



# DERBYSHIRE CAVING ASSOCIATION

Open Council Meeting, 23rd. February 2019, Monyash Village Hall  
Started at 1:02 pm. after the 2019 AGM

## MINUTES

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Officers:</b>	Chairman	Wayne Sheldon (WS)
		Vice-Chairman	Alan Brentnall (AB)
		Acting Secretary	Wayne Sheldon (WS)
		Treasurer/Webmaster	Angus Sawyer (AS)
		Projects Officer	Pete Knight (PK)
		Equipment Officer	Bob Dearman (BD)
		Assistant Equipment	Scott Bradley (SB)
		Cave Registry Sec.	Phil Wolstenholme (PW)
		Newsletter Editor	Phil Wolstenholme (PW)
		<b>Club Represented:</b>	DCMC
Eldon P.C.	(Bob Dearman)		
Masson C.G.	(Mark Gratton)		
Crewe C.P.C.	(Alan Brentnall)		
T.S.G.	(Wayne Sheldon, Phil Wolstenholme)		
<b>Individual Members:</b>	Terry Jackson, Jenny Potts, Shirley Burtonshaw, Charley Cooley, Scott Bradley, (Alan Brentnall, Bob Dearman, Pete Knight, Pete Mellors, Angus Sawyer, Phil Wolstenholme.)		
<b>Guests / Observers</b>	Martin Long, Dominika Wroblewska, Christine Wilson		

### 1. Chairman's Welcome:

- 1.1 Welcomed members to the Council Meeting.

### 2. Apologies for absence: Establish Quorum.

- 2.1 Apologies received from: Mike Higgins; Training Officer & Access Coordinator, Nigel Atkins; David Wall; Karen Slatcher; Adam Russell.  
2.2 Quorum: Quorate with 6 officers present plus Chairman.

### 3. To Approve Minutes of the previous Council Meeting: (27 October 2018, previously circulated).

- 3.1 The first sentence of Minute 6.7.1 reads " PK confirmed that he will look after the drill new angle grinder, and that CW looks after the new angle grinder." and should read " PK confirmed that he will look after the new angle grinder, and that CW looks after the new angle grinder."  
3.2 That, subject to the correction in 3.1, the Minutes of the Council Meeting of 27 October 2018 be accepted as a correct record. Prop. J.Potts, Sec. S.Burtonshaw. **Agreed Unanimously.**

### 4. Matters Arising Therefrom: See Actions List below.

(Note that some of these issues may already have been dealt with in reports to the 2019 AGM.)

#### From Council 22-10-16

- 4.1 005 **UCF Report to be on Open section of website, Minutes on officers' section.** UCF minutes are in the Conservation Officer's report to Council, so we should refer to the DCA Council minutes on the website. Discharged.  
4.2 010 **Manifold bolts required.** 6 P-Bolts placed in Darfar + 4 deviations. Discharged.  
4.3 022 **Future of A.S.S.** Cave dismantled and useful parts kept. Discharged.  
4.4 25 **Investigate volunteer contribution charge.** Discharged  
4.5 27 **Scan surveys held by BCL and place on DCA website.** Ongoing. AS  
4.6 028 **Manifold entrance photos to be sought.** Discharged.  
4.7 032 **Scrub Scrin Shaft to be capped.** Item shelved. Discharged

#### From AGM 24-02-18

- 4.8 036 **Investigate possible DCA funding of Radon Dosimeters.** BCA are still dealing with this. On hold.

4.9	037	<b>Find new secretary for DCA.</b> Ongoing. To be replaced with a general advert. <b>From Council 24-02-18</b>	WS
4.10	038	<b>Install lid on Longcliffe Shaft and place any necessary bolts</b> Lid action discharged. Bolts to be complete by end of March.	BD
4.11	040	<b>Devonshire, tidy and install new shaft lid.</b> Discharged. <b>From Council 30-06-18</b>	AS, PK
4.12	042	<b>MH to scan earlier newsletters for website.</b> Ongoing.	MH
4.13	045	<b>Tackle bags to be brought for the use of bolt installers.</b> BD requires sizes. <b>From Council 27-10-18</b>	BD,PK
4.14	046	<b>Ashford Black Marble Mine Access.</b> New procedure in place. Discharged.	
4.15	047	<b>Lathkill Dale North Bank ownership.</b> Discharged.	
4.16	048	<b>DCA Store move.</b> To try Tony Marsden for a place at Hope Works.	WS, PK
4.17	049	<b>Hungerhill Swallet bolting.</b> AB to re-send topo to BD.	AB
4.18	050	<b>Income &amp; Expenditure Breakdown figures for training.</b> Discharged.	
4.19	051	<b>Registry &amp; website links to responsible caving advice.</b> Ongoing.	AS,PW
4.20	052	<b>Microguides Review.</b> To be published. Discharged.	
4.21	053	<b>Currently Unfilled Vacancies.</b> Ongoing, but new action.	WS
4.22	054	<b>Access Officer Issues.</b> Discharged.	
4.23	055	<b>Okeover and Chatsworth Estate Renewal Details.</b> Discharged.	
4.24	056	<b>Waterways Swallet Carpark hard standing.</b>	AB,SB

## 5. Matters of Immediate Import Arising from the 2019 AGM:

- 5.1 **DCA Projects Ltd.** PK described some of the issues facing volunteers who do project work for DCA including specialist kit, NE/DEFRA changes, proof of competence. These matters were discussed and PK agreed that he would investigate the possibility of setting up a limited company to address these issues **ACTION: PK/AS**
- 5.2 **Bolter Auto evaluation.** BD proposed that any bolter who has placed a bolt for DCA in the three years prior to re-evaluation should be automatically re-evaluated without assessment. Prop B.Dearman, Sec. J.Potts. **Agreed**
- 5.3 **Deviations.** BD proposed using the "Chinese" bolts, rather than P-bolts, for deviations. Prop B.Dearman, Sec. P.Knight. **Agreed**
- 5.4 Lathkillhead Cave Top Entrance. BD proposed replacing a piton used to deviate the second pitch with a "Chinese" bolt. Prop B.Dearman, Sec. J.Potts. **Agreed** **ACTION: BD**
- 5.5 **Masson Quarry.** CW has spoken to BMC and the Derbyshire Dales planning department, and the owner is not breaking planning regulations. She confirmed that the ownership has not changed, but there is a different company operating. Although cavers and climbers cannot expect ongoing access, there has been no case where any have been barred access, and the main issue is parking at Salters Lane (also parking spot for Jug Holes) which has on occasions impeded the quarry and farm vehicles. Alternative access to Great Masson Cavern could be gained by re-opening and capping Critchman's Shaft. It was decided that the letter to the owner or new company should be re-sent, in the hope of opening a dialogue about these issues. **ACTION: WS**
- 5.6 **Old Jant Mine.** This can no longer be accessed via Gentlewoman's Shaft, as this has been blocked. Gentlewoman's Shaft is not in the Masson SSSI, but can still be accessed via Youd's Level and via Day Shaft. If evidence of bat droppings were found, it may be possible to re-gain access via Gentlewoman's Shaft. Alternatively, DCA could contact the owner and offer to re-cap Gentlewoman's Shaft. **ACTION: WS**
- 5.7 **Long Rake Mine.** PW asked if there had been any changes in access for this mine as work in the nearby quarry had long since ceased. AB pointed out that DCRO now had improved capabilities for detecting and assessing carbon monoxide, and had found evidence of it in another mine near Elton. AB is to raise the issue at the next DCRO Committee Meeting with a view to making contact with the owner of Long Rake to assess the atmosphere within the mine. **ACTION AB**

## 6. Any Other Business

- 6.1 **Oxlow Cavern:** The bolt for the deviation on P3 (above East Chamber) to be replaced if it is a spit. **Agreed.** **ACTION BD**
- 6.2 **Giants Hole:** A request from PICA to bolt a Y-hang in a section of the cave below Garlands was discussed and turned down.