



Press Release

Official launch of Walkers Are Welcome in Nether Stowey & Over Stowey

Stowey Walking group celebrated being awarded the national 'Walkers Are Welcome' accreditation for the villages of Nether Stowey and Over Stowey with a reception for invited guests including councillors, supporters and sponsors at Quantock Tea Room in Nether Stowey.

Welcoming guests and fellow steering group members, Chair of Stowey Walking, Lynne Abbott, thanked all those who had supported the bid for accreditation including the two Parish Councils, Sedgemoor District Council and The Quantock Hills AONB.

She also thanked Somerset County Council which had replaced several stiles on the footpath between the two villages - one of the walks that feature on the group's newly created website along with other information about the group, guided walks for downloading and places of interest in the area.

"We are delighted to have gained this accreditation for our villages as it will encourage more people to come here to enjoy the wonderful countryside and in turn that will bring more business into the villages," said Lynne.

"This is just the beginning as now we have the tasks of promoting the walks around us, monitoring the state of the footpaths and working with the local businesses to ensure they benefit from the Walkers Are Welcome status. We are also looking forward to working with Sedgemoor Ramblers to help them with their walking festival here next year."

Lynne presented 'Walkers are Welcome' certificates of accreditation to Richard Curtis, Chairman of Over Stowey Parish Council and to Malcom Reid receiving it on behalf of the Chairman of Nether Stowey Parish Council.

Nether Stowey and Over Stowey are now among seven towns and villages in Somerset and over 100 in the national Walkers are Welcome network.

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Editors' notes: For more information, email: stoweywalking@gmail.com

Captions:

Photo 1. - Lynne Abbott, chair of Stowey Walking presenting a certificate to Richard Curtis, Chairman of Over Stowey Parish Council (taken by I Pearson).

Photo 2. - General shot of members of Stowey Walking and their guests at the launch reception (taken by P Peckham).

