

# BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the 207th Yorkshire Area Meeting

Held at 19.30 on Monday 26 January 2015

at the Wheatley Arms, Ben Rhydding, Ilkley

### Present:

James Rowe	Chair, National Council Rep, Leeds MC, CC	Will Harris	BMC
Deirdre Collier	Secretary, National Council Rep, Craven MC, FRCC, CC	Dick Winslow	Craven MC
Laurie Morse	YMC	Ann Morse	YMC
Mick Green	Gritstone Club	John Mortimer	Vibram MC*
Paul Exley	Leeds MC, FRCC, Clubs Committee Rep	Peter Corrigan	Craven MC
Sara Hayes	Leeds MC	Sue Keinhorst	Craven MC
Chris Collinson	Leeds University MC*	Helen Costelloe	Leeds MC
Tim Brayshaw	Individual	Helen Brayshaw	
Mick Mason	Individual	Jane Gill	Individual
Angela Soper	Pinnacle Club* & FRCC	Jack Soper	FRCC
Paul Redding	Individual	John Hunt	YMC
Paul Clarke	FRCC*	Steve Mead	Leeds MC
Neville Hawkin	YMC	Nigel Baker	YMC
Nicky Jaquierey	Gritstone Club	Ken Jaquierey	Gritstone Club
Mike Bebbington	YMC, CC, FRCC	Tony Rogan	Individual

### Action

#### 1 Welcome & Introductions

James welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### 2 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received from Julie Dundas, David Farrell, Mick Johnson, Bev Jowett, Dave Musgrove & Heather Thomas Smith.

#### 3 Minutes of the last meeting.

**Attendance list:** Noted that Paul Redding is the Area Hill Walking Rep.

**Club Reps.** Noted that there was an error re this which would be corrected following further investigation. Please see post meeting notes below.

With these notes the Minutes were proposed a correct record by Paul Exley, seconded by Angela Soper & agreed unanimously by the Meeting.

#### Post meeting notes.

Mick Green said he'd attended the December Area meeting & AGM although his attendance wasn't shown.

Angela Soper is the Pinnacle Club rep to the Area Meeting & not Sara Hayes as shown.

#### 4 Matters Arising not on the Agenda.

None raised.

#### 5 Co-ordinators' Reports

##### 5.1 Gritstone: Access & Conservation.

Mick Johnson had sent a report as follows:-

**Almscliff-** still ongoing with erection of sign re litter etc.

**Hawks Stones** – Info re proposed renewal of restrictions. BMC involved & has responded to consultation.

**Barden Moor** – Proposed alterations to paths. Query re whether these would affect crag access. Felt unlikely but response from Bolton Abbey Estate Office awaited.

**Caley** – Very successful clear up of branches around Sugar Loaf. Thanks to Pete Jackson & others for their help. Still work to do around bottom end.

**Dovestones** – Notice put on crag which is clearly visible from main road but no details re what it says.

**5.2 Limestone: Access & conservation.** Dave Musgrove had sent the following report:-

The only current thing to report of minor interest on Limestone is that I assisted the CRO to install new belays and security bolts along various of the mid height ledges on the left side of Malham Cove to assist them in searches when people fall/jump from the top of the Cove. None of the new bolts compromise the integrity of existing trad routes on that side but a few could be used as starting belays for one or two routes and in some cases have replaced existing belays.

**Yorkshire Mountaineering Club donation to the BMC's Access & Conservation Trust.**

Mike Bebbington reported that YMC had donated £633 to the BMC's ACT from the sale of guidebooks in 2014. This takes the total donated overall to just short of £7,400.

**5.3 Youth.** David Farrell was unable to attend the Meeting as he had to see some of the competitors from the previous Saturday to present them with their certificates.

He reported that the first round of the Youth Climbing Series had just been held at Harrogate on Saturday with 60 kids competing & that it had been a great success.

**5.4 Climbing Walls.** There is no Climbing Wall representative.

**5.5 Clubs.** Paul Exley said that the next meeting of the Clubs Committee would be held on 12 February & that he would report back from that at the next Area Meeting.

**National Photo Archive.** Email & attachment circulated before the meeting. Paul reported that Rab Carrington is looking to instigate a photo archive for national mountaineering and he is likely to want some funding from the BMC to help in getting it off the ground. He also wants to send a letter (draft of which was attached to email) to ask clubs to get involved.

Comments made were as follows:-

? overlap with Mountain Heritage Trust. Will Harris said that this was beyond MHT's scope in terms of resources. The proposal was for a larger national archive that people could look at.

Safekeeping of heritage is very important.

If we are to inspire people perhaps needs to be more specific re requirements – felt that more info would probably follow on eg first ascents, key people etc.

Terms of Reference required.

**6 Hillwalking.** Paul Redding reported back from the first meeting of the BMC's Hill Walking Working Group which had been held on 22 January. Please see minutes of that meeting which will be circulated.

**Some key points are:-**

- To meet the needs of BMC Hill Walkers & create an active community involvement re hill walking.
- Attract new hill walkers.
- To position the BMC as an authority in Hill Walking (60% of the members are hill walkers).

Paul asked how this affected Yorkshire Area & suggested having some events specifically for hill walkers in the Area.

There would be an Area Meeting on Monday 20 April specifically for hill walkers which Carey Davies, the BMC's Hill Walking Officer would be attending.

Chris Townsend, BMC Hill Walking Ambassador, would be giving a presentation at the Area Meeting on 8 June.

Paul said he was interested to hear ideas re what hill walkers would like Area to do.

**7 National Council**

**7.1 Report from last NC Meeting.** A summary had been circulated.

7.2 **Matters for the next meeting.** There was nothing of particular significance to raise.

8 **Individual Members' Issues.** None raised.

9 **BMC's Love Our Landscapes.** Information had been previously circulated re this.

The BMC is trying to encourage more members to go their local area meeting to raise significant landscape issues that may pose a threat to our most treasured landscapes (wind farms / mineral plans etc.). It is felt that many of the developments that potentially pose a threat to treasured landscapes, like wind farms, split the opinion of the membership.

The BMC therefore wants to encourage more open and detailed discussion of potential landscape issues at the local level. To accompany the Landscape Charter that was produced last year, 2 detailed Guidance Notes have now been published – Energy & Infrastructure and Minerals & Planning (see link below).

The charter and guidance notes don't prescribe whether the BMC is 'for' or 'against' a certain development or activity; instead, it gives BMC members information about how to go about voicing their concerns through their local BMC area.

<https://www.thebmc.co.uk/love-our-landscapes-get-involved-with-the-bmc-grassroots>

The BMC has also set up an email account [landscapes@thebmc.co.uk](mailto:landscapes@thebmc.co.uk) where details of planning applications can be shared.

9 **Any Other Business.**

#### **Limestone Access Rep**

James Rowe reported that Dave Musgrove has been the Area Limestone Access Rep for a few years. He will be taking over the role of Chair of the BMC's Access Management Group after the BMC's AGM in April. The current Chair, Nick Kurth, is recommended for election to the position of BMC Vice President & subject to that being agreed at the AGM he will be standing down from the role of AMG Chair. So, a replacement Limestone Access Rep will be needed – for further discussion at the June Area Meeting.

#### **Next Meeting**

Monday 20 April – hill walking

Monday 8 June

There was no other business & this part of the Meeting closed @ 8.20 pm.

Following this Laurie Morse gave a presentation about climbing North America's highest mountain, Denali, via the West Buttress route, along with the trials and tribulations he experienced before eventually summiting.