BMC AGM Sunday 31 March 2019

Item 7.d. Election of Nominated Director with current and extensive involvement with BMC affiliated clubs

Candidate Name: JONATHAN WHITE

Proposer: Mick Fowler, member of the Alpine Club & Climbers' Club, current BMC Patron

Seconder: Paul Dewhurst, member of the Climbers' Club

Factual Statement

Over the last 25 years, Jonathan has been a committee member with four clubs, three of them affiliated to the BMC. Jonathan was treasurer and then president of a university mountaineering club; then a founder and general secretary of the Lanchester Mountaineering Club and more recently a committee member at the Alpine Club and at the Arctic Club.

Jonathan has been a leader or member of a number of mountaineering expeditions, to South America, the Arctic, northern Africa and the Middle East.

Jonathan has recently contributed to the BMC's organisational development group within the Governance workstream and has previously held the BMC positions of chair of Training, elected member of the former Management Committee and member of two organisational review panels. He has been active within three Areas over many years.

As a Chartered Civil Engineer and director of construction and services businesses, Jonathan typically holds full Profit & Loss responsibility including all aspects of risk management, and has extensive line management experience. Jonathan has specialised in high-profile transition roles including managing challenging corporate governance situations.

Jonathan's experience of fundraising has ranged from securing small grants for expeditions to securing approx. £100m of government funding for major development projects.

Personal Statement

I am keen to combine my lengthy BMC involvement and professional experience to help the BMC complete its current transition and move forward. As a broad mountaineering community we need to pull together to put the recent difficult years behind us, and address the opportunities and challenges of the future positively, efficiently and pro-actively.

My professional experience in developing tactical links between strategy and delivery can help the BMC develop its corporate governance and operational effectiveness. I believe in organisational structures that couple accountability with appropriate empowerment. The Board is seeking "an independent and proactive leader with integrity and the ability and willingness to challenge...". This is precisely my approach at work, and underpins what I could offer as a BMC Board member.

The over-arching priority, as I see it, is to re-establish trust between BMC members, the re-focussed National Council, the enhanced Board, and the staff. Only then can we all be truly effective in representing and serving the full breadth of our membership and the wider mountaineering community. Ultimately, trust has to be earned, and I believe that my open and collaborative approach can play a big part in building a future that works for everyone.