



# Council of Southern Caving Clubs

A constituent member of the British Caving Association

[www.csccl.org.uk](http://www.csccl.org.uk)

## Minutes of General Meeting – 19:00 Monday 10 Feb 2025

### Zoom Meeting **Draft – 1 Mar 2025**

Please note, the meeting has been recorded for note taking purposes.

## 1 Attendance

### Voting Attendees

### 9 Voting reps

Adam Fletcher	AF	GSS	
Alan Grey	AG	ACG	
Andrea	AW	WCMS	
Dave King	DLK	MNRC	
Frank Tully	FT	WCC	Secretary
Judi Durber	JD	EECC	
Linda Wilson	LW	UBSS	BCA Rep
Olivia Dawson	OD	BEC	
Peter Burgess	PB	Wealden CMS	Communications
Tom Harrison	TH	MCG	Treasurer (Chair for Meeting)
Tony Radmall (Badger)	AR	WSCC	

### Non Voting Attendees (Observers)

Andrew Atkinson	AA		Equipment
Dave Keegan	DK		Training Officer
Graham Mullan	GM		CCC Ltd
Wayne Starsmore	WS	WCC	C&A

## 2 Apologies for Absence

David Cooke	DC	ChCC	Chair IT Officer
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## 3 Election of Chair

Election of Chair in Lieu of DC being on Expedition  
Tom Harrison is voted in as chair, passed Unanimous

JD Can we check that we re quorate,

FT A quorum is not required for general meetings, see the constitution section 5d, "A quorum for the Annual General Meeting and the Extraordinary General Meeting shall be twenty five percent of the paid up member clubs of the Council or eight members whichever is the lower."

## 4 Approval of minutes from GM 11 Nov 2024

Minutes not available for approval. To be approved at the next meeting.

### 4.1 Actions from the previous minutes

## 5 New Members Tom Harrison

TH We have one new club to consider for CSCC Affiliation – Plymouth University Adventure and Expeditions Club, they were voted in as BCA members June last year.

Vote passed Unanimous



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#### 6 Chair report

TH DC is not able to attend the meeting but he has send out a list of points which need to be discussed.

##### 6.1 CSCC Annual Event - Fundraiser

DK I am currently organising the event

The primary objective is to have an event to bring CSCC members together. A secondary objective will be to generate funds for CSCC and MCR, with a tertiary objective of visiting lesser visited caves and update MCRA.

The event will be called “Chase the Sun” and will be an unofficial competition where teams of cavers visit as many caves as possible in one day sunrise to sunset. Visiting cave entrances will also be recorded. A secondary effect will be that the lesser visited caves will be looked at and any issues can be raised. Whilst doing this we can take photos and produce descriptions for updating the MCRA website.

After this there will be a disco and BBQ at Priddy village hall.

Although this is obviously going to be Mendip centred we will allow any of the caves or mines in the CSCC area to be part of the competition.

**The date is Saturday 31 June 2025**, vote passed unanimous

##### Tasks we need to do

We need generate a list of caves and the suggested rules to apportion points.

We need organise the village hall

Attendees to Inform their clubs because the huts may be be busy

We need to organise the BBQ

We need to organise the disco – The BEC have volunteered to do this.

##### 6.2 Assistant Officers

Assistant officers would assist with the running of CSCC when officers are unavailable.

Ongoing

#### 7 Secretary's report **Frank Tully**

Nothing to report beyond what is in the Agenda.

##### 7.1 CSCC Emails

JD I am not getting any of the CSCC emails. AW also mentioned that she is not getting any CSCC emails.

TH We need to look at this when DC gets back, he controls the email systems.

AA There are two lists, CSCC member list, and the Officers list.

PB The Mail Chimp list is for sending out the newsletter.

**Action on FT to contact DC and find out what the issue is.**



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#### 7.2 Zoom Links for the meeting

LW can FT put the zoom meeting links on the website months in advance?

FT I can put the zoom links on the Agenda along with the email indicating that the agenda has been published on the website.

Action on FT to put zoom links on the Agenda's

#### 7.3 Officers and reports

JD If the news letter is now only going out after the meeting how so we get the officers reports? I need the officers reports to be sent out long before the meeting, this is putting CSCC in a very bad light.

FT The officers reports are published on the website prior to the meeting or if they are short on the CSCC email list.

### 8 Treasurer's report

Treasurer's Report

If all BCA clubs renew, we will have 40 CSCC affiliated clubs, 1 non BCA.

Nothing much to report, I'm currently working on the end of year accounts. Nearly complete. Core Claim will be £187 for this year.

Tom Harrison, CSCC Treasurer, Feb 2025

### 9 C&A Report Wayne Starsmore

See 'officer reports' published on website

Access requirements for caves are published on the CSCC website.

#### Additional to the report

Following the trespass fee for walking to Swildons hole increasing to £2,

- The trespass fee for Eastwater hole and North Hill Swallet have increased to £2.
- The trespass fee for walking to Sludge pit has increased to £2

WS I'll update the CSCC access guide.

#### 9.1 Swildons Barn

JD I was in the barn last week, the roof is leaking and there was a big puddle in the middle of the new floor. Is there any news on fixing the roof.

Since Robin Main passed there has been no news on the future of the farm or if the roof of the barn.



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#### 10 Equipment Officer

My report is mainly the request for the new anchors in Rhino and GB devils elbow.

The GB anchor on the ladder has been replaced, thanks for support from Robin Harris and Matty Dredge.

There has been some further improvement of the information on the website, thanks to Wayne for editing the bits I didn't have access to.

I notice that Wayne only sent this to the officers, shouldn't it go to everyone. I guess it use to go in the newsletter, but if the newsletter is coming out after the event, the information should probably go out another way!

Andrew Atkinson, CSCC Equipment officer

##### 10.1 Rhino Rift fourth pitch

rhino\_rift\_fourth\_pitch

[https://csccl.org.uk/wiki/equipment/rhino\\_rift\\_fourth\\_pitch](https://csccl.org.uk/wiki/equipment/rhino_rift_fourth_pitch)

AA The pitch is being used so installing anchors seems reasonable

New bolts accepted unanimous

##### 10.2 GB Devils Elbow route

Devil's Elbow route in GB

[https://csccl.org.uk/wiki/equipment/gb\\_devil\\_s\\_elbow](https://csccl.org.uk/wiki/equipment/gb_devil_s_elbow)

A thread in a stall is being used currently, this is wearing through.

New bolts accepted unanimous

#### 11 Communications Officer

I have little to feed back to this meeting. Producing the last newsletter was a much simpler task than for previous issues and I trust, despite the reservations of a few, the idea of a post-meeting publication is working.

Normally my posts to UKCaving are read by quite a few and result in no responses or comments. My post about Sludge Pit access issues did result in comments but I limited my response to referring readers to Wayne for any enquiries on access. It is not my intention to use UKCaving for any purpose other than posting notices and important new items. Any person wishing to discuss issues other than seeking clarification on what gets posted should engage directly with the relevant CSCC officer.

Peter Burgess, CSCC Communications Officer

#### 12 Training Officer

DK No training has taken place since the last meeting.

DK If people want training please let me know.



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#### 13 BCA Rep

Linda Wilson

The news regarding BCA is centred on Chris Bolton getting budgets sorted out.

We have proactive publications officer and this is moving forward.

We have a new Youth and development officer.

A lot of effort from BCA is going to be focused on bidding for the next international caving symposium after Brazil.

#### 14 Forthcoming events

31 May 2025	CSCC – Chase the Sun
27-29 June 2025	NAMHO North Wales
26-28 Sept 2025	Hidden Earth, Llangollen
Sat 11 Oct 2025	BCRA Cave Science Symposium, Bristol

#### 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.

Friday	10 May 2024	19:00	AGM	Zoom
Monday	19 August 2024	19:00	GM	Zoom
Monday	11 Nov 2024	19:00	GM	Zoom
Monday	03 Feb 2025	23:59	<b>Notification to of upcoming AGM, This is the notification for the AGM.</b>	
Monday	10 Feb 2025	19:00	GM	Zoom
Friday	14 March 2025	23:59	Deadline for AGM nominations	
Friday	14 March 2025	19:00	Deadline for AGM constitutional amendments	
Tuesday	1 April 2025	23:59	Notification to members of AGM nominations	
Friday	9 May 2025	19:00	AGM	Zoom



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#### 16 AOB

##### 16.1 Throup Lane Flood debris removal

DLK Throup Lane Swallet has filled with flood debris and will be cleared out in the near future, I will send out a request for help when we choose a date.

##### 16.2 CaveAndMineCleanUpUk

OD UKCaving is hosting the 'Cave and Mine Cleanup' project, the BEC committee felt that CSCC should be the driving force behind this in the South.

TH We only received the email a few days ago. We have not formed a view yet.

JD This appears to be a club based competition where groups clean up a cave, record it and then post it on the website, the clubs which do the most win prizes.

DLK This appears to be a separate scheme to the old BCA Adopt-A-Cave scheme which has been running for many years.

LW The BCA Adopt-A-Cave scheme has gone pretty quiet over the last few years and it feels like this may take its place. I am a little worried about the competition leading to people getting a little gung-ho about stall cleaning.

TH It should like a good thing if we assist.

WS The people organising this have a spreadsheet on their website which lists the majority of caves in the UK. Clubs taking part can express an interest in a cave and then clean it up. Mendip has a lot of caves listed.

We could probably do with producing some guidelines regarding what people should take on, clubs may need some advice before cleaning stalls and removing graffiti.

**Action on the officers bring some recommendations to the next meeting**

#### 17 Nominations for Officer posts at the upcoming AGM

Andrew Atkinson	Equipment and techniques
Dave Cooke	Chair
Frank Tully	Secretary
Linda Wilson	BCA Rep
Peter Burgess	Communications
Wayne Starsmore	Conservation & Access
Tom Harrison	Treasurer

Meeting duration 1h 5m