Minutes of Sevenoaks Ramblers' Association Committee Meeting; Thursday 13th August 1987, at 'The King's Head', Bessell's Green, Sevenoaks, Kent.

Present:- Robin Martin (Chair).
David Wilkinson (Hon. Sec.)
Ian Faulkner (Hon. Treasurer)
Jim Fergusson (Footpaths Officer)
Lorna Lee (Publicity)

The meeting started at 8:15 pm.

1.) Chairmans Opening Remarks: Robin explained that the change of date had been made to ensure that Jim Fergusson, who had not been involved in the fixing of the venue, could be present at the meeting.

2.) Apologies for Absence:- There were none.

3.) Minutes of the last meeting:- these were read by David and duly signed by Robin.

4.) Matters arising:- Jim Fergusson refered to the new membership form.

On the question of publicity he refered to the importance of keeping the Tourist Information Office up-to-date. David confirmed this was being done.

Robin Martin raised the problem that had occurred on a walk of his when he had been unavoidably unable to lead it, and suggested an arrangement be adopted of having a person ready to be a stand-in. David confirmed that he could usually be available.

During discussions it was suggested that the idea of a 'car pool' for getting people to walk venues was a bit premature.

5) Treasurer's Report Ian said that the Abbey National Account was now a Special Deposit Account, No DL TD 51 385 in the name of "Sevenoaks Rambling Group". The three Trustee

Withdrawal forms would be via Head Office in Baker Street.
The Group now has £130.78 in the account, made up as follows:-

£50.00 grant from Kent Area.
£64.00 (£4x16Nº) Barbecue Tickets
£16.65 Collected in cash on walks
£0.13 Interest.

Ian said he had paid the White Hart's £56 direct so a Withdrawal form had to be signed and issued to him in order that he should be refunded.

There were also costs to be considered for
Barbecue Tickets
Ad in Chronicle

David handed over cash that had been collected on two walks and 7 x £1 cheques for the mailing list.

David also raised the question of Keith Potter's invoice for £25.00 for preparing and printing the current walks programme. The Committee agreed that as his covering letter was a bit unclear that David should hold on to the invoice and in the meantime telephone him to clarify matters. It was generally assumed that Keith Potter was expecting Area to pay the invoice rather than the Group.

6.) Report on the Barbecue

Robin reported that 16 members paid for tickets. The event made a slight loss. It was a disappointing turn-out. Lorna suggested this had been largely due to the appalling weather in the days beforehand.

Ian Faulkner suggested an event for Christmas.

7.) Current Programme

a) David reported that during the summer turn-outs have been going down, it was felt that other interests conflicted with Sunday walks. Ian suggested that perhaps the group should do shorter walks. During discussion this was generally agreed to be an idea worth trying.

7) b) Walk in Cowden area :- Jim Fergusson said that all was now organised and planned and would start at the Farmer's Pub Public C.P.

c) The Slide Show: Jim confirmed that this would last about an hour and confirmed that he has a box of slides, ~~and~~ projector and screen.

Ian Fawkner suggested the event be publicised at walks.

d) Future Programme, this should ideally be ready by 2nd October, a minimum of six walks were wanted. Suggestions included :-

i) a walk by Peter Royall
ii) Joint walks with other groups (Downstream Ramblers have made an offer).
iii) A joint walk with the Sevenoaks Society (it was suggested Sun 13th Dec, a half-day walk)
iv) a Bank Holiday walk on Mon 28th Dec 87.
v) David can do two walks
vi) Ian can do one (preferably a half-day walk).

David also said that he would like the next programme to include March 1988.

Robin Martin suggested including a map read'g talk. Jim Fergusson agreed he could do this. Area has a stock of the appropriate material. It was agreed that it would be best to hold this next spring. Jim said he could speak to Keith Potter and check details.

Annual General Meeting: David could approach the new management of The Farmer's pub and check arrangements, whether the side room would be charged for and details of a possible buffet. A date of Weds 23rd March '88, 8:00 pm for 8:15 pm, was agreed. On the question of a speaker Robin said he would ring R.A. Head Office to enquire.

8) Report by Footpaths Officer; a) Closures & Diversions:-
Jim reported that the R.A. is required to be consulted on F.P. diversions and closures. There were an average of 4–6 orders p.a. in the Sevenoaks District. Most were acceptable. Jim went on to describe several recent or projected changes in detail including FPs 602 (Edenbridge), and 85, 86, 87 and 88 near Heaverham as well as the N.D.W. revisions around Ft Halstead Ammo dump/Donnington Manor/Lime Pit Lane/Telston Lane Housing Estate, which included improvements which had been proposed by Jim.
He reported that we need a F.P.O. for Ash-cum-Ridley area and ultimately a successor for himself in the Sevenoaks locality.
b) Definitive Map:- This concerned the 6 inches to the mile O.S. map produced by the K.C.C. – last one in 1952. New ones to be published this Autumn, however only one copy will be available at County Hall.
9.) Membership/Mailing List
David reported that after details had been rationalised we can confirm that we have to date on our books 98 members and 7 others, outside our area, on a mailing List (paid for with £1 sub.).
10) Press/Publicity
Lorna confirmed that she had sent copies of the current programme to the County magazine and the local press (who were proving inefficient). She had also tried various local libraries who were very bureaucratic and uncooperative. Jim said the local Library in Sevenoaks should have details (our original poster)
David and Lorna discussed ideas for a new poster,

based on cut and paste and photostat.

11) Venues for Socials David agreed to look at ideas using St Julian's Club Bar as an opportunity for letting members socialise. There may be an opportunity to use a pub with a private room such as the Basement Bar in the Farmers Pub.

12) Any Other Business

Robin Martin said he would be moving to Brentwood in Essex in mid September and would have to relinquish the Chairmanship.

13) Date of next meeting :-

Tuesday 15th September, 8:15 pm at the Riverhead pub.

SIGNED David Wilkinson (Hon Sec)
for (ROBIN MARTIN) in absentia
Chairman
DATE: 15th Sept 87.