

## BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

177-179 Burton Road  
Manchester M20 2BB

Tel: 0161 445 6111  
www.thebmc.co.uk

### Members' Council

Draft minutes of the Members' Council meeting held on Zoom on Tuesday 28 March 2023 at 7pm.

#### In attendance:

#### Voting Members

Elected Councillors

President, and Chair of the meeting (the Chair)

Cymru North Wales

Cymru North Wales

Cymru South Wales

Lakes

Lakes

Midlands

North East

North West

North West

Peak

South West

South West

Yorkshire

Yorkshre

Constituency Councillor for BMC Affiliated Club members

Nationally Elected Councillor for Rock Climbers

Nationally Elected Councillor for Indoor Climbing

Specialist Councillors

Clubs Committee

Andy Syme AS

Tarquin Shipley TS

Owen Burgess OB

Steve Quinton SQ

Mike Parsons MP

Fiona Sanders FS

Ian Wyatt IW

Jonathan White JW

Bill Beveridge BB

Andy Say ASa

Sam Harris SHa

Trevor Smith TS

Philip Wilson PW

Martin Christmas MC

Richard Edan RE

Peter Neden PN

Steve Clark SC

Stuart Holmes SHo

Peter Salenieks PS

Potential co-opted councillor

Who is also a Council Nominated Director

Who is also a Council Nominated Director

#### Standing Observers

Specialist Committees

Board of Directors

Hill Walking Group

Chair of the Board

Chief Executive

Partners Assembly

Peter Judd PJ

Roger Murray RM

Paul Davies PD

Carl Spencer CSp

Guy Jarvis GJ

Council Nominated Director

#### Apologies

Oli Lewis, Abbi Blake, Jon Punshon (though attended part), Sean Millar, Claudia Sarner

**Due to lack of admin support it was agreed that the record would be limited to decisions and actions (see 17 below)**

**Summary of decisions and actions:** See [9th Members' Council Outstanding Actions](#) (link only available to Council members)

1. AS to arrange induction meeting for new starters (Andy S, Owen, Ian & Richard, plus L&SW Rep if appointment imminent)
2. Peak suggested widen membership to Mountain Bikers. Not agreed as we need to focus on our core constituency now; insurance won't cover as primary activity (could be changed) and British Cycling are their natural home.
  1. Skyrunning is a natural part. PD to follow up contact with Silvo (President of Skyrunning) made at UIAA conference in Leeds.
3. SH as indoor rep should be included as a member of the future CCPG follow on structure
4. MT questions, all with Partners assembly. FS or GJ to feedback updates as appropriate.
5. Council-Board-SLT - Council need to decide how to select 2-3 people to work with Board as per item 2 in [Response](#) .
  1. AS to arrange meeting for 1 hour prior to MC Meeting, ideally hybrid, to get as many Councillors as possible to agree a process and ideally who.
  2. AS to set up a Teamwork message to start discussion on who and how so meeting on 18th has options to discuss.
6. Safeguarding - RM to contact Helen and Christine to arrange a 1 hour evening deep dive on Safeguarding.
7. Course Corrections - AS to report to Course Corrections group
  1. Broad support for the approach taken.
  2. Councils view was that we need to preserve tangible benefits where possible, as loss could affect membership. Summit and in person meetings were seen as tangible benefits.
  3. Savings will be required and the key issue is they are demonstratively shared as widely and equitably as possible.
8. SC Budgets - [Paper](#) only available 10 mins before meeting. Comments to follow if necessary.
9. BMC Financial Security - All agreed that costs need to map to incomes, with less spend committed/budgeted against speculative growth. Also agreement spend that will generate growth is the right thing, but needs close control. See also above on Course Corrections.
10. BDO Financial Report - RM stated the doc provided along with the follow on findings were appropriate for Council to do it's role. I vote was taken as to whether the full BDO Financial Report was required by Council to fulfil it's role (5 for, 7 against, 8 abstentions) and it was decided that it was not necessary.
11. FAC ToRs - The TORs were agreed by the Board after FAC had agreed them and based on a number of substantive improvements in the TORs. Unfortunately concerns of MC FAC members did not reach the Board. Where Councillors are members of any Committee they need to bring concerns to CNDs so they can be considered by the Board. JW expressed concern that the Board decided to not consult with Council on the FAC ToRs, RM stated this was in line with the MOU which stated that the 'member facing' committees TORs must be consulted, but not the Board facing, but agreed to review this approach.
12. GB Climbing Budget -
  1. PD explained that match funding is broadly equivalent to spend on grass roots etc and allowed UKS/SE funding to be released for other work. This is not clearly understood by many Councillors and Members. PD to provide a clearer description of how members contribution is used, or affects, GBC activity both elite and grassroots, so that the benefits are clearly understood and members can understand what would be impacted, particularly member services, by cuts to the funding.

2. PD to clarify what is directly funded and what is 'benefit in kind' funding for SE/UKS contribution. Of particular interest is how much of the 'overheads' (building costs, HR, IT support, MarCom) can and/or are able to be recognised against BMC Contribution.
13. CCPG Reports - It is recognised that the delay in publication has direct impact on the credibility of the BMC, GBC and individuals. The Board are working to get agreements necessary to issue as many of the documents as possible to Council as soon as possible.
14. Board Portfolios - It was agreed that the Council wished to see an updated version of the Portfolio spreadsheet, and it's ongoing maintenance, to close this action. RM agreed to provide this once Director roles filled at AGM.
15. Board Minutes - RM stated that 2 more are approved for publication. He is working on the remaining outstanding minutes and delegating as much as he thinks is possible to other Bard members so they will be released ASAP [Author Note: Didn't record a proposed date for this. Was one given?]
16. AGM
  1. PD to check with GF on the comms plan for the AGM and ensure the event has 'another push', if not already scheduled.
  2. Councillors who have not received emails from BMC (16 May and 6 Apr) to provide PD with their name email and BMC number to check if they are 'unsubscribed'. Also check that the emails have not gone to spam.
  3. It was noted that funded attendance at the AGM & MC meeting had been limited to Directors and Voting members of Council. This is an error as all routine MC meetings are required to include, and pay for, ALL Council Members to attend. AS to write to PD to ensure this is implemented.
17. Minutes - LDs departure means there is no staff support for MC at the moment. Council agreed it was unreasonable for AS to produce minutes, but there were no volunteers to produce minutes in his stead. PD will look at contracting 'someone' to produce minutes from the recording, and in interim this post will form the record.

**The above is accepted as an accurate record of the meeting:**



Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date 5/7/23 \_\_\_\_\_

**Andy Syme, Chair**