

## Summary of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the BMC National Council

**Date:** Sunday 23 September 2012  
**Venue:** Plas y Brenin

### In attendance:

**Voting Members:** Scott Titt (President), David Lanceley (Treasurer), Mike Watson & Kate Phillips (Vice-Presidents), Alan Hinkes (North East), Steve Scott & Polly Sullivan (Lakes), James Rowe (Yorkshire), Elizabeth Holley (London & SE), Charles Gameson & Claudia Sarner (Midlands), Nick & Tom Bond (North West), Rick Gibbon & Neil Foster (Peak), Tom Hutton & Ray Wood (Cymru/Wales North), Gareth Tucker (Cymru/Wales South), Colin Knowles & Richard Moss (South West) and Dave Turnbull (CEO).

**Specialist Committee Chairs:** Roger Bennion (Access, Conservation & Environment Group) Andy Boorman (Mountain Training Cymru), Martin Doyle (Plas y Brenin) and Kamala Sen (Equity Steering Group).

**Observers & staff:** Kate Anwyl (Secretary).

### Summary:

- **Area reports:** Of those Areas which had met since the previous National Council meeting the main issues of discussion were as follows: Midlands – quarry regeneration and access issues at Longcliffe and Charnwood; North East – well attended clean-up event at Crag Lough; Cymru/Wales – wind farms in mid-Wales, and; South West – Cornish Climbing Festival and the Avon Project.
- **Ski Mountaineering:** Jon Morgan and Leanne Callaghan gave a presentation on the GB Team including a summary of the annual race calendar and the current Team rankings. The high cost of state-of-the-art equipment and the difficulties of training for ski mountaineering events were highlighted. The BMC funds the cost of International Ski Mountaineering Federation (ISMF) membership and competitor licence fees but may look to increase its support for ski mountaineering in the future.
- **Sport England grant:** The BMC has received positive feedback on the 2013-17 grant application as submitted in April. The bid includes several new partners including the Outdoor Industries Association (OIA) and the Association of British Climbing Walls Training Trust (who run the NICAS scheme). The BMC's total request is for around £3m over four years. A decision is expected from Sport England in mid-December. A successful outcome would allow the BMC to appoint a Hill Walking Officer and two Regional Officers (covering England East and West) in early 2013.
- **Finance & membership:** The budget forecast is for a year-end surplus of £33k. Membership has remained static in 2012 and 83.5% of individual members are now on direct debit.
- **Specialist Committees & the Executive:** The BMC will be undertaking a recruitment drive in late 2012 to encourage new people with relevant experience to get involved with the Specialist Committees (Access, Training/Youth, Technical etc.). Applications from younger people (aged 25-35) and women will be particularly welcomed. In addition the BMC will be taking on two or three independent members to the Board of Directors (the Executive Committee) in 2013. This will be subject to an open recruitment process. The Treasurer's position is still outstanding from April 2012.

- **Policy issues - Drilled equipment, hill walking & wind farms:** a draft position statement on drilled equipment was discussed and it was agreed that this would be circulated to the Areas for further consideration; this will take place in Jan/Feb 2013. The draft job description for the Hill Walking Officer was discussed with several amendments put forward. It was noted that the BMC had recently agreed to support the MCoS Manifesto on onshore wind farms; in light of this it was agreed that the BMC Landscape Working Group would re-visit the BMC's position on wind farms in both England and Wales.

Dave Turnbull, November 2012