



# Council of Southern Caving Clubs

A constituent member of the British Caving Association

[www.csccl.org.uk](http://www.csccl.org.uk)

## Minutes of General Meeting - Saturday 24 Nov 2018

**Draft –Published 30 Jan 2019**

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### 1 Attendance

#### Voting Attendees

Alan Dempster	Avon Scouts	AD	
Alan Grey	ACG	AG	RRO
Dave Cooke	Cheddar	DC	Treasurer/Webmaster
Dave King	MNRC	DK	
Joe Duxbury	GSS	JD	
Les Williams	WCC	LW	C&A Officer
Tim Kent	West Sussex Scouts	TK	

#### Non Voting

Frank Tully	WCC	FT	Secretary
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### 2 Apologies for Absence

Alan Butcher	SMCC	AB	Chairman
Andrew Atkinson	UBSS	AA	Equipment officer
Barry Wilkinson	White Rabbit	BW	
Geoff Drommot	BCG	GD	
Graham Price	Cerberus SS	GP	Assistant C&A Officer

### 3 Approval of minutes from AGM 16th Sept 2017

Minutes approved.

Proposed AB, Seconded LW, Passed Unanimous

### 4 Chairman's report

**Alan Butcher**

Frank Tully acting as chair in Alan Butcher's absence.

The meeting thanks Rodger Dawes for opening up the back room when the secretary forgot to book it.

#### 4.1 Longleat Estates Update

No further progress, awaiting a response from our legal people. Caves continue to be accessible using the waiver system.

### 5 Honorary secretary's report

**Frank Tully**

### 6 Conservation & access officer's report

**Les Williams**

- 6.1 Stoke Lane Slocker Ongoing
- 6.2 Masbury Swallet Ongoing
- 6.3 Loxton Cavern Ongoing
- 6.4 Ubley Warren Ongoing
- 6.5 Viaduct Sink Gate has now been fitted, complete. Invoice for gate and materials outstanding.  
Note, shaft below the gate requires care, the old galvanized ladder should be treated as suspect.
- 6.6 Hunters Lodge Inn Sink – Stiff Lock & Bar to stand on Ongoing.
- 6.7 Cow Hole Landowner has changed do not visit Ongoing



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6.8 CSCC Locks Ongoing Take both old and new keys.

6.9 Les Williams

There is a consultation taking place regarding national parks and areas of outstanding natural beauty. The question being asked is regarding how the national parks and AONB's are servicing our needs as users. BCA C&A committees is putting together a response.

CSCC currently does not have any relationship with the managers of the Mendip Hills AONB, perhaps we should have as the representative of many people who regularly visit this area. In addition Bob Corns our contact with Natural England has just retired, we do not know if he is to be replaced.

Action on LW and GP, to make contact with our new Natural England representative and our AONB representative.

### **7 Honorary treasurer's report**

**Dave Cooke**

BCA has paid last year's claim of £87.

There is a proposal to BCA to change the way regional councils funding proposals are handled. DC to circulate the proposal to CSCC members.

One section of the proposal is to change the BCA policy section in which it supports its members and if that assists the wider caving community that is a benefit.

The proposal is that this will change so that BCA will support the whole caving community including non-members of BCA.

The CSCC meeting consensus is that BCA as a membership based organisation should support its members first and foremost, and if its actions support the wider caving community that is a benefit. That is to leave policy as it is.

There is also a motion to increase the mileage rate from 24p/mile. This rate has not changed in at least 10 years. A detailed discussion took place regarding BCA money flows. CSCC would be happy for this to be increased, BCA should support its volunteers, however we should be aware any significant increase in BCA costs will likely increase the subscription rate.

### **8 Acting Training officer's report**

**Alan Butcher**

Report by LW

A training event took place in Chamber 9 of Wookey hole, last weekend, this was run by BCA's training officer Nigel Atkinson and was well attended.

CSCC welcomes the training committee running this and future similar events.

### **9 Equipment officer's report**

**Andrew Atkinson**

No report presented



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### 10 BCA rep report

Nick Williams resigned as BCA secretary just before the last meeting due to ongoing health reasons. Robin Weare is acting secretary.

See the published minutes of the meeting for details.

#### Publications and Information Committee

There is a motion change the degree as to which BCA markets to its members and the wider world.

BCA currently has a policy of promoting caving and has a budget to do this. However as has already been demonstrated in the meeting its members do not always know what it does and why. By promoting itself more effectively thereby raising the profile of BCA and what it does for the caving community perhaps it would be easier to recruit higher caliber volunteers to run the organisation.

CSCC are happy for BCA council to make a judgement on this matter.

### 11 Webmasters report

**Dave Cooke**

The cave access section of the website is a small database; this is being transferred onto the website so that the conservation and access officer and assistants can edit the website as things change. It is nearly finished but nearing completion.

Graham Price the assistant access officer has been supplied with the passwords for the existing system.

### 12 Regional registry officer's report

**Alan Gray**

Dave Cooke – the Devon and Cornwall regional registry is up and running.

### 13 Upcoming events

- NAMHO June Cymystwyth Thursday 4th July until Monday 8th July
- BCRC Rescue Conference, 6-8<sup>th</sup> Sept 2019, Eastwater Farm

### 14 Date of next meetings:

- Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2019 (GM) 10:30 Hunters
- Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019 (AGM) 10:30 Hunters

### 15 Any other business

Dave Cooke is not intending to stand as treasurer next year. Could members have a think about standing for treasurer it isn't too onerous because CSCC doesn't spent that much money each year.

Meeting duration 1h30m