

## BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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### MINUTES OF THE 198<sup>TH</sup> YORKSHIRE AREA MEETING

Held at 19:50 on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at the Dyneley Arms, Pool in Wharfedale.

#### Present:-

James Rowe	Chair, Leeds MC, CC	Katrina Adam	Leeds MC
Mark Beecher	Secretary, Leeds MC, AC	Helen Costelloe	Leeds MC
Nick Colton	BMC Officer, AC	Angela Soper	Pinnacle Club, FRCC
Deidre Collier	CC	Paul Clarke	FRCC
Mick Green	Gritstone Club	Ann Morse	YMC
Laurie Morse	YMC	Mick Johnson	A&C Gritstone rep, CC, FRCC
Paul Exley	Clubs rep, Leeds MC, FRCC	John Hunt	YMC
Bev Jowett	NC rep, Individual	Andy McCue	Individual
Robin Nicolson	Individual	Dave Musgrove	A&C Limestone rep
Debra Halcrow	York Alpine Club	Thomas Wayman	Individual

1. **Welcome & Introductions.** James welcomed everyone to the meeting and the Officers introduced themselves following on from the AGM. Everyone else in the room introduced themselves.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Dave Farrell, Julie Dundas, Chris Wright, Alison Wood, Jonathan Richardson, Clare Wigley, Nigel Baker. Apologies for not being able to make the start - Dave Musgrove, John Hunt Angela Soper and Beverley Jowett.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting.** The Minutes were agreed as a correct record of the Meeting.
4. **Matters Arising not covered elsewhere.**

**12.1** JR dealt with Rob Dyer at the meeting.

**12.2** Martin Kocsis is currently working Tuesday and Thursday until Dec. Future is dependent on the Sport England funding.

PC asked for an update on the Better Bolts Campaign request. No update except this will also be dependent on the funding application.

#### 5. Co-ordinators' Reports

##### 5.1. Gritstone : access & conservation.

**Baildon Bank:** Bradford Council have highlighted graffiti concerns since their efforts to remove by power-hoses are thwarted by repeated vandalism. A meeting with them on 22nd November suggested that they will paint out the offending "tags" which will hopefully not affect the key climbing sectors. Before this takes place however, MJ is meeting with local activist Adi Gill to agree a way forward.

**Chevin:** The local farmer expressed concern regarding his liability following climbers belaying from his fence posts above the Chevin Buttress area. MJ is meeting with Wardens this week to investigate further; but consideration of metal anchor-posts (similar to Heptonstalls installed earlier this year) was cited.

**Hawkestones:** Signs need replacing (but seemingly not an urgent matter as no-one has contacted MJ re access issues).

**Mytholm Steps Quarry:** MJ to liaise with Calderdale Council re possible concern and report back (issue unknown at this stage).

## 5.2. Limestone : access & conservation.

**Langliffe Quarry:** A recent meeting at YDNPA agreed that there is no longer any reason to consider Ravens in the bird ban process. Therefore this crag, along with Skyline Buttress, will now only be closed for Peregrine nesting between 1st March and 15th July.

**High Stony Bank and Old Man's Crag at Troller's Gill:** Building on the meeting referred to above, all other bird bans will remain as last year but where these relate to Ravens only, the dates have been modified to reflect a national consensus of 5th February to 30th June. In the Yorkshire region this extends to HSB and OMC at TG only.

**Quarries:** There has been no progress directly, but the BMC has now set up a national working group to examine quarry access nationwide. Nothing imminent is expected but hopefully with some political and legal heavyweights and a centralised approach, ideally progress will be made.

5.3. **Youth.** DF not present but NC commented that DF is doing a very good job with the help of his son Josh.

5.4. **Climbing Walls.** No report

## 6. National Council

6.1. **Report from September 2012 meeting.** A summary has been requested from Dave Turnbull by several people but currently not available.<sup>1</sup> NC sent DT an email during the meeting.

6.2. **Matters for the next meeting.** A request for a summary of the meeting which can be distributed to the members in our area.

7. **Clubs' Issues.** See attached the excellent report from Paul. DC commented that the Clubs' committee was setup to address clubs' concerns with the BMC and asked PE if he felt this was being addressed. PE believes that good progress is being made although some areas are engaging more than others.

8. **Individual Members' Issues.** MB commented to NC that he felt the latest Summit was good but lacked many articles on winter walking / mountaineering. NC said this may simply be down to no articles being sent in or commissioned.

9. **Hillwalking.** No report.

10. **Otley Mini Mountain Festival<sup>2</sup>** – 30<sup>th</sup> November – 1<sup>st</sup> December. MJ, BJ, PC at least are planning on helping at this event on behalf of the BMC. Extra help warmly accepted.

## 11. Any Other Business.

11.1. A request had come from HQ to discuss the Areas' experiences with / in groups as part of a plan to set up a Groups working group. The Area view was this is a good initiative and the following areas should be considered: what is a group (a local club evening meet with lots of cars just as intrusive as a minibus full of freshers), guidance on group sizes, outdoor etiquette e.g. litter, guidance that the BMC can produce for inclusion by organisations in consent forms. This guidance should also be available in a child / teenage friendly form. The usage of social media e.g. UKClimbing.com by organisations to publicise their planned attendance at crags was deemed a good thing.

11.2. MJ asked about the status of the Drilled Equipment Policy. NC said this was currently being revised.

11.3. Guidebook. Volume 1 is now published and copies were available for sale!<sup>3</sup>. A vote of thanks was given by the meeting to Robin and the guidebook team for a fantastic guidebook.

There was no other business and the Meeting closed at 20.56.

Next meeting provisionally 4<sup>th</sup> February 2013 Dyneley Arms with a start time of 19.30.

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<sup>1</sup> Now posted here <http://www.thebmc.co.uk/bmc-national-council-september-2012-meeting>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.otleycourthouse.org.uk/whats-on/>

<sup>3</sup> A sample is available here [http://issuu.com/yorkygrit/docs/ygg\\_v1\\_sample\\_pages\\_version\\_2.2](http://issuu.com/yorkygrit/docs/ygg_v1_sample_pages_version_2.2)