

**Minutes of the 227th Yorkshire Area Meeting
Held at 19.30 on Monday 17th June 2019 at
The Wheatley Arms, Ilkley.**

Present:

Sarah Sharps	BMC Yorks Area Chair	Lindsay McMorran	LMC
Vicky Jennings	BMC Yorks Area Youth Outdoor Rep	Karl Heinig	Individual
Mick Johnson	BMC Yorks Area Gritstone Rep	Mike Bebbington	YMC, FRCC, CC
Niger Baker	BMC Yorks Area Limestone Rep	John Mortimer	Vibram MC
Dave Musgrove	Individual	Paul Clarke	FRCC, CC
Angela Soper	FRCC, Pinnacle Club	James Rowe	LMC, CC
Rob Dyer	BMC Access Officer	Thomas Cheyney	LMC

1. **Welcome & Introductions:** Sarah Sharps welcomed all to meeting.
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies were received from Andy Syme, John Hunt, Jim Hulbert, Stuart Wetherell and Mick Green
3. **Minutes of the last meeting:** Accepted as correct
4. **Matters Arising not covered elsewhere:** None
5. **Co-ordinators' Reports**
 - 5.1. **Gritstone: Access & Conservation:** Mick advised that Ruin Bank Woods access six month trial was almost up and has gone well. Mick is going to renegotiate and ask for weekends and possible tree removal. There is also a liability cover insurance deal to be agreed with the land owner. Possible gardening required at Caley, rangers are amendable to this; Mick is going to look at organising this.
 - 5.2. **Limestone: Access & conservation:** Nigel Baker advised that bird restrictions are in place at the usual crags and there has so far been no violations, and that none have been lifted yet.
 - 5.3. **Youth Indoor:** David Farrell not in attendance. Sarah mentioned the National Regional Youth BMC competition that was held at the Big Depot and that it seemed to have gone well.
 - 5.4. **Youth Outdoor:** Vicky Jennings advised the youth outdoor day on the 18th of May at Brimham had gone well, and would like to organise another maybe in the summer holidays. Rob Dyer suggested advertising on Instagram or Snapchat to directly reach the under 18s.
 - 5.5. **Climbing Walls:** Stuart Wetherell was not in attendance but had nothing of note to report.

working for climbers, hill walkers & mountaineers

- 5.6. **Clubs:** Pete Barrans reported that clubs can now use membership services online to update contacts etc. Club members fees are to rise next year alongside general BMC membership.

6. **Hillwalking.** Chris Page was not in attendance but Sarah reported about the mend our mountains campaigns – South Downs had reached target, Ben Vane has been completed as well as Wherside. There was a large backlash online from a website appearing from National Parks allowing people to ‘book a spot’ in a remote area for a fee and experience ‘wild camping’. BMC has a statement online, they were not consulted; the website has now been removed. Rob Dyer noted that it was meant to be a stepping stone for people from official campsites rather than wild camping and it applied to private land rather than access land.

7. **AGM.** The BMC has replied to some criticism about how the AGM was run in the form of an online post. Hopefully some of the new governance will address some of the issues.

8. **National Council.** Mick and Andy were both absent, but Andy had mentioned that the ODG process has slowed due to the time of year and hopefully things will get moving again later in the year once the Deputy President is appointed. Technical committee are looking at doing some work on belay practice after the accident that happened this year.

9. **Individual Members Issues.** None raised.

10. **Any Other Business.** BMC Hills to Oceans litter picking evening to be run jointly with Leeds Mountaineering Club on the 16th July at 6pm at Ilkley Quarry. Area discussed recent documentary about plastic recycling in this country being sent to Asia into landfill. Was suggested that BMC could apply pressure to the government to stop exporting plastics?
Near miss reporting system has been launched on the BMC website, and Sarah encouraged it’s use. Lindsay noted it contained useful learning points.
Sarah mentioned that Will Hunt is looking for crag/climbing photos for a guidebook and to contact him if anyone wanted to contribute.

11. **Date of Next Meeting:** 16th September 2019, Wheatley Arms, Ilkley.