

2018 Festival of Walks Working Group

Meeting 4

Notes of Meeting held on Thursday 25 January 2018

Present: Cllr C Ashton (Chair), K Gee, T Hinkins, S Kellett, P Webley, L Kenny (Admin Officer)

Apologies: A Shaw

1. Notes of last meeting

The notes of the Working Group meeting held on 11 January 2017 were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

2. Matters arising

Liz reported back on insurance cover – the FFoW is covered under FTC's public liability insurance. The insurers will be sent a copy of the final programme and will require risk assessments of all walks to be completed and on file. They do not have any special requirements.

3. Walks programme

Feedback was received on the various walks and the programme updated.

The Working group members reported back on various actions and dates were allocated where appropriate at this stage. A final programme of 29 walks was agreed, and a backmarker/second person for each walk was agreed.

Three quotes for coach transport back from the Anderton Boat Lift was considered and it was agreed to accept the lowest quote, from Cheshire Travel Service, for a 30-seater coach. Advance booking for the coach will be requested, either online (via the Eventbrite website) or in person at Castle Park House.

See updated list (appended) – 29 walks in total

4. Publicity

a. Banners

The additional banner ordered for the centre of Helsby has been received. Liz to contact Helsby PC to confirm their informal permission to place on play area railings.

Caroline has spoken to Chloe at Helsby Community Sports Club and Kingsley Community Primary and Nursery School and has permission to place banners at these locations.

b. Walks leaflet

Liz will obtain 3 quotes by next meeting (including Hawk Media). In the meantime, she will contact the walk leaders for titles and walk descriptions, and collate the text for agreement at the next meeting.

5. Demo of Viewranger website and app

Peter demonstrated the use of the ViewRanger website for recording and publishing walk routes. The site allows users to record a route at their desk or to log the actual route covered using a smartphone app. Routes recorded on other systems can be imported and shared if saved

as a .gpx file (a standardised GPS file format). Free Open StreetMap, Open CycleMap or Google Maps can be used.

It was **agreed** to use ViewRanger as the sharing platform – the working group members agreed to practice using the site themselves. Walk leaders would be encouraged (but not required) to record their routes on the site, and routes would be made available to the public after the Festival.

Liz to circulate FFOW account details so members can access FFOW account.

6. Date of next meetings

Thursday 8 February at 9:30am, Castle Park House

Friday 23 February at 9:30am, Castle Park House

FOW Programme – as at 29 January 2017

Date		Walk	Leader/second person	Notes	Action required/Feedback on action from last meeting
Sat 28-Apr	Morning start	Baker Way	Tony Hinkins Sue Kellett	From Delamere to Chester <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official walk start time (for programme) 0830 at Chester Railway Station • Train departs Chester 0859. Fare £5.70. • Train arrives Delamere 09:15 • Official walk start time from Delamere 09:30 (for people providing their own return transport) 	Tony will re-check train times before leaflet goes to print. Route will be as per official leaflet
Sat 28 Apr	Afternoon	Grappenhall Heyes Walled Gardens	Sue & Kevin Fairbanks Methodist Church Walkers Kath Gee	A mainly level route with a couple of gentle inclines taking us down the Lumb Brook Valley Trail into the Dingle Nature Reserve/Woodland. Later turning onto the Mersey Valley Way which takes us up gently to a Pine Forest overlooking Warrington. Through the Forest and into the wonderful Grappenhall Heyes Walled Gardens for a short comfort break/drink (if desired) and a chance to briefly explore this venue. We then tackle more woodland and some field edge walking back around to the return leg of the Lumb Brook Valley Trail back to Appleton Thorn Village. Circular walk, 4 miles, 2.5 Hours with short stop at Walled Gardens (Café?) Mainly good walking paths/bridleways with some woodland and field edge walking, 3 minor road crossing	Limited car parking at Appleton Village Hall with possibility of also using pub opposite the church (TBC) Would be a 1.30pm start.

Date		Walk	Leader/second person	Notes	Action required/Feedback on action from last meeting
Sun 29 Apr	Morning	Foxcote / Plemstall	Sue & Steve Smith Helsby Footpath Society Kath Gee	Sue Lorimer has said that Steve & Sue could offer this walk on Sunday 29 April starting at 11am, or, the same time on the following Sun, 6 May	
Sun 29 Apr	Afternoon	Alvanley Treasure Trail	Steve & Melanie Allen Peter Webley	Steve & Melanie have agreed to run this family event again.	Noted with thanks that Alvanley Parish Council were again supporting the walk and that they may decide to theme the trail around the centenary of the end of WW1.
Mon 30 Apr	Morning start	Frodsham & Helsby Hills	Lesley Mitchell Peter Webley	Walk of between 4 and 5 hours including a refreshment stop. Start in Castle Park, then go to Helsby Hill, Woodhouse Hill (if included) and finally Frodsham Hill, before returning to Castle Park.	Liz has confirmed with Lesley.
Mon 30 Apr	Morning	Buggy Push	Pat Hinkins Tony Hinkins	Bradley Lane, Watery Lane and back including llamas.	10am start. Caroline is the liaison person with landowners re llamas and cattle.
Mon 30 Apr	Evening	Snickets of Frodsham	Kathleen Povall Allan Gerrard	Kath has agreed to lead this walk again, starting from St Lawrence church if possible.	Liz to contact church as courtesy when date agreed.
Tue 1 May	Morning	Walking Back to Health	Cheryl Lockley Lesley Mitchell	Brio/Macmillan short walk for people recovering from illness or in rehabilitation. This is a weekly walk in Castle Park that is not well-attended – would benefit from additional publicity. WG members offered to provide lifts if required for people wishing to attend.	Liz to take the wording from the Brio leaflet and contact Nichola 01244 886887 for final approval.
Tue 1 May	Morning	Dog Walk	Caroline Ashton Judith Critchley (TBC)	Paws & Claws – yes. Would have liked Sat but would have to limit to 20 so happy to stay weekday when numbers may be self-limiting.	Paws & Claws have confirmed date and sponsorship. Liz to ask Judith if she will be second person, as last year.

Date		Walk	Leader/second person	Notes	Action required/Feedback on action from last meeting
Tue 1 May	Morning start	Natural History of Minera Lead Mines	Paul Day Sue Kellett	Meeting point yet to be decided. Limited numbers expected.	Date confirmed.
Tue 1 May	Afternoon	Frodsham Hill	Neil Oxley, Woodland Trust Kath Gee	Around Woodhouse Hill and Snidley Moor Woods Attached is a map showing the outline of the route. The walk would start on the track off Manley Road past Shepherd Houses. 2.5 miles and probably last about 2-2 ½ hours with stops.	Following a route which WT is going to promote later this year with some new information panels on site. Kath has arranged a recce with Neil on 27 Feb.
Wed 2 May	Morning	Health Walks	Alan Gerrard and Kath Povall Peter Webley	A gentle 1 ½ hour, 3 mile guided walk for anyone wishing to improve their fitness. Ideal for all, including families, the young and the young at heart. A progression walk of up to two hours will also be available for those who want a more challenging experience.	This is a regular weekly walk from Castle Park. 2 walks available as first Wed of the month.
Wed 2 May	Morning start	Willington Wanders	Joyce Porter Sue Kellett	Start from Gresty's Waste car park going via Little Switzerland Kelsall back to car park.	
Wed 2 May	Evening	Bird Walk	Bill Morton Tony Hinkins	Bill has offered to try to get some additional help with the walk. 6.30-9pm	
Thu 3 May	Morning	Early Morning Birdsong Walk	John Davies Frodsham Natural History Liz Kenny	Meet Frodsham Community Centre at 6am	Liz has previously done this walk. Ideal for those who need to go to work!
Thu 3 May	Morning start	Ruabon Mountain	Peter Webley Sue Kellett	A moderate to hard 10-11 mile walk with 1700 feet of ascent around Ruabon mountain. excellent views. Some steep and rocky, exposed sections, so stout footwear essential. Packed lunch needed. No dogs, please.	Meeting at Pontcysyllte short stay free car park 10:00 am LL20 7TP

Date		Walk	Leader/second person	Notes	Action required/Feedback on action from last meeting
Thu 3 May	Afternoon	Geology Walk	Hilary Davies Kath Gee	A 3-mile circular walk lasting 2.5 hours. It explores 5 contrasting geological sites en route. The walk uses numbered footpaths & snickets, plus some main & minor roads. It is not suitable for dogs as some sites are in confined spaces. Stout footwear is advised. Meeting at St Laurence Church car park 1.30pm	Kath has confirmed arrangements with Hilary. Visiting: St Laurence graveyard; Tarporley Siltstones on Bridge Lane; fossils on the River Weaver Bridge; the railway cutting SSSI; & Howey Lane SSSI. Might have to review route/nos of groups if large nos turn up Route details and map supplied.
Thu 3 May	Evening	Helsby Dog Walk	Sophie's Groom Room and Hydrotherapy Centre Caroline Ashton	A 1 ½ hour flat walk on footpaths around Helsby Marsh. 6.30pm start.	Caroline to contact Sophie nearer the time to discuss route, etc.
Fri 4 May	Morning start	Pub Walk	Anne Shaw TBC	Bradley Lane to river to Kingsley. Red Bull is open and can be the lunch venue.	Caroline to discuss contingency plans with Anne.
Fri 4 May	Afternoon	Gowy Meadows Living Landscape	Chris Meredith, Cheshire Wildlife Trust Liz Kenny	Walk will be limited to 12 people. Pre-booking required. Parking in lay-by at Thornton-le-Moors church (CH2 4HU).	CWT will make a £5 per person (£3 for children) charge as per their policy (and as they did last year). They are happy to take bookings via their website.
Fri 4 May	Morning	Brindley to Norton Priory and return	Caroline Ashton Peter Webley	Date confirmed but time and details yet to be decided. Someone from Mersey Gateway Environmental Trust will talk about the environmental works associated with the new bridge and a short talk will be provided at Norton Priory.	Brindley have confirmed its car park will be available for free parking. Coffee shop also available for walkers to use. Caroline to contact Paul to discuss further.

Date		Walk	Leader/second person	Notes	Action required/Feedback on action from last meeting
Sat 5 May	Morning start	Walk on the Waterside	Sue Kellett Peter Webley	Broad Lane, Hob Hey Wood, Belleair, Warburton Wood, lunch at Dutton Lock then walk along canal to Anderton Boat Lift. 1 hour to look around then minibus back at 4:30pm. Walkers would need to book and pay bus fare.	Sue has identified possible diversions from the route to the avoid steeper areas if required.
Sat 5 May	Morning 9.30am	Nordic Walking Taster Session	Elizabeth Kerley n/a	For 12 people. Booking via www.kerleynordicwalking.co.uk	Kerley has now agreed to offer these sessions free of charge
Sat 5 May	Morning 11am for 1 hour	Nordic Binerflon	Elizabeth Kerley n/a	Nordic Binerflon is based on the Winter Sport of Nordic Biathlon, but instead of cross country skiing you will be Nordic walking round a course and firing Nerf guns at targets. The first two laps are timed with 5 seconds taken off for every target hit. The next two rounds are shooting rounds where you see how many targets you can hit. Finally you will see how many laps of nordic walking and shooting you can complete in the remaining time. Booking required email kerleynw@gmail.com	Please bring water to drink, Wear clothing appropriate for the weather, sun hats etc Wear trainers, no flip flops or open toed sandals Bring any medications eg inhalers if you use them. Use sunscreen. insect repellent as necessary. Sessions are an hour long and designed to be a fun way of exercising by young and old alike. The session will be for 10 participants aged 8 and above. It can be done as a family activity.
Sat 5 May	Morning	Navigation Walk	John Padget Tony Hinkins	John Padget of Deeside Orienteering Club (Frodsham resident) will run an event based on their orienteering course marked out in Castle Park, possibly venturing onto hill if sufficient time. He requested a room in CPH for an intro talk.	Tony has secured the use of Castle Park Arts Centre Gallery 1 for up to 2 hours – suggested donation of £10 from FFOW for use of facilities.

Date		Walk	Leader/second person	Notes	Action required/Feedback on action from last meeting
Sun 6 May	Morning	Bird Walks	Bill Morton Caroline Ashton or Tony Hinkins	Bill has offered to try to get some additional help with the walk.	am 10-12:30
Sun 6 May	Afternoon	Castle Park's Trees	Kath Gee and Tom Blundell	A short meandering walk lasting up to 1 1/2 hours. There will be regular pauses to focus on some of the Park's interesting and exotic trees of diverse age & provenance.	Meeting at the main entrance to Castle Park House, 2pm
Sun 6 May	Afternoon	Walk around Chester	Judy Cross Caroline Ashton & Sue Kellett	The walk includes many landmarks including the Shot Tower and the Shropshire Union Canal: the City Walls, the Race Course and River Dee; The Old Dee Bridge and Grosvenor Bridge; Grosvenor Park and some good views of the city. All road crossings in the city are on controlled crossings. Dogs will be welcome but must be on a lead. Approximately 5.5 miles, mainly flat, with a slight incline in Grosvenor Park and some steps to climb onto the suspension bridge over the River Dee.	Walk starts from Chester Railway Station and will pass the Bus Station to allow walkers to use public transport. There are also parking options nearby.
Mon 7 May	Morning	Hills, Caves and Woods of Frodsham	Alan Gerrard Peter Webley	Route: Hillside Road, Middle Walk, Silver Pin, Memorial Field, Bellemonte Road, FP via Heather cliff to Simon's Lane, Caves, Top Road, Such Farm, FP to Watery Lane, Bradley, Hob Hey Wood, Townfield Lane and back to church. Distance: Approximately 5 miles (1/2 day). Meeting Point: Frodsham Methodist Church, Kingsley Road.	Start time 10am No Dogs. Stout footwear required

29 in total