

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

British Caving Association

Final approved minutes of Committee Meeting 22nd June 2019, Hellifield Village Institute

Attendees in order of signature on attendance sheets:

Name	Affiliation	CNCC officer/ co-opted role?	Committee voting?
Matt Ewles	York Caving Club	Secretary, taking minutes	
Pat Halliwell	Craven Pothole Club	Acting Chairperson	
Alan Jeffreys	Grampian Speleological Group		Yes
Ric Halliwell	Craven Pothole Club	Birks Fell etc meets	Yes
Sam Lieberman	Red Rose Cave and Pothole Club		Yes
Ray Duffy	Red Rose Cave and Pothole Club		
Stuart Whitmey	Earby Pothole Club		Yes
Tim Allen	N/A	Access Officer	
Kay Easton	Bradford Pothole Club	Conservation Officer	Yes
Pete Bann	Northern Boggarts	Treasurer	
Pete Monk	Northern Boggarts		Yes
Victor Wain	White Rose Pothole Club		Yes
Gary Douthwaite	York Caving Club	Webmaster	
Harvey Lomas	Yorkshire Ramblers Club		
Andy Gordon	Kendal Caving Club		Yes
Fiona Durham	Yorkshire Speleological Society		Yes
Barrie Whittaker	N/A		
Lyndon Easterbrook	University of Leeds Speleo. Ass.		Yes
Simon Wilson	^^		

^^ Arrived mid-way through meeting; did not sign attendance register; added from memory.
Numbering of sections in these minutes relates to agenda item numbering.

11 out of 14 Committee clubs present (Absent: SUSS, York University CPC, Northern Pennine Club).

The meeting opened at 9:30am with a welcome from the acting Chair (Pat Halliwell, standing in for Andrew Hinde). She introduced and welcomed Barrie Whittaker, a Hellifield resident and former caver who had seen this meeting was happening and came to see what goes on. Pat commented that this last month has seen the loss of four well known cavers, including Barry Andrew, Harry Hesketh (Eski), Ian Cummins and Dave Elliot. There was a moment of remembrance.

(1) Apologies for absence

Ian Cross (Bradford Pothole Club)
Tony Brown (Northern Boggarts, Bowland meets)
David Botcherby (BCA Y&D representative/SUSS)
Andrew Hinde (Chair)

(2) Acceptance of January 2019 Committee meeting minutes

No issues raised; proceeded directly to a vote to accept:

Proposed: Ric Halliwell

Seconded: Victor Wain

Votes: 9 votes for (unanimous)

Note: Only 9 voting reps at this point; ULSA had not yet arrived.

Action: Matt Ewles to issue the final minutes.

The ULSA representative arrived after the above vote. There are now 10 voting clubs.

(3) Matters arising from the January Committee meeting (with minuted updates in red):

Individual(s)	Action item
Matt E.	Issue October meeting minutes as final. Done
Kay E./Gary D.	Continue to liaise over GDPR requirements with respect to CNCC conservation volunteers. Kay confirmed that personal information is now only held on secure CNCC/Natural England systems. Action closed.
Matt E./Gary D.	Continue work on a CNCC display to have ready ideally in time for Hidden Earth 2019. Ongoing and on-target. More discussion intended under Secretary report discussion. Action ongoing.
Tim A.	Continue Barbondale discussions; keep Lee Paskin involved. Tim Allen has spoken to another CIC recently about this (not Lee Paskin). Matt Ewles confirmed that we have not yet published any advice on this matter; Tim confirmed he has written something and will email it through to Matt for publication ahead of the start of the shooting season (end of August). Action: Matt/Tim issue guidance for cavers accessing Barbondale.
Matt E.	Compile comments that he received on BCA draft safeguarding policy and forward onto BCA for consideration. Done; Matt confirmed that the policy was approved at the BCA AGM on 9th June and will soon appear on the BCA website.
Andrew H.	Action the removal of the KMC metal steps. Done
Andrew H./Matt E.	Complete winch purchase/arrange training (Andrew). Matt to advertise. Done; Matt confirmed that the winch has already been used in a conservation project as reported in the last newsletter.

Pete B.	Attempt to claim for 2018 first aid training from BCA. Done; funding reimbursed from BCA Training.
Rowan W.	Investigate dates for Crackpot Cave works and liaise through CNCC Conservation Officer to gain conservation volunteer resource. Rowan to check on water supply and mud formation concerns before proceeding. Done and conservation sessions complete. Matt Ewles said he was looking forward to seeing the restored chamber.
Tim A.	Inspect Lost Pot fencing and report to Andrew H. if any works needed. Done; remedial work performed.
Andrew H.	Present dossier of conservation works to Ingleborough Estate trustees. Matt Ewles said that he had no update on this, but felt that Andrew had been working very hard to keep the Estate updated on all the work performed recently and so had no doubt this matter was being looked after and was in hand; action can be considered closed.
Andrew H.	Investigate ways forward for the 'Thyme' dig issue. Sam Lieberman confirmed that work to make safe and tidy this dig was almost complete. Action closed.
Tim A.	Investigate what might be able to be done at Snatcher Pot regarding missing lid and loose rock inside entrance. Tim confirmed that this is only a small entrance by the side of a stream and so there are no stockproofing issues here; no action required.
Andrew H.	Look into fencing options for Rift Pot at Masongill. Action complete (shakehole fenced off).
Andrew H.	Action/consult on guidelines and generic risk assessments for CNCC owned equipment. No update; consider action to be ongoing and schedule for update at next meeting.
Matt E./Gary D./Tim A	Collaborate on actioning stickers for the new batch of Caves and Karst books and a landowner webpage. Matt Ewles confirmed that he has not got anywhere on this action item; Tim suggested it is easier if people just write in the books by hand something to confirm that it is a gift from the CNCC. Action discontinued.
Matt E./Tim A.	Come up with suggested CNCC mission statement for AGM agenda. Done and accepted at AGM; Matt confirmed that it is now published on our website. Action closed.
Matt E	Encourage member clubs to participate in the BCA survey and also to feed back their ideas on how the CNCC could be pushing for reform. Done; request to participate in survey circulated. Action closed.
Matt E.	Write a bespoke article on CNCC news for the upcoming BCA newsletter. Done; Matt confirmed that he has also written a piece for the June/July BCA newsletter too which is soon to be released.

Matt E./Tim A.	Communicate to CaveFest our wish to support them in some way and to suggest they come up for a weekend to a CNCC meeting. Done. Ric Halliwell expressed the concerns of previous cavers who have helped with CaveFest and who have said they wouldn't help again. Pat Halliwell felt they expected a lot from their helpers. Tim Allen had a different impression and based on telephone discussions with the organisers he said that they were an enthusiastic group who have come into caving perhaps via a different route to many of us. Kay Easton suggested we be clear about what we can offer and what we get in return. Matt Ewles said that he was meeting them on the weekend of 6th July and this was all good information to know; he will discuss what help they need that we can offer but be cautious in what we commit to. Action: Matt to report to next Committee meeting.
Matt E./Pete B.	Arrange tacklesack for Sam Allshorn. Done and payment approved.
Sam A.	Discuss non-BCA approved anchors further with BCA Insurance manager and bring results to a future CNCC meeting for discussion. Discussed offline; Sam A. to report back when ready to continue discussion. Action can be considered closed until further contact.

(4) Reports

Chairman's report:

- Ray Duffy asked what a SABIC ethylene pipeline was; it was confirmed that it is a gas pipeline that you really don't want to dig into; maps are online.
- Regarding the Providence Pot collapse reported in the Chair's report, Victor Wain said that Chris Camm of the White Rose Pothole Club has been to look at this and can address it for probably about £150 in materials; agreed for CNCC to cover these costs. Matt Ewles appealed for photos and a report of the works for next newsletter.

Action: White Rose members to undertake work with CNCC financial backing; provide report and photos for next newsletter.

Secretary's report:

- Regarding Hidden Earth, rumours are that this is most likely to be in the Wrexham area, but this is still not confirmed; probably one of the last two weekends in September. Matt Ewles emphasised his willingness (with Gary Douthwaite) to put together a stall but wanted people to volunteer to man it; Tim Allen offered to help as much as possible (but will also have his own commitments on his own stall); Matt appealed for more volunteers, asking clubs to circulate the request to their members to appeal for volunteers.
- Regarding the anchors issue detailed in the report, Matt Ewles summarised the situation, saying that he simply doesn't have the time to manage this himself and would prefer for a

group of individuals to work together outside of CNCC meetings to manage this. He said that Simon Wilson has stepped down from all responsibilities. Mark Sims had indicated to the AGM that he might be able to help but has since withdrawn that offer.

- Matt has contacted several people but very few are willing to give up the time. Matt thanked Alan Speight who has said he will help to look after the necessary paperwork, but felt that an anchor coordinator team would be best to delegate the responsibilities and avoid the burden once again falling to just one person.
- Matt said he was keen that the anchor scheme doesn't degenerate into a closed-shop limited only to those already trained and involved.
- Matt mentioned an email discussion he has been having with Sam Allshorn, including a recommendation that the CNCC needs a document to outline where anchors should and should not be installed to help guide future decisions.
- Tim Allen cited the recent discussions about anchor placement (these discussions having been prompted by the recent death of Dave Elliot); Tim felt that the CNCC anchor scheme is pretty good at the moment compared to any previous point in history.
- Matt agreed to keep pushing to get those involved in anchors to work together, and will speak with Alan Speight to take up his kind offer. Matt emphasised that he personally will not get involved beyond this and wished for those with an existing vested interest/ involvement in the anchor scheme to pick this up.

Action: Matt Ewles to continue to try and encourage interested parties to work together to take the anchor scheme forward.

Treasurer's report:

- Tim Allen asked about the CNCC's proposals regarding BCA funding, sent last year. The Conservation and Access aspects of this proposal were never addressed. Matt Ewles felt that there is no reason the CNCC should back down on their proposals and suggested that it is resubmitted for further consideration.
- Ric Halliwell asked if any source of funding income had been found yet? Pete Bann confirmed that it has not. Tim Allen felt that nationally, caving organisations are in a very healthy financial state, and there is lots of money around with difficulties in spending it. Pat Halliwell felt that we do need to be considering our funding and where future money is coming from, as at some point it will run out. This was echoed by Ric Halliwell, and Pete Bann, who felt that our £18000 will run out if we keep nibbling away at it.
- Matt Ewles said he didn't share these concerns, citing that in his over five years as Secretary, we have achieved in total only £3000-4000 reduction in CNCC available funds despite some proactive spending (*retrospective note; a check of the 2014 CNCC accounts show total cash assets around £20360, so the figure for net expenditure since 2014 is actually ~£2400*).

- Ric Halliwell emphasised that the Stories in Stone project will end this year, and so mileage claims for CNCC Conservation volunteers will no longer be reclaimable from anywhere (not covered by BCA funding). Simon Wilson asked about this mileage rate; Kay Easton said that pre-Stories in Stone this was raised from the BCA rate of 25p/mile to 30p/mile; Stories in Stone raised it to the HMRC approved rate of 45 p/mile. Stuart Whitmey asked whether not offering mileage allowance would affect recruitment to conservation?
- Tim Allen asked why we need a pot of £17000; why not £5000? Andy Gordon felt that we should have an emergency fund level; a minimum level we should sustain. Pete Bann agreed that we don't need the £17000 we have, and we should be willing to spend this for the right project; his concern is that there currently isn't anything to replace this once it's gone.
- Fiona Durham asked whether anyone is looking into possible grants? Kay Easton said she is involved in another conservation organisation and grants are easy to get for specific projects but hard to get just for day-to-day running of an organisation. Pete Bann confirmed that it's the day-to-day running costs of the CNCC that are the current issue. Fiona asked what our running costs are; Pete confirmed that they are erratic and vary from year to year.
- Tim Allen confirmed that we can get up to £750 from the BCA Conservation and Access budget currently and even more if we cite specific projects.
- Sam Lieberman asked what practical action we should take as an outcome of these discussions. Kay Easton suggested that we need to look at our yearly deficit; i.e. how much are we out-of-pocket each year that we cannot claim back from BCA or other grants. It is this value we need to address.
- Matt Ewles called for any ideas, saying that all are welcome, ideally with an offer from the person(s) putting the idea forward to undertake the necessary work.
- Pete Bann felt that funding really needs to go through meetings, citing the example of Rift Pot, where the costs of stabilising the entrance were submitted outside of a meeting after the work had been performed. Ric Halliwell said that as this was less than £500, it doesn't need to go through a meeting and is within the Treasurer's discretion; however, Pete felt it should have gone to a meeting. Matt Ewles explained that this is a unique situation as the request for the CNCC to fund this came retrospective to the work, emphasising that it was an opportunist project undertaken by a team, so they did not necessarily plan forward for this. Matt had advised that this was funded, with a reminder that any future expenditure should ideally be agreed in advance as best-practice. Matt expressed that he did not want to discourage others acting via similarly impromptu ways to the benefit of northern caving, by saying that all requests must be submitted ahead of work being done; sometimes work may be more spur-of-the-moment. Tim Allen, who was involved in the Rift Pot work said that they would have been happy to do it at their own cost, but felt that as this benefits lots of cavers, they would seek to claim costs from CNCC if possible.
- Matt Ewles said he does not share the concerns expressed in this meeting; we have plenty of money and are not spending it fast enough to worry yet.

Conservation Officer's report:

No questions.

Access Officer's report:

Leck Fell matter to be discussed later; a few other points raised:

- Tim Allen confirmed that all 20 original copies of the Caves and Karst books that the CNCC purchased were now handed out to landowners. Pete Bann asked where they all have gone to; Tim confirmed that we have this all recorded. Of the second batch of 20, only four have gone out and are in the hands of our representatives pending presentation to landowners, and 16 copies remain with Tim. A record will be kept as per the previous batch.
- Ric Halliwell confirmed that he and Pat will also be at the Cave and Crag Access Committee meeting, thus increasing the representation of cavers present.

Training Officer's report:

Kay Easton commented that the reports document should say 'no report' as technically Andrew Hinde is named Training Officer for constitutional purposes, so we do have a Training Officer. Matt Ewles noted this for future meetings.

Webmaster report:

Nothing to add.

Anchor Coordinator/BCA Equipment and Techniques representative report:

No report and no anchor coordinator in post as Simon Wilson has stood down. Simon Wilson had arrived at the meeting by this point (having been absent for the anchor discussion in the Secretary report). Matt Ewles asked Simon whether he was willing to continue any aspects of the role, or perhaps be E&T representative; Simon confirmed no; he wants rid of all jobs completely. Kay Easton asked if Simon would be willing to put together a list of jobs that need to be done to fulfil the anchor coordinator and E&T representative role; Simon agreed.

Action: Simon to put together jobs list for anchor coordinator/E&T rep position.

BCA Youth and Development representative report:

Tim Allen said that we don't have any restrictions on age for any of our access agreements; we need to make sure that nothing comes out of the Charterhouse Caving Company business that could impact us in any way. Pat Halliwell felt that most clubs have now addressed the matter of taking under 18s caving and into their membership.

CNCC Representative to the BCA:

- Ray Duffy commended Tim Allen on his summary of the BCA AGM.
- Pat Halliwell thanked everyone who went to the BCA AGM; their Craven Pothole Club representative commented on the high attendance particularly younger cavers. Kay Easton asked what normal attendance was; Tim Allen said normally around 40-50, but this AGM attracted about 75 people. Gary Douthwaite felt there was a strong north-south divide in the voting, an impression shared by others who attended.

Meets Secretaries reports:

- Ric Halliwell said that two bookings for Fairy Holes had been cancelled at the last minute due to insufficient interest in the trip, which he said was a shame because he had received multiple requests for these dates.
- Matt Ewles said that a new agreement had almost been reached for Excalibur Pot. The landowner still wished for visiting cavers to be part of some kind of club. Matt said that he had explained the recent change in CNCC thinking and access for all BCA members seemed suitable. The landowner also wanted to make sure 'not too many people are coming' and Matt felt the status quo of one permit per week was fine as typically only a few groups are going each year anyway. Matt commented that the cave is locked at landowner request to avoid it posing a hazard to children, but this is circumvented for visiting cavers who can collect the key from a keysafe near the entrance (code issued with permit).

Vote to accept all reports:

Proposed: Alan Jeffreys

Seconded: Sam Lieberman

Votes: 10 votes in favour (unanimous)

(5) Confirmation of co-opted positions and representatives

BCA Equipment and Techniques representative:

Tim Allen suggested asking Mark Sims, as he is the BCA E&T convenor and is therefore at the meetings anyway, and he may be willing to also represent the CNCC and report back.

Action: Matt Ewles to ask Mark Sims to be the CNCC E&T Representative

BCA Training Committee representative:

No volunteers.

BCA Publications and Information representative:

No longer relevant as the BCA P&I Standing Committee was abolished at the BCA AGM.

CNCC Anchor coordinator:

To be confirmed (see earlier action point)

Appointment of all other co-opted positions as per the agenda:

Proposed: Pete Monk

Seconded: Kay Easton

Votes: 10 votes in favour (unanimous)

(6) Appointment of Assistant Secretary

No questions so proceeded to vote; appointment of Josh Young as Assistant Secretary:

Proposed: Ric Halliwell

Seconded: Lyndon Easterbrook

Votes: 10 votes in favour (unanimous)

(7) Access on Leck Fell

- Tim Allen gave an overview of the timeline on this matter. The last signed access agreement on Leck Fell was an annual agreement that expired in 2012; since then the CNCC has been sustaining the terms of this agreement out of goodwill and without question. On 10th May 2016, Tim met with all three estates (Ingleborough, Leck, Casterton) and Andrew Hinde to talk about open access. The estates made it clear that they want to maintain managed caver access, but they agreed in principle to moving to an online system. The keenest of the three, Ingleborough, managed by Ingham and Yorke, were willing to go first and after several meetings, and development of the online booking system by Gary Douthwaite, Ingleborough Estate cavers were brought onto this system. Patrick Holmes of Ingham and Yorke then also became the agent for Leck Fell, and Tim asked if he felt Lord Shuttleworth would consider the online booking system for Leck Fell too, now that it is up and running and proven to be reliable. Tim sent a letter on 1st January 2019 to try to move this forward. In a meeting on 22nd January 2019, to discuss the Barbondale access matter, Patrick Holmes confirmed no conclusions yet regarding Leck Fell. By the time of the CNCC AGM in March, still no progress despite a promise of an answer. Now, Tim is unable to even contact Patrick; not getting any answer to calls and no reply to emails. Tim feels that it is simply that cavers are extremely low on the priority list and not due to any specific issue.
- Tim said he feels we cannot continue to support the seven-year old and out of date access agreement, and if the Estate or agents aren't willing to talk to us about this, we have to stop facilitating caver access and withdraw from the terms of the former agreement. Instead we should simply refer to information on the CNCC website, CRoW and the BCA policy.
- Tim estimates that a lot of people cave on Leck Fell without a permit and believes it reflects badly on the CNCC that we continue to support such an outdated agreement.
- Alan Jeffreys asked about shooting rights and parking. Tim confirmed that there is no commercial shooting on Leck Fell; just some family shoots. Tim estimates around 16 cars can park on Leck Fell across the three parking areas (Notts II by the cattle grid, and the upper and lower car parks); he feels this number is not an issue. He also emphasised that the road is a public highway and thus parking is unrestricted. Tim doesn't feel that withdrawing from the agreement will increase the number of cars on the fell.
- Ric Halliwell said that the Craven Pothole Club would support use of the online system for Leck Fell. Pat Halliwell felt this would be less confrontational than withdrawing completely. Matt Ewles emphasised that this would mean getting the estate to talk to us to agree to implementing this; we can't just implement the online system by our own preference. Sam Lieberman suggested writing to them to say we are withdrawing but are happy to offer the online booking system if they want to work with us.
- Kay Easton said it would be not be a logical stance to implement the on-line system as suggested by Pat since to do so would be to support an agreement that did not exist. She supported Tim Allen's stance to cease supporting the conditions of this agreement.

- Ray Duffy believes the online booking system would be preferential to help avoid congestion in potholes; Harvey Lomas asked about the possibility of an 'in house' access agreement to help achieve this. Matt Ewles expressed concerns over this; he emphasised that helping to manage caver traffic to avoid congestion was a desirable side-effect of the online system in some peoples' opinion, but it is beyond the remit of the CNCC to specifically aspire to do this; he felt this could result in cavers seeing us as the 'cave police'.
- Pat Halliwell commented that to withdraw totally would mean ignoring the closed season.
- Tim Allen said he will be interested to see the Estate's reaction. He doesn't expect any issues, as it is not managed land, is access land, and we have good relations with the tenant farmers (Mr Coates and Mr Middleton), plus Tom Shuttleworth is friendly and not anti-caver, plus the whole matter seems to be of generally low priority at the moment. Tim feels that our action may make them prioritise the matter.
- Lyndon Easterbrook emphasised that we are talking about withdrawing from something that doesn't actually exist (as the agreement expired in 2012). Do we need to point this out to the landowners, to emphasise that actually the online system would actually be a step upwards in managed access and not a step down.
- Tim emphasised that the landowners/agents are aware we are having this discussion.
- Andy Gordon asked what we tell cavers if we withdraw from the historic agreement? Matt Ewles suggested we inform cavers that the caves are on CRoW land, and cite the BCA policy (which states the BCA believe that caving is already covered by CRoW); we present all of this information and allow cavers to make their own judgement.
- Tim Allen was keen to point out that the CNCC is the solution to caving issues, and not the cause of any problems.
- Alan Jeffreys asked what will then happen on Casterton Fell? Tim Allen said he has put this to the landowner, Henry Bowring. Currently the Casterton access agreement isn't an annual one so is still active, but Tim does want to address this area in due course.
- Pete Monk expressed concern that if we do write to the Leck Fell agents/landowners, it could be months until we get a reply. Do we have to wait for a reply before discontinuing support for the access agreement? Matt Ewles felt that we cannot keep waiting on replies before acting; we have been waiting for a reply for six months now and nothing. Gary Douthwaite suggested setting a deadline for when we will discontinue support.
- Lyndon Easterbrook suggested that offering the online booking system as an alternative may make the decision easier for them. Matt Ewles expressed concern at this course of action; he felt that the CNCC was obligated to aim for the best possible access (i.e. no restrictions at all) and the online booking system still represented some level of access management. He felt that it was fine to have the online system 'on the table' if they are willing to talk to us, as a compromise solution, but as we are starting from a 'no agreement' scenario, the request for anything other than unrestricted access needs to come from the landowners, not us.

- Andy Gordon asked if we need to give them a months' grace period to reply; Kay Easton commented that we will need this time to put together our statements for the website; Sam Lieberman suggested simply stating a date at which we will discontinue support and when we will present information to say this on our website.
- Pat Halliwell asked if we need to formally agree on a course of action. Matt Ewles suggested that a proposal to allow Tim to proceed in accordance with his best judgement, taking into account the discussion today. In summary this will involve writing to the landowner/agents announcing our withdrawal from the expired agreement and suggesting they contact us if they wish to discuss the matter (in which case, the online booking system is a compromise tool we can offer if necessary to sustain good relations).

Proposal for Tim Allen to proceed as above;

Proposed: Alan Jeffreys

Seconded: Fiona Durham

Votes: 10 votes in favour (unanimous)

- Pete Monk said he feels the Committee should see the letter that Tim sends out. Tim Allen read his January letter as an example of the tone he anticipated using. Matt Ewles asked if the Committee would like time to comment on the letter before it is sent; general consensus no; but Committee should be sent the letter anyway for their information.

Action: Tim to write and send letter. Matt Ewles/Tim Allen to email the letter to Committee when ready to go (no need to wait for comments back; just for information purposes) and undertake necessary communication of outcome to caving community.

(8) Removal of Training Officer position from Constitution

No discussion; straight to a vote. **Put forward the necessary constitutional amendments to the AGM for removal of Training Officer as an Officer position.**

Proposed: Ric Halliwell

Seconded: Alan Jeffreys

Votes: 10 votes in favour (unanimous)

Action: Matt Ewles to schedule changes for AGM.

(9) Date and time of next meeting

Confirmed as Committee Meeting Saturday 5th October 2019, Hellifield Village Institute, 9:30am.

(10) Any Other Business

- Alan Jeffreys asked about BCA Personal Accident Insurance. Matt Ewles explained that this is something the BCA are looking at (all CNCC Committee and Members were emailed about this a few months ago). Matt confirmed that the BCA Treasurer/Insurance Manager, Howard Jones, is very proactive and is looking at ways to spend the BCA surplus. He had put forward the possibility of a personal accident policy as a membership benefit, much like the public liability insurance, and was gathering opinion on whether this is something cavers want. A

rough poll at the BCA AGM saw >80% support. Matt would like to be able to gather a CNCC consensus so to know whether we should support this. A decision is likely to be made at the BCA Council meeting on 12th October; we have a Committee meeting the weekend before so that could be an appropriate opportunity to gather CNCC feedback.

- Tim Allen put forward a different perspective to the positive views expressed elsewhere. He felt that Howdens are a multi-million-pound profit-making company. The premium originally presented works out at £2.50/member for a potential pay-out up to £50000. They are clearly either not expecting many pay-outs, or this is an introductory offer to draw us in and then the costs will rise. Tim emphasised also that the costs may end up being reconsidered following recent incidents, and Howard has withdrawn some initial numbers pending re-review by the insurer, so this may all be subject to change. Tim also questioned whether £50000 was a substantial enough sum as a payout for a major injury or death.
- Ric Halliwell echoed Tim's concern that the premium would likely go up significantly; Harvey Lomas said the BMS have an ongoing claim which may see their premium rise. Lyndon Easterbrook said ULSA found greater positivity for this from their younger members.

Action: All clubs discuss this and feedback to the October Committee meeting (Matt Ewles to circulate any changes to circumstances on this)

Meeting closed at 12.10pm

Summary of specific action items:

Individual(s)	Action item
Matt E	Finalise January Committee minutes.
Tim A/Matt E	Issue and publish guidance for cavers accessing Barbondale.
Matt E	Report back to October Committee meeting on CaveFest discussions.
White Rose PC	Undertake work at Providence Pot; CNCC to fund; Take photos of work, before, after and during and produce short report for newsletter.
Matt E	Continue to try to work out way forward for CNCC anchor scheme, and ask Mark Sims to be E&T representative
Simon W	Compile list of the jobs associated to anchor coordinator.
Tim A/Matt E	Tim to follow up on Leck Fell; write letter (Matt to circulate) and communicate outcome to cavers.
All clubs	Discuss BCA personal accident insurance for October meeting.
Andrew H	Action/consult on guidelines and generic risk assessments for CNCC owned equipment (action carried over from this meeting).
Matt E/Gary D/All	Produce and set up a CNCC stall at Hidden Earth; Anyone willing to volunteer to man it to contact Matt. Clubs to ask for volunteers.
Matt E	Draft constitutional changes to remove Training Officer.