

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

British Caving Association

Agenda for Committee Meeting 13th October 2018, Hellifield Village Institute, 9:30am

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

Reminder of action items from June meeting:

Individual(s)	Action item
Matt E.	Issue January meeting minutes as final. DONE
Matt E.	Table for discussion at October meeting the policy to follow over apparently defunct clubs and inactive clubs. DONE
Sam L.	Use contacts to achieve response from Swaledale as to its future CNCC involvement.
Andrew H.	Verify whether the training grant is being reduced to a maximum of £150/day, as this could impact the costs of future CNCC courses.
Alan J.	Follow up on getting details of Scottish caves to add to CNCC website (names, grid references, access details as a minimum).
All	Seek to get more people to engage with CNCC.
Matt E.	Talk further with donor of NECAFE; and explain that the anonymity and name are felt to be problematic. DONE. Matt E to provide verbal update at meeting regarding current situation.
Matt E.	Present copies of "Caves and Karst in the Northern Dales vol 2" to landowners for Jenga Pot and Excalibur Pot. PENDING.
Chris C/Tim A.	Liaise over presentation of copies of "Caves and Karst in the Northern Dales vol 2" to landowners in Wharfedale
Matt E.	Consulting Maz H. as necessary, provide Pete B. necessary information to pay for room hire and determine which cheques needed to be returned to participants entitled to free place on course.
Tim A.	Continue polite enquires of BCA as to those items for which CNCC can seek reimbursement. Tim A to provide verbal update at meeting of CNCC proposal put to BCA council meeting (one week before this CNCC meeting) and summary of any outcomes.
Andrew H./Simon W.	Liaise over removal of unnecessary anchors at low levels in Yordas Cave.

Kay E./Matt E.	Continue to liaise over GDPR requirements with respect to CNCC conservation volunteers.
Tim A.	Pass archived access material to Matt E. for sorting.

(4) Reports (will be made available approx one week before meeting)

- a. Chairman's report – Andrew Hinde
- b. Secretary's report – Matt Ewles
- c. Treasurer's report – Pete Bann
- d. Conservation Officer's report – Kay Easton
- e. Training Officer's report – Maz Holloway
- f. Access Officer's report – Tim Allen
- g. Other reports (optional): Webmaster/BCA rep/E&T rep/anchor coordinator
- h. Meets secretary and Online Booking System administrator reports (optional)

(5) Policy over defunct and inactive clubs

Based on discussions at the June meeting the following policy is suggested:

“The CNCC should periodically review its membership. This should involve individually contacting each full member club who have not participated for over five years, to enquire about their status and whether they wish to remain a member. Clubs which no longer exist, or which do not reply to efforts to contact them within six months, should be removed of their membership. Clubs which reply to confirm that they are still active may choose to discontinue their membership or request that membership is retained. All active clubs who express a desire to remain a member are entitled to do so regardless of their level of participation. However, as part of the dialogue, they should be sent information on ways to stay up to date with CNCC business (e.g. the newsletter and Facebook page) and encouraged to attend future meetings or provide feedback on agenda items.”

The following clubs were contacted earlier this year (early April). Based on the replies (or lack of them) the following actions will be taken if the above policy is agreed.

The following clubs did not reply:

Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team

CNCC Technical Group

North York Moors Caving Club (Still active but only as digging club; no interest in CNCC business)

Pendle Caving Club

Swaledale Outdoor Club

St Helens Caving Club (Emails bouncing and no alternative contact details)

Discontinue membership.

Pegasus Caving Club: Their Treasurer replied to confirm they were still active, requested that membership is retained. **Retain membership.**

Flat Learning Curve Pothole Club: Replied to confirm that their membership exists as a 'historical anomaly'. They are still an active club but have no intention to attend any future CNCC meetings. They requested that they are removed from our membership lists. **Discontinue membership.**

Lancashire Caving and Climbing Club: Confirmed that their club only ever really had a few active caving members, and caving activities have now ceased. The representative said he is now a member of RRCPC and is kept well informed by their representative. **Discontinue membership.**

Bolton Speleo Club: Their representative confirmed that they are still an active club with members living around the Ingleton area. They would like to remain a part of the CNCC. Their representative used to attend meetings but became disillusioned and struggled for time to continue. He said that he would try to attend future meetings. **Retain membership.**

Elysium Underground Group: Their representative confirmed that they are still active. Their usual representative has left the country, and they haven't had anyone who can make it to Hellifield. They aspire to remain involved but cannot make any commitment. **Retain membership.**

Morley Pothole Club: Said they would discuss their CNCC membership at their next meeting (end of April) but no reply received since. **Retain membership.**

Airedale Caving Club: Confirmed they are still active with several caving trips per year. They are still keen but could not make any promises to attend any future meetings. They confirmed that they are fully supporting of the CNCC and its aims, but understood the need to retain an active membership, so would understand if we needed to remove their membership. **Retain membership.**

(6) Metal steps installed in Kingsdale Master Cave

Some metal 'steps' have been installed in Kingsdale Master Cave by a well-meaning caver. All attendees are encouraged to review the UK Caving forum thread on this matter (Dales section, started July 23rd). This prompted several replies with various opinions about whether they should be removed. The CNCC Officers are aware that the installer would be glad to undertake work to remove these steps if this is the wish of the CNCC Committee. **Do we wish to issue such a request?**

Should the CNCC have an official 'line' on the installation of fixed aids (by others) in caves?

Obviously, we cannot directly install, fund or endorse use of fixed aids (other than anchors installed under the CNCC anchor scheme). However, this does not necessarily need to stop us issuing advice to those considering doing so off their own back or presenting some recommendations.

(7) Date and time of next meeting

Committee meeting Saturday 19th January 2019, Hellifield Village Institute, 9:30am

(8) Any other business?