

THE COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

A.G.M. 1980

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, 28th June at 3 p.m. at the Ingleborough Community Centre, Ingleton.

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of 1979 AGM (previously circulated)
3. Matters arising from minutes
4. Chairman's Report
5. Secretary's Report (attached)
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Meets Secretaries Reports
  - i) Leck Fell
  - ii) Casterton Fell (attached)
  - iii) Penygent/Gingling
  - iv) Birks Fell/Mongo Gill
8. Item for discussion - the present Booking/Permit system
9. Election of Officers and Committee
10. Matters relating to N.C.A.
11. Any Other Business

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Members are reminded that voting will be restricted to one representative from each paid-up Full Member Club present.

Representatives of Associate Member Clubs are welcome to attend and express opinions.

Nominations for the posts of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary, and the eight Committee places will be accepted in advance by letter to the Secretary from a Full Member Club, or at the meeting. The four officers and eight Committee Members must each represent a different Full Member Club.

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COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Ingleborough Community Centre on the 28th June 1980.

Attendance

A Beecroft (EPC)	G Wilkinson (ACC)
B Smith (BPC)	R Williams (UEG)
J Clegg (TREAS)	A Fisher (YSG)
P Morgan (EPC)	R Crowder (LDSA)
A Barber (WM)	D Crook (LDSA)
D Sudell (BCC)	E Mann (YSG)
B Lyon (WM)	D Headley (YSG)
A Hall (RRCPC)	P Wilkinson (PMCC)
M Woodhouse (RRCPC)	S Farrow (NPC)
R Pearce (SUCPC)	A Waddington (EX CS)
S Armstrong (SUCPC)	J Mortimer (VMC)
C Williams (SUCPC)	I Wilkinson (BPC)
M Rhodes (ACC)	K Langham (NPC)
M Gaffney (ACC)	R Sutcliffe (GC)
P Armitage (ACC)	

Roger Sutcliffe elected to chair the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

A Ball, D Leonard and WRPC.

2. Minutes

Minutes of 1979 AGM previously circulated.

3. Matters Arising

None.

4. Officers Reports

1. Chairman - Nothing to report.

2. Secretary - report attached to agenda. The Secretary had been informed that BCRA were looking into the possibilities of purchasing the land round Alum Pot along with permanent access.

3. Treasurer - The balance sheet was distributed to the meeting.

Income was £450.18

Expenditure was £773.92

The Treasurer recommended an increase of subs to £4 from January 1981. This recommendation was discussed, it was then proposed and seconded that the subs be raised to £4. It was also proposed and seconded that the Committee have the power to increase the subs if the need arises subject to review at the next AGM. Motion carried. A list of the clubs who have not paid their subs read as follows:-

Caper Montis, Chelsea SS, Cleveland, Derbys SG, Eldon, Glasgow SS, Harrow Moles, Kendal, Leeds Poly, Newcastle UG, Reading Univ, Sedbergh School, Sheffield Poly, Sheffield Univ, Shepton Mallet, Univ Bradford, Valley CC, Worth Valley, Gildersleets.

5. Meets Secretaries Reports

1. Casterton Fell - circulated previously with Agenda.
2. Leck Fell - enclosed.
3. Ribblesdale - enclosed.
4. Birks Fell/Mongogill - enclosed.

/OVER

Lancashire Caving and Climbing Club had "adopted" Pippikin Pot. A suggestion of a gate in the Link Crawl was not met with approval.

6. Present Booking/Permit System

A lengthy discussion took place to try to find a solution to the problem of having to book caves and pots up to 12 months in advance on Leck and Casterton. Unfortunately the meeting could not come up with an answer to this problem. At this moment all we can do is ask clubs who have permits and won't be using them to please return them to the meets secretary.

7. Election of Officials and Committee

<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Prop</u>	<u>Sec</u>
Mick Rhodes	BPC	EPC
<u>Secretary</u>		
Brian Smith	ACC	BCC
<u>Assistant Secretary</u>		
Alan Beecroft	BPC	BCC
<u>Treasurer</u>		
Dereck Sudell	EPC	YSG

8. Committee Members

<u>Club</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
RRCPC	J J Clegg	EPC
SUCPC	BCC	ACC
WRPCPC	ACC	RRCPC
GC	EPC	BPC
CRAVEN	BPC	RRCPC
YORK SG	RRCPC	EPC
VIBRAM CC	UEG	GC
NPC	BPC	UEG

NPC were elected to the committee providing they have paid their subs before the next meeting.

The meeting gave a vote of thanks to retiring chairman A Ball, treasurer J J Clegg and other retiring committee members.

9. NCA

The constitution had been amended to enable individual councils to elect their own representatives to attend meetings.

10. Any Other Business

The stile to Ineby Fell Cavern was in a very poor condition. Earby Pothole Club Volunteered to build a new stile. There is also a vacancy at Whernside Manor for a maintenance man. A clean driving licence is essential, anyone interested please write to:-

Mr M K Lyon  
Whernside Manor  
Dent  
Cumbria

Date of next meeting is the 5th September at the Rose and Crown at Skipton at  
7.45 p.m.

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

A.G.M. 1980

Secretary's Report:

Membership: Membership of the Council increased yet again, there now being 146 member clubs. 34 are Full Members, 12 being represented on the Committee. Of the Associate Members, 29 are School, College or University based Clubs and 46 are Members of other Regional Councils.

Access: The Meets Secretaries for Leck and Casterton respectively issued 250 and 290 permits in the twelve month period preceding our A.G.M. with smaller but not insignificant figures for Penygent/Fountains, and Birks Fell/Mongo Gill. Bookings for some popular holes go right into 1981. Although efforts are being made to obtain increased access, clubs still write for permits during the 'closed seasons' (which vary for each area) and Clubs are reminded to check in the Handbook. Visits made during 'closed seasons' and at any other time without permits e.g. the recent ridiculous Pippikin rescue involving a non-member club, can only hinder negotiations.

Emergency Telephone: The Council has agreed to finance the installation of an external telephone at Bull Pot Farm, linked only to the Police, for rescue purposes.

South House Moor: The proposed afforestation, to which the Council formally objected, is now not to go ahead, the Council has been informed.

Flood risk due to gripping: Fell Beck

Ingleborough Estate is to re-cut some pre-war drainage channels feeding into Fell Beck and the Landowner, Dr. Farrer, has asked the Council to warn cavers that this may increase the flood risk in those parts of Gaping Gill which are already flood prone, e.g. Main Shaft, Far Waters, et.

Handbook: The Handbook was produced early in 1979 and distributed to all clubs. Member Clubs may have further copies if they wish free of charge. Write to A. Beecroft, 23 Charles Street, Colne, Lancs., stating number of copies.

Brian J. Smith - 1980

HON TREASURERS REPORT TO CNCC AGM FOR YEAR ENDED 31/12/79

31st DECEMBER 1979

The Council's year end was changed in 1978 to fall in line with the subscriptions year. The 1979 Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet give a clearer record of the Council's finances. £275 coming in from subscriptions and £134 from NCA grants.

If the cost of the Handbook is subtracted from the total expenditure, i.e. 773 - 337 = 436 this gives an excess of income over expenditure of only £14.

The amount paid in officers expenses is higher than normal this year as travel expenses were paid to representatives of the Council at the NCA AGM in the Mendips. This amount will vary in future years with the location of this meeting.

With the constant rise of communication of all kinds, the reduction in Grant Aid (over £200 was received in the previous 12 months), and actual and expected expenditure for 1980 I recommend the 1980 AGM consider the raising of the subscription as of 1/1/80 to £4.00, this being the first increase since 1971.

J J Clegg  
HON TREASURER CNCC  
June 1980

EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME

£14.00

£14.00

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 1979

ASSETS

257.58	Cash at bank	257.58
12.29	Cash in hand	-
217.29	Burnley Building Society	217.29
<u>487.16</u>		<u>487.16</u>

REPRESENTED BY:-

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

605.60	Balance brought forward	605.60
323.74	Excess of expenditure over income for year to date	108.37
<u>481.86</u>		<u>481.86</u>

Prepared from and certified to be in accordance with the books and information supplied to us.

Boott-Wilkinson  
Chartered Accountants

85 Gorton Street  
Lancaster

THE COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER 1979

<u>1.4.79 - 31.12.79</u>		<u>INCOME</u>		
111.00		Subscriptions	275.00	
-		Sales of Access Book	16.49	
128.00		Grants (NCA)	134.64	
22.88		Royalties	-	
288.18	26.30	Building Society interest	24.05	450.18
		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
		Room hire	10.11	
50.00		Insurance	50.00	
-		NCA Subscription	65.00	
3.00		Yorks Sports Feb	3.00	
76.66		Printing and Stationery	105.09	
29.44		Officers Expenses	156.29	
1.71		Bank charges	-	
-		Working Party	27.39	
18.90		Audit	18.90	
.10		Sundry	1.00	
179.81	-	Hand book	337.14	773.92
		<u>EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME</u>		
<u>108.37</u>				<u>323.74</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 1979

ASSETS

277.66		Cash at bank	251.58	
-		Cash in hand	12.29	
805.60	527.94	Burnley Building Society	217.99	481.86

REPRESENTED BY:-

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

697.23		Balance brought forward	805.60	
805.60	108.37	Excess of expenditure over income for year to date	323.74	481.86

Prepared from and certified to be in accordance with the books and information supplied to us.

85 Church Street  
Lancaster

Scott-Wilkinson  
Chartered Accountants

THE COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

Meets Secretary's Report - Casterton Fell

Since the last A.G.M. over 350 permits have been issued for Casterton, the most popular holes being Lancaster and County Pots. Over 95% of permits issued were for weekends, but midweek pirating persists - a fact which can only lead to access problems.

The posts over to Easegill from the farm have been replaced and reflectors are to be fitted. Also underway are the installation of an emergency phone outside Bull Pot Farm, the re-fencing of Bull Pot of the Witches and the shoring up of the slope down to County Pot.

No other business to report.

Mark Woodhouse  
6th May 1980

Leck Fell AGM report 1980

During the last year there have been a number of changes on Leck Fell. I have had the usual crop of heavy bookings, over 250 since June 1979. This means that weekend bookings are virtually unobtainable until early 1981. Generally clubs need to book well in advance to be sure of a booking on a weekend date. People are still applying for permits during the closed season which is April, May and June when the fell is shut for grouse breeding.

Earlier in the year access for Pippikin was taken off my books and put onto those of Mark Woodhouse, the Casterton Fell Secretary. This was done to make things easier for all concerned. As Pippikin is now connected to the caves of Casterton Fell it seemed better to have them all on the same booking system. The access restrictions concerning Pippikin still apply, i.e. access only from Bull Pot Farm during Leck Fell closed season.

Towards the end of May a meeting was arranged between Lord Shuttleworth, the Casterton Fell Secretary and myself to discuss Leck Fell access. The major points covered at the meeting were as follows:-

1. It was agreed that access would be improved slightly in that 3 permits would be issued on any one day provided that Pippikin was one of them. This increase in the access is to be provisionally for one year only.
2. It was also agreed that Leck Fell estate would provide posts etc and that CNCC members would then refence around Gavel, Rumbling Hole and Deaths Head and maintain these fences.
3. It was also agreed that the maximum number of cars allowed on any one permit would be three.

Lord Shuttleworth also expressed concern regarding recent rescues in the area particularly with reference to indemnity against the Landlord for any damage caused as a result of the activities of CNCC members.

Lord Shuttleworth thanked us for the co-operation of the CNCC and said that generally he was very pleased with access on Leck Fell. He also hoped that cordial relations would continue in future.

I will, as last year, be looking out for help in fencing projects on Leck Fell from member clubs in the near future so please let me know if you are able to help. It was due to previous work that we have arranged better access.

There seems to have been a number of unofficial surface digs on Leck. Permission is not available for this and such digs could put the access agreement in jeopardy.

A S Hall June 1980

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS AGM 1980

Meets Secretary, Ribblesdale - Annual Report

A total of 234 permits have been issued since the last AGM, a slight increase over the previous year, I have included a pot by pot breakdown of this figure at the end of the report.

Washfold/Pen-y-ghent

Whilst the relationship with the local farmers and landowners has remained good, a complaint over unauthorised blasting having taken place on South House Moor and Pen-y-ghent Side has caused some problems. This situation could become extremely serious if it was to be repeated.

Fountains Fell

No real problems here at the moment. The number of trips allowed down Gingling and Hammer are 30 and 15 respectively, and as these numbers largely cater for our present requirements, it is not proposed to push for further access at this time.

The Fell is open from Easter to November, applications for permits should be submitted by the end of the January previous.

Washfold/Magnetometer/Echo - open all year round.

Number of permits issued per hole

Pen-y-ghent	59
Gingling	30
Dale Head	30
Magnetometer	29
Little Hull	27
Hammer	15
Hunt	14
Washfold	13
Echo	7
Hull	6
High Hull	4

Ian Wilkinson 1980

Birks Fell Cave and Mongo Gill Hole

Meets Secretary's Report 1980

Birks Fell Cave

Bookings for this cave have increased yet again this year, and with an access season of 28 weeks only it is proving rather difficult to give all clubs the dates of their choice. Some clubs do give alternative dates and other clubs might find it advantageous to adopt the same system - it would certainly help me, and no doubt the other meets secretaries as well.

There appears to have been no problems with this agreement since the 1980 season opened towards the end of April. I am keeping my fingers crossed as without one or two trouble-free years it will be very difficult to put forward an argument for increased access.

Mongo Gill Hole

Once again there has been difficulty caused by groups going into this system without permits. To some extent in one incident there was misunderstanding on the part of the individuals concerned and on the part of the management of the Stump Cross show cave to whom permits are to be produced. The position has been sorted out, not least by the club concerned approaching the Stump Cross people and explaining matters face to face - something which many clubs don't seem prepared to do these days.

There is no access until the end of July (closed May, June and July annually) but there are plenty of free weekend dates from August onwards.

D C Mellor