

Minutes of the 61st Annual General Meeting of ULGMC

Held at the Royal Oak Hotel, Betws-y-Coed on Saturday 22nd of October 2011. The meeting convened at 6.15pm with the President Sue Darling in the chair.

Apologies for absence Elspeth & Tim Howell, David Jacobs, Tim & Caroline Marshall, Kim Ashworth, Mike Pollitt, Humfrey Berkely, Shaun West, Mr Williams

Members sent their best wishes to Vice-President Tim Marshall.

Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was accepted by acclamation.

Minutes of the 2010 AGM

The minutes of the 2010 AGM were accepted by acclamation.

The only matter arising was the subject of overseas members which was covered later in the meeting.

Finance

The treasurer, Keith Mott, reported that 2010 had produced a surplus as the clubs backlog in donations had fallen into the 2011 financial year.

Letters of thanks had been received from the Mountain Rescue Council for England and Wales as well as from the Mountain Rescue Council for Scotland for the club's donations.

The BMC subscription rates have been normalise to the effect that the first 20 members now pay the same rate as any subsequent members thus reducing our total BMC very slightly.

Mike Esten made clear that the club subscription rates were made up of 2 parts, where the club received one part directly whereas the other larger part was passed on to the BMC.

As the BMC had not increased subscriptions, the club subscription rates were left as follows and overseas subscription were set as follows:

- Individual member's rate: £20.00
- Family members' rate: £30.00
- Children's BMCinsurance rate (optional): £7.00
- Overseas individual rate: £6.50
- Overseas family rate: £8.50

Frances Mott seconded by Sue Esten proposed to approve the accounts. The accounts were approved by acclamation.

Expenditure

The treasurer reported that donations had been made to the usual organisations, but no donations had been made for 2011 and 2012 yet. The following donations were proposed for 2011 and 2012:

- Mountain Rescue Council for England and Wales: £300
- Mountain Rescue Scotland: £100
- Friends of the Lakes: £75
- Friends of Snowdonia: £75

Geoff Williams or Mike Esten seconded by Mike Hale proposed to approve this level of donations 2011 and 2012.

As the club is in financial good health and Fallcliffe Cottage needs a large amount of work, the

committee suggested that the club should donate an amount of money to install fireproof bedroom doors (possibly lockable or with bolts), which would make the cottage more attractive to smaller groups sharing. After leaving in excess of 3 years expenditure in the reserves, around £500 could be released. The motion was agreed by acclamation.

The treasurer noted that in 2011 no subsidised climbing instruction for younger club members had taken place as instructors amongst the club members had volunteered, but proposed to continue to subsidise the climbing instruction at the Easter and August bank holidays, which was agreed by acclamation.

Finally it was reported that the Fallcliffe trustees had found a good use for the club's offer of £2000 and used this to bring the emergency lighting and fire alarm system up to current requirements. As the final bill had come to slightly more than the agreed amount the committee suggested to the AGM to reimburse Fallcliffe for the full amount of £2192.49 which the AGM agreed by acclamation.

Committee Reports

President

The President's report is carried separately in the newsletter.

Secretary

The secretary reported that the number of printed newsletters was slowly shrinking, to the benefit of the club's finances. There was more work on the website though as the hut trustees had asked for help implementing an on-line hut booking system.

Membership Secretary

The membership secretary Keith Mott reported that more ULMC members were joining the club and overall membership was slightly up.

Meets Secretary

The meets secretary, Heather Rumble, thanked all meet leaders for volunteering to continue leading their traditional meets and also thanked those who had volunteered to lead new meets. The provisional meets list had many favourite old meets as well as some new meets and there might be a few additional meets as well. Also the feedback from members on their meets was useful and encouraging.

The meets secretary proposed changing the meets list to a rolling meets list, so that meets in the first half of the year would be advertised earlier than the AGM. The membership card would retain the same format, but the newsletter would advertise meets as soon as they were agreed with the meet leader.

The meets secretary requested that members express an interest to each meet leader well in advance so meets would not be cancelled due to lack of numbers.

Finally all members were encouraged to bring children or grand-children to the Easter and August bank holiday meets.

Trustees and Hut Wardens Report

Mike Warden presented a report for the hut wardens. Both Huts are now compliant with fire regulations and H&S requirements. Caseg is in a very good state but is in need of a new septic tank. Fallcliffe however needs more work and the next big item is to replace the roof.

After reviewing current needs, the Trustees had in accordance with their responsibilities asked Dave Jacob to stand down and had appointed Dave Morley as new warden for Fallcliffe. Until now, all wardens had been members of ULGMC but this was not essential. Trustees acknowledged the amount of work done by hut wardens, and had decided that wardens who had served for over 5 years would have free use of both huts for holiday purposes.

The trustees are currently working on a 5 year programme of replacing all trustees and for transparency, posts will be advertised. People with talent, knowledge, energy and skills should talk to the Trustees.

Ivor Delafield stated that when he had proposed Dave Jacob as warden of Fallcliffe it was on the understanding that Dave would be doing bookings only. Ivor had worked with Dave Jacob on the understanding that he was Deputy warden until 2010.

Mike Esten asked if there were constraints on the ability of Trustees to transfer money from the Caseg to the Fallcliffe accounts. Mike Warden noted that there were 2 separate Trusts and that while Fallcliffe was owned, Caseg was on a lease with 40 years remaining. There were no constraints on transfers.

Area representatives

Trevor Hellen reported that the South West area group had fallen dormant again.

Trefor Owen reported on the North Wales area meets:

- Parking was still an issue around Snowdon
- Winter climbing was causing plan damage and information for climbers was being published
- Fencing off some areas of the Carneddau was proposed
- Some climbing was now allowed on the Great Orme
- A path from the Pen-Y-Gyrd to Pen-Y-Pass had now been completed
- Still no path to Dinas Cromlech
- Capel Curig YHA was now a bunk house
- There is a new brewery in Conwy

Programme for 2012

The detailed meets programme was presented by the meets secretary and agreed.

For the next AGM the Millstone in Hathersage had been provisionally booked for the 0th of October 2012.

Elections

As no nominations for club officers had been received and incumbents had agreed to stand for re-election, current officers were elected by acclamation with Hon Vice President John Burrows

in the Chair.

The President announced he intention to stand down at the next election.

The AGM endorsed Neil Brindley continuing as a committee member without portfolio. Furthermore the AGM approved of the nomination of three additional committee members without portfolio as per the constitution:

- Mike Pollitt – former ULMC President
- Linda Coombs – former ULMC President
- Stefan Tietz – already an active helper to the committee

The honorary scrutineer, Mike Warden had agreed to continue in this role, as had the ULMC and BMC representatives. The new committee members were going to take on some of these roles in the coming year.

AOB

Mike Warden made a formal proposal to the AGM, to elect 2 members of the club to honorary membership status. Both John Burrows and Willie Butler had made contributions over the call of duty to the acquisitions of both Caseg and Fallcliffe. This was seconded by Geoff Williams.

Neil Brindley supported this from the view of members who were not present at the time of the acquisitions but had benefitted greatly from the huts.

In accordance with the constitution a formal vote was taken with 37 votes for and 3 abstentions. John Burrows and Willie Butler were thus formally made honorary members of the club.

Trevor Hellen started a useful discussion about the structure of mountaineering and climbing clubs within the University of London. Linda Coombs and Mark Stitson explained the fragmentation of the University of London putting ULMC in the position of being the club for students whose colleges did not have their own club. Keith Mott explained that for practical purposes we treated applicants to ULGMC as eligible for membership if they attended an institution which was part of the University of London when ULGMC was founded. The Committee would continue to seek links with college climbing clubs as well as ULMC.

The AGM ended with the Annual Dinner at 7.45pm.

Sue Darling, President

Mark Stitson, Secretary