

BMC HUTS GROUP – CURRENT MATTERS – MARCH 2021

CLUB & NATIONAL HUTS

COVID-19

Currently all huts are closed due to Covid 19

When will they re-open?

Check www.thebmc.co.uk/clubs-huts-meets-and-current-covid19-restrictions and www.thebmc.co.uk/covid19-reopening-huts for details of re-opening

HUT INSURANCE

BMC Hut Insurance – Some Huts are insured by Hiscox via Howdens, the brokers. In a recent case the Supreme Court decided that businesses could claim compensation for the interruption of their businesses caused by Covid 19 and the Government's lockdown measures. The case turned on the wording of the business interruption clauses in the policies provided by Hiscox.

Notifiable diseases – from the 1st June 2020 the list of notifiable diseases does not include Covid 19. So, any hut policy renewals from that date will be on this new wording. Policies where the list of notifiable diseases does not include Covid 19 will not be affected by the Supreme Court ruling.

Where a club has suffered loss of income due to the lockdown they should contact Claims at Hiscox and submit the details.

More details are available at www.thebmc.co.uk/business-interruption-insurance-huts

Some clubs insure their properties with other insurance providers. The provider will need to be contacted for more details.

NATIONAL HUTS

Alex Macintyre Memorial Hut – AMMH (Convenor – John Leftley)

The AMMH is held in a trust. It is owned 50:50 by the BMC and M. Scot.

Improvements –Currently paused due to the pandemic.

Over the last six years the Committee has spent £60,000 on improvements to the property. These were funded in part by fee income and by loans and grants from the BMC, M. Scot and SMT.

Recently energy efficiency has been improved by the installation of more LED lighting. A feasibility study has been prepared to provide a basic design template and provisional costings to facilitate detailed planning and applications for grants. Further improvements include refurbishing the kitchen, drying room and the lounge/dining room.

Finance

Accounts 2020

Income £18,588 (Fees £8,588, SBBR Grant £10,000)

Expenditure £9,201 Large items - Insurance £1,099, Electricity £2,881, Repairs & Maintenance £2,175) Current Bank Balances £63,063. Sufficient resources to commit up to £40,000+ on improvements and maintenance with £11,000 held in reserve. £8,000 is earmarked to meet our architect's fees for his plans for the refurbishment of the hut.

Bookings – Online booking system. Hut can accommodate 16 people. The hut fee is £13pppn. Hut closed from 23rd March 2020 due to the pandemic.

Insurance – The hut is insured via M.Scot – Howden/ Hiscox – the insurers.

Don Whillans Memorial Hut – DWMH (Warden – Peter Brigwood)

Rock Hall Cottage is leased by the BMC from the Staffordshire Wild Life Trust. The fifty one year lease expires in 2043.

Improvements – Over £20,000 has been spent on improvements in recent years including £15,000 on the refurbishment of the washroom in 2015. The BMC covered the costs of the work involved. These have now been recouped from hut fee surpluses.

Maintenance – BMC has entered into a contract with a self-employed contractor for the upkeep and maintenance of the building.

Insurance – The Staffordshire Wildlife Trust insures the hut to which the BMC contributes about £250 per year.

Glen Brittle War Memorial Hut – GBMH (Chair – Charles Harris)

The Property is owned by a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). Membership of the organisation consists of its trustees who form the management committee (“the committee”). They are all members of the BMC or M. Scot. There are thirteen trustees. Four of the trustees are “ex-officio” members being the current Presidents and Chief Executives of the BMC and M.Scot. The committee may appoint any appropriate person to fill a vacancy by way of a majority decision at a quorate meeting.

Improvements – In 2015 the hut was refurbished at a cost of £205,000. Funded in part from fee income and by loans and grants from the BMC, M.Scot and SMT. All the loans have now been repaid.

Finance – Bank Balance £11,668. Loan - final payment of £10,000 made to the BMC. Hut Insurance £950+ due in April.

Claimed and received SBBR grant £10,000 in 2020 – hut closed due to CV19.

Bookings – Online booking system. Hut can accommodate 18/20 people. From 1st March 2021 the hut fee for an adult is £20 per night and £10 for those under 18 years of age.

Insurance – Hut is insured by the NFU - £950+

BMC/M.Scot – Guidelines for Hut Managers

Reviewed and Updated:

G1. Club Organisation & Ownership of Property;

G3.1 Fire Safety England & Wales;

G3.2 Fire Safety Scotland;

G8. Sources of Funding;

G9. Club Trustees & Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIOs) – SCIOs in Scotland, eg. Glen Brittle War Memorial Hut.

New draft Guideline

G17. Members' Clubs – Corporation Tax and VAT. –Still under review. Useful reference: HMRC Business Income Manual BIM 24215 updated 23.3.2012.

<https://www.gov.uk/hmrc-internal-manuals/business>

QUERIES FROM CLUBS

KFellfarers

The club received a booking from a club with an enquiry about wheelchair access for one of its members.

G4 Disability Discrimination guideline consulted.

Advice – He/she is bound to be concerned about the following matters: changing floor levels, access to sleeping accommodation, toilets and washing facilities, and ease of access to the building.

Best to consult the person concerned regarding their mobility on foot if at all and whether they have any other particular needs.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

Hut Closure

Anabasis Club. After sixty years the club has been wound up. Its members have joined the Rucksack Club. Garth – the club's hut, leased from a local farmer, is being taken back by him.

Danger of fire – Re-charging electrical appliances

Re-charging mobile phones, head torches etc. may cause fires. They should not be left unattended perhaps in a dorm. Fires are more likely to occur where the equipment used is not the same as that specified by the manufacturer.