

# BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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## CLUBS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Clubs Committee meeting held at Redpoint Climbing Centre, Birmingham, on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

Present: Chair Peter Salenieks (PS) *Cymru South Wales*,  
Secretary Jane Thompson (JT) *Clubs & Volunteers Officer*

Ian Wyatt (IW) *Midlands*, Philip Wilson (PW) *South West*, Mike Spooner (MS) *Student rep*,  
Elizabeth Porter (EP) *Student rep*, Jonathan White (JW) *Director*,  
Via Skype: Tim Crocker (TC) *London & SE*.

Apologies: Peter Barrans (PB) *Yorkshire*, Stephen Williams (SW) *Cymru North Wales*, John Farrow  
(JF) *Huts Group rep*, John Porter (JP) *Co-opted*, John Holden (JH) *National Clubs*, Pete  
Glasper (PG) *Lakes*

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### 1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

- 1.1 PS welcomed everyone to the meeting and welcomed the new members to the committee. Everyone introduced themselves. -
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### 2. Conflicts of Interest

- 2.1 JT circulated the conflicts of interest form for committee members to complete – it will be circulated electronically for those not in attendance. It was noted that current and former membership of mountaineering clubs needs to be declared. JT

No conflicts stated for the meeting.

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### 3. Confirmation of Minutes of previous meeting

- 3.1 Discussion took place around item 6.3 (digital membership). JT to amend the wording and post final version on to Teamwork. JT
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### 4. Teamwork tasks (incl. Matters Arising)

- 4.1 Refer to Teamwork for the updates.  
4.2 All committee members asked to review the actions (tasks), to make notes on Teamwork if the action has progressed/changed and to take a view on whether that action needs to remain in place. ALL
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### 5. Notice of Any Other Business

- 5.1 Club statistics (JW) -  
Geographical coverage (JW)  
Role descriptions for new Councillor for Club Members (PS)
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## 6. ODG Update

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| 6.1 | JW reported that the plan is still to get as much of the work completed in time for the 2020 BMC AGM as possible, although there will be some workstreams that will continue throughout 2020 and onwards. The need of clubs has been considered within many of the workstreams and there is a wider acceptance that although the needs of clubs and the needs of club members may overlap there are elements where the interests do not match and so need to be considered separately. | - |
| 6.2 | PS reported that work is progressing at speed in the Wales workstream with clubs continuing to have a strong voice.  | - |
| 6.3 | JW reported that the Competitions workstream has already restructured competitions work within the BMC. 'Competitions' is now a ring-fenced department within the BMC. The Competitions Committee has been reformed and will report directly to the Board.   | - |
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## 7. Clubs Strategy

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| 7.1 | MS introduced the draft Clubs Strategy, that had previously been circulated via Teamwork. Feedback is being sought from the committee as to whether they believe that this is something that clubs will engage with and that the club reps can deliver.<br>This is a great opportunity to improve the offer to clubs but we have got to get it right first time.  | <b>ALL</b> |
| 7.2 | Discussion took place as to why we need clubs, what constitutes a club, what should the BMC accept as a 'club', and what the offer should be to them.   | -          |
| 7.3 | In general, the feedback given was that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- There is a positive reaction to the document although some refinement is needed in the next update.</li><li>- It will provide a great opportunity to engage with clubs on more topics, including big issues, such as climate change.</li><li>- The objectives could be turned so that they don't start with 'The BMC will...' but reflect the joint working focus of the strategy.</li></ul> | -          |
| 7.4 | MS will be amending the document to go to the Areas, to National Council and to clubs for consultation. He will re-work previous documentation to provide clear support and background to those that haven't been involved with the work from the start.  | <b>MS</b>  |
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## 8. BMC Board of Directors update

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| 8.1 | JW reported that since the last Clubs' Committee meeting there have been two Board meetings plus two conference calls to get through the volume of work. Board minutes are available on line at <a href="http://www.thebmc.co.uk/bmc-board-of-directors-meeting-summaries-and-minutes">www.thebmc.co.uk/bmc-board-of-directors-meeting-summaries-and-minutes</a> .   | - |
| 8.2 | The following points were noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- There has been significant work by the Governance Working Group and changes will be proposed to the BMC Articles of Association for the BMC AGM.</li><li>- There is a desire to have a greater diversity of directors, but applicants for recent vacancies have all been white males.</li><li>- The budget for 2020 has now been signed off.</li><li>- There is now a plan for the future direction of staffing, and the first step will be to have a Chief Operating Officer. This position will replace Nick Colton, who is moving to be head of the competitions department, and will include a commercial element.</li><li>- The process for the election of directors from National Council is being reviewed.</li></ul> | - |
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## 9. National Council update

- 9.1 PS noted that a NC webinar was held on 10 February to consider matters arising from the Council Nominated Directors election that took place on the 7th December 2019. -  
An NC webinar on 23 January discussed the roles and election of Nationally Elected Councillors and Deputy President.  
Specialist Committee Membership, ToR & Forward Plans were presented to the Board and NC during the NC meeting on 7 December 2019.
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## 10. Reps Reports (important items only)

- 10.1 IW asked who should be informed of changes to the email contact list. JT confirmed that all changes should go to her. -
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## 11. BMC Office Report

- 11.1 JT reported that:
- The insurance guidance note for clubs is now in the format of frequently asked questions and is available on the BMC website. If there are any questions that members feel should be in the document then please contact JT
  - The training courses programme for 2020 has now been released (with more courses to add). All clubs were contacted the previous week (with a copy to Clubs Comm) and all club members will be emailed directly asap.
  - JT is writing a membership support document as an aid to membership secretaries. Clubs Comm will be asked to comment on the draft and submit any points that should be included.
  - JT will be receiving some admin support. This was only confirmed the previous working day so no timescale is available. The support will pick up areas of work relating to delivering on the Sport England targets such as administering the courses programme.
  - Following on from the report by JW, JT received the budget allocation a couple of days prior to the meeting. One element that has been accepted is support for club reps to provide support (such as a training event, engagement event etc.) to the clubs in their area. More details to follow.
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## 12. AOB

- 12.1 Membership Statistics – JW suggested that it would be useful for the committee to receive a report detailing the number of clubs and club members, any new clubs, and any disaffiliations (with reasons). It was suggested that this be a quarterly report so that year-on-year profiling can be done. **JT**
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- 12.2 Geographical Coverage – JW reported that the insurers use a wider definition of 'resident in the UK' for the combined liability cover offered to members. This includes England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Eire, Isle of Man, Channel Islands, and Gibraltar.
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- 12.3 Constituency Councillor – PS reported that he had received a request the previous day for a role description for the new position of Constituency Councillor for Club Members on National Council. This will need to be agreed by the committee electronically, and will then be circulated to meet the BMC governance requirements. **PS**
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- 12.4 Olympics – with competition climbing featuring in the Tokyo Olympics in the summer of 2020 there is likely to be a spike in interest in climbing. Some of this will be taken by the climbing walls, but it could be a great opportunity for clubs to get involved to recruit new members. It was noted that some people attracted to **JT**
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climbing will be new climbers, whereas others may be looking to return to the activity. It was agreed that clubs should be made aware of the opportunities, encouraged to put appropriate information on their websites to encourage novice / new members (BMC could provide some sample text to use), and encouraged to ensure that the information on the club listings on the BMC website is up-to-date.

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**13. Dates of forthcoming Meetings**

13.1 Dates to be confirmed asap.

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**PS**