



Council of Southern Caving Clubs

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

Annual General Meeting 12.05.12 Hunters Lodge Inn, Priddy

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

Meeting started at 10.00am.

Meeting quorate with 10 member clubs represented

1) Minutes of the previous meeting (04.02.12)

Proposed AG seconded DI accepted nem com

2) Actions from previous meeting: -

30/07/11

7.6 Update to CSCC handbook LW and DGC **Ongoing**

14 FL to write promotional text for CSCC **Ongoing**

05/11/11

7.2 Cuckoo Cleaves status of fence repair **Done**

7.3 Update on Loxton Cavern **Take under item 7**

7.4 Update on situation regarding caves on Portland/with Ove Arup. LW to contact Weymouth and Portland Borough Council to let them know that CSCC need to be consulted on any applications for quarrying or that may affect caves. **Ongoing**

04/02/12

6.1 DC to contact BEC regarding £27 cheque **Done**

6.3 DC to submit request for refund from BCA for £2532.01 **Done**

6.4 DC to organise payment for conservation tape **Done**

6.5 DC to organise payment for works done to Brownes Folly **Done**

7.2 , LW and AG to look into cost and feasibility of using plastic rings to stabilise Loxton Cavern entrance **Take under item 7**

7.3 Update on repair/replacement of gates (Priddy Green Sink, Compton Martin Ochre Mine, Viaduct Sink, White Pit and Thrupe Lane). **Take under item 7**

7.4 Update on Rhino Rift **Take under item 7**

9.4 DI to look into training events in the next few months **Take under item 8**

10.3 Trained for anchor installation in our region. **Take under item 9**



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3) Other Matters arising from the previous meeting

None

4) Chairman's Report

4.1 Busy year for CSCC, with minerals consultation, parking issues at Blackdown (Rods), extending of AONB area and much more. GP thanked all Officers for their hard work over the last year

4.2 GP asked by diggers at Ham Hole to help get permission to dig, Savills who are acting as agents for landowners had asked for a risk assessment which the diggers couldn't provide. Issue resolved, don't need a risk assessment, now just sorting out final arrangements.

5) Secretary's Report.

As published with Agenda for meeting 12/05/12

5.1 Nothing much to report since last meeting, point 5.1 of previous minutes for HC to write to BCA in reply to letter regarding CSCC position on BCA representatives to say that there was no conflict was done. Also completed was (point 9.1 of previous minutes) the letter to BCA regarding the unconstitutional changes made by the Training Committee, this was written by AB but sent by HC as Secretary, this caused an initial flurry of emails but quickly quietened down.

5.2 HC thanked DC for providing a report to be sent out before the meeting as requested

6) Treasurer's Report.

As published with Agenda for meeting 12/05/12

6.1 The Council has seen significant expenditure this year, primarily on three projects:

Two hundred pounds was donated to the Charterhouse diggers to buy the materials used to create a bypass to the Frozen Cascade. This has now been completed.

Nearly four hundred pounds was spent on a new battery powered drill for placing bolts under the CSCC Bolting Scheme – this resolved an issue with the existing drill (whose ownership had become contentious). Cases and batteries have been bought in early 2012 to provide a fully autonomous drilling capability which should last some years.

Finally, around hundred and fifty pounds was spent on a weekend training course on the art of modern cave surveying equipment and techniques (courtesy of Wookey).

Les Williams also incurred minor expenses as Conservation and Access officer.

Total expenditure is more than last year but less than half that in 2009 when a major project was undertaken in Bedlam Bank. More information need on this project, DC to contact Peter Burgess and Chris Binding.

As a result of recent projects, CSCC funds had fallen below one thousand six hundred pounds by the end of 2011. Consequently, a refund from the BCA for 2009 has been applied for and a refund for 2010 and 2011 will be requested as



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soon as the accounts have been scrutinised. The total refund is expected to be two thousand seven hundred pounds.

6.2 Since report was submitted for AGM an email was received from Paul Ibbetson to transfer £754 into CSCC account from BCA, start of money owed.

6.3 BCA have said they are not going to fund the MCRA website hosting however it is actually hosted by BCA, DC to look into this further would be approx £50 a year

6.4 Conflicting information received regarding what expenses can be claimed for from BCA such as travel, ensure that projects such as Loxton Cavern and other C&A expenditure would be covered by BCA, DC to look into this and confirm what can and cannot be claimed for.

6.5 2011 accounts were circulated. AN has already scrutinised these accounts before the meeting, a couple of amendments suggested. £57 to be moved from core expenditure and to noncore expenditure, add wording "for the financial year of 2011 CSCC has 37 member clubs with one being a non-BCA member". With these amendments the 2011 accounts were proposed LW seconded MW and accepted nem com.

AN to email signed copy to HC to send out with minutes

6.6 AN proposed as scrutiniser for 2012 accounts by FL seconded LW

6.7 DC to look into claiming for mileage for the Officers to go to CSCC meetings, this may be something we should have been doing already. DC to create spreadsheet to record mileage.

7) **Conservation & Access Officer's Report**

7.1 Loxton Cavern, GP has been to site and shaft shows further signs of movement, GP thinks maybe bigger job than previously thought to repair/make the shaft safe and prevent it from collapsing. GP to come up with a plan of action to sort the situation, in the mean time something needs to be placed over the top of the shaft and surrounding area to prevent any accidents. The cave is closed until work can be carried out to secure the entrance. LW to put note on website.

Post meeting note LW, MW, HC, Ed Waters (MCG) and Frank Tully (WCC) went to site on the afternoon of Saturday 12 May and created a cover out of scaffolding and sheets of tin (scaffolding and clips kindly donated on a temporary basis by the MCG diggers)

7.2 Thrupe Lane Swallet gate has been measured by Phil Candy, approx costs for manufacture, fitting and galvanising is £300, many thanks to Phil for volunteering for this.

7.3 Viaduct Sink gate has been completed, just needs to be galvanised best to do it at the same time as the Thrupe Lane Swallet gate, HC to contact Biff Frith to sort out getting gate to Phil Candy

7.4 Compton Martin Ochre Mine, Priddy Green Sink, White Pit gates still ongoing, LW to contact Phil Candy and Dave Speed to get quotes for these, meeting decided to proceed with the cheapest quote proposed FL seconded DI

7.5 A hole keeps appearing just behind the pipe at the Priddy Green Sink entrance, AB has tried to fill it in with soil and rocks but these just keep falling in. LW to get



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someone to have a look from the inside to ascertain what is happening and what can be done to rectify it.

7.6 Box Mines gates have been damaged again, Darkplaces in process of mending them.

7.7 HC had received enquiry regarding access to Ridge Quarry at Corsham, situation is that there is no access and site is closed.

7.8 There have been issues again at Burrington with regards to the parking situation at Blackdown, one of the local residents has been threatening anyone who parks there. Please be aware and report any incidents of threatening behaviour

8) Training Officer's Report

8.1 DI has been looking into a dry stone walling training day. GP has a contact who is willing to do a weekend and combine with the Mendip Society. Meeting proposed date of weekend of 4th August to coincide with BEC summer BBQ, FL offered to advertise event on poster for the BBQ. GP to check date is ok with trainer.

8.2 Photography course for October no progress has been made on this yet, GP had emailed DI contacts for people who may be prepared to help run this. DI to make contact ASAP.

8.3 DI has been looking into training for the Cavers Fair in July, Andy Sparrow has provisionally agreed to run SRT training, details still to be finalised. DI to look at venue and organise training grant

9) Equipment Officer's Report.

9.1 E&T meeting on 17th March, further to CSCC clarifying in item 10.4 from the minutes 04/02/12 that the acceptance of the IPTD with regards to SRT competence is only applicable for placing anchors for SRT pitches only. Cambrian and Devon also said that this was the same for them, CNCC and DCA have opted out of the BCA IPTD scheme for now.

9.2 FL was delighted to inform the meeting that Mark Wright has agreed to do training in anchor placement on a weekend on Mendip, dates to be confirmed, the people who will be involved will be the ones demonstrated to under the CSCC anchor placement scheme. This training will be open to Devon and Cambrian volunteers as well. The meeting agreed this was great news and were pleased that progress was finally being made

10) BCA Rep's Report

10.1 HC to provide letter of authorisation for MW to be the official CSCC rep at the forthcoming BCA AGM

11) Webmaster's Report

Nothing to report

12) Regional Registry Officer's Report DGC

Nothing to report

13) Election of Officers for year 2012/2013

Chairman *GP*
Secretary *HC*
Treasurer *DC*



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C & A LW
Training DI
Equipment FL
BCA Rep MW
Webmaster DGC
Regional Registry Officer DGC

BEC proposed AB as Chairman but he declined.

Officers all taken on block, proposed AG seconded AD all accepted.

14) Forthcoming Events.

BCA AGM 09 June 2012
Technical Caving Symposium Priddy 9-10th June 2012
Cavers Fair 20-22 July 2012
Hidden Earth 21-23 Sept 2012

15) AOB

15.1 Cavers Fair, Priddy village hall has been booked, AB reminded the meeting that if anyone wanted to use the top green by the hall for any events they need to inform the Parish Council in writing. Friday night will see videos in the Hunters, Saturday lectures followed by the Wessex Challenge (this year hosted by the BEC) and a stomp in the evening MCR have been asked to do bar as usual. FL asked if the BEC could run the bar and food and provide music and then any profits go to the BEC. The meeting said that as MCR were already doing things it was too late but there was nothing the meeting could do to stop the BEC approaching the MCR and asking however LW wants to be kept informed of any changes. The Wessex Challenge will start and finish at the Belfry further details still to be confirmed.

15.2. Hidden Earth do we want a CSCC stand. Would be good to promote what we do. HC to email reps to see if anyone wants to help/get involved. FL volunteered to collate photos from previous events/activities that CSCC have done, FL to finish promotional text and if she receives enough photos/information from other people may create poster.

15.3 AN raised concerns about not getting money back from BCA before our funds run out. CSCC does not have huge amounts of money in reserve and not everything we do can be claimed back from BCA. Need to highlight to member clubs what is and is not claimable. Any ideas for fundraising or donations please contact DC. DC to go back through finances to work out how much the funds have been going down over the years and what percentage is not claimed back from BCA.

15.4 Earth Colours book will be ready sometime in the summer at a cost of £20

15.5 Mendip Underground will be ready by the end of the year

15) Dates for the next meetings

Saturday 28th July 2012
Saturday 03th November 2012



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Saturday 02th February 2013
Saturday 11th May 2013 (AGM)

Meeting Closed: 12:37