

Minutes Tyneside Group 34th AGM
(Northumbria Area Ramblers Association)
held in Brunswick Methodist Church on Tuesday 20th January 2026

1. Chairman's Introduction

Mark welcomed everyone, commenting on the positive position of each of the coaches and ran through the main events of the year.

The First Aid courses had given good benefits and providing there is funding for this year, would be repeated.

Ramblers HO have focussed on Walk Leaders getting their full accreditation and this has nearly been completed. There is still a need for new Leaders to come forward with each coach ready to give good support.

Rowells continue to look after us well and we should show our support by using the seat belts and remembering that muddy boots should not be worn inside the coach. Thanks were given to Bob Copeland who is standing down after being a Walk Leader for 14 years and Gill Dallow, who is resigning as Secretary.

2. Apologies

There were 36 members present. Apologies were received from Sue Kennedy.

3. Appointment of Tellers

There was no need to appoint Tellers.

4. Minutes of 33rd AGM (circulated)

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

Proposed by Brian Kram, seconded by John Lowe.

5. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

6. Adoption of the Annual Report (circulated)

The Report was accepted as a true and correct record.

Proposed by Michael Manwell, seconded by Brian Kram.

7. Adoption of the Financial Report

A copy of the Financial Report and the Treasurer's Report are at the end of the minutes. The finances of the Group are in a sound position.

The Report was accepted as a true record.

Proposed by David Dallow, seconded by Geoff Codling.

8. Appointment of Independent Examiners

Clarkes' are in the process of selling their business. The prospective buyers have indicated that they are willing to take over auditing our accounts at a preferential rate but there no written agreement as yet. This item is therefore 'on hold'.

9. Appointment of Chairman for 2025/26

Mark Nugent has served 3 years as Chairman. He indicated a willingness to stand down but was happy to continue. He agreed to carry on as Chairman.

Proposed by Gill Dallow, seconded by Geoff Codling

10. Appointment of Secretary for 2025/26

In October '25, Gill gave notice that she would resign at this AGM. No-one had come forward to possibly take on the role until recently so Gill is happy to continue for the time being so as to bridge any gap.

Proposed by Neil Allender seconded by Barbara Harrington

11. Appointment of Treasurer for 2025/26

Alistair Webster agreed to continue as Treasurer.

Proposed by Mark Nugent, seconded by John Lowe.

Items 12 to 14 were considered as one proposal.

12. Appointment of Officers for 2025/26

The following were duly appointed: **Footpath and Incidents Secretary**, Steve Germain. **Membership Secretary**, Gill Dallow **Web Master**, Brian Kram.

Coach Organisers: Sunday (Hancock) Sue Patterson. **Sunday (St. James)** Sally Shotton. **Wednesday 9.30am (Boulevard)** Gordon Lumsden. **Wednesday 10.00am (Hancock)** Ruth Sides.

13. Election of Committee for 2025/26

These members were willing to continue on the committee.

Stuart Cameron, Bob Copeland, Barbara Harrington, Dave Morley, and Don Scarratt, all agreed to stand for another year.

14. Election of 3 Representatives to attend Northumbria Area Committee Meetings : (May and Oct.)

Gill Dallow and Malcolm McVey.

Proposed by Roy Kirton seconded by Julie Brown.

15. Motions

There were no motions this year.

16. Any Other Business

Joyce McDonald asked that in future the names and roles of committee members should be included with the Annual Report.

These names could also be included in the Agenda

17. Day, Date and Venue for the AGM 2027

Tyneside Group 35th AGM: date and venue to be confirmed

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Members present

Stephen Germain, Barbara Harrington, Mark Nugent, Sue Patterson, Ruth Sides, Margaret Pattinson, Gordon Lumsden, Gill Dallow, Sue Lawson, David Dallow, Alistair Webster, Steven Templeton, Geoff Codling, Brian Kram, Robert Copeland, Peter Byrne, Sheila Webster, Michael Manwell, Robert Howe, John Lowe, Julie Brown, Ian Bell, Pauline Raffle, Christine Falconer, Mike Morgan, Sue Brophy, Joyce McDonald, Sally Shotton, Neil Allender, Roy Kirton, Alan Skinner, Jessica Plane, Enid Copeland, Eric Patterson, Loranne Agius, Anne Thirkell.

The meeting was followed by a very interesting talk 'Hepple Rewilding', given by Richard Thompson, the resident Naturalist on the Hepple Estate (along the Coquet Valley, near Rothbury).

