

# BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

177-179 Burton Road  
Manchester M20 2BB

Tel: 0161 445 6111  
Fax: 0161 445 4500  
email:office@thebmc.co.uk

## BMC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the 2019 AGM held at the Devonshire Dome, Buxton, from noon on Sunday 31 March 2019.

### Directors Present:

Lynn Robinson	President	Director & Chair
Graham Richmond	Honorary Treasurer	Director
John Roberts	Vice-President	Director
Simon McCalla	Senior Independent	Director
Matthew Bradbury	Independent	Director
Roger Fanner	National Council Representative	Director
Rik Payne	National Council Representative	Director
Gareth Pierce	Chair of the Board	Director
Dave Turnbull	CEO	Director

### Voting Members Present:

Yvonne Alexander	Mick Green	Dr Kaye Richards
Mark Anstiss	Rebecca Hammond	Ron Rutland
Mike Battye	John Holden	Peter Saleniaks
Bill Beveridge	John Holden	Fiona Sanders
David Brown	Tim Jepson	Keith Sanders
Judith Brown	David Jones	Sarah Sharps
Ross Burnage	Huw Jones	Beryl Shaw
Alison Cairns	Glynis Judd	John Shaw
Andy Cairns	Peter Judd	Phil Simister
Ged Champion	Ron Kenyon	Angela Soper
Rab Carrington	Dan Lane	Carl Spencer
Steve Charles	David Larkam	Wendy Stirrup
Steve Clark	Simon Lee	Alison Stockwell
Emma Davies	Sherry Macliver	Christopher Stone
Fiona Devine	John Mason	Andy Syme
Kevin Devine	Roger Murray	David Symonds
Jonathan Dry	Dave Musgrove	Michael Thomas
Robert Duffton	Kevin Noon	Martin Wass
Anthony Eccles	Vic Odell	Stuart Wetherell
Paul Evans	Steve Partridge	Jonathan White
Gron Ffoulkes-Davies	Lisa Payne	Ray Wigglesworth QC
Henry Folkard	Robert Pettigrew MBE	Helen Wilson
Brenda Fullard	Emily Pitts	Philip Wilson
Charles Gameson	Jon Punshon	Malcolm Winstanley
Dave Garnett	Steve Quinton	Martin Wragg
Spenser Gray	Spencer Ramsay	

### Others Present:

Nicholas Baxendale	DonnellyBentley	BMC auditors
Andy Golbourne	Howden	BMC insurance brokers
Emma Moody	Womble Bond Dickinson	BMC solicitors

**BMC Staff Present:**

Kate Anwyl	HR & Office Manager
Lynda Buckley	Membership & Insurance Manager
Pete Burnside	Summit Editor & Online Communications Co-ordinator
Nick Colton	Deputy CEO & Head of Development
Alvin Foy	IT & Database Co-ordinator
Jim Krawiecki	Insurance Administrator
Arun Patel	Membership Co-ordinator
Tony Ryan	Publications & Local Areas Co-ordinator
Hannah Skeldon	Online Shop Co-ordinator
Jane Thompson	Clubs & Volunteers Officer
Lucy Valerio	Governance & Compliance Officer

**1. Welcome, introduction & apologies**

**Actions**

- 1.1 Lynn Robinson (President & chair) opened the meeting, and thanked everyone for attending.
- 1.2 The chair introduced those sitting with her on the top table: Gareth Pierce (Chair of the Board), Dave Turnbull (CEO), Tony Ryan (note taker). She also introduced representatives from the BMC's auditors, insurance brokers and solicitors: Nicholas Baxendale (DonnellyBentley); Andy Goulbourne (Howden); Emma Moody (Womble Bond Dickinson).
- 1.3 The chair advised members of the voting procedures and set out the conduct that was expected during the meeting. The chair confirmed the meeting would break for lunch around 1.30 pm (to allow the poll vote to be counted from item 6). Members were asked to switch off their phones, and to provide their names when speaking, to assist with the note taking.
- 1.4 Apologies were received from: Cressida Allwood, Gordon Adshead, Malcolm Baxter, Sir Chris Bonington, John Booth, Jackie Bryson, Dr Charles Clarke, John Cousins, Emma Flaherty, Mick Fowler, Lord Tony Greaves, Jim Gregson, Sandra Gregson, Graham Hammond, Dr David Hillebrandt, Alan Hinkes OBE, Guy Jarvis, Will Kilner, Nick Kurth, Pat Littlejohn, Dr Jim Milledge, Bob Moulton, Andy Newton, Amanda Parshall, Mike Parsons, John Porter, Mike Ratty, Mike Rosser, George Steele, Rehan Siddiqui and John Willson.
- 1.5 The chair asked for a one minute silence to reflect on those friends and fellow mountaineers who have lost their lives during the past 12 months.

**2. Approval of previous AGM minutes held on Saturday 16 June 2018**

- 2.1 Dave Musgrove proposed the resolution, seconded by Angela Soper. This was passed with 99% of the votes.

**For: 2046**

**Against: 9**

**Abstentions: 245**

**AGREED**

**3. Presentation & adoption of the 2018 Annual Report**

- 3.1 Before the vote on the 2018 annual report, Dave Turnbull (CEO) gave a presentation about the work of the BMC over the past 12 months. He reported that activity surveys suggest that more people participate in mountaineering activities than in football; that there is currently a boom with indoor climbing; that the average age of a BMC member is 41.5 years; that climbing will feature in the 2020 Olympics and that the Mend our Mountains 2 campaign, led by Matthew Bradbury and the Access & Conservation Trust, was the BMC's most successful campaign to date.
- 3.2 Dave added that 2018 was a year of two halves – January to June was focused on BMC governance and reflecting these changes in the Articles of Association, which were then put to the membership at the 2018 AGM and passed with a 92% majority. Dave noted that since the June 2018 AGM, the BMC has been more positive and constructive with a good working relationship between the president and chair of the Board of Directors.
- 3.3 A number of new initiatives are already up and running this year, including: the Hills 2 Oceans campaign, encouraging the removal of litter and plastic from our hills, mountains and crags so it doesn't end up in our oceans; development of new mission and vision statements for the BMC; planning for a footpath repair conference to be held in November; an online reporting system for incidents and near misses; a digital-only membership package; and a specialist group looking at belaying which is likely to lead to a major awareness campaign.
- 3.4 Looking ahead, the work being undertaken by the various work streams of the Organisational Development Group will lead to further recommendations on the structure of the BMC being presented to the 2020 AGM.
- 3.5 Anthony Eccles proposed the resolution, seconded by Andy Syme. This passed with 99% of the votes.
- For: 2108                      Against: 13                      Abstentions: 180                      AGREED**
- 4. Presentation & adoption of the 2018 Annual Accounts & Auditors' Report**
- 4.1 The chair invited Gareth Pierce and Graham Richmond to present to the meeting.
- 4.2 Gareth acknowledged that producing the accounts had not been as smooth a process as the Board would have wished, and that the earlier than usual AGM date had created a challenging timeline. It is important to note that the Board acted swiftly when it realised the need to issue amended accounts in order to correct some matters of detail within the narrative. In order to improve our processes for the future, the Board will now look in detail at all aspects of the 2018 audit process to confirm the full set of lessons learned and set out the process detail and timeline that needs to be in place from now on. The Board is already committed to tendering the audit services this year for the 2020 audit and onwards. If the detailed look concludes that there is a need to specify things differently for the 2019 audit cycle then a tender process will be run for the 2019 audit services, in which case the approval of the auditor appointment will be brought to the 2020 AGM for retrospective ratification. The AGM was being advised to provide an opportunity to express any disagreement with this approach.

- 4.3 Graham summarised the 2018 accounts. In respect of income, and compared to 2017, membership subscriptions, surplus from travel insurance (which included a profit share from 2015), and guidebook sales were amongst the areas showing an increase; grant funding from Sport England was reduced.
- 4.4 In respect of expenditure, the increase in salaries was in line with cost of living increases, and AGM expenditure increases were mainly down to the introduction of online proxy voting and legal costs. Areas of reduced expenditure included combined liability insurance and specialist programmes, where the implementation of some work was restricted by the delay in receipt of Sport England grant funding.
- 4.5 Overall there was a surplus of £81k for 2018, compared to a deficit of £99k in 2017; the surplus has gone into reserves, which are currently at about five months of operating costs (the policy being to have 3-9 months of operating costs in reserve).
- 4.6 Graham advised that there are a lot of uncertainties about future income and expenditure, but the forecast for 2019 was currently in the region of a £240k deficit if the membership subscriptions increase proposal was not approved by today's meeting, and this would be reduced to £150-160k deficit if the proposal was passed.
- 4.7 Spencer Ramsay asked whether the BMC operated its reserves on the basis of a separate cyclical or sinking fund. Gareth responded that the approach was based on having a reserves target that was a proportion of the BMC's annual expenditure and indicated that the Board does want to review the reserves policy.
- 4.8 Peter Salenieks asked how the reserves policy based on number of months trading compared with a risk-based approach relating to risks identified by the risk register. Graham replied that the risk register doesn't include quantified amounts, but it does have a traffic light system. Expenditure is managed against income and referenced to historical data. Gareth said that the Board does want to look at the reserves policy.
- 4.9 Andy Syme asked why Crookrise Crag wasn't included in the list of BMC landholdings on page 15 of the accounts. Martin Wragg explained the Crookrise (along with Harrison's Rocks) was held in trust by the BMC Land & Property Trust, for which separate accounts are produced.
- 4.10 Dave Musgrove said that many members had concerns about insurance, which should give certainty and reassurance, and asked whether we had looked at mitigating reactive rises. He felt that we should be more proactive. Graham said that an insurance task group had been formed for this purpose. Andy Goulbourne said that the insurers hadn't taken a knee-jerk reaction. The claims record had been good, but claims can be costly, and the way to mitigate against significant premium increases was to manage trends. Dave said that he was reassured, but felt that this should be communicated to members.
- 4.11 Wendy Stirrup asked what plans were in place to ensure that the BMC operates within its budgets going forward. Graham replied that plans would include keeping costs under control and managing members' expectations, as well as considering more income streams and growth potential of current streams, particularly bearing in mind that Sport England funding is likely to be reduced in the future.

- 4.12 Peter Judd said that we had many good stories to communicate to hill walkers, in particular the work of the Mend Our Mountains campaigns. The Sport England participation surveys indicate that there is a large pool of hill walkers who are not currently members, and who could contribute significantly to income stream growth if they could be attracted to join the BMC. Graham said that it was a question of allocating resources to create demand.
- 4.13 Gareth said that the Board would conduct a review of how expenditure maps against activity, with the aim of improved alignment of strategy and resources, to improve delivery of work on behalf of members.
- 4.14 Gareth advised that there were some additional points which the Board wished to draw to the attention of the AGM. These matters relate to the dates of appointment of directors, with the Board's motivation being transparency and getting things right in order to avoid problems for the organisation or anyone within it further down the line. The Board had discussed these matters with solicitors and auditors, who have advised that a possible way forward includes a further amended version of the accounts, provided we then make such a version immediately available to all members. All versions of the accounts would be filed at Companies House at the same time. Alternatively, it's open to the Board to only ask for a minuting of these matters at the AGM and then just amend appointment dates at Companies House.
- 4.15 The first issue was one of clarification, where the Board's suggestion is that in relation to Amanda Parshall's appointment it would be helpful if the accounts included a clarification as follows:
- "The Board purported to appoint Amanda Parshall as an independent director on 11 January 2018 following an open interview process on the basis that the appointment would be ratified at the next AGM. However, as this process was not in strict conformance with the Articles, Amanda was recorded as having ceased to act as a director until formally appointed at the AGM on 16 June 2018".*
- 4.16 The other two issues related to Director appointment dates and would involve making amendments at the same time to the Companies House records through a standard process for re-filing a document previously submitted. The two amendments would be: (i) the appointment date for Dave Turnbull as a director to be amended to 16 June 2018 to align with the provision in the Articles that the CEO became a director from that date; (ii) the appointment date for Gareth Pierce as a director to be amended to 15 November 2018 to align with the date that the appointment was made public on the BMC website.
- 4.17 Dave Musgrove asked whether the revisions to the annual accounts were simply administrative amendments, and if so could the meeting agree to accept them without the need to produce new accounts and incur related costs. Gareth advised that the additional costs would be related mostly to staff time, with perhaps some auditor costs. Nicholas Baxendale confirmed that there would be a cost, and advised that he felt it was not worth the cost, but understood the Board's desire to advise and record.
- 4.18 Andy Syme noted that the February 2019 Board minutes don't record the approval of the 2018 accounts. Gareth said that a conference call had been convened so that the 5 March accounts could be signed off, and that the details of the call require minuting.

- 4.19 Dave Musgrove proposed the following resolution, seconded by Ron Kenyon: that the administrative changes to the 2018 accounts be formally noted by the 2019 AGM, and recorded in the 2019 accounts.

A vote by show of hands was taken, and passed with 96% of the votes.

**For: 64                      Against: 0                      Abstentions: 3                      AGREED**

- 4.20 Sherry Macliver asked for clarification on whether members holding proxy votes could use discretion when voting on motions proposed from the floor. Martin Wragg advised that the proxy votes only applied to agenda items and not to new votes within the meeting.

- 4.21 Adoption of the 2018 Annual Accounts and Auditors' Report was proposed by Helen Wilson, seconded by John Mason. This passed with 99% of the votes.

**For: 2092                      Against: 16                      Abstentions: 194                      AGREED**

- 5. Appointment of Auditors:** The BMC Finance & Audit Committee recommends the appointment of DonnellyBentley Chartered Accountants to audit the accounts for the financial year ending 31 December 2019.

- 5.1 Graham Richmond advised that the committee is recommending re-appointment in order to have continuity, particularly bearing in mind that the 2018 AGM was only held in June. The Board will continue to evaluate the work of the auditors, and make a recommendation to the 2020 AGM.

- 5.2 Mark Anstiss asked how many years the current auditors had audited the BMC's accounts. Graham said that it was about 8 or 9 years; John Shaw had signed for and on behalf of the auditors for most of that period, but had now retired and been replaced by Angela Donohoe, so we effectively had a fresh pair of eyes scrutinizing the accounts, but retained a historical link with the same company.

- 5.3 Vic Odell proposed the resolution, seconded by Martin Wragg. This passed with 99% of the votes.

**For: 2123                      Against: 28                      Abstentions: 156                      AGREED**

- 6. The following is proposed by the Board, in consultation with National Council, as a Special Resolution:**  
The Articles of Association of the Company be amended and that the draft Articles comprised in the document now produced to the meeting and signed for identification purposes by the Chair of the meeting, a copy of which is annexed hereto be, and they are adopted as the Articles of Association of the Company in substitution for and to the exclusion of the existing Articles of Association of the Company.

- 6.1 Lynn Robinson asked Andy Syme to explain the process by which the Articles had been drafted.

- 6.2 Andy said that there were three different types of changes:  
1. typos, and other minor corrections;  
2. changes not included in Articles presented to 2018 AGM;  
3. new elements relating to National Council and BMC Areas.

- 6.3 There were two to three cycles of review by the Organisational Development Group (ODG), National Council and BMC Areas.
- 6.4 Gareth Pierce said that the Board was formally involved during the latter stages in considering and approving the Articles, and was extremely grateful to Andy and those other ODG volunteers who had worked on the Articles.
- 6.5 Former BMC vice-president John Mason asked about the dissolution of the role of vice-president. Lynn Robinson said that it was known at the 2018 AGM, when the current vice-presidents were elected/re-elected that it would be a transitional year. John asked who would substitute for the president if required. Lynn said that this was being considered; the proposed Articles permit National Council to elect a deputy to the president (Article 16.7).
- 6.6 Lynn Robinson advised that this agenda item was a special resolution, which required 75% or more of the votes cast to be in its favour.
- 6.7 John Roberts proposed the resolution, seconded by Mark Anstiss. This passed with 97% of the votes.

**For: 2039                      Against: 50                      Abstentions: 218                      AGREED**

## **7. Board Appointments**

### **7.a Gareth Pierce** is recommended as the **Chair** of the Board of Directors.

7.a.1 Simon McCalla, who chaired the Nominations Committee tasked with considering senior appointments, described the recruitment process. The role was advertised to the membership, a number of applications were received, and each candidate was interviewed twice.

7.a.2 Rik Payne proposed the resolution, seconded by Tim Jepson. This passed with 98% of the votes.

**For: 2076                      Against: 37                      Abstentions: 192                      AGREED**

### **7.b Fiona Sanders** is recommended as a **National Council appointed director**.

7.b.1 Lynn Robinson advised that Rik Payne, one of the current National Council appointed directors, had recently moved out of the BMC Area he represented on National Council, and was relinquishing that role and the directorship.

7.b.2 Dave Musgrove proposed the resolution, seconded by Philip Wilson. This passed with 98% of the votes.

**For: 2103                      Against: 41                      Abstentions: 163                      AGREED**

### **7.c Election of Nominated Director qualified and experienced in accounting and finance.**

7.c.1 Two candidates had been proposed for the single position available: Gron Foulkes-Davies and Huw Jones.

- 7.c.2 Gron was proposed by Rehan Siddiqui and seconded by Simon Lee; Huw was proposed by Dorian Thomas and seconded by Alex Hardisty. Factual and personal statements by both candidates had been published on the BMC website along with all other AGM papers.
- 7.c.3 There was a discussion about the nomination process which had selected the candidates, and whether they had experience of BMC finances. A request, from the floor, was made for the candidates to tell the meeting about their relevant experience and backgrounds; initially this request was rejected by the chair, but following a brief discussion and advice from the BMC solicitor that it was up to ‘the chair’s discretion’ as to whether candidates should speak, the request was accepted. Emma Moody cautioned that members who had already voted by proxy had not had that opportunity, although she did accept the argument that members at the meeting might wish to ask questions about the candidates.
- 7.c.4 Both candidates gave brief summaries of their professional backgrounds, their outdoor interests and their reasons for standing for election.
- 7.c.5 Huw Jones was elected as Nominated Director (accounting & finance) with 67% of the votes.

**Gron Foulkes-Davies: 470    Huw Jones: 1543    Abstentions: 294    AGREED**

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

- 7.d.1 Two candidates had been proposed for the single position available: Phil Simister and Jonathan White.
- 7.d.2 Phil was proposed by Phil Leng and seconded by Helen Levery; Jonathan was proposed by Mick Fowler and seconded by Paul Dewhurst. Factual and personal statements by both candidates had been published on the BMC website along with all other AGM papers.
- 7.d.3 Both candidates gave brief summaries of their professional backgrounds, their previous experience as BMC volunteers, their outdoor interests and their reasons for standing for election, including how they would discharge their duties by representing affiliated clubs.
- 7.d.4 Jonathan White was elected as Nominated Director (BMC affiliated clubs) with 69% of the votes.

**Phil Simister: 409    Jonathan White: 1599    Abstentions: 294    AGREED**

**7.e Election of Nominated Director with skills and experience relating to fund-raising and grant applications.**

- 7.e.1 Three candidates had been proposed for the single position available: Jonny Dry, Dr Kaye Richards and John Roberts.
- 7.e.2 Jonny was proposed by Wendy Matthews and seconded by Oli Maskery; Kaye was proposed by Clare Corran and seconded by Adam Harmer; John was proposed by Ray Wigglesworth and seconded by Hazel Findlay. Factual and personal statements by all three candidates had been published on the BMC website along with all other AGM papers.



- 7.e.3 Jonny gave a brief summary of his professional background and previous volunteer experience. Kaye chose not to add anything to the statement provided to members, as most members had already cast their votes based on the candidates' statements and a verbal presentation was not part of the agreed election framework. John outlined his previous volunteer experience with the BMC, but chose not to expand on his written statement as a matter of fair process.
- 7.e.4 Jonny Dry was elected as Nominated Director (fund-raising and grant applications) with 55% of the votes.

**Jonny Dry: 1115     Dr Kaye Richards: 546     John Roberts: 374     AGREED**

While votes were being counted up, presentations were made by Gareth Pierce, John Roberts and Lynn Robinson, on the work of the Board, the Organisation Development Group and the President respectively.

Gareth said that much of the Board's recent work had been reactive, but going forward its aim was to be much more proactive. Work will be carried out to improve alignment of the organisation's strategic plans with its financial resources, and to align the Board's calendar with the business year.

A new strategic plan from 2020 will be published, ideally by 1 January 2020, even though not all of the Organisational Development Group work would be completed by then.

The Board will also be undertaking reviews of insurance and the reserves policy, providing clarity on which director is leading different areas of work, and reviewing the terms of reference of various committees including the Finance & Audit Committee and the Nominations Committee, with the possibility that this might become a Nominations & Governance Committee.

Engagement with partner organisations and subsidiaries will also be a focus for the Board, including the Mountain Heritage Trust (for which a significant grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund may be available) and the Mountain Training Trust (which manages Plas y Brenin).

John Roberts, chair of the Organisational Development Group (ODG) summarised the progress of the group's work. The 51 recommendations made by the Organisational Review had been grouped into eight ODG work streams, four of which (strategy & vision; operations & finance; culture, leadership & management; corporate structure) are led by the Board, and four of which (governance; policy; partnerships; member engagement) are led by the president. A document showing the status of the work by these streams is available at [bit.ly/bmcodg](http://bit.ly/bmcodg) and more documentation can be found at <https://odg.thebmc.co.uk>.

Lynn Robinson said that the role of the president was to represent the members. Chairing National Council and working with the Board were two key activities in this respect, but she had also been busy attending many meetings and events, where she had met and spoken with lots of BMC volunteers and members, to find out more about what they want from the organisation, and what they put into it.

The volunteer awards and the award of honorary membership to Martin Wragg presented at the President's Dinner (held in Buxton on the evening prior to the AGM) reflect the vital contribution made by BMC volunteers.

During the course of the next 12 months, some of the president's priorities will be leading the four ODG work streams, further consideration of reconstituting National Council in respect of governance changes and Organisational Review recommendations, further recognition of the work of volunteers, and generally strengthening the BMC wherever and however the president is able to do so.

- 8. Membership subscriptions:** The Board, in consultation with National Council, recommends annual subscriptions for all categories of membership are raised by £6.00 (£12.00 for family membership) in order to address the substantial increase in Combined Liability Insurance premiums, sustain and develop the BMC's services to members and maintain a level of financial reserve in line with policy. Increases to be effective from 1 May 2019 for individuals (including families, students, under 18s & unwaged), 1 October 2019 for student clubs and 1 January 2020 for all other clubs.
- 8.1 Dave Turnbull said that the proposal to raise the subscriptions reflected the need to react to an extremely difficult, complicated and fluid issue in a very short timeframe. Subscription increases have been well below inflation levels for more than ten years, and the organisation's focus has always been on the need to keep the subscription levels as low as possible.
- 8.2 The proposed increase will enable the BMC to undertake some of the important work recommended by the Organisational Review, particularly structural changes to the BMC's work in Wales and the management of competition climbing activities and charitable subsidiaries. It will also enable improvements to be made to the way the organisation engages with members online via the website and other platforms.
- 8.3 In respect of the insurance claim which has necessitated the subscriptions increase proposal, Andy Goulbourne said that the claim was an ongoing matter, which meant it was inappropriate to discuss it in detail, but that it related to an incident that occurred during a student club meet at an indoor climbing wall in which there was a failure to belay correctly.
- 8.4 Andy said that the incident posed a question about how the BMC protects itself from the negative impact of any future claims. He gave an explanation of how insurers calculate the risk of large claims and methods used to mitigate against this risk; in the BMC's case being part of a wider portfolio of sporting bodies underwritten by Howden is an important factor, as is education to improve safety awareness. Andy felt that the size of the claim highlighted the benefit of the liability insurance.
- 8.5 Mike Battye asked if the BMC had considered whether the liability insurance element might be separated from membership subscription, so that it could be offered as an add-on. He felt that the increasing popularity of indoor climbing would increase the risk to insurers.
- 8.6 Dave Turnbull said that this had been touched on but not considered in detail, and there was a question of economies of scale. Andy Goulbourne advised that the insurance had to cover everyone (or no one).
- 8.7 Carl Spencer felt that from a financial aspect, the cost to members, even with the increased premium, was still significantly lower than rates available to individuals for similar insurance cover.

- 8.8 Martin Wass asked whether the increased premium affected the other sporting bodies within the portfolio mentioned by Andy, who replied that they weren't affected directly but the bigger pot of premium contributions gave the insurers more flexibility due to a wider spread of risk. Dave Turnbull felt that it was useful to be part of a wider collective.
- 8.9 Alison Stockwell asked whether climbing walls ought to have a duty to ensure that all users have third party liability insurance cover. Andy Goulbourne said that walls have a responsibility in respect of their business; the expectation is that the club/individual manages responsibility for competency.
- 8.10 Spenser Gray said that he had witnessed some poor practice by student club participants and felt that this should be addressed in order to reduce risks. Dave Turnbull said that the annual BMC student safety seminar, which has run for over 20 years, was run specifically to improve student club practices.
- 8.11 Concern was expressed that the claim could open the floodgates for further significant claims, and questions asked about what contingency plans were in place for this possibility, and how could members be reassured about the future cost and accessibility of insurance.
- 8.12 Rebecca Hammond voiced concern that the conversation was about risk presented by indoor climbers, and reminded the meeting that insurance covers all activities and all types of member.
- 8.13 Dan Lane proposed the resolution, seconded by Rebecca Hammond. This passed with 71% of the votes.

**For: 1536**

**Against: 618**

**Abstain: 111**

**AGREED**

Lynn Robinson thanked members for their contributions to the discussions, and Gareth Pierce thanked them for showing confidence in him; it was a great privilege and responsibility to chair the BMC's Board.

Gareth Pierce confirmed the make-up of the new Board of Directors:

Gareth Pierce	Chair of the Board	3-year term to 2022
Lynn Robinson	President	3-year term to 2021
Simon McCalla	Senior Independent director	3-year term to 2020
Matthew Bradbury	Independent director	3-year term to 2020
Amanda Parshall	Independent director	3-year term to 2021
Fiona Sanders	National Council appointed director	3-year term to 2022
Roger Fanner	National Council appointed director	3-year term to 2020
Will Kilner	National Council appointed director	3-year term to 2020
Jonny Dry	Nominated director	3-year term to 2022
Huw Jones	Nominated director	3-year term to 2022
Jonathan White	Nominated director	3-year term to 2022

Dave Turnbull

CEO

Ex-officio

Gareth gave his thanks to the outgoing directors: Emma Flaherty (Vice-President), Rik Payne (National Council appointed director), Graham Richmond (Honorary Treasurer) and John Roberts (Vice-President) who were presented with framed prints and thanked for all their hours of volunteering and hard work.

The chair finished by thanking everyone for attending the meeting.

The meeting ended at 3.50pm.