



Combined Committee Meeting Document – 17 September 2025

Evesham Ramblers committee invite its members to read the most recent committee meeting documents. Redactions may occasionally occur in the interest of member privacy and safety. We hope you enjoy perusing the minutes and reports, if you have any comments or would like to join the committee, please contact Sheila via the website www.eveshamramblers.org

Committee Meeting To be held on Wednesday 17th September 2025 at 7pm at The Bear, Port Street, Evesham, WR11 3LF

AGENDA

1. Minutes of last meeting and matter arising
2. Chairperson's Report (Sheila)
3. Walk Coordinator's Report (Simon)
4. Treasurer's Report (Donna)
5. Footpath Officer's Update (John)
6. Membership Officer's Report (Kath)
7. Website Admin Report (Sandra)
8. Social Events
9. Christmas Lunch
10. AGM arrangement
11. AOB

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 11th June 2025

- Apologies from John Dudley
- Minutes of Previous meeting approved
- Medieval Market - it was discussed that we would ask for volunteers to man the stand at this event alongside Evesham Rambling Club on 18th and 19th May 2025
- Battle of Evesham Festival - it was discussed that we would ask for volunteers to man the stand at this event alongside Evesham Rambling Club on 3rd and 4th August 2025
- Evesham Angling Festival - it was discussed that we would ask for volunteers to man the stand at this event alongside Evesham Rambling Club on 23rd to 25th August 2025

- Annual Picnic - the date of this was changed to 17th August 2025. This will include fundraising for Macmillan Cancer via donations for the cakes provided at the picnic by Donna.
- AGM - the date of this was set to 23rd November 2025, location to be decided later.
- Minutes Secretary - this is a role that we need to fill. Sandra to advertise this position on the Ramblers website.
- Christmas Meal - discussion about this. Possible venues to be researched (Sheila).
- Walk leaders - it was discussed that some could be removed from the list of leaders as they have been inactive for a while.
- Walk Length - Sandra mentioned that some older members don't attend walks as they are too long (over 5 miles)
- HF Membership - there was discussion as to whether this should be on the finance report. It was unsure as to whether individuals could get the discounts from this. Donna to research.
- Time and Date of next meeting - Wednesday 17th September at 7pm.

AGM Committee Meeting Chairpersons Report

Wednesday 17th September 2025

It's been another successful year for Evesham Ramblers. Our membership has remained fairly stable this year. It's been nice to welcome some new members, and new walk leaders, as well as ramblers from areas who join us occasionally.

Members of our group led 7 walks during the Evesham Walking Festival, which was a huge success.

We have had a stand at 3 events in Evesham this summer - the Battle of Evesham Festival, Medieval Festival and the Angling Festival, and at each of these events some of our members helped man the stand, handing our leaflets, and promoting Evesham Ramblers to the wider community. I'd like to thank everyone who gave up their time to take part in these events.

Next Friday we will be heading off to Dovedale for our annual walking weekend. This year we have 11 people joining this trip, and it should be a lovely weekend exploring a new area of the country.

Two of our group attended a map reading course this summer, organised by Ramblers Worcestershire. Both members said they enjoyed the course and got a lot out of it. Hopefully similar courses will be available to us in the future.

This summer we had three evening walks. Unfortunately they were not as well supported as in previous years, however those that did take part enjoyed them, and we hope to offer evening walks again next year.

We had a good turnout for the Rail Trail walk from Worcester Parkway to Pershore last month. We plan to do another one in the spring.

The Picnic in August was well attended. Many thanks to Donna for supplying the delicious cakes, which also helped raise money for Macmillan.

I have created a list of possible venues for the November AGM, listed below . All booking forms are available on line, and also give the price per hour for each.

Hill & Moor Village Hall

<https://hillandmoorpc.org.uk/lower-moor-village-hall-booking-form>

Aston Sommerville Village Hall

<https://www.hallshire.com/halls/view/6277/aston-somerville-village-hall>

Childswickham Village Hall

<https://www.childswickham.org.uk/booking.html>

Walk Coordinator's Report

Walk Summary

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Regular Sunday/Tuesday Walks | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ 57 completed➤ 4 missed – no leader➤ 1 cancelled (too hot)➤ 1 abandoned (heavy rain)➤ 2 not scheduled (Easter Sunday; Walking Festival) |
| Additional Walks | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ 4 evening walks (plus meal) completed➤ 1 evening walk cancelled (leader indisposed)➤ 3 extra Showborough walks |

Walk Leaders

26 Registered Leaders, of which: -

- 17 are 'active' (of whom 14 have led walks so far this year)
- 7 are 'inactive / ex leaders' (not led for 18+ months)
- 2 new leaders (Katy Watson & Hamid Kennedy) have led walks
- 2 new leaders – have registered but are yet to lead

Walk Leader Training/Registration (deadline December 31st)

'Active' Leaders: Completed = 10; Pending = 7

Walk Leading Distribution (walks per leader)

21, 17, 6, 5, 4, 4, 3, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1

Comments

- Overall, we are continuing to maintain a full walk programme
- Walk attendance has remained much the same (typically in the range 10 – 20) and we are also seeing a reasonable number of visitors / new walkers

- We are still overly reliant on a very small core of leaders. Two new leaders have been added to the list this year, but it would be good if regular leaders could commit to leading a few more walks each year
- It is expected that inactive walk leaders will be removed from the list after 31st December, when the new Ramblers walk leader registration/training process is complete.

Evesham Ramblers Financial Report

Opening Balance 30/09/24 485.37

Income

Date	From	Description	Amount	Last year
01/11/24	Ramblers Association	Capitation	63.00	
03/02/25	Ramblers Association	Capitation	63.00	
01/05/25	Ramblers Association	Capitation	63.00	
01/08/25	Ramblers Association	Capitation	63.00	
TOTAL			252.00	236.00

Expenditure

Date	Payee	Description	Amount	Last year
11/11/24	S. O'Brien	AGM venue fee	28.00	
13/11/24	HF Holidays	HF membership	100.00	
26/11/24	D.Davison	AGM cakes	8.24	
26/11/24	S. O'Brien	AGM catering	31.86	
09/12/24	E. Creed- Miles	Mince pies & Madeira	29.99	
20/08/25	S. O'Brien	Picnic food	27.73	
20/08/25	D.Davison	Picnic plates and cups	2.28	
TOTAL			228.10	395.40

Closing Balance 15/09/25 509.27

Picnic raised approx 145 for Macmillan, certificate to follow.

Footpaths Officer Report to Evesham Ramblers Committee, 17th September 2025

The condition of several local footpaths remains a matter of concern, with brambles and other overgrowth impeding access, even on some of our popular local routes. Local joint voluntary path clearance and improvement activity over the summer with Evesham Rambling Club and Parish Path Wardens has been largely suspended due to Worcestershire County Council's continued staff shortage in the public rights of way section. These officers are usually required to supervise any work undertaken. The Council does continue to engage contractors to undertake some work in response to notifications from ourselves and others. The overall backlog in repairs appears to be increasing.

Some "spot clearances" by local volunteers were undertaken to clear routes for the Evesham Walking Festival and we will continue to rely on our own modest efforts to at least ensure stiles and kissing gates remain passable. This general issue could usefully be progressed at County level.

The Ramblers will also need to have input into plans for local government reorganization, which will almost certainly see unitary authorities replacing the current county and district councils, possibly including significant boundary changes. We do not want to see the priceless asset of our public rights of way neglected by whatever new organisations may result.

Ramblers responses to local planning applications that affect our rights of way continue apace, ably coordinated by Simon Mallatrat. Recent applications that affect the environs of the Littleton Tithe Barn and one of the much used Evesham circular routes on the edge of Cropthorne are examples. The general principle is for informed responses from The Ramblers to minimise the impact on the network from new developments and ensure that, as far as possible, safe access is maintained during the construction process.

Jon Dudley

Footpaths Officer

Membership Report 17/9/25

141 active members, 3 members with payments pending. 53% individual members and 47% joint members. Very similar numbers to other quarters. Membership fluctuates between 140 – 150.

Kath Smith

Membership Secretary

Website admin report - Wednesday 17th September 2025

In August there was a weird incident where it looked like the website had been hacked. A strange message 'run too late' appeared on the home page and the Walk manager feed was corrupted. A quick check of the website admin was made and nothing untoward was found. Both Simon and I have changed our passwords just to be safe. The feed returned to normal when the page was

refreshed.

If you spot any website issues, please let one of us know asap.

Recent posts on website

- Promotion of MacMillan picnic
- Requests for help at Mediaeval Fayre, Angling Fayre were posted on the website, Facebook and WhatsApp
- Creation of a page listing online training sessions for leaders.

Work in progress

Printable walk sign in sheet

Update of instructions for potential new leaders

Reminder of training requirements for existing leaders

Article about an online talk by Ramblers president Amir Latif - [The joy of rambling with visual impairment](#)

Help needed

Photographs taken during events and on walks needed for website (preferably not backs and bums!)

Publicity Officer - Vacant

The planned website article requesting a Publicity Officer has been held back to give priority to the Minutes Sec vacancy.

Group leaflets have been handed in at Pershore TIC and are now on display at the Town Hall and the Pershore Library.

A trial submission of a selection of walks to Pershore TIC resulted in all the walks disappointingly listed under one date. Note for future - try individual submissions.

Social events

Offer of walk with mince pies and tipple, date to be confirmed – funding by committee to be agreed and documented in minutes. Sandra & Eleanor

Any other business

Discuss – Promoting transparency and clarity by publishing on the website dates and times of committee meetings and redacted copies of minutes

SC

www.eveshamramblers.org

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