

**BMC Cymru Mid Wales Area Meeting
25 October 2017 at 7.30. White Lion, Machynlleth**

MINUTES

1. Welcome: From the Chairman Huw Gilbert

2. Apologies: Mark Bramich, Don Sergeant, Doug Kerr, Peter Cooper.

3. In Attendance: Huw Gilbert, Jane Lloyd-Francis, Emily Groves, Jo Dean, Ian Pilcher, Dave Williams, Myfyr Tomos, Terry Taylor, Deri Jones, Elfyn Jones.

3. Matters Arising:

Newsletter postcode grouping with the Midlands has been raised and resolved.

Access to CAT. Elfyn has not yet visited to discuss with Jon Challen . JLF to provide contact details

Mend Our Mountains 2 is to be launched at the end of November with the aim of raising 1 million pounds. Mynydd Moel descent on Cader Idris remains a priority.

Vote of No Confidence in the BMC was not carried. The chair thanked those who voted.

Nant y Moch Windfarm Development is not progressing at the moment.

Concern was raised about the Llandegle Wind Farm proposal, especially due to the suspiciously short period of consultation; it was decided that concerns needed to be expressed by individuals rather than by the BMC.

Cwm Mynach stiles- no progress.

4. BMC Update:

a) Future Landscape Review – Taking Wales forwards.

Elfyn highlighted how difficult and complicated the document was to decipher, made up of 98 pages and more than 50 proposals. The document is long, dense and hard to interpret.

The BMC finds itself largely in agreement with the Governance of Landscape section.

There are however still concerns regarding the future of National Parks and their management.

Better Access to the coast of Wales is supported but deemed not within the remit of the BMC. Wild Camping and Wild Swimming access issues are being addressed. The BMC supported simplifying access agreements and finally did

not take issue with mountain bike access to some mountain routes – somewhat controversially - the issue may be solved by creating access to some designated pathways and recognising some routes as unsuitable.

There have been 15,000 responses to the document so response time will be longer as a result.

The BMC has made alliances with many user groups to create a stronger voice and in general welcomes the WG approach to opening more access to the uplands and improved conservation.

The next step will be to lobby member's opinions on issues that the BMC should raise.

b) BMC Reorganisation: No progress to report as yet.

The proposals are being developed by an independent third party.

The response from the group was that the manner in which the organisation is managed not a concern provided that it works efficiently for the membership.

However, it was noted that while the current system is democratic it is cumbersome and time consuming so in need of simplification.

Consultation with members has to be 45 days before the AGM and the AGM is on Saturday 28 April 2018.

5. Local Issues:

There has been some storm damage at Tremadog with some tree damage and rock fall with potential for more.

No access issues have been reported.

Trem Fest will be in April and assistance will be welcomed. Members of the group offered to help.

Sea cliff collapse reported at Green Bridge of Wales and Museford Point in Pembrokeshire.

Issues at Llanymynach Quarry where climber's dogs have been chasing sheep.

6. AOB

There is a vacant post for secretary to the Mid Wales Group. JLF has agreed to cover this until someone else dying to do it turns up.

The new Mid Wales Climbing Guide is being proof read with the aim of publishing by Easter. £25.00 was raised for the Bolt Fund

7. Next Meeting: April 18th 2018, starting at 7.30pm, White Lion, Machynlleth.