

BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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Minutes of the 218th Yorkshire Area Meeting Held at 19.30 on Monday 11 September 2017 at the Wheatley Arms, Ben Rhydding, Ilkley

Present:

Sarah Sharps	BMC Yorkshire Area Secretary, Leeds MC	Scott Coates	Individual
Lindsay McMorrان	BMC Yorkshire Area Climbing Walls Rep, LMC	Stuart Wetherell	Individual
Estee Farrar	BMC Officer Access and Conservation	Karl Gregory	ICAS Climbing Club
Andy Syme	BMC Yorkshire Area Chair	Kathryn Wilson	LMC
Mick Green	Gritstone Club & CC	William Points	Individual
Angela Soper	Pinnacle Club & FRCC	Jeri Smith	CPC
James Rowe	LMC and CC	James Smith	CPC
John Nightingale	LMC	Peter Barrans	Gritstone Club
Mike Bebbington	YMC, FRCC and CC	Helen Soutar	Individual
Jonathan Carter	YMC	Andrew Soutar	Individual
Angela Moroney	YMC	James Thompson	Individual
Nathaniel Gjoderum-Symons	LUUMC	Rob Douglas	Individual
Simon Worsnop	Individual	Louise Hall	LUUMC
Hannah Smith	Individual	Sarah Rowe	Individual
Dom Rowe	Individual	Russell Bowman	Individual
Martin Nash	Individual	Steven Thomas	Individual
Peter Roll	BMC Yorkshire Area Hill walking rep	Jim Hulbert	Individual
Wil Hunt	LMC	Paul Exley	FRCC, Leeds MC
Paul Clarke	FRCC	John Hunt	YMC
Niger Baker	BMC Yorkshire Area Limestone Rep, YMC		

1. **Welcome & Introductions:** Andy Syme welcomed all to the meeting
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies were received from John Mortimer, Mick Johnson and Deirdre and Peter Sanderson.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting:** There was a mistake in Pete Barren's name and Deirdre was missed off the apologies list, SS to amend.
4. **Matters Arising not covered elsewhere:** none.
5. **Co-ordinators' Reports**
 - 5.1. **Gritstone: Access & Conservation:** Mick Johnson was unable to attend but reported that he has had a few meetings with the farmer who owns Almscliffe, new notices from the BMC are going up regarding parking, litter, lamping and drones (which scare his cattle). Whitehouses boulder – this has created a few access issues as it is on private land with a public footpath alongside. The farmer does not want any climbing on this at the current time – Mick is going to speak to him.
 - 5.2. **Limestone: Access & conservation:** Nigel Baker – not much to report. Kilnsey has had some parking issues but signs have now gone up, please be sensible when parking here, perhaps better parking down at Conistone village and walking up. Blue Scar has an ongoing access problem due to the farmer making climbers jump through various hoops to gain access – sending a request and a stamped address envelope – however one climber stated they have managed to get access over email. There is only a short season due to bird nesting bans so get your requests in early. Bird restrictions for all sites went according to plan this year, no problems reported. The BMC would like to thank climbers for their co-operation.

- 5.3. **Youth.** Nothing to report
- 5.4. **Climbing Walls.** Lindsay McMorran – Leeds wall adventure zone is now open. Summer bouldering leagues at the local walls are coming to a close. Battle of Britain in Manchester on the 17th November - £15 for entry with a t-shirt included. First aid course 18th-19th September at Harrogate wall. A warning to all after a bag and car was stolen from the Depot in Leeds, please be careful where you leave your valuables.
- 5.5. **Clubs.** Pete Barrans has volunteered for this role. Proposed - Paul Clarke, seconded by James Rowe.
6. **Hillwalking.** Peter Roll – Hill Walking Integration group met, Summit magazine to be more walking focused. They are planning to recruit for a Brexit working group to look at issues that it could throw up; this will feed into access management. Mend our Mountains to get more of a push. There is a Yorkshire Area Walk planned for the 24th of September to Crookrise from Skipton, please look at the details on Facebook. No dogs unfortunately allowed.
7. **National Council**
- 7.1. **Matters for the next meeting:**
- 7.1.1. **Item 5.1 Governance Overview** – After the vote of no confidence, the governance review is moving forward. There is a draft manual to look at, please contact Andy or Sarah to get a copy. Are we getting more Sport England money or not – lots of comments on UKC. Survey results not out yet – hopefully gets some feedback at national council meeting. There are lots of meetings and reviews coming up – major change ahead and it's vital to get everyone's input.
- 7.1.2. **Item 6.1 BMC representation on mountain training boards** – There are 4 BMC members on the England board and only 1 for Wales – plan is to drop it down to 1 on each, area is happy with this.
- 7.1.3. **Item 7.1 Finance** - Sport England money will be tied to the governance review. BMC now have Cotswolds sponsorship deal – 20% off for all members. Area seem pleased with this decision. Mend our Mountains- campaigns to be launched Oct- Nov. 17 projects in planning. BMC and national parks both raising money – crowd funded and commercial partnerships. There will be a launch event at the House of Commons and a presence at mountain festivals.
8. **Individual Members Issues.** None raised.
9. **Any Other Business.** Estee Farrar commented that she had led a walk with members of parliament to show them the work that needs to be done – some money has already come in.
10. **Date of Next Meeting:** 27 November - AGM

Following the meeting there was a great talk by Paul Clarke and Will Hunt on Wild Bouldering in Yorkshire – all information can be found on their website <https://unknownstones.com/>.