

**Minutes of the 225th Yorkshire Area Meeting
Held at 19.30 on Monday 4th February 2019 at
the Big Depot Climbing Centre, Leeds**

Present:

Sarah Sharps	BMC Yorks Area Chair
Jim Hulbert	BMC Yorks Area Secretary
Andy Syme	BMC Yorks Area NC Rep, YRC
Pete Barrans	BMC Yorks Area Clubs Rep
Mick Johnson	BMC Yorks Area Gritstone Rep, FRCC, CC
Nigel Baker	BMC Yorks Area Limestone Rep, YMC
Stuart Wetherell	BMC Yorks Area Climbing Wall Rep
Vicky Jennings	BMC Yorks Area Youth Outdoor Rep
Lynn Robinson	BMC President
John Mortimer	Vibram MC
David Turner	Individual
Lorna Vance Jenrys	Individual
Will Smith	LMC
Angela Soper	FRCC, Pinnacle
Dimitri Antorka- Pieri	Individual
Paul Clarke	FRCC, CC
Mike Strover	Yorkshire Climbers
Chris Page	Individual
Dave Musgrove	Individual
Steve Clark	Individual

1. **Welcome & Introductions:** Sarah Sharps welcomed all to meeting and introduced new Chair and Secretary.
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies were received from Mick Green, John Hunt and Dave Turnbull.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting:** None
4. **Matters Arising not covered elsewhere:** None
5. **Co-ordinators' Reports**

5.1. **Gritstone: Access & Conservation:** Mick Johnson reported that he had been due to have a meeting with the landowner of Ruin Bank Woods the week previous but had been forced to cancel after Rob Dyer had been snowed in. Rescheduled to take place 12th Feb instead. Mick foresaw no significant problems with signing off new access agreement as BMC have indemnified the landowner. Full details tbc but Mick mentioned that conditions include: Mon-Fri only, BMC members only, 6 month trial period initially. It was agreed to publicise on social media once access agreement confirmed by Mick. Mick also confirmed the felling to the trees around Jason's Roof at Crookrise; looks much better. A query had been raised regarding a landing being built near Slip & Slide at Crookrise; it was agreed there was little problem with this. Barbed wire on approach to Crookrise briefly discussed but since BMC would

need to fund alternative to keep sheep from jumping wall it seems climbers not walking next to it the best policy.

5.2. Limestone: Access & conservation: Nigel Baker reported that all was quiet. No problems at Kilnsey with new parking situation. Discussion of whether bolting at Giggleswick Quarry was worth pursuing. Nigel commented that Fordale Quarry was in need of traffic; slightly devious access but still clean rock.

5.3. Youth Indoor: David Farrell not in attendance. Regional championships taking place Saturday 6th April. Volunteers encouraged by Lynn Robinson.

5.4. Youth Outdoor: Vicky Jennings planned to organise a youth outdoor day; needs volunteers. Liaising with James McHaffie regarding required qualifications. Brimham looking like likely option as Vicky has experience leading days there. Date and location to be advised; potentially 18th May. Formal voting in of Vicky took place; Mick Johnston proposed, Andy Syme seconded, elected unanimously. Potential for running youth indoor day discussed; no reason not to.

5.5. Climbing Walls: Stuart Wetherell has visited most of the walls in the area for an update. Big Depot up and running. Lab in Kirkstall has had an extension added to the main bouldering area. ROKT – refurbishment and restyling ongoing. Various leagues ongoing across the bouldering centres. Youth series being held 23rd March at Big Depot. Free ladies coaching Wednesdays at the Depot centres. The Lab was hosting Paraclimb Leeds 3rd March but has been forced to cancel due to safety concerns. Sheffield Depot looking to open approx. end of March.

5.6. Clubs: Pete Barrans reported that an LMC Event was due to take place but date unconfirmed. Work continues apace on workstream 7 of the ORG.

6. Hillwalking. No hillwalking rep as yet. Mend Our Mountains campaign has raised 600k thus far and will run for several months to come. Hillwalking Symposium in November a success and attended by 50 people. Topics of discussion included moorland restoration and wild camping.

7. National Council

7.1. AGM Date confirmed as 32nd March, Buxton.

7.2. ODG. As ever, the microsite is the place to go for all the documentation. Work is ongoing; articles of association have been updated. Former threshold of 25 signatures being required to take a motion straight to the AGM has been amended to 0.5% of the membership. If less than this a motion can be debated at a local level who will decide whether to raise it at the AGM. Andy Syme confirmed that electronic and proxy voting will be in place again at the AGM this year. Query around the nomenclature being chosen; National Council vs Members Assembly. Consensus was the decision had not yet been

reached but either way the role would remain the same. Lynn Robinson and Andy outlined the Deputy Vice President proposal; the individual would not be on the board and would have complementary skills to the President. A vote was held on whether to a) permit the individual to be chosen from the National Council prior to the AGM or whether b) the individual should be put before the membership. Those present voted 19 in favour of a), with 2 abstentions and Lynn Robinson and Steve Clark not permitted to vote.

- 7.3. **Subs Increase:** Lynn Robinson and Andy Syme outlined large insurance claim facing the BMC as a result of an injury sustained by a young man. The claim is likely to run into the millions. In order to offset the premium rise this claim entails, two proposals: a) to raise subs by £5 for individuals and £2 for club members or b) by £6 for individuals and £3 for club members to cover additional ODG work. It was noted that BMC subs remain significantly less than equivalent bodies for other sports. Those in attendance had no problem with the proposed raise. Dave Musgrove queried how one claim had caused such a significant increase and questioned whether the insurance company concerned was fulfilling its part of the bargain. His concern about whether future additional claims would place financial strain on the BMC was echoed by Lynn Robinson, who assured him it was up for discussion at next NC meeting. Consensus of those in attendance was that the details behind the proposed raise needed spelling out better to members, including a breakdown of contributions to insurance currently and how future claims might affect the premium. LR noted the proposed subs raise would not kick in until 2020. An indicative vote showed 19 in favour of the higher subs raise, subject to additional clarification being provided by the NC. This was agreed as necessary by Lynn Robinson.

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

9. **Any Other Business.** None raised.

10. **Date of Next Meeting:** 25th March 2019, Wheatley Arms, Ilkley.