



# 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 – Friday 20 Nov 2020

**Draft 27 Nov 2020**

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### 1 Attendance

#### Voting Attendees

Alan Dempster	Avon Scouts	AD	
John Abrahams	Reading University	JA	
Judi Durber	ECC		
Dave Cooke	Cheddar CC	DC	Treasurer/Webmaster
Peter Burgess	WCMS	PB	
Laura	BEC		
Dave King	MNRC	DK	
Graham Price	Cerberus	GP	C&A Officer
Frank Tully	WCC	FT	Secretary
Linda Wilson	UBSS	LJW	BCA Rep
Barry Wilkinson	WRCG		
Alan Grey	ACG		

#### Non Voting Attendees (Observers)

Andrew Atkinson	Equipment
Aubrey Newport	
Carmen Smith	
Chris Binding	
Dave Keegan	Training Officer
Ed Waters	Chairman
Estelle Sandford	
Graham Mullan	CCC Ltd
Sam Richards	
Zac W	

### 2 Apologies for Absence

Geoff Dommitt          Buckfastleigh Caving Group

### 3 Approval of minutes from meeting - 26 Sept 2020

Minutes approved with comments.

Vote passed Unanimous

### 4 Chairman's report

**Ed Waters**

Ed Waters      It has become clear that the CSCC officers do not have defined job descriptions. Having role descriptions would be very useful going forward.

Could officers bring some descriptions of their roles to the next general meeting.

The last few months have been very busy with a significant amount of work having been performed by Graham Price and Linda Wilson. Thanks for doing all this.

### 5 Secretary's report

**Frank Tully**

Frank Tully      Thanks for Graham Mullan for hosting and managing this and the last three zoom meetings.

No report beyond what has already been published.



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### **New Members**

CCC Ltd. have applied for membership of CSCC, as an access controlling body.

This is a non-voting membership as defined in the constitution adopted at the last meeting.

Proposal to accept CSCC Ltd, Dave Cooke, Seconded Alan Dempster, Vote passed Unanimous

The meeting welcomes CCC Ltd to the meeting.

### **6 C&A Report**

Report is published on Website alongside these minutes.

#### **Expenses**

Stoke Lane Slocker, Proposal to spend £1000 of a gate and materials to fit it.

Vote to approve expenditure, Proposed Dave Cooke, Seconded Judi Durber, Vote Passed Unanimous

There have been a number of locks removed and replacing the old locks on the Ubley warren shafts has depleted our stock.

Proposal to purchase another 20 locks, £350, Proposed Dave Cooke, Seconded Judi Durber, Vote passed Unanimous.

Proposal to accept C&A report Linda Wilson, Seconded Alan Grey, Vote passed Unanimous.

EW Thanks to Grayham Price for replacing the gate on Reservoir Hole at very short notice. It was a lot of work and will help greatly with the access negotiations.

### **7 Treasurer**

I have had confirmation from the BCA Secretary that the expenditure presented at the last meeting has been accepted.

#### **Mandates,**

Following a change of officers we need to changes the bank mandates.

Treasurer	Dave Cooke
Chairman	Edward Waters
Secretary	Francis Tully

Proposal to change the mandates to the above members Dave Cooke, Seconded Linda Wilson, Vote passed Unanimous.

#### **Funding available to clubs following losses due to COVID lockdown.**

Dave Cooke has circulated the following email and link to the CSCC mailing list.

#### **SPORT ENGLAND RETURN TO PLAY GRANTS**

The Return to Play: Small Grants fund seeks to support projects addressing the challenges coronavirus (Covid-19) has posed to people taking part in sport and physical activity.



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A total of £10 million of National Lottery funding is available, with grants of between £300 and £10,000, to help not-for-profit community organisations create coronavirus-secure settings for community sport and physical activity to resume this winter.

See <https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/our-funds/return-play-small-grants>

For info about other Sport England funding see <https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/our-funds>

EW and DC The CSCC cannot claim because it is fully funded by BCA.

Clubs need to make their own assessment as to whether they qualify and apply. Reps to take this back to their clubs.

### 8 Communications Officer

Ed Waters CSCC communicates with its members by email, its website and its facebook page, but various cavers have said that CSCC does not communicate with its members. We as a committee need to communicate better with our members, mostly to publicise what we are doing for them.

We have therefore created the new committee role of communications officer.

In the past we have had newsletters, but realistically newsletters are a lot of work.

### UKCaving

- Ed Waters should we ask for a CSCC sub-forum on UKCaving? CNCC DCUC & Cambrian have sub-forums.
- Graham Mullan I would strongly recommend that we do not have a UKCaving sub forum. In the past two years we have been singled out on the forum for trolling and abuse by both the users of UKCaving and the moderators.
- Judy Durber If we do not actively promote ourselves on UKCaving we risk being ignored.
- Linda Wilson CSCC has a well updated website, UKCaving has a long history of trolling and unmoderated bullying.
- Dave Keegan We could just post notices and then lock the threads, using the forum like a bulletin board?
- Estelle Sandford I find that UKCaving has a biased agenda regarding southern caving, we already publish individual events.
- Alan Grey Tav advertised his new guide to Mendip on UKCaving and within minutes the thread was renamed Guide to Mendips locked caves.
- Dave King In light of the issues with UK caving could we not use the BCA Forum
- Dave Cooke The BCA forum would be a good idea. When discussions start going wrong on UKCaving there is no recourse. On BCA's forum there is a democratic process available to solve the problem. However the forum is not well visited and is down at the moment.
- Ed Waters From the feeling of the meeting we do not want an official section of UKCaving. However individuals are willing to post articles. Do we have any volunteers to put together a newsletter?



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### CSCC Email Newsletter

- Lind Wilson I have used MailChimp to email out newsletters in the past. We could send out C&A reports and other news. The MailChimp analytics are very useful making it clear if people are reading the newsletters etc. It would tell us a lot about how we are reaching our audience.
- Linda Wilson I would be happy to do the first one and show someone how to use MailChimp system. However I'm too busy to do this full time.
- Laura I would be happy to help in the future
- Ed Waters Laura and Linda need to get to gather and look at this.
- Dave King It is then up to the club reps to circulate the information to the members they represent. Could the club reps also pass information the other way and send short stories to the communications officer
- Linda Wilson Stories work best with a few photographs.

### 9 Training Officer

- Ed Waters Dave Keegan is our new training officer.
- Dave Keegan I have already engaged with Nigel Atkins and I'm currently looking at some zoom training. I am also looking at expedition training. But what I really need to know is what do the clubs want.  
Could the club reps please contact me with their requests?

### BCA Training Report

- Dave Keegan There are significant changes to the way training is organised being discussed and potentially voted upon at the next BCA council meeting.

Reports on the proposed changes to way the BCA Training is organized., and the proposed changes, have been published along with the minutes of this meeting.

### Post Meeting Note to Reps by Email, 24-11-2020

Ed Waters Further to Dave's previous message, it may be helpful to have a look at the last BCA Council minutes (here: [20201104-BCA-Council-Minutes-Draft.pdf](#)) in particular Appendix c and Appendix D which provide some context to these proposals.

Please note that **if you have views on these proposed changes that they are likely to be voted on at the next BCA Council meeting on 2nd December - just over a week's time.**

If CSCC is to use its vote to reflect our members wishes then we need feedback from our member clubs to give us confidence that we are representing you fairly.

As such I would encourage members to make an effort to read and understand the proposed changes and let the CSCC know where they stand on this. Phil Rowsell (BCA Chair) has also indicated to me that he is more than willing to answer any questions you may have on this topic directly.

I know this is short notice, and recognise that it may not be possible to gain a consensus, but any feedback will help Linda when deciding how CSCC should vote on the 2nd if needed.

- Linda Wilson The next BCA council meeting is the 2nd of December.
- Ed Waters We only received the draft proposed changes today. Could Linda and Dave send a short summary and the document links.
- Linda Wilson There is likely to be a vote to approve these proposals at the next BCA council meeting. I would like a mandate as to how I should Vote?



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Ed Waters            Could the club reps read the proposals and the summary, then contact Linda Wilson with their recommendations.

### 10 Equipment Officer

Ed Waters            Andrew Atkinson is happy to stand as equipment officer. The CSCC officers but I would like a vote of the reps before co-opting Andrew into the position.  
Vote proposed Judi Durber, seconded Dave King, vote passed unanimous.

Ed Waters            The main issue is bringing all the paperwork together.

Andrew Atkinson    Regarding the supply of bolts, It is looking like we may soon have a solution to the problems we have been experiencing for the last few years.

Graham Price        Request for bolts on second ladder pitch of Tynings

Andrew Atkinson    Could you send in the relevant form found on the website, hopefully by the time the paperwork is processed we will have some bolts and resin available for use

### 11 BCA Representative

Linda Wilson        Report is on website with the agenda and minutes of meeting

Linda Wilson        BCA is moving to a much healthier place, council meetings have been pleasant to attend. There is currently a lot going on and we are engaging constructively.

Ed Waters            I think your reports are very useful and constructive. Thanks for all your hard work.

### 12 Webmaster

If you have any news for the website please send an email to Dave Cooke preferably with photos.

### 13 AOB

Frank Tully to move the meetings around a little, Fridays are difficult for many because people would normally be traveling to Mendip on a Friday. However it is clear that no days are suitable for all the reps.

### 14 Dates of meetings

Saturday	26	Sept 2020	19:00	EGM/AGM	Zoom
Friday	20	Nov 2020	19:00	GM	Zoom
Monday	15	Feb 2021	10:30	GM	Zoom
Saturday	14	May 2021	19:00	AGM	Zoom