

BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Peak Area Annual General Meeting Wednesday 20th November 2013 The Maynard, Grindleford

Present:

Neil Foster (Chair)	Ian Milward	Mark Vallance (Climbers Club)
Lynn Robinson (Secretary)	Simon Lee (UKBouldering)	Alan Sanderson
Dave Turnbull (Chief Executive, BMC)	Lucian Cottle	Mitch
Rob Greenwood (Development Officer)	Chris Moor	Claudia Sarner
Adam Long (Access Rep)	Rebecca Ellis (Peak CC)	Andrew Elliot
Henry Folkard (Access Rep)	Graeme Hammond (Peak CC)	Rick Scott
Martin Wass (Newsletter Editor)	Phil Robins (CC)	Julie Dysart
Louise Hawson (Access Rep)	Dave Parry	Simon Jacques
Neil Hewertson (BMC Officer)	Eric Andrew	John Gresty
Rick Gibbon (Access Rep)	Laura Goodare	Kristian Clemmow
Mark Rankine	Chris Radcliffe (Oread MC)	Bunny McCullogh
Chris Taylor	Gill Radcliffe (Oread MC)	Neil Kershaw
Kevin Bradbury	Tim Grice	John Coefield
Stuart Johnson (Mynydd CC)	Steve Coughlan	Phil Kelly
John Whittle (Rucksack Club)	David Brown (Peak CC)	Simon Kincaid
Clare Reading (FRCC)	Mike Hutton	Matt Heason
John Cook	Graham Hoey	Percy Bishton
Toby Wilson	Linda McLeish (Castle MC)	Graham Parkes (CC)
David Pendlebury (Castle MC/CC)	Duncan Campbell	Richard Wheeldon (CC)
Claire Carter	Steve Clark (acting Chair for the elections)	Simon Durbridge (Derby Uni Mountaineering Club)
Andy Tickle (Friends of the Peak District/Derbyshire Pennine Club)	Neil Roden (Fell & Rock Climbing Club)	Geoff Nichols (Castle/S.Yorks Scouts)
Charles Skeavington (Bassetlaw Hill & Mountain)	Alan James (UKClimbing & Rockfax)	Ashley Tennant (Derby Uni Mountaineering Club)
	Total signed in = 66	Total present = 74

1. Apologies

Ed Douglas (Vice-President, BMC)	Martin Kocsis	Michael Hunt
John Beatty (Rucksack Club)	Sophie Milner (The National Trust)	Jane Livingstone
Dave Bishop (SW Peak Access Rep)	Paul Juler	Tom Randall
Scott Titt (BMC President)	John Horsecroft	

2. Minutes of previous AGM (held on 21st November 2012) – accepted as a true record.

3. Chair's Report

Neil welcomed everyone to the meeting, including Dave Turnbull (Chief Executive, BMC) and Rob Greenwood (BMC Development Officer) representing the BMC office.

Peak Area meetings are the best attended of any area in the country with excellent quality debates but with a decline in numbers this year, whilst many live access issues are increasingly serious, there is a need to get numbers of attendees increased. The numbers give the BMC Peak Area credibility, which means it is taken more seriously by authorities, landowners, wildlife trusts etc.

Neil thinks that the outlying meetings, whilst good to allow people from the west of the Peak area easier travel and to enable a focus on issues local to those areas, are potentially a barrier to growing attendance. A good head of steam is built up at The Maynard, but then it dissipates at the Ramshaw and to an extent at the Glossop meetings. Glossop this year was a good meeting, and the pub is a good venue, with some of the cheapest beer around, but there were 20 fewer attendees than last year. The most recent Ramshaw meeting seemed to be largely people from the eastern Peak with too few locals. The Maynard, has been a good venue for meetings (beer prices aside). There is a need to review the meeting venues, for future meetings and whether to keep the outlying meetings, when we meet again in January. It is one of those things that you can never get a consensus on, so there will probably be a vote. So if you want to keep the other meeting venues, make sure you attend in January.

Now Dan Lane is at University in Bangor there is a need for volunteer(s) to report and link the meetings and discussions on social media. Claire-Jane Carter and Matt Heason offered to take this role on.

Summary of 2013 meetings

Month	Venue	Main items discussed	Number of attendees
February 2013	Grindleford	DWMH Strategy	40
April 2013	Grindleford	Bolts – fixed gear policy	34
June 2013	Ramshaw	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust warden and deputy	33
September 2013	Glossop	Dry tooling position	33
November 2013	Grindleford	AGM and Quiz	74
Average Peak Area Attendees			43
Average without AGM (Peak Area)			35
Average attendance at other BMC area meetings			22

In relation to the AGM, there are two Peak Area places on the National Council. Rick Gibbon has resigned, therefore there is one vacancy. Simon Lee has volunteered.

Neil and Lynn intend to put themselves forward for a further year, but they won't do it forever. So please think if you would like to stand as the next chair or secretary, or if you know someone who might.

Vote of Thanks

To all access reps, particularly Henry and Adam, they give up huge amounts of time, attend many meetings etc. They need more folk to help.

Martin Wass for editing and compiling the newsletter

Dave Brown and the Peak Climbing club for clearance work on various Eastern Moors crags.

Tony Ryan for some excellent support from Head Office.

Lynn Robinson for continued excellent work as secretary

Rick Gibbon for his work on the National Council over the last few years

...and all for coming!

4. Election of Officers

Neil Foster stood down temporarily from his position as Chair and Steve Clark ran the election process. This was for the positions of Chair, Secretary, National Council Representative and Clubs Representative. The results of the elections are outlined in the tables below:

Post	Nominee	Result
Chair	Neil Foster	Voted in Unopposed
Secretary	Lynn Robinson	Voted in Unopposed
National Council Representative	Simon Lee	Voted in Unopposed
Clubs Representative	David Browne	Voted in Unopposed

Neil Foster has one more year left as National Council Representative. The post of Clubs Representative is a three-year post intended to represent the smaller clubs in the area.

The Peak area has an experienced and able set of Access Representatives but new input is always required; anyone interested in helping out should contact Henry, Neil or Lynn. There is a particular need for the limestone areas.

Steve went on to thank several people:

- Neil and Lynn – for their excellent work over the busy past year.
- Martin Wass – as newsletter editor his work. Contributions are always welcome.
- Everyone on the Access Team in a busy year for access.

Neil then took back the Chair's position.

7. Dates for 2014 meetings

Date and venue for the next meeting is:

Wednesday 12th February 2014, 7.30pm, The Maynard, Grindleford