

# BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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## LONDON & SOUTH EAST AREA MEETING

Meeting held at The Old Kings Head, London  
On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 7.00pm

### Minutes

#### **Welcome and apologies for absence – Attendance numbers 20 (Men 12 Women 8)**

Chair Rik Payne (RP)

Secretary Lisa Payne (LP)

Hillwalking Chris Stone (CS) / Clubs Rep Sherry Macliver (SM)

Apologies – Michelle Hart, Jonathan White & Rya Tibawi

#### **2. Minutes of previous meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

Minutes were ratified - For: 4 against: 0 Abstained: 1

#### **3.1 Update from President Lynn Robinson**

(RP) recapped the results of the AGM pointing out that members could vote for both options and the result was a clear mandate for the BMC to get on and implement the work of the ORG. (92% for, 6% against 2% abstained)

(RP) went on to explain the formation of the Nominations Committee, which is now joined by Mick Green from the National Council but the position of Chair is being sought on a volunteer basis.

(RP) reported that the Implementation Group (IG), which is chaired by John Roberts has been formed. (RP) explained that the position for Chair of the Board of Directors was being advertised.

#### **3.2 Update on the Implementation Group**

(RP) Outlined the members of the (IG) adding that additional roles will be recruited from the membership for specific skill sets to join the IG. Added to this the position of Project manager is required to help manage the work of the (IG)

Terms of reference for the (IG) will be finalised at the upcoming National Council meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> September.

(RP) detailed the 8 working streams within the (IG)

#### **4.1 National Council**

(RP) Covered the following points from the last National Council

Memorandum of Understanding

Code of Conduct for members – following some unpleasant conduct surrounding the last AGM.

Finance – the Finance committee developed 2 budgets dependant on the outcome of the AGM and can now move forward with a budget plan.

National Council dates not being announced yet, the knock on effect is that it makes it harder for the areas to book venues that could be hard to book unless in advance and plan guest speakers for the year.

#### **4.2 Matters to take to National Council**

(See AOB) **1b**

## Reports from Area Representatives

### 5.1 Clubs

The next Clubs Committee meeting is next week so not much to report at present.

However (RP) & (SM) & Vic Odell (VO) discussed a recent issue where a club member wanted to withdraw the BMC part of his subscription to the Club after concerns about how the BMC would use his data. Which has put the club in a very difficult and problematic position with regards to how it affiliates in the future. He also pointed out the wider ramifications of disaffiliating.

(SM) asked about whether there was ongoing discussions regarding a reduced subscription fee for senior members. (RP) replied that he wasn't clear on this, but is aware of a paper produced by the clubs committee with regards to membership fees.

**5.2 Hillwalking** (CS) updated the meeting on the work of Mend Our Mountains and the upcoming Crowdfunding campaign.

Hillwalking symposium – 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> November. This is aimed at anyone interested in volunteering or interested in the hillwalking work of the BMC. Workshops will be run on the Saturday and a lead walk on the Sunday.

Your path awaits – BMC has joined the Ramblers to ensure that paths and access are protected during the writing of a new agricultural bill.

Surrey Countryside Access forum – Are looking for new members to join the forum which meets 4 times a year.

Walking festivals

High Weald 15<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> Sept.

Chilterns Walking festival 6<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> October

Box Hill Walk – Organized BMC walk on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September.

(AM) attended the last walk and praised the organization of the day and recommended attending future walks to the members.

### 6. AOB

**1a)** Vic Odell – directed the meeting to the new BMC video's showing the issues with climbing at sea cliffs. The filming was done mostly at Bosigran and the Climbers Club hut, so anyone seeing the videos and interested in staying at that hut now knows which hut it is!

**1b)** He also wanted to make his feelings known to the BMC office about the lack of BMC representation at Mark Valance's memorial recently, he feels this is reprehensible.

**2)** Harrisons Rocks Bridge debate still active and the decision will be made after the Open meet on 7<sup>th</sup> October and the subsequent HRMG meeting.

**3)** (RP) announced that he and secretary (LP) will be standing down at November's Area AGM and would need to seek volunteers for Chair & Secretary. (CS) has indicated that he'd be interested in the role of Chair. (LP) pointed out that although not glamorous, the role of secretary is crucial for a Chair to be able to do their job. (LP) also said that the aim would be to book all area meetings for 2019 and as many guest speakers as possible to make the next Chair and secretary's job easier in the first year. And that a proper hand over would be organized for the volunteers roles voted in November.

### 7. Date and location of next area meeting

November 22nd 2018 7pm – The Old Kings Head

Guest Speaker – Elizabeth Bennett

Following the meeting we had a raffle prize from Arc'Teryx and an inspirational talk from Leon McCarron. ***THE LAND BEYOND: 1000 MILES ON FOOT THROUGH THE HEART OF THE MIDDLE EAST***

Minutes completed by Lisa Payne