



DERBYSHIRE CAVING ASSOCIATION

Open Council Meeting, 01 June 2019, 10:05am, Monyash
Primitive Methodist Chapel

MINUTES

Present:	Officers:	Chairman / Secretary	Wayne Sheldon [WS]	
		Vice Chairman	Alan Brentnall [AB]	
		Treasurer	Angus Sawyer [AS]	
		Projects Officer	Pete Knight [PK]	
		Equipment Officer	Bob Dearman [BD]	
		Cave Registry / Newsletter	Phil Wolstenholme [PW]	
		Membership Secretary	Mike Higgins [MH]	
		Publication Sales/BCA Rep	Jenny Potts [JP]	
		Clubs:	DCMC	(Pete Knight)
			Crewe C.P.C.	(Alan Brentnall)
Eldon P.C.	(Bob Dearman)			
T.S.G.	(Phil Wolstenholme)			
Goodluck Mine Pr Soc	Steve Evans [SE]			
Individual Members:	Scott Bradley [SBr], Shirley Burtonshaw [SBu], (Alan Brentnall, Jenny Potts, Bob Dearman, Pete Knight, Phil Wolstenholme)			
	Guests/Observers	Martin Long, Steve Evans		

1. Chairman's Welcome:

Meeting began at 10:05am. WS welcomed those present and noted several apologies for absence.

2. Apologies for absence: Establish Quorum.

2.1 **Apologies received from:** Adam Russell, Charley Cooley, Shropshire Scout Caving Team, Masson Caving Group.

2.2 **Quorum:** Quorate with 7 officers present plus Chairman.

3. To Approve Minutes of the previous Council Meeting: (23 February 2019, previously circulated).

3.1 **That the Minutes of the Council Meeting of 23 February 2019 be approved.**

Prop. J.Potts, Sec. P.Knight **Agreed**

4. Matters Arising Therefrom: (Note that some of these issues may be dealt with in Officers' Reports.)

From Council 28-10-17

4.1 027 **Scan surveys held by BCL and place on DCA website.** Ongoing. **AS**

From AGM 23-02-18

4.2 036 **Investigate possible DCA funding of Radon Dosimeters.** BCA are still dealing with this. On hold. **PK**

From Council 23-02-18

4.3 038 **Longcliffe Bolts.** Discharged.

From Council 30-06-18

4.4 042 **MH to scan earlier newsletters for website.** Ongoing. **MH**

4.5 045 **Tackle bags for bolt installers.** Installers to choose sizes. Ongoing. **BD**

From Council 27-10-18

4.6 048 **DCA Store move.** Ongoing. **PK, WS**

4.7 049 **Hungerhill Swallet Topo.** Discharged.

4.8 051 **Registry & website links to responsible caving advice.** Ongoing. **AS, PW**

4.9 053 **Currently Unfilled Vacancies.** Ongoing. **WS**

4.10 056 **Waterways Swallet Carpark hard standing.** See report in Projects. Ongoing. **AB, SB**

From Council 23-02-19

4.11 057 **DCA Projects Ltd.** See 6.8.3 below. Discharged.

4.12 058 **Replace Lathkill head Upper Piton.** Ongoing. **BD**

4.13 059 **Great Masson.** Ongoing. No contact yet with owner. **PW, WS**

4.14 060 **Old Jant Mine.** Considering reopening shafts for access. Ongoing. **PW, WS**

4.15 061 **Long Rake Bradwell Moor.** Action taken up by DCRO. Discharged.

4.16 062 **Oxlow Cavern P3 Deviation.** Is already a P-bolt. Discharged.

5. Election of New Members

- 5.1 **Club Member:** Goodluck Mine preservation Society. (No Prop as BCA club already). **Agreed.**
- 5.2 **Individual Member:** Scott Bradley. Prop. J.Potts, Sec. P.Knight. **Agreed.**
- 5.3 **Individual member.** Martin Long. Prop. M.Higgins, Sec J.Potts. **Agreed.**

6. Officers' Reports.

- 6.1 **Chairman.** (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)
 - 6.1.1 **That the Chairman's Report be accepted.** Prop P.Knight, Sec. J.Potts. **Agreed**
- 6.2 **Secretary** (See report- written by W.Sheldon in the absence of a secretary - circulated prior to the meeting.)
 - 6.2.1 **That the Secretary's Report be accepted.** Prop. J.Potts, Sec. M.Higgins. **Agreed**
- 6.3 **Membership Secretary** (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)
 - 6.3.1 **That the Membership Secretary's Report be accepted.** Prop. J.Potts, Sec. P.Knight. **Agreed**
- 6.4 **Treasurer.** (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)
 - 6.4.1 **That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.** Prop. P.Wolstenholme, Sec. B.Dearman. **Agreed.**
- 6.5 **Conservation Officer.** (No report.)
- 6.6 **UCF Report.**
 - 6.6.1 PW reported that he would be meeting with National Trust (Paul Mortimer) on Tuesday 04/06/2019 to discuss future access to both Longcliffe venues and Odin Mine. **Action PW**
 - 6.6.2 **That the UCF Report be accepted.** Prop. M.Higgins, Sec. B.Dearman. **Agreed.**
- 6.7 **Access Officer.** (No report but see 6.8 Projects Officer's report.)
- 6.8 **Projects Officer.** (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)
 - 6.8.1 **Wardlow Sough:** PK stated that permissions and consents are currently being sought, and the aim is to follow up with the work during the summer.
 - 6.8.2 **Giants Hole:** PK to get permission from landowner for private property signs. **Action PK**
 - 6.8.3 **DCA Projects Ltd:** Too complex to be set up in the short term, so immediate issues such as Wardlow Sough will be dealt with in the traditional DCA way, leaving the setting up of a not-for-profit limited company for a future time when appropriate expertise is available.
 - 6.8.4 **Waterways Swallet Car Park:** SBr described a solution involving installing perforated piping and a soakaway. Allowing for the hire of a small digger, it should take less than a day and would cost less than £500. **Agreed go ahead. Action SBr**
 - 6.8.5 **Shackhole Scrin:** PW raised this after a discussion with Mr Hadfield of Rowter Farm. This is one of several mines which have opened up over the last few years, and some of these look very promising. PK asked the meeting if there would be any objection to capping these if Mr Hadfield asked, as the work could lead to access to new mine passage. **Agreed.**
 - 6.8.6 **That the Projects Officer's Report be accepted.** Prop. J.Potts Sec. P. Wolstenholme. **Agreed**
- 6.8.a **Equipment Officer.** (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)
 - 6.8.a.1 **Bolts for Snelslow:** These have been supplied and installed.
 - 6.8.a.2 **Hungerhill:** This is currently on hold because other jobs are using the equipment.
 - 6.8.a.3 **Topo Standardization:** BD stressed the need for standard symbols to indicate different types of bolt. For instance, it is proposed that Peco hangers are used for deviations or traverse-lines, where loads are generally lower, so as to maximize the number of P-bolts available for main belays. AS agreed to draw up a set of standards. **Action AS**
 - 6.8.a.4 **Bolters' Tackle Bags:** Installers to choose, based upon personal requirements. **Action Installers, BD**
 - 6.8.a.5 **Hydrajaws:** Bob to request funds from BCA for a Peli case to protect the Hydrajaws equipment, and also to check whether BCA fund the calibration of the Hydrajaws. Also, to check the possibility of using PK's rig for this. **Action BD**
 - 6.8.a.6 **Bolts & Resin:** More bolts and resin required - particularly a large amount (approximately 20) for the rest of Longcliffe. Nick Williams is willing to provide a central repository for bolts and resin. **Action BD**
 - 6.8.a.7 **Bolting manual & Database:** Electronic versions to be held on the database. **Action BD,AS**
 - 6.8.a.8 **That the Equipment Officer's Report be accepted.** Prop. M.Higgins, Sec. J.Potts. **Agreed.**

6.8.b DCA Cave Atmosphere Monitoring report. (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)

- 6.8.b.1 **Surface Readings:** JP questioned why surface readings were not always the same value. AB replied that, although the meter is zeroed on the surface prior to going underground (so that the unit is in fresh air) the first reading taken may, for all sorts of reasons, be slightly different.
- 6.8.b.2 **5-Gas Monitor:** Since the report was written, the 5-gas unit was lent to John Gunn to cover an operation introducing dye into Coalpit Rake No 10 at Sparrow Pit. Unfortunately, during this procedure, the operative took the monitor into the water, and it is currently defunct. Remedial actions are currently under way, and, if these fail, John has agreed to purchase another monitor (possibly a different brand, but with the same 5-gas functionality). AB to report back. **Action AB**
- 6.8.b.3 **That the Cave Atmosphere Monitoring Report be accepted.** Prop. J.Potts, Sec. P.Knight. **Agreed.**

6.9 Training Officer. (No report.)

6.10 Newsletter Editor. (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)

- 6.10.1 **Index:** This is still ongoing. **Action MH**
- 6.10.2 **That the Newsletter Editor's Report be accepted.** Prop. M.Higgins, Sec. P.Knight. **Agreed**

6.11 Cave Registry Secretary. (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)

- 6.11.1 **Cave Surveys:** These are currently being catalogued and will eventually all be scanned. At some stage these can be usefully added to the registry.
- 6.11.3 **That the Cave Registry Secretary's Report be accepted.** Prop. J.Potts, Sec. P.Knight. **Agreed.**

7.1 BCA Matters / Agenda Items

7.1 Report from BCA Council Meeting, Sat. 13 April 2019. (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)

- 7.1.1 There was a discussion regarding the lack of clarity on the protocol for proposals of motions for the BCA AGM. JP to suggest that there is an update to BCA's Manual of Operations.
- 7.1.2 A personal accident Insurance is proposed as a benefit of membership of the BCA. Council were generally in favor of this, but there was a question as to whether this might adversely affect members who already had such an insurance. Jenny is to try to get clarification.. **Action JP**
- 7.1.3 Regarding the banning of uner-18s from caves and caving activities, BCA have been given legal advice that there is no legal reason for such a ban based upon age.
- 7.1.4 Proposed new logos for BCA were discussed.
- 7.1.5 BCA Agenda Item 26.1, regarding a proposal to abolish the Publications & Information Committee was discussed at length. **That the council is in favor of abolishing the PIC and replacing it with a single executive officer.**
Prop. W.Sheldon **For 0, Against 8, Abstentions: 4. Defeated.**
- 7.1.6 The election of a Webmaster at the BCA AGM, rather than at the first Council Meeting following the AGM. This was also discussed at length, but this debate was not conclusive.
- 7.1.8 BCA Agenda Item 26.2, regarding replacing the two-house voting system with a new system based upon all individual BCA members having a vote was discussed and agreed.

8. Date & Venue for next Council Meeting

- 8.1 The date for the **Next Council Meeting** has been agreed as Saturday 16 November, 2019, in Monyash Village Hall at 10:00am.

9. Any Other Business

- 9.1 **Okeover Licence:** This will be sent to JP, who will arrange that it will be sent to AS in future. **Action JP**

There being no other business the meeting finished at 13:31

**A.Brentnall,
Recorder**

Appended to these Minutes and forming part of them are the following reports:

DCA Officer Reports, see section 6 above.