



# DERBYSHIRE CAVING ASSOCIATION

Open Council Meeting, 28 Sept 2020, 19:30, Online Meeting

## MINUTES

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Officers:</b>	Chair / Secretary / BCA Rep	Wayne Sheldon [WS]
		Vice Chair / Access Officer	Alan Brentnall [AB]
		Projects Officer	Pete Knight [PK]
		Equipment Officer	Scott Bradley [BD]
		Cave Registry / Newsletter	Phil Wolstenholme [PW]
		Membership Secretary	Mike Higgins [MH]
		Publication Sales	Jenny Potts [JP]
		Training Officer	Nigel Atkins (NA)
	<b>Clubs:</b>	DCMC	(Pete Knight)
		Crewe C.P.C.	(Alan Brentnall)
		T.S.G.	(Scott Bradley)
		Goodluck Mine Pr Soc	David Barrie [DB]
		PDHMS	Shirley Burtonshaw {SBu}
		Orpheus Caving Club	Karen Slatcher
	<b>Individual Members:</b>		Martin Long (ML)
			(Scott Bradley, Shirley Burtonshaw, Alan Brentnall, Jenny Potts, Pete Knight, Phil Wolstenholme, Karen Slatcher, Mike Higgins, Wayne Sheldon)
	<b>Guests/Observers:</b>		Victoria Kracher (VK), Alastair Gott (AG)

### 1. Chairman's Welcome:

Meeting began at 19.30 via Go to Meeting Platform. WS welcomed those present, thanked Tim Rivett who has allowed us to use his software. and noted several apologies for absence.

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

2.1 **Apologies received from:** Angus Sawyer, 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**

4.1 032 **Stub Scrin Shaft to be capped.** See 5.7.6 below. Discharged.

**From Council 30-06-18**

4.2 042 **MH to scan earlier newsletters for website.** See 5.7.2.b. Ongoing. **MH**

**From Council 27-10-18**

4.3 048 **DCA Store move.** See 7.6. Ongoing. **PK**

**From Council 23-02-19**

4.4 059 **Great Masson.** Ongoing. No contact yet with owner. **PW, WS**

4.5 060 **Old Jant Mine.** Considering reopening shafts for access. Ongoing. **PW, WS**

**From Council 16/11/19**

4.6 066 **Volunteer for Conservation Officer and Secretary.** See 6.1. Discharged.

New action number for secretary vacancy

**From Council 22-02-20**

4.7 071 **Scanning of surveys.** Jenny added that Shirley and Martin have done the survey logging. WS proposed a vote of thanks to both. Scanning will start as soon as WS has access back to his office. **WS**

4.8 072 **Shaft Equipment.** Shaft equipment has been purchased. Discharged.

4.9 073 **Caves of the Peak District.** See 7.3.a. Discharged.

4.10 074 **DCA Equipment Secure Storage.** See 7.7.a. Discharged.

4.11 075 **Eldon Hole Dig Site.** DCRO have agreed to do the lowering and hauling of

the Historical England Archaeologists. All volunteers will need to be members of the British Caving Association (BCA) for insurance purposes. Non members will need to become members by becoming temporary members of BCA. This will occur next year due to the current Covid19 situation and the limit on numbers gathering together. WS and John Gunn will sort.

4.12 076 **DCA Post Meeting Practical Section.** Due to Covid19 situation, its not possible to meet at the moment. Discharged

4.13 077 **Hidden Earth.** Its not happening this year due to Covid19. We will do this Next year. Discharged

4.14 078 **Rookery Mine Issue.** See 7.5. On-going, **AB, VK**

## 5. Election of New Members

5.1 **Individual Member:** Lisa Brunt, Prop, M.Higgins. Sec. P. Wolstenholme. **Agreed.**

5.2 **Individual Member:** Mark Brunt. Prop, M.Higgins. Sec. P. Wolstenholme. **Agreed.**

5.3 **Individual member.** Alastair Gott. Prop. M.Higgins, Sec P.Knight. **Agreed.**

6. Election of Acting Conservation Officer

6.1 Victoria Kocher. Prop. P.Knight. Sec. J.Potts. **Agreed.**

## 7. Officers' Reports.

7.1 **Chairman.** (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)

7.1.1 No additional comments were added.

7.2.a **Secretary** (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)

7.2.a.1 No additional comments were added.

7.2.b **Membership Secretary** (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)

7.2. No additional comments were added.

7.3.a **Treasurer / Webmaster.** (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)

7.3.a.1 WS added the Angus has done a very good job with the website, other officers agreed. I don't wat to go live with the website until I have added more surveys to it.

7.3.b **Publication Sales.** (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)

7.3.b.1. JP added that a further 6 copies have been sold to Starless River since the report been written.

7.3.b.2 JP confirmed that there are 500 approx. copies remaining of COPD and they are still in Bob Dearman's loft. He lives close to the library and can easily drop a box or two off with JP when required.

7.4. **Conservation Officer.** (Position vacant so no report.)

7.4.1. Adam Russell is arranging a Underground Conservation Forum meeting for the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020, using the Go to Meeting online platform. Invites should be following shortly.

7.5. **Access Officer.** (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)

7.5.1. Rookery Mine – VK advised that Bob Dearman has asked her partner to look at the gate on this mine. **Action.** VK

7.5.2. Holme Bank Chert Mine Quarry Entrance – We need an approx. cost before we can approach Chatsworth, to see if they are prepared to fund this work. PK to sort out a price.

**Action:** PK

7.5.3. Long Rake Mine. PW brought up the issue about this mine on Bradwell Moor and access to it. Access has been restricted by the landowner since the Carbon Monoxide issue many years ago. There was a discussion about the landowner been deceased, PW will look into this one. DCRO, Mick Earle was looking at this situation with a view to descending with gas monitoring equipment, on agreement with the landowner. PK agreed to bring this up with DCRO, Brendan Sloane and Peter Dell. **Action.** PK, PW

7.5.4. VK added that her business has gas monitoring equipment, and they are happy to lend it out.

7.6. **Projects Officer.** (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)

7.6.1. Intake Dale Head Mine. VK informed that the meeting that this will be capped very shortly by the EPC.

7.7.a. **Equipment Officer.** (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)

- 7.7.a.1. Odin Mine. Bolting is ongoing in this mine, just a couple of more days required. We need a few more bolters to help us.
- 7.7.a.2. PK has installed some anchors on Boney Pitch in P8.
- 7.7.a.3. James Blake (a young keen bolter) has been assessed on his bolting and is now part of the DCA Bolting team.

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

- 7.7.b.1. Readings have recently been taken down Knotlow Mine.
- 7.7.b.2. **5-Gas Monitor:** AB added that DCA's gas monitor will not calibrate, Pete Dell will keep trying. VK said that the company that she has purchased the gas monitor off, would look at DCA's monitor.  
Action: AB to speak to VK about this.

**7.8. Training Officer.** (See report circulated prior to the meeting.)

- 7.8.1. NA added that with various meeting with QMC, CIC Panel and weekend CHECH event, they have been looking at best practice. Best practice could be more than one way.

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

- 7.9.1. PW added that they have more content for the newsletter but not a full issue yet.

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

- 7.10.1. PW added that he is very impressed with the new Peak District Caving website and the cave registry.
- 7.10.2. The two-tier system that PW mentioned in his report was discussed. PK said that its important that every site is recorded but don't want to fill the website up, hence a system where sites may be hidden. Archaeological sites might not be shown but WS added that if a site isn't shown, you might find somebody sending you information on a site that is already listed, wasting there and your time in checking. This needs further discussion out of this meeting.  
If you are looking to separate out archeological sites, there is the **ARCAS** report that was done by Andrew Chamberlain that lists all the archeological sites. There is a copy in the BCA library.

**Action.** PW / WS / AS

- 7.11. **That all the reports to be accepted.** Prop. M. Higgins, Sec. P.Knight. **Agreed.**

**8.0 Report from BCA Council Meetings and BCA Agenda Items**

- 8.1. WS added that as his report says, the current BCA executive are doing a very good job in sorting out the issues, working groups are in place and hopefully the AGM will go well. NA added that it feels like a different animal now after years of arguments, new executive and new officers coming on board, it feels good. JP also nodded in agreement.
- 8.2. The AGM will be taking place on the Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 9.30am. If you a BCA individual member, you have a vote at the meeting. The details of the meeting can be found on the BCA website.

**9.0. Pre-submitted Questions from Attendees.**

- 9.1. No questions were submitted.

**10.0. Date & Venue for next Meetings**

- 10.1. The date for the **Next Officers Meeting** has been agreed for Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020 at 19.30, on the Go to Meeting online Platform.
- 10.2. The date of the **AGM** is set for Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 19.30, on the Go to Meeting online Platform.
- 10.3. We will decide on the dates of future council meetings at the AGM.

**11.0. Any Other Business**

- 11.1. Cascade Cavern – Natural England have been in touch regarding capping this shaft, it's been on the list for a while. PK asked if it was okay for him to spec the project up. **Action PK**
- 11.2. JP added that we urgently need a secretary as WS is really busy with work and caving related projects. PK will put something out on our Facebook page over the next few days. **Action. PK**
- 11.3. It was also suggested that the officers take turns in being the meeting recorder for our meetings.

There being no other business the meeting finished at 21.00

**W.Sheldon.**  
**Recorder**

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

DCA Officer Reports, see section 7 above.