

COUNCIL FOR THE NORTHERN CAVING COMMUNITY

British Caving Association

AGENDA FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

22 March 2025 at 10:00am

*In order to vote, club representatives will need to be authorised by a club official.
This should be provided (preferably by email) to the CNCC Secretary, before the meeting,*

- 1.0 Apologies for absence, and verification of quorum
(*Quorum is 10 full member clubs*)
- 2.0 Declaration of conflicts of interest
- 3.0 Applications for full membership (*None received this year*)
- 4.0 Proposals for constitutional amendments
- 4.1 Updated CNCC Constitution (*for approval*)
- 5.0 Acceptance of minutes from 2024 AGM
- 5.1 Matters arising (and updates) from 2024 AGM

OFFICER	ACTION	UPDATE
Josh Y	Finalise 2023 AGM minutes	Done
Jill	Prepare draft 2024 minutes and circulate to clubs	Done
Gary & Matt	Update constitution - name change - Individual Caver Representative	Done
Gary & Matt	Update website - name change - new Officers/Clubs/Committee	Done
Gary & Matt	Rebrand all forms of social media	Done
Matt	Publish a PR/Comms piece about AGM outcomes	Done
Gary	Publish "Dye tracing database" link	Done
Jill	Prepare letter for Barclays Bank re name change	Done
Jill	Prepare letter for Stump Cross - insurance at Mongo Gill	Done
Jill	Email committee re approval of new anchors	Done
Ian & Mark	Discuss BCA subsidy for training courses	Ongoing

6.0 OFFICER REPORTS

(Available one week prior to meeting)

6.1	Chair	Andrew Hinde
6.2	Secretary	Jill Bolton
6.3	Treasurer	Pete Bann
6.4	Conservation Officer	Kay Easton
6.5	Access Officer	Kai Trusson
6.6	Training Officer	Ian Patrick
6.7	Other reports	<i>(optional)</i>

7.0 ELECTION OF CNCC COMMITTEE for the year 2025-2026

7.1 CLUBS (Appendix A)

The CNCC requires between 10-14 clubs to comprise the Committee. By the deadline (23 January), 14 full member clubs had indicated their intention to stand for election.

The list, along with their attendance record and supporting statements, is shown in Appendix A. Clubs must attract a minimum of **3 VOTES** at the AGM, in order to be elected.

7.2 INDIVIDUAL CAVER REPRESENTATIVE (Appendix B)

By the deadline, one formal application had been received for the Individual Caver Representative position. This is shown in Appendix B.

All persons present at the meeting may vote for this role, and a candidate must attract a minimum of **3 VOTES**, in order to be elected.

8.0 ELECTION OF CNCC OFFICERS for the year 2025-2026 (Appendix C)

By the deadline (23 January), three of the current elected officers had indicated their intention to stand for re-election. That leaves vacancies for the Chair, Treasurer and Access Officer positions, and we have candidates for all three roles, including two for Access.

The list of candidates, and their supporting statements, is shown in Appendix C. Again, candidates must attract a minimum of **3 VOTES** at the AGM, in order to be elected.

9.0 **CO-OPTED OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES** (Appendix D)

A list of co-opted positions and current holders is shown in Appendix D. This is for information only, and will be presented to the June meeting for confirmation, along with any new roles.

10.0 **OTHER AGENDA ITEMS**

10.1 **EXPLORATION FUND** (Appendix E)

The Exploration Fund is described in Appendix F. The AGM is asked to confirm its continuing support of the scheme.

10.2 **REVIEW OF CNCC MEMBERSHIP** (Appendix F)

Proposal to set up a Working Group to consider representation and associated constitutional matters

11.0 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

12.0 **FUTURE MEETINGS** *(For discussion)*

Dates for 2025-26 Meetings (provisional)

21 June	9:30	Committee meeting
25 October	9:30	Committee meeting
17 January	9:30	Committee meeting
21 March	10:00	Annual General Meeting

APPENDIX A CLUB APPLICATIONS

The following 14 clubs have applied to become members for 2025-26:

	ATTENDANCE 2024-25 (max 3)
Bradford Pothole Club Ltd	3
Craven Pothole Club	3
Earby Pothole Club	2
Grampian Speleological Group	3
Kendal Caving Club	3
Northern Boggarts	3
Northern Pennine Club	2
Red Rose Cave and Pothole Club	2
Ulster Speleological Society & Caving Club	2
Uni of Leeds Speleological Association	3
White Rose Pothole Club	3
York Caving Club	3
York Uni Cave and Pothole Club	3
Yorkshire Subterranean Society	3

CLUB STATEMENTS

BRADFORD POTHOLE CLUB

(Secretary - Rachel Martin)

The BPC is a long established club, having a presence in the caving community for 91 years and with a membership of over 300 members. We are not only one of the largest clubs in the country but also have an active caving membership (above and below water) not only in the Dales, but also have members involved in exploration in various parts of the UK.

As a club we have been involved with the CNCC from the outset and have a number of members involved in cave conservation projects as well as with Natural England. The club offers club meets every other weekend open to both members and guests and provide visiting cavers whether from university clubs or other established clubs accommodation and local knowledge as well as a warm welcome.

We provide an interface between cavers and the general public through our activities at our annual Gaping Gill meet by providing access to the system, either via a winch directly into the main chamber or by rigging the major routes in to the system for visiting cavers to use.

We support a number of local charities and have a number of members who are active in the local cave and fell rescue teams.

CRAVEN POTHOLE CLUB

(Secretary - Kevin Gannon)

The Craven Pothole Club, as a founding member, is keen to continue its long-standing contribution to CNCC by again standing for election to the CNCC Committee at the forthcoming AGM.

The CPC are a long-established caving club within Dales (1929). We have a large active caving membership of 272 members from all over UK and around the world. We are an active club with over 40 well-attended club trips organised throughout the year, all over the UK (Dales, Peak's, Mendip, Wales, Scotland) and trips abroad.

Our annual Gaping Gill winch took place last year and was very successful. This winch meet provides a great facility to the caving community with several entrances to the GG system rigged for 10 days with an open invitation to the caving community to visit. We also provide a great interface for the public to see and visit Gaping Gill, which enables us to promote the sport to a wider audience.

EARBY POTHOLE CLUB

(Secretary - Stuart Whitmey)

The Earby Pothole Club is amongst the oldest caving clubs in the UK. Founded in 1945 we have had a long association with and have actively supported the CNCC since its inception. Mainly active in the Northern Region, although small, we have been involved in many successful digging projects, cave archaeological finds and conservation work with members taking part in numerous overseas expeditions. Many members are also members of other caving clubs in the UK. We would wish to continue this active support of the CNCC by continuing our position on the Committee.

GRAMPIAN SPELEOLOGICAL GROUP

(Founder & Hon. Recorder - Alan Jeffreys)

As the most northern of the caving communities, Scotland enjoys major participation in the Yorkshire Dales and possesses widespread limestone karst regions throughout the Highlands. Although generally, Scotland enjoys a good level of freedom of access and few disputes regarding conservation, it is thought desirable that there be representation on CNCC both to provide solidarity support for English concerns and enjoy similar assistance north of the border should any situation occur.

KENDAL CAVING CLUB

(Vice President - Andy Gordon)

The KCC would again like to stand for renewed membership of the Committee of the CNCC. Whilst still a relatively small club, the KCC has continued a phase of increased energy and activity and a large number of trips are occurring.

There has been a steady trickle of new members, of varying levels of ability. In addition to twice weekly local trips we have also seen visits to Derbyshire, North and South Wales, Cantabria and Vercors in the last couple of years. The club also has members involved in several digging projects.

NORTHERN BOGGARTS

(Secretary - Pete Monk)

The Northern Boggarts, a local northern caving club based in Clitheroe, is happy to stand again for the committee for the CNCC in 2025. Our club has been on the committee since June 2009 and during this time has played an active part in promoting the interest of northern cavers.

Our club has contributed to some of the CNCC Newsletters, helped with the design of a leaflet on digging guidelines and one of our members helped with the publication on the opening of Shuttleworth Pot and Witches 2. Several of our members continue to play an active part in conservation projects including, recently, assisting with the archaeological dig at Fume Pot. Another of our club members has had two articles published in caving journals over the last twelve months.

Our club continues to play a lively part in the running of CNCC. One of our club members is the Conservation Officer for the CNCC, one is still currently the Treasurer, and another club member is Access Officer for the Bowland Area and currently working on a review of access arrangements. We are happy to play an active role in the CNCC and look forwards to your continuing support.

NORTHERN PENNINE CLUB

(Secretary - Peter Hambly)

Although mainly an active caving club the NPC also has many members who never venture underground and we have a keen community of triathletes, climbers, walkers and cyclists.

We also have a number of junior under 18 members and runs two well attended family weekends per year. The NPC has its base at Greenclose, just outside of Clapham, that provides a focus for its activities and accommodation for both members and guests. The NPC will continue to support the CNCC in its many activities.

RED ROSE CAVE AND POTHOLE CLUB

(President - Sam Lieberman)

The Red Rose remains committed to facilitating its members, visitors and guests in pursuit of caving and related activities and to maintaining Bullpot Farm as the gateway to the caves of Casterton Fell.

Our active membership continues to dedicate significant time and effort in maintaining and improving access to the caves of the Easegill and wider systems as well as other local conservation work.

We support and applaud the exemplary work done by the CNCC and are keen to remain involved as a CNCC Committee member club.

Established in 2019, USSCC has been a BCA-affiliated club since its inception and has experienced steady and significant growth year on year. Our club organizes trips every other weekend, alternating between horizontal and SRT-focused activities to cater to members of all skill levels.

In addition to these regular trips, we engage in a variety of activities, including: cave cleanups, digging projects and local expeditions, family and kids' caving days, free trips for local youth groups to encourage interest in caving

As an active club, we are focused on expanding our membership and working toward establishing a new caving hut in the Fermanagh region. This project is already underway and progressing steadily.

USSCC's membership is diverse, including individuals from across Northern Ireland (UK) and Ireland, as well as visitors from other parts of the UK and beyond. We also host several training days and evenings throughout the year, where members practice BCA best practices for SRT and group leadership to ensure safety and skill development.

Our club is inclusive, welcoming individuals from all backgrounds to experience the best of caving, learn new skills, and enhance their abilities. We are deeply committed to environmental conservation, regularly organizing cave cleanups and undertaking meaningful projects to benefit the caving community and protect our natural heritage.

Re-joining the CNCC Committee will allow USSCC to stay informed about events and access the best training opportunities in the Northern caving region. Aligning with CNCC best practices is important to us, and we believe that our members would benefit greatly from the expertise and resources available through CNCC in the future and many years to come.

Furthermore, as we become more integrated with the CNCC, we are eager to contribute to its projects and initiatives. Membership in CNCC would provide numerous benefits to our club, and we would be proud to be part of the Northern UK caving community.

Over the past year, our members have visited the Yorkshire area multiple times. We already have additional trips planned, with several members heading to Yorkshire shortly after the New Year. We intend to continue exploring this remarkable caving region, which is conveniently located just a short distance from Northern Ireland.

We look forward to the opportunity to work collaboratively with CNCC and its member clubs to support and enhance the caving community in the Northern Region of the UK.

UNI OF LEEDS SPELEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

(Secretary - John Holloway)

ULSA would like to stand for re-election to the CNCC committee at the AGM this year. We have played an active role on the committee for several years, supporting improved access to caves for all cavers, and improving representation for DIMs. We will continue to ensure that the views and interests of student cavers are represented.

In the Dales, our members are active in sports trips, digging, diving, surveying, conservation and bolting. Many are also members of other caving clubs around the country. As a university club, we introduce many new, mainly young, people to caving. New cavers are the future of caving and we would like to continue helping the CNCC with the good work they do.

WHITE ROSE POTHOLE CLUB

(Secretary - Lynnette Cadamarteri)

The White Rose Pothole Club celebrated its 70th Anniversary in 2024. Founded in 1954, the WRPC is a small club with a wealth of experience in caving, cave exploration, and cave diving. We pride ourselves that our members have extensive knowledge and expertise in surveying, hydrology, geology, and mining.

Our camaraderie with other kindred clubs and their members is at the forefront of our ethos. Many of our members belong to organisations such as Upper Wharfedale Fell Rescue Association and Cave Rescue Organisation, demonstrating their commitment to support the caving community. We would welcome another year as representative on the CNCC Committee.

YORK CAVING CLUB

(Chair - Matt Ewles)

York Caving Club would like to stand again for CNCC Committee 2025-2026. We are a small club (typically 25-30 members) based in York, but with our members based all over the country.

The north is, of course, our main area of caving and we have regular sporting meets in the Yorkshire Dales, and exploration projects in the Northern Dales (in the area around Gretadale) and North York Moors. However, we also like to venture down to South Wales too.

So, despite being a small club, we certainly get around and have our fingers in a lot of northern caving pies. We would be delighted to remain part of the CNCC Committee for another year and support the current very positive direction of travel the organisation has been taking.

YORK UNI CAVE AND POTHOLE CLUB

(President - Elliot MacInnes)

YUCPC remains an active and engaging student caving club providing consistent opportunities for students to get involved in caving; with the return of our training facilities, thanks to the kind support from the CNCC and the wider caving community, we are more able than ever to confidently introduce newcomers to caving and develop the skills of more experienced members as they go on to be more involved in the wider caving community post university.

We hope to continue to provide an involved student perspective and a good introduction to newcomers on the inner workings of the caving community, and are committed to helping the CNCC and benefitting the caving community wherever possible.

YORKSHIRE SUBTERRANEAN SOCIETY

(Secretary - Fiona Durham)

The YSS welcome the opportunity to stand again for the committee of the CNCC. We have been members for many years and attend all meetings.

We have just celebrated our 60th year and find ourselves with an ever-increasing membership that caves on a regular basis, New to caving members are just as welcome as experienced cavers and meets occur on a fortnightly basis. We feel it is important to have input and influence into caving matters in the North.

We can be relied on to have an opinion on caving matters and CNCC matters are on the agenda for all YSS committee meetings. We are happy to help on all things caving.

APPENDIX C INDIVIDUAL CAVER REPRESENTATIVE

INDIVIDUAL CAVER REPRESENTATIVE - Tim Allen

I'm happy to stand as IC Rep for a further year and contribute to the fine work CNCC are doing.

APPENDIX C OFFICER STATEMENTS

The following have notified the Secretary of their intention to stand for election:

Chair	Todd Rye
Secretary	Jill Bolton
Treasurer	Kath Davis
Conservation Officer	Kay Easton
Access Officer	James Alderson & Mike Appleton
Training Officer	Ian Patrick

CHAIR - Todd Rye

Hello everyone! For anyone who doesn't know me, I'm Todd (there's not many of those in Britain, let alone caving in the UK, so most people will know me by just that!) and I'm applying to the role of Chair.

The CNCC has massively influenced caving in the Dales and beyond, and as such my own caving in the area. I've been caving since I was a young lad, starting off in Valley Entrance with my dad at age 6, and especially since my days at MUSC, have really grown as a caver in the northern region. The topos, conservation work, descriptions and bolts are things I've greatly appreciated, and of course the sterling work to improve access to the caves and pots that we all love!

I am a member of two Yorkshire based clubs, the BPC and RRCPC, and am also a well-known face due to my job at Inglesport, where I'm always happy to have a chat about caving and kit associated! I'm local to the Dales and also a member of the Cave Rescue Organisation. I'd like to think of myself as approachable, and feel that the role of Chair would help me to give back to the community that I have benefited from in a plethora of ways.

My days at MUSC saw me in various roles on the committee, from Tacklemaster and Cheese Officer (an incredibly important role in a caving club), to Treasurer and President, so chairing meetings isn't new to me. More recently I was also the Sponsorship officer for CHECC, communicating and representing that body to potential sponsors.

To conclude, the main reason for my application is to help out the CNCC as the outgoing Chair steps down. I feel many aspects of the role are things I can do well, and I would relish the opportunities and challenges, to help both myself and the CNCC grow.

Cheers
Todd

SECRETARY - Jill Bolton

I should like to continue as Secretary for another couple of years, to continue the work of modernising the CNCC. It's a very interesting role and a privilege to be able to help the caving community. The CNCC is definitely worth supporting!

TREASURER - Kath Davis

For the last 2 years I have been independent scrutineer for the CNCC Accounts compiled by Pete Bann and have now been asked to stand as a nominee for Treasurer.

I have always had an interest in Caving, particularly in the Yorkshire Dales since I went on several Outdoor Education courses at Bewerley Park and Buckden House when at school.

I did some caving with the University club when at Aston University in the mid 80s. I also worked as a Voluntary Instructor at Buckden House gaining my Local Cave Leader. I then joined Swaledale Outdoor Club for a few years and went on many club trips with them followed by independent trips.

I have mostly caved in the Yorkshire Dales, many trips into Lancaster/Easegill including Pippikin-Link, Pippikin Mistral, various trips into GG system: Bar Pot, Stream Passage, Disappointment-Flood Entrance also Juniper Gulf, Meregill, Black Shiver, Rift Pot-Large Pot, Dowbergill Passage, Langstroth Pot, Simpson's-Swinsto etc. Also ventured to different areas of the country occasionally such as Derbyshire, Mendips, South Wales including Daren Cilau trip and even a couple of caves in Scotland.

I have been to the Vercors several times and was lucky enough to join a Berger trip in the early 90s and get to the bottom. After that I largely converted to climbing and am a member of a climbing Club.

In more recent years I have had a couple of trips to Vietnam and been in several systems which have been opened up for adventure tourists and done the 4-day trip through Hang Son Doong Cave system.

Mostly I now spend my time increasing my Munro and Corbett tally and generally walking and biking.

As regards the accounts: I have done my own accounts when self employed for 27 years including 18 years business accounts in my own Optometry Practice in Windermere.

In 2019 I completed AAT Level 2 Accounting at Kendal College and would look forward to putting into practice knowledge gained from the course.

CONSERVATION OFFICER - Kay Easton

I would like to stand again for Conservation Officer, a post I have held for the last ten years. I am a member of the Bradford PC and Northern Boggarts. In the last 10 years CNCC has led on or contributed to over 50 cave conservation projects.

As Conservation Officer, I will perform a facilitative role, helping people access the support and information they need to carry out the conservation projects that they are interested in.

I believe I am now the longest-serving of the officers, and in the interests of “new blood” I should resign. But I don’t have any great desire to give up the job, and with a new Chairman and Treasurer in the coming year, there is an advantage in retaining a long-serving officer on the Committee for this year at least.

TRAINING OFFICER - Ian Patrick

Hi to all Northern Cavers and Caving Clubs. I would be very grateful if you would consider re-electing me as the CNCC Training Officer. The training workshops are going well and currently well attended. The training is now supported by numerous trainers helping to deliver quality, consistent training, a big part of my role is now as an “administrator”.

ACCESS OFFICER - James Alderson

I have been an active caver and diver in the Dales since the age of 14 so almost exactly 30 years and have in the time period seen sweeping changes to how caving “works” in terms of permission, from a complex paper-based system to a more technology-based one and one where access is presumed to exist.

I believe my background as both a caver of long standing both within and outside of the club system, and my upbringing and work history give me a useful set of skills for the role. In previous lives I have been both a moorland gamekeeper and a shepherd, and am used to conversing with landowners, agents, farmers and keepers and will bring a balanced view of both perspectives which I believe can only be a good thing when building and maintaining relationships between the caving community and those who’s land and businesses we engage with to carry it out.

I am currently a member of the YSS and the CDG.

I intend if elected to continue the excellent work done by previous access officers, to learn and take advice and guidance from them as I build my own relationships with landowners and to be a readily accessible point of contact for cavers where queries occur; to give an approachable and friendly face to farmers, landowners and others across the north so that we can continue to build on the positive steps taken already and make caving in as many places as possible as pain free as possible for all parties!

ACCESS OFFICER - Mike Appleton

Many thanks for allowing me the opportunity to become the CNCC's next access officer.

I have always been fascinated with caves and caving and joined the Red Rose Caving and Pothole Club in 2021. I became a member after being an admirer from afar for more than two decades. I always enjoyed wandering around Ease Gill and sticking my head in various holes and crawls. It is a magical place and something that has appeared in several of the books I have penned over the years. I also felt Bull Pot Farm had an almost beckoning sense to it; my wanders through the clagg had revealed the farm and I often wondered if I could be part of what was happening inside.

My initial contact with the club was through Jack Overhill, who trained me in the dark arts of SRT before throwing me down (not literally) Heron Pot and then Bull Pot of the Witches. We hit it off and then I spoke about my ambitions to include a Lancaster Hole circular in a new book I was writing.

It was Lancaster Hole that got me fascinated with the Ease Gill system and the club. I wanted to make the trip down Cow Pot, come up and then gain the same sensations the original explorers felt when they discovered Lancaster Hole. It was to be part of my Secret Dales project, which was published in late 2021. Since then, I have written another Dales book and am currently working on two more - another on the Dales, my sixth, and an official guide to the UK's National Parks. I am also the RRCPC's Journal Editor.

My day-to-day role involves meeting farmers and landowners, helping them to apply for grants and plant woodland. Many have caves on their land, and as a caver myself, we often talk about access, its management and responsible caving. I believe these skills are important to the position alongside a friendly nature and the ability to manage conflict.

I am also digging on a site and making sure the landowner is fully involved in what could be a sensitive area. I have knowledge of some of the more significant access issues in the Dales and hope that through my contacts, I may be able to bring them to a successful conclusion. I believe caving should be open to all but managed fairly and for the benefit of all parties. My role also involves managing databases and I have no doubt that will provide useful.

I note that there have been other nominations for this role, and I want to place on the record that I am happy to enter a shared arrangement if the committee feels that is a positive way forward. Please note that I will be unable to start the role in earnest until May due to those aforementioned book deadlines!

I'd be delighted to discuss this further at the AGM or answer any questions you have.

APPENDIX D CO-OPTED OFFICERS

For information only

To be confirmed at the next committee meeting in June.

CO-OPTED OFFICERS

Web Administrator	Gary Douthwaite
PR & Communications Officer	Matt Ewles
Assistant Training Officer	Mark Richards
Minute Secretary	<i>Vacant</i>
Inclusivity Co-ordinator	Josh White
Anchor Co-ordinator	Alan Speight
Access Co-ordinators	
Bowland	Anthony Brown
Excalibur	Matt Ewles
Robinsons & Fairy Holes	Dinny Davies

BCA WORKING GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

Conservation & Access	<i>Vacant</i>
Training & Equipment Reps	
Training	Ian Patrick
Equipment	Mark Richards
Youth & Development Rep	Aila Taylor
BCA Council Rep	Todd Rye

APPENDIX E EXPLORATION FUND

(Matt Ewles)

At the 2023 AGM, the committee was tasked with setting up a scheme for grants to support northern exploration. The scheme was duly set up and publicised: <https://cncc.org.uk/resources/exploration-grants/>

The CNCC welcomes applications for exploration grants across the areas we represent (northern England and Scotland), as part of an initiative to support those who seek to further our knowledge of northern caves and discover new places that others might enjoy.

Funding is primarily intended to help cover costs associated to procurement of materials and consumable items or equipment hire, but other costs will be considered.

To make an application, we will require a summary of your project including the nature of the work you are seeking funding for (eg shaft sinking, stabilisation, underground digging, diving, pitch scaling, conservation, surveying), project timeframes, the amount you need and, as accurately as possible, a costs breakdown of how this is going to be spent. All applications will be decided by CNCC Committee.

Any project receiving CNCC funding must show that all necessary permissions are in place, including landowner and/or Natural England consent where appropriate. Applications must include a conservation plan to show that all relevant aspects of conservation have been considered. This includes spoil management, precautions to minimise the impact of your work, preservation of new discoveries, restoration and cleanup of the site once work is completed, and making surface entrances safe for people and livestock.

It is important for CNCC to be transparent and publish details of projects receiving funding. Grant recipients are expected to provide follow-up on how the project has gone (or is going) once some reasonable progress has been made. The exact expectations associated to each grant may vary on a project-by-project basis.

Since then, we have received four applications:

Stump Cross	Angels of the North	Successful
Kirtle Pot	Red Rose CPC	Successful
Cave system in Austria		Withdrawn
Site in Kingsdale		Under consideration

PROPOSAL

This AGM confirms support for continuing the Exploration Fund, as described on the CNCC website.

Proposer Bradford PC

Seconded Red Rose CPC

APPENDIX F REVIEW OF CNCC MEMBERSHIP

(Tim Allen)

Background

Over the last ten years CNCC has undertaken quite a journey, modernising itself and now perceived as a very positive organisation to the vast majority of Dales cavers. This is in marked contrast to some earlier perceptions.

The revised constitution before this AGM reflects many improvements but essentially it is a much-needed update and simplification of our efforts over those last ten years.

Ten years ago the issue of representation was raised. As a consequence of committee discussions at that time the position of Individual Caver Representative (ICR) was introduced. Most would agree that this was a 'sticking plaster' solution to a bigger problem and representation is still poor within CNCC.

This is perhaps best typified by the mis-match between the new name "the Council for the Northern Caving Community" and the constitutional membership of CNCC which only allows for fully constituted clubs to be members. Only members may vote and only clubs, with the exception of the ICR, may form the decision-making committee.

Whilst clubs are the backbone of Dales caving, how do other parts of the northern caving community play a part in CNCC? Do our membership criteria need to be reviewed? Do we need members at all? How can Council be more representative?

Questions around representation are many and there are no straightforward solutions. Wide ranging discussion and consultation should be a first step.

Proposal

A working group should be established to consider representation and associated constitutional matters over the next 12 months. It should report regularly to the committee for further discussion and ultimately bring any recommendations or proposals to a future AGM.

Proposer Tim Allen, IC Rep

Secunder White Rose PC

Supporting statement from Craven PC:

There have been large changes in the CNCC and attitudes to the body. CPC feel that the time is now right for a fundamental review of the constitution. This should have particular reference to representation / participation / accountability relating to the membership and those served.