

**BMC North East Area Meeting  
19 April 2018 – Durham Climbing Centre**

**MINUTES**

**In attendance:**

Paul Mitchinson  
Stephen Heiniger  
Mark Anstiss (Chair, NC Rep)  
Jon Punshon (NC Rep, Acting Secretary)  
P Powell  
Chris Bullock  
Franco Cookson  
Mike Conlon  
Stephen Blackman (Treasurer of CC)  
Bob McAdam  
Mike Fachini

**Observers:**

Rob Dyer (BMC, Access and Conservation Officer)  
Andy Syme (ORG Implementation Group Chair, Yorkshire Chair and NC Rep)  
Dave Brown (Peak NC Rep)

**Apologies:**

Sarah Johnson  
Alan Hinkes  
Mark Goodings  
John Herron  
Steve Jenkins  
Jess Wortley  
Steve Blake  
Graham Harkness (FRCC)  
Rose Hakin  
Peter Simcock  
Martin Ballantyne  
Bill Renshaw

**Welcome and Introductions**

The chair welcomed the attendance of Stephen Blackman who has recently re-located to the NE.

**Previous minutes**

Both the new chair and the outgoing chair had requested amendments to the draft minutes; these amendments had not been made to the minutes available at the meeting. There was broad agreement that the minutes were a fair record of the discussion at the previous meeting. Some minor changes to ensure clarity were agreed.

## **ORG and the work of the ORG Implementation Group (IG)**

The chair delivered a very detailed Powerpoint presentation to the meeting which:-

- Summarised the NE views from the last meeting
- Delivered a brief history of the governance of the BMC since 1993
- Described elements of the ORG report, proposals and the work of the Implementation Group
- Possible implications of both a **yes** or **no** vote to what NC propose on 28 April 2018.

Following the chair's presentation Andy Syme (AS) clarified a number of points of detail and gave some very recent updates on Reserved Matters.

Jon Punshon (2<sup>nd</sup> NC rep) followed this with his perspective, which was that he was uneasy with the proposal for a number of reasons which he outlined.

AS responded with some lengthy comments in support of the proposals.

Discussion from the floor followed and the following points were made:-

- The case for charitable status seems to have been dismissed. Why was this not given greater consideration?
- The board must have the primacy.
- "There is some browbeating and brainwashing going on tonight ... " directed at AS.
- The BMC can survive without SE funding but youth/talent development and comps may lose out if SE funding goes. A response developed along the lines that a combination of cuts to other areas and/or subs increase (or reserves depletion) could ensure that youth and comps continue to be funded at the current level.
- Can we vote on the possibility that the threshold for bringing a resolution to the AGM be raised to 100?

A vote followed on the proposals:-

1a     For 2  
       Against 8  
       Abstentions 1

1b     For 11  
       Against 0  
       Abstentions 0

1c/i    *Threshold = 100*  
       For 2

1c/ii   *Threshold = 1% + fall back of 25 plus mediation*  
       For 0

1c/iii *Threshold = 100+ fall back of 25 plus mediation*  
For 8

1c/iv No change  
For 0

*Proposal 2*  
For 10  
Abstentions 1

*Finance and audit committee proposal on subs*  
For 10  
Abstentions 1

At 9.45pm. it was agreed that the remainder of the agenda would be postponed until the next area meeting.

**Date and venue of next meeting**

Thursday 7 June 2018 at Newcastle Climbing Centre.

*Jon Punshon (acting secretary), 19 April 2018.*