

BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

177-179 Burton Road
0161 445 4747
Manchester M20 2BB
445 4500

email:office@thebmc.co.uk

Tel:

Fax: 0161

HARRISONS ROCKS MANAGEMENT GROUP (HRMG)

Minutes of meeting held on January 15th 2007 at Evolution Climbing Wall, Plumyfeather Farm, Lye Green at 7.30pm.

Present:	Tim Skinner	Chair
	Bob Moulton	BMC
	Geoff Pearson	BMC
	Frank Shannon	Wealden DC
	Nigel Head	BMC
	Martin Brice	BMC
	Tim Daniells	BMC
	Chris Tullis	Site Warden

Action

1 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Sarah Butler, Richard Hayden, Sarah Cullen and Lynda Myers.

2 Minutes of the last meeting (06.11.06)

Agreed.

3 Matters Arising not covered in other items below

3a Stabilization of holds etc. FS has not been able to do the cementing/resining of the hold on Pelmet because of the weather. It will have to wait until the spring. **FS**

3b Forest Enterprise Work A response from Steve McCarthy of Forest Enterprise to the comments in the minutes on forestry work were noted. BM suggested a meeting on a regular basis, possibly annually. TS will contact him. **TS**

4 Future ownership and management arrangements

4a The Rocks the group noted an update from Dave Turnbull on the latest news about the transfer of ownership. The group agreed with BM that there was no reason at all that the transfer of the car park to the FC and the campsite to the BMC must take place at the same time as the rocks were transferred to the BMC. BM outlined his ideas for meeting Sport England's requirements for us to have a 'proper health & safety plan' for the rocks and the group agreed in principle, and that this should be discussed in detail at the next meeting. A draft h&s plan will be **TS/BM**

drawn up and a preliminary risk assessment carried out at the site inspection before the next meeting. NH suggested that perhaps 'dangerous trees' should be covered in the Risk assessment.

4b The Car Park as above.

4c The Campsite the group wanted to ensure climbers using the campsite could use the toilet facilities. BM had verbal agreement for this from the Forestry Commission, and he felt the way to formalise this was by a partnership agreement with the Forestry Commission: the group agreed to pursue this route. **BM**

5 Harrison's Rocks Work and Site Manager's report

5a Cement work CT had not been able to do any cement work because of the weather. The rope grooves at the top of Wailing Wall will have to wait until the spring. **CT**

5b Resin work nothing to report.

5c Bolts CT to carry out the placement of extra bolts as per the inspection report. Again, affected by the weather. **CT**

5d Woodland Management & Ground Erosion work the group noted, and expressed thanks for, the excellent work by SVG over the Christmas break. They had cleared the scrub around Sandown Crag (the area of low walls immediately south of North Boulder) and also done some clearance work in the Unclimbed Wall area.

5e Car Park and Toilet Block nothing to report.

5f Notice Boards nothing to report.

6 Health and Safety

6a Notes of any Accidents in the Accident Book CT said that at the end of November/early in December a child with the Fairbridge Trust had become stuck in the gully near Niblick. CT attended as did four fire engines and three ambulances and police, for five hours. The incident started at 4pm and the child was extracted around 10pm. CT has asked the Fairbridge Trust for an accident report, which has not yet arrived. The emergency services arrived at the top of the rocks, which was best in this instance. TD said the ambulance service should be informed that Forge Farm is the quickest way to get to the rocks. BM had done this some years ago, and the group agreed that TS should write again to the emergency services. The group agreed with CT's suggestion that he should run a seminar for group leaders on use of the rocks and prepare a cribsheet for any that could not attend. HRMG would pay his expenses. **CT/TS**

6b Future Health and Safety Inspections see **4a** above.

7 Financial Report

7a HRMG Budget the group noted the latest position. TS will check with the BMC regarding the mechanism for claiming expenses. CT said the Fairbridge Trust is keen to make a donation for using the rocks and he will contact them to this end. CT reported that he had around £1900 pounds' worth of carpark donations which he would send to the BMC **CT/TS**

- 8 Stone Farm Rocks**
- 8a Woodland Management & Ground Erosion work** TS will contact Graham Adcock to ask for a small number of SVG members to make repairs to the revetments below Remote, supervised by CT. This will probably be on the last weekend in February or the first one in March (or possibly a weekday). **TS/CT**
- 8b Resin work** a small amount is needed in various locations but this will have to wait until the spring.
- 8c Noticeboards** CT said that they are now up. BM had seen them, and he thought that the new board by the stile was well-positioned. The group was shown pictures of the work and was duly impressed. **CT**
- 9 AOB**
- 9a Charitable Trust** an historic moment. TD gave a full explanation of the way to set up the Southern Sandstone Charitable Trust, its aims, documentation, constitution and the conduct of its business. The group asked TD to consult with David Unwin and report back to the next HRMG meeting. **TD**
- 9b Meeting Time** TS asked if the time of future meetings should be changed to 7.30pm, as some members didn't arrive until 7.20. The group didn't think this was necessary.
- 9c Outdoor Education Advisers Panel** TS had received an email from Richard Hayden who is on the SE panel. He said that if there were any issues around youth/school groups we should let him know so that he could take them to the next meeting. It was suggested that CT should contact him to publicise his proposed seminar (see **6a** above)
- 10 Date of Next Meeting** The next meeting will be held at Evolution climbing wall on Monday May 21st 2007, at 7pm, with a site inspection (and h&s inspection) beforehand at 5.30pm.