

BMC North West Area Meeting
Meeting held online via Zoom
On Monday 9th Nov 2020 at 19:15

This meeting dealt with both the area AGM, and the normal area meeting business.

At the request of BMC HQ, separate minutes have been prepared for

- **The AGM (which will be approved at the next AGM).**
- **The normal area meeting business (which will be approved at the next normal meeting)**

These minutes are for the AGM portion of the meeting.

AGM Attendance – 29 (23M: 6F)
BMC Officer in attendance – None available.
Chair – Emily Pitts; Secretary – Paul Evans
Area Members –
Les Ainsworth (Lancs Access Rep),
Mike Appleton,
Stephen Benson,
Bill Beveridge (NC Rep),
Paula Brough-Heinzmann,
James Buckley,
Andy Cairns (CC / FRCC),
Jonathan Carter,
Steve Charles (Area Hillwalking Rep),
Paul Evans (Area Secretary, KMC),
Nick Galpin,
Joe Green,
Tim Greenhalgh,
Andy Holland,
Stuart Holmes (Area Youth and Walls Rep),
Anthony Jackson,
Dominic Oughton (Area Clubs Coordinator, Rucksack Club),
Emily Pitts (Area Chair, KMC),
Steve Riley,
Roberta Spagnul,
Carl Spencer (NC rep and CND),
Wendy Stirrup,
David Symonds,
Richard Toon,
Gareth Williams,
Jemma Wolstencroft.

Attendees from other areas - Colin Knowles (co-opted to Board), Fiona Sanders (Lakes Area and Board Member), Paul Justin.

1. Apologies. Apologies reported to meeting: Mark Hounslea, Dave Robinson.

2. Annual General Meeting

Chair's Report: EP gave a report on the last 12 months in the area year. This covered numbers and types of members in area, and summarised the great work done by area volunteers. Obviously we have challenges due to cancellation of physical events due to Covid, particularly WiltonFest & the Hillwalking conservation projects. We have had increased social media engagement

and attendance at area meetings has gone up. Area members had been flexible in taking to Zoom for virtual meetings, and respectful in getting outdoors during Covid restrictions. Clubs meetings had been a major area of progress under Dominic.

Topics for attention going forward are keeping members informed on Covid, Organisational Changes within the BMC, and Area communications / membership engagement.

Emily appealed for a RAD volunteer.

As this meeting was the first to use voting via Zoom polls, Emily Pitts ran two initial polls to check how many people were area members entitled to vote, and to check that people were comfortable with how Zoom voting would work, including the protocols for people sharing a device (in practice nobody was sharing).

3. Minutes of the last AGM meeting.

A vote was held to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Proposer Dominic Oughton, Seconder Andy Cairns. Results – 17 votes for, 0 votes against, 4 abstentions.

4. Election of officers/ reps.

Chair and Secretary

Emily Pitts was re-elected as Chair, proposed Gowry Sisupalan, seconded Helen Robinson. 18 votes for, 1 abstain 1 against.

Paul Evans was re-elected as Secretary, proposed Gareth Williams, seconded Roger Dyke, 22 votes for, 1 abstain, 0 votes against.

National Council Reps

Reps are elected for a 3 year term and neither Carl Spencer nor Bill Beveridge are due for re-election this year.

Access Reps

Les Ainsworth was re-elected as Lancs Access Rep, proposed Carl Spencer, seconded Dave Cronshaw, 22 votes for, 1 abstain, 0 votes against.

Les mentioned that he was not as young as he might appear, and that new volunteers to get involved in Lancs access would be much appreciated going forward.

Mark Hounslea was re-elected as Cheshire Access Rep, proposed Colin Struthers, seconded Harold Walmsley, 21 votes for, 1 abstain, 0 votes against.

Hillwalking Reps

Steve Charles stood for election as Hillwalking Rep, proposed Emily Pitts, seconded Paul Evans, 21 votes for, 2 abstain, 0 votes against.

Dave Robinson stood for election as Hillwalking Rep, proposed Emily Pitts, seconded Paul Evans, 22 votes for, 1 abstain, 0 votes against.

Clubs Coordinator

Dominic Oughton stood for election as Clubs Coordinator, proposed John Farrow, seconded Andy Tomlinson, 21 votes for, 1 abstain, 0 votes against.

.

Area Youth Coordinators and Walls Representative.

Stuart Holmes was willing to stand for re-election as Area Youth Coordinator and Area Walls Rep, proposed Paul Evans, seconded Emily Pitts, 20 votes for, no abstains, 1 vote against.

Stuart said that the Area Youth Coordinator and the Climbing Walls Rep were in fact two separate roles and that there was ample opportunity for interested members to assist with either or both.

4. Matters arising from the last AGM minutes - None.

Fiona Sanders offered thanks on behalf of the Board for all the efforts of all the Area Officers and volunteers throughout a very challenging year.

The date of next years AGM is proposed to be Monday 15th Nov 2021.

At this point the AGM portion of the area proceedings completed, and the normal area meeting recommenced - see separate minutes.