

# BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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## CLUBS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Clubs Committee meeting held at the BMC Offices, Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

Present: Chair Fiona Sanders (FS) *National Clubs*  
Secretary Jane Thompson (JT)

Oliver Birkill (OB) *National Clubs*, Mike Spooner (MS) *Student rep*, Peter Barrans (PB) *Yorkshire*, Dave Brown (DB) *Peak*, Sherry Macliver (SM) *London & SE*, Peter Salenieks (PS) *Cymru South*, Philip Wilson (PW) *South West*, John Farrow (JF) *Huts link*, plus Carey Davis (CD) for item 3.  
*Skype: Andy Potter (AP) Midlands,*

Apologies: Trevor Smith (TS) *co-opted*, Mark Anstiss (MA) *North East*, Richard Toon (RT) *North West*, Rik Payne (RP) *Exec Committee*

Non-attendance: Michael Jimenez (MJ) *Student rep*

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### 1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

- 1.1 Philip Wilson was introduced as the new rep for the South West. -  
JT reported that Colette O'Neil had resigned due to other commitments.

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### 2. Conflicts of Interest

- 2.1 FS . is a member of the ORG (item 9)

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### 3. Mend Our Mountains Make One Million (MOM MOM)

- 3.1 CD introduced MOM MOM, the projects that have benefited from the first MOM and the benefits that the new campaign will bring. There are more projects, that are more ambitious (ranging from £20k-£140k per project), and have a wider geographical spread as the campaign includes Scotland and some lowland areas. Some of the projects are in collaboration with multiple users (such as mountain bikers) which will increase awareness of the campaign in more communities.

Timeline

Phase 1 . running to March 2018, focus on big contributors, already raised £160k

Phase 2 . March to June (flexible end date), Public Push with a focus on getting individuals and groups involved in fundraising. This is the phase that clubs could engage with.

Phase 3 . from July 2018, crowdfunding focus in a similar style to the first MOM. Specific details will depend on the successes of phases 1&2.

- 3.2 CD reported that there has already been some engagement with clubs/groups with fundraising events being planned and some donations received. CD agreed to check whether the clubs who had donated would be prepared to share their name with JT and relevant Clubs Comm rep so that communications to clubs can be tailored accordingly. **CD & JT**

- 3.3 Discussion took place on the type of activities / fundraising that could be suggested to clubs:

- General fundraising / club donations
- Large scale challenges for the club members
- Clubs providing volunteer support for the projects (working with the contractors)
- Student clubs and some of the newer clubs may be keen to get involved in this

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type of work but as they are less likely to have experienced conservationists in their clubs they don't know how to get involved. This campaign could be a great opportunity to engage with them.

- Buckets could be shaken in car parks on busy weekends
- Guidance / support pack . specific to clubs
- Encourage clubs to work together to raise money
- Encourage clubs to put a link to the MOM film on their websites
- Encourage clubs to engage with projects in their area / close to their club hut . local activities are more likely to get local media interest
- Have a focus week/month (possible June) where lots of fundraising could take place

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3.4 It was agreed that this was a great opportunity for the committee to engage directly with clubs and the group would consider the support that clubs can offer, agree suggestions of activities that clubs could do and produce a support pack. JT to co-ordinate a meeting / skype call within the next few weeks. Group to be CD, MS, PB, FS & JT

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**4. Confirmation of Minutes of previous meeting**

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4.1 It was noted that the dates stated in 18.1 are subject to change and a post meeting note should be inserted. JT

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**5. Matters Arising not on the agenda (Action List)**

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5.1 The list was updated accordingly . see end of minutes

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**6. Notice of any other business**

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GDPR

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**7. National Council (report from December meeting)**

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- 7.1 Following the reports from the specialist committees on the Saturday morning the NC agreed that more sharing of good news is needed to raise awareness of the range of work that takes place on behalf of members.
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- 7.2 Independent Director vacancy on Exec - Amanda Parshall has been appointed.
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- 7.3 The BMC has sent a formal response regarding the Thirlmere zip wire proposal (reference Clubs Comm discussion at the Sept 17 meeting).
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- 7.4 Training will be offered to groups running challenge events to raise awareness of environmental and conservation issues.
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- 7.5 Simon Lee (Commercial Manager) has had his contract extended by a further year. He exceeded his target for raising revenue from commercial partners in his first year.
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- 7.6 There was final formal confirmation of the acceptance of RBC Club, University of Worcester MC and LSE MC as BMC affiliated clubs.
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- 7.7 DB noted fact that we are still not in financially good position
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**8. National Council (items for the February meeting)**

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- 8.1 MTE representation . it was noted that Areas have been discussing this and that the proposal is being approved. No further feedback had been received from clubs. If other views are received let FS know by Friday 16 February. All
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- 8.2 Volunteer Strategy . this is being developed. If members have any general views on support for volunteers (including for club volunteers) let FS and JT know. All
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- 8.3 Subscriptions . the paper that DB prepared and was discussed by Clubs Comm in November 2017 will be discussed by NC. Some strong views were shared about the pros and cons of reducing the gap between the club member and individual member subscription fees. It was noted that
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- The disparity in fees could reduce the influence that clubs have within the BMC.
- In some clubs a large portion of their annual fees go to the BMC and clubs still need to balance their books so increasing BMC fees significantly would cause more tension.
- More effort needs to go in to selling the BMC so that club members better understand what they are members of and the value of the BMC, and particular focus should be given to encourage them to upgrade their membership via club engagement.
- Many club members are members of several clubs and don't claim the multiple club refund
- More effort could be put in to getting existing non-affiliated clubs to affiliate to the BMC to increase the number of club members and therefore increase revenue
- The paper includes consideration of membership offers for young people and for more senior members . this could impact on clubs too and needs discussion.

It was agreed to continue with the recommendation that any increase in fees for club members should be the same percentage as for individual members. This could be reviewed once there has been an improvement in the member offer / support.

8.4	It was agreed that more information was needed on numbers of club members / upgrades / those not claiming multiple club refunds etc. Ref November meeting 12.2 . this is now urgently needed if we are to debate appropriately at the June meeting	DB, AP, PS
8.5	All members to have informal conversations with clubs about their views on this topic	All
8.6	Item to be on the agenda for the next Clubs Comm weekend meeting, in June.	JT

## 9. Organisational Review

9.1	FS referred to the January ORG update (on Teamwork) for the latest news. Key points to note include the proposal to National Council that the BMC AGM is moved from April to 16 <sup>th</sup> June to allow more time for discussion with the membership (to be considered by NC on 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb). Also on 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb, ORG will present to NC and identify the recommendations that should be amended and what the changes should be. An addendum to the recommendations will be published on 2 <sup>nd</sup> March.	
9.2	JT gave a brief [due to time restraints] overview of the feedback from the consultation with clubs that took place in December. It was noted that many of the points that the clubs were raising, including the support they would like, are topics that the Clubs Comm is already addressing. The full presentation will be posted on to Teamwork.	JT
9.3	Discussion took place on further engagement with clubs on ORG. It was noted that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A formal consultation should not go back out to clubs again.</li> <li>• We need to continue to communicate the information out and the process to be followed e.g. the change of dates, when the addendum is released etc.</li> <li>• We should look at the comments from the survey further to see if we could do anymore as clubs committee to deal with the issues raised</li> </ul>	

## 10. Clubs Seminar 2018

10.1	It was agreed that the Seminar should take place with the AGM, whichever date is agreed. Assuming that the AGM moves to June the Seminar will take place on Saturday 16 June.	
10.2	FS suggested that the format be amended a little to allow for more interaction with clubs and sharing of views. There should be a range of sessions covering information sharing, training and wider discussion opportunities. With this in mind the name of the event should be changed . possibly Clubs Forum, or Clubs Seminar & Forum. Suggestions needed on a name for the event to encourage more clubs to attend.	All

10.3	The group to pull together the event will be led by PW and include OB, PB, FS and JT	<b>PW</b>
10.4	Good practice advice could be produced as a handout and given to attendees at the Seminar	<b>PW</b>
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<b>11.</b>	<b>IT update</b>	
11.1	Postponed to the next meeting	
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<b>12.</b>	<b>Engaging with clubs</b>	
12.1	AP reported that he had spoken with clubs and the feedback matches the concerns that have been expressed by Clubs Comm, namely that members are keen to engage but don't receive the mailings.	
12.2	AP is going to do more work with clubs in the Midlands Area and will share his findings and any good practice with Clubs Comm.	<b>AP</b>
12.3	JT highlighted some potential issues with GDPR and that she would come on to this later during AOB.	
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<b>13.</b>	<b>Area Issues</b>	
13.1	Yorkshire: PB reported that there are issues with climbers parking inconsiderately at crags (including Kilnsey) and there is a risk of losing access to these crags. It was agreed that we should include a note to clubs to remind their members of good behaviour at crags	<b>All</b>
13.2	National: OB - A request has been received for a statement on guests on club meets. It was agreed that this should be produced and circulated.	<b>JT</b>
13.3	Clubs are starting to request more information about GDPR. JT reported that guidance is being produced. Clubs Comm requested a timeline for the guidance and other activities/communication for the lead up to deadline	<b>JT</b>
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<b>14.</b>	<b>BMC Office report</b>	
14.1	GDPR to be covered under AOB	
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<b>15.</b>	<b>AOB</b>	
15.1	JT reported that GDPR will change the way that BMC staff and BMC volunteers collect, hold and use data on members. A new process will be available using a similar set-up as MSO that the clubs are already using. This will allow Clubs Comm members to have access to the most up-to-date list of club contacts at any time and will be able to email members directly from this system. This change will mean that accurate data will be used, however it will mean that existing lists of contacts that Clubs Comm members hold will need to be deleted. There was resistance to these changes by several members on the committee but it was noted that it was important that Clubs Comm gets the opportunity to influence the system early on so that it works for us.	
15.2	MS, PS and PB agreed to support the initial trial, with a feedback to the committee in late March.	<b>JT</b>
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<b>16.</b>	<b>Dates of forthcoming Meetings</b>	
	Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2018, venue tbc	
	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2018, 6.30 start, BMC Office Manchester	
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