

BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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Minutes of the 206th Yorkshire Area Meeting

Held at 19.30 on Monday 1 December 2014

at the Wheatley Arms, Ben Rhydding, Ilkley

Present:

| | | | |
|-----------------|--|-----------------|----------------|
| James Rowe | Chair, National Council Rep, Leeds MC, CC | Nick Colton | BMC Deputy CEO |
| Deirdre Collier | Secretary, National Council Rep, Craven MC, FRCC, CC | Simon Hirst | Individual |
| Dave Musgrove | Limestone Access Rep | John Mortimer | Vibram MC* |
| Paul Exley | Leeds MC, FRCC, Clubs Committee Rep | Bill Burgess | Individual |
| Sara Hayes | Pinnacle Club*, FRCC | Rob Peacock | Individual |
| Chris Collinson | Leeds University MC | Kevin Avery | Individual |
| Rob Stone | York Alpine Club | Kasia Baldwin | Individual |
| Anna Proctor | Pinnacle Club | James Parkinson | Individual |
| John Proctor | Alpine Club | Angela Soper | FRCC |
| Stephen Burrows | Wok & Rice | Glyn Edwards | FRCC |
| Paul Redding | Individual | Richard Ramsden | Individual |
| Paul Clarke | FRCC* | David Curtis | Leeds MC |
| Paul Sharples | Individual | Nigel Baker | YMC |
| Anne Freund | FRCC, Pinnacle Club | Iain McKenna | Individual |
| Robin Nicholson | Individual | Dan Hedges | Individual |
| Chris Morris | Individual | Kevin Gooch | Individual |
| Mike Bebbington | YMC, CC, FRCC | Steven Howe | Individual |
| Rob Grafton | | Rachael Gooch | Individual |
| Laurie Morse | YMC | Ann Morse | YMC |
| Ros Leach | FRCC | Tim Brayshaw | Individual |
| David Campbell | YMC, CC | | |

Action

1 Welcome & Introductions

James welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received from Julie Dundas & John Hunt.

3 Minutes of the last meeting.

Attendance list: Paul Exley proposed, Mike Bebbington seconded & the Meeting agreed with 5 abstentions that the Minutes be accepted as a correct record.

4 Matters Arising not on the Agenda.

None raised.

5 Co-ordinators' Reports

5.1 Gritstone: Access & Conservation.

Mick Johnson reported as follows:-

Almscliff: Mick had contacted the BMC re the notice & they were keen to help. the next step was to contact the farmer – ongoing.

Caley: A local climber who is tree surgeon going to help with tree overgrowth- sometime in the New Year.

Re Himalayan Balsam, the Otley Chevin Forum is aware & willing to help with control. Noted that some York based climbers (including 2 more tree surgeons) would like to assist also with all this work. Also noted that at present only tools to be used are hand tools & not power tools.

Mick Johnson is going to try & set up a land management arrangement there & suggested that interested people should contact him.

The Roost: Contrary to earlier reports access is not banned but will be unless the correct access is used & everyone was asked to spread the word about this.

Post Meeting note: *Later comment re this from Rob Dyer, Access & Conservation Officer (Regions) is that the landowner previously didn't mind climbing here but poor behaviour by climbers has made him reconsider his position and he has stated categorically that he does not permit climbing. He recognises that he can't stop people from trespassing and that it is a popular crag now amongst harder climbers so people are still likely to visit, but he doesn't allow climbing and would rather people stayed away.*

Yorkshire Gritstone Vol 2. Thanks were expressed to all involved in the production of this. Laurie Morse said that Volume 1 had been produced at the end of 2011 after 2 year of work & that Volume 2 had taken another 2 years work. Copies of both were available to buy in the Meeting at a reduced price.

5.2 Limestone: Access & conservation

Dave Musgrove reported that there had been little developments on limestone & not many new issues.

He had attended the meetings of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Cave & Crag Liaison group & all had gone well again this year.

s It was noted that the new Rockfax Northern Limestone Guide was due out soon which it was thought would increase climbing in the Area & therefore potentially increase associated access issues.

5.3 Youth. Deirdre apologised for leaving David Farrell's report at home & said she would add it to the Meeting Minutes.

Post meeting note: *David's report said that it had been a good year in the Youth Category. Two new climbers had made it to the British Team and it had been our best ever finish in the Youth Climbing Series with a second place finish overall.*

5.4 Climbing Walls. There is no Climbing Wall representative.

Leeds Wall Dry Tooling competition. Angela Soper reported on the Dry Tooling Competition held recently at the Leeds Wall. There had been approximately 20 competitors & only one round but it was felt to have been a great success.

5.5 Clubs. Paul Exley's report from the Clubs Committee Meeting of 20 November had been previously circulated. Paul explained how the Clubs Committee had been formed & there was some discussion about the format of the planned Open Huts Weekend with a few club huts being made available in the N Wales area.

5.6 Hillwalking. Deirdre updated the Meeting re recent developments re Hill Walking.

The Strategy Discussion document had been revised & emailed out prior to the Meeting – noted that paper copies had not been tabled due the document length – 14 pages.

BMC Event 29 November. The BMC had held a forum for hill walkers on 29 November in Hayfield. Over 20 people had attended, first going for a walk & followed by lunch & a presentation by Carey Davies, BMC Hill Walking Development Officer & then a talk by Brian Smith, BMC Independent Director. Following these there was discussion re the next steps.

It was noted that the BMC was setting up a Hill Walking Working Group which would have a maximum life of 2 years, would meet 3 or 4 times a year & have approximately 10 members. The first meeting would be in Jan or early Feb 2015.

6 National Council

6.1 Report from last NC Meeting. A summary had been circulated.

6.2 Matters for the next meeting.

6.2.1 Use of pegs in British climbing. Comments made were as follows:-

- That document should also suggest some actions but that idea was felt to be unworkable in view of the numbers of pegs.
- Article in Summit re final guidance
- Include information in guidebooks
- Suggest to instructors that they pass on the information when they take out new climbers.

7 **Individual Members' Issues.** None raised.

8 **2015 Meeting dates.** Noted as being on Mondays 26 January, 8 June 14 September, & 30 November.
The Meeting did not support the suggestion of holding a meeting in April prior to the BMC's AGM & associated National Council Meeting.

8 **Any Other Business.**

A comment was made that it was good to see so many people at the Meeting & it was noted that it was a good idea to have presentations.

In view of the high number of new faces a round of introductions was done.

The business part of the Meeting finished at 8.25 pm.

Following this Nick Colton, BMC Deputy CEO gave a presentation entitled ' Alpine Experiences'