



# DERBYSHIRE CAVING ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting, 10am. 23rd. February 2019, Monyash Village Hall

## MINUTES

### Present: Clubs

Crewe C.P.C.  
Darkside C.M.C.  
Eldon P.C.  
Masson C.G.  
P.D.H.M.S.  
T.S.G.

Alan Brentnall [AB]  
Pete Knight [PK]  
Bob Dearman [BD], Nigel Atkins [NG]  
Mark Gration [MG], Christine Wilson [CW]  
Adam Russell [AR]  
Scott Bradley [SBr]  
Shirley Burtonshaw [SBu]  
Charlie Cooley [CC]  
Terry Jackson [TJ]  
Pete Mellors [PM]  
Jenny Potts [JP]  
Angus Sawyer [AS]  
Wayne Sheldon [WS]  
Phil Wolstenholme [PW],

### Individual Members

### Associate Members

### Observers/Guests

Martin Long [ML]  
Dominika Wroblewska [DW]

### 1. Chairman's Welcome: Introduction, quorum & procedures.

- 1.1 Welcome: WS welcomed those present.
- 1.2 Quorum & Procedures: OK with 6 Clubs and 8 Individual Members.

### 2. Apologies for absence.

- 2.1 **Apologies received from:** Mike Higgins (Newsletter Editor),  
David Wall, Karen Slatcher (Individual Members).

### 3. To Approve Minutes of the previous Council Meeting: (24 January 2018, previously circulated).

- 3.1 **That the Minutes of the AGM of 24 January 2018 be approved.**  
Prop. P.Knight, Sec. N.Atkins **Agreed**

### 4. Matters Arising Therefrom:

- 4.1 None.

### 5. Election of New Members

- 5.1 **Individual Member: Grace Chu.** Prop. P.Wolstenholme, Sec. A.Brentnall. **Agreed.**

### 6. To Approve the DCA Annual Report:

*(The report was tabled at the meeting together with a detailed breakdown of the accounts.)*

- 6.1 **Chairman.** *(Printed in the Annual Report.)*

**Approved.** N.Atkins, J.Potts. **Agreed.**

- 6.2 **Secretary and Membership Secretary** *(Printed in the Annual Report.)*

**Approved.** Mark Gration, J.Potts. **Agreed.**

- 6.3 **Treasurer.** *(Printed in the Annual Report.)*

a) CW confirmed that the Natural England income figure does not include N.E. payments made directly to providers.

**Approved.** P.Knight, B.Dearman. **Agreed.**

[PM arrived at 10:25.]

- 6.4 **Access Officer.** *(No report - although some items were included in the Conservation Officer's and Projects Officer's sections of the Annual Report.)*

**6.5 Conservation Officer** *(Printed in the Annual Report.)*

a) The Meeting congratulated PW and his TSG team for being awarded the Harold Sarjeant Conservation Award by P.D.M.H.S. for all the work on the Longcliffe Mine and the "Son of Longcliffe" mine above Castleton.

**Approved.** P.Wolstenholme, P.Knight. **Agreed.**

**6.6 Projects Officer.** *(Printed in the Annual Report.)*

**Approved.** J.Potts, C.Wilson. **Agreed.**

**6.7 Legal & Insurance Officer.** *(Printed in the Annual Report.)*

a) The Meeting presented PM with a bespoke card on his retirement, and proposed a vote of thanks for all his work for DCA and for caving over the past 45 years.

**Approved.** N.Atkins, M.Gration. **Agreed.**

**6.8 Equipment Officer.** *(Printed in the Annual Report.)*

**Approved.** J.Potts, P.Knight. **Agreed.**

**6.9 Cave Atmosphere Monitoring.** *(Printed in the Annual Report.)*

**Approved.** J.Potts, C.Wilson. **Agreed.**

**6.10 Cave Registry Secretary.** *(Printed in the Annual Report.)*

a) MG offered to assist with the microguides.

b) WS said the microguides should be published straight away, and amended later as necessary.

c) WS said that other microguides would be welcome

**Approved.** P.Knight, B.Dearman. **Agreed.**

**6.11 Training Officer.** *(Printed in the Annual Report.)*

a) In response to a previous criticism regarding payments, NA confirmed that all Training Officer work is voluntary, and nobody receives payment, except where it is necessary to hire a professional.

**Approved.** J.Potts, P.Mellors. **Agreed.**

**6.12 Newsletter Editor.** *(Printed in the Annual Report.)*

a) The Meeting proposed a vote of thanks for the excellent work done by Mike during his editorship.

**Approved.** J.Potts, P.Wolstenholme. **Agreed.**

**6.13 Publications & Sales Officer.** *(Printed in the Annual Report.)*

a) JP added that more copies of "Caves of the Peak District" had been sold since the Annual Report had gone to press, and there had also been sales of Masson Hill and Stoney Middleton Audits

**Approved.** N.Atkins, C.Wilson. **Agreed.**

**6.14 BCA Update.** *(Printed in the Annual Report.)*

a) JP reported various changes in the officers who make up the BCA Council, including the new Insurance Officer, Howard Jones.

b) Perkins Slade has been replaced by a new insurer. The limit on liability payments is still £5,000,000.

c) All BCA Council meeting minutes are available online.

**7. Election of Officers for 2019/20:**

*(There was no list of nominations received in advance of the meeting.)*

**7.1** CW said that she would be stepping down, and the meeting proposed a vote of thanks for all the work she has done for the association.

**7.2** Because of the lack of people standing for various posts, there was a discussion about how the responsibilities of the missing officers might be fulfilled. This mainly affected access and conservation, although we were also missing a secretary, and at one point a group dealing with access and conservation issues was considered, and Adam Russell (who arrived at the meeting at 11:50) agreed to be the UCF Convenor until somebody else was willing to do the job. Basically, the meeting agreed that unfulfilled duties caused by missing officers would need to be picked up by other members of the committee, depending upon availability. The results of the the election of officers are as follows.

<b>7.3 Chair:</b>	W.Sheldon	Prop. J.Potts, Sec. B.Dearman.	<b>Unanimous.</b>
<b>7.4 Vice-Chair:</b>	A.Brentnall	Prop. N.Atkins, Sec. M.Gration.	<b>Unanimous.</b>
<b>7.5 Secretary:</b>	W.Sheldon	Prop. N.Atkins, Sec. J.Potts	<b>Unanimous.</b>
<b>7.6 Treasurer:</b>	A.Sawyer	Prop. J.Potts, Sec. P.Knight.	<b>Unanimous.</b>
<b>7.7 Access Coordinator:</b>	N.Atkins	Prop. P.Knight, Sec. B.Dearman	<b>Unanimous.</b>
<b>7.8 Conservation Officer:</b>	None Duties to be taken on by other committee members. AR to act as UCF Convenor.		
<b>7.9 Access Coordinator:</b>	N.Atkins	Prop. P.Knight, Sec. B.Dearman.	<b>Unanimous.</b>
<b>7.10 Projects Officer:</b>	P.Knight	Prop. N.Atkins, Sec. B.Dearman.	<b>Unanimous.</b>
<b>7.11 Equipment Officer:</b>	B.Dearman	Prop. P.Mellors, Sec. N.Atkins	<b>Unanimous.</b>
<b>7.12 Training Officer:</b>	N.Atkins	Prop. J.Potts, Sec. P.Knight.	<b>Unanimous.</b>
<b>7.13 Newsletter Editor:</b>	Phil Wolstenholme	Prop. J.Potts, Sec. N.Atkins.	<b>Unanimous.</b>
<b>7.14 Minutes Secretary:</b>	A.Brentnall	Prop. J.Potts, Sec. P.Knight.	<b>Unanimous.</b>
<b>7.15 Membership Secretary:</b>	M.Higgins	Prop. N.Atkins, Sec. P.Knight.	<b>Unanimous.</b>
<b>7.16 Publications &amp; Sales:</b>	J.Potts	Prop. P.Mellors, Sec. P.Knight.	<b>Unanimous.</b>
<b>7.17 Asst Equipment Officer:</b>	S.Bradley	Prop. P.Knight, Sec.. N.Atkins.	<b>Unanimous.</b>
<b>7.18 Cave Atmosphere Officer:</b>	A.Brentnall	Prop. Mark Gration, Sec. N.Atkins.	<b>Unanimous.</b>

## 8. Appointments:

- 8.1 Three Ordinary Members to the Grants Panel of the DCA Cave Discovery Fund.**  
*(Current members are Dave Webb, Mike Higgins and Terry Jackson, who is standing down.)*  
**S.Bradley** agreed to take over from T.Jackson.

## 9. Appointment of Delegates / Representatives to BCA AGM and BCA Committees:

- 9.1 Delegates for the BCA AGM** on Sunday, 9 June 2019, venue confirmed as Horton in Ribblesdale.  
*(The BCA AGM agenda will be agreed at 13 April 2019 BCA Council Meeting at Alvechurch.)*  
**J.Potts** agreed to represent DCA at the BCA AGM, but intends to hand over this duty to somebody else next year.
- 9.2 BCA Council.**  
**J.Potts** agreed to represent DCA at BCA Council Meetings, but intends to hand over this duty to somebody else next year.
- 9.3 BCA Special Committees.**  
 (Appropriate DCA Officers normally attend the Special Committee Meetings: i.e. Conservation & Access, Training, Legal & Insurance, Equipment, Publications & Information)  
 DCA Officers to attend as required.

## 10. Appointment of Delegates / Representatives to Other Organisations:

- 10.1 DCA Underground Conservation Forum (Incorporating the SSSI Regional Liaison group)**  
**A.Russell** will act as convenor until an official DCA officer is found.
- 10.2 Peak Instructed Caving Affiliation**  
 Any DCA officer who is a member of PICA (and there are several) may fill this role.
- 10.3 UK Cave Conservation Emergency Fund**  
**W.Sheldon** Prop. J.Potts, Sec. N.Atkins

## 11. DCA Bank Account Issues:

- 11.1 Old Bank Account**  
 Although we have moved the official DCA account to Lloyds, the old account at RBS still exists with the old signatories mandated.  
**WS** proposed that **DCA transfer DCA funds from RBS to Lloyds and close the RBS account.** **Agreed.**
- 11.2 J.Potts to be removed as a signatory to the DCA account.**  
 Prop. A.Sawyer, Sec. M.Gration. **Agreed.**
- 11.3 New signatories**  
**P.Knight & A.Brentnall** Prop. A.Sawyer, Sec. N.Atkins. **Agreed.**

## 12. Date, Time and Venue of Meetings for the year:

- 12.1 2020 AGM.** Suggest Saturday, 22 February 2020; to be followed by a brief Council Meeting.
- 12.2 Council Meetings for 2019** 29 June 2019 and 9 November 2019. **Agreed.**

## 12. Any Other Accepted Business:

- 12.1** There will be a film show at the OCC hut on Saturday 30 March 2019 to show Andy and Antonia Freem's film about Water Icicle Close Cavern and its Cryogenic Cave Calcite (CCC).

The A.G.M. concluded at 12.30pm.

*A.Brentnall, Recorder*

**Appended to these Minutes and forming part of them is  
the DCA Annual Report for 2018, including  
the provisional DCA Annual Accounts for the Year Ending 31 December 2018.**

Draft