

Parish Walks Policy

1. Luxulyan Parish Council encourages the use of its public rights of way and supports the provision of led walks in and adjacent to the parish.
2. The Public Liability section of the Luxulyan Parish Council insurance policy will provide cover for parish walks organised by the Council. This cover applies inside the parish boundaries and beyond.
3. Luxulyan Parish Council is the main organiser of the parish walks.
4. Luxulyan Parish Council delegates the organisation and leading of parish walks to a working party. The working party will be the Footpaths Committee, one member of which is a parish councillor.
5. The route of each walk will be checked in advance by the leader and a risk assessment sent to the clerk at least one week before the date of the walk.
6. The name of the leader will be given in advance to the clerk.
7. It is not a requirement of the insurance that the leader holds a first-aid qualification but a first-aid kit should be carried. It is advisable that the leader should be aware of basic first-aid. The leader should also carry a mobile telephone in case of emergency. When possible, the risk assessment must point out areas lacking mobile coverage.
8. Protocols must be put in place in case of emergencies for: 1) disablement of a member of the walk, for example, a broken ankle, and 2) in case of a missing person.
9. Emergencies are the responsibility of all members of the walk not just the leader.
10. Walks will be advertised on the parish council website and notice-boards.
11. Before starting the walk the leader should tell the group about the length and approximate duration of the walk, the route, terrain and any sections needing particular care.
12. All present must sign an attendance form before the walk begins. The attendance form will include a disclaimer stating: "Before signing the attendance form it is the responsibility of walkers to check with the leader if they have doubts about their ability to complete the walk. 'I have understood the leader's explanation of the walk today and I am confident that I will be

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able to complete this walk and that I will be able to cooperate with the leader during an emergency situation. Signed: _____ ' "

13. At any point the leader may refuse to accept a person on his walk if the leader is unsure of the person's physical ability to complete the walk. The leader's decision is final.
14. The attendance form and brief written report should be passed to the Council after each walk.
15. Walks are open to the public but children under 16 years of age must be accompanied by a responsible adult.
16. The leader must know who is on the walk and should ensure that the group stays together. If the party is large, a back-marker should be appointed.
17. Dogs may be brought. They remain the owners' responsibility and should be under close control at all times. Dog owners must ensure that their dog does not alarm other people, annoy or startle livestock, and they must clean up after their dog. A walk leader may at his/her discretion tell a dog owner to leave the organised walk.
18. Charging for attending the walks will be at the discretion of the Footpath Committee. Any proceeds will go into the funds of the Footpath Committee.
19. Walkers should proceed single file through standing crops and on narrow roads.

Approved by the Council, April 2017

Next review November 2017