

NORTHERN IRELAND CIVIL SERVICE RAMBLERS COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 14th April 2026

MINUTES

In attendance: Jim Hamilton (JH), Cowan Higgins (CH), Norman McElhinny (NMcE), John Holmes (JH), Alison Wise (AW), Alison Halliday (AH), Michael Carson (MC), Colin McWhirter (CW), Mags Mathieson (MM)

1. Welcome & apologies:

The chairperson welcomed those attending and noted that no apologies were received.

2. Minutes of last meeting:

These were accepted without amendment as a true record of the meeting.

3. Matters arising from last meeting:

3.1 Website:

There was a general discussion on whether the club website should be licensed or open source, going forward. It was noted that discussions between AH and JH were ongoing.

3.2 Walk Leadership Responsibilities:

There was a general discussion on the subject, with agreement that the identification of the responsibilities should be clear and in line with NICSSA insurance requirements. **CH** agreed to look at the current wording of the Club Flyer appendix to enable a standard version to be used for all club walks. It was agreed that Committee members would forward suggestions to CH who would coordinate and redraft a version for consideration.

ACTION: All to consider a redraft of the Club Flyer Appendix to detail the walk leader's responsibilities.

3.3 Isle of Man Holiday:

This trip is still on, however there are some issues concerning flights and Brett has advised those interested to hold off on booking accommodation until flight details are released.

4. Finance

The Treasurer delivered his report, indicating the starting balance and outlining the financial commitments that lay ahead in 2026. The Treasurer indicated that the charity donation had been made. He informed the Committee that Helen Magill had requested that her name be removed as a co-signature for the bank. There was a general discussion on whether we

should close the account and move our banking elsewhere. It was agreed that the Treasurer would look into this and ask Helen to hold off until we had established a way forward.

ACTION: NMCE to take this forward.

5 Correspondence:

CH reported that nothing to discuss under Correspondence.

6. Walks 2026 programme:

6.1 There was a general discussion on the walks to date which had been well attended and some discussion on amendments to planned walks.

6.2 Summer Programme:

The programme has been completed and published on the website. CH thanked all for their help and to those who had agreed to lead the walks.

6.3 Walk Leadership:

Dealt with under Matters Arising.

7. Club Holidays:

7.1 Berlin: In place

7.2 Austria 2027: Expressions of interest from 8. The planned date is last week in August or first week in September.

7.3 Plymouth 2026: This will not take place this year.

7.4 Anglesey 2026: All arrangements are in place.

8. Membership:

CH informed the Committee that we have received no new applications.

9. AOB:

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting.

10. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 9th June 18:45 Small Mac