

Craven Mountaineering Club
Committee Meeting 225- 25 January 2023 – Held on Zoom
MINUTES

Present:

Steve Boy (SB, Vice president), Andy Barton (AB, Climbing meets sec and New Members sec), Dick Winslow (DW, Hut meets sec), Jon Lury (JL, General Sec and Communication sec).

1. Apologies for absence.

Michael Faulkner (MF, Treasurer), James Crawshaw (JC, Social sec).

2. Adoption of minutes of meeting 224 held on 05Sep2022 and ad hoc meeting on 05 Oct2022. These were approved by email. **ACTION: Jon to post them on the website.**

3. Committee member updates:

- **Huts: DW**

- a) **Karabiner MC hut (Ty Powdr) in Dinorwic, Snowdonia**: All agreed that the CMC should keep a key for the KMC Club hut. The KMC will review this and get back to us to confirm.
- b) The Committee had previously agreed that DW had permission to organise up to 3 hut meets with an “at risk” cost cap of £250 per meet. No hut meets have taken place since July 2022.
 - 1. The Smithy Hut meet will take place 27 to 29 Jan and is currently likely to make a small loss with 6 people attending. (2/3 places available).
 - 2. Within the next 3 weeks DW plans to book 1 or 2 hut meets between March and June and to make postings to WhatsApp and the Web site to explain about hut meets and encourage members to put forward ideas for others.
- c) **Possible Shared Hut Meets with Yorkshire Mountaineering Club** with shared financial risk: DW has discussed this with Graham @ the YMC, as follows:
 - 1. “I have had several friendly conversations with Graham and we can see a way forward to having a small number of such fully shared meets in 2024. He has discussed this idea with the YMC committee who would like to see something less formal in the short term. Their suggestion being that they would allow CMC members to book into meets considered appropriate by Graham. This is fully understandable for 2023 as YMC have just published there programme of meets for 2023 with a full range of hut meets. Each hut meet has been put forward and will be coordinated by a single YMC member and as such there is little opportunity for a fully shared hut meet to happen in 2023. However, Graham is of the opinion that places in YMC meets could be offered to CMC members on almost all YMC meets where spaces are available and vice versa if CMC has hut meets are organised so as not to clash with

YMC meets. It is my view that we should advertise only a small number of YMC hut meets to CMC members until we have this running as a truly reciprocal arrangements. Otherwise CMC members may see this as a takeover.

2. If the above arrangement is acceptable to CMC committee and if it is seen to be a suitably friendly lead in to shared hut meets then the two Meets Secs should be able to jointly arrange (September 2023) for initially a few truly shared hut meets in 2024 to appear in both club programs as such.
3. If we do adopt the above until 2024 I believe that the small number of YMC hut meets should appear in our programme with full acknowledgement that it is a YMC meet that our members can book places on. We would expect that any of our hut meets would be treated similarly by YMC.
4. One particular meet has recently been mentioned to me as being suitable for CMC members to book places if they wish. This is the YMC meet to Feshiebridge in late Feb and it is my intention to let CMC members know of this unless the committee decides against this."
5. All present agreed with all the above regarding joint hut CMC/YMC meets and approved DW to proceed as he suggests.
6. AB noted that most of the YMC hut meets are organised by only 2 people, so not much difference to the CMC.

d) DW and future of Huts meets sec position:

1. "I continue to want successful Hut Meets to take place within CMC. For some time now I have been Hut Sec on the basis that I would organise a few Hut Meets and programme any other meets put forward by members. Members have not made a positive contribution in this respect in recent years. I have become aware that most clubs operate on the basis that most meets are offered by and then organised by individual members and assembled into a programme by meets secretaries.
2. Assuming that I can arrange a couple of Hut meets I will happily organise them (possibly with some places available to YMC members).
3. I hope that another member will be hut sec next year. I will only be willing to be considered for the role of Hut Meets Sec next year if it is vacant and if members have before the AGM offered ideas for and to organise at least 2 hut meets. This is a fair request whoever becomes hut meets sec."
4. JL suggested that perhaps members no longer want hut meets but would prefer meets to very popular climbing/walking locations at specific times of year using hostel accommodation (because it is more comfortable). Examples might be Skye in May/June, Glencoe/Fort William/Aviemore in February/March. **ACTION: JL to check costs and**

financial risk (E.g. whether full payment must be made when the booking is made).

5. All present agreed with the above regarding the future of huts meets

- **Questions relating to joint CMC/YMC meets: DW raised the following questions, but these were not discussed or resolved during the meeting:**
 - a) “It appears to me that YMC have a very different arrangement for prospective members than CMC have and we would need to discuss this with YMC before offering any CMC prospectives places on any YMC meet. (Should this include walking meets?)
 - b) Thinking through the above about shared hut meets has made me think about the arrangements for any other shared meets including the walking meets that Andy has worked so hard on. I am concerned that:-
 - Every single walking meet in the YMC 2023 programme appears on our website with little acknowledgement that it is a YMC meet except for the contact details.
 - Is this a takeover by YMC (A very friendly one which offers our members what CMC is not doing).
 - It does not encourage CMC members to put any suggestions/offers forward.”
- **Club sustainability / Merger of CMC with YMC?** The question of merger had come up during email communication between committee members as one way of keeping the club sustainable (e.g by spreading the admin burden more efficiently over a combined larger club, opening up meets to a bigger number of members.
 - a) AB said that as far as he can tell, despite the YMC having a significantly larger membership, most of the work is done by only a very small number of people. So probably this would not solve the problem of trying to get more engagement from members.
 - b) AB/DW had mentioned the possibility of merger to Graham@YMC and he suggested that CMC members could simply join the YMC instead.
 - c) AB pointed out that the CMC has a strong regional identity being located in North Yorkshire close to the Yorkshire dales (which translates into the Tuesday evening climbing meets being reasonably well attended and the club being a draw for local climbers), whereas the YMC membership is generally located further south around Leeds, Bradford and South Yorkshire.
- **Climbing: Sec Andy Barton (AB): the following report was received post-meeting.**
 - a) Since the previous meeting in Sept 2022 we have had:
 - b) 06/09/22 Trollers Gill (Rained Off)
 - c) 13/09/22 Pot Scar
 - d) 20/09/22 Trollers Gill
 - e) 27/09/22 Eastby Crag
 - f) 04/10/22 Ingleton Wall every Tuesday evening since.
 - g) Occasional Friday and weekend gatherings at Harrogate

- h) Lakeland Raids: Since September Ian Daws has organised several weekend trips to the Lakes for a mixture of scrambling and climbing. Those going have either chosen to camp or have joined for the day.
 - i) Scottish Winter Climbing: Dave Canning has arranged a trip to Fort William in February 2023. Those going have arranged their own accommodation either at Glen Nevis youth hostel or within the town.
- **Walks: Andy Barton covering. The Walks sec role is empty. The following report was received post-meeting.**
 - a) 04/09/22 - Hawnby Bridge
 - b) 16/10/22 - Penyghent from Helwith Bridge
 - c) 11/12/22 - Christmas Walk & Meal – Clapham
 - d) 08/01/22 - Arncliffe & Firth Fell.
 - **Social:** Sec James Crawshaw (JC):
 - a) Social meets have occurred approximately monthly on the 2nd Sunday of the month.
 - **Treasury:**
 - a) JL reported that the banking process is working well with both MF and JL regularly accessing the e-banking and doing the 2-person payment process.
 - b) Current Bank Balance is £2607. This is after all the renewals and paying £1068 to the BMC. The CMC gained a net £216 from the renewals after subtracting the BMC fees.
 - **Communications:**
 - a) Closed Facebook Group: AB has set up a closed CMC Facebook group for members. He is now looking for someone to manage it.
 - b) DW raised the following questions about WhatsApp and Andy's ideas for communication: **ACTION: These were not discussed during the meeting, but the constitution and BMC insurance documents might answer these questions – Jon to check:**
 - “My initial thoughts on Andy's suggested changes to WhatsApp groups were initially strongly in favour. I did see keeping non whatsapp users as a potential problem but the idea of a monthly roundup that could also be emailed seems a suitable measure.
 - However, I now have reservations on the matter as it relates to prospective members and to non-members. With prospective members given full membership of the Whatsapp groups I am concerned that they may appear to be and may be trusted as though they were full members. It is not clear to me whether the BMC insurance would cover a prospective member who organises something for members through our Whatsapp groups. By the same token we should ask that all members taking part in activities arranged informally point out to other members if they bring along non-member guests. “

- c) Ongoing from previous meeting: The club must have a clear policy on discrimination / inappropriate behaviour , including clear and consistent policy on dealing with it and disciplinary procedure. **ACTION: JL to consider updating the constitution. Check BMC for useful language and create a draft for review.**

- **Secretary:** Gen Sec Jon Lury (JL):
 - a) Membership renewals: 48 have renewed or joined for the first time: 14 decided not to renew, including 2 who never responded): There are 3 renewals where JL to f/u on membership forms.
 - b) The 14 who did not renew were all inactive, whereas we have had several active new joiners within the last year, so overall we probably have a higher number of active members.
 - c) Member SM has paid for renewal but refused to complete the renewal form. All agreed to park this issue and discuss further by WhatsApp or email and perhaps address his concerns at the AGM.
- **New members:** Sec Andy Barton (AB):
 - a) Since the previous meeting in Sept 2022 we have five new members (Gareth Hey, Stuart Pickford, Vicci Aylesbury, Andy Harrison and Andrea Potter). We have six remaining prospects as per attached list, the others after contacting them chose to withdraw for now.
 - b) Prospectives: AB circulated full details of the 6 current prospectives.

4. Any other business/Matters arising: As documented above.

Meeting close at 08.50pm.

Next meeting: AGM in March 2023.

ACTION:

JL to get availability of Committee for and AGM date in March.

JL to check Zoom arrangements.

JL to circulate a draft AGM agenda and member update for approval by committee before circulation.