

BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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LONDON & SOUTH EAST AREA MEETING

Meeting held at The Devereux, 20 Devereux Court, Temple, London WC2R 3JJ
On Wednesday 1st June 2016 at 7.00pm.

Minutes

- 1. Welcome and apologies for absence** – Sally Broughton-Micova (Rockhoppers), Alyssa Nenstiel (ICAS), Jay Oram (Arc'teryx)

Chaired Rik Payne (RP)

Minutes taken by Lisa Payne (LP)

BMC Representatives Nick Kurth (NK) & (NC) Nick Colton

- 2. Minutes of previous meeting held on 3rd Feb**

Copies were available on the night and attendees asked to review, no issues were raised.

- 3. AGM Election of Area Chair & Secretary**

3.1 No new nominations for Area Chair, Rik Payne agreed to stand again.

Proposed by NK and seconded by Mick Cooke. Voted yes unanimously

3.2 No new nominations for Area Secretary, Lisa Payne agreed to stand again.

Proposed by Ben Sparkes and Seconded by Laura Allum. Voted yes unanimously

- 4. Reports from Area Representatives**

4.1 Clubs – LP reported that we now have 2 reps for the London & SE area who will share the workload for what is a huge region with over 100 Clubs. Sherry Macliver (SM) is already a co-opted member of the Clubs Committee and Ben Fillmore (BF) will join her in the role.

SM reported that the Clubs seminar at the BMC's AGM was well attended and asked for any feedback from the Seminar. No response from the room. SM also confirmed the new web based database that will be available for Clubs to help with their renewals and quarterly submissions.

Training will have a "Novice" focus for Clubs including training Clubs officers in how they can best run their clubs and support novices.

SM raised the question on behalf of the Clubs Committee "What should the BMC be doing to encourage & support Clubs?"

James Read asked if there was a database for volunteers available where clubs and youth groups could find qualified support on a volunteer basis.

SM suggested contacting the MLTA who could help with providing contacts for people willing to help in a voluntary way.

LP asked the room to see her after the meeting for her email address to pass to their Clubs Committees if they wanted to feedback to the Area Secretary directly with suggestions of what the BMC can be doing to support them.

NK suggested for the next Clubs Seminar there should be a session relating to the tools required to use the new database the BMC are creating.

4.2 Youth – Nothing to report. NC confirmed that there are 4 YCS reps for London and LP reported that she had been in email contact with all 4 reps asking for a brief report for the meeting but that had gone unanswered. LP & RP acknowledged that it's a busy time for the YCS but it would be nice to have some feedback to update the members.

4.3 Hill Walking – One of our Hillwalking reps has had to stand down due to work pressures and the second hasn't been in contact.

4.4 Climbing Walls – Nothing to report

5 National Council

5.1 Report from last meeting. RP covered the following points.

- Mend Our Mountains Campaign has raised over 100K
- Jane Thompson is now full time as Clubs & Partnerships Officer
- Hill Walking Group is working on a Hill Walking strategy paper, which will be presented to the National Council hopefully in September
- BMC's database for Clubs NK added that this is being trailed currently with 5 clubs
- National Trust licensing Pilot Scheme, whereby groups running activities or charity events on NT land would be charged a fee – RP reported that this an ongoing discussion between the NT and the BMC
- Dangerous Climbing harnesses being offered for sale on eBay, it appears that they had been cut and disposed of to prevent their sale only to be recovered by a third party in France where they were crudely stitched back together. There was concern in the room and RP confirmed that this is being investigated.
- BMC Student safety and Good Practice seminar to be held at Plas Y Brenin in October
- BMC Climbing Coaching Symposium to be held in October at the Depot in Manchester
- Mina Leslie-Wujastyk stood down as Vice President and Emma Flaherty was elected to the role.
- There was a great talk/presentation from Frank Canning's, recounting his rescue from Lundy by an RAF helicopter, only to be rescued again when the helicopter ditched into the sea!
- George Band Award was presented to Ben Lyon

5.2 Matters arising from the report – RP raised an earlier query from Vic Odell about the UIAA regarding the change to the articles concerning the change in name.

This is still not resolved and is due to be discussed at the next International Meeting which isn't until November. RP spoke with NC about whether this could be speeded up as it would be a year since it happened.

Any Other Business

- The format of the BMC newsletter was discussed and a suggestion was that a more "bullet Point" approach directly people to the relevant links might be easier to view than a "Slab of information"

- That followed a discussion on the BMC doing more on the Facebook pages, in a similar way that the Twitter feed is very regularly updating.
- Comments on why we had so few meetings, RP confirmed we would have 5 next year and that although we had been advised that a meeting prior to the BMC AGM wasn't required there was too much of a gap between Feb & June.
- LP also mentioned that we are restricted in running more meetings by both budget and the lack of voluntary guest speakers needed
- LP also confirmed that at the next National Council meeting we should have the 2017 NC dates and can therefore publicize the Area Meetings for the full year, well in advance. These can be posted on the London & SE area Facebook page
- "Love Climbing & Rocks" are creating a survey to London based climbers NC suggested that they get in touch with the BMC office as they are currently looking at doing something similar.
- NK proposed a vote of thanks to Lisa & Rik Payne for their work as Area Chair & Secretary.

- **Date and location of next Area Meeting**

September 1st 2016 7pm
The Devereux, WC2R 3JJ
Guest Speaker Tjalling Halbertsma

Following the meeting, there was an excellent presentation from Jim Milledge – 50 Years of High Altitude Medical Research.