**FRESHFIELD RAMBLERS**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**TUESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2024 – 8.00pm (doors open from 7:30pm)**

**at Formby Cricket Club**

 **DRAFT AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Introduction (Coach breakdown: apology and compensation; Southport pick-up;

*The chairman thanked the 24 members for attending. He outlined the settlement with Tidewells following the coach breakdown. The compensation had been agreed by the committee. Ao’L outlined the research he had done on other coach companies that showed none of them were willing to have our business, there was one that gave a quote of almost three times our current cost.*

*No one from Southport has got on the coach at Southport in the last three months. There were some temporary reasons so it was agreed that the current arrangement continues but would be monitored.*

1. Apologies for Absence

*John Armstrong, Helen Walker, Malcolm Taylor, Sandy and Phil Lally, Marie Morgan, Lyn Hirst, Janet Huth, John and Penny Jones, John Hill, Liz Hodgson, Louise Pimm,*

1. Minutes of the last AGM on 14 November 2023 (link from Admin notes on website).

*These were agreed with no comments.*

1. Matters Arising – covered in following agenda
2. Financial Report and Adoption of the 2023-24 Accounts

*There were 71 members*

*Membership fees were down £290*

*Coach fees were now broadly balanced with the costs*

*A donation of £50 was made to Crosby Lions for providing three lots of the tubes for members to carry with them. More tags, to go on the outside of rucksacks will be obtained*

*Financial position since Covid had improved but reserves still less than pre Covid*

*Some scope for reducing members contribution although coach cost likely to rise in early 2025*

*Reduction in coach fee to £15 agreed by the meeting*

*Annual membership fee ,due soon, to remain £15.*

*On this basis the Treasurers report was carried nem com.*

* Treatment of discount offered by Timewells due to coach malfunction

*As above agreed*

* *Level of subs and coach charges as above*
1. Appointment of Club Officers
* Chairman

*Agreed to continue in office and meeting voted in favour. The Chairman then thanked and named all the committee and explained each of their roles. All the committee were re-appointed*.

* Auditor *Also re-appointed*
1. 2025 walk programme (attached)

*Was agreed with some discussion. The meeting thanked Derek and Phil C for their knowledgeable contibutions.*

* Any Other Business
* Emergency details (Plastic tubs available; seek agreement to share members’ phone numbers and their Emergency Contacts with walk leaders)

*After a discussion the meeting agreed with the proposal to provide walk leaders with a list of members phone numbers. A general email will ask all members if they want to opt out.*

* WhatsApp, Facebook and website

*Members were asked to provide more photos both for the website and the Facebook page. DH will look at re-jigging how the facebook page appears on mobile phones.*

Walk leading – recces, back markers and back-up leaders

*Agreed as best practise and walk leaders will try their best.*

*It has been decided at earlier AGMs that the timing of walks should normally be 5 hours for walks and 90 minutes for pub time. Coaches to leave by 4.30 in winter and by 5.30 in the summer*

* D walks? *No one wanted to formalise the arrangements where shorter walks happen if people feel unable to do one of the usual walks. Members should be informed that this might be an option.*
* Establishment of a social committee?

*Liz Bellman, Syd Potter and Carol Allcutt were volunteered to inaugurate a social committee. Their main immediate task will be to take over organising the hotel weekend from Mike Higgins. Mike will advise them and pass on his expertise on the process. The social committee will also consider whether other smaller scale social occasions would be a good idea, and what formats would be popular*

Proposed 2025 programme:

Jan Cartmel

Feb Horton in Ribblesdale

Mar Barbon

Apr Colwyn Bay

May Eyam

June Hebden Bridge

July Kirkby Stephen

Aug Buxton

Sept Aber Falls / Llanfairfechan

Oct Langdales

Nov Chipping

Dec Lymm

Langdales & Barbon put in Spring & Autumn as previous visits to these areas were in summer and we met significant holiday/summer traffic.

Looking further ahead, Church Stretton, Grasmere, Corwen, Frodsham, Foulridge, Slaidburn, Keswick, Ruthin/Denbigh & Newby Bridge, Monyash, Worsthorne also got a mention and we will use these when it comes to the 2026 program, particularly Church Stretton as no Shropshire on the 2025 list (but do we want to go this far?).