

BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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CLUBS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Clubs Committee meeting held at Plas y Brenin, on Sunday 2nd June 2019.

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

Andy Potter (AP) *Midlands*, Sherry Macliver (SM) *London & SE*, John Farrow (JF) *Huts Group rep*,
Via Skype – Pete Glasper (PG) *Lakes*, Oliver Birkill (OB) *National Clubs*, John Holden (JH) *National Clubs*, Mike Jimenez (MJ) *Student rep*

Apologies: Peter Barrans (PB) *Yorkshire*, Mike Spooner (MS) *Student rep*, Dave Brown (DB) *Peak*,
Philip Wilson (PW) *South West*, Jonathan White (JW) *BMC Board*,

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

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| 1.1 | PS welcomed everyone to the meeting. As it was PG's first meeting everyone introduced themselves. | - |
| 1.2 | PS explained that JW was voted in at the BMC AGM in March as the new Director for Clubs and will be attending the Clubs Comm meetings. | |
| 1.3 | It was agreed that PS would write to Rik Payne with thanks from the committee. | PS |

2. Clubs Comm recruitment

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| 2.1 | There are still vacancies for reps in North East, North West, London & SE and Cymru North Wales. | - |
| 2.2 | It was agreed that PS would write to the clubs in the four Areas to ask them if they have anyone suitable for these positions from within their clubs, and to inform them they don't need to wait until the Area AGMs for someone to be appointed to the post. | PS |
| 2.3 | JT & PS will speak to progress the co-opted role for IT. | PS & JT |

3. Conflicts of Interest

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| 3.1 | JT explained that she had requested the latest BMC Conflicts of Interest form but it was not ready for circulation. Once available JT will circulate to committee members. | JT |
| 3.2 | No conflicts stated for the meeting. | - |

4. Confirmation of Minutes of previous meeting

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| 4.1 | Accepted as a true record. | - |
| 4.2 | Discussion took place about the Critical Incident Paper. SM stated that she had shared a paper that had come from a Clubs Seminar several years ago, members had then commented on it and she questioned what the next steps would be. It was agreed that the document needs updating and refining before publishing. | ?? |

5. Teamwork tasks (incl. Matters Arising)

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| 5.1 | AP gave a demonstration of how to navigate around Teamwork to access the Tasks (actions) from previous meetings. | - |
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| | He then went through the Tasks on TW – updates were identified and amended on TW during the meeting. | |
| 5.2 | AP explained that for those who would use TW via mobile 'phones there is an app available - Android iOS | - |
| 5.3 | Thanks were expressed to those who had progressed tasks. A general reminder was given to all members that progress on tasks needs to be entered on to TW. | ALL |
| 6. | Notice of Any Other Business | |
| 6.1 | PS – how Clubs Comm members are notified about disputes within clubs. | - |
| 7. | National Council update (items from the February meeting) | |
| 7.1 | PS reported that he had posted an update to Teamwork about the meeting. | - |
| 8. | BMC AGM update | |
| 8.1 | Much discussion took place on the subs increase. It was noted, with frustration, about the different messages that went out via the paper to Area meetings, the paper that went to National Council, and the final proposal that went out to the membership for the AGM. Concern was also raised that limited time was made available at the AGM to discuss this topic. MJ reported that, to date, one student club has stated that the increase will mean that it will not re-affiliate to the BMC for 2019-2020. PS to raise the concerns with JW. | PS |
| 9. | Updates | |
| 9.1 | Sport England Funding JT reported that the funding from Sport England for the period up to March 2021 has been confirmed with monies now received. JT provided an overview of the projects that will be continuing, re-starting or launching with the funding. It was requested that she provided a bullet point list for reps to use at Area meetings. | JT |
| 9.2 | JT was asked what the future may look like for funding in this area. This is not yet known, but she is hopefully that at the September or November meeting she will be able to report more fully on what the 2021-2025 funding potential will be. | - |
| 10. | BMC Club Loan Scheme | |
| 10.1 | It was noted that many clubs were unaware that this exists as a number of those at the meeting didn't even know about it. Therefore it needs more promotion. It was agreed that it was a useful facility for clubs to be able to access in an emergency. It was accepted that it was probably of very limited benefit to student clubs. It was questioned how relevant the scheme is when bank rates are currently low. | - |
| 10.2 | It was agreed that JT, JF, AP would review and refresh the documentation on the scheme, update the BMC website accordingly and raise awareness of the scheme by circulating to clubs and club members via newsletters and Clubs Comm updates. | JT JF AP |
| 11. | Reps Reports | |
| 11.1 | Lakes – PG has been in touch with all the clubs and had a response from one so is going to visit soon. | - |
| 11.2 | Huts – Dave Jones is now the chair of the Huts Group. Iain McCallum is still | - |

heavily involved and leading on communications and dealing with queries. Work is being undertaken regarding business rates with clubs to ensure that they get rate relief as small businesses.

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| 11.3 | Wales – The workstream looking at the recommendations relating to Wales is being re-invigorated. The work could impact on all members who live in Wales, go to Wales (to climb, walk etc.) or are a member of a club based in Wales. | - |
| 11.4 | Students – There is only one member engaging with SAG at present, and so it needs re-invigorating. MS & MJ are focusing on support for new committee members at present. | - |
| 11.5 | Midlands – AP reported that Dave Turnbull had visited the Bowline Club earlier in the year to talk about BMC affiliation. The club has now agreed to remain affiliated to the BMC. | - |

12. BMC Office Report

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| 12.1 | The report had been posted to TW. JT referenced the first Facebook Live that she and MS did with student clubs earlier in May. It was well received and another is being considered for after the student seminar, plus the style is being considered for short webinar training sessions for other club committee members at a later date. | - |
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13. Club Guidelines

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| 13.1 | The discussion was kept short due to time constraints. It was agreed that the existing guidelines would be posted on to Teamwork for ease of access. | JT |
| 13.2 | All members are to comment on the guidelines – noting anything that needs updating, replacing, adding etc. | ALL |

14. AOB

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| 14.1 | PS requested that there should be a system for updating Clubs Comm members on issues and disputes within clubs. It was questioned why that would be needed when the paid-staff in the office will deal with it. It was explained that there can't be one clear process as actions taken in the office will depend upon the query, who ultimately responds to it and any confidential elements to it. | - |
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15. ODG Update

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| 15.1 | JT explained about the Sport England Membership Conversion project, and the committee agreed that PS and JT could join the discovery workshop that is planned for later in June. | - |
| 15.2 | JT provided a brief overview of the ODG Clubs work and the background to the paper that PS had circulated previously. There were questions from the ODG Clubs group (in <i>italics</i>) which were discussed. | - |
| | Our relationship with clubs | |
| | 1. <i>The implications of us moving towards treating clubs as partners rather than just members</i> It is a good thing. If clubs are viewed as partners why do all BMC members vote of the Clubs Director? | - |
| | 2. <i>The implications of splitting club members and clubs</i> It is a good thing – we already do it and we need to develop it further. Consideration is needed in the cross-over of communications and potential for increased mailings. | - |
| | 3. <i>The implications of encouraging the BMC to take a different approach to enable other</i> | |

styles of clubs/groups etc. to become part of the organisation -
Deferred to agenda item 16

Clubs committee and governance

1. *Whether the Clubs' Committee believe that we could, via terms of reference, manage the duality of reporting to both the BoD and to be part of the NC* -

Yes! It is achievable, it requires the Terms of Reference to be right though.

2. *Whether the Clubs' Committee believe that the Chair of their committee should be elected or selected (potential implications on role on NC)* -

A general preference for the Chair to be selected / voted on by the committee was expressed.

3. *The way that the Clubs' Committee feel we can practically make the sub groups work most effectively* -

It was noted that more clarity is required on the structure diagram.

Having clear Terms of Reference will assist in effectiveness.

Having good technological support for the various forums is essential.

4. *What they would like to see included in a set of terms of reference based around the ideas set out in the paper (this could be a small working group that provides feedback by early Sept)* ALL

Clubs Comm members to respond via TW

5. *What the role description (light touch) would be from your perspective of the directly elected club member sitting on Clubs' Committee and NC* ALL

Clubs Comm members to respond via TW

6. *How you would like to see the relationship between nominated clubs director to operate effectively in terms of feeding into the Clubs' Committee and up to BoD* JT

Much discussion took place about whether the Director would or wouldn't have a vote on the committee. JT offered to check the position with the BMC Governance Officer.

[Post meeting note – It is confirmed that, currently, Directors who sit on specialist committees will have a vote, Directors who are paper members do not have a vote. Depending on whether Clubs Strategy Group is a committee of the Board or of National Council will determine the future voting rights.]

16. New Clubs

16.1 Deferred

17. Dates of forthcoming Meetings

Thursday 12th September, Manchester office

Sunday 17th November, Lakes (to link with the Kendal Mountain Film Festival)
