

**THE RAMBLERS
SOUTH WILTSHIRE GROUP**

**Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 21st July 2026 at The Quaker
Meeting House. Salisbury**

Present: Phil Hutchins (Chair), Richard Deverill & Liz Penn (Programme Planning), Charles Penn (Footpaths/Area), Jill Sutton (Social Events), Phil Walker (Membership), Jane Barnes (Secretary), Gill Birtwell,

	Item	Decision/ Action
1	Apologies: Vicki Ralph, Carolyn Bouckley and Rob Perrin.	
2	Minutes of last meeting:	Approved.
3	Matters Arising: Gill and Jill have completed the first review of the website and will send suggestions and comments to Phil H. He feels the website is informative but not very engaging, so an update and refresh is needed. He will review the website and send draft changes to committee members. All agreed that, for the joint Sunday walks, each walk leader is responsible for their walkers particularly in terms of pre-walk briefings. Dogs on walks - to date Phil has only sent the new policy out to walk leaders and the committee. He will now send out to all members.	Phil to review website along with Jill and Gill's suggestions Phil to send policy to all members.
4	Officers' Updates: (Updates only as full reports were sent out the previous week.) Treasurer: Nothing further reported. Membership: Currently 306 members. Programme Planning: Nothing further to report. Footpaths: The Heavy Gang have recently replaced a stile and footbridge which restored access to the areas affected. Area Representative: A query has been received from Hampshire ref starting a group specifically for younger walkers. Charles will make further enquires and obtain more details. Social Events: A BBQ is to be held on Saturday 8th August. 45 members due to attend the BBQ. Rob is still awaiting a response from the quiz master for the Autumn Quiz in October. Rob and Jill are going to step down from their role at the next AGM. If it helps to recruit a replacement Rob is happy to assist by continuing to collect attendance numbers, etc for any events. Secretary: Jane has confirmed with Bishopstone Village Hall the timings for the AGM. Ideas for a speaker are needed. Jane suggested inviting anyone from the village to join the members on the afternoon walks which follow the AGM.	Jane to send out reminder to committee members, late August, for speaker suggestions.
5	Mileage Rate: Carolyn suggested increasing the mileage rate from 45p to 55p in line with recent government changes, along with increasing the overall maximum claim to £25. All present agreed.	
6	Deputy Membership Secretary: Jill asked if we could have a deputy who could send out notices etc when Phil W is on holiday. Phil W. believes that we can only have one committee member with access to all the email addresses. He will check this with Central Office. Charles wondered if the Area Secretary has access to South Wilts Group addresses and, if so, are they easily accessible? He will check with Area.	Phil to contact Central Office. Charles to speak to Area Secretary.

7	Policies: Phil reported that Central Office have already been considering how to structure the refresher training for walk leaders, which is to be completed every 3 years. One idea is to have the training in the form of a quiz. Central Office currently looking for volunteers to trial the quiz. There are to be more details in a video link up in August.	
8	AOB: None.	

**GDPR Note: All persons named in these minutes consent to their names being recorded and the Approved Draft Minutes being published on the website
The full reports are available from the Secretary.**

Next Meeting: Tuesday 20th October 2026.