



British Mountaineering Council SOUTHWEST AREA

AGM

Date, Time, Type & Venue of Meeting: 22nd October 2022, 7pm, face to face, The Quay
Exeter

Chair: Mark Kemball, Secretary: Alan Dovey & Minutes: Philip Wilson

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

Attendees

Mark Kemball, Philip Wilson, Paul Roberts, Thomas Reeves, Nathalie Caulier, Robin Jacob, Trevor Smith, Rick Sowards, Rik Meek, Mark Courtiour, Mathieu Burtshell, James Macdonald-Smith, Grant Edwards, Josh Brockhouse Smith, Michael Phillips, Anna Kommers, Jay Jackson & Will Hornby.

AGM

Apologies For Absence

Helen Wilson, Julian Wills, Colin Knowles, Ian Butterworth, Iain Peters, Max Dutton, Dave Hillebrandt, Tony Bird, Simon Torr, Mark McManus, & Marti Hallett

Agenda items

1. The previous minutes for the AGM were agreed & signed off.
2. The Annual Report was Presented by the Chair outlining achievements for the year (see Appendix A).
3. A formal vote of thanks for all their hard work in post was given to Helen Wilson (Members Council), Alan Dovey (Area Meeting Sec), Mark Courtiour (Cheddar Rep) & Julian Wills (Youth Co-Ordinator).
4. Elections:
 - Chair: Philip Wilson Proposed & Trevor Smith Seconded Mark Kemball to continue in this post.
 - Area Meeting Secretary: Mark Kemball proposed; and Will Hornby seconded Philip Wilson to this post previously held by Alan Dovey.
 - Members Council: Mark Kemball proposed and Philip Wilson seconded Trevor Smith to this post previously held by Helen Wilson who completes her second three-year term. Philip Wilson continues in post (elected at 2021 Area AGM for three years).

Other Area Volunteer Roles:

- Access Representatives
 - Atlantic Coast: Iain Peters
 - Avon: Simon Fletcher
 - Devon: North & Culm: Mark McManus



- Devon: South (including Dartmoor): James Mann & Will Hornby
- Dorset & Swanage (including Portland): Martin Hallett. Assisted for Portland by Neale Heanes
- Cheddar: Owen Wynne-Griffith was confirmed to this post taking over from Mark Courtiour.
- Somerset: Mark Courtiour was confirmed in this post.
- West Penwith: Iain Peters
- Wye Valley: Julio Sánchez
- Climbing Wall: Dave Taylor
- Clubs Co-ordinator: Martin Corfield
- Hill Walking Representative: Thomas Reeves
- Youth Co-ordinators North: Dave Taylor
- Youth Co-ordinators South: Jay Jackson & Anna Kommers

The meeting was then closed.



Appendix A: BMC SW Area Report 2021-2

I'd like to start by thanking a number of volunteers who are stepping down or have stepped down this year.

Helen Wilson has been our representative on the Members' Council (previously the National Council) for six years (the maximum term allowed). I know she has put in hundreds (if not thousands) of hours work in on our behalf, particularly working on the re-organisation of the BMC. (Not a job I'd like to do.) She has also been very helpful behind the scenes in hosting and organising our zoom meetings. Thank you.

Alan Dovey has been our secretary for the last two years; he's stepping down because of other commitments. Thanks for your help and support.

Mark Courtiour has been the BMC Cheddar Gorge Climbing Warden since 2017. He was instrumental in negotiating the improved access to the gorge for climbers. Mark stepped down this year, but is continuing as the access representative for the rest of Somerset. Thank you Mark. Owen Wynne-Griffith has taken over Cheddar from Mark.

Julian Wills has been our area youth co-ordinator for 3years. He was closely involved in discussions of how the Youth Climbing Series is organised and run and many of his suggestions were taken up (including the splitting of the SW area into two for competition purposes). I think this has significantly improved the competition. Julian stepped down this year, thank you Julian. Jay Jackson and Anna Kommers have taken over as AYC for the SW (south) area and is running this year's youth climbing series.

This year we have held 3 area meetings on line (using Zoom). These were generally well attended, typically about 20 people. Today's meeting is our first face to face meeting since the start of the pandemic - It has not proved possible to attend this meeting on line.

Our main focus this year has been access issues. We have successfully negotiated an access agreement for the climbing on Tintagel Island (Il Duce etc.). We are still involved in discussions with the National Trust over access arrangements / bird bans for Carn Gowla, but climbing continues. Unfortunately we have lost the access to The Needles on the Isle of Wight, but negotiations continue.

In the Wye Valley, the re-equipping of Wintour's Leap continues. Thank you to all the volunteers involved.

Author: Mark Kemball SW Area Chair.