

CRAVEN MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING 207

HELD THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT THE CAVENDISH ARMS, EMBSAY

The meeting was attended by Shirley Emptage (SE), Martin Heming (MH), Michael Faulkner (MF), Andy Hudson (AH), Fiona Burnett (FB), John Ward (JW) and Dick Winslow (DW).

1. Chairpersons welcome

SE opened the meeting at 7.00pm. She thanked the committee for all their hard work to date and reported that she had received good feedback from members.

2. Apologies for absence

Andy Barton (AB) and Vikki Bassek (VB).

3. Adoption of minutes of meeting 206 held on 31 July 2019

Proposed as correct by MF

Seconded by SE

No objections

4. Matters arising from the minutes of meeting 206

SE reported that Paul Fairburn had now found an alternative supplier for club clothing – Jaybee Supplies in Earby. As agreed at the previous meeting, he had gone ahead and arranged the set up of the design at a cost of £15 which is to be reimbursed to him. He had obtained a demo buff which the committee were happy with. It was agreed to go ahead as previously agreed to obtain a sweatshirt and fleece to demonstrate to members. It was felt that we should be able to sell these items on so there would be no loss to the club.

All other matters to be covered either by specific agenda points or within the committee members' reports.

5. Applications for membership

- Applications had been received from Roland Parker and Simon Concannon. Both were approved. MH to update BMC records.
- AB had informed the committee by email that Mike Hartley had just completed his third meet. As he is known to many of the committee, it was agreed to approve his membership subject to receipt of a completed application form and payment of subs.

6. Committee members reports

a. General Secretary

- No matters to report as other Secretary work is covered under specific agenda points.

b. Treasurer

- MF reported little activity on the account. It is a quiet time for the Treasurer. DW, MH & SE now have access to the online banking.
- At today's date there was £2,823 in the bank account.
- DW reported that there would be payments due for some huts, circa £500.

c. Communications

AH reported as follows:

- The issues with Jetpack which, amongst other functions, allows communications with Facebook, have now been resolved and the website is running smoothly;
- He now has a login for the website support company;
- AH to further investigate secure area on website for documents to be only accessible by General Secretary, New Members Secretary and Communications Secretary to share GDPR sensitive documents in accordance with proposed privacy notice.
- Next newsletter due to be out in the next week or so;
- October bulletin to be sent out shortly – this was generally felt to be a useful addition to the communications.

d. Walking meets

- FB had now organised meets up until the end of February – approximately 1 per month at the weekend and 1 per month midweek. She provided AH with details to update the website and newsletter;
- There was still very little support from members to lead walks so she would be leading most of the forthcoming meets;
- Walks to take place from huts would also be published separately so that they stand out as potential day events. Some new members were unaware that they could attend a hut meet for the day;
- There had been a complaint that the new members secretary (NMS) had given the telephone number of a meet coordinator to a prospective member without first seeking the permission of the coordinator. This goes against the club's privacy policy. In future, the NMS must seek specific permission before passing any members contact details to prospective members;
- SE suggested a WhatsApp group for walks for making last minute changes or arrangements as it was working so well for climbing. It was agreed that this would be trialled for full members only. Only FB would be able to add people. DW is also to consider WhatsApp groups for huts – initially on a hut by hut basis.

e. Climbing meets

- VB sent a message to SE to say that all had continued to run well albeit some recent climbing meets had been rained off and visits to climbing walls took place instead.

f. Hut meets

- DW had contacted the committee to say he may not be able to attend and attached a written report which is appended to these minutes;
- He was able to attend and went through the report and updated as follows:
- Shared meets with the FRCC are no longer possible as we are not a kindred club;
- DW to speak to Leeds MC about trialling a joint meet, initially for a weekend meet to see how it works;
- Numbers are still low for the Kintail meet in May 2020 and sole use cannot be guaranteed with the current numbers. Discussions took place about approaching Leeds MC to take on some of the places. It was felt at this stage that we should test the water with them with a weekend meet rather than a whole week. It was agreed that there would be further promotion of the meet within the club;
- Discussed whether we should have a meet between Easter and Kintail. Agreed to defer a decision on this until later in the year. With low attendance rates at the moment, it was felt that an additional meet at that time could dilute the interest in huts already booked.
- John Brayshaw (JB) had suggested that Helyg in the Ogwen Valley, North Wales, should be booked for a summer meet. As it belongs to the Climbers Club of which he is a member, he would be prepared to make the booking for us. DW to discuss with JB. Alternatives if this didn't take place were huts in the Lakes or even a camping meet. In any event DW felt that there should be a summer meet;

- May 2021 was discussed. Earlier thoughts had been to go to Rum, but it was felt that it is logistically difficult to get to for a club meet. By then it will be approximately 6 years since we have been to Skye. Skye is normally well attended and is one of the few hut meets that attracts climbers. DW to investigate booking.

g. Socials

- Photo competition as agreed at the last meeting to take place Thursday 23 January 2020 to allow time to promote it. JW to provide AH with details to include in the next newsletter;
- John Brayshaw had volunteered to do one of his music quizzes in December. Date agreed is Wednesday 4 December. Pie and peas supper to be provided. JB to give AH details for newsletter;
- A mountaineering and outdoors quiz was suggested for November;
- Other suggestions by SE were a talk by Gareth Jones – physiotherapist and researcher specialising in musculoskeletal injury management for sporting and non-sporting populations. Considered worth following up. Also, the possibility of going to mountaineering films such as ones being shown at Ilkley cinema and the Harrogate climbing wall. This latter suggestion was not particularly pursued due to the logistics of obtaining tickets on behalf of members.

h. New members

- AB provided a list of current prospective members with details of the stage that they were at including any meets attended. There appeared to be none that need notifying to the BMC at this stage;
- He reported by email that there are currently 18 on the list. It was noted this includes the 3 noted at agenda point 5;
- There had been some people on the list for some time. He has tried to make contact to no avail, and they have now been removed.

7. Program development

- Mainly covered in Secretaries' reports. A few gaps were filled.

8. Approval of policy documents

- Subject to some minor alterations to the draft documents sent to the committee with the agenda, the following documents were approved unanimously, and it was agreed that once the amendments were made, they should be emailed to AH to put on the website. MH to inform members by including in a secretary's report in the forthcoming newsletter:
 - i. Privacy notice;
 - ii. Guidance notes for walks co-ordinators and group members;
 - iii. Guests and BMC insurance;
 - iv. Dogs on meets.
- AH reminded the committee that the feedback section on the website (accessible only by the committee) included registration details of prospective members over a long period. It was agreed that these details should be removed once someone has formally applied for membership as the details will be on an application form held by the secretary. They should also be removed if someone is no longer a prospective member due to interest lapsing and taking matters no further. AH to bring the website up to date but in future the responsibility would lie with the new members secretary. SE to update the role description;
- MH presented a draft membership application to the meeting. Some amendments were made to the risk paragraph to include walking and biking as these had not been included in previous versions. The committee were all happy with the proposed new form subject to making this amendment and inserting links into the new policy documents. Once complete, MH to email a copy of the form to AB to be used for future applications.

9. Subscriptions for 2020

- MH reminded the committee of the BMC decision to increase their part of the subscription from £14.25 to £20.25 mainly due to a major insurance claim;
- A review of the 2018 accounts indicated that costs incurred by the club amounted to almost £10 per member but it was noted that this included a loss on the aborted Ceilidh and some substantial donations;
- It was considered that we should pass on the full BMC increase to members by increasing subscriptions from £20 to £26. The club should be able to operate within the £5.75 per member if there are no significant abnormal costs or donations;
- Agreed that MH should notify the members within his report for the newsletter and send out membership renewal forms mid-November.

10. Any Other Business

None

11. Date of next meeting

Thursday 28 November 2019 at 7.00pm at the Cavendish in Embsay. The main purposes will be to update the program and organise the AGM for 2020.

APPENDIX

Craven M.C. Hut Secs Report to Committee Meeting of 26 September 2019.

This report prepared 25 September in advance of the meeting due to a chance that I will be unable to attend the meeting.

The possibility of Shared Meets with other Clubs

This was raised at the last meeting and in various conversation since. Since the last meeting, it is now clear that joint meets with FRCC will not work.

It is understood that Leeds M.C. may be interested in some joint meets and I was intending to talk to the contact person at Leeds identified by Shirley. I have not yet done this. However, in the last few weeks there has been change in the situation with our own Hut Meets including which ones I would consider most suitable to share.

In particular, we now know that it would not be possible for another club to share the Crianlarich Meet as the other dormitory is already booked. The Kintail meet now looks almost certain not to be full enough with our members.

However, I think that the most likely occasion for a shared meet to work would be in one of the meets till to be booked. (e.g. Tranearth in June/July)

I am happy to arrange to meet Karl from Leeds M.C. but would like to know a bit more of the thoughts of how this could work to benefit both clubs. Assuming that Leeds would want to suggest some meets we need to think about how to create space in our meets programme.

Forthcoming CMC Meets2019

September Meet

The attempts to arrange a meet in September did not come to fruition. Although Shirley had kindly offered a meet to the Wooler area, there was insufficient interest expressed by members for this to occur.

October Meet

After it became clear that there was little or no chance of either enough members to attend or a single committed member to coordinate the meet to the Don Whillans Hut, this meet was cancelled at no cost and early enough to permit use of the hut by other BMC members.

I attempted to obtain a booking earlier in the month at another Derbyshire Hut on a date that I was available to coordinate the meet. This was attempted during "the summer holiday period" and due to Hut Wardens and I being away at different times. It was the end of August before I realised that this was not going to be possible.

After discussion with a small number of committee members, in early September, I booked 4 beds (but expandable) in Hudscals Barn near Hesketh Newmarket for the nights of 11 and 12 October. I have now sold all four of these beds to members (so we now have no financial risk from unsold beds), I have arranged another bed for a guest and can obtain more when any members indicate that they want to book. This barn is a bit more basic than we usually use but it has mattresses, a wood burning stove and a shower. (And a very good pub nearby.)

November Meet

Little Langdale Hut. (8 to 10 Nov) Bookings going slowly so far. Please consider booking and encouraging others to do so.

December Meet

Christmas Mut Meet at Stair (13 – 15 Dec) Bookings opened 2 days ago and 4 places booked. Get your booking in asap.

2020

Jan Meet Burns Night at the Smithy (17 – 19 Jan 2020) Bookings are not open yet. Note date brought forward by one week after a pleasant discussion with the new Gritstone contact

Feb Meet

Crianlarich Hut (28 Feb to 2 March)

I checked that we have an 8-place dormitory booked and deposit paid. The other 10 bedded room has been booked by another group.

I am happy to deal with bookings before the meet, but it is only 50/50 as to whether I can attend.

Is anyone else willing to be the meet coordinator for this weekend.

Note it is likely that anyone wanting additional nights in the hut will be able to arrange these nearer the time.

Easter Meet

I have booked one 4 bedded room through Booking. Com in Braemar YH which is cancellable at no cost. Single beds in dormitories are currently available either through Booking.com or through SYHA. In approx. terms all beds are about £25 per night but prices may alter for additional bookings.

It is my view that the best way to deal with this is to book additional places as and when required.

An expression of personal interest and/or any view on likely take up would be appreciated.

Late May Meet

Kintail Bunkhouse (23 – 30 May 2020)

We have booked 10 places with NTS and 10 individuals have booked a place with me. I had been hopeful that this would rise to at least 13 and that we might get the 15 people needed for exclusive use. This now appears unlikely as the three members mentioned in discussion as being possible/probably have now indicated that they are unlikely to attend.

It is possible that another group will make a booking of some or all the remaining 10 places in this bunkhouse.

POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL MEETS

The obvious dates when additional meets could be organised are

- 1) Between Easter and Spring Bank Holiday
- 2) In June
- 3) In July

The Locations that I have considered for Additional Meets include

- 1) Helyg CC Hut near Ogwen Valley N Wales Suggested by John Brayshaw (A CC member)
- 2) Any hut in N Wales that has access to good walking and climbing but where the gamble money/numbers is not too risky
- 3) Tranearth Hut (Coniston) No money at risk and plenty of availability.
- 4) A Camping Meet if there is space in the programme.

POSSIBLE WEEKLONG MEETS IN 2021

In recent years we have usually had a weeklong meet in May/June often in Scotland. We have the Kintail Meet booked for May 2020, but it is approaching the date when we could consider booking a week in May 2021.

It has been suggested that we consider going to the Isle of Rum. After considerable research into ferries and accommodation I think this is an exceptionally attractive location in good weather but a complicated location to organise.

Before coming to committee with a recommendation, I thought of several different alternatives including, Knoydart, Glen Affric, Glencoe/Glen Nevis etc. I will be happy with any of these or several other ideas.

However, I am aware that the club will not have been to Skye for at least 6 years by 2021. I am aware that whilst some climbing has been done on almost every long May meet only Skye ever seems to attract Climbers unless they are also interested in the walking.

It is my view that the club should seek to book the Glen Brittle Hut for a week in May 2021.