



LAKES AREA MEETING

Meeting held by Zoom Call on Wednesday 3 March 2021 at 19.30

MINUTES

Present (27) – F Bennett, F Sanders, K Sanders, M Parsons, R Kenyon, P Swainson, A Davis, A Hinkes, A Salisbury, C Attwood, D Ferguson, D Turnbull, G Campion, I Armstrong, J Bumby, J Holden, K Murphy, K Taylor, Margaret, Mark B, Mark, Matthew C, P Powell, R Outhwaite, S Wetton, T Deakin, P Stewart

1. Election of Chair for meeting

- Frank Bennett had been proposed as chair for the area and he gave a resume of his life etc. A vote for his election was put to the meeting and he was elected unanimously - welcome Frank !!

2. Welcome, introductions and apologies for absence.

- Only apologies from Nicola Bolton

3. Minutes of the previous meeting - available on the BMC Community website

- Agreed

4. Matters arising from that meeting or not covered elsewhere

- No matters arising other than in the agenda

5. BMC update

- Office – all on furlough on Fridays.
- Advert out for new CEO.
- Various other roles being advertised including Policy Officer for Wales.
- AGM on 15th May – again by Zoom.
- Technical Committee Chair - looking for expert in the textile industry – Mike Parsons has offered his knowledge on the back of his experience.

6. Impact of Covid-19 – Post Lockdown

- **Post lockdown plans from National Parks** - Dave Turnbull with input from others
 1. DT has been in touch with Richard Leafe (LDNPA) and Jeremy Barlow (NT) and other areas in the UK.
 2. National Parks expect the busiest year in history – envisaging chaos in many places !!!
 3. There had been use of ex-bouncers last year, in Dartmoor, to deal with situations and looking at similar this year. LDNP is not doing the same but is using more wardens and Car Park marshals.
 4. Wild camping is allowed on parts of Dartmoor under its byelaws.
 5. Looking to establish a large number of parking areas with 56 day limits.
 6. Everyone should plan ahead about where to go and look to avoid (and not contribute to) the crowds.
 7. Concern at reduction in restrictions post 29/03/2021 - with folk “trying to wing it !. We are still required to “minimise travel” so not all restrictions to



be removed on that date. However, other restrictions to be eased - for example, we will be back to the “rule of six”.

8. Police/LDNPG/NT etc looking seriously at the overall position
 1. Lots of temporary car parks (56 day restriction) could be established.
 2. Toilets and sanitation
 3. Anticipated 30% increase in visitors !!!
9. Many visitors have no experience of the area !
10. NT have more people involved looking after paths (20 as opposed to 9 last year).
11. Safer park initiative - set up to get people to send in emails of problem areas

CV. ALERT - email address - cv.alert@lakedistrict.gov.uk

12. BMC is looking to get out codes of practice to members - but it is difficult to get the message out to everyone else !
 1. Messages out from BMC and via UKC
 2. Following codes developed.
 1. Crag Code
 2. Wild camping code
 3. Van Camping code
 4. Respect the rock
13. LDNP looking for marshalls to help - contact Chris Wingrove -
Email - chris.wingrove@lakedistrict.gov.uk

7 Access Issues (James Bumby)

- **Bird Restrictions**
 1. Usual bird restrictions
 2. ... however more nesting probable so need feedback from climbers and walkers of the whereabouts of bird, particularly peregrines, and new nests
- **Offer of help to NT / LDNP Rangers**
 1. Offer of help to them to help with things – and relate back to members. See email of Chris Wingrove above.

Action – James Bumby to follow through
- **Shepherds Crag**
 1. Now no parking of vehicles at High Lodore Farm, other than residents there.
 2. There have been a number of issues there and the final straw seems to have been a campervan stopping there overnight and not asking permission !!!
 3. Not sure of situations regarding café
 4. Climbers and walkers should not bother the owner there !!!
 5. Seems to be the end of an era – and we must thank the owners of the farm there.
 6. Understand there are memorial seats and items in with the café furniture
 7. Parking issues in Borrowdale are now acute.
 8. Comment of possible availability of car park used by contractors at Lodore Hotel

Action - James Bumby to make enquiries
- **Parking for Catbells**
 1. Issue recently of application for car park (with bus turning site etc) near Catbells and another near Portinscale.
 2. Problem has been around for a long time
 3. Is this the long term solution ?



4. Feeling that the BMC should have an opinion for or against the application - vote taken being 16 Against and 3 For and motion passed to submit an objection.

Action - Small group to word letter of objection to go to LDNPB asap.

- **Transport and Parking in the Lake District**

1. Comments from the floor of the UK being very primitive in dealing with tourists, when compared to many places in Europe.
2. Underlying issue of who pays for the infrastructure and ongoing costs - with limited resources of LDNPA.
3. Need to have a valley by valley approach for the Lake District – although the overall issues are similar – each valley has its own problems.
4. NT looking specifically at Borrowdale and Wasdale.
5. Issue of provision of electric hook-up points for the future !
6. There is a legal obligation for a “Park Management Plan” - need to work with “Park Management Team” through the “National Park Partnership”
7. Ken Taylor said, in his experience, that the “Access Forum” is powerless.

Action - Dave Turnbull asked to ensure a BMC member sits on the LDNPP and engage with the Park Management Plan

8. Ken Taylor was asked to take the issue to AMG for guidance going forward (potentially asking for a transport policy). David Brown felt that the National Council would be supportive of such a message.

Action - Ken Taylor

9. **Snowdonia**

Initiative <https://www.snowdonpartnership.co.uk/parkingandtransport>

Current initiative to look at similar issues of transport and parking in North Wales – seems looking at large hub car parks in Llanberis, Bethesda; Capel Curig etc

- **Ron Kenyon reported on the following -**

- **Kings Meaburn**

- Large tree fallen over but against part of the crag and he has been in touch with the owners about having this removed

- **Armathwaite**

- There was recently a bike jump off the top of the crag, above Codpiece, with a ramp landing – this was a drop of 38 feet with 53 feet distance – and seems to be the highest drop on a bike in the UK. The landowners (Forestry England) were not happy. Ramp has been removed but the logs are still there. Looking to Carlisle MC helping to clear these out of the way with the establishing of stacks etc nearby.

- **Castle Rock**

- Stuart Dunning (Univ of Newcastle) was involved with the monitoring system on the rock fall at Castle Rock. He is producing a report on this and how this system can be used elsewhere and we helping him with this

8 Any other business.

- Ron Kenyon mentioned the possibility of a Lakes Fest in the Duddon Valley in September – however



1. Needless to say – this depends on the covid restrictions
2. ... but possibly more appropriate to consider not running at all – will the Lakes be “worn out” by then and does not need more visitors this year !!

9 Next Meeting 05.05.2021

The BMC was founded in 1944 with membership open to all, "regardless of race, ethnicity, religious belief, sexuality or socioeconomic status".

<https://www.thebmc.co.uk/a-brief-history-of-the-bmc>