

What's the story?

Bacon Hole is an internationally important conservation site, both for its geology, its archaeology and for the fauna found in the area.

The Choughs and bats that reside in the roof of the cave are protected by law, climbing can not be allowed to take place here.

The geological and archaeological records found in the sediment layers of the cave floor are one of the most important in Europe, and consequently are legally protected to safeguard them from damage.

What 's changed?

After consultation with BMC representatives, the landowner, National Trust, have agree to allow **Bouldering** to take place at part of this venue, so long as:

- Bouldering only takes place from **May 1st to September 30th** , outside of the 'bat restriction season'.
- Only the **Left wall** of the cave is climbed on, from the edge to the large stalagmite (marked).
- **Mats** are used to protect the floor.
- **No fires** are lit (it heats the air and disrupts the bats and will damage the important cave earths).
- **No modification** of the rock, ie chipping or gluing holds, to be made.

**What can you do to help?**

- Keep away from the fragile floor in the rest of the cave, once this goes we'll lose what's underneath.
- Leave no litter, including chalk balls and tick marks.
- Do not climb under the overhang below the cave entrance.
- If you see any firewood stacked, please throw it in the sea.
- Do not climb the bolted routes at this venue, it would jeopardise access to this and other sites.

What happens next?

This access agreement will be reviewed annually and if the protected features of the site remain undamaged then access for bouldering will continue. **Please respect these restrictions.**