

# COUNCIL OF SOUTHERN CAVING CLUBS

A constituent member of the British Caving Association

**Agenda for the Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2007  
at the Hunters Lodge Inn, Priddy, commencing at 10:30**

(NB: this meeting has been rearranged from 5<sup>th</sup> May)

## 1. ATTENDANCE SHEET

## 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

As at 2<sup>nd</sup> May: Andrew Atkinson (UBSS, CSCC Bolting Coordinator), Toby Maddocks (BEC), Linda Wilson (UBSS)

## 3. APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

SCG

## 4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- That they be a true and accurate record.

## 5. ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

### September

Item 10.2 – CB/DC to put some photographs of the Star Shaft capping on the website. ?

Item 13.5 – LesW to deposit the replacement chain in Swildons as soon as possible. ?

### February

Item 3 – SK to respond to the KUCC. *Done.*

Item 8.3 – SK/AG to draft a paper on the issues surrounding Club regional affiliations. *Take under Item 16.*

Item 9 – CW to get the CSCC accounts scrutinised and approved before the AGM. *Take under Item 9.*

Item 13.2 – AA to furnish DC with a note about the Star Shaft bolts for the website. *Done.*

Item 13.2 – AA to explain why he intends to test the Star Shaft protection bolts to 10kN. *Done.*

### *Based on similar practice in the CNCC.*

Item 15 – CB/SMK to promote the University Club Event. *Done.*

Item 16 – SK to respond to the WCMS. *Done.*

Item 16 – WCMS to supply the C&A Officer with an itemised and supported claim. *Nothing received.*

Item 16 – CB to formally lodge WCMS claim with the BCA C&A Officer. *Unable to progress.*

## 6. OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

## 7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Alan Gray)

## 8. HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT (Steve King)

8.1 – Publications received.

8.2 – Correspondence.

8.3 – Membership.

## 9. HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT (Chris Whale)

9.1 – Financial Report..

9.2 – Set CSCC Direct Membership subscription for 2007/8 (was £15 in 2006/7).

## 10. CONSERVATION & ACCESS OFFICER'S REPORT (Chris Binding)

10.1 – C&A Report.

10.2 – Report on University Club Training Event (w/e 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> February 2007).

## 11. TRAINING OFFICER'S REPORT (Alan Butcher)

## 12. EQUIPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT (Les Williams)

## 13. BOLTING COORDINATOR'S REPORT (Andrew Atkinson)

13.1 – Comment on recent problems with Mendip Eco-Anchors (Steve King/Chris Binding).

*A member of the BCA Equipment & Techniques Committee had offered to attend the AGM to update Members on the investigation into the recent problems. However, a point has been reached in the investigation where the E&T Committee considered it more important that they*

*review and discuss the evidence gathered at the earliest possible opportunity. They will therefore actually meet at the same time as this AGM. This is why the CSCC Bolting Coordinator will not be present at the AGM.*

13.2 – Bolting Coordinators Report.

13.3 – Anchor placement proposals received for consideration:

Coral Cave – Entrance.

Manor Farm Swallet – 2<sup>nd</sup> pitch (September Rift) & 3<sup>rd</sup> pitch (Curtain Chamber).

## 14. WEBMASTER'S REPORT (Dave Cooke)

## 15. BCA MATTERS

16.1 - Feedback from the BCA AGM & Council Meeting, March 24<sup>th</sup> (Steve King/Dave Cooke/Les Williams).

## 16. MOTIONS

At its February Meeting the CSCC debated - but chose not to make a decision on - a proposal from Dave Cooke (Wessex CC) which called for the CSCC Secondary Membership subscription to be reduced from the present £3 to £0 in order to bring the CSCC in line with all the other Regional Councils. However concern was expressed at some of the possible consequences of doing this. The Chairman & Secretary agreed to go away and consider how the issue might be tackled and whether any Constitutional changes might be necessary to accommodate the proposal and/or protect the Council.

The following set of proposals, numbered 1 – 4, have been drafted with the aim of tightening the CSCC Constitution and preparing a 'framework' under which the intent of DC's original proposal can ultimately be accommodated (in Proposal 4b). Only Proposal 1 is a Constitutional change, the others are policy statements for adoption.

Proposal 5 is a separate Constitutional change being proposed to recognise the sad reality that it is increasingly difficult to fill posts on the Council from amongst the membership of the Member Clubs. This proposal would, for example, allow the Council to fill posts with CIC holders (who are typically BCA DIM's, not BCA CIM's).

### Proposal 1:

That the CSCC amend its Constitution as follows (changes in **bold type**):

a) renumber Rule 5 to Rule **5a**;

b) amend Rule 5a to read "*A club becomes a member club by signifying **to the Council** its wish to do so and by paying the **appropriate subscription for the membership sought***";

c) adding Rule **5b**: "***Membership shall be conditional on acceptance by the Council. The Council reserves the right to reject an application for membership or to expel a member club after due process.***"

Proposed by: Secretary.

*[The sole purpose of this proposal is to clarify the existing conditions of membership and to formalise the de facto conditions that the Council already presumes and which give it its autonomy within the national structure. The last part of Rule 5a makes provision for different types of CSCC membership, now or in the future, e.g. the Direct Members, without actually stipulating those types of membership.]*

### Proposal 2 (only if Proposal 1 is carried):

That, *en masse*, the CSCC recognise all those Clubs in Schedule 1 (attached) as having signified their wish to join the Council, and that it accept them into membership subject to their continuing to pay the appropriate annual subscription to the BCA or the CSCC, according to their type of membership.

Proposed by: Secretary.

*[The sole purpose of this proposal is simply to clarify that there is no need for all the 'regular and established' CSCC Member Clubs to write to the Council formally requesting membership in accordance with the new Rule 5a. But membership will be presumed to have lapsed where a Club does not pay its subscription.]*

### Proposal 3a:

That henceforth from the AGM, the right to a CSCC key will no longer be a benefit of membership of the Council for any new Member Club. Any Member Club shall instead be free to make a request to the Council for the right to hold a key. The Council shall be required to consider that request and to make a decision.

Proposed by: Secretary.

### Proposal 3b:

That henceforth from the AGM, and where determined by the Council, a CSCC key shall only be issued on receipt of a refundable deposit.

Proposed by: Secretary.

### Proposal 3c (only if Proposal 3b is carried):

That henceforth from the AGM, the amount of the refundable deposit for a CSCC key shall be £12.

Proposed by: Secretary.

*[The purpose of proposals 3a - 3c is to decouple CSCC membership and key ownership. This would allow the CSCC to expand its membership – for example by recognising all those Clubs that state 'CSCC' on their BCA renewal/membership form - without incurring exorbitant costs or risking cave conservation. The amount of the key deposit is calculated as the cost of replacing a padlock (£410 in 2006 divided by 50 locks/order), plus a nominal charge for cutting a key, plus a small allowance for inflation over the next 5 years.]*

**Proposal 4a (only if Proposal 1 is carried):**

That henceforth from the AGM, any BCA Member Club that stipulates the CSCC as one of its regional interests shall be known as an *Affiliate Member* of the CSCC. Affiliate Members shall have the right to attend CSCC Meetings and to be heard, but may not vote and will not have the power of veto that is invested in Member Clubs.

Proposed by: Secretary.

*[The purpose of this proposal is to automatically make any BCA Club that puts the CSCC down on its membership/renewal form an Affiliate Member, and that Club would remain as such until they specifically set about asking the CSCC if they can be a (full) Member (as detailed in Proposal 1).]*

**Proposal 4b (only if Proposal 4a is carried):**

That henceforth from the AGM, Secondary Membership of the CSCC shall no longer exist. All those Clubs previously subscribed in this category of membership shall automatically become full Members of the CSCC subject to their continuing to pay the appropriate annual subscription to the BCA.

Proposed by: Secretary.

*[There were 3 Secondary Members in 2006.]*

**Proposal 5:**

That the CSCC amend its Constitution as follows (changes in **bold** type):

Adding Rule **6c**: “*Where the Council cannot fill necessary offices with nominees of Member Clubs it may appoint individuals to serve. Such individuals will not be eligible to vote and will have no right of veto.*”

Proposed by: Secretary.

*[The sole purpose of this proposal is to give the Council some flexibility and to provide it with the option to use any voluntary effort that may be forthcoming, and which it sees as fit for purpose, in the execution of its mandate.]*

**Any amendments to these Proposals, or alternative or counter Proposals, should be made in writing (email acceptable) to the Secretary no later than May 12<sup>th</sup> 2007.**

**17. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2007/8**

Chairman - *AG: willing to serve again*  
Secretary - ***SK: standing down, vacancy***  
Treasurer - *CW: willing to serve again*  
C & A - ***CB: standing down, vacancy***  
Training - *AB: ?*  
Equipment - ***LW: standing down, vacancy***  
Bolting - *AA: willing to serve again*  
Webmaster - *DC: willing to serve again*  
BCA Rep - ***vacant***

**18. FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

BCA ‘Try Caving’ Weekend, May 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> 2007 - <http://www.trycaving.co.uk/>

BCA Council Meeting, June 9<sup>th</sup> 2007.

Bristol Open Doors Day, September 8<sup>th</sup> 2007 - <http://www.bristoldoorsopenday.org/>

BCA Council Meeting, October 13<sup>th</sup> 2007.

BCA Council Meeting, January 5<sup>th</sup> 2008.

BCA Annual General Meeting & Council Meeting, April 5<sup>th</sup> 2008.

**19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**20. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS:**

*Propose Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September or Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2007.*

*Remainder to be decided by the new Secretary.*

## Schedule 1 – (see AGM Item 16, Proposal 2)

List of 'Regular & Established' CSCC Member Clubs as of 31 December 2006.

Ashford Speleological Society  
Avon Scouts Caving Section  
Axbridge Caving Group  
Bracknell District Caving Club  
Bristol Exploration Club  
Cerberus Speleological Society  
Cheddar Caving Club  
Cotham Caving Group  
Cotham Speleological Society  
East Sussex Scouts Caving Team  
Education in the Environment Caving Club  
Essex County Scout Caving Team  
Exeter University Speleological Society  
Frome Caving Group  
Greater London South Caving Committee  
Hades Caving Club  
Hampshire Scouts Caving Club  
Hewlett Packard Caving Club  
*Kent University Caving Club* \*  
Mendip Caving Group  
Mendip Nature Research Committee  
Moles Caving Club (The)  
Shepton Mallet Caving Club  
South Bristol Speleological Society  
South Wales Caving Club  
Southsea Spelaeological Society  
Taunton Caving Club  
Toby Caving Club  
University of Bristol Spelæological Society  
Wealden Cave & Mine Society  
Wessex Cave Club  
Wimps and Y Anchors Caving Club (inc. ISG)  
Young Bristol

*\* membership confirmed by the CSCC on 03/02/07*

**This list is NOT the same as the current membership of the CSCC as at the date of the AGM. A list of current paid-up members will be available at the AGM.**