



Council of Southern Caving Clubs

A constituent member of the British Caving Association

www.csccl.org.uk

Minutes of Annual General Meeting – Friday 9 May 2025

Draft 27 May 2025

Recording of the meeting

The meeting is being recorded for the purpose of minute taking

1 Attendance

Voting Attendees

Adam Fletcher
Alan Dempster
Alan Gray
Andrea Roberts
Barry Wilkinson
Dave Cooke
Dave L King
Frank Tully
Graham Mullan
Judi Durber
Matty Dredge
Stewart Jelliss
Wayne Starsmore

12 Voting reps

GSS	
Avon Scouts	AD
Axbridge CG	AG
WCMS	AR
WRCG	BW
Cheddar CC	DC
MNRC	DK
WCC	FT
UBSS	GM
EECC	JD
MCG	MD
Hades	SJ
BEC	WS
	Chair/Webmaster
	Secretary
	CCC Ltd rep
	Assistant Equipment
	C&A

Non Voting Attendees (Observers)

Andrew Atkinson	UBSS	AA	Equipment
Aubrey Newport	WRCC Rep	AN	
Chris Binding		CB	
Dave Keegan		DaK	Training
Lawrence Wilson	Cheddar		
Linda Wilson	UBSS	LW	BCA Rep
Peter Burgess	Wealden CMS	PB	CSCC Comms
Tom Harrison	MCG	TH	Treasurer

2 Apologies for Absence

Ruth Revell	B&DCC
Matt Doolan	SMCC
Tony Radmall (Badger)	



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3 Approval of minutes

3.1 GM 13 Feb 2025

Minutes approved with correction of typos,
Vote passed Unanimous

3.2 GM 11 Nov 2024

Minutes approved,
Vote passed Unanimous

3.3 Matters Arising from the Minutes

None

4 Members and new members

The YSS (Yorkshire Speleological Society) and the Brighton Explorers Club, CUCC (Cambridge University Caving Club) have applied to become members.

Vote accept all three clubs into CSCC, vote passed Unanimously.

5 Chair's report

Report published on website, <https://csccl.org.uk/wiki/documents/start>

I would like to thank the officers who are doing a lot of good work.

5.1 Officer Shadowing

DC In the coming year I would like to push the 'Officer Shadowing'. The objective is not only to get overlap and continuity but also to get new blood into the CSCC committee.

Could all CSCC members ask their clubs for volunteers.

In addition, I am proposing that the assistants develop a report with the officer for each meeting

6 Treasurer

17m

Report published on website, <https://csccl.org.uk/wiki/documents/start>

Apologies, the draft accounts were completed in March but I did not forward them to Graham Mullan, the Scrutineer, so they have not yet been scrutinised.

The accounts will be scrutinised and presented to the next meeting for approval.

6.1 Anchors

AA Longwood valley sink is absorbing a lot of anchors at the moment, there is some confusion in BCA as to how these are paid for.

Action on Treasurer to find out how to pay for new anchors



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6.2 Mileage Expenses Rate

DC The BCA mileage expenses rate has changed to 0.45 p/mile recently, we claim our expenses from BCA. I propose that we change our rate to match BCA.

It is proposed that from the 1 Jan 2025 the CSCC mileage expenses rate shall be equal to the BCA mileage expenses rate, this will continue into the future.

Proposed DC, Seconded TH, Vote passed Nem Con.

7 Secretary's report FT

From the secretaries perspective the last year has been without incident, agendas and minutes have been produced and published on the website. Nothing much more interesting than this to report on.

Frank Tully Secretary CSCC

8 C&A Report

Report published on website, <https://csccl.org.uk/wiki/documents/start>

8.1 Thrupe Lane Boulder Stabilisation

WS I am planning to stabilise the large moving boulder in Thrupe lane,

I propose to a spend of up to £50 for sand, cement and other materials,

Vote to approve this expenditure passed Unanimous

The stabilisation will take place on 21 June 2025, I will need some volunteers to carry materials.

DK There have been a number of loose boulders in reported in various other areas of Thrupe Lane, this appears to be a result of the recent flooding. Please be careful.

8.2 Stoke Lane Slocker

Someone has attempted to block Stoke Lane Slocker. This boulder has been moved and the cave is still open. Stoke Lane Slocker is an SSSI and should not be interfered with.

9 Equipment and Techniques

Report published on website, <https://csccl.org.uk/wiki/documents/start>

I would like to thank Hayden Saunders and Matty Dredge for their assistance. As a result of this assistance, they are now trained to place anchors.

9.1 Anchors

I have placed a large numbers of anchors in Longwood Valley Sink & GB, I will be ordering some more. It is not clear what the process is for ordering and claiming for these.

FT The request for clarification was moved to the Treasurers report section of the minutes because realistically the BCA finance committee needs to sort this out.



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10 Communications Officer

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PB I will do my best to get a newsletter as soon as possible after this meeting.

11 Training Officer

Report published on website, <https://csccl.org.uk/wiki/documents/start>

11.1 Cave The Sun

DaK Currently no one has signed up for the daytime caving activities. And only five people have signed up for the evening. Potentially this is an issue with people using 'eventBrite'.

In addition there was a lot discussion regarding cave conversation and managing in advance which caves are visited so no one cave gets overloaded. Potentially this put people off.

It is clear that there is not much interest in doing the underground activities, **we will therefore not be doing the underground part of the event.**

Mendip Cave Rescue have offered to do a training session in the daytime and this will be going ahead.

LW I believe we could still do the daytime visiting and photographing of entrances, this would be really useful for the MCRA online database. Could we offer a prize for this?

There was general agreement that this will take place.

The evening festivities are going ahead with a hog roast, bar and disco. Thanks to Fay Litherland for offering to run the hog roast and Dave King for organising the bar. The entry fee for the evening event will be £5.

DaK I will send out a google docs invite after this meeting, this may work better than eventBrite. Please Respond.

DC Thanks Dave, you have done a huge amount of work pulling all this together, I'm sure it is appreciated. **We need another push from the clubs with advertising this event.**

DC To recap;

- We will not be running the daytime underground event
- We will be running the overground daytime event photographing entrances.
- Mendip Cave Rescue will be running a training session
- The evening hog roast, bar and disco will be taking place at the Priddy Village Hall, the entrance fee will be £5.
- All profits will be split between CSCC and Mendip Cave Rescue.



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12 BCA Representative

Report published on website, <https://csccl.org.uk/wiki/documents/start>

LW BCA is working well under its new executive.

13 IT Officer's Report

Webmasters report is in the newsletter. <https://csccl.org.uk/wiki/documents/start>

The main task for the next year is migrating the website away from the BCA server.

BCA have updated their online diary so we can integrate it with our online diary.

Vote to accept the officers reports

Vote passed Unanimous

14 Forthcoming events

31 May 2025	CSCC – Chase the Sun
21 June 2025	Thrupe Lane Swallet boulder stabilisation
27-29 June 2025	NAMHO North Wales
28 June 2025	Wessex Challenge, run by the BEC
26-28 Sept 2025	Hidden Earth, Llangollen
Sat 11 Oct 2025	BCRA Cave Science Symposium, Bristol

15 Amendment to CSCC Constitution or questions to the AGM

No amendments or questions to the AGM submitted.

16 Election of Officers

16.1 Posts with unopposed nominations

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



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16.2 Posts without nominations

Posts without nominations at the start of the meeting, these posts are open for nomination from the floor of the meeting.

Webmaster - IT Officer, Volunteer from the meeting Dave Cooke

Dave Cooke is proposed DK Seconded JD, Vote passed Unanimous

Training officer No Volunteers

Assistant Equipment and Techniques Volunteer Matty Dredge,

Matty Dredge proposed AA, Seconded GM, Vote passed Unanimous

16.3 Scrutineer for the accounts (Not an officer post)

To be elected from the floor.

Graham Mullan has put himself forward as scrutineer of the accounts

Vote to accept GM as Scrutineer, Proposed DC, Seconded Tom vote passed unanimously

17 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 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.

Proposed Future meeting Dates

Monday	18 August 2025	19:00	GM	Zoom
Monday	10 Nov 2025	19:00	GM	Zoom
Monday	02 Feb 2026	23:59	Notification to of AGM, <u>This is the notification.</u>	
Monday	9 Feb 2026	19:00	GM	Zoom
Friday	13 March 2026	23:59	Deadline for AGM nominations	
Friday	13 March 2026	19:00	Deadline for AGM constitutional amendments	
Tuesday	1 April 2026	23:59	Notification to members of AGM nominations	
Friday	8 May 2026	19:00	AGM	Zoom



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18 Any other Business

18.1 Cave & Mines Clean-up

This was discussed at the last meeting. It appears to be similar to the BCA adopt-a-cave scheme. There are prizes for cleaning caves and mines which would be good if it works.

LW It is odd that this is not being organised through BCA Council. It feels like a work in progress.

WS I do not have anything against this, although getting it to work will require a lot of additional work on behalf of the organisers, for example the list of Mendip caves contains lots of duplications however I do not have the time to correct this. If this does become popular I would be happy to write some guidelines, however I suggest we wait and see.

The general feeling of the meeting is that we wait and see.

18.2 Cave Conservation

FT I have been asked how would someone assist with cave conservation and if there is training available.

WS Best to get in touch with myself, Wayne Starsmore

18.3 MCRA Publications

AG In the last couple of weeks MCRA have produced two new volumes.

Mines and minerals Volume 3, this covers the Charterhouse area, the cost is £47 but as a niche publication at this price Peter Burr is still making a loss. P&P is £9, This will be on the MCRA website next week.

Accidents and incidents in Bath Stone Mines, Written by myself Allan Grey. 253 pages. This is a free download from the Mines and quarries section of the MCRA website.

Meeting duration 1h25

Corrections

JD Comments by email applied 13:44 10/5/2025

LW Comments by email applied 16:47 12/5/2025

Matt Doolan Comments by email applied 08:18 27/5/2025