



NORTH EAST AREA ORDINARY MEETING

Hybrid meeting held at Newcastle Climbing Centre and online via Zoom
on Tuesday 19 October 2021

MINUTES

Attendance:

Mark Anstiss	Chair (outgoing)	Al Hinkes
Simon Litchfield	Secretary	Lewis Hobson via laser technology
Jonathan White	Director	Bob McAdam
Gemma Ayre		Jon Punshon
Ciera Barrett-Smith		Adrian Wilson
Chris Bullock		Keith Wood
Mike Conlon		Peter Young
Franco Cookson		Tony Williams
Richard Davis		
Fred		19 in attendance
Graham Harkness		

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

In lieu of an elected Chair, Mark Anstiss, opened the meeting. Apologies were received from Steve Blake and Mark Goodings.

2. Quorum

It was noted that a quorum was present in accordance with [Article 28.6.1 of the British Mountaineering Council's articles of association (the "Articles")].

3. Minutes from the previous meeting held

Addendum to minutes of last meeting: Post meeting note in these minutes (below).

4. Access Central - Post meeting note (Addendum to previous meeting)

- Most Washpool Crag hangers have been reinstated. Only one buttress is now not reinstated.
- Forgotten Quarry, Jack's Scar – no issues.
- Lewis has spoken to the land agent. Awaiting a response from the owner.

5. Access Central – October update.

- Stanhope Dene
- Stanhope Ashes
- Stanhope Lakeside
- Hownsgill
- Washpool
- Forgotten Quarry
- Jacks Scar
- Milton Teesdale – Rumours of bolting
- Haughton Graveyard – unknown climbers have bolted additional lines. Significant cleaning has taken place. It would appear permission has not been sought. Possibly up to 7 routes added. JP had previously been in contact with 'Friends of Haughton Graveyard'

Mike Conlon – noted that open access doesn't give the right to bolt. It seems that recent developments have bolted first and asked for permission second, which has resulted in issues. Sentiment seconded by JP.

Franco – Legally Mike is right, but practically it is doubtful that landowners would have agreed from day 1.

Jonathan White / Mark A – The BMC cannot condone illegal activities (ie bolting without permission) but can take a view once bolting had taken place.

JW – reiterated suggestion about young farmers' event.

6. Youth

YCS – Tony Williams registered issues with YCS comps – no venue for final, two national finals not yet finalised, no selection finalised for national development squad.

Chris Bullock augmented the points raised and noted that last minute decisions by BMC have a financial cost to parents (e.g. booking hotels). Specific examples given (e.g. giving barely a day's notice).

Jonathan White – shared email to take issue forward and encouraged members to provide examples.

7. Access South

Dawney Estate Issue being pursued by Mike Conlon and Tony.
Tranmire Estate – owner upset that walkers walk on the path on his estate.

8. International Moors Festival 2022

Franco proposed a IMF. Looking for volunteers. Alex Megos is coming. FACT.
Meeting was supportive

9. Brit Rock Tour

13th November 2021

10. Thanks

Thanks were extended to Mark Anstiss for his three years of service as Chair, six years on NC and his role for three years as Clubs representative. As a sign of our gratitude for his long service, Mark was given two spare packets of crisps.

11. Date of next Area Meeting

3rd Thurs in January 2022