

Minutes of the Snowdrop Valley Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 18th March 2025 at 6.30pm in the Edwin Beckett Room, Moorland Hall

Present: Committee Members Cllr Eric Norman (Chair), Cllr Jon Levenson, Jim Winzer, John Anson, Angela Edwards

In attendance: Liz Stitt (Clerk)

Item	Minutes	Action
	Public Question Time. There were no members of the public present.	
25/10	Apologies for absence. Apologies were given from Cally Elston & Claire Rooke	
25/11	Declarations of Interest. Cllr E Norman, The Rest and Be Thankful	
25/12	To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2025. These were approved and signed.	
25/13	<p>Update on the 2025 Snowdrop Valley Event including financial report of cash and SumUp Payments. Cllr E Norman gave the following update:</p> <p>Thank you everyone for their stupendous efforts, it's just a shame this weather didn't happen a month ago which would have made it quite pleasant. Even with the bad weather there were members of the public who still came along whatever the weather to enjoy the snowdrops, so thank you to those people. All in all, we lost about a week due to the weather. As you can see from the cash and card payments we still did well. We were hoping to make £6,600 and this has been exceeded and we made £6,815.73 in car parking/map sales. All the signs have been packed away and are all loaded in the trailer. Thank you to all the volunteers who did a sterling job, but a big thank you to two of the volunteers who took 60% of the shifts which was Jim and Gary. The biggest boost was for the school doing the café in the valley where they raised over £3,500 which was massively more than in previous years.</p> <p>Thanks were given to Caroline Henson for arranging the school pop up café, as people really appreciated having some refreshments before going back up the paths.</p> <p>Thanks were given to Exmoor National Park as the rangers arranged for two seats to be put on the paths and have also got two more seats coming. Thanks, were also given on behalf of FOCS to Exmoor National Park as they gave them a trailer.</p> <p>There were comments made about there not being a taxi service and people didn't realise there were alternative ways of getting down to the valley, so this will be looked into being advertised clearer next time. However, the compliments that were received outweighed any negative remarks.</p> <p>It was highlighted that people appreciated the water trough by the gate to clean their boots and dogs.</p> <p>It was highlighted that the steps might need looking at on the trailer as a couple of people struggled to get up them. Cllr Norman will see if anything can be done about this for next year.</p>	
25/14	Agree donations for estate/car park owners. Cllr E Norman said that the volunteers did a lot to clear the valley after the storm, and Badgworthy have been given a charitable status by doing things for the school. We couldn't do the event	

	<p>without the support of Exmoor Farmers Market and the use of the car park. It was proposed and seconded to give a donation of £200 to the Badgworthy Land Company and £300 to Exmoor Farmers Market which was unanimously agreed.</p> <p>It was also agreed to give a donation of £200 to Rob Richards for the storage of the trailer for the year. This will go to the full council to be approved as it is not in the Snowdrop Valley Budget.</p>	
25/15	<p>Discuss dates for the 2026 Snowdrop Valley event to put the road closure in place. There was discussion about booking the road closure for five weeks to give wriggle room nearer the time if the weather was bad to move the opening later if needed. The committee are looking at the event being held the 24th Jan – 22nd Feb in 2026 and 23rd Jan – 21st Feb 2027 with some leeway to be able to move the dates around nearer the time depending on the weather. The Clerk will check with the road closure department to see if this is possible.</p>	Clerk
25/16	<p>Items for consideration on the next agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Merchandise Display. - Look at more advertising/flyers in local hotels, pubs and B&B's. - Put together a plan to get more volunteers. 	
25/17	<p>Date of next meeting. There will be a 'Thank you' dinner for all the volunteers on the 7th of May at 7.30pm at the Rest and Be Thankful. There will be a committee meeting on the 16th of September at 6.30pm.</p> <p>John Anson gave a vote of confidence and grateful thanks to Jim Winzer who has been absolutely outstanding and to Cllr E Norman who has been absolutely exceptional this year.</p>	

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.20pm

Signed:

Dated: