

# BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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## LONDON & SOUTH EAST AREA MEETING

Meeting to be held at The Devereux, 20 Devereux Court, Temple, London WC2R 3JJ  
on Thursday 3 September 2015 starting at 7.00pm.

### Minutes

#### 1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Chaired Rik Payne (RP)  
Minutes taken by Lisa Payne (LP)  
BMC Representatives Nick Kurth (NK) & Dave Turnbull (DT)

#### 2. Minutes of previous meeting held on 11 June 2015

Copies were available on the night and attendees asked to review, no issues were raised.

#### 3 Discussion on Area Representatives

4.1 Clubs – Tony Williams is the current Clubs Rep

4.2 Do we feel the need for a representative for these areas – Access, Youth, Hill walking & Climbing Walls?

These are volunteer posts and the discussion centred around which posts should be represented and we looked for volunteers from the attendees at the meeting to fill these.

- Youth Co-ordinators was discussed at length and it was agreed that this was a crucial area that needed representation and a “Role Description” provided by the BMC Office would be beneficial to understand the role more clearly. DT said he would speak to Nick Colton regarding this.
- LP raised the point that we should contact the BMC office to see if previous Youth Co-Ordinators would be interested in continuing in the role.
- If no previous Youth Reps were able to continue then a Role Description would be emailed to the London & SE area members asking for volunteers
- Access Rep was agreed to be less of a priority, given our few crags are covered by the Southern Volunteers Group and Harrison's Rocks Management Group (HRMG).
- Daniel Simonis volunteered for Climbing Walls Rep and was Proposed by Mark Brewster and voted in unanimously.
- Iain Fenton Adams & Paul Burgess volunteered as Hill Walking Reps and will join the National Hill Walking Group which meet quarterly in the Manchester Office and were proposed by Suzanne Kuyse and Nick Kurth respectively and voted in unanimously.

A point was raised as to how the Hill Walking Reps represent the views of the membership and it was agreed it would be a discussion point at future meetings and those views could be taken to the National Hill Walking Group meetings.

How we communicate to the London & SE area members was also discussed and various social media suggestions including a general group page on Facebook and an online forum were proposed.

#### **4. National Council**

##### **4.1 Report from last meeting**

- Presentation from Mountain Heritage
- CEO Report regarding APS (Active People Survey) from Sport England highlighting the drop in participation amongst 14-25 year olds.
- Venue for the BMC 2016 AGM discussed and reported that the agreed venue would be the Peak District rather than at Ratho.
- Enhanced support for Area meetings resulted in a meeting to further discuss this at the BMC offices and various actions points are being investigated
- Clubs should be encouraged to create a BMC rep who role it is to attend the Area meetings.

##### **4.2 Matters arising from the report**

- It was agreed that a “Communications” Officer (Volunteer role) would be crucial to grow attendance and better stay in touch with members in the area, Francesca Mancuso, Jenny Knight and Maggie Ruddy volunteered to help with this.
- A survey to the area members was suggested using Survey Monkey (or similar) to establish how the members want to be contacted regarding local issues and events. DT said that this was definitely some we could do as it's been done in the past.  
Both points to be followed up by the Area Chair & Secretary with the volunteers mentioned above.

#### **5. Any Other Business**

- The issue of the Isolated Buttress was raised by a member, particularly in relation to how quickly the boulder seemed to be destroyed and whether this had been adequately discussed and in consultation and agreement with HRMG and The BMC. NK suggested that this is noted in the minutes for further investigation by the BMC Office.
- Dermot McKibben thanked the BMC for the Training Grants that they had in the past which they had used for the National Navigation Awards and wanted to know if the Gold Award would be included in the Training Grant going forward. NK suggested that the question be minuted and referred to John Garside for clarification.  
DT confirmed that BMC training grants would be in place for 1 more year.
- RP confirmed that the next SVG Open Meet would be held on 18<sup>th</sup> October.

#### **6. Date and location of next Area Meeting**

November 26<sup>th</sup>  
The Devereux, WC2R 3JJ  
Guest Speaker Jon Griffith

Following the meeting, there was a presentation by Dave Turnbull on **‘Patagonia, Nepal and a few interesting places in between’**