



Council of Southern Caving Clubs

A constituent member of the British Caving Association
www.csccl.org.uk

Agenda for the General Meeting to be held on **2 August 2014** at the Hunters Lodge Inn, Priddy, commencing at 10.00am

1 Attendance sheet

2 Apologies for absence

Shropshire Scouts Caving Team Idris Williams (Chair)

3 Approval minutes of the previous minutes, AGM meeting 10 May 14.

4 Actions from the previous meetings

4.1 LW to write promotional text for CSCC

4.2 3.1 of previous minutes regarding the proposed landowner's access leaflet. CSCC concerns were conveyed to the BCA at last BCA meeting

5 Other matters arising from the previous minutes

6 Chairman's report

Kate Lawrence

7 Honorary secretary's report

Frank Tully

7.1 Report on Digfest (A report from a nominated person who attended)

7.2 Report on Wells Big Day Out (A report from a nominated person who attended)

8 Honorary treasurer's report

Dave Cooke

8.1 Signatories on bank account

9 Conservation & access officer's report

Les Williams

9.1 Gates on White Pit, Viaduct Sink, Compton Martin Ochre Mine, Axbridge Hill Cavern

9.2 Thrupe Lane Swallet update.

9.3 Sludge Pit entrance collapse update

9.4 Issues associated with Rhino Rift.

9.5 Windsor Hill Flood Sink update

10 Training officer's report

Alan Butcher

11 Equipment officer's report

Faye Litherland



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12 BCA rep report

James Begley

Crow Land

The issues associated with caving on CROW land was raised at the last BCA AGM. As part of this debate a number of individuals have consulted Dinah Rose QC Barrister who has extensive experience of dealing with access issues. We are expecting her opinion soon.

This opinion will generally have one of two outcomes.

- 1 Caving is not part of CROW, resulting with access arrangements continuing as they are now.
- 2 Caving is included in CROW and access to caves cannot be denied by landowners except on conservation grounds.

CROW and Mendip

CROW land affects approximately 150 caves on Mendip the most well-known of these are Upper Flood and St Cuthberts. Many of these caves are part of the Mendip SSSI and are likely to be protected on conservation grounds. It is therefore likely that the current access agreements will continue however some negotiation with Natural England may be required to get the SSSIs explicitly exempted from CROW.

Basically it is likely that the gates and leader systems will continue to operate on Mendip as they currently do.

This is unlikely to be the case in Yorkshire where few of the caves have been scheduled as SSSIs and may result in ending of the permit system on Leck and Casterton fells.

Please consult the DEFRA website for maps of CROW land

The CSCC opinion may be presented if we wish at the next BCA C&A meeting on 16th August.

If Dinah Rose's opinion is that caving is not part of CROW then no decision is required. However if she deems caving as being included within CROW access then we have three options:

- 1 BCA does nothing.
- 2 BCA endorses Diana Roses opinion
- 3 BCA rejects Diana Roses opinion

13 Webmasters report

Aubrey Newport

14 Regional registry officer's report

Alan Gray

15 Forthcoming events

- | | | |
|------|-----------------|--------------|
| 15.1 | September 13 | MCR Stomp |
| 15.2 | September 26-28 | Hidden Earth |

16 Any other business

17 Date of next meetings:

Saturday 8th November 2014 10:00 Hunters
Saturday 31st January 2015 10:00 Hunters
Saturday 9th May 2015 (AGM) 10:00 Hunters