



Yorkshire Area ORDINARY MEETING

Meeting held via Zoom on Monday 17 January 2022

AGENDA

If anything to be discussed on this agenda gives rise to a conflict of interest for anyone, please declare it at the start of the meeting.

Start time 7.30pm

- 1. Welcome and apologies for absence** **Jim Hulbert & Will Points**
 - 1.1 Apologies from Chris Page (Walking Rep) and Vicky Jennings (Youth Outdoor rep)
 - 1.2 Welcome to new faces/attendees that we've not seen before
- 2. Introduction to the BMC and Area Meetings**
 - 2.1 Nothing specific mentioned
- 3. Minutes of previous meeting**
 - 3.1 No further questions
- 4. Actions from previous meeting**
 - 4.1 No additional questions
- 5. Matters arising not covered elsewhere**
 - 5.1 Elections for new committee members:**
 - 5.1.1 Introduction to new roles by Will Points:
 - 5.1.1.1 Lead and Boulder Reps – splitting the climbing wall rep position to support both disciplines and get more volunteers involved.
 - 5.1.1.2 Events Co-Ordinator – to support with the creation of a Yorkshire festival in 2023 and organise more local events like the Baildon clean-up and Almscliff path laying.
 - 5.1.1.3 Gritstone Deputy Rep – to learn from our existing rep and build the landowner relationships before hopefully stepping up in the future
 - 5.1.2 The following elections were held:
 - 5.1.2.1 Sam Kett was successful in his bid for Lead wall climbing rep
 - 5.1.2.2 Chris Dennis was successful in his bid for Boulder wall climbing rep
 - 5.1.2.3 Dan Johnson was successful in his bid for events co-ordinator
 - 5.1.2.4 Jessica Grzybowski was successful in her bid as Deputy Gritstone rep
 - 5.2 Update from **Dave Turnbull:**
 - 5.2.1 Recent BMC survey of key volunteers and partners with direct involvement in access, conservation, land management and environmental issues has provided possibly the best snapshot the BMC have ever had, with people on average spending 50mins completing their answers and creating a 45page report. In general, more people have been visiting the British countryside as a result of COVID and we expect them to return, so how can we support them. Also, a call for support from retailers/trade and how we can work better together. However, feedback also suggests we may need to consider how best to work with the local community and increase our local impact, and there are proposals around regional co-ordination, volunteer events etc Full feedback is due out in the next couple of weeks which will be shared online, and the hope is this will become a catalyst to adapt and evolve the BMC to provide greater impact.
- 6. Members Council Update** **Mick Green**
 - 6.1 No specific update on governance as previous feedback is that interested parties would rather read the detail in the Council minutes.
 - 6.2 However, the meetings have recently focussed on the core activities of Indoor Climbing, Rock Climbing, Mountaineering and Hill Walking. Next up is Mountaineering and then Hill Walking,

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and both climbing meetings have been very interesting. We are keen to work closely with new reps and the Yorkshire area to see what more we can do with Indoor climbing and the transition from indoor to outdoor, and splitting the reps aligns well with the new BMC roles.

7. Reports from Area Representatives

7.1 Gritstone: Access and Conservation

Mick Johnson

- 7.1.1.1 Recent filming at Almscliff by Marc Langley for National Geographic supported by the BMC and good promotion for Yorkshire and Yorkshire climbing.
- 7.1.1.2 Bees have been found hibernating on pocket wall at Caley, best to avoid problem but expect them to move on shortly
- 7.1.1.3 Baildon Bank clean-up sounds good and looking forward to it. Discussed the details, which will be shared online, but the clean-up was agreed to start at 10am. Clearing is 2-3m away from the crag with handtools and strimmers (no bladed power tools e.g. saws and hedge trimmers). We are also exploring the option the lower-off/belays at the top via glue-in bolts, and Andy S is meeting Rob D on the 18th Jan to discuss the options.
Post meeting note: some belay stakes have subsequently been installed above Joanna/HMS Amethyst, discussion is ongoing for other areas.
- 7.1.1.4 Not heard anything about “our crag” Crookrise recently, Andy Syme will ask Rob Dyer if there is anything planned. Brief discussion regarding a stile into Khumbu boulders however this is through land not owned by the BMC, and Bolton Abbey Estate not enthusiastic about granting.
- 7.1.1.5 No change in the decision regarding lamping at Almscliff (no lamping!).
- 7.1.1.6 Looking forward to working with the new volunteer (Jess).

7.2 Limestone: Access and Conservation Jim Hulbert (in the absence of Nigel Baker)

- 7.2.1 Jim has spoken to Paul Clarke and a storm has caused a lot of damage around Trow Gill which is impacting the climbs and walking in the area. The landowner (YDNP) is aware and will be doing some work to protect the waking path, however for the climbing we suspect some further work will be needed to remove other trees and clean the tops. A good inspection would be needed come spring/after the landowner’s work, especially with the crag being known for loose rock already. We cannot start the work until the landowner has done their work.
- 7.2.2 Further new routes have been put up at Trollers Gill by Dave Musgrove and co. We fully expect an updated pamphlet to come out later this year.
- 7.2.3 Still waiting feedback from Craven District Council for approval to commence new routing at Langcliffe. All other parties have agreed.

7.3 Clubs

Pete Barrans

- 7.3.1 Nothing to report since the last meeting.
- 7.3.2 Would be good to get an update on “find your adventure”, believed to be running well but not clear to attendees.
- 7.3.3 Gritstone club are in the 100th year, with 40 members up at Almscliff on Saturday celebrating the occasion

7.4 Youth Outdoor

Jim Hulbert (in absence of Vicky Jennings)

- 7.4.1 Vicky is keen to run a youth outdoor event in the summer and looking for volunteers to support (contact via social media initially). We would need to check safeguarding requirements.

7.5 Climbing Walls

Jim Hulbert (vacancy)

- 7.5.1 A new Depot is confirmed in Leeds (Armley). Further discussion was had earlier in the meeting involving several members including Dave Turnbull, Andy Syme, Peter Roll, Mick Green all giving different perspectives from the BMC to positively encourage and support indoor climbing. This will be built upon with the 2 new volunteers.

7.6 Hillwalking

Jim Hulbert (in absence of Chris Page)

- 7.6.1 Reminder of the situation at Beamsley Beacon and the conversation with YDNP. Advice is park sensibly but don’t exacerbate the situation. Landowners have been trying to block parking locations with rocks and stones etc.

7.6.2 Peter Barrans raised issues with trials bikes around Oxenhope/Haworth on Yorkshire Water land, which has been raised with the police as it is illegal to ride on the moors and on footpaths however the footpaths in the area are being trashed. Police have said they will try and increase patrols. Jim H/Andy S will raise concern to Rob Dyer to see if there is anything the BMC can support/do?

8. Any Other Business

8.1 Members' Council Vacancy

8.1.1 Andy Syme made a request for people to consider the Members' Council Area Representative role as we have a vacancy and Mick also has only 18-months left in his tenure.

8.2 Hybrid meetings – venue suggestions?

8.2.1 Sadly Ilkley (Wheatley Arms) are wanting to charge considerably more for our attendance. Climbing Hub in Bradford suggested as a possible option. City Bloc or Big Depot may also be feasible but LSD has no rooms.

8.3 Any plans for a Yorkshire festival?

8.3.1 No groundwork done previously, but with the election of a new role this should get more focus in 2022. Funding is available this year, but intention is to make a concrete bid for 2023.

8.4 BMC finances

8.4.1 Deficits last year and continues this year as membership numbers have not all returned from pre-covid. There is a bid in with Sport England for additional funding (c£2m) to support Indoor Climbing and Hillwalking.

8.5 BMC AGM – Andy Syme

8.5.1 Will not be in person due to COVID situation, however there is hope we could still have a volunteer's event later in the year. The AGM will most likely be an evening event online for w/c 16th May.

8.6 BMC Patrons – Andy Syme

8.6.1 Looking to find more patrons following the sad loss of Lord Greaves and Doug Scott in 2021. Hopefully one is will be announced shortly.

8.7 BMC Emails – Andy Syme

8.7.1 Anyone who has opted out of any BMC email ever does not get any communications due to how GDPR has been set-up. Please contact the office if you want to re-instate the emails, and a new system will be introduced later this year.

8.8 I&D

8.8.1 Angela Soper shared some information on the work the Pinnacle Club has done to get women into climbing including running a local indoor event with a school group.

8.8.2 Angela also said the Pinnacle Club has a fund for training new climbers if people are aware of anyone needing this support.

9. Date, time and location of next Area Meeting:

9.1 19th April, hopefully in person! Location tbc

Actual start time 9,15pm

10. Photo presentation

Henry Giles

11. Q&A with speaker

12. Close Meeting. 09:30

Jim Hulbert