you own your house go up a band.	
	A number crunching exercise to do before the next NC in Sept. Janet Steve, Jon, Richard possibly? (David to invite the subgroup to work together) *Bring clear proposals to September NC*	David, Janet, Steve, Jon, Richard, Becky, Gill, Humphrey
5	**Code of Conduct**	
	Sue – has done it. Stuart asked – what is the context? Is it RR and its activities or behaviour in general? Sue: this Code just applies to members within RR activities.	
	Hugh pointed out it says 'within our community' but if we want it to apply more widely, we should remove that.	
	Pete summarized that Code of Conduct needs to be voted on at an AGM. Janet - It does not replace the grievance procedure but supports it.	
	Steve – grievance procedure has a proviso for informal resolution of differences – Sue's document helps with this.	
	Acceptance of Code of Conduct - Vote carried, one abstention	
	The Code of Practice needs tweaking to refer to or include an appeals procedure	Sue
	Pete suggests it goes on website as Guideline	Sue/Janet
6	**Annual Gathering feedback and future plans**	
	Pete reported the new members donated back their discount.	
	1. We need to continue the Gathering but the venue was too big.	
	2. Jon – people said they felt it was easier for them to join into a large group event than a small trip.	

	3. Gill will sift through the suggested venues. We need to book it fairly quickly	Gill & rest of NC to respond
	4. We discussed different times of year, but with no conclusion.	
	5. Hugh reported £600 loss – this was less than last year. It is a weekend worth keeping though.	
	6. Dave – the losses are quite high. We should try to cut them down.	
	7. Possibly we should charge a bit more than we did.	
	AOB	
7	**Membership digital certificates**	
	Humphrey had researched 'digital certificates'. Sue to ask her brother for advice Re. Access Db and mail merge. Sarah asked about BMC discount card and digital version availability. If you are having difficulty it is possible to call BMC and get an individual card sent *to you by post or the email re-sent to you.*	Sue to ask brother
8	**Covid rules on website and MIS**	
	Jon wanted to remove phrase ' Covid rules under review' from MIS – generally agreed. Jon and Janet to check Website wording and emphasise 'infectious diseases.'	Jon - Done Janet - Done
	A discussion took place about LFT testing and policy – decided to leave it as is for now.	none
9	**NC and AGM Dates**	
	Pete – a proposal had been raised to *move the AGM earlier in the year so it did not clash with trips – should it be early March?*	*Noted – Pete to confirm dates*
	An early Jan NC and an early March AGM, before clocks change. Weekday better than a weekend. Mon to Thurs.	Pete
10	Pete reported the death of Mark Ryle. This was both shocking and sad for the group in Scotland, and other members who knew him. Will be an obituary in the Bulletin. Janet to follow up contact name for Scotland	Dave for Bulletin Janet for website
11	Pete B reported that Matilda Simon has been proposed to represent RR on BMC Clubs Commitee. May help with the issue of identifying unemployed in BMC membership fees. (see item 2.10)	Steve and Pete to liaise with Matilda?
	Meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.	