Council of Southern Caving Clubs

A constituent member of the British Caving Association

www.cscc.org.uk

Minutes of General Meeting – 19:00 Monday 17 Aug 2026

Zoom Meeting 30 Oct 2026

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

1 Attendance

Voting Attendees 14 Voting reps

Judi Durber	JD	EECC	
Dave Cooke	DC	ChCC	Chair
Alan Dempster	AD	Avon Scouts	
Alan Grey	AG	ACG	
Andrea	AN	WCMS	
Andrew Atkinson	AA	UBSS	Equipment
Adam Fletcher	AF	GSS FODCCAG	
Joshitha Shivkumar	JS	UBSS	
Laura Benn	LB	BEC	
Matt Doolan	Mdo	SMCC	
Matty Dredge	MD	MCG	Deputy Equipment
Peter Burgess	PB	WCMS	Communications
Wayne Starsmore	WS	WCC	C&A
Ruth Revel	RR	BDCC	

Non Voting Attendees (Observers)

Frank Tully	FT	WCC	Secretary
Chris Binding	CB		Observer
Graham Mullan	GM	UBSS	CCC Ltd

Apologies for Absence

Dave King	DLK	MNRC	
Linda Wilson	LW	UBSS	BCA Rep
Tom Harrison	TH	MCG	Treasurer

2 Approval of minutes from AGM 8 May 2026

Approved without amendments

Approved Unanimous

2.1 Actions from the previous minutes

None

3 New Members Tom Harrison

DC TH has not notified me that there are any new members.

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4 Chair report Dave Cooke

Report is published on the website.

Shadow comms officer

DC Ruth Revel, is the new shadow comms officer.

UK Cave Conservation Emergency Fund (UKCCEF) Panel Membership

The panel members are elected every four years, the current panel member is Les Williams.

Les is willing to stand again,

Vote to approve Les Williams as the CSCC rep to UKCCEF

DC This group only meets sporadically, when there is a need. However they do not appear to communicate what they do very effectively. An example of what they do is they purchased Slaughter Stream Cave when the opportunity arose. My request is that when they are active Les give some feedback to CSCC.

5 Secretary's report Frank Tully

Nothing significant to report, its been very quiet since the last meeting.

6 Treasurer’s report Tom Harrison

Report is published on the website.

DC I have only recently seen the scrutinised accounts, I have noticed that there is an issue with the cups purchased for the Cave the Sun event, the event accounts should only show the cups which were used at the event. The unused cups which have been saved for use at future events should be itemised separately because it distorts the event costs.

DC I have also just noticed that Fay Litherland’s expenses have not been reimbursed for the event, these were approximately £300. This is a simple oversight but needs to be resolved.

DC I would like to make it clear that this is not a fault of Graham, he has based his audit on the information he had.

DC Because of these two deficiencies I proposed we defer approval to the following meeting.

6.1 Mileage rate

HMRC have updated their mileage rate from 45p per mile to 55p per mile, backdated to the start of the finical year.

DC Proposal that CSCC raises its mileage rate to 55p per mile, backdated to 6th April 2026, in line with the new HMRC rates.

Proposal passed Unanimous

7 C&A Report Wayne Starsmore

See 'officer reports' published on website.

Access to Harridge Woods caves is now completed. CSCC padlocks

Pressure washers are now cleaned and ready to go.

Wookey hole ropes and millions are now installed.

Reservoir now has a new route up into the high country.

Stock Hill Woods car park now has parking meters.

Cheddar Gorge parking is now managed by NCP

RR There has been some damage reported to the hanging gardens in Pierre's Hole

WS We really need a report on this for the news letter, this is not an easy place to find or get to.

RR I realise that Holme Close is not a CSCC controlled cave and the diggers control access. But could this information be added to the CSCC access website.

WS I shall look into this.

8 Training Officer

No officer in post

9 BCA Rep

DC See report published on website

Action on JD to write a short report on the BCA AGM for the newsletter.

2027 BCA AGM date is 13 June in English Bicknor village hall, Forrest of Dean.

10 IT officers Report

DC Report is on the website

The officials and the reps mailing list is now on the new CSCC server.

All that is left to do is move the CSCC email re-directs.

11 Equipment Officer

See report published on website

MD There was a training meeting with Forrest of Dean last month.

We have lots more anchors and resin.

Longwood Valley Sink bolting, this is ongoing with more to do.

GB cave, an worn anchor has been replaced on the ladder dig.

Thank to Holly London and Haydon Saunders.

12 Communications Officer

PB I have been publishing the zoom invite on UK Caving, If we are not going to do this any more we will need to send out the zoom invites to the mail chimp news letter.

DC If people are acting irresponsibly on YouTube videos we really should be commenting with a link to the BCA cave conservation guidance.

Would it be worth CSCC having their own YouTube account for making these comments?

PB Regarding sending out the zoom invites for the meetings, it is odd that this is the only group I am involved with where the meeting invites are not sent out by the secretary or the chair.

FT Post meeting Note The Secretary would send out the meeting zoom invites but he has never has functioning access to the mail chimp account.

13 Forthcoming events

13th Sept	International Day of Caves and Karst
13th Sept	GCRG Training day
25-27 Sept	Hidden Earth
10 October	SWERA Training Day – Livox
31 October	Jrat Digging Awards
14 Nov	MCR 90th Birthday Stomp at Priddy Village Hall
13 June 2027	BCA AGM - English Bicknor village hall, Forrest of Dean.

14 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	17 August 2026	19:00	GM	Zoom
Monday	16 Nov 2026	19:00	GM	Zoom
Monday	1 Feb 2027	23:59	Notification to of upcoming AGM,	
Monday	8 Feb 2027	19:00	GM	Zoom
Friday	12 March 2027	23:59	Deadline for AGM nominations	
Friday	13 March 2027	19:00	Deadline for AGM constitutional amendments	
Thursday	1 April 2027	23:59	Notification to members of AGM nominations	
Friday	7 May 2027	19:00	AGM	Zoom

15 AOB

None

Meeting duration 1h15min

Corrections