

BMC AREA MEETING REPORT: Mon 28 November 2016
FOR SUBMISSION TO NATIONAL COUNCIL
AREA: YORKSHIRE

1. **Location & Attendance:** Wheatley Arms, Ben Rhydding, Ilkley. 21 attendees
2. **BMC staff & Executive member(s) present:** Joanna Rowbottom & Emma Flaherty
3. **New postholder(s): Secretary** – Sarah Sharps.

Hill Walking – Peter Roll

Climbing Wall Rep - Lindsay McMorran – volunteered after AGM so subject to ratification by Area.

Situations vacant: Chair, NC Reps, ? Youth Outdoors (there is a potential volunteer – confirmation awaited) & Clubs Committee

4. **Key issues discussed:**

Increased access to public paths for cyclists. Please see bullet points below.

Almscliff. Recent use as nighttime/lamping climbing venue. Farmer has asked that Almscliff not be used as a night-time climbing venue. RAD updated accordingly.

Shelter Cliff Field Boulders Access. Report that climber asked by farmer not to climb there. Private land.

Crookrise. BMC acquisition imminent – definitely before Christmas.

Blue Scar. Previous reports of some confusion re gaining permission to climb. Access Rep will review in 2017. Noted that email contact details for landowner are on BMC's RAD.

Communication between Areas & NC on policy/development issues. Please see bullet points below.

Sport England's Code for Sports Governance & SE funding. Just brief mention of this with some discussion re impact if SE funding lost.

Bullet points for highlighting to the National Council:

- **Increased access to public paths for cyclists.**

Meeting understands that BMC has to consider this & doesn't object at this stage but various concerns were expressed & support would depend upon seeing the details of any final proposal. For increased access to work good signage & management of paths would be key, as would a good understanding of anticipated future usage & observation of best practice/a code of conduct by users. Reference made to the Ramblers Association which is apparently in agreement in principle but with various concerns. Please see link –

<http://www.ramblers.org.uk/news/news/2016/july/british-cycling-calls-for-increased-access-for-cyclists.aspx>

- **Communication between Areas & NC on policy/development issues.**

Meeting felt that NC Agendas & papers should be available before all Area Meetings to facilitate discussion as appropriate. Suggestion re NC suggesting up to 2 issues for discussion at Area Meetings but Areas also need to be able to decide for themselves what NC Agenda items need discussion.

- **BMC's work re Women & Young People.**

Emma Flaherty & Jo Rowbottom gave a very good joint presentation re the Women's Development Group, the BMC's Women Outdoors project & the BMC's work with Young People.

Completed by: Deirdre Collier. 30 November 2016.