

BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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HARRISONS ROCKS MANAGEMENT GROUP (HRMG)

Minutes of meeting held on May 21st 2007 at Evolution Climbing Wall, Plumyfeather Farm, Lye Green at 19:30, with a site visit at Harrisons at 17:30.

Present:	Tim Skinner	Chair
	Geoff Pearson	BMC
	Frank Shannon	BMC
	Martin Brice	BMC
	Tim Daniells	BMC
	Sarah Cullen	BMC

Action

1 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Chris Tullis (present at the site visit), Sarah Butler and Bob Moulton (who sent a written report). TS had thanked Lynda Myers for her time on HRMG in her capacity as Wealden DC representative.

2 Minutes of the last meeting (15.01.07)

Agreed.

3 Matters Arising not covered in other items below

- 3a Forest Enterprise Work** TS had had a letter from the Forestry Commission informing him of planned work for the next year. TS still needs to contact Steve McCarthy. **TS**

4 Future ownership and management arrangements

- 4a The Rocks** TS said that BM had informed him that little had happened, although a map had been produced showing land that was to be transferred and that it was incorrect, as it didn't show the land recently purchased (North Boulder) but did include land beyond Meat Cleaver. TD said that before exchange took place the agreement and details thereof must be signed off by HRMG. The group concurred. The group discussed the need for a risk assessment, which was supposed to be done before the the rocks were transferred (see **6b** below). TD said he would ask Dave Turnbull at the BMC if there was anything that he could do to help the process. **TS/BM/TD**

- 4b The Car Park** nothing to report.

- 4c The Campsite** nothing to report. **BM**

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

- 5a Cement work** the rope grooves at the top of Wailing Wall still need attention. FS said he'd do it when the weather was suitable. **CT/FS**

- 5b Resin work** the hold on Pelmet needs attention, as does the landward side of the step across from the Isolated Buttress. **CT**

- 5c Bolts** CT to carry out the placement of extra bolts as per the inspection report. If the branch on the old tree above Two-Toed Sloth is taken out, new bolts will be needed, these will be added to the bolt testing report. **CT/TS**

- 5d Woodland Management & Ground Erosion work** TS said water was collecting under The Vice and the Fallen Tree area. The revetments in place were very old and failing. TS said small sycamore saplings were encroaching and should be cut back. Paths were appearing in the wrong places and brashing was needed. Following a comment by a regular visitor, the tree above Two-Toed Sloth was inspected and it was felt that it should come down as it is getting very old and unsafe (people belay from it). An SVG work day was needed, possibly with a BBQ at the car park in the evening. FS mentioned beer. The group agreed that Chris was crucial to its success and he would be consulted on a date. **TS**
- 5e Car Park and Toilet Block** the perspex cover on the notice board has been broken. CT knows who did it and will sort it out. **CT**
- 6 Health and Safety**
- 6a Notes of any Accidents in the Accident Book** TS, as per the minutes of the last meeting, has written to the ambulance service informing them of the best access point, which is Forge Farm, Forge Road, Groombridge, TN3 9PL. They have replied and asked that this information be displayed on any noticeboards. The one in the carpark will need a small amendment to show the complete address. GP said that the address should go in the new guide and TS said that he had already spoken to BM about it and will pass on the ambulance service reply. **CT/TS**
- 6b Future Health and Safety Inspections** following the site visit before the meeting, TS will edit the BMC's suggested assessment to make it more relevant to Harrisons by basing the content on the one produced by CT. **TS**
- 7 Financial Report**
- 7a HRMG Budget** TS to ask CT to take an electricity reading so bills could be corrected, as Alan Brown (BMC) had asked for one, although the group thought that one had been sent only recently. TD noted that the carpark returns for 2006 were much lower than previous years and wondered whether this was simply because the money hadn't been banked until 2007, or was because of some other factor.
- 8 Stone Farm Rocks**
- 8a Woodland Management & Ground Erosion work** repairs are still needed to the revetments below Remote and BM has drawn attention to the state of the 'tree island' below Undercut Wall, which also urgently needs repair. A small SVG day is still needed, supervised by CT. FS suggested he ask Adventure Unlimited to contact CT with the aim of supplying volunteer labour. **TS/CT/FS**
- 8b Resin work** a small amount is needed in various locations. **S**
- 8c Noticeboards** BM reported that the bouldering notice near the Inaccessible Boulder had been broken off. CT agreed that it needed a wooden backing and to be attached to something more sturdy. **CT**
- 9 Charitable Trust** TD had met David Unwin, who is a charity commissioner, and asked his advice, which was to go for the simplest option, of not having members. and having trustees (TD said they would be appointed by HRMG, and probably some would be HRMG members). The objects of the trust should be very clear and quite specific: David Unwin's point was that charities needed to be accountable so they had to have clear objectives. General meetings would be unnecessary because there would be no members. TD said it should be registered in the interests of public accountability. The group agreed and thanked TD for his work. He said he'd progress matters and report back to the next meeting. **TD**

- 10 **Sandstone Open Meeting** The group felt that the Open Meeting should continue in its present form.
- 11 **AOB** None.
- 12 **Date of Next Meeting** The next meeting will be held at Evolution climbing wall on Monday October 15th 2007, at 7pm.