

## **Report to Midlands Area**

### **from National Council meeting 2nd and 3rd December 2017**

This was a mega meeting spread over two days but essentially in three Acts lasting over 10 hours.

The **first**, on the Saturday morning, was the usual reports of all the sub Committees, including this time the Hill Walking Implementation Group. When you step back from it all and look at the massive scale of the work that has happened in the BMC's name this last twelve months, it is really impressive. We have asked for something to be put on the website to reflect this and let the members see what is being done in their name.

The Saturday afternoon, essentially **Act two**, was given over to the ORG with an update from the team about the early results of their feedback survey, and details of what happened in the Area meetings.

Much of the discussion was about how the final recommendations of the report might be turned into action and resolutions at the AGM. Considerable concern was expressed that the timescale before the AGM was going to be too short from a properly informed debate to take place. Nick Kurth is preparing a paper on this for Council to consider. The members survey was regarded as very important.

The **third Act** was on the Sunday morning and consisted of the actual NC meeting. The draft minutes of this should be available on the website by now. *(Although for some reason the search facility on the website seems to have stopped working.)* The highlights were:

- A number of Areas had still not got round to debating the reduction of BMC members on MTE. It was agreed that they should have a last chance to do so. You may recall that we decided that this was not contentious and agreed to it.
- Financially we are not in a good position. Assuming we do eventually get the money that Sport England have apparently promised us, we will still make a loss of £110k this year. If we do not get it, it will be more like a quarter of a million.
- An Area report of note came from the South West, an area which our members are quite often to be found in. The coastguard appear to have very little experience of sea cliff rescue of climbers (although are still happy to take the credit when a rescue happens successfully!). You would usually do better calling the police rather than the coastguard. They are being engaged to try to improve things.