

Minutes of NC Meeting, Oct 19, 2020, via Zoom

Present: Barbara, Becky , Dave D, Dave S, Dermot, Gill, Humphrey, Janet, Jennifer (Merseyside), Jon, Mark (Scotland), Olya (North East), Pat (Merseyside), Rob (North East), Sarah, Steve, Stuart (Sheffield)

Apologies: Malcolm

Point of order (Humphrey): Meeting should not be chaired by members raising agenda items. To be borne in mind for future meetings. The chair should pass to someone else if wishing to speak on the item being discussed.

1. The Accounting Year:

Regions to be provided with guidance on the implications of the change of financial year for regional accounts and local AGMs. In order to implement the transition to the new financial year, there will be a one-off set of formal accounts covering 1 July 2020 to 31 December 2020. In addition the treasurer will prepare informal accounts for the calendar year 2020, to be available for the April 2021 AGM.

Action: Humphrey

2. Covid restrictions:

Members should be encouraged to continue with outdoor activities. NC to provide guidance for regions as to the management of day walks and associated risk assessments. At the time of the meeting walks of up to 6 were ok in all regions, though subject to various local travel restrictions. It was agreed that climbers were in the best position to take responsibility for themselves. Janet to draft guidance, drawing on the East Anglia document and referring regions to the BMC guidance and local & national government rules. It was suggested that walks should be planned so as not to exclude members without cars or suitable public transport. Dermot suggested that the BMC be invited to give a Zoom talk on this. Dave S. to contact them. [Minute taker's note: now done and BMC have agreed in principle]

Action: Janet & Dave S.

3. BMC affiliation and cost of Red Rope subs.

Concern had been raised about this at the AGM given the shortage of activities on offer. Noted that most of subs go to cover BMC affiliation and NC should circulate information justifying continued affiliation. A proposal to reduce subs for 2021 was rejected but members would be reminded of the hardship fund.

It was agreed to subsidise trips during the period of restrictions.

The wording of the renewal message would be important. Humphrey, Dave S. and Gill P. to draft.

Action: Humphrey, Dave S., Gill P.

4. Future AGMs and use of Zoom: Support for use of Zoom on different devices and operating systems to be provided for any future meetings and put on website Use of Zoom for meetings outside Covid period needs discussing.

Barbara and Humphrey to finish writing the guides and send them to Janet for the website

Action: Barbara, Humphrey

5. Publicising deaths of members:

London RR have raised the issue of how regional and national lists are used to let other know about deaths of members.

Dave S. to contact concerned members and clarify their concerns. The idea of 'rules' was rejected but it was agreed that the national list needs usage guidelines. [Minute-taker's note: Dave S. has been in contact with London and emails from the national list now include usage message, added by Barbara in consultation with Janet.]

6. National Trips – Becky, Sarah & trips sub-group congratulated on their work on this and their sensible proposals, which were unanimously accepted. It was agreed that individual trips could be subsidised up to around £200.

The trips sub-group would meet again in November, with work to include:

- Contact with Badaguish Outdoor Centre, Aviemore, to request postponement of February 2021 trip for one year and to ask about possibility of changing to a smaller unit.
- Continued search for alternative accommodation to huts, ideally in units of up to 6 people and including the suggestion of National Trust base camps.
- Reviewing current charges in view of likely increased costs.
- Consideration of whether members might be asked to provide their own breakfasts & lunches, so as to cut costs
- Proposals for the organisation and subsidy of trip transport
- Consideration as to whether members not formally part of a 6 person trip should be encouraged to organise their own accommodation in the area, with priority for trip places being given to low banded members.
- Exploring the possibility of setting up a list of members who might join trips at short notice so as to respond to a changing situation. (This would preclude the possibility of an early booking discount).

Action: Becky & Sarah

7. Bulletin:

Ideas for the next bulletin needed in the light of far fewer events than usual to report on.

Humphrey & Damien to report from Cae Ysgubor (Bedgellert) trip this summer. Possible pieces on city walks (Barbara) and virtual walks (Janet). Some additional suggestions from Dermot.

Action: Dave S. to circulate deadline [Done, deadline is November 8th]. Everyone to suggest/provide copy.

8. AOB:

Mark's films to be uploaded to Vimeo or similar and links to be put on the website.

Action: Jon, Mark & Janet or Dave D)

The meeting ended 9.05 pm. No date was set for next meeting

Barbara & Jon