

## Dereham WaW Committee Meeting: 26 February 2026

<b>1</b>	<b>Minutes and matters arising from the meeting on 20 November 2025</b>																		
1.1	<u>Minutes</u> , circulated prior to this meeting, approved. An edited version for the website has been written and uploaded.																		
1.2	<u>Matters arising</u> not elsewhere on the agenda  4.7 – MNR has confirmed its willingness to hold selected leaflets and continue to provide discounted travel and refreshments for our annual walk to Thuxton.																		
<b>2</b>	<b>Website and IT</b>																		
2.1	A 'state of the paths' page has been added to the website, and it has worked out well. We will promote it in the next email to our contacts. It will be interesting to see how many people consult it, although it will not be downloadable.																		
2.2	The domain name has been renewed at a cost of £155.88 for 10 years.																		
2.3	A printout of the downloads for November and December 2025, and January 2026, shows that the Short Walks remain popular, but the quiz has also done well, having the highest number of downloads in November and December. The Short Walks booklet needs regular topping up in the library, more so than the other publications.																		
<b>3</b>	<b>Finance update</b>																		
3.1	<u>Update and regular outgoings</u>  <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Balance at 19 Nov 25</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1712.12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Income from walks (Dec-Feb)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£47.65</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Donation from DHT for Town Trails reprint</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>bank charges (Dec-Feb)</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£-14.94</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td> New balance at 18 Feb 26</td> <td style="text-align: right;"> £1794.83</td> </tr> <tr> <td>    less Dereham Society gift</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£856.78</td> </tr> <tr> <td>    less publicity balance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>    less reserve</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>£450.00</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Available to use 16 February 2026</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£488.05</b></td> </tr> </table>	Balance at 19 Nov 25	£1712.12	Income from walks (Dec-Feb)	£47.65	Donation from DHT for Town Trails reprint	£50.00	<b>bank charges (Dec-Feb)</b>	<b>£-14.94</b>	 New balance at 18 Feb 26	 £1794.83	less Dereham Society gift	£856.78	less publicity balance	£0.00	less reserve	<u>£450.00</u>	<b>Available to use 16 February 2026</b>	<b>£488.05</b>
Balance at 19 Nov 25	£1712.12																		
Income from walks (Dec-Feb)	£47.65																		
Donation from DHT for Town Trails reprint	£50.00																		
<b>bank charges (Dec-Feb)</b>	<b>£-14.94</b>																		
 New balance at 18 Feb 26	 £1794.83																		
less Dereham Society gift	£856.78																		
less publicity balance	£0.00																		
less reserve	<u>£450.00</u>																		
<b>Available to use 16 February 2026</b>	<b>£488.05</b>																		
3.2	<u>Further items of expenditure</u> – 2500 copies of the Town Trail leaflet have been printed at a cost of £199 (paid). DHT has contributed £50 towards it and aD have contributed £75 towards it.																		
3.3	<u>Budget 2026</u> : Full year expenditure - £430 approx. Paid: NYD (£28) and APM bookings (£35), aboutDereham (£12), WaW subscription (£110) website (£30), renewal of domain name for 10 years (£155.88). Expected: insurance (May £99), Lloyds Bank (£5 to 6 monthly = £66), (AGT Sep/Oct £40).																		
3.4	The person who was our independent examiner last year was not available this year. Instead, a Trustee from the Dereham Heritage Trust has agreed to examine our accounts this year, and judged them to be accurate and well done.																		
3.5	Walkers are Welcome National are considering raising the annual subscription by £20 for towns with the larger populations, which would include Dereham. Our Chair is stepping down from the National Executive Committee from March, and we will need to consider in the meantime, how we wish to deal with the proposed higher subscription rate.																		

## Dereham WaW Committee Meeting: 26 February 2026

3.6	<p><u>Finance Policy</u> – this had been circulated prior to the meeting, for anyone to put forward any amendments. It was suggested that under 6.2 safekeeping of the cheque book should be changed to indicate safekeeping of everything related to DWaW's finances. This was agreed to.</p>																																			
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Publicity</b></p>																																			
4.1	<p><u>Contact list</u>: remains much the same as two people have asked to leave the list and two or three have asked to join. In addition, there is one person to phone and one person to send a text to.</p>																																			
4.2	<p><u>Logos</u>: We will do some intensive work on this in the Spring.</p>																																			
4.3	<p><u>1 Existing Publications</u>: Leaflets, <i>Short Walks</i> booklets, <i>Town Trail</i> leaflets and <i>Circular Walk</i> leaflets are being distributed as opportunity arises. 2500 of the updated <i>Town Trail</i> leaflets have been paid for and collected.</p> <p><u>2 Churches Walk leaflet</u>: Following a suggestion quite some time ago, we have drafted a basic idea for a leaflet showing a walking route round Dereham's churches. The plan was to ask churches to provide a sentence or two about their church, and the walk would include all the churches, not just the mainstream ones in the centre of Dereham.</p> <p>The original idea was quite different, however, more along the lines of a quiz, for children and families to identify external features of the mainstream churches in the town centre.</p> <p>There was some discussion around this, including the question as to how many people would be interested in such a walk, is it a marketable proposition and worth the time and trouble it would take to produce it? We would need to check carefully that all religions in Dereham had been included.</p> <p>If we have the resource, would it be better to do a leaflet that shows all the rights of way in the town? It was agreed to come back to this and consider it further at the next meeting.</p>																																			
4.4	<p><u>Social Media</u>: This has worked well and our Facebook page continues to be updated as required. The person who set up the page for us and is the main admin, has suggested that we find somebody else to take on the admin role.</p>																																			
4.5	<p><u>aboutDereham</u>: One of our Committee is acting as contact to receive and forward information. Recent material has been circulated.</p>																																			
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Future work and plans</b></p>																																			
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Events programme</b></p>																																			
6.1	<p><b>Debrief</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;"><u>Short Walks</u></td> <td style="width: 10%;">5 Dec</td> <td style="width: 10%;">10 walkers</td> <td style="width: 20%;">donations</td> <td style="width: 30%;">£9.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>2 Jan</td> <td>No walk</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>6 Feb</td> <td>18 walkers</td> <td>donations</td> <td>£14.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Easy Tues walks</u></td> <td>9 Dec</td> <td>3 walkers</td> <td>donations</td> <td>£3.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>13 Jan</td> <td>cancelled</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>10 Feb</td> <td>9 walkers</td> <td>donations</td> <td>£8.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Full walk</u></td> <td>1 Jan</td> <td>23 walkers</td> <td>donations</td> <td>£12.65</td> </tr> </table>	<u>Short Walks</u>	5 Dec	10 walkers	donations	£9.50		2 Jan	No walk				6 Feb	18 walkers	donations	£14.00	<u>Easy Tues walks</u>	9 Dec	3 walkers	donations	£3.00		13 Jan	cancelled				10 Feb	9 walkers	donations	£8.50	<u>Full walk</u>	1 Jan	23 walkers	donations	£12.65
<u>Short Walks</u>	5 Dec	10 walkers	donations	£9.50																																
	2 Jan	No walk																																		
	6 Feb	18 walkers	donations	£14.00																																
<u>Easy Tues walks</u>	9 Dec	3 walkers	donations	£3.00																																
	13 Jan	cancelled																																		
	10 Feb	9 walkers	donations	£8.50																																
<u>Full walk</u>	1 Jan	23 walkers	donations	£12.65																																

## Dereham WaW Committee Meeting: 26 February 2026

### 6.2 For review - Planned Events

Short walks, first Fridays, 10:15: 6 Mar (CS), 3 Apr (N), 1 May (GR), 5 Jun (CS), 3 Jul (N), 7 Aug (GR), 4 Sep (CS), 2 Oct (N), 6 Nov (GR), 4 Dec (CS).

An additional committee member has agreed to lead some of the Friday Short walks.

Easy Tuesday walks, second Tuesdays, 10:00: 10 Mar, 14 Apr, 12 May, 9 Jun, 14 Jul, 11 Aug, 8 Sep, 13 Oct, 10 Nov, 8 Dec: all start at Dads & Lads

To note: there is now only one leader of the Tuesday walks.

Other walks

Sat 25 Apr APM (CS).

Wed 20 May Bus to North Elmham (Market Place)

Sat 20 Jun Evening walk Rushmeadow (tba)

Wed 22 Jul MNR to Thuxton (Railway station)

Mon 31 Aug (BH) Garden Party with celebration cake at the same venue as last year (N)

It looks like The Gemini will not be suitable for an evening meal after our walk on 20 June as they have large screens broadcasting sport in the evening. We will check this out.

It was agreed that no changes were needed to the Constitution.

### 6.3 Dereham Day 9 May

After some discussion about whether we wish to take part this year, it was decided that we could either have an unstaffed table with pop up and leaflets, or give it a miss this year and review how indoor area is dealt with. To revisit by email at the end of March.

## 7 Footpath issues

7.1 Footpath work – Recent updates to the path network were reported on, see the latest report to Heritage and Open Spaces Committee 24 February attached to the agenda.

### 7.2 Dereham Town Council

See report to Heritage and Open Spaces Committee (attached with agenda).

7.2.1: Wendling Way signage is next to one of the wayfinding signs and looks very poor in comparison. It has been cleaned up now, the question was raised as to whether DWaW would contribute towards the cost of replacing it. After some discussion it was agreed not to pursue this.

7.2.2: Footpath 14 where it runs next to the school has been fully cleared and is now a good width. This has revealed extensive littering, however, and it was agreed that DWaW would do a litter pick there fairly soon. We will contact Breckland to arrange collection of the litter bags.

7.2.3: A high quality boardwalk has been installed on footpath 14a, but there is a two metre stretch beyond the end of it which can get extremely muddy. A member of Dereham Town Council has made some enquiries and been advised that an extension to the boardwalk is not planned, but some aggregate will be provided. The Mayor is also interested in this issue and is encouraging people to contact NCC to complain.

7.2.4: Cherry Lane has had some treatment to address the pot holes.

7.2.5: DWaW continues to recommend that the Town Council consider requesting NCC to establish trods (1) linking the new cemetery to the point where FP5 and FP6 cross Etling Green, and (2) to continue the newly built footway along Swanton Road from the housing development there to the point where RBs 30 and 31 cross the road.

**Dereham WaW Committee Meeting:  
26 February 2026**

7.3	<p>7.2.6: The Ramblers has been contacting towns and parishes seeking an audit of their rights of way. DWaW have advised Dereham Town Council that we would be happy to draft any responses required.</p> <p><u>NCC cutting contract(s)</u>: Awaiting information from Norfolk Trails and Highways on when cutting is scheduled and where, to be determined in March/April. The Highways contract is indicated as covering FP2 (part), FP11 (part), FP14 (part), BR21 (part), RB30 and RB31; the Trails contract covers FP8 (part), FP14a (part), RB27 (part), RB28 (part) and FP 34(part).</p>
<b>8</b>	<b>Walkers are Welcome national</b>
8.1	<u>Newsletter</u> : December, January, and February issues, and the external <i>Walk this Way</i> Winter issue have been circulated, plus an appeal for NEC committee members and Directors.
8.2	<u>Annual Get Together 2026</u> : Yet to be arranged.
<b>9</b>	<b>Next meeting</b> : Thursday, 4 June 2026, 9.30am.