



MAD WALKERS (MR50) COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

03 April 2024 at 19.00, Foundry Project Manchester

Attendees: Oliver Cosgrove Fearn, Marieke VDZ, Camilla Reece-Trapp, Sarah Kendall, Catherine Elliott, Alex Laver, Katie Roberts, Desi Petroba, Rob Pridham, Tom Whitehead, Karolina Žoramskytė, Ellie Shenk, Arthur Embleton & Alice Cleary.

1. Welcome

OCF and MVDZ welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their reports.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Sam Towers and James Brett.

3. Acceptance of minutes from February meeting.

The minutes from February 2024 were accepted pending amends from any committee members unable to attend.

4. Update on T-Shirts (OCF)

The T-shirt provider for the group has gone out of business. Suggested action to put out to group if anyone has a suggestion for a new provider. There are no outstanding orders.

Action 1 – OCF to put out to group if anyone has a suggestion for a new provider

5. Badge Update (OCF)

New badge batch has arrived with 100 of each style. AL has idea of 20 for 20 (20 badges to give to volunteers). How to select or ask ppl to nominate ppl.

Action 2- OCF to put out some communication for the launch of the badges to website / FB communications.

Action 3 – SK has kindly volunteered to help with sales.

6. Dog walker policy - OCF / MVDZ / RP

Committee has reviewed the dog walker policy sent round with agenda. Feedback on the logo is that it could be softened. Discussion around committee decided we should remove logo and state where dogs are not suitable for dogs. By default, walks are dog friendly.

7. Feedback from Members – OCF /MDVZ

The committee welcomes constructive feedback from members and there has been some positive feedback in recent months. We should acknowledge the hard work of all volunteers and committee members.

8. Women walk leader feedback – MDVZ



At the end of February Marieke hosted a women walk leader conversation social with a panel of female walk leaders including Beth Craigen and 20 attendees. Marieke is meeting with Beth Craigen on 10th April online to discuss next steps and possible training / funding. Discussion whether this should be repeated as walk training for everyone.

Action 4: MVDZ to meet with Beth next week.

Action 5 – ES/SK/JB to find a Saturday to put on a general walk leader navigation day.

Action 6 - MVDZ to meet with Beth next week.

9. Update on 20th anniversary Autumn/winter party. KR

There won't be a summer BBQ this year due to our very busy walk and social schedule, but KR proposed a party in October/November 2024 and is in touch with a potential venue to discuss options (70 head capacity).

Action 7 - KR to ask venue about preloading drinks.

Action 8 – ES/SK/JB/ All to look at putting on 20th anniversary themed walk (20 mile walk or 20 kilometre walk being options etc).

10. 10 Collaboration with LANX hiking boots. KR

Suggestion for a collaboration walk with MAD and LANX hiking boots which would be led by them alongside their own walking group as a joint MAD event. Proposal for a walk on October 12th with a competition to give away a pair of their boots & donate some other brand items.

11. Rambler volunteering with footpath maintenance-KR

Suggestion from a member that MAD could get involved with footpath maintenance as many other Rambler groups do this sort of activity routinely. Possibilities of footpath maintenance / tree planting or similar.

Action 9– ES/JB/SK to explore whether anyone else wants to be involved in footpath maintenance?

Action 10 – MVDZ to put KR in touch with footpath maintenance contact from ramblers.

AOB

Member Stories for 20th Anniversary

Action 10 - 4 more member stories from the group for 20th anniversary to social media and website too.

Stories from ppl who set up MAD.

Action 11 - MDVZ to contact Weekend Walkers' chair.

Use of WhatsApp communities as another communication channel to send msgs. ST has kindly volunteered to set this up as a one way messaging system.

Action 12 – ST to set up WhatsApp communities as an official mad channel.

Sponsorship for FB / Instagram.

Action 13 CE to look at sponsorship/ target specific groups.

Action 14 – DP/AE/RP to look into the possibility for there to be a link to walking policy when signing up for walk on the form.

Action 15– ST /CE to do some social media marketing on what strenuous/moderate etc means.



Review of actions from the last meeting

Action 1: Code of Conduct. Concerns raised by members who want policy and complaints procedure to be advertised more widely. **No update. Potential flag to code of conduct.**

ACTION 2: 20th anniversary flags. **Action: OCF to order a flag for 20th anniversary celebrations.**

ACTION 3: New proposed ramblers walk leader policy. **No further update from Ramblers on this.**

2. Date and time of next meeting.

21st June at 7pm. Venue TBC.