

BMC AREA MEETING REPORT: Mon 11 April 2016

FOR SUBMISSION TO NATIONAL COUNCIL

AREA: YORKSHIRE

1. **Location & Attendance:** Wheatley Arms, Ben Rhydding, Ilkley. c 20 attendees
2. **BMC staff & Executive member(s) present:** Carey Davies & Deirdre Collier
3. **New postholder(s) & Situations Vacant:** No Climbing Wall or Youth Outdoors Representatives.
4. **Key issues discussed:**

Hill Walking.

As previously stated Yorkshire Area has said it doesn't want a 'normal' April Area Meeting & so it was felt to be an opportunity to hold another hill walking focussed meeting following the first one in April 2015. The Meeting was preceded by a walk on Ilkley Moor.

There was no formal meeting agenda, just presentations followed by questions/answers/discussion.

Paul Redding, Area Walking Rep, did a brief introduction to the evening's programme & then Carey Davies gave a presentation re '**What the BMC does for Hill Walkers**'.

He then went on to do a presentation about the '**Mend our Mountains**' crowdfunding campaign – please see link - <http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/campaign/mend-our-mountains>

This was followed by a presentation by Mark Allum, Recreation & Tourism Manager for the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA) about the position in the YDNPA regarding paths & their maintenance. Points to note are:-

- Re the 'Mend our Mountains' campaign the inclusion of the Swine Tail path on Ingleborough & the Lyke Wake Walk in the North York Moors.
- Approximately 60 to 70K people do the Three Peaks Challenge walk per year & ? c 250K people walk in the area per year. On a typical Saturday in the season the average number of walkers on the Yorkshire Three Peaks is Pen y Ghent – 500, Whernside 400 & Ingleborough 330.
- The Three Peaks Challenge Walk raises c £5M per year but only a small percentage of that comes to the YDNPA.
- YDNPA efforts to fundraise via the Friends of the Three Peaks – please see link - <http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/looking-after/howyoucanhelp/friends-of-the-three-peaks>

A Dales High Way.

There was then a presentation by Chris Grogan about the Dales High Way – a long distance walk devised together with her husband Tony in 2007. It's 90 miles & goes from Saltaire to Appleby returning via the Settle (or Leeds re this walk!) to Carlisle railway. Please see this link for info - <http://www.daleshighway.co.uk/>

Cotswold Outdoors. As usual the Meeting was supported by a demo of hill walking gear particularly GPS.

Completed by: Deirdre Collier.