

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

BRITISH CAVING ASSOCIATION

Minutes from the Annual General Meeting 18 March 2006

In the absence of the chairperson, R. Holmes was elected to chair the meeting.

Attendance

R. Turton YSS, A. Speight YSS, Micheal Hale BSC/CRO, M. Dunne BSC, J. Sloane LUG, J. Graham ACC, M. Hughes BPC, I. Lloyd BPC/NSS, S. Leiberman RRCPC, G. Jones, LUG/YSS, B. Bond BCC, R. Halliwell CPC. P. Halliwell CPC, L. Sykes LUG/YSS, R. Holmes DHSS

1. Apologise for absence

F. Hartley, R. Cook, G. Barber, S. Froude, P. Allwright

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Previously circulated.

3. Matter arising from the minutes

There were some matters arising and these were covered under the AGM agenda headings as the meeting progressed. BCA paid up list, BCA insurance, BCA membership support services.

4. Officers reports

Chairman's report

The chairperson had tendered his apologies and had not submitted a report.

Secretary's report

The Secretary's report was presented to the meeting and is appended to these minutes.

Treasurer's report

The Treasurer submitted a report, which is appended to these minutes. The CNCC committee thanked Pat and Rick Halliwell for auditing the accounts for the CNCC. A discussion was held regarding funding of CNCC via BCA. Glenn said that there was a regional treasurers meeting planned for April but to date no agenda had been issued and that attending a meeting with no agenda was pointless, the meeting agreed. A general discussion started regarding BCA and the lack of information in general, not just for regional councils but for individual members as well. It was reiterated that we were there to discuss CNCC/BCA and that individuals would have to pass the issues back to BCA. Glenn as BCA representative said that he would raise it at the BCA AGM along with concerns from CNCC.

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Access and Conservation officers report

The access and conservation officer produced a written log that has been maintained between herself and English Nature with regard to the Cave Conservation Monitoring Project in the Dales. The C&A officer is keen to initiate this project across the Dales and clubs who are willing to assist should get in touch. As this will take a lot of the C&A officers free time she asked if access could be dealt with by others. The secretary mentioned that he and the relevant meets secretary normally deal with access, therefore at the next AGM the CNCC would consider calling the positing Conservation Officer and initiate a constitutional change for the next AGM. Interested conservation officers should contact Marion at: m.dunn@ktdinternet.com

Training officer report (position vacant no report expected)

Technical group report

This report is included in the secretary's report paragraph 5.

4. Meets secretaries reports

Leck Fell

Report appended to these minutes. The meets secretary expressed concern over the lack of a paid up list from BCA for eligible member clubs to access permits for Leck Fell. This item is also covered under the Birks Fell secretary's report.

Casterton Fell

No report received, the secretary did mention a number of breaches of access by clubs who were thought to be BCA members, that had breached the access conditions and been caught by the land agent. The matter has been dealt with and apologies received from the clubs. However as with Leck the secretary urgently requires an accurate BCA membership list.

Birks Fell

Rick expressed grave concerns over the lack of an accurate paid up list from BCA and the fact that again the insurance document that is required by the landowners has not yet been received from BCA. He was reassured that the secretary would contact BCA as a matter of urgency.

Pen-y-ghent & Fountains Fell

Report received from the meets secretary appended to these minutes.

Other areas

6. Constitutional amendments

None to consider. Constitutional amendments required for 2007 AGM:

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- ☞ Assistant secretary's position (position no longer required).
- ☞ Removal of Access from Access and Conservation Officer.

7. BCA report

Glenn mentioned that since the inception of BCA there was not as much information coming to regional councils, this was reinforced by the secretary who also said that the amount of information from BCA was non-existent. Both the treasurer and the secretary conceded that under the one-stop shop technically there should be more information flow from the BCA as we were now effectively one organisation, not a national body with 5 regional councils and a science research organisational set-up. The representative was concerned at the lack of paid up lists and insurance certificates and would raise the issues at the BCA AGM. The committee agreed that the BCA be contacted and made aware of the following: ***That the CNCC committee had agreed that if an accurate paid up list and the required insurance documents were not in the hands of CNCC officers within 28 days, then suspension of the access agreements and refusal to issue permits would need to be taken, as they would be unable to fulfil their duties as required by the access agreement with the individual landowners and land agent.***

8. Election of officers and committee for 2006

Chairman G. Barber, secretary L. Sykes, Treasurer G. Jones, Conservation Officer M. Dunne, Training Officer position vacant

Current committee:

Bradford Pothole Club, Burnley Caving Club, Dent House Speleological Society, Lancashire Underground Group, Craven Pothole Club, Red Rose Cave and Pothole Club, Airedale Caving Club, Yorkshire Subterranean Society

9. Any other business

CNCC to purchase a Disto for surveying, this will be available to clubs involved in large survey projects. I. Lloyd mentioned that the Scar-House reservoir was to be drained on 22 March 2006.

Problems in calling out CRO were discussed, CRO is to provide information, a new sheet will be included in all new rigging guides to inform cavers of how to call CRO. A nomination for the post of Assistant secretary was received, however, it has been decided that this position is not required at present.

10. Dates and place of next meetings

Committee meetings at The Village Hall, Hellifield 20.00 start. June 30 2006, October 06 2006, January 16 2007.

AGM at Hellifield 10.00 start March 17 2007