

BMC South Wales Area Meeting

7.30PM Friday 26th May 2017,
YHA Manorbier, Tenby, SA70 7TT

MINUTES

Chair: Will Kilner

16 present

1. Welcome and apologies. Will welcomed everyone to the meeting. No apologies received.
2. Minutes of the previous meeting agreed

Actions from previous meeting:

- Future Landscapes Wales report is now set to be debated on 6 June. This report proposes significant changes to the purpose of National Parks in Wales. Briefing paper on this to be posted on the BMC site. Members are encouraged to read the briefing notes and contact Assembly Members with concerns regarding this.

Action: Will Kilner to bring the report to the attention of APPMG for discussion

Action: Invite National Park Authority / Friends of Brecon Beacons / Pembrokeshire National Park to Area Meeting to present (MS / WK)

- Meeting with NT warden re Bacon Hole access. Elfyn gave an overview of the current access situation to the meeting. Matt Woodfield has met with the new warden and discussions re access are ongoing. Any changes to the current access situation will be added to the RAD.
- Information regarding local area roles. Will gave an overview of the roles within the South Wales area and will ensure further information regarding these are attached to the minutes. Members are encouraged to consider whether they can take on one of the volunteer roles in the area.

3. Access and conservation

- a. Elfyn updated the meeting – there have been a couple of infringements of the access agreement in Pembrokeshire, climbing on banned areas that are well marked. Brief discussion on publicising infringements so that local climbers can help to manage the issue.

- b. Auks have returned to Mowing Word, so access is restricted. Access remains on routes left of Blowin in the Wind with 6 or 7 routes affected.
- c. N Pembroke – some belay stakes to be renewed. Discussion took place about a few other local sites that are in need of renewal.
- d. Regional Access Database app is being redesigned following technical issues with the current RAD.
- e. Craig y Forwyn in North Wales may see access granted by new landowners after 30 years of no access permitted.

4. BMC AGM

- a. Will updated the meeting on the AGM. The executive council were re-elected. Lynn Robinson was voted in as new vice president. Rehan Siddiqui stood down as president after the motion of no confidence was voted down. Nick Kurth is now acting president.

The motion of no confidence brought to the meeting was defeated with 86% of the votes against it. Those present agreed that the meeting was well and fairly chaired with opportunities for both sides to express their views.

- b. Organisational review of the BMC is now underway and terms of reference have been posted on the website. The review group are seeking a volunteer to take the role of secretary.

Timescale for the review is to complete the initial phase within 4-6 months and then spend 6-8 months prior to the next agm consulting with areas and members.

Peter Salenieks raised a concern that if an Emergency General Meeting was needed to ratify any recommendations of the review that this would not be possible within the timescale set out. He was also concerned that the terms of reference included new structure being compliant with Sport England and Companies law, which may not be in line with a member led approach for the organisation.

PS also raised concerns that photographs posted on the internet from the AGM included some of the votes being cast and that this needed to be kept private.

Action: WK to raise the issue at National Council.

Brief discussion took place regarding how other organisations that receive Sports England funding are constituted and where SE funding goes.

5. Wales Update

Following South Wales becoming its own area discussion took place around the need to continue co-ordination with N. Wales area reps on Welsh issues. Will said that plans will be made to arrange meetings between N and S Wales reps.

Action: WK to discuss with N Wales area chair and reps

6. National Council Update

Following briefings at last round of area meetings, National Council has agreed the principle of seeking commercial partnerships, subject to some caveats. Brief update on the concept for those not at last meeting.

Actions from the meeting

7. Clubs

Peter Salenieks has agreed to take on the role of area clubs rep and is also standing in for the North Wales area as they seek a new rep. Next clubs committee meeting is 11 June; any issues or queries, please contact PS.

8. Youth

Liz Collyer updated the meeting on UK youth climbing finals in Edinburgh last month. 1 Pembrokeshire team member took place on the Wales team. Welsh team placed 7th overall with lots of individual success. Congratulations to all, with Gwen's first place in the Girl's C category and Zoe's 3rd in the Girl's B category particularly noted.

9. Hill Walking

- a. Recap of the Mend Our Mountains 2 idea discussed at last meeting. Elfyn informed the meeting this may be launched towards the end of the year.
- b. Brief discussion about possibility of including hill walking in next year's Pembrokeshire festival.
- c. Hill Walking implementation group has met and started to deliver the strategy document discussed previously.

10. Climbing

Bacon Hole access discussed already. No other issues arising.

11. Events

- a. Big thanks to Andy and Liz for organising the Pembrokeshire Festival. All present congratulated them on the hard work put in.
- b. Gower Festival still needs somebody to take it on and organise.

12. AOB

Martin Allen asked if there would be interest in a Deep Water Soloing Festival. September suggested as a good time of year for this.

13. Next meeting

Scheduled for September to tie in with Gower Festival.

Agenda item	Action	Who by	progress
2.a	ongoing discussions with Martin C re the remaining lines that have been bolted	Pete Blackburn	
3a.	Feed back comments from the area to National Trust re Pont ar Daf	Elfyn Jones	
3d.	Check RAD is up to date re Ban y Gor	Elfyn Jones	
4a.	Seek national council approval for S. Wales to be a fully constituted area of the BMC	Will Kilner	
10b.	Explore whether SWMC can assist with organising Gower Festival	Peter Sheppard	
12	Look into Swansea area venue for next meeting	Will Kilner	