

NE Region BMC meeting 21/03/2013

Gretna Green Pub Newton Aycliffe

1. Welcome and Introduction

Jon Punshon welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologised for the confusion on the day. This was due to the Leisure centre bar being closed early because of Local Government budgets being cut and having to source a suitable venue at the last minute

In attendance:

Jon Punshon	Chair
John Herron	Secretary
Alan Hinkes	Guide
Mark Anstiss	Wanney's CC
John Dalrymple	NMC
Richard Alderton	
Liam Dervey	
Mark Goodings	Climbing Wall Representative
Rob Dyer	BMC Rep
Paul Mitchinson	Walking representative

2. Apologies for Absence

Tom Parkin
Peter Simcock
Bill Renshaw
Ian Walton

3. Minutes of previous meeting

Jon Punshon ran through the minutes from the previous meeting (13/09/12) – the minutes were accepted as an accurate record.

4. National Bolt Policy

Rob Dyer presented a paper entitled 'Drilled Equipment: BMC Position Statement and Area Guidance, 2013. The feeling in the North East is that bolting is not a problem and a minority of bolted crags/quarries exist. It was also suggested that a few locations would benefit from bolt lower offs. The committee remain neutral toward the bolting and will monitor the situation

Mark Anstiss was keen to explore the use of the bolt fund.

5. Olympic Bid

The BMC are lobbying strongly for climbing to be included in the 2016 Olympics in Brazil. Seven further disciplines along with climbing will be cut to three in May 2013. The NE regional committee are supportive of the bid.

6. Regional Clean Up-arrangements

Will focus again this year on Crag Lough following the successful model of last year. The Clean Up will take place over the weekend of 7th and 8th of September with the Clean Up on Saturday followed by a BBQ and Beer and Sunday devoted to climbing.

Action- Mark Anstiss to co-ordinate.

7. Forthcoming Events

- The NMC will co-ordinate a crag Clean Up at Ravensheugh
Action John Dalrymple to publicise
- **North East Festival of Climbing-** again John Dalrymple to co-ordinate with possibly Mark Anstiss and ask for further assistance from the rest of the committee if required. The proposed dates are the weekend of 5th to 7th July. It is envisaged that the venue would be based at either Wooler or Belford camping and climbing on the local crags in the vicinity.
Action- John Dalrymple to co-ordinate and e-mail Dave Turnbull at BMC for advice etc.
- Keswick Mountain Festival will take place in May this year full details can be found on the following link <http://www.keswickmountainfestival.co.uk/>

8 Co-ordinators Reports

a) Access

North -

Tom Parkin sent his apologies as he is currently working overseas. Tom to report back on issues discussed at Novembers meeting.

Rob Adie reported that the access issue at South Yardhope was resolved.

John Dalrymple also reported a very good bouldering crag which is situated on the Otterburn ranges in the Drake Stone area

Action John Dalrymple will send Grid Reference to Mark Adie who will take the issue to the relevant MOD contact within the BMC.

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South-

Peter Dyson was not present but Peter Hay reported on the following:-

- Scugdale- CC to organise the rebuilding of the wall
- Peakscar- Trees have been felled on the approach descent to the crag which will clean up the access to this crag.
- Hag Wood. Discussions have taken place with the National Trust regarding parking in the area. The police have blocked the layby's. Alan Hinkes suggested that this crag would be an excellent venue to have some fixed lower offs as most people lower off the trees anyway.
- Park Nab and Captain Cooks crags have mid-week bird bans in place.

b) Youth

Ian Walton was not present so no report on youth was presented. It was pointed out however that Ian had developed a system of visiting all the walls in the area.

Jon Punshon has forwarded a report completed by Ian which is shown below

North East Area Youth Report – 21/3/2013

YCS regional competition now 2/3 of the way through – final round at Newcastle on 20th April.

Sport England funding approved, so national Academies and Regional academies will be on a more formal basis, and will be partially funded by BMC, completing the talent pathway structure from the YCS through to the National Junior Team. Through the Rock Solid group we already have a start on many other regions, and are putting some coaches through the BMC “fundamentals of climbing” course, (parts 1 and 2 on the weekend of 27 and 28 April, places available for anyone interested, £65 for members, £80 for non-members, book through the BMC, part 3 to be confirmed, but almost certainly to be held during the summer holidays, probably at Rock Antics, Newton Aycliffe).

Qualification for inclusion in the Regional Academy essentially comes from entry to and performance in the YCS, although we in this region have not thus far limited invitations to those specifically in that competition, but have extended it to those recommended by wall academies and kids clubs.

Invitation to the national academy is via results in the National Youth Open Competitions and YCS national final.

Any questions, please contact me on idwalton@hotmail.co.uk.

Ian Walton

c) Climbing Walls

- Mark Goodings reported that there had been successful bouldering and lead competitions during the winter period.
- BMC are to hold a Disability competition with the final to be held at Newcastle Climbing Centre

- Sunderland Climbing Centre has opened and the centre is to have a Grand Opening Event. Jon Puncheon reported that it was an excellent venue and wished Mark every success in the venture.
- Mark was also keen to try and obtain a funding bid for training, it was decided that the main Climbing Clubs should take the lead on this and open out any successful funding bids to non-members who are members of the BMC.

8. AOB

It was felt that it would be very useful to hold a further Child protection course as it was four years since the last course was held. The course would be particularly useful to the main climbing clubs and those individuals working on behalf of the BMC dealing with young people

Action. Rob Adie to speak to National Office and report back to Jon Punshon

Rob Adie mentioned National Council Representatives. It was noted that Jon Pushon and Tom Parkin were named as those reps for the North East area however due to prior work commitments were unable to attend the last National Council meeting.

There was some discussion as to a suitable venue when the North East Region was to meet in southern locality of the area. It was agreed that Durham Climbing Centre would be a suitable venue

Action. Mark Goodings to speak to the manager at Durham Climbing Centre

9. Date of next meeting

6th June 2013 19:30 Newcastle Climbing Centre