

# BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

177-179 Burton Road  
Manchester M20 2BB  
www.thebmc.co.uk

Tel: 0161 445 6111  
Fax: 0161 445 4500  
Email: office@thebmc.co.uk

## BMC NATIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of the 51<sup>ST</sup> meeting of National Council, BMC office, Manchester, Sat 3 December 2016.

### Voting members present:

President	Rehan Siddiqui	(RS)	Chair
Vice-President	Nick Kurth	(NK)	
Vice-President	Emma Flaherty	(EF)	
Vice-President	Rupert Davies	(RD)	
Honorary Treasurer	John Simpson	(JS)	
CEO	Dave Turnbull	(DT)	
Cymru / Wales (North)	Anthony Eccles	(AE)	
Cymru / Wales (North)	Dan Lane	(DL)	
Lakes	Ted Rogers	(TR)	
Lakes	Peter Sterling	(PS)	
London & SE	Rik Payne	(RP)	
London & SE	Lisa Payne	(LP)	
Midlands	Roger Fanner	(RF)	
Midlands	Phil Simister	(PSim)	
North East	Mark Anstiss	(MA)	
North West	Nick Bond	(NB)	
Peak	Rob Greenwood	(RG)	
Peak / Women's Development Group	Lynn Robinson	(LR)	
South West	Gareth Palmer	(GP)	
Yorkshire	Deirdre Collier	(DC)	
Yorkshire	James Rowe	(JR)	

### Observers present:

Independent Director	Simon McCalla	(SM)
ABC	Rich Emerson	(RE)
ACT	Laetitia Sterling	(LS)
Access	Dave Musgrove	(DMus)
Clubs	Fiona Sanders	(FS)
Competitions	Ian Walton	(IW)
Equity	Kamala Sen	(KS)
Guidebooks	Ian Carr	(IC)
Huts	Iain McCallum	(IM)
International	Dave Wilkinson	(DW)
Land Management	Martin Wragg	(MW)
Technical	Phil Tootill	(PT)
Training & Youth	Andy Newton	(AN)

### Staff present:

Deputy CEO	Nick Colton	(NC)
Secretary AM	Kate Anwyl	(KA)
Secretary PM	Tony Ryan	(TRy)
Access Officer (England)	Rob Dyer	(RD)
Access Officer (Wales)	Elfyn Jones	(EJ)
Clubs & Partnerships Officer	Jane Thompson	(JT)
Competitions & Walls Officer	Rob Adie	(RA)
Equity & Partnerships Officer	Jo Rowbottom	(JR)
Guidebooks Officer	Niall Grimes	(NG)
Hill Walking Officer	Carey Davies	(CD)
BMC / MTE Training Officer	Jon Garside	(JG)
Technical Officer & Huts	Dan Middleton	(DMid)
Youth & Partnerships Officer	James McHaffie	(JMCh)

## Actions

### 1. Welcome & apologies for absence

#### 1.1 Welcome

1.1.1 Rehan Siddiqui welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially Simon McCalla (new Independent Director) and Dan Lane (North Cymru/Wales rep) who were attending National Council for first time.

1.1.2 RS gave a special note of thanks to Colin Knowles who has completed his term as SW Area rep and National Council rep on Executive.

#### 1.2 Apologies

1.2.1 Apologies were received from Jon Punshon, Tim Greenhalgh, Dave Brown, Helen Wilson, Brian Smith, Graham Richmond, Guy Jarvis, Mike Rosser, Jackie Bryson, Alan Hinkes, Cath Flitcroft and Rob Adie.

#### 1.3 Conflicts of Interest

1.3.1 No conflicts were declared.

### 2. Specialist Committee ToR, Membership & Forward Plans for approval

#### 2.1 Training & Youth

*Chair: Andy Newton*

*Officer: Jon Garside*

2.1.1 AN reported on a busy 2016 and noted that the committee oversees the work of four BMC officers. The group was looking to replace the Climbing Wall Directory with an App (est. cost £5k). AN added that the retention of MT members is poor and that more efforts should be made to retain them. He finished by thanking the officers for their hard work over the last 12 months.

2.1.2 NC confirmed that safeguarding cases are being dealt with and that best practice needs to be reiterated to clubs and climbing walls; this is an ongoing commitment.

2.1.3 **Vote: Proposed by Iain McCallum and seconded by James Rowe, the ToR, Membership & Forward Plans were unanimously approved.**

**Agreed**

#### 2.2 Technical

*Chair: Philip Tootill*

*Officers: Dan Middleton*

2.2.1 PT explained the current collaboration between the BMC and Cambridge University on belay devices and that up-to-date literature is to be produced in 2017 on abseil knots. He added that the Committee is pushing to have helmet standards improved, although this would take time. DMid advised that a long-term bolt testing station is being set up on the sea cliffs at Pen Trwyn, North Wales.

2.2.2 **Vote: Proposed by Andy Newton and seconded by Will Kilner, the ToR, Membership & Forward Plans unanimously approved.**

**Agreed**

#### 2.3 Land Management

*Chair: Martin Wragg*

*Officers: Elfyn Jones & Rob Dyer*

2.3.1 MW noted the BMC currently owns eight crags, is pursuing a ninth (Crookrise) and has agreements in places with many land owners across England and Wales. Volunteers and staff are extremely busy managing these sites and the LMG is also looking considering a project to re-equip Horseshoe Quarry.

- 2.3.2 Rob Greenwood suggested a fundraiser to generate funds to assist with the re-equipping of Horseshoe. It was agreed to discuss further at the next Peak area meeting. **Action RG**
- 2.3.3 Rik Payne thanked the group for their exceptional work at Harrison's Rocks on behalf of the London and South East area.
- 2.3.4 Will Kilner asked for an update on the sale of Eric's café at Tremadog. Elfyn Jones reported some initial interest from a car garage but had not heard anything further in recent months.
- 2.3.5 Following discussions regarding the removal of 'Acquisition and' on the first bullet point of the Terms of Reference, it was agreed these two words would be omitted. The BMC's overall policy on land acquisition is a matter for National Council to determine rather than the LMG.
- 2.3.6 **Vote: Proposed by James Rowe and seconded by Rik Payne, the ToR, Membership & Forward Plans were unanimously approved subject to removal of 'acquisition and' from first bullet point in the document.** **Agreed**
- 2.4 International**  
*Chair: Dave Wilkinson*  
*Officer: Nick Colton*
- 2.4.1 DW confirmed that BMC grants were paid to 13 overseas expeditions in 2016, totally £13,125. The committee continues to work closely with the Mount Everest Foundation and Julie Tullis Memorial Award. The winter international meet, held at Glenmore Lodge in late January, had been very successful.
- 2.4.5 **Vote: Proposed by Roger Fanner and seconded by Phil Simister, the ToR, Membership & Forward Plans were unanimously approved.** **Agreed**
- 2.5 Huts**  
*Chair: Iain McCallum*  
*Officer: Dan Middleton*
- 2.5.1 IM reported that the Huts survey was being extended due to a low response rate and that there have been some issues with the new insurance provider.
- 2.5.2 DT referred to an issue which had arisen earlier in 2016 concerning the potential purchase of a new hut in the Ogwen Valley. He noted that the BMC does not have a policy to purchase new huts and that any such suggestion would have to come to National Council and the Executive for consideration.
- 2.5.3 **Vote: Proposed by Deirdre Collier and seconded by Phil Simister the ToR, Membership & Forward Plans were unanimously approved.** **Agreed**
- 2.6 Guidebooks**  
*Chair: Ian Carr*  
*Officer: Niall Grimes*
- 2.6.1 IC reported that the new Lancashire Guide has been produced in 2016 and that the Peak Limestone South is due for completion by mid-summer 2017.
- 2.6.2 Referring to a query about the Leicestershire Guidebook PSim agreed to contact the relevant local volunteers for a progress update. **Action: PSim**
- 2.6.3 **Vote: Proposed by Dave Musgrove and seconded by Nick Bond, the ToR, Membership & Forward Plans unanimously approved.** **Agreed**
- 2.7 Finance**  
*Chair: Graham Richmond*  
*Officer: Alan Brown*

- 2.7.1 John Simpson (Honorary Treasurer) gave a report in the absence of the Chair.
- 2.7.2 Fiona Sanders asked for a split between membership-generated income and commercial income. Roger Fanner asked whether the clubs loan scheme is needed given the lack of take-up.
- 2.7.3 **Vote: Proposed by Deirdre Collier and seconded by Will Kilner, the ToR, Membership & Forward Plans were unanimously approved.** **Agreed**
- 2.8 Equity**  
*Chair: Kamala Sen*  
*Officer: Jo Rowbottom*
- 2.8.1 KS noted that the Equity Steering Group should be seen to support all BMC committees and the work of the BMC as a whole, as highlighted in the third bullet point in the ToR.
- 2.8.2 **Vote: Proposed by Andy Newton and seconded by Will Kilner, the ToR, Membership & Forward Plans were unanimously approved.** **Agreed**
- 2.9 Clubs**  
*Chair: Fiona Sanders*  
*Officer: Jane Thompson*
- 2.9.1 FS reminded the meeting that the role of the Clubs Committee is to support all BMC affiliated clubs. The Committee's operating procedures have been simplified in order to help attract and retain a diverse membership. The potential loss of Sport England funding may affect the ability to provide relevant training to clubs. FS thanked Deirdre Collier and Jane Thompson for their work over the year.
- 2.9.2 The Clubs Seminar is being changed in 2017 to a roadshow style format in the cities of Sheffield, Manchester, London and possibly Gloucester.
- 2.9.3 DW highlighted an issue his club has with student clubs using their hut and asked if others have had similar problems. It was suggested this was discussed further after the meeting.
- 2.9.4. **Vote: Proposed by Deirdre Collier and seconded by Rob Greenwood, the ToR, Membership & Forward Plans were approved.** **Agreed**
- 2.10 Competitions**  
*Chair: Ian Walton*  
*Officer: Rob Adie*
- 2.10.1 IW reported on another busy and successful year for the committee and team. IW spoke about climbing becoming an Olympic sport and that internal structural changes may be needed, depending on the level of UK Sport funding received.
- 2.10.2 IW was pleased that a Commercial Partnerships Manager is being recruited as this should be beneficial for team sponsorship.
- 2.10.3 It was agreed that bullet 3 in the ToR should also include UIAA competitions and to change the wording to '*support international competitions and relevant bodies*'.

It was agreed to remove the words 'the IFSC' under bullet 6 so that it reads 'support and develop climbing in the Olympic Programme.'

- 2.10.4 **Vote: Proposed by Phil Simister, seconded by Rob Greenwood and subject to the changes under 2.10.3 the ToR, Membership & Forward Plans were unanimously approved.** **Agreed**

**2.11 Access**

*Chair: Dave Musgrove*

*Officers: Cath Flitcroft, Rob Dyer and Elfyn Jones*

- 2.11.1 DMus gave an overview on the work achieved in 2016. NK congratulated the team for their hard work, noting the TGO Award for the Mend our Mountains campaign and also appreciation to Elfyn Jones who has continued to work during his illness.
- 2.11.2 DMus expressed his concern at the removal of a BMC paid article (by Ed Douglas) from the BMC website about the environmental implications of Brexit. The AMG felt it was reasonable to brief members on such issues. The article had been published two days after the Referendum and had been removed without consultation with the author or the AMG. RS had made the decision following representations from Brian Smith (Non Exec Director – not in attendance at the NC meeting) and others who felt it did not present a balanced view. It was also pointed out that NC had previously agreed to remain impartial on the issue and RS was following up on that decision. RS had made the offer for a revised updated version containing alternative views but the offer had not been taken up.
- 2.11.3 Will Kilner noted that the June National Council meeting had decided against producing an article on the Referendum due to the timescale (one week before the vote) and the politically loaded nature of the issue.
- 2.11.4 Action: RS to contact Ed Douglas to discuss the matter further. **Action: RS**
- 2.11.5 **Vote: Proposed by Iain McCallum and seconded by Andy Newton, the ToR, Membership & Forward Plans were unanimously approved.** **Agreed**

**Additional Presentations**

**2.12 Hill Walking Working Group**

*Chair: Brian Smith*

*Officer: Carey Davies*

- 2.12.1 CD reported on a busy year which finished on a high due to the award from TGO on the Mend our Mountains campaign. CD expressed his thanks for the volunteer support during the campaign.
- 2.12.2 A report of the Hill Walking Working Group's work over the last four years will be presented to National Council in February 2017. **Action: TRy**
- 2.12.3 RS ended by expressing thanks to the chairs and their committees for their positive contributions over the last 12 months.
- 2.13 BMC Access and Conservation Trust (ACT)**
- 2.13.1 Laetitia Sterling – standing in for the ACT chair Matthew Bradbury – summarised the work of the trust and noted that several new trustees are needed.

**3. Points for AOB**

- 3.1
- Format of AGM (Peter Sterling)
  - Kendal Presentation (Peter Sterling)
  - Circulation of National Council documents (Anthony Eccles)
  - Role of Patrons (Rik Payne)
  - Governance (Rik Payne)

#### 4. Minutes of the previous meeting\*

- 4.1 PSim suggested an amendment to Item 6.1.3 d. of the draft minutes, which said: *"It is likely that many climbers do not have a strong view on the BMC's name."*

The meeting accepted that it wasn't possible to know if this was likely, and so agreed to remove the sentence from the minutes.

**Agreed**

- 4.2 Mark Anstiss pointed out that a summary of the North East area report was not included in the minutes. It appeared that two versions of the draft minutes were in circulation, one with and one without a North East summary. It is unclear how this occurred, but the minutes on the BMC's computer network and website is the version which includes the North East summary.

#### 5. Matters arising not covered elsewhere

##### 5.1 Action points from previous meeting

- 5.1.1 Ref 3.2.1: Fixed equipment paper – Rupert Davies and Martin Wragg to formulate wording – ongoing.

**Action:**  
**RD/MW**

- 5.1.2 Ref 3.2.3: New member data breakdown – Arun Patel liaising with Roger Fanner – ongoing. Action: Nick Colton to investigate and circulate an update.

**Action: NC**

- 5.1.3 Ref 3.2.7: Set start time of Sunday National Council at 2017 AGM.

**Action:**  
**TRy**

- 5.1.4 Ref 3.2.13: Sign and return Conflicts of Interest policy document.

**Action: KA**

- 5.1.5 Ref 3.2.14: Exec to present new vision and mission statements – ongoing.

**Action: DT**

#### 6. Reports

##### 6.1 Areas (\*report submitted)

- 6.1.1 **Lakes\***. 35 people attended the November meeting in Staveley; James McHaffie attended as BMC officer and gave a slideshow of his recent climbing exploits.

Pete Sterling reported that there had been a lengthy discussion on the rebrand, on whether the BMC was a governing or representative body and the potential impact of climbing in the Olympics. The meeting also discussed officer attendance at area meetings and support for the area in general. National Council agreed to discuss this issue at the February meeting.

**Action:**  
**TRy**

The area sought clarification on the status of insurance cover for lapsed/former BMC members who had placed fixed equipment whilst they were members, and separately on liability cover for Cumbria Bolt Fund trustees.

- 6.1.2 **London & SE\***. 47 people attended the November meeting in central London; Calum Muskett was the guest speaker.

Members wanted to know about the role of BMC Patrons in particular, and where responsibility and accountability lie in relation to governance, roles and remits for the office, Executive and National Council.

Members also wanted National Council agendas to be made available prior to area meetings, so that members can discuss relevant issues and feed into the National Council meeting immediately following the round of area meetings.

- 6.1.3 **Midlands\***. 53 people attended the November meeting in Solihull; James McHaffie attended as BMC officer and gave a slideshow.

The meeting discussed the rebrand, following the decision taken after the September round of meetings not to go ahead with it. The meeting also discussed governance, and whether the BMC will be governed by a National Council elected by the areas or become a body managed and governed by an Executive.

- 6.1.4 **North East\***. 20 people attended the November meeting in Newcastle. Progress on planning for the 2017 North East Climbing Festival (16-18 June) was reported on.

Mark Anstiss explained that Jon Punshon and himself had been voted on as the North East Area reps on National Council.

The area would like to hold a free instruction day at a local crag in response to a number of recent accidents, to address the issue of climbers making the transition from indoor to outdoor climbing.

The meeting welcomed the decision to discuss the rebrand at the previous round of area meetings and the final decision, based on feedback from the meetings, not to go ahead with it. The proposal to keep competition climbing under the BMC umbrella, following the announcement that climbing will feature in the 2020 Olympics, was also well received.

- 6.1.5 **North West**. 21 people attended the meeting in Bolton. Following a period without an area secretary since Harold Walmsley completed his term, the area elected Andy Say as its new secretary.

The meeting had agreed that the peg on Shivers Arete in Wilton 1 could be replaced by a stainless steel glue-in bolt. A proposal was made to keep the Lancashire Rock website up to date with new route information. Discussions with the owners of Montcliffe Quarry are ongoing; in the meantime climbers are asked not to climb there.

- 6.1.6 **Peak**. 76 people attended the November meeting in Grindleford, which included the popular annual quiz. For 2017, the area has decided to hold all its meetings in Grindleford.

The Peak Bolt Fund has been re-invigorated, with new people getting involved, thanks in part to BMC bolting workshops.

Some disappointment was expressed that the BMC position statement on drilled equipment was not published in the new Peak Limestone North guidebook; assurances have been made that it will be included in the companion guidebook for the south when it is published.

The meeting expressed concern about changes to the management structure of the Stanage North Lees Estate, and the impact this might have on climbing and other recreational activities. The meeting also discussed the future of the Hill Walking Working Group.

The footpath repair work on Ringing Roger, funded by the Mend Our Mountains campaign, has been completed. A successful walk, organised by hill walking rep Peter Judd and attended by new hill walking rep Austin Knott, was held on Kinder.

As with the London & SE area, members were uncertain about the role of BMC Patrons and the nomination procedure.

- 6.1.7 **South West\***. 24 people attended the November meeting in Bristol. Jon Garside attended as BMC officer. Having completed their five-year terms, Matt Goater (chair) and Philip Wilson (secretary) stepped down, and James Mann and Mark Kemball were elected to replace them. Helen Wilson replaces Colin Knowles as one of the area's National Council reps.

Preparations for the 2017 Lundy Climbing Festival (26 Aug – 2 Sep) are progressing; campsite and barn accommodation has been booked. Tickets will go on sale soon via the BMC online shop.

A clean-up day on Suspension Bridge Buttress in Avon Gorge is planned for Sunday 22 January.

- 6.1.8 **Yorkshire\***. 21 people attended the November meeting in Ben Rhydding. Emma Flaherty and Jo Rowbottom gave a joint presentation on the Women's Development Group, the BMC's Women Outdoors project and its work with young people.

JR (chair, National Council rep) and DC (secretary, National Council rep) stepped down from both of their roles. Sarah Sharps replaces Deirdre as secretary, but a replacement chair and National Council reps have yet to be found and elected.

The meeting expressed some concerns about the BMC's support for a letter signed by a number of outdoor recreation organisations calling on government to permit access for mountain bikers to more public paths in the England and Wales countryside.

As with the London & SE area, members felt that National Council agendas and papers should be made available prior to area meetings.

The meeting reported that the BMC acquisition of Crookrise Crag is imminent, and will be completed before the end of 2016.

- 6.1.9 **North Wales**. 60 people attended the meeting in Brynrefail, which included a slideshow by newly elected area secretary Iona Pawson (who replaces Calum Muskett) about her ski ascent of Mount Logan, Canada's highest mountain. CD also gave a presentation on his work. Dan Lane replaced Jim Kelly as National Council rep.

Will Kilner raised the issue of the Wales AGM being held in north Wales, which effectively meant that elections for local area reps in south Wales were voted on by members who had little or no knowledge of the candidates.

Discussion of hydro-electricity schemes in the area continued from previous meetings. Repairs to the Watkin Path on Snowdon, funded by Mend Our Mountains, are due to begin before the end of the year. The Cwm Idwal Winter Climbing Information Project is now running for the winter season. Ann Vowles is monitoring ground conditions on Snowdon for inclusion in Met Office reports.



- 6.1.10 **South Wales.** No meeting prior to National Council; next meeting scheduled for 14 December in Cardiff.

## 6.2 **Finance Report\***

- 6.2.1 JS presented his report. The budget was originally set with an expected surplus of £23k, but the forecast at the end of Q3 has moved to a £12k deficit. Negative variances included the cost of Mend Our Mountains, rebranding costs, and higher postage costs and reduced advertising revenue in Summit. The climbing teams were also allocated an extra £15k in 2016. Positive variances included continued improvement in travel insurance and strong performance of the BMC online shop.

As of 1 October, total membership was 79,733, up by 2,174 compared to 2015; an increase of 4% on individual membership (to 55,168) and 0.7% on club membership (to 22,562). Student clubs renew from September, which is why club numbers are down on the last quarter.

Cash reserves are down on those at year end, but the balance sheet remains healthy, with net current assets standing at £848k.

The main variable for the 2017 budget is the Sport England grant, and until we receive confirmation from Sport England, the budget includes an estimate that grant income will reduce by c. £600k over the 2017-21 grant period.

JS reported that it is likely a subscriptions increase will be needed in 2018 due to the increasing costs of running the BMC and the likely reduction in Sport England funding; this would have to be agreed by the 2017 AGM. At that point, subscriptions will only have increased once in seven year period.

## 6.3 **CEO Report\***

- 6.3.1 As reflected in the Finance Report, membership and travel insurance sales both continue to grow.

The first phase of Membership Services Online has been completed and rolled out to student clubs and a selection of senior clubs for testing. Other IT developments include the Single Sign On, which will enable members to access all web-hosted BMC solutions efficiently, providing greater interaction and personalisation with the BMC website, a new network structure, and a new security policy, which will allow us to introduce IT facilities for volunteers/committees. The new BMC regional access database (RAD) will go live by February.

The new UK Sport / Sport England Governance Code was published in late October, and we are actively assessing its requirements and implications.

## 6.4 **Executive Committee\***

- 6.4.1 No issues arising out of the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19 October.

## 7. **Constitutional issues**

### 7.1 **Remit of National Council and the Executive**

- 7.1.1 RS introduced the paper produced by DT, which looked at how we might clarify the roles and remits and improve the BMC's decision-making processes. Reference was also made to the new UK Sport / Sport England Code for Sports Governance and the definitions of boards and council's within that document.

There was a general discussion about how the current structure (of National Council and Executive Committee) aligns with the new code, but due to lack of time, it was agreed to continue the discussion at the February meeting, and to set the agenda for that meeting so that constitutional issues were covered before the reports section.

**Action:**  
**TRy**

## **7.2 Length of term for directors**

7.2.1 Not discussed at meeting due to lack of time – to be included on February agenda.

**Action:**  
**TRy**

## **7.3 Area Consultation**

7.3.1 As discussed during 6.1.2 (London & SE area report), it was agreed that National Council agendas should be made available to area chairs, secretaries and National Council reps one month before National Council meetings. This would enable chairs and secretaries to decide what issues they wish to cover at meetings preceding National Council, so that reps could take the views of their meeting to National Council. DT confirmed that this would be actioned by the office with immediate effect.

**Action:**  
**TRy**

## **7.4 Election of National Council reps on the Executive**

7.4.1 Deferred to the February meeting. BMC office to circulate an explanatory note to National Council members inviting expressions of interest.

**Action:**  
**DT**

## **7.5 Patron nomination**

7.5.1 RS made a recommendation that Rab Carrington be invited to become a BMC Patron due to his past contribution to the BMC and his interest in staying actively involved. There was a discussion about the nomination process and the role of patrons. DMus said that patrons should be considered as senior ambassadors of the BMC. SM added that patrons can be influential on major political issues and stressed the importance of being well connected in Westminster.

It was agreed that the nomination of Rab Carrington should be deferred to the next meeting, to enable a fuller discussion of the role of patrons.

**Action:**  
**TRy**

## **8. Policy issues**

### **8.1 2020 Olympics – administrative structure update\***

8.1.1 Not discussed at meeting due to lack of time – to be included on February agenda.

**Action:**  
**TRy**

## **9. Club applications for membership**

### **9.1 Grafham CC application review\***

9.1.1 FS reported that the Clubs Committee had reviewed the application by Grafham Climbing Club. It was satisfied that GCC is a bona fide club and could find no reason not to approve the application. The application was subsequently approved.

### **9.2 Club application review\***

9.2.1 The Clubs Committee had produced a paper containing a number of recommendations and proposals for changes to the criteria and process for club affiliation, which would support the potential growth in BMC club membership. The paper had the support of the Women's Development Group and the Equity Steering Group.

The recommendations were:

- To encourage clubs based at climbing walls to affiliate;
- To produce a clear affiliation check list and process for use by National Council and BMC staff;
- To produce new club affiliation pack with updated application form and web support;
- National Council to consider a membership package for climbing wall groups / clubs;
- To reduce the minimum number of members for affiliation from 20 to 10.

A vote was taken on the recommendations:

Proposed – WK; Seconded – RF

The meeting was unanimously in favour. Action: FS and Jane Thompson to take forward.

**Agreed**

RF wished to record the meeting's gratitude to the committee for its reviews.

## 10. AOB

### 10.1 Rebrand progress update

10.1.1 Not discussed due to lack of time.

### 10.2 Format of AGM

10.2.1 RS reported that following a meeting with the patrons to discuss issues arising out of the rebrand, it was agreed that future AGMs would include a 'President / CEO Report' which would also cover future plans for the organisation.

### 10.3 Kendal Presentation

10.3.1 Not discussed due to lack of time.

### 10.4 Circulation of National Council documents

10.4.1 As agreed in 7.3.1, agendas and papers to be made available one month before meetings. BMC office to investigate other options than email for circulation of papers (Dropbox, BMC Community site, Teamwork).

**Action:  
TRy**

### 10.5 Role of patrons

10.5.1 See Item 7.5.1 – discussion deferred to February meeting.

### 10.6 Governance

Not specifically discussed.

## 11. Date of next meeting

11.1 Saturday 11 February 2017 in Yorkshire

The meeting finished at 16.50 hours.

Summary of action points from the 51<sup>st</sup> meeting

Ref	Action	Involving	Target date
2.12.2	Include Hill Walking Working Group report on February NC agenda	TRy	13 Jan
2.3.2	Discuss fundraising for re-equipping Horseshoe Quarry at next Peak area meeting	RG	8 Feb
2.6.2	Leicestershire guidebook progress update	PSim	11 Feb
2.11.4	Contact Ed Douglas to discuss Brexit article	RS	Immediate

5.1.1	Fixed equipment paper – formulate wording	RD & MW	11 Feb
5.1.2	New member data breakdown update	NC	Jan 2017
5.1.3	Set start time of April 2017 National Council	TRy	Immediate
5.1.4	Sign & return Conflicts of Interest document (if not done so)	KA	Immediate
5.1.5	Exec to present new vision and mission statements	DT	01 Feb
6.1.1	Include 'Support for Areas' on February NC agenda	TRy	13 Jan
7.1.1	Include 'Remit of NC & Exec' on February NC agenda and bring forward constitutional issues on agenda	TRy	13 Jan
7.2.1	Include 'Length of term of directors' on February NC agenda	TRy	13 Jan
7.3.1	Circulate NC agenda/papers one month before meetings	TRy	13 Jan
7.4.1	Invite interested candidates to apply as NC rep on Exec	DT	Immediate
7.5.1	Include 'Patron nomination' (Rab Carrington) and discussion of role of patrons on February NC agenda	TRy	13 Jan
8.1.1	Include '2020 Olympics admin structure update' on February NC agenda	TRy	13 Jan
10.4.1	Investigate options for distribution of NC papers	TRy	Immediate

**The above accepted as an accurate record of the meeting:**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rehan Siddiqui