



# Council of Southern Caving Clubs

A constituent member of the British Caving Association

[www.csccl.org.uk](http://www.csccl.org.uk)

## Minutes of General Meeting - Saturday 16 Feb 2019

Approved

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### 1 Attendance

#### Voting Attendees

Alan Butcher	SMCC	AB	Chairman
Alan Dempster	Avon Scouts	AD	
Dave King	MNRC	DK	
Geoff Drommot	BCG	GD	
Graham Mullan	UBSS	GM	
Graham Price	Cerberus SS	GP	Assistant C&A Officer
Les Williams	WCC	LW	C&A Officer

#### Non Voting

Frank Tully	WCC	FT	Secretary
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### 2 Apologies for Absence

Barry Wilkinson	White Rabbit	BW	
Dave Cooke	Cheddar	DC	Treasurer/Webmaster
Idris Williams	Shropshire Scouts Caving Team		

### 3 Approval of minutes from GM 24th Nov 2018

Minutes approved.

Proposed LW, Seconded GM, Passed Unanimous

### 4 Chairman's report

**Alan Butcher**

#### 4.1 Longleat Estates Update

No further progress, awaiting a response from our legal people. Caves continue to be accessible using the waiver system.

### 5 Honorary secretary's report

**Frank Tully**

Nothing to report

### 6 Conservation & access officer's report

**Les Williams**

- 6.1 Stoke Lane Slocker Ongoing, money for a land search was allocated previously.
- 6.2 Masbury Swallet Report by GP, Ongoing, waiting to the land to dry up.
- 6.3 Loxton Cavern Report by GP, Ongoing, Closed, shaft is still dangerous.
- 6.4 Ubley Warren Report by GP, ongoing, no access the loose boulder is still a problem  
The meeting allocated £400 for GP to proceed with stabilization DC to contact BCA and inform CSCC when funds approved.
- 6.5 Hunters Lodge Inn Sink – Stiff Lock & Bar to stand on Ongoing.
- 6.6 CSCC Locks Report by GP, Ongoing Take both old and new keys.
- 6.7 Singing River See CSCC website for access requirements.
- 6.8 Cow hole Report by GP, Is on land which is part of the Hazel Manor Estate which is in the process of being sold. No access at present, access will be negotiated when it becomes possible.
- 6.9 Pigtail risers More required, Ongoing



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- 6.10 Stainsbury's Shaft Report by GP, Blackmore reserve, Stainsbury's Shaft lid has been damaged again. Gate is still functional. Keep an eye on it.
- 6.11 Banwell Ochre Mine Report by GP, Access to the mine is not controlled by CSCC. Natural England are proposing that the landowner fences the site to protect the bats.
- 6.12 Draft consultation document has been issued by Natural England. This may result in issues regarding access to the following areas,  
Mells Valley SAC –  
Fussell's Iron Works site  
St Dunstons Well catchment. Including Fairy Cave Quarry  
The draft document can be found online  
LW to respond to this draft consultation document, as Conservation & Access officer representing CSCC.
- 6.13 Bob Corns our contact with Natural England has just retired, he is not being replaced. Action on LW and GP, to make contact with our new Natural England representatives.
- 6.14 Viaduct Sink Additional costs have been incurred, money has already been approved at a previous meeting.
- 6.15 Fairy Cave Quarry Balch's High Aven in fairy cave quarry. The rusting oil drum has been replaced with a plastic drum, allowing easier access. The cave is getting trashed potentially from casual cavers entering the cave. Would it be possible for CSCC to fit a gate inside the plastic oil drum to protect the cave.  
CSCC do not administer this cave, Fairy Cave quarry management committee do.
- 6.16 Elm Cave Great Elm, A numbers of cavers are working to replace the cave gate. This will end up with a CSCC lock when completed.

### **7 Honorary treasurer's report**

**Dave Cooke**

No report forwarded, Treasurer in India

Dave Cooke has informed CSCC that he is intending to stand down from the post of Treasurer at the next AGM.

### **8 Acting Training officer's report**

**Alan Butcher**

There have been some BCA funded caver training events recently run in Wookey Hole. These were funded directly by the training committee and not through CSCC. For one event the MCG were made aware of the training and some Wessex members filled in the spare places at the last minute.

All training is welcome however CSCC would prefer if these events were more widely publicized to the clubs before they take place in the future.

### **9 Equipment officer's report**

**Andrew Atkinson**

No report presented

Requests for bolts should be directed to the form explain the process on the web site.



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### 10 BCA rep report

BCA asked for and received a barristers legal opinion regarding the issues associated with persons under 18 signing a waiver and going caving. The cost was £1274 +VAT. The barrister has made it clear that the opinion is the intellectual property of the barrister and he does not want us to publish it.

Minutes to meeting have been published on the web. [http://british-caving.org.uk/wiki3/doku.php?id=about:documents:council\\_meetings:start](http://british-caving.org.uk/wiki3/doku.php?id=about:documents:council_meetings:start)

BCA cards, There was a motion to stop issuing BCA cards to members. The BCA insurance no longer requires membership cards however many land owners like to see cards to prove cavers are members and therefore insured. CSCC would like to instruct our representative to make this clear at any future meetings where this point is discussed.

For BCA insurance certificates contact the BCA membership administrator, who happens to be Wendy Williams.

BCA travel expenses were increased for car sharing to 30p/mile. They stay the same for single car usage, at 25p/mile.

The BCA AGM will be held at the YSS Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June. 2019.

BCA Visioning strategy committee.

Hellie has circulated a form to the clubs asking for members of BCA to respond with their opinions. Please fill in your forms.

### 11 Webmasters report

**Dave Cooke**

LW Some of the CSCC mailing circulation links are out of date, including the MCG secretary and potentially the CSCC training officer. This meeting authorises LW to contact DC and change the links if required

### 12 Regional registry officer's report

**Alan Gray**

### 13 Upcoming events

- BCA AGM YSS, Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June. 2019
- NAMHO June Cwmystwyth Thursday 4th July until Monday 8th July
- BCRC Rescue Conference, 6-8<sup>th</sup> Sept 2019, Eastwater Farm

### 14 Date of next meetings:

- Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019 (AGM) 10:30 Hunters  
This appears to clash with the Shepton AGM which is also in the Hunters, no change.

### 15 Any other business

Cave fest have requested that their poster is circulated to the clubs with the minutes.

Meeting duration 1h35m