

**Minutes of the 229th Yorkshire Area Meeting
Held at 19.30 on Monday 2nd December 2019
at The Wheatley Arms, Ilkley.**

Present:

Sarah Sharps	BMC Yorks Area Chair	Paul Clarke	FRCC, CC
Vicky Jennings	BMC Yorks Area Youth Outdoor Rep	James Rowe	LMC, CC
Mick Johnson	BMC Yorks Area Gritstone Rep	Emily Thompson	KMC
Niger Baker	BMC Yorks Area Limestone Rep	Helen Costello	LMC
Dave Musgrove	Individual	Stuart Wetherell	Individual
Angela Soper	FRCC, Pinnacle Club	Peter Roll	Individual
Rob Dyer	BMC Access Officer	Lorna Vance	Individual
		John Nightingale	LMC

1. **Welcome & Introductions:** Sarah Sharps welcomed all to meeting.
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies were received from John Mortimer, Lindsay McMorran, Chris Page, Nigel Baker, Andy Syme and Jim Hulbert
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 Johnson

Caley – Mick went around with Neil the warden and identified some trees and branches to be cut down. They are down to one and a half full-time workers so don't have time to do this themselves. They have said they are happy for climbers to go up with hand tools (not power tools) to prune some branches off areas that need it for access.

Almscliffe – could do with some gravel from BMC to avoid muddy area, the farmer is happy to have some gravel put down. Rob had email from Chris Wood who had seen quite a few visitors walking on wall and using drones despite the signage. They have approached them and mentioned it and they have stepped off the wall. No reports from farmer however.

Ruin Bank Cottingley - as per last minutes climbers can climb first weekends of the month, however there has not been the weather recently.

Hawkscliff near Keighley – this site is on private land, climbers have asked if we can cut the trees back there. Mick is to look at who is landlord.

Shipley Glen – they haven't got back about any pruning that needs to be done, Mick doesn't see why people can't use hand tools if needed.

Paul Clarke mentioned about there is a lot going on locally on the local cliffs that needs to be celebrated. A lot going on at Guiscliffe woods, Kilnsey, Attemire; new routes being bolted. Dave Musgrove is making a booklet about recently developed crags.

5.2. Limestone: Access & conservation: Nigel Baker

Nigel was not in attendance, no news reported.

5.3. Youth Outdoor: Vicky Jennings

Vicky mentioned that she tried to set up a day at Hetchell, fell through due to lack of volunteers and gear and poor weather.

5.4. Climbing Walls: Stuart Wetherell

Stu has been taking magazines and flyers to walls to promote the BMC. Huddersfield wall – unfortunately the provider fell through. No news at the moment. Freeclime bouldering centre is now open, had a halloween party and they have an access to climbing programme supported by Jessie Dufton. Rokt also have disabled ambassadors. Depot Leeds have announced new centre, not sure on site or whether it is a replacement for the Big Depot. It is to be a flagship wall. No dates either. Big Depot kitchen is now open, mostly veggie and vegan options. They now have routes comp league there, reset for those this week. They have started posting online beta videos. Climbing lab have changed their grading, have new environmentally friendly entry cards. Harrogate have had a change of layout, with a new mural of Almscliffe where the old shop was. They also now have an over 60s bouldering league. Hull – Rockcity had a bloctoberfest for their birthday - 25 years old. Mad Volume (new this year) had a living vs dead competition. New centre in Bradford has advertised for a centre manager, no news yet of opening for that but it will be called The Climbing Hub.

5.5. Clubs: Pete Barrans

Pete reported that it was all very quiet still in regards from communications from local clubs. He attended a clubs committee meeting.

6. Hillwalking: Chris Page

Chris was not in attendance. Hill Walking Symposium is Friday 13th - Sunday 15th March 2020 at Ambleside YHA Hostel.

7. National Council: Andy Syme and Mick Green

Mick reported that there were 3 current vacancies – one has been dealt with and two more to be voted in this weekend at NC meeting. A good process was going on, with the board being renewed, it is working ok

at the moment. NC meeting this weekend where all the specialist groups will present. It will be a mass of information; Mick is to feedback on anything useful or interesting. Organisation Development ongoing, strategy in place and published, business plan to be completed next.

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

9. **Any Other Business.**

BMC Yorkshire Festival – a meeting was had and it was agreed a good base would be Grassington. It was making good progress until we discovered Yorkshire Outdoor Festival was on around the same time as we wanted ours. Some members of the committee had a meeting with Mel from Due North that went well. They do trail races and organised Doug Scotts last tour. They are hiring out Wharfedale Rugby Club Fri-Sat-Sun, there will be caving, mountain biking, cycling, trail races, guest speakers – Doug Scott – and they are trying to get Chris Bonington too. Ticks most of the boxes. Originally thought she said BMC members can go free but unfortunately it was misunderstanding - anyone involved can but it will be £10 to get into. Dilemma is should we get involved with this one or do our own which involves more heavy lifting. Rob has said that application to funding needs to be in by 6th Jan – form is on the website. Mel is very keen for us to be involved. Could we contribute some funding and get a discount for BMC members? See how a stall at this one goes, maybe run an event or two alongside? Needs to be decided and discussed.

Dates for next year: 16th March, 1st June, 7th Sept and 2nd Nov

10. **Date of Next Meeting:** 16th March 2020, Wheatley Arms, Ilkley.