



## Lakes Area – Annual General Meeting

Meeting held by Zoom Call - Wednesday 11 November 2020 at 19.30

**Present** – Mike Parsons, Fiona Sanders, Ron Kenyon, Keith Sanders, James Bumby, Phil Swainson, Ged Campion, Phil Powell, Al Davis, Margaret Parker, Laurie Priebe, Dave Turnbull, Steve Wetton, Mark Elliott, Dave Brown, Ken Taylor, Anne Salisbury, Annette Smith

### 1. Welcome by Chairperson Mike Parsons.

- Apologies for absence received from Marian Parsons, Chris Kenyon
- Permission was sought from the meeting for an AGM to take place within the online Zoom Meeting system.

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| Yes        | 10 |
| No         | 2  |
| Don't know | 3  |
- Happy to vote by zoom

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| Yes        | 13 |
| Abstention | 2  |

### 2. Minutes of the previous meeting

- Minutes agreed, and no matters arising.

### 3. Area Chair's Annual Report ( Mike Parsons)

- To say 2020 has been somewhat different is an understatement. From an area meeting point of view, we had good attendances, and the shift to Zoom showed an increase in attendance of 20% above the previous years average. There has been extensive feedback into and debate within the National Council as to future area meetings. No clear decision has been made, with preferences tending to be for continued zoom online for the foreseeable future. Maybe one face to face social type meeting per year was one idea mooted.
- At our November 2019 area meeting, we declared 'Climate Crisis'.

The area meeting proposed that a declaration of a climate change emergency should go to the National Council.

This was responded to very quickly by Cath Flitcroft, BMC Access & Conservation Officer (Policy) and plans were outlined at our.....
- March 11th meeting. But the planned launch at SHAFF in April [see link](#) was muted by Lockdown. This became a full BMC programme which is [now known as 'the Climate Project'](#). Additionally at this meeting:-
  1. Douglas Chalmers (COE of [Friends of the Lake District](#)) attended the meeting and gave us insights into the 'Save our Lake District' (SOLD) campaign. See the explanation for the [campaign in FoLD website](#). He explained that there were some initial misgivings about going head to head with LDNPA but public reactions vindicated the approach.
  2. Ken Taylor ( our newly appointed park planning representative) – gave an overview of Glover Report on the future of National Parks. Our understanding is that although this report was put in place by Michael Gove MP, no action on this is expected in the short term.
  3. 'Lakes Fest' – We as BMC Lakes area, with Andy McVitie as the organiser, agreed to hold an event weekend in Seathwaite in September 2020 – Due to Covid was not held but still hoping to organise in 2021.
  4. The March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting was the last to be held face to face.



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5. The following weekend was the well attended BMC Hillwalking Symposium in Ambleside, where social distancing and no handshaking was already observed. The day following the country was in lockdown.
- May 27th Meeting –was the first zoom online meeting we held and it worked smoothly thanks to good technical support from BMC directors, staff and volunteers.
  1. Zoom meeting – 20% increase in numbers
  2. James McHaffie gave a presentation on Equity events and training by the BMC. The [recent recognition award to the BMC for equality in sport was discussed.](#) This is an important program within the BMC to support and encourage participation in our types of activities by BAME people.
- September Meeting
  1. Discussion about the influx of a new generation of visitors. Huge effect on the environment and access issues
  2. 60/70% of visitors had not been to the Lakes before.
  3. As the lakes reopened, car parks and toilets and park staff and volunteers were all out of sync. A volunteer clean up event to clear much rubbish left by new types of visitors had to be abandoned because of C19 restrictions of group sizes.
  4. A discussion was held on how to deal with the issues of littering. Some felt a campaign was needed. Summarising, the Chairperson signalled that a wider approach needed to be taken because many of the public new to the lakes had grown up without litter bins in high streets and stations and music festival visitors left everything where they stood.

#### 4. Election of officers

**Area Chair:** - Mike Parsons standing down after 6 years, as required by BMC governance rules.

**There were no nominations to Area Chair – so the position is vacant.**

*The following were nominated and there was a majority vote in favour of them taking on the positions -*

|   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| <b>Area Secretary:</b>                    | Ron Kenyon                       |
| <b>Area Treasurer:</b>                    | James Bumby                      |
| <b>Area Access Co-ordinator:</b>          | James Bumby                      |
| <b>Area Access Reps</b>                   |                                  |
| i. <b>South Lakes</b>                     | James Bumby                      |
| ii. <b>Kentmere and Longsleddale</b>      | Max Biden                        |
| iii. <b>Duddon and Eskdale</b>            | Al Phizacklea                    |
| iv. <b>Wasdale, Ennerdale and St Bees</b> | Richard Outhwaite                |
| v. <b>North Lakes.</b>                    | Richard Outhwaite                |
| vi. <b>East Lakes and Eden Valley</b>     | Ron Kenyon                       |
| <b>Climbing wall representative</b>       | Ali Wood                         |
| <b>Area Youth Co-ordinator</b>            | Ali Wood                         |
| <b>Clubs Representative</b>               | Ged Campion                      |
| <b>Hill Walking Representative</b>        | Stu Smith                        |
| <b>Park planning representatives</b>      | Richard Outhwaite and Ken Taylor |



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*The following were elected for three years and in year two of their period of office.*

**Area National Council Representatives**

Fiona Sanders and Mike Parsons

*This following position is also vacant.*

**Newsletter editor**

- 5 **Proposed dates of Area Meetings in 2021,**
  - **These dates are still to be finalised.**
- 6 **Any other business - None**