



# Council of Southern Caving Clubs

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

## General Meeting 03/08/13 Hunters Lodge Inn, Priddy

| PRESENT  | APOLOGIES   |
|--|---|
| Graham Price (Chair/Cerberus Rep) GP<br>Hayley Clark (Secretary/MCG Obs) HC<br>Alan Dempster (Avon Scouts Rep) AD<br>Mark Williams (BCA Officer/MCG Rep) MW<br>Aubrey Newport (WCC Rep) AN<br>Alan Butcher (SMCC Rep) AB<br>Geoff Dommett (BCG Rep) GD<br>Faye Litherland (Equipment Officer/BEC Rep)<br>Barry Wilkinson (WCC Obs) | Idris Williams (Shropshire Scouts Caving Team)<br>Ashford Speleological Society<br>David G Cooke (Webmaster/ ChCC Rep) DGC<br>Alan Gray (ACG Rep) AG<br>Dave Cundy (Treasurer/SBSS Rep) DC<br>Les Williams (C&A Officer/WCC Rep) LW |

**Meeting started at 10.05 am.**

**1) Minutes of the previous meeting (11/05/13)**

Amendments to the wording of 6.1, 7.1 and 11.1 proposed GD seconded MW accepted as amended

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

- Update to CSCC handbook LW and DGC **ongoing.**
- LW to write promotional text for CSCC **ongoing**
- Situation in Rhino Rift **ongoing do not go below top of third pitch.**

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

None

**4) Chairman's Report**

**4.1** Situation at Heale Farm Cave is still ongoing

**4.2** Loxton Cavern, still ongoing as waiting for approval from BCA for the expenditure. GP had been in contact with BCA Treasurer and had been promised a response before meeting but none had been received. GP/DC would continue to chase BCA for an answer.

**4.3** The works at Longwood Valley Sink will not require funding from CSCC as Cheddar caves have offered to contribute.

**4.4** At previous meeting concerns were raised about the rumours circulating over access to Reservoir Hole and other caves in the Gorge following the rescue. GP has discussed with Cheddar Caves and they are happy and excited over the discoveries/exploration happening there and don't envisage any change to the current access arrangements.



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## 5) **Secretary's Report.**

Nothing to report however secretary again voiced her disappointment in Officers not attending meetings when there are only 4 a year and also for not sending a report when unable to attend

## 6) **Treasurer's Report.**

6.1 Yearly subs received from Avon Constabulary

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

7.1 GD reported Sludge Pit opened on 1<sup>st</sup> July as of this meeting there had been 29 logged trips but only £21.14 in the tin, cavers must pay £1 per person per trip

7.2 No progress on any of the gates or Swildons Entrance or Priddy Green Sink Entrance. FL wanted to know why these had all taken so long particularly the gates, HC pointed out that a couple of gates were ready to be fitted and were just waiting for the right weather and volunteers to fit them. LW to report at next meeting

## 8) **Training Officer's Report**

Position still vacant, volunteer to take on the role still required please contact GP or HC for any further information

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

9.1 304/316 stainless further discussions have taken place as to whether 304 stainless can be used in caves, however further research needs to take place. Still waiting for the replacement anchors to arrive, FL to contact Nick Williams again and give him a deadline if by then we do not have any then FL to go ahead and buy them

9.2 Spider Hole has been re-bolted but no request has been received by CSCC therefore this cannot be covered by CSCC and no funding given

## 10) **BCA Rep's Report**

10.1 BCA draft report on commercial caving, this was discussed in some detail, it was agreed the document needs to be clear that there are different types of commercial caving and clearly differentiate between commercial caving for profit and commercial caving for safety and for training. It needs to be clear to both cavers and non-cavers. It needs to be worded carefully so it does not become a means by which landowners can deny access. There was agreement with and support for the comments made by the Charterhouse Caving Company. CSCC has concerns about it being published and turned into a leaflet and made available to landowners as it would raise awareness of commercial caving to landowners and potentially create access issues which currently do not exist. It was agreed that the document should not be published in any form and only be made available internally as information to aid C&A Officers or others when negotiating access.

## 11) **Webmaster's Report**

11.1 Nothing to report



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## 12) Regional Registry Officer's report

12.1 BCA'S Treasurer has agreed to pay for MCRA's webspace

## 13) AOB

13.1 Big Day out, held at Blue School sports centre in Wells to encourage people to get involved in more sports, Wessex Cave Club have been asked if they wish to help next year, they have asked if CSCC wish to take it on rather than just one club. This was agreed.

## DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Saturday 2nd November 2013

DRAFT