

Cambridge University Caving Club

Committee Meeting – Tuesday 1st of Nov 2011 – Minutes

Members present: Mark Shinwell, Tony Rooke, Stuart Bennett, Nial Peters, Djuke Veldhuis, David Molnar, Jess Stirrups, Adrian Horrell, James Hickson, Aiora Zabala

Jess suggests that meet emails need to be more enthusiastic. David adds later on that our emails should sound less desperate.

A. Calendar

1. **Talks:**
 1. Nial, Antarctica – 8 November – 7pm, Clare Hall, Aiora to organise it
 2. Wookey talk on Mulu, preferably by the end of this term
 3. Mark to give on Ardeche early next term in January/ early February, just before opening the sign up for the trip. Mark to book Queens Hall
 4. Paul Fretwell next term, we shall contact any Univ Photo Society for a joint organisation
2. Who/ how to organise **Christmas meet to Yorkshire**.
 1. Still looking for someone to organise:
 1. Dates: around 26th – 2nd Dec
 2. Need to book permits for Ease Gill each day, and any other caves each day
3. Calendar for **Lent term**. Matt to book huts and permits
 1. 27-29th Jan – South Wales in White Walls hut (Chelsea club)
 2. 10-12th Feb – Yorkshire in Green Close hut
 3. 24-26th Feb – Mendips in Wessex hut preferably, alternatively in MNRC or any other
 4. 9-11th Mar – Peak in TSG hut
4. **Ardèche** needs to be announced as soon as possible:
 1. Dates: 23rd March – 7th of April
 2. Approximate cost: 300- 400 € all included
 3. Announcement
 1. (Mich.) When announcing Yorkshire, say that if you cannot make it, there is an alternative to go to Ardeche
 2. (Mich.) A separate email to mention in which dates this will happen
 3. (Mich.) Add it to the calendar
 4. (Lent) In Mark's talk

B. Membership and insurance fees

1. Insurance to be paid all in once: year + quarter
 1. January to January: 8GBP students, 16GBP non-students
 2. Final quarter of 2011: 2GBP students (required after the 17 days period)
2. Membership: 6GBP to be paid together with insurance
3. No explicit incentives for members are regarded as necessary

C. Meet Accounting Policy

1. The committee agreed on figures for:
 1. **Meet fees:** one day [to be agreed next year]; and weekend 28GBP
 2. Rental fees of **personal gear** considered on top of meet fees
 3. Rental fees of **SRT:** 1GBP/day of use; lights 50p /day; oversuit + undersuit + helmet: 1,50GBP
 4. Discount fee for **drivers:** -5 GBP provisionally

There is a discussion on **transport**. Possible use of university minibuses is raised and discarded as someone argues that they would be more expensive for CUCC's long trips than private hire. Car wear by the club may be too expensive for some drivers. Full car wear reimbursement may be too expensive for the club. Djuke will find out what they do in other clubs and it will be reviewed in next meetings.

D. Cowstails and safety cords (C&SC)

This was a long discussion which consumed most of Jess' delicious brownies. The discussion involved some attendees asking why there is suddenly so much concern, and other attendees answering that they had seen really unsuitable C&SC being given to novices, other replying that the conditions in which C&SC are kept between the end of meets and the date when they are returned by users are unknown. Questions were raised over why there is so much concern about C&SC and not over other critical equipment such as harnesses.

A side effect of this debate was a suggestion to **throw away the CUCC museum objects** that are in the T-store, so that none of them are actually used by accident (maybe previously taking a photo of them to put on the safety section of the wiki)

Various options were suggested, and finally the last one (d) won by consensus of all present members

- a. New C&SC to be bought every year for training. These may be used the year after by novices underground until New Year, for about 1 or 2 meets and then throw them away.
- b. Keep club SRT kits with everything, including respective C&SC
- c. C&SC for training only, and novices having to buy them
- **d. C&SC for training only, and novices buying them from the club at the reduced price of 5GBP, where the club will subsidize the rest of their cost**

Stuart will look into prices before buying new rope for new training C&SC

Other suggestions were:

- Consistently buying different colours of rope every year, to easily keep track
- Labelling C&SC

E. Accounts

Accounts were approved. This is registered in separate EGM Minutes.

F. Budget and expenses this year

An attendee argued that it may not be necessary to discuss about this yet until the extra budget is actually available in the club's account.

Two guidebooks will be purchased as Tony is travelling this weekend to Yorkshire. This expense shall be included in the yearly budget of 50GBP for the library. All agreed that books necessary for caving shall be bought without further discussion.

G. Communications

This issue is briefly discussed. Djuke asks for permission to the committee in order to set up a blog, a permission which is granted by consensus. She will set up the blog, add photos, and type in logbook entries, among others. She suggests that eventually the club should have a position for communications and web interaction next year.

H. Other matters

Our beloved Social Secretary sadly announces that he has to resign, because his presence will be required in various other exotic places overseas in the following months. The committee shall look for other victims to cover this post.

Some attendees request the president to write that "*he resigns as social sec because of sociopath*". The president does not understand this term, as it often happens, and she thinks that maybe it's better not to. Once back in her shelter, she looks this up in the dictionary and finds that this is certainly not an appropriate term for our Social Secretary, who has done so much for the club this year.