



# Council of Southern Caving Clubs

A constituent member of the British Caving Association  
www.csc.org.uk

## General Meeting 30.07.11, Hunters Lodge Inn, Priddy

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Graham Price (Chair/Cerberus Obs) GP	Alan Dempster (Avon Scouts Rep) AD
Hayley Clark (Secretary/MCG Obs) HC	Alan Butcher (SMCC Rep) AB
Alan Gray (ACG Rep) AG	Darrel Instrell (MNRC Rep) DI
Mark Williams (BCA Officer/MCG Rep MW)	Idris Williams (Shropshire Scouts)
David G Cooke (Webmaster/ChCC Rep) DGC	
Les Williams (C&A Officer/WCC Rep) LW	
Faye Litherland (Equipment Officer/BEC Rep) FL	
Aubrey Newport (WCC Obs) AN	
Dave Cundy (Treasurer/SBSS Rep) DC	
Chrissy Price (Cerberus Rep)	

### Meeting started at 10.04am.

#### 1) Minutes of the previous meeting (14.05.11)

Amend 2) 5.4 of previous minutes typo Block Hole Series should be Black Hole Series

Accepted as amended proposed FL seconded LW accepted nem com

#### 2) Actions from previous meeting: -

- Accounts taxed at source Take under item 6
- DC to put in claim to BCA treasurer for monies owed. Ongoing
- Update on various gates. Take under item 7

#### 3) Other Matters arising from the previous meeting

None

#### 4) Chairman's Report

**4.1** AONB unhappy about the parking at Reeds/Rods Pot. Reports that the track is sometimes blocked by cars and on occasion the farmer couldn't get through. However CSCC do not have control over who parks there as it is not just cavers but walkers too. The AONB were warned this would happen when the barriers were installed. Club Reps to ask their clubs members to park safely when using this track and not to block the access. GP to put note on CSCC website

**4.2** Mendip District Council is pushing for an extension to the existing AONB to cover land on Eastern Mendip and other areas. GP to report any future updates on this.



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## 5) Secretary's Report.

**5.1** HC sent Training Committee minutes to all Officers and AB for information and requested AB to provide summary, none received, HC to remind AB to action this. Post meeting note, HC received email from AB to say will do summary.

Although Officers had read Training Committee minutes due to no one present being experienced with the history of events, concerns were raised but further discussion to wait until summary received from AB. The main concern was over the changing of the structure, at the meeting it was proposed that CSCC view is that "Any changes to the structure and voting procedure of the Training Committee should occur in line with the BCA constitution and should not dilute the voting rights of amateur caving" Proposed DGC seconded MW

**5.2** Discussion of limit of indemnity of BCA public liability insurance, current limit is £2 million, which has been adequate; any increase to this would mean an increase for payment from each BCA member. The meeting concluded that it did not see a need for any increase at this time and that £2 million is still sufficient. There should be no increase unless absolutely necessary/ forced to do so by circumstances, why change if landowners are happy with the present situation. One off events such as Hidden Earth can pay extra to top up the level for the weekend if/when necessary

## 6) Treasurer's Report.

**6.1** 2009 accounts cannot be finalised until receiving one outstanding receipt from the Wealdon Mine Caving Group. DC to chase. Although 2010 accounts have been completed, they need to be held back until 2009 accounts have been completed. HC to put item on Agenda for next meeting to approve both 2009 and 2010 accounts.

**6.2** Need to close item on minutes for account taxed at source this may be looked at again when the interest rates go up in the future

**6.3** BCA raised their mileage rates. CSCC to pay mileage based on the BCA rate of 25p per mile. Proposed LW seconded DC. DGC to put mileage claim form on website.

## 7) Conservation & Access Officer's Report

**7.1** Of the various cave gates that need work doing, currently only the gate for Viaduct Sink is progressing. Once this has been done, LW will move on to Priddy Green Sink and White Pit. Compton Martin Ochre Mine is also still ongoing.

**7.2** LW spoke to Loxton Parish Clerk regarding the locks/keys for Loxton Caves, result is a CSCC key will be put back on the caves but Loxton Cavern will have a different key given to the leaders which will be via the Parish Council. LW should be notified of who the leaders are and if there are any changes. LW to speak to Chris Binding or the 2 Nicks to get confirmation of leader system/access.

**7.3** Loxton Cavern entrance is collapsing. Reports that someone has decided to dig in Loxton Cavern to provide underground connection, when this is done can fill and seal shaft so is no longer a problem. AG to contact the 2 Nicks to see if entrance is moving.

**7.4** Sign regarding CO2 is now installed at Cuckoo Cleaves. One of the posts in the fence is broken and needs replacing, people are climbing the fence rather than



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using the stile as the stile is blocked by a hawthorn bush. WCC to action the repair of the fence and removal of hawthorn bush.

**7.5** WCC have been approached by a company called AROP regarding caves on Portland, LW to contact them to find out more details, LW also to contact Weymouth Council to see if there are any planning applications to extend the quarry.

**7.6** CSCC handbook is out of date, last printed in 2002. It was decided that we should update and reprint it; this should be partly funded by the BCA. Discussions as to whether we should do an electronic versions only or electronic and paper, only FL was against hard copies. Conclusion was to do a PDF and print a small number of hard copies. DGC offered to collate the handbook and the access guide. The text in the book will need to be reviewed. DGC to email the original version to all Officers for feedback and comments. LW to provide list of updates and questions for DGC to sort out and amend in the book. LW to contact member clubs to ask for any updates on any changes that they might know about.

**7.7** Spider Hole is to be gated at landowners request and put on a CSCC key

**7.8** In Charterhouse, a vocal connection through the bypass to Frozen Cascade now possible. A date was set to dive the sump however had to be postponed as Diesel Duck was sumped.

**7.9** ACG has found the Lost Cave of Axbridge after 60 years of looking. Cave is currently locked with a private key by diggers until negotiations over access are complete. Many congratulations given to the diggers. AG asked for confirmation that the landowner would be protected under BCA insurance, the meeting confirmed this would be the case.

**Post meeting note, AG has spoken to the landowners (Mr and Mrs Scott who own the majority of the land on Axbridge Hill), the access agreement is that:**

**The caves must only be visited at weekends in the day, and before a visit the Scotts must be informed please telephone, before 7pm, Mrs. Scott, on 01934 733341. Mr Scott also agreed that a CSCC lock could be fitted but stated that if cavers break this agreement access may be denied. The CSCC lock has now been fitted and the caves in question are –**

**Axbridge Hill Cavern (formerly The Lost Cave of Axbridge)  
Triple-H Cave  
Large Chamber Cave  
Toad Pit  
Chard's Well  
Axbridge Ochre Cavern**

**7.10** National Trust now has a licence agreement with ACG for digging on Shute Shelve Hill

**7.11** Gate on back door of Box mines is currently in good order

**7.12** FL recently visited Box Mines and parked at the Quarryman as usual, despite letting the Landlady know of her intention to have a drink before and a drink/food



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after the caving trip, the Landlady does not want cavers parking in the pub car park even if they are going to eat/drink later as they are taking up space needed for other customers.

**7.13** HC received query regarding whether Axbridge Ochre Mine had been bolted yet, answer is no, FL suggested HC refer any further queries to her to answer.

**8) Training Officer's Report**

None received

**9) Equipment Officer's Report.**

**9.1** BCA IPTD V4 still not on the web for everyone to comment on

**9.2** GP bought box for drill, currently looking for box for spare batteries and bolting kit. New drill is good for bolting as is light weight

**10) BCA Rep's Report**

**10.0** Public liability and Training Committee Meeting minutes both of which have already been discussed

**11) Webmaster's Report**

Nothing to report

**12) Regional Registry Officers Report**

Nothing to report

**13) Forthcoming Events.**

**13.1** Hidden Earth Monmouth Sept 23-25 2011 (TBC)

**14) AOB**

FL raised the issue of highlighting what CSCC actually do as some people are not aware of what CSCC do/have done, FL offered to write promotional text for CSCC, taking each officers role and briefly what they do/have done. FL offered to use this in making a poster for Hidden Earth. FL to also speak to Chris Jewell to see if he would be willing to help put the poster together.

Next meeting 05 November 2011

Meeting Closed: 12:24