BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

HARRISON'S ROCKS MANAGEMENT GROUP (HRMG) Monday 20th January 2020

Minutes

Present Sarah Cullen (Chair)

Tim Skinner
Bob Moulton
Daimon Beail
Emma Harrington
Adrian Paisey
Michael Phelan

1) Welcome & Apologies

Chris Stone, Rob Dyer, Mark Brewster

2) Minutes of the Meeting on 08/11/2019

Nothing to report

3) Matters Arising not covered below

Nothing to report

4) Harrison's Rocks Work Report

a) Cement Work

SC reported that area next to The Vice does not need cementing and that no further cement work will be done for now.

BM will speak to TS about doing a new survey (Tim arrived a little later at the meeting so wasn't present at this stage), which is now overdue, and then update the spreadsheet

Action BM, TS

b) Resin Work

Graham Adcock has agreed to do some resin work and SC said that Mike Parks has offered as well – she will put him in touch. DB has put a list on a spreadsheet that was compiled by SC and Steve Jackson, which he had put on Dropbox. SC will update the list as it was compiled some time ago.

Action SC

c) Anchors

DB has produced another excel spreadsheet of bolts he'd like to do this year. Ejector – back bolt has eroded under the concrete, Slab Direct needs resin on the rear anchor, Pigtail slab, Isolated Buttress, Edwards Effort, Sticky Wicket, Rotten Stump

Wall, Sandown cracks. MP reported that he met some volunteers who would like to help Daimon with the bolting and any clearance work, he will put them in touch.

Action DB, MP

d) Ground Erosion Maintenance & Woodland Management

There was a good turnout of volunteers at the weekend to clean up after the tree work had been completed the previous week. Feedback from the Event Coordinators was discussed and feedback forms will be sent to the BMC.

TS had visited the rocks prior to the work days and compiled a 'to-do' list which proved to be very useful over the course of the weekend which will now be kept on file and updated as necessary.

Positive feedback included that the revetments made in previous years have been successful and are holding the ground back. There was a good turnout of people who have been before so it helped that they knew what they were doing.

Negative feedback included the fact that the timber was sometimes too far away from where it was required for the work and it might be useful next time to ask volunteers to move it into the desired areas, when there are a lot of people present. NB there were lots of volunteers on Saturday and less on the Sunday.

Parking for volunteers. The difficulty of claiming back individual amounts for car parking is fiddly and so we will talk to Forestry England regarding what we might able to do about it. SC to discuss with Kate Harris.

High vis jackets may be useful for future volunteers to locate Event Coordinators once they arrive at the rocks. DB said he'd look into obtaining one.

BM has been working on the Risk Assessment and reported that Nick Colton at the BMC said that it is good. BM to make a few, mainly minor amendments, and then SC to add to the group's Dropbox files.

It was agreed that we would add on to the Event Briefing that if anyone has a medical condition they can declare it to the Event Coordinator if they so wish.

AP commented on the barbed wire from an old fence that needs removing and said he will do it with the swaging cutters.

The footbridge in the bay before Unclimbed Wall area is in a bad state and one of the beams needs relacing. SC to get someone in to look at it. If we need a new bridge, it was decided that it would be good to make it a bit higher so that it doesn't get clogged up underneath.

e) Signs & Code of Conduct

SC said that she had looked at the footpaths and the emergency exit gate is in the wrong place. Need to ask Rob or Nick at the BCM whether or not they have been printed yet.

Action SC

f) Isolated Buttress Access

Not sure what's happening with planning – SC to take it up with BMC – Rob in hospital at the moment.

Action SC

5) Health & Safety

a) Any reports to the BMC Nothing to report

6) Financial Report

Bob has produced an Interim Financial Report and explained that there is a restricted fund specific for Harrison's and that Stone Farm expenses come out of another part of the fund. The group thanked BM for making the financial reports so much easier to read.

7) Stone Farm Rocks

a) Woodland Management & Ground Erosion Work

Tree surgeon needs to go to Stone Farm – it was agreed to use the same Tree Surgeon, Reuben, who did the work at Harrison's this year. SC to meet up with Michael and Reuben on site. Needs to be done by the end of the next month due to birds nesting. SC to email MP with Reuben's details. To be followed by an SVG workday(s) in March.

Action SC, MP

b) Resin Work

Nothing to report

c) Signs

MP still to put up the new sign below the Rocks.

d) Anchors

DB said that his list for Stone Farm includes – Moss Wall – far left end Left and middle but not right, Pine Buttress, Stone Farm Crack, Pine Crack, Thin, Curling Crack.

Action DB

9) AOB

HRMG want their thanks to everyone for turning up to the work weekend to be put on record.

Instagram – Adrian has been finding people tagging Harrison's in photographs on Instagram which go against our code of conduct. He and has been asking then to un-tag and suggested getting a BMC Instagram account to have more impact.

MP reported that the litter problem at Stone Farm has mostly gone now.

Action AP

10) Date and Venue for the next Meeting

The next meeting will be on 18th May at the Boarshead, 7pm, food will be served at 6:30pm promptly.