

MINUTES OF THE 331st MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WESSEX CAVE CLUB
HELD AT UPPER PITTS ON SUNDAY JANUARY 11th AT 10am

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE None. Absent- J.Ham
late - D.Morrison

CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS Phil remarked that the new committee seemed to be working well.

3. MINUTES OF THE 330th MEETING agreed and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING

a) Handbook. It has a few pages missing but Phil Hendy will rewrite these.

PGH

b) Tackle- deferred to the arrival of D.Morrison.

c) delete.

d) Ben Dors collection. £10 has been given to Priddy Organ Fund, and an acknowledgement received from the vicar. Delete.

e) Howard Kenney. It is still not known to which charity our donation is to be sent.

f) Keys. The downstairs lock has been changed, and a new spare hut key obtained. Issue of new downstairs keys. was agreed to Pete and Alison Moody, Ian Jepson and Brian Prewer.

The old downstairs lock and keys are to be kept for future use.

g) Bonfire night. The rescue box has not yet been restocked. The first aid box may also need restocking, especially with aspirins and small plasters.

h) Swildon's book. Delete.

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5. MATTERS ARISING FROM AGM

a) Delete.

b) sewage. Defer to next meeting as John Ham not present.

c) Journal prize- still not paid.

d) Delete

e) Delete

f) c/f to sub committee. Insurance is the problem. Adrian suggested we employ a solicitor to deal with this, but the meeting felt it would be prohibitively expensive. It was agreed that Adrian get a quote.

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6. UPPER PITTS PROGRESS

1) electricity. Phil will contact Mike York as nothing has been done.

2) boiler guard rail. c/f.

3) drive. c/f till spring.

4) incinerator. c/f till spring.

5) shower. The cells have been moved, the windows in the old workshop made opaque, and a door put on the entrance way, with a bolt. We have quarry tiles for the floor. Fred had got quotes for the shower kit and £35 was the cheapest. Phil had seen some for £32-40, but these are not very robust and it may be that it would be better to pay a bit more for a better one. Adrian had seen a 7kw one for £43.

The charge in the meter was discussed and 5p agreed on.

Susan had tried to get a free shower curtain but been unable to do so. She was authorized to buy one.

SLD

6.) extension. The tackle store has not yet been started. Fred had got quotes on insulation but it would cost over £100. It was felt that this would be a waste of money as it would never be recovered in fuel savings. A ceiling however would be a good idea as it would hold the heat down and old hardboard might be used. c/f to next meeting. We have been offered an oil-fired burner to run a radiator, but it was felt that this would be misused, and it would be better to stick to the woodburning stove, as originally planned.

7) radiators. These now seem to be okay, although there are one or two

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still not working.

8) crockery. A shortage had been reported, but there is still quite a lot in the upstairs store.

9) ladies Dorm. This was again discussed re tidiness, and because two members had asked that it be made a members only dorm. After some discussion this was rejected, though it was emphasized that members have priority, and that no changing from caving gear should go on in the dorm. A notice will be put on the door to this effect.

Tackle

6 15ft tethers and 6 10 ft tethers have been obtained.

John asked re the stainless steel bar etc which had not been bought and asked that the authorized float be paid back, since there was still £10 to £15 left from last year.

The polypropylene rope has been bought at the agreed price. It will be cut into 3 50 ft lengths and 1 150 ft length.

Quotations from Alpine Sports had been obtained for:-

Viking 3 120ft £20
150ft £27

Mammut Kernmantle 9mm dynaflex 150ft £28-95
11mm " " £36-50

Fred offered the use of an 11mm kernmantle rope for expedition tackle, and this was accepted.

Bob is midway through making nylon pulleys.

Ladders are still being rolled badly. Dave Morrison has the photos for the journal article on this.

Adrian felt that the ends of the ladders were being cut too short which was the cause of some problems. This however is done by the person who does the tailletting.

7. CAVING POLITICS

Charterhouse. Permits have come in, but no 5 year ones have come. The money is to be put in the marked tin under the stairs, and not in the safe.

CSCC. Susan Deal attended the meeting of the CSCC on January 10th as our rep. with John Deal and Dave Morrison as observers. The fixed aids in Lamb Leer were discussed. All these have been checked by two engineers who approved of it all except the entrance ladder, which needs the belts replaced. No more than 4 cavers are to stand on the wooden platform at one time.

The AGM of the NCA will be held shortly and this, with its equipment sub-committee were discussed. The CSCC holds to its complaints about the makeup and conduct of the latter and the Wessex affirms its support for CSCC in this.

8. TREASURERS REPORT

In the bank £1300 plus £230 less outstanding cheques £503.

In the building Society £770

The insurance money from the robbery has come in. Less than half the subs have arrived.

Barry asked if plastic credit-card type membership cards could be issued at an extra charge. he will get a quote.

Hut fund. £67 is to be transferred to this from the general account John Deal felt that it would be necessary to raise hut fees this year otherwise we should make a loss on the hut.

A general discussion followed on the subject of the conscience box and other financial matters. The position of the conscience box was felt not to be as prominent as it might be, but the committee could not agree where to move it to, but did agree to paint it red and relabel it.

SALES

Carbide- a supply of carbide has been arranged with the BEC. We will get it in at 35p per pound and sell it at 50p per pound.

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Nife bulbs have been repriced to 60p although they were old stock and this has caused considerable ill-feeling. The matter was discussed and it was felt that old stock should not be repriced. Two price lists will be maintained, one for members and one for non-members, except for certain items, and things for sale to members only. Ammo boxes are selling very fast, and we are undercutting rocksport while still making a profit. £100 was allocated to buy some more.

9. NEW MEMBERS

1 David Clark
25 Fairfield Park Rd. prop. P. Moody
Cheltenham, Glos. sec. D. Morrison

accepted

2 Nigel Gosden
21 Manbey St prop. R. Websell
Stratford, London E5 sec. A. Meedy

10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A paper had been sent out by Phil Hendy on the subject of a possible probationary membership scheme. This was deferred till next meeting for in-depth discussion.

A letter has been received from Atty, who appears to be recovering. It was reported to the committee that Eric Hensler was to be married on 24/1/81. A telegram is to be sent.

The 1981 dinner will need to be booked soon if we wish to use the Caveman restaurant. We were concerned about the standard of the beer and Dave Morrison will enquire if better can be obtained.

Barry asked if sofa rugby could be banned but this was rejected by the committee.

Al Keen reported that more oil and gas was needed. John Ham was not present to comment.

A transceiver property of the MRO has been fitted. It must not be interfered with. A broadcasting unit will be fitted in due course.

It was suggested that local club trips might be organized to encourage new members,

The meeting closed at 1-35 pm.

SLD

Phil Hendy 15/3/81

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WESSEX CAVE CLUB WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY MARCH 15th AT 10 am.

AGENDA

- 1) Apologies for absence.
- 2) Chairman's opening remarks.
- 3) Minutes of last meeting.
- 4) Matters arising.
- 5) Upper Pitts progress.
- 6) Dinner 1981
- 7) Caving Politics
- 8) Treasurer's report.
- 9) New Members
- 10) New Membership Arrangements.
- 11) Any Other Business