



Yorkshire Area ORDINARY MEETING

Meeting to be held via Zoom 5th May 2021

MINUTES

If anything to be discussed on this agenda gives rise to a conflict of interest for anyone, please declare it at the start of the meeting.

Start time 7.30pm

- 1.1 **Welcome and apologies for absence** **Jim Hulbert**
- 1.2 Welcome from the new Chair and committee members
- 1.3 Apologies received from Stuart Wetherell, Vicky Jennings, Chris Page & Nigel Baker
2. **Introduction to the BMC and Area Meetings**
3. **Minutes of previous meeting**
- 3.1 Brief discussion over use of Instagram
4. **Actions from previous meeting**
- 4.1 None
5. **Matters arising not covered elsewhere**
- 5.1 None
6. **National Council Update** **Andy Syme, Mick Green**
- 6.1 More member stuff, less governance is where the NC want to focus in 2021. This is what most the NC volunteers signed up for! Including “vision events” about where we can support members on specific sports (indoor climbing, mountaineering etc)
- 6.2 Full review has been held on area reviews, with feedback from local volunteers
- 6.3 Ambition to go to hybrid Area meetings in the future, as zoom has increased attendance but recognise the benefits of face-to-face attendance at a venue.
7. **Reports from Area Representatives**
- 7.1 **Gritstone: Access and Conservation** **Mick Johnson (partially covered by Jim H)**
 - a) Brief overview on success of Almscliff path laying (~50 volunteers!). Positive messages from social media and in the meeting all shared. Special thankyou to Dean for supplying some extra stone for free on the day, and Preston Bowers for all the other stone.
 - b) Caley gate knocked down, as raised by Carly Green, has been reported to Danefield staff by Mick J.
 - c) Parking issues below Beamsley Beacon (Ilkley), as raised by Adam Collinge, were discussed. Some feedback from attendees Judith Ellis & Peter Roll was that an area that was considered parking is believed to be part of a driveway entrance to a property which has now filled in. Another parking area (on the north side of the valley) has been filled with logs/boulders. Further investigation is needed from BMC volunteers, plus understanding who owns the land affected. **Jim** to lead.
 - d) Access issues at Shelter Cliff boulders. Mick has spoken to Bolton Abbey estate representative, and sent an email as requested. Currently the advice is still to avoid the area as climbers do not have access permissions.
 - e) Khumbu boulders stile also raised with Bolton Abbey estate at same time
 - f) Heptonstall Quarry fence has now been installed
 - g) Widdop – Lamping issues have been raised by the farmer regarding the impact on nesting birds
 - h) Eavestones – “Private Property” signs have gone up

- i) Embsay – Barbed wire fence installed on the boundary wall with Bolton Abbey. This has been done to keep the sheep off the crag by the estate and removal would make the BMC responsible for any escaped sheep, so no further action.
- j) A harris fence at Hawkcliffe quarry has gone up, unclear by whom but can be circumvented.
- k) 2 attendees raised concerns with Bolton Abbey estate access, affecting all type of outdoor sports aside from hikers. Agreed to see how it progresses by the next meeting.

7.2 **Limestone: Access and Conservation**

Jim H

- a) Langcliffe quarry – just awaiting approval from Craven district council to allow new routing to commence
- b) Stoney Bank – No ravens nesting this year, so no restrictions currently
- c) Attermire – extensive roadworks up on the moor have stopped the usual access to Victoria Cave parking. There is limited parking on Stockdale lane, but the usual Victoria cave parking is still better and only adding 5mins extra drive by going around.
- d) Trollers Gill – Loose bolt at the bottom of one route. Unsure of current status but would encourage everyone to take an adjustable spanner with them to the crag! Also discussed the addition of a practice lower-off, which seems excessive to some at least. **Jim** will investigate further, but query has been raised as to how we ‘encourage’ people to raise bolting requests at Area meetings before putting bolts in (as per the BMC Bolt Policy). This needs further thought.
- e) Malham parking issues continue, particularly up the roads either side (tarn and cove road). Request for all climbers to park in the main carparks, particularly whilst there is such a large increase in traffic with local walks and holidays continuing due to the pandemic. We are a very obvious, and easily targeting, community!
- f) Kilnsey – collapsing path on main route. Going to be reviewed to see if we can install steps or something to avoid further subsidence. Geoff and Nigel are discussing further

7.3 **Clubs**

Pete Barrans

- a) Clubs team continues to support clubs, with several BMC seminars.
- b) Mick has also held a Yorkshire area meeting with numerous local clubs, discussing risk assessments, green energy and more, including sharing central BMC advice. Another meeting will be scheduled in July.
- c) Some clubs have started opening huts or have set a plan for opening the huts later this month.
- d) Angela Soper expressed thanks, on behalf of the Pinnacle club, to the BMC for their support and advice during this difficult situation.
- e) Andy Syme mentioned the area plan regarding utilising our social media to support the clubs, further info will be shared in due course.

7.4 **Youth Outdoor**

Vicky Jennings

- a) No update

7.5 **Climbing Walls**

- a) Main thing to report is the walls are open again!

Stuart Wetherell

7.6 **Hillwalking**

Chris Page

- a) No update – but see Newsletter for more information

8. **Any Other Business**

- 8.1 Lynn Robinson (BMC President) gave an overview on the upcoming BMC AGM, and positions that are available for voting. Lynn also expressed her thanks for the support from the area, given this is her last meeting as President, and shared some key BMC appointments, such as Paul Davies as our permanent CEO, a Head of Performance (Lorraine Brown) and promoted the “wild horizons” hillwalking podcast from Niall Grimes, and the Women In Adventure Films.
- 8.2 Andy Syme gave a brief overview on his candidacy for the BMC presidents position, and how people can vote/the invitation emails.
- 8.3 Andy S shared the fundraising for Marsden Moor (damaged by fire)
<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/marsden-moor-estate/features/moorland-fire-at-marsden-moor>
- 8.4 Angela Soper shared a message from the Pinnacle Club on their 100th birthday, including encouraging women to consider membership.

9. **Date, time and location of next Area Meeting: TBC (July)**

Estimated start time 8,30pm
Actual start time 9pm

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| 10. Talk | Marc Langley |
| 11. Q&A with Marc | |
| 12. Close Meeting (10:10pm) | Jim Hulbert |