

BMC Lakes Area AGM and Open Meeting – 26 November 2014

Held at Hawkshead Brewery Staveley

AGM

1. Ewen Turner (Chairman) welcomed everybody to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Kelvyn James, Alan Hinkes and Dan Robinson.
2. Minutes of the 2013 AGM were read, accepted and signed.
3. There were no matters arising from the minutes
4. Ewen gave his annual report remarking that following the controversial year of 2013, 2014 had been relatively uneventful.
5. Officers elected-
Chairman Mike Parsons
Secretary Polly Sullivan
Treasurer and Access Co-Ordinator James Bumby
National Council Reps Ted Rogers and Peter Sterling
Clubs Rep Kelvyn James
Thanks were conveyed to standing down officers Ewen Turner and Peter Latimer. (Peter will remain as 2nd signature on bank account)
6. James Bumby will contact area reps to see if they wish to remain in post.

ACTION POINT

7. All dates and venues for 2015 meetings and AGM will be confirmed at the first open meeting in 2015. These will be dependant on National Council meetings.

Open Meeting

1. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.
2. Via James Bumby- Dan Robinson had expressed disappointment with the take up of assistance in bolting and lower-offs. Dan's personal life had changed and is unable to commit time to the bolting and lower-off projects. However he is willing to assist. Ron Kenyon reported that there is still a lot of work to be done in this area and he is seeking a small group of people who would be willing to undertake these duties.
It was agreed that other action points from the previous meeting would be dealt with through the agenda
3. Access news on Castle Rock. Geologists have visited the site and the rock is moving in a peculiar way, ie. widening from the base. Advice is still not to climb. The signage on the main approach has been destroyed.
Peter Latimer reported that there had been 3 instances where crag bans had been ignored. A meeting is planned for the new year to discuss this further. It was pointed out that this is a very serious issue. Ignoring bird bans could result in a total ban.
New signage is required at Chapel Head **ACTION POINT**
The meeting was reminded that the owner of Church Beck Coniston wants to put a charge in place to groups who wish to ghyll scramble and

he has put a camera on site to record people using the beck.

Rob Dyer announced that a white guide is being worked on for rare species on crags. He requested photographs of winter climbers to put in the guide.

Work has been undertaken through the summer on Striding Edge.

Retrospective funding has been applied for from 'fix the fells', 50% has been put forward by the National Trust. Marion Parsons detailed the work that had been done. The work on the headwall has been a success, accident black spots have been blocked leading people to safer routes.

There followed discussion regarding a proposed zip wire at Glenridding.

At some point in the future a formal BMC position will be sought.

Manchester will need to be advised where BMC Lakes stands on this subject. **ACTION POINT**

4. There was no update on bolting
5. Steve Scott and Ted Rogers gave a brief report from National Council. There is no policy at present for increasing subs. Hill walking initiative is being pushed, headed by Carey Davies. It was suggested that the Lakes should appoint a Hill Walking rep **ACTION POINT** we are falling behind other areas as we do not have one.

The issue of bracken was raised and it appears that it is a national problem. National Council agreed to take the matter forward.

Following a fatal accident involving a peg the Fell and Rock are now rewording guidebooks to clearly state that pegs cannot be trusted. Pegs will no longer be decided as 'good peg' instead it will just state 'peg'

6. There was then a discussion about the benefits of a Climbing and Walking Festival. Key is to have an enthusiastic person driving the project locally. A suggestion from the floor was that we could 'piggy back an existing event such as the Shepherds Fayre in Wasdale. A representative from Cumbria University Andy Eccles volunteered his services. He will see what take up there may be within the student body and report back to next meeting **ACTION POINT**

7. Dates and venues will be arranged and posted ready for next meeting. **ACTION POINT**

8. The 'adopt a crag' initiative was postponed for full discussion at the next meeting. Ron Kenyon envisaged that it would involve clubs and individual's choosing a crag and then looking after it. Litter, cleaning, stile repair etc. Local clubs need to be contacted **ACTION POINT**

9. Ron Kenyon detailed the history of the BMC youth meet and that it is to be resurrected on the weekend of 3rd-5th July 2015 at Raw Head Langdale. Initially most things are in place for it to go ahead. More details next meeting.

10. Hill Walking (already covered)

11. Date of next meeting – To be advised