



Council of Southern Caving Clubs

A constituent member of the British Caving Association

www.csccl.org.uk

Minutes of General Meeting – 19:00 Monday 13 Feb 2023

Zoom Meeting **Approved**

1 Attendance

Voting Attendees 9 Voting reps

Alan Dempster	AD	Avon Scouts	
Alan Gray	AG	ACG	
Aubrey Newport	AN	White Rabbit Caving Group	
Dave Cooke	DC	Cheddar	IT Officer
Dave King	DK	MNRC	
Frank Tully	FT	WCC	Secretary
Hayley Clarke	HC	MCG	
Judi Durber	JD	EECC	
Linda Wilson	LW	UBSS	BCA Rep

Non Voting Attendees (Observers)

Chris Binding	CB		
Ed Waters	EW	Observer	Chair
Graham Mullan	GM		CCC Ltd
Pete Hall	PH		Communications Officer
Tom Harrison	TH		Treasurer
Wayne Starsmore	WS		C&A

2 Apologies for Absence

Andrew Atkinson	AA	UBSS	Equipment
Barry Wilkinson	BW	White Rabbit	
Peter Burgess	PB	Wealden CMS	

3 Approval of minutes from GM 11 Nov 2022

Approval of minutes;

Proposal that the minutes are a true record. Proposed ACG, Seconded MCG, Vote passed Unanimous.

4 Chairman's report **Ed Waters**

Report to the meeting published in the CSCC newsletter, sent out 2 Feb 2023.

EW I have not received any interest regarding volunteers to take over the chairman's role, the deadline for nominations is approaching, 15 March. I hope we can have a volunteer before the deadline rather than pressing someone from the floor of the AGM.

I wrote an article last year to start people thinking about future access policy and looking at individual representation on CSCC. I have only received one message regarding this. I also planned to hold an Access and individual representation workshop, this had to be cancelled due to lack of interest.

I am still hoping to develop a policy document to look into future access policy and and better individual representation on CSCC council.



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It looks like we will need to do this over zoom, and it is likely to take more than one meeting. My intention is to develop a policy document which will be brought to the AGM, this can then be taken back to the clubs for discussion in the coming year. I plan to have the meeting in a month or so.

5 Secretary's report Frank Tully

Nothing significant to report.

5.1 New Members Tom Harrison

No new members presented to the meeting, BCA is still processing the new year renewals.

6 C&A Report Wayne Starsmore

Report to the meeting published in the newsletter.

I attended the BCA C&A working group and they have approved the funding for the Singing River Mine lid and work on the Swildons Changing Barn. These decisions still need to be ratified by the treasury working group.

Wookey Hole have now ratified the agreement, there are lots of trips into Wookey occurring.

The 5 Buddles Sink manhole has now ben un-jammed.

Longleat, I have sent them a letter and received no response so far.

To clarify. There is no access to the caves on Longleat land. CSCC no longer controls or police's access nor will CSCC be maintaining gates.

Swildon's, Sump 2-3 bolt has been backed up to the downstream bolt and is safe enough to wait for the

Singing River I have a quote for the lid, which has been approved by the BCA C&A committee, we are awaiting approval by the BCA Treasury committee.

EW Thank you for all the hard work and the report.

7 Treasurer Tom Harrison

The changing of the mandates is still ongoing.

I am hoping to get the accounts completed the end of this month.

I applied to the Mendip hills fund for monies to be put towards the Swildons changing barn refurbishment. We have been accepted with a grant of £2000 which should be in our account soon. There is not deadline to complete the work but they expect a report by 9 Feb 2024.

WS BCA have agreed to fund any shortfall.

8 Equipment Officer

Please accept my apologies, I'm skiing. We've had a report about the anchor in Read's that Dave Cooke & Dave King looked at and a question from John Cooper

Read's Cavern DC I had a look last week, the bolt in splash pot is loose but appears sound, but it is a single anchor, however there are naturals which can be used as a back-up. The existing bolt is not a CSCC fixed aid.



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EW It looks like this does not require urgent action, we'll discuss it further at the next meeting when AA is present.

Email from John Cooper,

Can consideration be given to placing P-hangers as follows~:

1 The top of Vicarage Pot. At present there is an old ring hanger set well back on the right as you look towards the pitch. For a lifeline it is possible to use a long sling over the choked boulders in the roof above the pitch but this is not ideal.

2 The top of North-West Stream Passage pot (can't remember what the existing set up is, nor the slippery traverse leading to the pot).

3 The top of the 11ft drop in Approach Passage. The present bolt is in the floor as you approach the drop. It would be much better with a P-hanger high up on the opposite wall.

Regarding fitting the new bolts in Swildons as suggested by John Cooper, Vote proposed Cheddar, Seconded MNRC, Vote passed unanimously. **The meeting instructs AA** to look into replacing these bolts.

CB Is the rusty drill bit in the bottom of Shatter pot still the unfixed aid for the climb?

EW It might be worth looking at the drill bit climb in shatter, although the drill bit is characterful, is the 50 year old drill bit still sound?

Action on AA to look at whilst he is looking at the other bolting projects in Swildons.

White Pit

WS Myself and Pete Hellier have completed removing and replacing the diggers bolts in White Pit.

9 Communications Officer **Pete Hall**

19:45

Report published in the newsletter.

PH Thank you to LW for getting the newsletter out last month, whilst I was on holiday.

10 Training Officer **Dave Keegan**

Nothing to report

11 BCA Rep **Linda Wilson**

See report in the newsletter

National caving politics is quiet.

BCA desperately needs a new treasurer, Howard is resigning at the next AGM and cannot stand again.



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EW **Action on the club Reps.** Could club reps please circulate this issue around their membership, BCA really needs a treasurer.

LW Insurance is going up and so BCA subs are likely to increase in the next few years.

LW The C&A working group has Richard Voot as the convener and is now regularly meeting, and feels much healthier.

12 Webmasters Report

See report in the newsletter

There is a new mailing list for the Wookey wardens.

Behind the scenes, it is a lot easier to post news on the website. Rather than multiple steps this is now mostly filling in a form now.

13 Forthcoming events

Sat 18 March MCR Quiz night – Hunters.

7-10 April Cave Fest is on Mendip

Hidden earth is happening this year but a date and venue has not been decided yet.

14 CSCC Officer proposals to stand at the AGM

EW I would like to have as many nominations before the deadline 15 March.

DC is happy to stand as Webmaster

FT is happy to stand a Secretary

LW is happy to stand as BCA Rep

TH is happy to stand as Treasurer

WS is happy as C&A

Proposal to accept the above nominations Proposed, AN (White Rabbit), Seconded ACG, Passed unanimous.

EW We need a new Chair, and Communications Officer.



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15 CSCC Significant dates

Note. This is a list of important dates around the current CSCC year, which runs AGM to AGM. The dates of the AGM, notifications and associated deadlines are defined in the constitution, this is a reminder. Dates of meetings are initially decided at the AGM however they can be changed. Please consult the latest copy of the minutes or the agenda on the website.

Please note Meetings have been spaced evenly throughout the year, following the AGM which is fixed in the constitution and is traditionally the second Saturday in May.

Monday 15 August 2022 19:00 GM Zoom

Friday 11 Nov 2022 19:00 GM Zoom

Wednesday 1 Feb 2023 23:59 Notification to members of upcoming AGM,
This is the notification.

Monday 13 Feb 2023 19:00 GM Zoom

Wednesday 15 March 2023 23:59 Deadline for AGM nominations

Friday 17 March 2023 19:00 Deadline for AGM constitutional amendments

Saturday 1 April 2023 23:59 Notification to members of AGM nominations

Friday 12 May 2023 19:00 AGM Zoom

16 AOB

None

Meeting duration 1h 50min

Corrections