

BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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Minutes of the BMC London & South East Area Meeting and Area AGM

held at 7.00pm, Thursday 11 June 2015
at the Devereux pub, 20 Devereux Court, London WC2R3JJ

Present: 27 people attended the meeting.

1. Welcome and apologies

BMC vice-president Nick Kurth welcomed everyone to the meeting and acted as temporary chair. No apologies were received.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 19 November 2014

Not discussed.

3. Election of following committee members:

a. Area Chair

Rik Payne was proposed by Dale Finnie and seconded by Gavin McAllister.

For: 26 Against: 0 Abstentions: 1

b. Area Secretary

Lisa Payne was proposed by Oliver Chipperfield and seconded by Sally Broughton Micova.

For: 26 Against: 0 Abstentions: 1

c. Area Representative on the Clubs Committee

Tony Williams was proposed by Francesca Mancuso and seconded Dale Finnie.

For: 26 Against: 0 Abstentions: 1

d. Area Youth Co-ordinators

No elections held.

4. National Council:

a. Report from last meeting

NK reported on the following:

- Discussions on clarification of the relationship between National Council and the Executive.
- Progress of the Hill Walking Working Group.
- Location of the 2016 BMC AGM:
A proposal to hold the AGM at the EICA Ratho on the weekend of the BMC Youth Climbing Series National Final, so as to improve engagement with young members.
- Discussions on the development of a BMC policy on bracken, which in some areas such as the Lake District is creating access issues.
- Discussions on the role of the BMC in ensuring that current working quarries can be used for recreational climbing in the future.

b. Matters for next meeting

Not discussed.

5. Any Other Business

The BMC and clubs: Tony Williams opened up a discussion on the following points:

- What people thought about the work the BMC does on behalf of clubs.
- How do clubs get supported by the BMC.

Members from the following clubs were in attendance: Alpine Club; Amersham Climbing Club; Brixton Climbers' Club; Climbers' Club; Fell & Rock Climbing Club; ICAS Climbing Club; London Mountaineering Club; Not So Trad – Southern Lesbian & Gay Climbers; Pinnacle Club; Red Rope Walking & Climbing Club; Rockhoppers Mountaineering Club.

Rik Payne (ICAS) commented that members felt distant from what the BMC does.

Sally (Rockhoppers) indicated that the club use a lot of the BMC online skills videos as examples of good practice through their social media.

Vic (Rockhoppers) pointed out that the club took up the grants that were on offer but wondered how widely they were known about.

BMC regional development officer Elizabeth Holley said that she was available to support clubs in relation to them gaining a greater understanding of what the BMC does. She pointed out that she has had direct contact with the committees of all the clubs in attendance at the meeting.

Area meeting dates: Information about area meeting should be posted on the BMC Local Areas site much sooner than a few days before the meeting.

National Council representation: Olivier Chipperfield was appointed as a stand-in National Council representative for Rik or Lisa Payne.

Charity auction for Nepal: The BMC is holding an online auction to raise funds for the Nepal earthquake through Red Cross and Community Action Nepal.

6. Date (and location) of next Area Meeting

Thursday 3 September 2015, at the Devereux pub – start time to be confirmed.

7. Presentation by Elizabeth Holley

Following the meeting, Elizabeth Holley gave a presentation about her 2014 expedition to the Djangart range in the Tien Shan region of Kyrgyzstan.

Minutes produced by Elizabeth Holley.