



Minutes

South Wales Area Meeting

UWC Atlantic College in St Donat's

Monday 1 December 2014

Acting Chair: Will Kilner

Number Present: 10

BMC Officer: none

1. Welcome & apologies

Gareth Tucker, Elfyn Jones, Matthew Dix, Matt Woodfield, Roy Thomas, Will welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined its function. Will thanked everyone for coming and a special thanks to Calum for coming down from North Wales.

2. Minutes of the previous meetings held on 17th September 2014

The minutes of the last area meeting and the special Llangattock meeting were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

A few points were raised with regard to the minutes

Goi Ashmore - Re AOB (9) from Martin Crocker, "'Uncanny' has not had any bolts placed, but there are drilled pegs from around 1998, placed by a third party prior to a clear re-equipping policy being established."

Witch's Tip – 'The area meeting thanks Martin for his diligence in bringing the matter of Witches Tip to the meeting's attention. There is some ambiguity about where Witches Tip (no bolting) finishes and Dunraven Bay begins. For clarification and for future avoidance of doubt the natural dividing line is the arete of Fools Rush In.'

Debbie Reynolds – 'Goi Ashmore notes that he retro-bolted Debbie Reynolds as it seemed to contain a drilled peg. If assurance is received from the first ascensionist that the peg is not drilled, then if agreed to by a future area forum, then Goi will remove it and the bolt belay he placed.'

3. Actions from previous meeting

At the previous meeting members had asked if the SWMC Wiki was an appropriate place for the Bolting proposals and if the BMC website would be a more appropriate place. Will raised this at National Council and Dave Turnbull responded it was a sizeable IT task and had concerns over its use.

No progress had been made yet on new permanent stakes at Llangattock.

4. Matters arising not covered elsewhere

If anyone wants to help with the Gower Festival get in touch with Matt Everett. Also looking at doing something in Pembrokeshire in May which will need support from the area.

If South Wales wanted to be its own area, turnout at meetings would need to increase, and a full committee would need to be formed.

A discussion started around the recent closure of another OEC in south Wales and the threat of closure of several others.

The meeting was concerned about the position and would like BMC to promote the benefits and analyze the threats.

5. National Council report

The meeting was informed of the sad death of Craig Harwood – Chair of BMC huts group.

Hill Walking document is still being circulated internally but will come out to the area soon.

6. Llangattock meeting results

The results from the previous Llangattock meeting were discussed, these were...

“General agreement that drilled equipment lower-offs be allowed, where necessary for safety to mitigate an unreasonable degree of risk; subject to landowner and FA permission.

Martin Crocker and Tony Penning happy for their routes to have lower-offs.

No new drilled equipment on the routes (excludes lower-offs see above) – 10 for

Pegs replaced with pegs on point for point basis – no objections

7. Access and Conservation briefing

2 crag clean-ups were proposed by Gai Ashmore and these would be raised at the next meeting following a conversation with Elfyn RE access. The meeting was informed that BBNPA had applied to the ACT for a grant for footpath maintenance. The area was asked for its support. The response was a request for more information...

- i) What was the money to be used for specifically
- ii) What would lose out if money was given to BBNPA

An update to the access at Tintern Quarry was pointed out and climbers should check the RAD for more details

A very substantial rock fall at Llangattock Craig y Cilau escarpment had been pointed out.

Range West has been a successful year. There will be more frequent briefings next year

8. Any Other Business

Wales newsletter – if there is any South Wales news please send to Will Kilner or Calum Muskett.

Examples: Crag clean-ups, retro-bolting, youth comps etc

9. Date of next Meetings

Tuesday 3 February, Up and Under (discount shopping night)

Saturday 23 May, Pembroke (tied in with range briefing)

Saturday 12 September, Gower (Gower Festival)

Calum Muskett then delivered an excellent talk on climbing in Wales the Alps and Patagonia

Agenda Item	Action	Owner	Progress
3	Pursue outcome for stakes at Llangattock	WK	
4	Request promotion on the benefits of OECs	WK	
7	Request information on BBNPA grant	WK	
8	Content for newsletter	All	