

Dereham WaW Committee Meeting: 22 April 2025

1	Minutes and matters arising from the meeting on 20 January 2025
1.1	<u>Minutes</u> have been circulated prior to this meeting and an edited version for the website has been uploaded.
1.2	<u>Matters arising</u> not elsewhere on the agenda: 1.2 'Neatherd money' No change, we will get the opportunity to discuss possible ideas with the Wildlife Trust during the June evening walk on the new Country Park.
2	Website and IT
2.1	The statistics for January/February/March were reported on, which show that the Short Walks booklet still attracts the most hits.
2.2	The dedicated DWaW email is working well and no problems encountered so far.
3	Finance update
3.1	<u>Update and regular outgoings</u> Opening balance £2166.64 Income from walks (Jan – 8 Apr) £132.10 WaW subscription £-110.00 aboutDereham subscription £-12.00 Church House hire for 26 Apr 25 £-35.00 bank charges (2 months) £-10.34 New balance at 12 Apr 25 £2131.40 less Dereham Society gift £856.78 less publicity balance £258.78 less reserve £400.00 Available to use 12 April 2025 £615.84
3.2	<u>Budget 2025</u> : Full year expenditure - £380 approx. Paid: WaW sub (Jan £110), aboutDereham (Jan £12), APM (Feb £28). Paid and expected: Lloyds Bank (£5.17 monthly = £62). Due: website (Mar £30), insurance (May £99), HODs (Sep £10), AGT (Sep/Oct £50). Bank charges are now kicking in. Our public liability is up for renewal in June and reports from other WaW towns suggest that Zurich may stop providing cover for walks or charge a higher fee.
3.3	<u>Online banking</u> : Abandoned as one signatory could not meet conditions and continuing only brought minor advantage.
3.4	The income from our walks continue to keep up our operational balance.
4	Publicity
4.1	<u>Contact list</u> : not many have joined recently and the list is fairly stable. It was agreed that we would send a clear message to everyone on the contact list that we will stop sending them emails if they no longer wish to receive them. This could be either a stand alone email, or a paragraph in the next email about forthcoming walks, placed at the beginning of the email rather than at the end. This would enable us to comply with the

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	GDPR requirement that we should delete obsolete data.				
4.2	<u>Logos</u> : Ongoing plan to resume in the spring.				
4.3	<u>Publications</u> : Leaflets, short walks booklets, Town Trail leaflets and Circular walk leaflets were being distributed as opportunity arose. There has been no progress in reviewing the Town walks booklets. Foulsham has been added to the distribution list, but we no longer send to Garveston because they wanted to make charges.				
4.4	<u>Social Media</u> : we continue to have a Facebook presence and this is working very well.				
4.5	<u>aboutDereham</u> : information is received and forwarded to the committee.				
5	Future work and plans Destination signage: not progressed. There has been little contact with the local Access Officer.				
6	Events programme Debrief				
6.1	<u>Short Walks</u>	7 Feb	15 walkers	donations	£15.00
		7 Mar	22 walkers	donations	£18.20
		4 Apr	15 walkers	donations	£21.60
	<u>Easy Tues walks</u>	11 Feb	11 walkers	donations	£11.00
		11 Mar	16 walkers	donations	£18.80
		8 Apr	12 walkers	donations	£14.00
	<u>Full walk</u>	none			
6.2	For review - Planned Events Short walks, first Fridays, 10:15: 2 May (CS), 6 Jun (GR), 4 Jul (N), 1 Aug (CS), 5 Sep (GR), 3 Oct (N), 7 Nov (GR), 5 Dec (CS): CS = Church Street; GR = Greenfields Road; N = Neatherd Easy Tuesday walks, second Tuesdays, 10:00: 13 May, 10 Jun, 8 Jul, 12 Aug, 9 Sep, 14 Oct, 11 Nov, 9 Dec: all start at Dads & Lads Other walks Sat 26 Apr: 13:30 APM at Church House (CS) Wed 21 May: 09.30 meet, 09.50 bus walk Mattishall (Market Place) route to be checked Sat 14 Jun: 18.30 NWT/DTC evening country park visit (New cemetery) ending with visit to <i>The Coachmakers</i> Wed 23 Jul: MNR likely 10.30 (MNR station) route to be checked Mon 25 Aug (BH): 13.30 garden party. Sat 20 Sep: 10.00 HODs walk (CS) – we are working with DHT on a route including buildings of architectural note in the town We now have the Wildlife Trust for the evening country park walk and also possibly someone who has given talks on ponds in the area. The Town Clerk may also attend. We have visited The Coachmakers and they are happy to accommodate us but we will need to book and pay a deposit. It was agreed that WaW would pay				

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	<p>the deposit of £5 per person.</p> <p>Tollers Lane has recently been recognised as a right of way. It still needs some work done on it to make it fully walkable, but when this is done it could be part of a different route back from Thuxton for the MNR walk.</p> <p>We need to have some ideas as to how we will celebrate the 10th anniversary of DWaW in 2026.</p>
6.3	<p>APM 26 April</p> <p>This is not planned to have a formal agenda, but will cover a report on 2024 activity, our Annual Return, feedback and ideas considered by us or put forward from our mailing list.</p> <p>The Constitution has been checked and we still meet the objectives, no changes needed.</p>
6.4	<p>HODs 2025: theme - Architecture</p> <p>It was agreed that we will lead just one HODs walk this year. The theme is architecture.</p> <p>3 March – Registration opens; 1 June – deadline for printed Norfolk brochure; 2 June – national event directory goes live; late July – event directory goes live; 14 August – registration deadline; 27 August – booking opens; 12-21 September – the festival. It is suggested we submit details by mid May. We will not need a lot of advertising as the walk numbers have to be limited.</p> <p>We have planned an initial route with DHT, which will involve passing architectural buildings of interest. Breckland have started a review of the Conservation Area, and there are some major changes in what will be included in the area which could be encompassed in the walk.</p>
6.5	<p>Dereham Day 10 May</p> <p>Following representations, revised terms and conditions have been received, and, with a degree of reluctance, accepted.</p> <p>There will be a WaW table, with pop-up and leaflets, until 4pm.</p>
6.6	<p>Annual Return</p> <p>Feedback (all green) received 1 February and uploaded.</p>
7	<p>Footpath issues</p>
7.1	<p><u>Footpath work</u> – see also the report to DTC HOSC</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 FP2: the field edge path on the correct alignment is signed, but the path remained overgrown at the last visit. 2 RB3: At the last visit, the course of the path through across the field has not been marked. 3 FP13/14: still chasing the Diocese re the litter. 4 FP14: overgrown and needing attention. 5 FP14a: no change - boardwalk is in disrepair. 6 FP34: the path through the woods now has two sections which remain very wet and muddy, leading people to establish a diversion route. 7 RB36 (Cherry Lane): a recent check on the repair to the potholes showed that they have been filled; they may open up again in time. 8 Hurn Road path: no change – DWaW to chase up. <p>There are a number of long standing issues which are not being dealt</p>

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7.2	<p>with, and the reporting system has deteriorated in the last few months. As a result of this, DWaW are working to set up a meeting between DTC and NCC officers to work towards a solution.</p> <p>Dereham Town Council</p> <p>Reports have been submitted to the meeting of the Heritage and Open Spaces Committee meeting on 25 February and 22 April (both uploaded to the website).</p>
8	<p>Walkers are Welcome national</p>
8.1	<p><u>Newsletter</u>: January, February, March and April issues, and the external <i>Walk this Way</i> have been circulated.</p>
8.2	<p><u>Annual Get Together 2025</u>: 24-26 October, Bingley area – there will be three towns working together on this.</p>
8.3	<p><u>Mentoring</u>: under discussion nationally and our views into this. There may be a better name than Mentor for the role, which could be viewed as patronising. The question has been raised as to whether it is only towns who are applying for accreditation, rather than accredited towns, that need this support.</p> <p>There used to be an active group of Mentors, although many may have been operating to different standards, eg in the marking of Annual Returns, or level of contact with the towns being mentored. Attempts have been made to have a Mentors' meeting, or establish a Lead Mentor, but these have never become established. A number of Mentors have left and it has been difficult to replace them, with the result that the NEC Secretary has taken on the mentoring role for more towns but with input limited to marking the Annual Returns, due to time pressures.</p>
9	<p>Next meeting: It is proposed to fix the next meeting in July 2025, 9.30am.</p>