

BMC AREA MEETING REPORT: Yorkshire Area - Monday 7 June 2010

FOR SUBMISSION TO NATIONAL COUNCIL

1. **Location & Attendance:** The Dyneley Arms, Pool in Wharfedale. 23 people
2. **BMC staff & Executive member(s) present:** Jon Garside.
3. **New postholder(s) & situations vacant (Chair, Secretary, National Council rep):** None.
4. **Key issues discussed:**

Access for various crags in Blubberhouses Moor & Nidderdale area – Open Access land. Owners would like to impose some voluntary restrictions – no dogs, no smoking, no access during nesting season, informing keeper before climbing. Discussions ongoing.

Wig Stones Access – alternative & better route suggested; for discussion with Yorkshire Dales National Park.

Caley – some trees have been clipped around Sugarloaf Boulder area – to request that more be cut.

Chevin Buttress - Tawny Owls nesting – conflicting information re dates

Caley clean up Saturday 26 June. Meet Sugarloaf boulder 10.00 am Uprooting Himalayan Balsam.

Feizor Nick access - farmer asked climbers to leave – ongoing problem. Farmer implied agreement with the BMC and suggested Pot Scar. Reasons given – nesting birds & concern re liability for falling rocks. Limestone rep to follow up with Yorkshire Dales National Park.

Chevin Quarry – evidence of dry tooling noted.

Guy Keating – acknowledgements re all the help & support given by Guy over the years.

Blue Scar – restrictions re peregrines nesting. Investigations re 3 dead Raven chicks in nest ? poisoned.

Great Close Scar – unofficial notice re nesting birds – supposedly ring ouzels, wheatears & kestrels but no evidence at crag. ? because farmer wants a ban re lambing.

Foredale - ? stile – bid to ACT for funding.

Youth Navigation Day – cancelled due to lack of support. Reluctance re application process. Issue re insurance cover rather than child protection. ? any way around it.

Leeds University Climbing Wall (the Edge) has reopened. Competence check required.

Climbers Club Hut Purchase Loan – not supported. See bullet points below.

Declaration of Members (Clubs Committee) – Not supported. See bullet points below.

New Froggatt Guide - noted and demo copy circulated.

Bullet points for highlighting to the National Council:

- **Caley Clean Up** – Saturday 26 June. Meet Sugarloaf Boulder @ 10.00 am. Clearance of Himalayan Balsam.
- **Youth Navigation Day** – application process → disincentive ? any way around it.
- **Climbers Club Hut Purchase Loan – Comments as follows:-**
 - It is not the function of the BMC to lend in this way particularly to an organisation such as the Climbers Club (CC) which is a large powerful organisation with access to significant resources.
 - If the BMC is to function as a bank it has to be fair to all and offer similar loan facilities to all clubs.
 - Even if proposal were agreed the 2.5% rate shown in the possible repayment schedule is totally unacceptable. Rate needs to be a percentage above base rate and not fixed for the whole term.
 - Short memories. What if the BMC needs the money before it's repaid?
 - Would the BMC membership at large really appreciate the argument re returns on investment in the context of lending to a big, powerful, wealthy club so that it can buy a hut for the exclusive use of its members and guests only particularly when it can easily obtain finance elsewhere?
 - Conflict of interest for the person doing both BMC & CC Treasurer roles. (*When this was reported to NC David Lancelty (BMC & CC Treasurer) said it was 'out of order' and asked that his comment be passed back to Area.*)
 - Conflict of interest for NC Members who are CC members & suggestion that they should absent themselves from the meeting while the matter is discussed & voted upon.
 - The purchase of the Grange Hut would not benefit the BMC membership at large as access to CC huts is restricted to CC members and guests. This exclusivity is a major source of concern and even more so in the context of this loan application.
- **Declaration of Club Members** – Comments as follows:-
 - Proposal not supported.
 - Concerns re CL in event of any incident relating to an undeclared member
 - Comparison with Opt Out Option where at least there would have been CL cover for opted out individuals

Completed by: Deirdre Collier, Secretary.