

## **BMC AREA MEETING REPORT: Yorkshire Area – Monday 19 September 2011**

### **FOR SUBMISSION TO NATIONAL COUNCIL**

1. **Location & Attendance:** The Dyneley Arms, Pool in Wharfedale. 18 people
2. **BMC staff & Executive member(s) present:** Rob Dyer
3. **New postholder(s) & situations vacant:** Limestone Access Rep post vacant
4. **Key issues discussed:**

**Woodhouse Scar & Shipley Glen** – clean up & tree pruning needed. Council land. Meetings ongoing.

**Cat Crag** - attempts to impose some 'voluntary' restrictions. Open Access Land. Nothing further heard to date.

**Eavestones Access** – Rope still across path. Nothing further heard. Identity of landowner unknown.

**Foredale, Moughton Nab, Blue Scar & Kilnsey** – See bullet points.

**Feizor Nick** – No change. Yorkshire Dales National Park (YDNP) has spoken to farmer several times about this. Climbers advised that if they climb there & are asked to leave that they are within their rights not to.

**Panorama Crag** – Piece of non access land on approach – easily avoided – Leeds Wall download updated.

**Beggar's Stile** – Continued confusion re access. Small groups ok.

**Clubs Committee** – feedback from June & September meetings.

**Harpur Hill clamping.** Signs not felt to correspond to areas of no parking.

**National Council** – see bullet points.

**Pateley Bridge Walking Festival.** 22 to 25 September.

### **Bullet points for highlighting to the National Council:**

- **Foredale & Moughton Nab** – Situation unchanged. Farmer doesn't want climbing in Foredale Quarry or on Moughton Nab. Land surrounding Foredale all access land so alternative access possible but quarry base isn't so trespass potential. No environmental reasons not to climb there. Owner unknown & quarry not registered land. ? any legal means of finding out who the owner is. Re **Moughton Nab** – same farmer owns field on approach but that is access land. Best approach is to park near Dry Rigg Quarry & walk up from there.
- **Blue Scar.** Landowner Mr Walker has insisted on climbers applying in writing for permission to climb only between 16th of July and 30th September. He requires all applicants to be BMC members and comply with certain conditions which include agreeing not to make use of any bolts or fixed equipment even on the Central Walls and Right-wing of the crag (which he does not own). Owners of right side of Blue Scar is more sympathetic to climbing but reluctant to facilitate access while Mr Walker is offering some access – concern re jeopardising neighbourly relations. Hopefully something better can be negotiated for 2012.

Meeting very concerned about this & suggestion made that individuals & clubs who were concerned about this should email Mr Walker expressing their opinions about the matter.

- **Kilnsey Crag.** It was noted that a comment re parking had been added to RAD. ? any progress re toileting
- **Clubs Committee Operating Procedures.** Proposed changes supported by Meeting.
- **BMC Position on Wind Farms.** Paper supported. Felt important to take account of views of local communities.
- **Sport Climbing & the 2020 Olympics.** Meeting supports the idea of Sport Climbing becoming an Olympic Sport. Comments made were as follows:-
  - The BMC is not a governing body. It is a representative body representing all mountaineering interests. That is the core activity & must take priority.
  - Concerns re the level of funding needed for the Olympics participation.
  - Total separation of the BMC from the Olympics involvement is not necessary but if BMC does administer climbing as an Olympic sport then it should be a totally ring fenced area with a separate funding stream.
  - Important to be wholehearted in going for it!

Completed by: Deirdre Collier, Secretary.