

# COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

## British Caving Association

### Agenda for Committee Meeting 27<sup>th</sup> June 2020, 9:30am

- 1) Apologies for absence.
- 2) Acceptance of minutes from the January Committee meeting (these have already been through the one-month review process before being made public on the website).
- 3) Any matters arising or updates on action items from the January Committee meeting?

#### **Reminder of action items from June meeting (with update in red where status known):**

Individual(s)	Action item
Josh Y	Finalise October Committee Minutes <b>Done</b>
Gary D/Matt E	Promote Fairy Holes and Robinson's Pot via CNCC's online platforms. <b>Done</b>
Andrew H	Speak to landowner regarding potential improvements to the walls and fencing around Alum Pot.
Gary D	Publish an anonymous poll on usage of Birks Fell via social media. <b>Done, discussed at AGM.</b>
Andrew H	Find someone to stand in as chair at the upcoming CNCC AGM. <b>Done</b>
Josh Y	Research potential alternative venues for future CNCC meetings. <b>Done, discussed at AGM. No change for now.</b>
Ric H	Make enquiries regarding the Skipton museum exhibit & report back to June meeting.
Tim A	Get some framed caving photos costed up, & report back to June meeting.

- 4) Reports (will be made available approx. one week before meeting)
  - i. Chairman's report - Andrew Hinde
  - ii. Secretary's report- Josh Young
  - iii. Treasurer's report - Ben Wright
  - iv. Conservation Officer's report- Kay Easton
  - v. Access Officer's report - Tim Allen
  - vi. Other reports (optional): Webmaster/BCA rep/E&T rep/Y&D rep/Anchor Coordinator
  - vii. Meets Secretaries and Online Booking System Administrator reports (optional)

#### 5) Confirmation of co-opted positions and representatives

This agenda item is a discussion and vote on whether to endorse the continuation of each of these co-opted positions, and an opportunity for anyone else interested in performing one of these roles to come forward.

Online Booking System Administrator – Geoff Whittaker

Stump Cross/ Robinson's/Birks Fell/Fairy Holes Permits – Ric Halliwell

Excalibur Permits – Matt Ewles

Bowland Permits – Tony Brown

Webmaster – Gary Douthwaite

Anchor Coordinator – Alan Speight

Representative to the BCA Council and AGM – Tim Allen

Representative to the BCA E&T Committee – Position vacant

Representative to the BCA Access and Conservation Committee – Kay Easton

Representative to the BCA Youth and Development – David Botcherby

Representative to the BCA Training Committee – Position vacant

Representative to the BCA P&I Committee – Position vacant

#### 6) Covid-19

Submitted by Tim Allen:

This will be the first meeting since the pandemic hit home. Caving has been on hold for two months. By the time of the meeting, the slow process of opening up will be well underway, unless we are all locked down again. As Access Officer, I'm trying to take a lead on information and advice as it becomes available. The pandemic should be a point of discussion for the committee. I would like to hear their views and CNCC should know if there is anything else we can do for our clubs.

#### 7) The BCA

Submitted by Tim Allen:

Few will have failed to notice that the BCA is in turmoil again. The resignation of key volunteers including our own Matt and Gary is very concerning, especially given the events recounted in their resignation letters. There are a few good folk at BCA still fighting to drag the organisation into the 21st century but there are equally those who would like to keep it as ineffective and dysfunctional as possible so that the organisation has little effect on their own empires and the way they have always done things. For some years now there has been a battle between the modernisers and those who like it the way it was. This has meant that every step of forward progress is hard-won and takes the hell out of volunteers. For most, it is just not worth it. Consequently, there is a fine line as to whether BCA will ultimately fail. As a modern, transparent and forward-thinking organisation CNCC should consider the consequences of this. Would it be wise to make some contingencies in case BCA should fail or become so dysfunctional that we would no longer want to be associated with it?

#### 8) BCA's Judicial review against the Welsh Government

The BCA, through its Conservation and Access Committee, has been involved in a Judicial Review against the Welsh Government. This agenda item will provide an opportunity for the

committee to be updated on the progress of the action and any outcomes which may have been achieved, along with any implications on caving in our area.

#### 9) Promoting the CNCC to the public

Submitted by Tim Allen:

At the AGM we spoke of making various efforts to promote caving locally. Both by using promotional material such as photographs in key locations and taking some landowners caving. There will be other ideas too. I note CPC has agreed to collaborate on this with CNCC for the winch meet (2021 now most likely). I hope we are able to co-opt several people into a media/marketing working group. I know Andrew has asked both Matt and Jane to get involved with something like this. It would be good to hear the views of the committee and get the word out on this and if the volunteers are there can I suggest we propose support for such an initiative.

#### 10) Proposed format and funding framework for the provision of CNCC training workshops

Submitted by Ian Patrick. Please see the supplementary document posted alongside this agenda, with details for several potential workshops.

#### **Aims and Intent:**

- To enable the running of affordable, quality caver training workshops covering a wide range of subjects, run by knowledgeable trainers passing on consistent and sound practices.
- To offer a full range of workshops booked and paid online through the CNCC website.
- Training will be provided by members of the “CNCC caver training team”. This would be a small team of people who are suitably experienced (and qualified where required) to run the workshops. They would need to have professional indemnity insurance for the technical workshops.
- A suitable “Trainer fee” would be paid for running the workshop (Average £145.00 per day) with no further “expenses” paid. Participants would pay a fee to attend, the exact cost would depend on the workshop and how much the CNCC subsidises the training workshops. I would look to make the “entry level” workshops as affordable as possible for participants.
- I would like to offer the training workshops to ALL members of the BCA not just CNCC clubs.

#### **Proposals**

- I would like to request an initial training budget “Reservoir” of £2000.00 to be kept under constant review with regular updates to the committee. This amount to be kept in the CNCC bank account and paid out as required to venues and trainers etc, with the participants fees topping up the fund.

#### 11) Date and time of next meeting

Committee Meeting Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2020, Hellifield Village Institute, 09:30 am.

#### 12) Any other business?