

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

British Caving Association

Final Minutes of Committee Meeting 6th June 2015 Hellifield Institute, Hellifield

Meeting opened 9.30am, Attendees in order of signature on attendance sheets:

Name	Club	CNCC officer/co-opted role?	Committee voting?
Matt Ewles	York CC	Secretary and Excalibur meets (Taking minutes)	
Gary Douthwaite	York CC	Webmaster	
Rachel Findlay	York Uni CPC		Yes
Ian Cross	Bradford PC		Yes
Martell Baines	Bradford PC	Representative to BCA	
Pete Monk	Northern Boggarts		Yes
Tony Brown	Northern Boggarts	Bowland meets	
Ian Lloyd	Northumbrian SG	CNCC-Eurospeleo 2016 liaison	Yes
Lyndon Easterbrook	ULSA		
John Holloway	ULSA		Yes
Sam Allshorn	ULSA	Penyghent meets	
Glenn Jones	CNCC Tech. Group	Acting Treasurer	
Roy Holmes	Dent House SS	Chairman	
Alan Speight	YSS	Casterton Fell meets	
Fiona Durham	YSS		Yes
Bernard Bond	Burnley CC		Yes
Ray Duffy	Red Rose CPC		Yes
Jim Sloane	Lancashire UG		Yes
Jason Mallinson	Cave Diving Group		
Chris Camm	White Rose PC		Yes
Simon Wilson	Earby PC	Representative to BCA E&T	Yes
Tim Allen	NCC		
Andrew Hinde	Gritstone Club		Yes
Pat Halliwell	Craven PC		Yes
Ric Halliwell	Craven PC	Birks Fell/Stump Cross area/ Robinson's Pot/Fairy Holes meets	

Numbering of sections in these minutes relates to agenda item numbering.

(1) Apologies for absence

Les Sykes (CNCCTG/LUG)
Geoff Whittaker (Ingleborough/Aygill meets)
Johnny Latimer (Access Officer)
Sam Lieberman (RRCPC)
Andy Farrow (Leck Fell meets)
Kay Easton (Conservation Officer)
Over and Under Caving Club (Committee club)
Dan Irving (Training Officer)

(2) Acceptance of January Committee meeting minutes

Tim Allen said that he had supplied a written statement to the Committee at the January meeting that was absent from the minutes. He also claimed that various aspects of the minutes such as terms like 'smoke and mirrors' (in reference to CNCC finances) were improperly used. Matt Ewles defended the wording, saying Tim had used 'smoke and mirrors' in that meeting to describe CNCC finances, and that he believed the minutes were an accurate reflection of that. Fiona Durham said that the minutes should be a reflection of what is happening at meetings and not a list of statements.

In relation to Birks Fell (quote from January minutes: "Tim Allen also mentioned that YDLAF had offered to negotiate year round access to Birks Fell..."), Tim clarified that the Local Access Forum has offered to help arrange access to Birks Fell Cave, however, the word 'help' was omitted from the minutes, thus giving this an incorrect new meaning. Matt Ewles said he will amend this.

Acceptance of minutes:
Proposed: John Holloway
Seconded: Pete Monk
Votes: 11 votes for, 1 abstention

Action: Matt Ewles make necessary change and issue the final minutes.

(3) Matters arising from the January Committee meeting

Sam Allshorn asked what a CNCC liaison was in respect to Eurospeleo 2016. Ian Lloyd provided a history of how this role came about and the duties involved. Matt Ewles added to this, saying that although several individuals in the CNCC have specific roles with Eurospeleo, Ian's role as CNCC liaison for the event was to act as a first point of contact, and felt that it would be a role that would evolve and become more substantial as the event draws closer and more needs doing.

9:45am the Craven Pothole Club representative arrived (there are now 13 voting representatives).

(4) Officers reports

Chairman's report:
No questions

Secretary's report:

Simon Wilson said he was not happy with the Secretary (Matt Ewles) having 'aims' and felt it was not appropriate that he should be 'leading' the direction of the CNCC. He said the Secretary role should only be to perform the necessary administrative duties. Matt said that if this was a view shared by the Committee he would be very happy to limit his involvement to just administrative duties. Sam Allshorn disagreed with parts of what Simon had said and said he thought that at the moment the Secretary was right to be putting forward suggestions for discussion. No further views were expressed on this matter.

Treasurer's report:

Glenn Jones added to his report by saying that he was submitting the forms for change of signatories and asked that any requests for cheques to be issued should be made today. After today there would be a delay before any further cheques could be issued.

Conservation Officer's report:

Andrew Hinde added that he has a box of historic communications between the CNCC and Natural England and asked if he should hand these to the BCA library. There were no objections to this.

Action: Andrew Hinde to pass historic communications to the BCA library.

Training Officer's Report:

No questions

Access officer's report:

In the absence of Johnny Latimer, Alan Speight provided a verbal update on the situation with Langcliffe Estate. Johnny has had problems improving access on Langcliffe Estate land (this includes Dale Head Pot and Penyghent Pot). Tim Allen suggested that this is an ideal issue to get the Yorkshire Dales Local Access Forum (YDLAF) involved with. Alan Speight agreed and said that we do not want to set the CNCC against the landowner, and so the YDLAF may be better placed to help with the discussions. Ric Halliwell said that the YDLAF has worked with the British Mountaineering Council previously, and agreed that this was the best way forward. Tim Allen said the next YDLAF meeting was November, however, for matters such as this an earlier meeting might be convened. Matt Ewles asked the Committee if they wished to officially advise the Access Officer to contact the YDLAF to seek their involvement, and there was overall agreement with this course of action.

Sam Allshorn asked what the current situation was with Birks Fell Cave access. Ric Halliwell said he believed the Access Officer had managed to change the agreement, but that the main impact of this was only to change the months of the closed season. It was suggested that this could also be a matter to raise with the YDLAF to see if even greater improvements might be possible.

Action: Access Officer to contact YDLAF for assistance with Langcliffe Estate and Birks Fell access

BCA E&T Representative report:

The following points were made:

- Simon said that he had not submitted his report under the title of "BCA E&T representative" as had been presented in the reports document.

- Glenn Jones asked Simon if anything else of interest had happened at the recent BCA E&T meeting. Simon said the meeting was predominated by the IC anchor, which is now accepted by the BCA E&T as a designated anchor.
- Simon had presented the IC resin anchor manual to the BCA E&T meeting, but Nick Williams did not want to approve it there and then, however Simon didn't expect this to cause any problems for the anchor.
- Simon said he has also presented a syllabus to the E&T committee for use in training.
- In response to a question from Glenn Jones, Simon said neither the DCA nor CSCC were represented at the BCA E&T meeting.
- Alan Speight asked how much the IC anchors cost. Simon said the Craven Pothole Club had previously asked a similar question and the answer was approximately £6 each.

Webmaster's report:

Sam Allshorn asked what the purpose was of the information on the website. Gary Douthwaite said that it was to provide up-to-date information on each major cave and its access situation, to make things easy for those who want to go caving in accordance with any access agreements. Matt Ewles said that by having most significant caves specifically listed meant that the website would come up on search engines for people researching a trip to that cave, so the information was easier to find. Sam asked what constituted a 'significant cave' but discussion on this promptly tailed off.

Vote of thanks to Gary Douthwaite

Proposed: Pete Monk

Seconded: Andrew Hinde

Votes: 13 votes for (unanimous).

Vote to accept all Officers' reports;

Proposed: Ian Lloyd

Seconded: Ian Cross

Votes: 13 votes for (unanimous)

(5) Meets Secretary's reports

Leck Fell:

No questions

Casterton Fell:

Ray Duffy said the farmer had erected a bigger fence between Bull Pot Farm and Bull Pot of the Witches to stop cattle falling in. The stile over the fence is now too small. Sam Allshorn suggested that urgent action was needed to avoid people climbing over and damaging the fence. Andrew Hinde said he would look into it and try to get a new stile in the next few weeks if someone would be able to assist with the groundwork.

Action: Andrew Hinde to provide new stile if possible.

Alan Speight said that he has been working with the land agent to try to do away with the access agreement on Casterton Fell (in favour of more open access). Alan Middleton (Leck Fell House) has no objections to this and is happy with cavers on the East side of Ease Gill Beck. The land agent seems amenable to changing or even abandoning the agreement for the west side. It was suggested that the CNCC should take advantage of Alan's work, and the potential of this situation, and get involved and pursue this further. There was general agreement with this as a matter for the Secretary or Access Officer to pursue.

Action: Matt Ewles or Johnny Latimer to work with Alan to take advantage of this opportunity.

Ingleborough Estate:

Tim Allen asked how the permit system on Ingleborough worked during winchmeets. Ric Halliwell explained that the Bradford Pothole Club or Craven Pothole Club take over the licence for all caves in the Gaping Gill system for the period of the Winchmeet and control access during this period.

Tim then asked whether there were any statistics on the number of people using their permits. Matt Ewles said that there was no way of gathering this information.

Birks Fell/Stump Cross/ Robinson's Pot/Fairy Holes:

Ric Halliwell said that he had made no progress with the landowner (National Trust) at improving access to Robinson's Pot but he will pursue this further over coming months.

Penyghent and Fountains Fell:

Nothing additional to report.

Other areas:

Nothing additional to report.

Vote to accept all meets secretary reports;

Proposed: Pat Halliwell

Seconded: Bernard Bond

Votes: 13 votes for (unanimous)

(6) Permits for CHECC

This item proceeded as an open discussion based around the outline set out in the agenda. The following points were raised during the course of the discussions:

- Sam Allshorn opened discussions on this by saying that as part of the CNCC's constitution we had a duty to make it as easy as possible to get access.
- Ian Lloyd raised the matter of SUI and said that the situation was identical to this one.
- John Holloway believed that as far as BCA were concerned, SUI were a club.
- Alan Speight said that the situation for SUI and CHECC were different, as SUI generally request permits for individual caves and for small groups of cavers, whereas CHECC tend to almost block-book entire fells for their major annual events.

- Sam Allshorn said he was dumfounded that the Council might be considering not taking any actions to help improve access for CHECC.
- Andrew Hinde said that what we do for CHECC we may have to offer for other BCA groups.
- Fiona Durham read out a statement from Damian Weare (BCA Secretary) in support of issuing permits to CHECC, noting that they are insured to the same level as clubs, it's just that the BCA chooses to waive their membership fee.
- Pat Halliwell said that some university clubs were not BCA members, and if they are involved with CHECC it could result in permits being passed onto non-BCA members.
- Fiona Durham asked why CHECC don't insist their members have BCA insurance?
- Martell Baines emphasised the importance of supporting student cavers and said that as the case had already been made for SUI, we could make the same case for CHECC.
- Sam Allshorn suggested that the Committee should task the Officers to identify suitable strategies to make permits available to CHECC.
- Gary Douthwaite asked what exactly it is now that stops CHECC requesting permits now. Sam Allshorn said that it was because they are not technically a club.
- Fiona Durham said that this should be a two-way process, and asked whether CHECC were willing to make any changes to accommodate this?
- Lynden Easterbrook asked whether there was an issue with clubs applying for permits under the umbrella of CHECC but then passing those permits onto other clubs?
- Ian Lloyd reminded everyone that the basic issue that had led to this agenda item was that CHECC currently only had one club applying for all their permits for their events.
- Lynden Easterbrook suggested that something needs to be incumbent on CHECC to ensure that any members receiving their permits are BCA insured.
- Andrew Hinde quoted the statement from Nick Williams in the agenda, saying that BCA insurance is not an issue here and that the CNCC will be covered regardless.

After the above discussions the matter returned to Sam Allshorn's suggestion (see above):

The Officers should work to identify a suitable strategy to make permits available to CHECC:

Proposed: John Holloway

Seconded: Andrew Hinde

Votes: 12 votes for, 1 abstention

Action: Matt Ewles to make contact with CHECC to discuss possible options

(7) Role of the CNCC in bolting

- Simon Wilson opened the discussion by listing those trained in IC anchor installation: Sam Allshorn, Damian Weare, Ray Duffy, Sam Lieberman and Graham Coates. He asked whether the CNCC accepted these individuals as IC anchor installers. There were no objections.
- Simon quoted the BCA anchor policy item 2. He said that one of the main aims of the BCA anchor policy was to give freedom to Regional Councils.
- Sam Allshorn asked whether the costs that the BCA would reimburse covered everything (i.e. travel) or just materials. Simon read the policy and confirmed that it covered everything.
- Simon read out the section of the BCA policy covering location of anchors. Ric Halliwell asked whether this meant people would have to ask the CNCC for the placement of every anchor. Simon said the policy put the decision as to what to consider an acceptable placement or location in the CNCCs hands.
- Simon read out the section of the BCA policy covering training of installers. Matt Ewles asked whether training was anchor specific (i.e. could existing Bolt Product anchor installers install an IC anchor and vice-versa)? Simon said that there were some differences in the IC anchors that required specific training, so yes, the training is anchor specific, and likewise, he would not want to install a Bolt Products anchor as he had not been trained in them.
- Simon then read out the section of the BCA policy covering record keeping, and emphasised the importance of handing documents to the BCA E&T regarding all anchor placements.
- Simon then read out the section of the BCA policy covering the reporting procedure for defective anchors. Jason Mallinson asked why there was no requirement to proof-load anchors. Sam Allshorn explained that as all trainers had been trained to visually inspect anchors, and as two were always used when rigging, this was not deemed necessary. Simon said that proof-loads risked cracking the resin, and in BCA experience of proof-load testing, the anchors never fail. Glenn Jones said that he was never aware of an anchor failing or coming out of its hole (although an example was raised where the rock containing the anchor had come away). Simon concluded by saying that the BCA have decided not to proof-load test anchors, but they do have the equipment (Hydrajaws), and the policy is regularly reviewed with respect to the necessity for proof-loading anchors.
- Roy Holmes asked if IC anchors had been installed. Simon produced some spreadsheet records showing 131 anchors having been issued, and demonstrating that these records show all required information such as the anchor ID, issue dates, locations, installer, resin batches etc) to allow him to track where all his anchors are and provide all the necessary information. All installers and Nick Williams (BCA E&T) have access to this.
- Gary Douthwaite asked if Simon was planning to produce rigging guides. Simon said that a requirement of being an IC anchor installer was to be able to produce a rigging topo. Gary said he believed there needed to be some kind of unification of the two systems (i.e. the IC anchor rigging topos, which are on the IC anchor website, and the CNCC rigging guides) to ensure cavers were able to find the rigging information and see what caves have been bolted with which anchors. Alan Speight suggested that the IC anchor topos should be

incorporated into the existing system as used by the CNCC (i.e. listed on the website and included in the CNCC rigging guides). Simon rejected this, saying that a lot of work had gone in and that his were far more than just normal rigging topos.

- Ian Lloyd said that there may have been a loss of clarity about who the key point of contact was for bolting in the CNCC, and expressed concern for having two unrelated systems (the existing system run mainly by the CNCC Technical Group, and the IC anchor group). Simon Wilson disagreed that this was an area for concern.
- Glenn Jones asked Simon to confirm that the IC anchor scheme was operating independently of the CNCC but in compliance with BCA policy. Simon confirmed this.
- Sam Allshorn said that any BCA member can go and bolt a cave and publish it etc.
- Alan Speight said that he really wanted to see IC anchor rigging topos published via the CNCC website. Simon said that they were on the IC anchor website instead. Gary Douthwaite asked if Simon was at least happy for a note appearing on the CNCC website to say whether a cave was installed with IC anchors and, if so, to provide a link to the topo on the IC anchor website. Simon agreed to this.
- Simon said that the BCA had given the power to the CNCC to interpret their policy however we wanted and that we should take advantage of this.
- Amidst calls from some in the room for Simon to expedite his discussion towards a proposal, Andrew Hinde suggested that we move onto looking at Appendix B of the agenda.
- Simon then read through sections of this appendix. With respect to point 3 he clarified that the CNCC, not the BCA, can choose what anchors and resin to use. With respect to point 4 he read out the last paragraph of his report emphasising the word 'empowered'. He said that regarding the locations for installation, we should trust the judgement of the installers.
- Alan Speight asked whether the CNCC had to authorise every bolt. Tim Allen said that some caves had seen a proliferation of anchors, and asked whether we wanted to endure broader agreement on which caves should be installed with anchors in the interests of conservation and to avoid over-bolting. No decision was reached on this specific matter.
- Andrew Hinde asked if the Committee felt comfortable leaving the decision on where to install anchors to the discretion of the trained installers. There was no definitive answer.
- Roy Holmes said he personally felt uncomfortable with there being two independent systems.
- Sam Allshorn said that the BCA report had commended Simon on the IC anchor. He also read out details from a report saying that the Bolt Products anchors cause serious damage to the rock if they have to be removed, making the hole unable to be reused, and that an area up to 40cm in diameter around the hole would be unusable after a Bolt Products anchor had been removed. Glenn Jones said that in general the only time an anchor would be removed would be if it were reported loose, and in this case would be easier to remove without damage. Sam then asked about Rowten Pot where the condemned anchors were

decommissioned by hammering them flat and covering them with resin and mud, rather than removing them.

- Alan Speight asked if the IC anchor was CE tested. Simon said no; Nick Williams could pursue this if required, but the BCA are currently not requesting CE approval for the anchor.
- Simon then returned to the details in Appendix B, point 6, and said that the CNCC needs to review its procedures for records and defect reporting. Simon proposed that all records of CNCC resin anchor installations are given to the BCA before the next Committee meeting. This was seconded by John Holloway and received 12 votes in favour, 1 abstention.
- Matt Ewles asked Glenn Jones where the records from the CNCCTG are now; Glenn said they were maintained on a 'cloud' accessible to the CNCC Technical Group. Matt asked if Glenn had any objection to providing these to the BCA E&T; Glenn had no problems with this.

Action: All involved in bolting for the CNCC to ensure all records are available to the BCA E&T.

- Simon read a quote from the CNCC website and a statement from Bob Dearman, which suggested a misunderstanding about the differences between the CNCC and the CNCC Technical Group (CNCCTG). He said that this misunderstanding needed to be clarified by updating the website information on bolting. Simon said he was concerned that the CNCCTG was being portrayed as part of the CNCC, when in fact it is a separate club performing resin anchor installations on behalf of and for the benefit of the CNCC. Simon said that until this discrepancy is cleared up he preferred the IC anchor project to remain independent.
- Simon proposed that the heading 'Technical Group' on the CNCC website be replaced with 'Anchor Scheme'. This was seconded by John Holloway and received 7 votes in favour, 4 against and 2 abstentions.

Action: Gary Douthwaite (webmaster) to implement this. Possibly consider review of the content of this section in light of the discussions at this meeting?

- Simon Wilson proposed that that CNCCTG be asked to consider if they would remove 'CNCC' from their club title. Sam Allshorn said the CNCC could ask for this and the CNCCTG would be quite entitled to say no. Fiona Durham also repeatedly raised concern that the use of 'CNCC' gave a degree of confusion. Matt Ewles said that asking a member club to change its name would be a breach of our constitution (i.e. interfering with the individuality of a club) and he felt it would be inappropriate for the CNCC to do this. He said that he personally would not be willing to make this request. This suggestion was not pursued to a vote.
- Martell Baines said that we had just witnessed a breakthrough in bolting (referring to the IC anchor), and was concerned that Simon seemed to be keen to break away from the CNCC and operate independently.
- Pete Monk asked exactly what we meant by an 'anchor scheme' i.e. is this an individual, a group or a policy? There was some discussion of this but no clear answer.
- Matt Ewles said that in light of all the discussions, and the desire for the IC anchor team to maintain independence, wouldn't the best way forward be to have the heading of 'Anchor

Scheme' on the website, and under this heading, present information on the two major groups involved in anchor installation in the CNCC, i.e. the CNCCTG and the IC anchor installers. He said that this would allow these two groups to continue to operate under the CNCC 'banner' but to their own discretion and while maintaining their individuality?

- Simon said he sees no need to adopt a bolting officer at present as the decisions are currently being made by the respective groups; he said he is happy to manage the IC anchor program himself for now. Matt Ewles said that although he originally suggested creation of a Bolting Officer, this was a suggestion to prompt discussion, and he now felt that based on the progress of the discussions today, he would be happy for the two contributory groups to continue to self-manage and operate with the formal endorsement of the CNCC, and to see how things progressed from there.
- Lyndon Easterbrook asked why the CNCC is using two anchors when one might be better than the other. Martell Baines said the new anchors were introduced to us as being better for small spaces such as a rift as a smaller drill could be used in the confined space. Andrew Hinde proposed that the IC anchor should be considered the anchor of choice for the CNCC on conservation grounds (smaller hole and easier to remove). John Holloway seconded this. Pat Halliwell said that the decision for the CNCC to endorse the IC anchor in preference to the Bolt Products anchor was a decision that would be best adjourned to a future meeting. It was agreed that this proposal will be moved to the next committee meeting.
- Pat Halliwell said that one of the issues in the past has been the supply of anchors. She said that the IC anchor supply was currently dependent on one person (Simon Wilson) and asked what the future perspective was to ensure that the IC anchor will remain available, should Simon cease production. Simon said the BCA E&T had already asked this question.
- Glenn Jones reminded Simon that as he (Glenn) is the BCA anchor installer co-ordinator, does he (Simon) need the IC anchor installers added to the database? Simon said no.
- Fiona Durham asked what criteria the IC anchor group are using to choose sites for installations. Simon said this was at the discretion of the IC anchor group.
- Andrew Hinde asked if the CNCCTG had plans to install Bolt Product (BP) anchors anywhere soon. Glenn Jones said yes; replacement of Peco anchors in Marilyn at Gaping Gill, and also BP anchors have just been installed on Arson Shaft in Ease Gill Caverns. Andrew said that he would be concerned (on conservation grounds) if a project to install lots of BP anchors in a major cave was planned. Glenn Jones confirmed that no further BP anchor projects were planned for now.

(8) Confirmation of Co-opted officers

Matt Ewles said that the existing co-opted officers were all contacted ahead of the meeting about their roles. No replies were received to say that any co-opted officer wished to step down.

Vote to accept the continuation of existing co-opted officers:

Proposed: Pete Monk

Seconded: Ian Cross

Votes: 12 votes for, 1 abstention

(9) Nicola III radios

Roy Holmes briefed everyone in the room. The Hayphone is now outdated and hard to get parts for. The Nicola III radio is now ready to go into production. The BCRC is willing to pay for the Nicola III but additional funds are required for accessories. The CNCC had agreed previously to up to £500 for the three main Cave Rescue Organisations (CRO, UWFRA and Swaledale), and the aim was to see if there is still continued support for this.

Ric Halliwell, Sam Allshorn, Pat Halliwell and Fiona Durham all voiced support for this.

The UWFRA communications officer (Chris Camm) was present at the meeting and said that they are actually pursuing the Cavelink system instead of the Nicola III and said they wouldn't want to see the CNCC specifically spending money on the Nicola III when it wasn't what they wanted to use.

Sam Allshorn suggested that instead we simply offer up to £500 to each of the three rescue organisations to spend as they see fit on any communications equipment, thus allowing them to improve their communications using whatever equipment they prefer to adopt.

Sam Allshorn's suggestion:

Proposed: John Holloway

Seconded: Fiona Durham

Votes: 13 votes for (unanimous)

Action: Roy/Pete Bann to work with the three rescue organisations to see how much funding (if any) is required for communications and to arrange transfer of funds.

(12) Discussion of how the CNCC should vote at the BCA meeting on 13/14th June

The discussion opened with proposal 1 (electronic polling). The following points were made:

- Pat Halliwell felt this disenfranchised clubs with member who might not use electronic communications, or those in remote areas without email access. Additionally, some clubs may not be able to share member's individual email addresses with the BCA.
- Matt Ewles asked exactly how serious a matter would the BCA be able to poll members on by email should this proposal be accepted? Was it just minor things, or could something as serious as the CRoW vote be conducted by email should it happen again?
- Ian Lloyd said that the purpose of this was to save ballot costs.
- Tim Allen said currently for the BCA to consult its members it needed to spend £5000/time or have more frequent meetings.
- Ian Cross suggested that a better alternative might be to poll the secretaries of each club.
- Glenn said that the BCA only has email addresses for around 2/3 of its members and therefore questioned the legitimacy of an electronic poll. He said also that the costs of occasional polls such as the CRoW one is factored into membership fees.

- Fiona Durham said that a ballot by post has greater gravitas than one by email.
- Chris Camm said that most of their members were CIMs and that the overwhelming opinion was that they do not want the BCA having their email addresses, and they would rather any kind of polling of their membership was performed via their club secretary.
- Gary Douthwaite said a system should be created where BCA members can volunteer their email addresses if they wish to be polled electronically, but where those who do not are still provided with postal ballot papers or paperwork, thus reducing the cost of the poll but also ensuring that people are consulted by whatever means that they prefer (essentially an optional opt-in system for electronic communications and balloting).

It was suggested at this point that the discussion had now gone on long enough for Martell Baines (CNCC-BCA representative who will be voting at the meeting) to understand the concerns of the CNCC and to raise matters and vote in our best interests.

The discussion then moved to proposal 2, regarding CRoW and the BCA constitution:

- Matt Ewles said that as this proposal was regarding seeking 'clarification', this is essentially what the CNCC had already voted in favour of last year at the additional committee meeting.
- Martell Baines questioned why the BCA conducted a £5000 poll (CRoW) when it was not clear whether their constitution would allow the outcome to be carried forward.
- Martell Baines asked whether the CNCC had any concerns with supporting this proposal. No concerns were raised.

Action: Martell to deliver vote on behalf of CNCC at BCA meeting, Matt Ewles to provide letter of authorisation.

(13) Date and time of future meetings

Next meeting: Committee meeting 12th September 2015.

(14) Any other business?

Ian Lloyd updated everyone on the situation at Keld Head: Some walling above Keld Head had collapsed and some of the rock had fallen into the sump pool. The Cave Diving Group had come to the CNCC to ask for funds to repair the walling as a gesture of goodwill to the landowner, and had retrieved much of the stone from the water. Matt Ewles said that he had received a quotation for this and that some discussion between the CNCC Officers had taken place, with differing options, varying from funding the entire works, to partially funding the works. As the amount is below £500, Committee approval is not required regardless. Jason Mallinson said that they would ensure the farmer was aware of any contribution by the CNCC, and reminded the room that the CDG get its money from membership and works such as this are not factored into their budget. The general consensus of the meeting was to leave this to the discretion of the Treasurer to deal with.

Action: CNCC Officers to communicate decision to CDG and Treasurer to arrange funding.

Tim Allen mentioned a cave conservation project currently underway on UK Caving to encourage cavers to remove rubbish from caves (with future conservation works funded by the scrap value of some metalwork which is removed).

Ray Duffy reminded people to remove anything left in the Ease Gill System.

Gary Douthwaite said that the next newsletter would be released very soon and that hard copies would be sent to all huts and local caving shops, but if anyone else wanted hard copies to please get in touch with him.

Meeting closed: 13:09pm

Summary of action times dictated or inferred from this meeting:

Individual(s)	Action item
A Hinde	Pass on all CNCC/NE communications documents to cave library.
A Hinde	Provide new style across wall near Bull Pot of the Witches.
M Ewles	Make changes/additions to January minutes and upgrade from draft.
J Latimer	Raise the case of Langcliffe Estate and Birks Fell with YDLAF to request their assistance with improving access.
J Latimer/M Ewles	Work with Alan Speight to pursue the opportunity for greater access on Casterton Fell, following Alan's contact with the landowner on this matter.
All anchor installers	Ensure all records of anchor installations are passed to BCA E&T.
M Ewles	Contact CHECC to discuss all options regarding providing them with permits.
G Douthwaite	Change title on website from CNCCTG to Anchor Scheme and work with all relevant persons to review content here.
R Holmes/P Bann	Work with rescue organisations to identify funding requirements to support any improvements to communications equipment.
P Bann/M Ewles	Communicate decision regarding funding for Keld Head wall repair funding to CDG.
M Baines	Attend BCA meeting, deliver CNCC vote and report back.