

BRITISH MOUNTAINEERING COUNCIL

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BMC NATIONAL COUNCIL

Agreed Minutes of the National Council Webinar meeting (66.2)
held on Monday 10th February 2020. 19:00 – 20:30

In attendance

Voting members:

President	Lynn Robinson	(LR)	Chair
Cymru South Wales	Steve Quinton	(SQ)	
Lakes & CND	Fiona Sanders	(FS)	
London & South East	Chris Stone	(CSt)	
North East	Mark Anstiss	(MA)	
North East	Jon Punshon	(JP)	
North West	Carl Spencer	(CSp)	
Peak	David Brown	(DB)	
Peak	Alison Cairns	(AC)	
South West	Helen Wilson	(HW)	
South West	Philip Wilson	(PW)	
Yorkshire	Andy Syme	(AS)	

Observers:

Chair, Board of Directors	Gareth Pierce	(GP)	
Director	Jonathan White	(JW)	

Apologies for absence

David Jones

1. Welcome and Introduction

LR welcomed people to the webinar meeting and gave an overview of the background to why the meeting was being held. LR emphasised that if anyone had any questions, then to ask for clarification during the meeting.

2. Note Conflicts of Interest

Chris Stone and Carl Spencer expressed a conflict of interest, as they were both candidates in the 7th December election.

There was a discussion as to whether the NC voting Board members (the President and CND) and the three CND candidates should be able to vote in any polls taking place during the meeting or whether they should abstain. The point was made that all the people are voting members of NC and should therefore be able to vote. All voters should focus on the process and what is best for the BMC. If people think they are conflicted, or unsure how to vote, then they should abstain, but this is up to the individual. People can't be directed how to vote. It was clarified that if people did abstain, then the vote would be included in the meeting quorate numbers.

Poll One: Voting members of the meeting were asked -

Is there a conflict of interest that should require the NC Voting Board members (CND & President) and CND candidates to abstain from voting?

Result:

Eleven	No
One	Abstain
None	Yes

The poll result stated that there was no conflict of interest. Voting members should not be instructed how to vote.

3. Purpose of the Meeting

LR give information regarding the purpose of the webinar meeting. The Board had received a complaint regarding the Council Nominated Directors election that took place on the 7th December 2019. An investigation has taken place, and the report was presented to the Board on the 29th January 2020. The investigation concluded that the election process as run on the 7th December was not beyond challenge and the Board asked NC to run the election process again.

4. Discussion regarding letter (dated 3rd February) from the Board

LR invited GP to give an overview, from the Board's perspective in relation to the contents of the letter

DB, who had been an observer at the 29th January Board meeting, stated that the Board discussion regarding the investigation report had been thorough and clear. He was very appreciative of how the Board had discussed the matter and they were all very supportive of NC.

LR emphasised that the purpose of the meeting was to consider the contents of the letter received from the Board, and not to debate in detail how the election process had been run.

5. Vote

Poll Two: NC has considered the recommendation from the Board and will run an election process again (NC voting members only to vote).

Result:

Eleven	Yes
One	Abstain
None	No

The poll result stated that NC will run an election process again.

6. Next Steps

LR stated that she had already drafted a revised process, taking into account points raised in the complaint. This had been reviewed by GP and AS and amendments made. LR proposed that this process be reviewed by the ODG R33 NC Reconstitution Group, amendments made as appropriate, and then distributed for wider agreement.

It was recommended that reference to the Board of Directors skills matrix be made in the CND candidates presentations. LR said she would ensure the up-to-date skills matrix is circulated to NC.

JW offered to review the draft process, in his capacity of Chair of the Governance Working Group.

Poll Three: Do the Council agree that the R33 Group should propose a process for future elections.

Result:

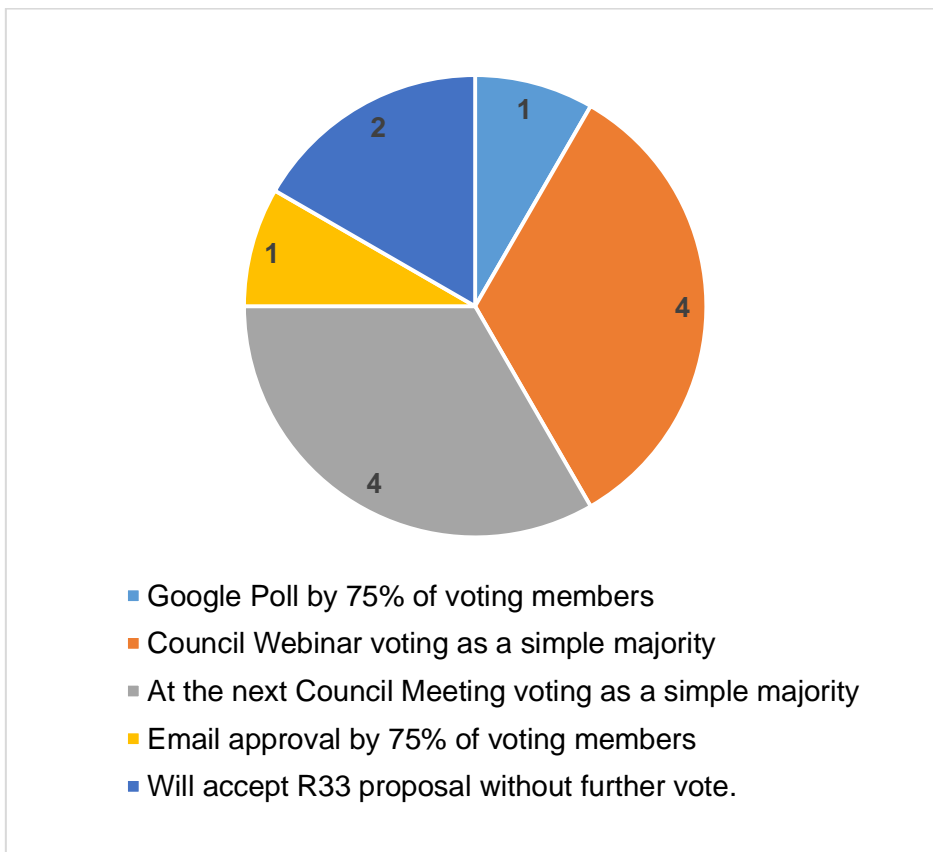
Twelve	Yes
None	No
None	Abstain

The poll result states that the R33 Group should propose a process for future elections.

There was further discussion in relation to how the election process that the R33 proposes will be approved.

Poll Four: How should the process R33 propose be approved?

Result: as shown in the pie chart below.



The result showed equal votes between a council webinar voting as a simple majority and at the next council meeting voting as a simple majority.

A further discussion was had in relation to the above two options and a final vote took place. A middle ground option was suggested, to include a webinar and electronic vote to ensure as much engagement and access to voting as possible.

Note: Jon Punshon had to leave the meeting prior to this vote

Poll Five: How should the process R33 propose be approved? Two options?

Result:

Council webinar followed by an electronic vote that would require 75% agreement – Eleven Votes

At the next council meeting voting as a simple majority – No votes

Action: An NC webinar will take place to discuss the proposed election process, followed by an electronic vote.

The meeting finished at 20:30.

LR thanked everyone for their contributions.

The above was accepted as an accurate record of the meeting:

Signed

Lynn Robinson, President, 9 May 2020