



BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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DE CYMRU / SOUTH WALES ORDINARY MEETING

Meeting held online
On Tuesday 27 June 2022

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Stuart Burns, CJ Griffiths, Tom Carrick.

A quorum was present in accordance with Article 7.1 of the British Mountaineering Council's Terms of Reference for Areas ("Area ToRs").

2. Acceptance of previous meeting minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting held on 19 April 2022, a draft of which had been posted on the BMC website, were approved.

3. Updates

A moment of reflection was held in respect of Tom Furey who passed away following a recent climbing accident in north Wales.

3.1. BMC national updates (Eben/Pete) – Filming for a climbing near cities project.

Access legislation still paused. Working with Outdoor Partnership, doing a consultation on a community climbing wall.

Festivals ongoing, including Pembroke.

Discussing an environment project around sea grass based in Swansea.

Director update (Pete Saleniks)

Very positive and forward-looking board meeting held at the office in Manchester recently. Lots of plans around conservation following last year's survey. Sport England funding will have more of a focus on equity diversity and inclusion (EDI) in

future. Various international events will shortly be held in the UK.

John Harwood question about wild camping issues on Dartmoor. Eben clarified the current situation.

3.2. Access - Gower (Stuart Burns) –

Nothing to report at present.

3.3. Access - Pembrokeshire (Steve Quinton) –

Pembroke Climbing Festival went well given the weather. More homework from Welsh attendees needed for the quiz! Nesting restrictions for cough starting to be removed. Major firing exercise has restricted weekday access considerably for the last few weeks.

3.4. Access - South East (Alex Seekings) –

Tirpentwys scare; Navigation Quarry issue with kestrals nesting, so a bird ban has been imposed until August. Talking with Tom Carrick about crag clean-ups.

3.5. Climbing walls (CJ Griffiths) –

No update was available

3.6. Clubs (Peter Salenieks) –

Had the first review of #FindYourAdventure – lots of positive vibes.

Proposed amendments to the Articles approved allowing a wider club affiliation remit.

Club membership figures have almost recovered to pre-pandemic levels.

3.7. Members Council (CJ/Steve) –

Held a face to face meeting a few weeks back in north Wales. Held a vision event, last one focussed on hillwalking, which is becoming more popular. Shortly they will be reviewing the deputy chair and patron roles. There is also a review of Area meetings, but no decisions were made. BMC homes for Ukraine scheme is now up and running.

3.8. Mountain Training (Matt Woodfield) –

Generally recovered from the pandemic. New camping leader qualification going well, with 50 people completing within the first month of this going live. Looking at national environmental policies.

3.9. Student Clubs (Jacob Isaac) –

Contacted all the presidents for the university clubs, but little response, so no news to report.

3.10. Youth (Joe Holmes) –

Connected with Neal Hockley (BMC Cymru) around competition, particularly locations, to look at coming up with a proposal for change. Will be attending a training day in Manchester in July. Welsh Bouldering Championships in Roc-Bloc

went well, but struggled to find volunteer judges. Continuing to promote youth outdoor courses.

BMC could be better at shouting about outdoor training course.

3.11. **Hillwalking** (Alan/James) –

A discussion took place around promoting the BMC to the Brecon Beacons Park Society and establishing closer links.

4. Crag/mountain clean-ups – BMC funding

4.1. A funding scheme was outlined, and the potential for applications from South Wales was discussed.

5. Date of Annual General Meeting

5.1. Dorian requested to change the date of the AGM, and the date of Monday 24 October was settled on. It was agreed that if a full hybrid meeting could be arranged then it would be, otherwise it would be held on Zoom.

6. Any other business

6.1. Matt Woodfield – bolt policy review meeting – **Action:** Dorian to chase for the documented outcome of the meeting.

6.2. John Harwood – told an interesting story

6.3. Pete Salenieks – huts group are looking into the issue of Welsh Government changes around self-catering accommodation. This was followed by a short discussion around the potential for a tourist tax and impact on club huts.