



DERBYSHIRE CAVING ASSOCIATION

Open Council Meeting, 28th. February 2015, Monyash Village Hall

Commenced at 12.15, after the 2015 AGM

MINUTES

Present:	Officers:	Vice Chairman	Terry Jackson [TJ]	(Ind.)
		Secretary	Jenny Potts [JP]	(Ind. & OCC)
		Treasurer	Wayne Sheldon [WS]	(Ind. & TSG)
		Legal & Insurance Off.	Pete Mellors [PM]	Ind. Hon. Member)
		Projects Officer	Pete Knight [PK]	(Ind. & DCMC)
		Newsletter Editor	Mike Higgins [MH]	(Ind.)
	Clubs:	Orpheus C.C.	Boyd Potts [BP]	
		PDMHS	Adam Russell [AR]	
		T.S.G.	Alan Brentnall [AB]	

1. Chairman’s Welcome:

TJ welcomed members to the Council Meeting.

2. Apologies for absence: Establish Quorum.

2.1 Apologies: Access Officer Ewan Cameron [EC], Equipment Officer Bob Dearman [BD], Training Officer Nigel Atkins [NA], Masson C. G., SUSS, Karen Slatcher, Chris Broome, Dave Wall.

2.2 Quorate: 6 officers present.

3. To Approve Minutes of the previous Council Meeting: (1 November 2014, previously circulated).

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting of 1 November be accepted as a correct record.

Prop. P.Knight, Sec. A.Russell. **Agreed unanimously.**

4. Matters Arising Therefrom:

4.1 **Arrange for DCA plaques to be fitted to shaft lids:** Nettle Pot done. PK will check with records whether any others need doing: Rowter?, Others to be considered where DCA has had major input. (Boulder Pot was done in 2012.)

ACTION: PK

4.2 **Review DCA Fixed Aids Policy:** Ongoing. Awaiting BCA policy approval.

ACTION: JP, BD

4.3 **Magpie Mine / River Lathkill proposal - keep watch on progress:** Not much has changed - see MM’s AGM report. Trust has been formed which will apply for Heritage Lottery Funding. AR comments that there are workings above present water level which will be affected if the proposed scheme goes through and they are included in the scheduling. An EIA will be needed before any work can begin. Noted that two of the weirs have now been bypassed by removal of sluice gates so natural river channel is being re-established. There are a number of conflicting interests. AR and MM are keeping an eye on things. MM considers they should restore natural flow up as far as Carter’s Mill but no further up the river. Continue to keep watch.

ACTION: MM

4.4 **Level behind Bateman’s Shaft - needs new access grill on shaft:** Done - see AGM report. P-bolts still required.

ACTION: JB

4.5 **Appoint new Trainer for bolt installers:** In hands of BD.

ACTION: BD

4.6 **Devonshire, agreed to defer securing door pending result of sale.** Devonshire land still on market, no sale as yet. Some fettling on the door bolt is required.

ACTION: AR

4.7 **Manifold bolts required:** MM to supply BD with list of requirements for bolts for Manifold. See AGM report.

ACTION: MM, BD

4.8 **Odin Mine, AR to check progress with N.T.:** Situation unchanged as waiting decision by Head Office of NT. AR will try to progress this and MM will contact Paul Mortimer again to express concern about length of time taken to deal with this.

ACTION: AR

4.9 **Castleton Moor Shaft lid fitting. Done.** See PK’s AGM report.

4.10 **Consent for work on EH sites - Fawcett Rake Shafts.** AR confirms consent needed. PK queries when we need to apply for consent for certain sites if we want to deal with them. AR explained the way this works.

ACTION: AR

4.11 **Access to Christmas Swallet & Snelslow Swallet; activity on site:** See AGM reports by EC, etc. and minutes.

ACTION: EC, PM

- 4.12 **Waterfall Hole Parking:** NT have not been able to establish ownership of the site. PM and PK have agreed to go ahead with working party for the site, fix a date and inform NT that DCA will be doing this. Noted there may be some expense for hardcore, etc. **ACTION: PM, PK**
- 4.13 **JH Leviathan Pitch.** Agreed re-bolt the alternative route with BP bolts. See BD's AGM report - will be done. **ACTION: BD, etc.**

5. **Matters of Immediate Import Arising from the 2015 AGM:**

- 5.1 **Projects Officer is prioritising works list.** PK went through list.
- 1st. Priority: **Carleswark, stabilising timbering** - support work done by others, rest of work is now in hand.
Waterfall Hole parking area - Have 2 potential dates, 11th or 16th March; PK already has a healthy supply of volunteers
- 2nd. Priority: **Oxlow Cap:** Replacement belay bar needs finishing and sheet steel top to be installed.
Streaks Pot Top Entrance: New shoring in passage needs doing.
Streaks Pot Lower Entrance: New lid required.
- 3rd. Priority: **Shafts on Oxlow/Maskhill land on Fawcett Rake** - would be good public relations to cap but needs EH permission. Need to enquire whether we would be allowed to fence - if so, go ahead.
Hungerhill shaft: Re-opening timbered entrance - road drainage has now been sorted but we now await a request from interested persons to work on the shaft and DCA may then be able support the work.
Eldon Hole: Stabilise way through to inner chamber.
JH Cartgate: Stabilise floor - lower priority but will need doing some time.

6. **Any Other Business**

- 6.1 **Chatsworth Licences:** PM will do Ashford BMM. Annual inspection needed for Garden Path and Lathkill Upper Entrance - BP will organise these before end of March - check lists exist. **ACTION: BP, PM**
- 6.2 **Eyam Dale House Cave:** Access arrangements need to change. JP had contacted Mark Noble to try find someone to deal with this and he had suggested there was someone who might do this. JP needs to follow this up. **ACTION: JP**
- 6.3 **Liability Booklet:** PM will deal with outlets, JP has spares for other requests.
- 6.4 **Long Rake Mine:** Access still banned.
- 6.5 **National Trust liaison:** MM reports she is now due for long service award for volunteering with NT etc.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 13.40.

J.E.Potts, Recorder