

BMC Cymru/Wales AGM/Area Meeting Minutes, 24th Nov 2012, Beacon Climbing Centre

Thanks to all those attending and supporting BMC Cymru (40 persons signed): Gwyn Jones, Bethin Pritchard, Anta Myfanwy, Arwel Roberts, Dilwys Jones, Guy Buckingham, Belinda Fear, Steph Duits, Mike Raine, Kamala Sen, Ray Wood, Alwx Frew, Tom Hutton, Steve Mayers, Catherine Miles, Chris Simpkins, Mike Amplius, Nick Gillett, Paul Ingram, Jim Kelly, Julia Kelly, Lou Costello, Madeline Hooper, Lindsay Griffin, Richard Wilson, Iain Stewart, Mike Brooks, Sarah Ridgway, Michael Doyle, Barbara Jones, Nigel Jones, Elfyn Jones, Jon Ratcliffe, Dave Turnbull, Lun Roberts, Pete, Calum Muskett, Andy Boorman, Mike Pycroft, Chris Parkin.

Apologies: Huw Gilbert, Ian Lloyd Jones, Steve Long, Andy Newton.

Meeting started at 18:16

1. Matters arising from last meeting – none.

2. Many thanks to Guy Buckingham, Malc Creasey, Rebecca Williams, Ross Worthington and Mark Reeves for running a series of well received workshops earlier today as part of the BMC Fun Day.

3. Chair, Tom Hutton, gave a quick round-up of the year with three previous meetings in the north at the Gallt y Glyn, South Stack and Caban (Brynrefail). The mid-Wales group also held three meetings. Tom thanked everyone for their attendance.

4. Elfyn Jones outlined some of the successes this year in his role as Wales' Access and Conservation Officer including:

Significant access gains at Pembroke – de-restricting Mowing ward, reduced restrictions at Stackpole, negotiating 12 month access to Range West, negotiating access to previously 'banned' cliffs on Range West.

Involved in organisation of and attended a successful Tremfest 2012 (over 80 BMC members got involved).

Good successes on the Great Orme - Hornby Crag and pushing for better access to The Diamond (recent meeting) with other good news is that we're working on Craig y Forwyn.

Meetings with Welsh Government, Welsh Environmental Link Group, input into the new single environmental body, still pushing for coastal access, submitted over 20 representations to CCW for review of Open Access maps inc. Rhoscolyn.

5. Election of Committee (with proposers and seconds)

Chair - Tom Hutton (Chris Parkin & Andy Boorman)

Secretary - Calum Muskett (Ray Wood & Chris Simpkins)

MTC coordinator - Andy Boorman (Mike Raine & Jon Ratcliffe)

MTUK - Baggy - (Lun Roberts & Calum Muskett)

Area Youth coordinator - Ifan and Mark (Tom Hutton and Mike Pycroft)

Climbing wall coordinator - Jon Ratcliffe (Steve Mayers and Lun Roberts)

Heritage - Casey Gordon (Mike Raine and Chris Parkin)

National Council members - Tom Hutton, Ray Wood + (Jon Ratcliffe and Pete)

South Wales Chair - Gareth Tucker (Ray wood and Tom Hutton)

6. 18.35 p.m. AGM Finishes and Open Meeting Starts

7. Deadline for Welsh Sports Association expedition grants is 31st Jan.

8. Mike Raine from the Group Use sub-group - asked for any experience of groups +ve or -ve at venues. Good and bad practice to help sub-group form a policy. What is a group? Also applies to hill walking. Any recent experience email access@thebmc.co.uk

10. Catherine Miles from the North Wales Environmental Outdoor Charter Group explained a bit about its role and that they'd had first meeting a couple of weeks ago: Contact catherine@snowdonia-active.com

11. Planning for the proposed Nant y Moch development has been put back to the Spring. Tom Hutton explained that the landscape working group got words in order to produce a landscape charter - guidance notes to the BMC's stance on developments in the uplands - in draft form by mid-January at the latest and to go to Access and Conservation group in March.

12. Public meeting held on Glyn Rhonwy at Waunfawr - Proposal by Quarry Battery Company to develop a pump storage scheme in Glyn Rhonwy - Cefn Du to Mancer Quarry - 49.9 MegaWatts - just submitted planning at the end of last week. Do we want BMC Wales to make a comment/objection - they're only putting in the planning - no record of infrastructure such as associated pylons.

Majority with four abstentions felt BMC Cymru should comment - Roger Benion pointed out that objections need to be made in terms of planning and ensure response reflects members of the BMC - ask experts on landscape group.

13. Jim Kelly raised issue of graffiti in quarries - no response needed - UKC will take comments down if it'll have a detrimental effect on climbing - feed back to BMC if you see something that concerns you.

14. 2013 Meetings: Feb Vaynol, June Orme (Andy Boorman), September - Gogarth, Nov – AGM

Meeting ends: 19.13