

Treasurer's Report

The draft accounts for 2021 are available from the website. I would ask that the meeting accepts them subject to them being accepted by the independent examiner.

All previous BCA Claims are paid up to date. The forthcoming BCA claim for year 2021 will be £2350.90

The CSCC has been very active on the C&A front and this is reflected in a large expenditure – this is a good thing. I know there are significant expenses outstanding which will probably lead to cash flow problems. The BCA Regional Funding Document sets out a procedure, by way of a loan, to deal with this.

If it is expected that expenditure will continue at this rate the CSCC needs to increase its funds, currently approx. £6000, to avoid such cash flow issues in the future.

With the successful appointment of a new Treasurer the bank mandate will need to be updated:

It is proposed that the Treasurer, Chairman and Secretary, being Tom Harrison, Ed Waters and Frank Tully be the signatories, any 2 of 3 to sign, to the CSCC bank accounts as per the bank mandate and further that Tom Harrison be authorised to use online banking with the accounts. Proposed David Cooke, Seconded ?

Recently there has been some confusion about whether a particular item of expenditure had been approved by a previous meeting. Whilst I have been Treasurer the accepted practice has been to require any expenditure to be approved with a formal proposal, proposed and seconded and passed by the meeting. Mentioning an item in an officer's report, even if the report is approved by the meeting, is not sufficient to approve the expenditure. I recommend that this practice continues.

During the year the BCA has increasing the membership fee for CIMs from £17 to £20. How quickly the financial position has changed? It is sad to see the subs. increasing when recently BCA passed a motion to return a portion of its surplus to the members via reduced fees. In large part this is due to the ongoing CRoW court case which to date has cost £80,000.

I have mentioned in the past I've had some issues with the operation of the BCA Finance Committee. I've tried to deal with those issues in the Finance Committee rather than here. However the Finance Committee produce no Minutes (one of the issues) so this is my last chance to formally record a few items.

- I did not approve the 2020 DCUC claim because no accounts were presented.
- I did not approve part of the 2020 CCC claim because it was a charitable donation of £500 outside of the Regional Council claim mechanism and had not been approved by BCA Council.
- I did not approve the DCA 2020 claim because the accounts were not signed off by the independent examiner.

Despite this and without proper feedback to the Finance Committee all these claims were paid. Please note I'm not criticising the Regional Council Treasurers.

At the end of 2021 the CSCC membership stood at 41 members of which 40 were also BCA members.

Members: Avon Scouts Caving Team Axbridge Caving Group Bracknell & District Caving Club Bristol and District Caving Club, Bristol Exploration Club, Buckfastleigh Caving Club, Cavefest UK, Cerberus Spelaeological Society, Charterhouse Caving Company Ltd, Cheddar Caving Club, Combined Services Caving Association, Devon Spelaeological Society, Dudley Caving Club, Education in the Environment Caving Club, Exeter University Speleological Society, Frome Caving Group, Gagendor Caving Club, Gloucester Speleological Society, Gosport Speleological Club, Greater London South Caving Club, Hades Caving Club, Imperial College Caving Club, Kent University Caving Club, Mendip Caving Group, Mendip Nature Research Committee, Moles Caving Club, Newbury & District Caving Club, Oxford University Cave Club, Reading University Caving Club, Shepton Mallet Caving Club, Shropshire Scouts Caving Team,

Slough Mountaineering Group, Southampton University Caving Club, Southsea Spelaeological Society, University of Bristol Spelaeological Society, Wealden Cave & Mine Society, Wessex Cave Club, West Sussex Cave Club, White Rabbit Caving Club, Wimps and Y-Anchors Caving Club.

Of which new members: Cavefest UK, Gagendor Caving Club.

Ex Members: Brighton Explorers Club, Hampshire Scouts Caving Club, Swansea Speleo Society, University of Leeds Speleological Association.

There are two clubs who have indicated their wish to rejoin. This needs to be approved by the meeting: Kent Underground Research Group, South Bristol Speleological Society.

I've enjoyed my time CSCC Treasurer but it's now time for a new face.

May 2022
David Cooke

Webmaster's Report

In the past year I've updated, maintained and supported the various aspects of CSCC's IT. The webserver, website, access guide, calendar, email, mailing lists (Mailman, MailChimp), etc. I've also supported the Comms. Officer with various posts to the Website and Facebook.

Feeds of BCA News and Met Office Weather Warnings have been added to the front page of the website. These automatically update as the BCA and Met Office update their sites.

A tagging feature has been added to the news and event website pages. The tags are shown top right. By clicking on a tag all the related pages, past and present will be shown. For example clicking on 'Rhino Rift' currently brings up 6 news items.

I've trained our new Comms. Officer how to update the website. He has quickly got to grips with the technology and learnt how to post news items. That's great because items can be posted without delay since he's not reliant on the Webmaster finding the time.

The announce Mailman mailing list has been retired since it has been replaced by MailChimp. MailChimp is used for the Newsletter and public announcements. The Reps. and Officers Mailman mailing list remains as the primary way to contact the Reps and/or Officers. Any Rep. or Officer can post to this list, allowing messages to be distributed without delay.

The Diary now uses Google Calendar embedded in the page. The calendars are shared with the CSCC Officers so any officer can add or amend diary items at any time.

The general principle I aim to follow when developing the website is to enable updates to be done by others as well as the webmaster. Too many websites rely on just the webmaster for updates and then stagnate when the webmaster is overworked or loses enthusiasm. So for example I'm very pleased to have the Secretary posting the Minutes, the C&A Officer updating the Access Guide, the Comms. Officer posting news items and the Equipment Officer maintaining the anchor placement pages.

Any suggestions for improving the website or other aspects of IT are always welcome.

I'm happy to stand again for the role of Webmaster.

May 2022
David Cooke