

NE Region BMC meeting 29/11/2012

Newcastle Climbing Centre

1. Welcome and Introduction

In attendance:

Jon Punshon	Chair
John Herron	Secretary
Tom Parkin	Access Officer
Mark Anstiss	Wanneys CC
Ian Walton	Area Youth Coordinator
Adrian Wilson	
Bill Renshaw	NMC
Liam Dervey	
R Alderton	
Mark Goodings	Newcastle Climbing Centre
Rob Adie	BMC Rep

2. Apologies for Absence

Alan Hinkes
Paul Mitchinson
John Dalrymple
Peter Simcock

3. Minutes of previous meeting

Jon Punshon ran through the minutes from the previous meeting (13/09/12) – the minutes were accepted as an accurate record.

4. Appointment of NE Secretary and Hillwalking representatives

Hillwalking representative Paul Mitchinson appointed (proposed by John Herron seconded by Jon Punshon)

5. Regional Clean up Event – Crag Lough

Mark Anstiss reported that the crag clean up went very well and the write up of the routes cleaned has been sent to BMC. The clean up concentrated on the area adjacent to the *Organ Pipes* routes. 25 people attended and it has been suggested

that a further clean up weekend is arranged in 2013 to further enhance the routes at this important crag.

The suggested time of the proposed further clean up event is again for September time but Mark Anstiss suggested early Sept which may give warmer weather for the clean up.

Action- to agree a date at the next meeting.

Also discussed was the use of Crag Lough by a Peregrine Falcon. This has been a problem for many years however a low key approach has been adopted in the past and Bill Renshaw suggested that Tom Parkin should contact National Trust.

6. Forthcoming events

7th December – Alan Hinkes lecture at Barnard Castle School.

27th December-Film event Tyneside cinema.

14th February- inaugural Scottish Winter Climbing meet: further information

available on www.scottishwinterclimbing.co.uk

Date TBC- Hazel Findlay lecture

Jan 2013 Mountain Instructors weekend at Glenmore Lodge.

A Climbing/Walking weekend has been suggested for next year based around a campsite. Two campsites were suggested Winsheilds at Twice Brewed and Highburn House Wooler. At the previous meeting John Dalrymple was tasked to report back on possibilities, dates & campsites, however John was not at the November meeting

Action NMC to report back at next meeting

7. Co-ordinators Reports

Access

North -

Access to: Shitlington, Cragside, Heckley and Simonside – no further progress.

Action *Tom Parkin to contact Steve Crowe*

Further access problems were reported at South Yardhope crag where a pair of climbers were asked to leave despite the fact the Red flags were not flying and free access to the range they were requested to leave. Bill Renshaw stated that this type of action rears its head from time to time and agreed to pass on the details of camp commanding officer to Tom Parkin to progress

Action Tom Parkin to contact range commanding officer.

As there were no representatives from the south of the region present I have left the details from the last minutes pertaining to that area.

South–

Peter Hay reported on:

Peak Scar -permission has been obtained from the landowner for the removal of trees and some saplings.

Scugdale – this summer's heavy rain has taken its toll the approach path and parking area. CMC are organising a working group to help patch up the approach path.

Hag Wood -parking on the bend is an issue, the caravan site has been approached for permission to use their car park. Also a new access path has been proposed

Action: Peter Dyson to report back on any progress made with new access path

Walls

Mark Goodings reported The new Sunderland wall will open early in to the new year which will be predominately bouldering but will include a roped section. Also a new climbing wall has opened in Carlisle (Eden Rock).

Pre competition workshops will also be encouraged to try and expand the numbers of youngsters taking part. It is hoped that these workshops will encourage more of the younger generation to take part in competitions and include disabled climbers.

Youth

Ian Walton reported:

Ian Dunn has been appointed to coach promising NE Youth once per month with the following venues chosen:

Sunderland – February 16th

Kendal - March 16th

Newcastle Climbing Centre – April 26th

8. AOB

Alan Hinkes had attended the Lakes Area meeting and the New lakes Winter guide was available which looked very good.

The Honister Zip wire continues to cause consternation among the interested parties in the area.

Also to suggest a Crag clean up in the Southern area of the region with interested parties in our southern section to follow up?

With regard to better information and communication regarding the NE region it was suggested that the Chair and Secretary familiarise themselves with uploading of information to the BMC Communities section of the website.

Action Jon Punshon and John Herron contact BMC for information on how to Upload to this section of the website.

9. Date of next meeting

March 21st 19:00 Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre