

BMC Wales AGM and North Wales Area Meeting 23/11/13

Attendance:

Sam Davies, Rich Doherty, KC Gordon, Lindsay Griffin, T Evans, J Evans, T Wilson, R Wilson, Pete Johnson, Lun Roberts, Anne Vowles, Marion Wintringham, Alex Kitts, Chris Lowe, Andy Boorman, Danny Garnett, Rebecca Williams, Kate Worthington, Sarah Ridgway, Marian Davies, Jim Rutter, Ray Wood, Dave Prendergent, Julia Kelly, Jim Kelly, Kate Worthington, Will Kilner, Jamie Holding, Alan Williams, Harry Marshall, Cath Luke, Simon Panton, Dave Noden (+many more – names not on lists)

Apologies:

Martin Doyle, Michael Brooks, Tim Sparrow, Gwyn Jones, Chris Parkin, Ross Worthington, Mal Creasy, Dan Harris

AGM:

- No issues arising from previous AGM minutes
- Mid-Wales group now independent with 23 attending the previous meeting
- Will Kilner raises the point that in the south Wales area meetings they have discussed splitting from Wales. Will asked what would be the possibilities and implications of that. Tom Hutton and Elfyn Jones said they'd look into this

National Council Representatives from Wales agreed upon:

Tom Hutton - Proposed by Jon Ratcliffe - Seconded by Kate Worthington
Ray Wood (final year) - Proposed by Kate Worthington - Seconded by Simon Panton
Will Kilner - Proposed by Andy Boorman - Seconded by Kate Worthington

Welsh area BMC positions agreed upon:

Chair: Tom Hutton - Proposed by Andy Boorman - Seconded by Kate Worthington
Secretary: Calum Muskett - Proposed by Ray Wood - Seconded by Jim Kelly
MLTW Rep: Kate and Ross Worthington take over from Andy Boorman - Proposed by Marion Wintringham - Seconded by Will Kilner
MTUK Rep: Andy Boorman takes over from Mark Richards - Proposed by Tom Hutton - Seconded by Lynn Roberts
Youth Co-ordinator: Mark Dicken and Ifan Richards - Proposed by Jon Ratcliffe - Seconded by Elfyn Jones
Climbing Wall Co-ordinator: Jon Ratcliffe - Proposed by Simon Panton - Seconded by Dave Noden
Club Committee Rep: Rob Greaves has stepped down. Proposal to write to the secretaries of various Welsh climbing and hill-walking clubs to find suitable rep.

North Wales Area Meeting:

- No issues arising from previous meetings minutes
- Elfyn Jones tells us that the dry tooling and fixed equipment document is now in the pipeline
- Elfyn Jones raises new information on the Welsh Government Access Legislation Review
-The green paper has been delayed until the end of January

- Objections have been put forward in a large volume in an orchestrated manner from angling and land owner groups
- Possible reduction in public footpath quality and maintenance if a bill goes ahead
- Elfyn proposed formatting a letter to send to lobby MPs with
- KC proposed the club committee rep does some lobbying
- National Resources Wales announce winter climbing service at Ogwen. A device will check earth and air temperature readings and the information from these will go on-line to help climbers decide whether conditions are 'in' or not. The service will be mainly experimental this year but a positive development
- Lew Costello raises the point that there is an obvious lack of BMC information in YHA properties i.e. flyers, leaflets, notice board information
- Dates of Tremfest next year to be brought forward to allow more vegetation to grow. May 17-18th suggested

Access Updates:

- Chris Doyle's film 'Fresh Meat' has raised major issues of climbers damaging vegetation. Footage clearly shows individuals abseiling down and 'cleaning' vegetation in a SSSI – Natural Resources Wales have been consulting Elfyn Jones over this issue
- At Range West the military have restricted access to a max of 30 people per day – Suggested that the fewer numbers visiting the area is due to the bureaucracy involved with attending access meeting
- In Llandulas there have been parking issues with local residents on the road climbers often park. Suggested that climbers now park elsewhere to avoid troubling residents

2014 area meetings:

- 5 meetings suggested for 2014 to allow greater opportunities for people to attend
- Point raised that the further the meetings are from the 'hub' of Llanberis the fewer attendees. Proposed that more meetings are in Llanberis next year
 - February meeting in Vaynol?
 - April meeting in Heights
 - June meeting in Llandudno (venue tba)
 - September venue tba
 - November venue tba

A big thank you to Jon Ratcliffe and Dave Noden for hosting the event at the Indy. One pound from every entry fee to the boulder comp was donated to the NWBF.