

THE COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

The Annual General Meeting of the Council of Northern Caving Clubs will be held on Saturday the 3rd May, 1969 at 3 p.m. at the Marton Arms, Westhouse, Nr. Ingleton. You are invited to send two representatives to the meeting; only clubs who have paid their subscriptions will be allowed to vote. (Your treasurer's address is H. Long, 2 Dalacres Crescent, Embay, Nr. Skipton.)

Yours faithfully,

T. Skykes

Hon. Secretary.

A G E N D A

1. Minutes of last meeting. *Accepted.*
2. Chairman's address. *Formation of N.C.A. Pot-holing without permission. Communication.*
3. Secretary's report. *(attached)*
4. Treasurer's report *✓*
5. Appointment of Officers

 - a. Chairman *J.R. Sutcliffe*
 - b. Secretary *T. Skykes*
 - c. Treasurer *H. Long*
 - d. Auditor.
6. Appointment of Committee
7. Growing membership - the problems created concerning access, keeping in contact with clubs who regularly change secretaries but don't tell us, and the problem of clubs who don't keep up-to-date with their subs but still expect all the benefits of paid up members. *Ask Speleologist to publicise some of the access refusal of no money.*
8. Access Difficulties caused by clubs visiting access areas without permission.
9. Area reports.
10. The National Caving Association. Your approval is sought on the conclusions reached by the Regional Secretaries (attached)
11. Any other business.

Wiff Factors letter
Access Booklet,

THE COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

The Annual General Meeting of the Council was held at the Morton Arms, on the 3rd May, 1969. Representatives from 20 clubs attended.

1. The minutes of the 1968 A.G.M. were read and accepted.
2. Roger Sutcliffe in his address as Chairman gave some background information of the formation of the National Caving Association; he stressed that potholing without permission could undo all the good relations created by Council negotiations over the past six years, and asked the meeting to consider ways of improving communications so that important information is sure to reach the club caver.
3. The Secretary reported on members efforts in the formation of N.C.A. He also pointed out that negotiations to reopen Dale Barn Cave have not been successful so far. Liaison with the Settle Council over water pollution has been most useful and it seems unlikely that the caving world will be held responsible for such complaints. Keeping in touch with member clubs whose secretaries keep changing is another pressing problem.
4. The Treasurer pointed out that only half the membership on paper had actually paid their subscriptions. Also because of the increased flow of money (not due to subscriptions) he suggested the appointment of an auditor. He also pointed out that the outlay involved in the new access booklet may be difficult to cover until some of them are sold. It was explained when questioned that payments of £20.3.11d during the year to C.C.P.R. for clerical work included postages, a reprint of the constitution as well as the production of minutes, agendas etc.
5. Appointment of officers:

The following officers were re-appointed:-

Chairman: J.R. Sutcliffe,
16 Ryelands Grove,
Heaton,
Bradford 9.

Secretary: T. Sykes,
15 Higher Calderbrook,
Littleborough,
Lancs.

Treasurer: M.H. Long,
2 Dalacres Crescent,
Embsay,
Nr. Skipton,
Yorks.

For the new office of Auditor: P. Wineatt (Y.S.S.)
was appointed.

6. Appointment of Committee:

The Committee will comprise:

Chairman Gritstone Club
Secretary Red Rose C.P.C.
Treasurer D.S.A.

and the following:-

Bradford P.C.
Northern Pennine Club
Craven P.C.
Kendal C.C.
Yorkshire Ramblers Club
Happy Wanderers C.P.C.
Earby P.C.
N.S.G.

Will clubs concerned please nominate their Committee Representative and let the Secretary know his name and address as soon as possible.

7. The problem of member clubs who don't keep up to date with their subscriptions but still expect all the benefits of paid up members was discussed. It was agreed that meets secretaries should be supplied with a list of paid up members and be empowered to defer granting permission until subscriptions were brought up to date. It was also agreed that the Speleologist should be asked to publisize this so that clubs we have lost contact with (due to changes in Secretaries addresses etc) could be told.

8. Clubs were reminded that visiting caves without permission could jeopardise future access - the Chairman indicated that there was a possibility of increased access to some areas next year if no complaints are received this year.

9. Area Reports

Leck & Casterton. All is well here except for clubs turning up without permission. Approval had been obtained to erecting notices on Bull Pot and Leck Lanes saying that access is strictly controlled by C.N.C.C.

Fountains. This years allocation of meets have been agreed and clubs will be notified by the meets Secretary. Mr. Coates still wishes to keep Hammer Pot closed.

Dale Barn Cave. It is hoped that the Yorkshire & Humberside Sports Federation may be able to take up the cudgel on our behalf during the coming months.

Birks Fell Cave. Negotiations are proceeding.

10. The National Caving Association.

The aims and objects previously circulated, set out by the Secretaries of the various regions were approved unanimously by the meeting.

11. An idea put forward by Wilf Proctor (Yorkshire Dales National Park Warden) for a local weather forecasting service was discussed. It was agreed that provided cavers would use it the service would be of great value and give an additional safety factor to people caving in the area. (Details attached) The cost of providing the service will be 13/- a weekend and it is hoped to raise the money for this either from a grant or from some other source. In the meantime the meeting approved up to the full cost for a trial period of one year.

12. The access booklet is almost ready. It is due out in 3 - 4 weeks and will cost 4/-; it will contain details of access, cave surveys and references to what has been written about each cave.

T. Sykes
Hon. Secretary.

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Hon. Secretary's Report 1969

During 1968/69 the Council has been active on your behalf particularly with regard to the formation of the National Caving Association as last years A.G.M. instructed. The Regional Councils met on the 9th December, 1968 when it was agreed that 'the scientific bodies of B.S.A., C.R.G., and Pengelly and the Cave Rescue Council, be invited to become part of the Regional Councils Structure.' It was also agreed that the body should be called the 'National Caving Association'. The Secretaries of the constituent members of N.C.A. met on the 1st March to discuss the aims, objects, and limitations of the Association. The minutes of this meeting are attached.

The Council's Committee has met three times during the year and attended to a number of minor access problems - the major ones of Dale Barn Cave, and White Scar Cave get no nearer. Attempts are now being made via the Yorkshire and Humberside Sports Federation to gain access to Dale Barn Cave.

Two meetings of the Public Health Sub Committee of the Settle Rural District Council have been attended and evidence provided which should soon result in a declaration by the Committee that the danger of water pollution in caves by cavers is minimal.

Membership is now up to 77 and it is becoming an increasing cause for concern that we can't keep in touch with them all. My up-to-date list of addresses keeps getting replies from the G.P.O. 'Gone-away' etc. It would appear that some clubs have gone out of existence; others just haven't paid for some time. This is causing our Treasurer concern and we must consider some solution.

May I conclude by thanking Alan Shaw and Frank Croll for their work as Meets Secretaries and the Office Staff of the C.C.P.R. for typing and distributing our minutes.

T. Sykes,

Hon. Secretary.

