

BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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Minutes of the 208th Yorkshire Area Meeting

Held at 19.30 on Monday 8 June 2015

at the Wheatley Arms, Ben Rhydding, Ilkley

Present:

James Rowe	Chair, National Council Rep, Leeds MC, CC	Carey Davies	BMC
Deirdre Collier	Secretary, National Council Rep, Craven MC, FRCC, CC	Chris Townsend	BMC
Mick Green	Gritstone Club	John Mortimer	Vibram MC*
Angela Soper	Pinnacle Club* & FRCC	Jack Jowett	Leeds MC
Paul Redding	Hill Walking Rep. Individual	Pippa Manson	Individual
Paul Clarke	FRCC*	Iain McKenna	Individual
John Manning	Fell & Hillwalking Club	Jenny Greenwood	Gritstone Club
Nigel Baker	Limestone Access Rep (elected in Meeting). YMC, Individual	Tony Rogan	Individual
Nicky Jaquiere	Gritstone Club	Ken Jaquiere	Gritstone Club
Roger Gaynor	Individual	Sue Fox	Individual
Dan Hedges	Individual	Trevor Brewster	Individual
Anne Freund	FRCC, Pinnacle Club	Ian Hargreaves	Gritstone Club
Dave Musgrove	CC, YMC	Gary Brown	Individual
Vicky Green	Individual	Toby Dace	Individual
Alan Kay	Individual	Pete Varley	
Mick Johnson	CC, FRCC. Gritstone Access Rep	Andrew Horne	Leeds MC

Action

- Welcome & Introductions.** James welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Apologies for Absence.** Apologies were received from Julie Dundas, Paul Exley, Harold Harper, John Hunt, Bev Jowett & Mike Pilling.
- Minutes of the last meeting.** These were agreed to be a correct record.
- Matters Arising not on the Agenda.**

National Photo Archive. John Mortimer asked re progress with this. DC to enquire. **DC**
- Co-ordinators' Reports**
- 5.1 Gritstone: Access & Conservation.** Mick Johnson had sent a report as follows:-

Caley Clearing up done of a lot of branches etc around the boulders. Leeds City council amenable to tree clearance & more work to follow. Grant applied for re a 10 year programme re Chevin Park & guided walk on 1 July to explain what the plan is. (Post meeting note – date subsequently changed to 8 July).

Dovestones. Notice at base of crag – no climbing & trespassers will be prosecuted. For investigation. **MJ**

Application for wind turbines near Almscliffe Crag. Application is for 2 x 48m turbines situated 1.8km to the North West of Almscliffe Crag. Area agreed to ask the BMC to lodge an objection – this could subsequently be withdrawn if felt appropriate when further investigation has taken place. **DC & MJ**
- 5.2 Limestone: Access & conservation.**

Limestone Access Rep. Noted that Dave Musgrove is now Chair of the BMC's Access Management Group & so a replacement Limestone Access Rep was required. Nigel Baker was proposed for this role by James Rowe, seconded by Mick Johnson & agreed by the Meeting with none opposed & 2 abstentions.

Oxenber. Clearup suggested re overgrowth eg little thorn bushes etc. Specific proposal awaited. Work likely to take place at end of year.

Threshfield quarry. Consultant has drawn up plans re what all groups want – discussion with Dave

Musgrove has taken place & no potential conflicts perceived. Proposals now in formal plan for consideration by relevant bodies & outcome awaited. ? potential for this to be a blueprint for the rest of the country.

5.3 Youth. No report.

5.4 Climbing Walls. There is no Climbing Wall representative.

5.5 Clubs.

5.5.1 Questions from the recent Clubs Committee Meeting.

Comments were as follows:-

- ? go round climbing walls & ask attendees why they don't join clubs.
- Clarify what the BMC can do for hill walking. There are a lot of groups out there that could be targeted. Carey Davies said that this is something the BMC is looking at in the Hill Walking Working Group. MeetUp/social groups are booming & the BMC needs to interact with them. Looking at different categories of insurance.

6 Hillwalking. Paul Redding tabled a hill walking report (subsequently sent out). This included reports of the Area Hill Walking meeting held on 20 April & from the BMC's Hill Walking Working Group. He noted that hill walking is one of the main BMC themes over the next 4 years.

The BMC's Hill Walking Working Group is reviewing the membership package & looking at organising Area led hill walking meets etc.

Paul was doing a Hill walking event on 1 July – Ingleborough walk. He also mentioned the possibility of holding an Area hill walking/climbing festival in 2016 & asked for ideas for the festival & for volunteers to help out.

BMC & Recreational Vehicles. Angela Soper asked about the BMC not supporting the stance taken against recreational motor vehicles – as per the discussion at the April Area Meeting. Dave Musgrove said that the BMC position is currently a neutral one re the legal use of motor vehicles on byways & un-surfaced classified roads (green lanes). For discussion by Access Management Group at its next Meeting with a view to re-examining the historical position.

DM

7 National Council

7.1 Report from last NC Meeting. A summary of the February Meeting had been circulated.

7.2 Matters for the next meeting.

Venue Options for the 2016 AGM - ? Ratho, ? Yorkshire ??

The BMC's Youth Climbing Series Final at Ratho was scheduled for the same weekend in 2016 as the BMC's AGM & so Ratho had been suggested as the venue for the BMC's AGM with a view to increasing youth participation.

While not against the idea of increasing youth involvement, the Meeting felt that Ratho would not be a good venue. 'Wrong country' for AGM. Long way from centres of population. No good for hill walkers. Sheffield area felt to be a good option. ? consider the possibility of using university accommodation.

8 Individual Members' Issues. None raised.

9 Any Other Business.

Next Meeting. Monday 7 September 2015 @ 19.30 – please note change of date

There was no other business & this part of the Meeting closed @ 8.20 pm.

Following this **Chris Townsend - BMC's Hill Walking Ambassador** – gave presentation on [700-mile hike of Scotland's watershed](#), a 'ribbon of wildness' running through mostly mountainous terrain from the border with England to Cape Wrath.