

Minutes of NC meeting on Saturday February 2nd 2019 in Birmingham.

Present: Steve Wright (Chair 1), Humphrey Southall (Chair 2), Barbara Segal, Gill Platt, David Symonds, Dave Doody, Jon Marsden, Adrian Jones, Pat Durrant.
Apologies: Janet Saunders, Becky Bates, Malcolm Donne, Pete Watson, Uta Praekelt

1. Matters Arising from AGM and NC meeting at Wirksworth, October 2018:

a) Trip finances - generally good financially but it seems the top two bands may be paying unfairly high travel costs.

Agreed: A year's trial (starting now) of making the multipliers of accommodation and transport on national trips equal. Adrian to alert regional contacts and all trip-organisers.

Agreed: Next NC meeting will discuss complexities of car and public transport usage. Barbara to research the balance between cost, environmental factors and convenience.

Action: Adrian and Barbara

b) It was agreed we should continue to be affiliated to the Ramblers but not feel obliged to attend their AGM.

c) Humphrey reported very healthy finances of £17000 in the account. There is some difficulty in distinguishing different accounts which are in the general account, for instance, the Action Fund and Hut Fund which people may want to donate into separately.

Humphrey will look into our current system and whether it can do this.

He will also look into the way it classifies income and expenditure. **Action: Humphrey**

Matters arising from Motions:

d) The payment of £1 per member annually to regions will be based on the membership as at February 15th 2019. Regions will have to apply and send in their accounts in order to receive it. STEVE will notify local contacts. **Action: Steve ***

e) The emergency motion to donate £1000 out of the Action Fund and National Fund to the BMC campaign to 'Mend our Mountains' was approved and queries about the use of the Action Fund generally were discussed later (see later Minutes).

f) Check whether Janet has made progress with Facebook. **

Action: Janet

2. Various issues:

a) The flyers are now updated and regions need to disperse them and campaign locally if appropriate.

b) It was agreed the AGM notice could go out with the Bulletin. ***

c) It was agreed the MIS could also go out with the Bulletin.

20 minute break

Notes and updates

*1 d * The schedule for regions receiving a rebate is currently running late so I suggest the regional figure is calculated as of Feb 28, the last day of the month, partly to allow some wiggle room and partly for simplicity.*

*1 f ** Janet has recently reported that progress has been made re. Facebook*

*2 b *** I'm not sure what the AGM notice means. If the motions are to be included they would need to be submitted by the mid-May deadline agreed below.*

David Symonds, March 5, 2019

3. Red Rope mailing lists

Dave D has now fixed the NC & national lists so that hitting the 'reply' option replies only to the individual sender. His work on this is much appreciated!

Yahoo is creaking at the seams and we agreed to investigate alternatives, with a preference for a service that would allow administrators to add new members. We will explore: groups.io (now used by Merseyside RR); RiseUp (run by a left-wing collective); Google groups; possible integration of lists into the website.

In the meantime Gill will let Steve, Dave D. and Humphrey know of new members so that they can be invited to join the national and MiS lists.

Action: David S, Barbara, Steve, Humphrey & Gill

4. Membership

Sending a list of members to the BMC is in hand. Gill & Humphrey need to work out how best to send a list of Scottish members to Mountaineering Scotland (note new name!)

Most members renewed on time and we currently have 240 paid-up members, with 251 membership cards having been issued. Gill to follow up discrepancy. Gill to write (on paper) to 2018 members who have not renewed and lists will be sent to regional contacts, who should contact them. The WebCollect list appears to include people who didn't renew last year and regional contacts need to contact them or let Gill know that they are unlikely to renew, so that the list can be pruned. Once Gill is on top of the system regions will receive monthly lists of members and Barbara will receive a full list, to check that LMC key holders are still members.

Gill to find out about additional functionality of the new system from Janet & Linda.

Action: Gill (with help from Janet & Linda) & Humphrey

5. Bulletin & MIS

Agreed that future Bulletins would be sent out in mid-June and early December, with copy deadlines of mid-May and early November. Paper MIS for those months could be sent out with the Bulletin.

Becky to ask trip organisers to try to identify someone on their trip to write an article for the Bulletin – and this should be incorporated into the Trip Organisers Pack.

Action: David, Becky & Jon

6. Action Fund

It's not clear what this should be used for. Articles in the email accompanying the MIS, and in the Bulletin, would ask members for input, which should be restricted to campaigns/activities linked to RR's core activities, e.g. access & conservation. In the meantime, the Mend Our Mountains donation would come out of general funds.

Action: Jon (and David for reminder in next Bulletin if not much response)

7. National weekend (27 – 29 September)

Venue sleeps 35.

Possible activities: Treasure hunt/Orienteering/Climbing/Caving/Quiz.

Jon to liaise with Pat re. treasure hunt

Jon to contact Malcolm, Pete K, Ralph & Prav re. climbing

Steve to contact Steve B. re. caving

Barbara to dig out Dave Jefferies' Orienteering activity for possible reuse/revision

Humphrey & Barbara to look into putting together a quiz.

Pat will contact Sheffield and Manchester groups re. catering

David to publicise deadlines for nominations & motion in the next Bulletin

Action: Jon, Steve, Barbara, Humphrey, Pat, David

8. Liaison with LMC

Despite this not being part of the original agreement, it was decided that in the interests of fairness & good relations RR ought to contribute in a modest way to the maintenance of CY and to the funding of proposed work on The Loft at Blea Tarn. Barbara to approach LMC re RR members joining one of their work parties. Agreed to contribute at least £1,000 to the upgrade of the Loft; members to be asked to contribute, with balance topped up from RR funds. We have been late in paying individual huts fees to LMC and agreed to do that quarterly in future. **Action: Barbara**

AOB

Humphrey to investigate managing trip bookings through WebCollect. WebCollect allows us to assign additional roles to any existing member. Only one role, "Creator" (currently Linda & Gill), has total control of the system and can assign roles to others, so it was suggested that for security we set up two active NC members as additional Creators. The other two people currently assigned some role are Jon and Humphrey.

The "Event Co-Ordinator" role can be assigned to lots of people & could potentially be used by trip organisers.

Action: Humphrey

Revisions to Trip Organisers' Pack: More clarity needed on responsibility of trip organisers for coordinating transport, particularly use of cars and agreeing train travel.

Action: Becky, in consultation with Jon