**Approved**

Positive Steps Kemnay

Committee (Zoom) Meeting Minutes 14.05.2021

Attending: Rob Mackay (Chair), Hilda Hart, Muriel Brydon, Ian Booth

Apologies: Pam Wheatley, Suzanne Forbes-Murray, Hamish Simpson, Anne Reid, Madge Beattie

1. Welcome by Rob Mackay for this Zoom meeting.

Minutes of 19th February 2021 Meeting

Approved as accurate

Matters Arising

All items on May agenda apart from Website under item 5

2. Finances / Budget

Hilda reported that the Bank balance on 30th April was £2,726.97. There is one outstanding cheque. (IB must get this banked!).

Coop Fund – Hilda outlined that there is a new Coop funding round on the go, to be submitted by 31st May, with more particular categories that previous rounds. It was thought that we could apply under the Mental Wellbeing category for an information / display board at Dalmadilly Ponds, displaying information about plants, wildlife, and general points of interest. Muriel asked about the likely cost, and Hilda stated that similar boards at Ury Riverside walk cost about £1500 each installed. It was agreed that Rob, Hilda and Ian work on an application and submit this in due course.

3.Walkers and Walks

Rob reported that walking had kicked off again late in March, following the extended lockdown period after Christmas. There have been three Friday groups of no more than 15 people in each group, and Kemnay Kestrels had also reported two walks each Wednesday. There has been lots of enthusiasm for walk and chat and catching up with friends. Hamish has also reported that the Men’s Group has started enthusiastically too, with regularly 20+ walkers. Rob also reported that the Buggy Walk Group had commenced on the same basis. So good news all round, apart from Strength and Balance Group which still cannot meet inside.

It was reported that the Clan Walks has been suspended which was very disappointing news. It was hoped that this would be temporary but at this stage unknown. Hilda has written to Claire Turnbull and Claire Wright about this and reported that Rob, Hilda and Ian were to meet with Claire Turnbull the following Tuesday to discuss this and other items such as Aberdeenshire Health Walks on Facebook page and under Paths for All only include the Council run Health Walks and not the wide number of Volunteer Health Walks, such as PSK. Indeed, to find PSK on the Paths for All website you have to go to page 19 under P. A better search facility would help. Hilda reported, however, that our details on the PFA website have been updated to show our charitable status and website name of <https://positivestepskemnay.uk>

4.Volunteers

Volunteers: We very sadly record the death of Shirley Milne and pay tribute to her service as Walker and Walk Leader with PSK over a number of years.

Volunteer Policy Draft: Rob reported that he is working on this and will submit in due course.

Recruitment and Training: It was reported that Lyndsay Adam would be joining in coming weeks as a Walk Leader, having had previous training. It was thought that Refresher training for Lyndsay and some of our other leaders would be advantageous as a group and this will be discussed with Claire Turnbull at the forthcoming meeting. Claire had reported that she can now also arrange on-line training for Strength and Balance and Dementia Awareness for any Walk Leaders. This would be brought to the attention of Walk Leaders.

5. Leaflets, Posters and Welcome Packs

Hilda has ordered materials to make up more Welcome Packs – what we do, how we do it, application form, and photo approval form.

Ian will alter the About page of the website to reflect Rob’s position as Chairperson and Hilda as Treasurer (done). The website address would also be added on the Facebook page (done).

6. Annual Reports and date of AGM

Hilda reported that the Financial Reports and accounts had been completed. Jenny Scott had reviewed the accounts. Rob is working on the Annual Trustees Report, taking into account lockdown effects and events, personal quotes from walkers etc. He would also like to include a link to Jimmy Hay’s excellent video which had appeared on the Facebook page. Ian reported that with Rob’s advice it would be possible to put the video on a YouTube page and then the report linked to this. (done – with approval from Jimmy’s family). This will also be added to the S&B page on the website (done).

From the Constitution we are required to hold the AGM prior to end June. It was decided that this would be on Friday 25th June – either Zoom or maybe face to face depending on where things are in lockdown restrictions. Rob will email the Committee members to gauge their interest in continuing to serve another year (done)

7. Kemnay Paths Group

Rob reported that the Dalmadilly Ponds sign has finally been erected. Thanks were recorded to Rob and others for persevering with this matter over the last three years.

Rob reported that progress had been made with the 3 new walking maps, which Aberdeenshire Council now have in hand for printing in leaflet format. These would be made widely available at library, shops etc and we should look to obtaining a considerable number of copies for ourselves. These maps would include Kemnay Village, Longer distance map based around Kemnay and a Treasure Trail Map.

A large map panel board would also be erected in the Aquithie Road car park area opposite the Village Hall

The Phoenix fund organised through Kemnay Community Council has up to £5,000 to “spruce up” the village post lockdown. A separate Sub-Committee has been set up which includes, Rob, Hilda and Ian as members. The fund will be used primarily for flower planter replacement and enhancements, along with “Welcome to Chat” benches placed at strategic points, following a bench survey of the village. It may be possible to also include an event later in the summer or early autumn to bring people and local businesses together.

Mention was also made about the rough riverside path which had been washed away during winter flooding. This has been brought to the attention of the appropriate Council person.

8. Any Other Business

It was noted that this was National Walking Month. In support of Wellbeing – this had been reflected in today’s walks where “silent” and “nature” walk sections had been enacted, with good effect.

9. Date of next meeting: AGM meeting Friday 25th June.