

RAMBLERS SCOTLAND STRATEGIC COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting held on Tuesday 16 May 2023, 5:30pm- 8:30pm

Meeting held at the Edinburgh Training and Conference Venue, Edinburgh
and via Zoom

ATTENDANCE

RSSC

Malcolm Dingwall-Smith	Convener
Beth Dickson	Vice Convener
Mike Gray (Zoom)	Treasurer
Andrew Bachell	Ordinary Member
David Webb	Ordinary Member
Jacqui Thomson	Co-opted Ordinary Member
Jane Searles	Co-opted Ordinary Member
Jarka Polednova (Zoom)	Ordinary Member
Karl-Erik Wilson	Ordinary Member
Mike Dales	Ordinary Member
Sue Thomas	Ordinary Member

Staff

Ross Maloney	CEO, Ramblers
Brendan Paddy	Director of Ramblers Scotland
Claire Exley	Governance and Events Administrator

Apologies

Dave Rennie	Ordinary Member
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WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

The Convener welcomed everyone to the meeting, introductions were made, and apologies noted.

It was noted that the new strategy update presented by CEO, Ross Maloney would form a substantive part of the meeting.

UPDATE ON THE STRATEGY REVIEW

Ramblers GB CEO, Ross Maloney provided an update on the strategic framework review and the agreed timeline for completion of the process.

The committee supported the refreshed plan.

RSSC have a strategy workshop scheduled on 11 June 2023 to develop how Ramblers Scotland will translate the emerging Ramblers GB strategy into the Scottish context which will feed into the business plan. RSSC would support the roll-out of the new strategy to areas and groups.

General Council will meet around August time to consider the revised strategy following a period of member engagement.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest. Code of Conduct declarations to be returned to Claire, these will form the basis of a standing register of interest.

AP01

APPROVAL OF MINUTE FROM RSSC MARCH 2023 MEETING

The Committee noted App 01a: the draft minute of the meeting held on the 06 March 2023. This was approved as an accurate record.

MATTERS ARISING/ ACTION POINTS FROM RSSC MARCH 2023 MEETING

The Committee noted App 01b: Action Points Update.

Under matters arising action points AP02: Mal has still to arrange one to one meetings. Guidance would be drafted for the search and co-option sub-committee and circulated for approval.

AP02

FINANCE UPDATE

The Committee noted App 02a RSSC general accounts report for the period to 31 March 2023. The Treasurer invited questions.

The committee noted App 02b the management information accounts. The Director provided background information on the finances. Clarity is needed on the role of RSSC in overseeing the finances to ensure funds being spent are in line with the agreed strategy/business plan. The Convener and Director will meet to review the financial reporting process.

AP03

BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE

The committee noted App 03, Q2 of the Business Plan objectives 2022/23. The Director reported that the Scottish Government funding had been confirmed in writing today.

Angela Musk had joined the staff team as the Equalities Outreach Officer. This appointment will focus on engaging refugees, asylum seekers and settled minorities.

The success of the responsible access video campaign 2023 was noted. There were four other contributing Scottish Government partners on this campaign.

Planned events involving our new president, Zahrah Mahmood, were also noted.

A RAG (red, amber, green) status would be added to the activities on the Business Plan in 2023/24. The Director will include this for discussion at the strategy review workshop on 11 June.

AP04

EDI UPDATE

The EDI update, App 04, was noted. A timeline for the various projects would be included in the report going forward.

AP05

Committee member Jane reported that she is currently hosting refugees and would be happy to use her links to the Burntisland Hosts and Guests group in any outreach work that could feed into delivering the new strategy.

AP06

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The Director reported that the Q1 membership report had been circulated in error, Q2 would be circulated after the meeting.

AP07

The committee discussed the accuracy of recording age categories of the membership, as previously this data was not collected.

WORKING GROUPS AND SUB COMMITTEES

AP08

The committee noted App 06, the draft minute of the Access sub-committee. Andrew B and Mike D are the RSSC representatives on the sub-committee. The committee discussed the sub-committee having access to legal advice on matters where they lack knowledge. A new terms of reference is currently being drafted and will be ratified at the next RSSC meeting.

AP09

The committee noted Appendix A the summary report of the Gathering sub-committee. The event took place in Aviemore from 28 April 2023. Karl and Jacqui will represent RSSC on The Gathering sub-committee.

The Search & Co-option sub-committee members for 2023/24 are confirmed as Beth, Sue and Mal. Claire is the staff support.

The Scottish Council sub-committee members for 2023/24 are confirmed as Beth, David W and Mal. Claire is the staff support.

The committee identified Mike G to represent RSSC on the Motions Committee, Mal is the ex officio member. The Motions Committee members are Alison Mitchell, Barry Pottle and Liz Hunt.

DATES OF NEXT RSSC MEETINGS

The committee noted App 07, the dates of meetings for 2023/24. The strategy workshop would be an annual meeting, this year it is on Sunday 11 June, 11:30am-4:30pm at The Melting Pot in Edinburgh. Those who are unable to attend were invited to contribute ideas in writing to Claire before the event.

The next formal meeting of RSSC will take place on Tuesday 22 August, 5:45-8:45pm, Edinburgh venue yet to be confirmed. It was agreed that this would be the time of the formal meetings going forward.

Discussion topics for the online informal meetings should be emailed to Claire, the first meeting is on Tues 26 September.

AOCB / ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Items for the next formal meeting should be emailed to Claire.

Minute taken by: Claire Exley, Governance and Events Administrator, May 2023

ACTION POINTS

- AP01** All members to return their Code of Conduct / Declarations of Interest. A standing register of interest to be drafted and circulated to the committee – Claire/ Mal
- AP02** Guidance to be drafted for the Search & Co-option sub-committee - Claire/ Mal/ Beth
- AP03** Review the financial reporting process- Mal/ Brendan
- AP04** 2023/24 Business Plan reporting to include a RAG status- Brendan
- AP05** EDI report format to include project/ activity timelines- Brendan
- AP06** Claire to connect Jane and the new Equalities Outreach Officer, Angela Musk.
- AP07** Q2 membership report to be circulated- Claire
- AP08** Draft a standard structure to align the sub committees. Mal /Claire.
Helen Todd will lead on the Access sub-committee terms of reference. These will be ratified at the August RSSC meeting.
- AP09** Brendan will consult with the Access sub-committee on accessing legal advice.



Signed..... Date: 23/06/2023

Malcolm Dingwall-Smith, Convener, Ramblers Scotland