

# COUNCIL OF SOUTHERN CAVING CLUBS



A constituent member of the British Caving Association

## Minutes of the Open Meeting held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2009

Present		Apologies for Absence	
Alan Gray	ACG	Chris Binding	Chairman
Carmen Smith	Secretary	Andrew Atkinson	Bolting Equipment
David Cooke	Webmaster	Chris Whale	Treasurer
Les Williams	C & A Officer	Paul Dold.	Essex Scouts
Alan Dempster	Avon Scouts rep	Alan Butcher	SMCC
Graham Price	CSS/WCC		
Mike Richardson	MCG		
Buddy	MCG		
Chrissy Price	Cerberus		

### Minutes Of the Previous Meetings

**Buddy requested that the SMCC be removed from the Conservation and Access report for work done in Goatchurch, only as it was a collaboration of people from many clubs.**

**DC reminded the meeting that 2006/2007 accounts still had a few details to be ironed out as such could not be signed off. He also said there were many outstanding claims for funding to be submitted to the BCA. CW/DC/CB to action together (the 3 hold all info necessary to complete task)**

### 1. Chairman's Report

**The chairman reported he will be standing down at the next AGM to be held in May.**

Hi Folks,

Sadly unable to attend the forthcoming meeting due to other commitments so please accept my apologies.

I should also inform you that it is my intention to stand down as Chairman at the AGM this year so a replacement needs to be sought; having served time in various roles as Secretary, Conservation & Access Officer and Chairman I am withdrawing from an active role within CSCC, and will not be standing as an Officer elsewhere within CSCC, in order to spend more time underground.

All the best.

### 2. Secretary's Report

**The Secretary is also standing down at the next AGM to be held in May.**

**Info received on the next BCA AGM. <http://www.british-caving.org.uk/?page=151>**

**To Be held 28<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

**General subs requests received from CSCC member clubs.**

**DCA Information Circular & Minutes received are posted on the DCA website <http://www.thedca.org.uk/>**

### 3. Treasurers Report

Status

**The Treasurer is also standing down at the next AGM to be held in May**

**The Current Account stands at £1124.11**

As of 13.02.09

**The main Account holds £2075.67**

**To Clear WCMS Cheque for Bedlam Bank £884.67**

Now cleared

**The invoices for works done in Goatchurch were submitted at the meeting for £187.96**

**Post Meeting Note :- The monies for Goatchurch have been paid as have monies for a bolting hammer as requested by the Bolting Officer for Bolting projects.**

4. Conservation and Access Officers Report	Proposals
Swildons Entrance is on the move again. Take Care	
Large Loose Boulder removed with frightening ease from popular thoroughfare in Rods Pot	
Goatchurch stabilisation now finalised and funding submitted	Now paid
Compton Martin Ochre Mine gate needs repairing	LW to action
The landowner for Ariel/Blacknor has changed. Its hoped a new access agreement may be established	Nigel Graham giving updates
GP to write to the head of Environment ref the loss of the two AONB wardens on Mendip through council cut backs, voicing CSCC concerns over the loss of this valuable Public service on Mendip.	GP to Action
Coral cave Lock is rusted up and needs removing	LW to Action
The CSCC Disto is out on loan to a PHd student.	

5. Equipment/Bolting Officers Report	Action
Thanks to Bruce Blagden and Andy Sparrow for helping me with the remaining 2 rods anchors.	
<b>Post Meeting Note The website has been updated to reflect this.</b>	
There has been a request for Bolts to be placed In Wigmore. Subject to approval from The bolting Coordinator who was absent from the meeting, this was approved and agreed that the CSCC would fund it. LW noted that because the cave was in Red Marl and not Limestone, it is unlikely the bolts will be automatically covered under the existing BCA anchor scheme. DC requested that a preliminary survey for the location of the bolts be submitted to the meeting for approval. This was over-ruled	AA to Liaise with Wigmore Diggers

6. Training Officers Report
Vacant Position

7. Webmasters Report	Action
DC to check access details for cavers to Bedlam Bank Mine upto date, on the website.	DC to action
The website is functioning correctly with Officers being able to submit they're own information	

8. BCA Officers Report
No report Received.
DC submitted the draft copy of the new BCA funding Principles for Regional Councils.
There is a new website <a href="http://www.caving-library.org.uk">www.caving-library.org.uk</a> with a powerful search engine and a super efficient Librarian. The Library is based at Matlock and is currently paid for by the BCRA. This is not a bottomless pit of money so eventually funding will be sought from other areas such as from those who use this free service the most.(all cavers)
The CSCC therefore supports and approves of the BCA helping to fund this national caving library
Sid Perou is looking for any historical or modern audio recordings (caving related) to go into a recording archive on a website which is due to go live soon. All submissions welcome.

The BCA has moved over to a new webserver. They have moved to their own server. And where originally they were charged by their host provider for extras, they are now bundled free. The new rates are very competitive and clubs with their own hosting are urged to see if the BCA can host them cheaper.

The Child protection policy has been reworded and re released online.  
<http://www.british-caving.org.uk/?page=102>

Idris Williams is setting up a Scout Caving Group to be a constituent body and represented on the BCA council.

Hidden Earth is to host The European Federation of Speleology meeting this year on Mendip.

#### Any Other Business

LW raised concerns that the CSCC current account funds were declining and ways should be sought to Boost this through fund raising.

CS noted that many of the projects were funded by the BCA coffers, some of which may still needed to be submitted to the BCA in order to bolster the CSCC Account. **CW to action**

There were concerns that Reynolds Rift in Chelmscombe Quarry had had its entrance bulldozed over possibly inadvertently whilst refurbishment of the site takes place. The site is not an SSSI and is privately owned.

**Action AG to find out**

CS mentioned that she thought CSCC could operate just as effectively via an open forum (such as on the BCA forum) and there wasn't the need for as many meetings. Mendip caves are very well maintained by motivated individuals such as the Goatchurch Stabilisation works team who proved that effective works can be done without running it through a meeting first.

The meeting declined reducing the amount of meetings held.

#### Forthcoming Events

**Equipment & Techniques Committee Saturday 21 March 2009 Starting at 10.30 am**  
Location - The Old Methodist Chapel, Great Hucklow, Buxton, Derbyshire. SK17 8RG

**BCA AGM 28<sup>th</sup> March 2009 10.30am**  
Location - The Baptist Church Hall, Alvechurch

**Charterhouse Caving Company Ltd AGM April 4<sup>th</sup> 2009**  
Location Hunters Lodge 10.30 am Priddy Mendip

**British Cave Rescue Council Conference May 9, 2009**  
Location Nightingale Centre, Great Hucklow, hosted by Derbyshire Cave Rescue Organisation

**Hidden Earth 2009 Friday 25th September 2009 to Sunday 27th September 2009**  
Location - Churchill Community School, Churchill, North Somerset, Mendip

#### Dates of next meeting

**16<sup>th</sup> May 2009 Hunters Lodge 10.30 am (Annual General Meeting)**