

Craven Mountaineering Club
Committee Meeting 222- Monday 04 April 2022 – Held on Zoom
MINUTES

Present:

Roy Bradley (RB, President), Steve Boy (SB, Vice president), Michael Faulkner (MF, Treasurer), Andy Barton (AB, Climbing meets sec and New Members sec), James Crawshaw (JC, Social sec), Jon Lury (JL, General Sec and Communication sec).

1. **Chairperson's welcome.** RB welcomed the new Committee members.
2. **Apologies for absence.**
Dick Winslow (Hut Meets sec)
3. **Adoption of minutes of meeting 221** held on 16th February 2022.
The minutes were proposed by AB, seconded by MF and approved by all committee members.
4. **Committee member updates:**
 - **Huts:** DW sent the following update by email:

Since 2021 we have have three meets programmed.

1. Smithy in January. - very successful meet for 6 people organised by Shirley. Unfortunately Shirley could not attend due to Covid.
2. Great Langdale in Feb - Pleasant meet in less than ideal weather organised mid week by Fiona.
3. Informal meet March - Members encouraged to visit MacIntyre Hut anytime. during my 2 weeks as warden. Conditions not ideal for climbing. Only John attended but we had 3 good mountain days.

Forthcoming Hut Meets Programmed.

- a) Newlands Valley Hut 22 - 24 April. Only small interest so far. Reminder posts made yesterday. Why not join us? Small loss possible. **No objections were raised by the committee.**
- b) Skye 7 -14 May. 15 places all booked, taken and paid for. No loss or gain. The option for up to 5 more people to book exists. **Post meeting note: The remaining 5 beds not taken by club members are now receiving bookings by non-club people. DW is liaising with the SMC booking secretary about this.**
- c) Plas y Brenin 1 to 4 July. Whole bunkhouse booked. Deposit paid 2 years ago. Balance to be paid in May. 2 years ago we had 12 people pay in full before we booked. These people have indicated to Kara that they still wish to attend. Kara remains happy to organise but suggests not taking any more members bookings (4 vacant beds) as Covid measure. Note this leaves a small loss to CMC that was accepted as reasonable 2 years ago. **The committee agreed to this.**

Possible future meets:

- d) We have a 2 year old booking for the large Starkey Hut in Patterdale for a December meet. In the past we would have filled most of 20 beds for a Christmas Meet. Potentially a large financial loss but I would like until June to gauge feeling of members. **The committee agreed to this.**
- e) I am happy with permission to organise up to 2 hut meets personally before December and I suggest that I am allowed to put up to £100 of CMC money at risk but to aim to break even. **The committee agreed to this.**
- f) I hope to organise at least one camping meet before November.
- g) I would like us to repeat to all members that they can put forward any ideas for meets that they would like to organise. On this matter do any of you have suggestions you would like to offer. **The committee did not raise any new hut meet suggestions. ACTION: JL to communicate to all members.**
- h) DW to contact the Karabiner MC regarding the key: (This hut is located in Snowdonia near Bethesda, not far from bus stop quarry. The CMC has not used it in the last 5 years, but the cost for the key is very minor and it might prove useful to CMC members in the future). **This was not discussed at the meeting. ACTION: All committee members to consider this in preparation for discussion at next meeting.**

- **Climbing:** Sec Andy Barton (AB)

- **Climbing Meet Report**

- a) Since the last committee meeting in February there have been official wall meets on Tuesdays at either Harrogate or Ingleton with details of time and venue being finalised on the CMC Climbing WhatsApp group. Showing has been poor with seldom more than two or three attending if at all.
- b) Occasional impromptu meets both at walls and outside have been organised between individual club members, often via the group WhatsApp.
- c) 26-03-2022 – Rylstone: Andy Hudson organised an official climbing meet on Sat 26th Mar. Six turned up including two prospective members where several of the classic routes were ticked.
- d) 29-03-2022 – Eastby: As far as I am aware, no one attended the first traditional Tuesday outside meet of the year at Eastby. This will have been in part due to poor weather.
- e) **ACTION: AB will add the next 2 months of climbing meets to the website and Facebook (FB) so they are visible to CMC members and the public.**
- f) AB to liaise with YMC to arrange for CMC members to be allowed join some YMC walking meets. **The committee agreed, as long as we did not “over-do” it and we need to offer the YMC to join some CMC meets in return. ACTION: AB to forward a list to the committee for consideration**

- **Walks:**

No Members volunteered to be Walks sec, therefore the role is empty. AB kindly gave updates on the open items from the previous committee meeting. Some other issues related to Walks meets are summarised in section 5:

- a) No official meets had recently taken place and there had been no volunteers to lead meets. Previously DW had suggested that we could have a regular slot for walking meets, possibly at three weekly intervals, with the details to be determined via the walking WhatsApp group. **This was not discussed at the meeting.**

- b) AB to liaise with YMC to arrange for CMC members to be allowed join some YMC walking meets. **The committee agreed, as long as we did not “over-do” it. ACTION: AB to forward a list to the committee for consideration**
 - c) **Walking Meet Report:** Since the last committee meeting in February there has been just one organised walking meet.
06-03-2022 - CMC & YMC walk: Six CMC members joined with ten YMC members for a beautiful day in The Dales taking in Bar'ouse and Hebden Ghyll, along the Wharfe and back to the Dev' in Grassington.
- **Social:** Sec James Crawshaw (JC):
 - a) JC proposed to hold occasional social pub nights approximately 2-monthly. **The committee agreed.**
 - b) JC asked JL what was the best method for communicating with the club membership? JL said that email was probably the most effective way of making sure you reach all members (take email addresses from the website and put addresses in BCC to maintain confidentiality. AB warned that this method often results in the emails getting trapped in spam folders, so it is better to use a mail merge (which effectively send a separate email to each member and therefore does not get caught in spam filter). **ACTION: JL to work out how to do mail merge.**
- **Treasury:** Sec Michael Faulkner (MF):
 - a) MF called for volunteers to be signatories to the bank account henceforward. Currently it is John B (who is no longer on the committee), DW and MF. **JL and SB volunteered to replace JohnB as signatory, to give a total of 4 “active” signatories. ACTION: MF to follow up with JL and SB to set them up as bank account signatories.**
 - b) MF clarified that the Deficit referred to in the AGM minutes is not a problem, it just means that we made a slight loss in 2021. But the CMC bank account is still in surplus by approx. £2000, despite low income, making donations of £300 and paying for some IT services (Zoom and website fees). So we are covering the ongoing costs OK.
- **Communications:** Sec Jon Lury (JL) (Note that Andy Hudson still manages the website):
 - a) The committee discussed whether a Zoom subscription (pro plan is approx. £14 a month) was necessary for normal committee meetings. All agreed that 1) a subscription was necessary to hold AGMs on Zoom in order to hold online votes and not have to stop and rejoin the AGM every 40 minutes; 2) a subscription is not needed for the routine committee meetings with only ~7 attendees. **ACTION: Jon to let the Zoom subscription end in mid-April 2022 until it is needed again.**
 - b) The App “doodle” is very useful for getting Committee members’ availability in order to schedule the next committee meeting. **Post-meeting note: Doodle is free for 14 days but then costs approx. £7/month. ACTION: All committee members to consider whether it is worth subscribing. Another solution could be for a different committee member to take up the 14 day free trial every 2-3 months when another committee meeting is required. A decision will be made at the next meeting.**
 - c) SB is thinking about a survey of members to get ideas across several club related issues, including communication methods (e.g. website vs FB vs

WhatsApp). SB: Don't rule anything in or out until we have canvassed the members. **ACTION: SB to circulate survey ideas to the committee for review.**

- d) Club policy regarding inappropriate or discriminatory comments/jokes on Club communication platforms (e.g. the recent inappropriate jokes on WhatsApp). All agreed that the club must have a clear policy on dea , including clear and consistent policy on dealing with inappropriate behaviour, including disciplinary procedure. JL: The only policy we currently have is in the constitution, section 10 Powers of the Committee (vii): "(vii) *Authority to suspend or expel any member whose conduct renders the person unfit to be a member of the Club. No member shall be expelled without first having been given the opportunity to put their views in writing to the Committee or appear before the Committee. The Committee will consider any views put forward before reaching a decision. A minimum of six committee members must be present at a meeting where an expulsion is to be decided.*" **ACTION: JL to consider updating the constitution. Check BMC for useful language and create a draft for review.**
- e) Action to close the issue of the recent inappropriate joke posted by a member onto WhatsApp: All agreed that, whether the joke was intentionally discriminatory or not, the club must take action against issues of potential discrimination or inappropriate behaviour and must report back to the membership to confirm the outcome. AB has tried to email the member involved twice, but no response. RB tried to phone the member involved, but no response. **ACTION: JL to send the member an official email asking for an explanation and an apology for any insult. ACTION: AB to post a message on WhatsApp confirming that the Committee is taking action.**
- f) Discussion of pros and cons of our 3 main different communication methods. Also see section 5 Review of needs:
- Website: Pros: we already have it and are paying a small amount for it. AB – if you post onto the website then it should push the post onto FB **ACTION: All – does this actually work and also for meets?;** Cons: it requires people to input meets and content. Members are often not checking it regularly. **ACTION: All- to agree who will input content. Post meeting note: AB has inputted several future meets onto the website. ACTION: All - Can we set up a "live calendar".**
 - FB: Pros: It makes the club visible and "find-able" to potential new members. AB- FB definitely generates new member enquiries ; Cons: Many club members do not use FB. Committee members are not very savvy about how best to use it (e.g. how does calendar work?). Somebody needs to load the content. **ACTION: All to agree who will input content and to clarify who has editing rights to the club FB page. Post meeting note: AB has inputted several future meets into FB.**
 - WhatsApp: See section section 5 Review of needs
- **Secretary:** Gen Sec Jon Lury (JL):
 - a) Constitution: New version March 2022: **ACTION: JL to post on the website.**
 - b) Location of club documents on the website: Many documents are stored in the Dashboard and File Manager sections.
 - c) To comply with GDPR the club must delete Covid-related meet report (list of attendees) that should be removed after a year (not standard meet

reports). **ACTION: JL to go through website and delete any Covid-related meet reports older than 1 year.**

- d) To comply with GDPR the Covid Risk Analysis documents should be deleted after 3 years. All committee members present agreed that the Risk analysis documents should be saved as “generic” or “template” versions so that they can be updated if/when required again. **ACTION: JL to review documents on website quarterly and delete documents at appropriate time and create template versions for future use.**

- **New members:** Sec Andy Barton (AB):

- a) 2 prospective members were proposed for full membership: Andrew Wilkins (paid) and David Cannings (not paid yet). See list of Prospective members for details of experience and leets attended. Proposed by AB and seconded by JC/MF. All committee members present agreed. **ACTION: AB to send them the application forms. JL to add them to the BMC membership portal when their application forms are received.**
- b) Update on prospective members: AB provided the attached list of prospective members.



CMC (Prospective Members Update) 31

5. Matters arising:

- Review of Roys “Review of Needs” document – see pasted below with comments added in bold:

Review of needs (RB):

Issue	Comments	Action? Discussions during the meeting are in bold.
Managing hut bookings	I have informed Dick that I would give top priority to finding significant assistance in the booking of huts	Seek individuals who have attended a hut meet to make the booking next time. The aim is to make Dick the overall manager of the huts at this time. See section 4 for current and future plans. Are hut meets still relevant? (e.g. because these days maybe members prefer to pay for more comfortable and private accommodation?). Maybe huts are only required in winter or for special cases such as Skye? ACTION: ALL These issues need further discussion. ACTION: ALL The committee must continue to push members to organize meets.
Make things more user friendly	Which things are unfriendly?	The club processes are sometimes not clear or inviting to potential new members. The walking WhatsApp group is not open to prospective members. SB: we need a “belt and braces” consistent approach to all communication methods to make sure that communication is visible, appropriate and encourages new members to join in. ACTION: Jon to ask them their reasons and request them to

		<p>open it up.</p> <p>We need more meets in the calendar to stimulate interest and draw potential new members into the club. ACTION: ALL The committee must continue to push members to organize meets of all kinds. Roy/Jon to message all members.</p> <p>SB/JC can we use crowdsourcing to arrange dates for meets and socials? ACTION: JC to check this out.</p>
Membership criteria	Make it easier to join while retaining commitment and safety.	<p>Get proposals ready for the next AGM – it affects the constitution. The constitution was updated after the AGM (see version March2022 section 3 (ii)). ACTION: The committee members present agreed to let the new process run for a few months and see how it goes.</p>
Explore relationships with kindred clubs	Need to ensure joint activities are to mutual benefit	<p>JL: can we partner/merge with other clubs such as HarrogateCC or LeedsMC? Do we want to be BMC affiliated? AB: HarrogateCC is not a great example, it is not BMC affiliated, it seems like a small core of old friends and does not necessarily do anything as well as or better than the CMC.</p> <p>ACTION: AB is arranging for CMC to join some YMC meets – see section 4. ACTION: AB/SB are communicating with other clubs to get ideas.</p>
Whatsapp etc arrangements	<p>One overall group for all activities could quickly become a pain. Simple code of conduct required: no abuse, no inappropriate comments or jokes.</p>	<p>Separate groups for each activity: climbing, walking, biking etc. members can choose to belong to all, any or none. All agreed that the WhatsApp groups are very effective, but need a simple code of conduct- e.g. Only meet-related content in meets groups, no abuse, no jokes, nothing inappropriate, only content relevant to club-related activities. ACTION: JL to draft a code of conduct and circulate to committee for review and agreement on when this should be implemented. ACTION: JL to review constitution and see if it needs to be updated with extra policies to cover 21st century communication. ACTION: The setting up of different groups, including Climbing meets, Walking meets, Chat/social (but only related to club-related activities). To be implemented after SBs survey.</p>
Explore wider range of activities	There seem to be a group of thrill seeking bikers:- eg potential Laggan Wolftrax clients	<p>Find out. Not discussed at this meeting. ACTION: All – does anybody have any objections to other activities, as long as they fit in with the clubs “ethos” of active pastimes?</p>

Exploit Facebook for wider appeal.	A convenient information facility for members and public.	Draft spec for Facebook effort. See 4. Communication section.
Socialising	Need events planned for the Autumn and a suitable venue.	Previously there have been Photo evenings and quizzes with a pub venue. See section 4 Social.

6. Any other business: None

Meeting close at 9.30pm.