

CLIMB SHETLAND

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD IN THE BOWLERS' BAR, CLICKIMIN CENTRE, LERWICK, ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28th.

Present: Al Whitworth (Chair, Website), Andy Long (Secretary, Climbing Wall Secretary), Ewan Stirling (Treasurer), Julie Maguire (Meets Secretary), Natalie Pion, Chris Storey.

Also present (N/M): Pete Richardson, Anna Pigott, Alison Campbell.

Apologies for absence: Pete Sawford, Andrew Hunter, Tommy Robertson, Kelly Robertson, Iain Macbride, Dave Gardner.

Al Whitworth gave a brief summary of the year's activities. A successful winter trip based near Spean Bridge. Much development and discoveries of new crags. Particularly worthy of mention were The Coall and the east side of Bressay. There were two trips to Skye – mostly walking but some easy climbing. There was also an excellent "weekender" to The Grind of the Navir, Eshaness.

It was suggested that an effort be made to get more trips organised. Tommy had expressed a willingness to do this. Proposed by Al, seconded by Ewan. The next winter trip needs immediate attention as a delay in applying for a grant last year prevented us from getting one. Ewan pointed out that in order to be eligible for a grant it would be necessary for us to amend the constitution to comply with rules governing equality of opportunity as well as working with young and vulnerable people (i.e. disclosure). Secretary to attend to this and also speak to Tommy.

Treasurer's report centred on the fact that the club has spent all its money on the wall sessions, which seldom pay for themselves. The subject of the wall came up at several times during the meeting. For the sake of clarity, these remarks are gathered together later into one notional discussion. There was some discussion about the subscription. Some people were prepared to see an increase but the general level of opinion was to leave it as it is. This was agreed.

Treasurer stated that he wished to step down. Al agreed to take over.

Secretary stated that whilst he was prepared to carry on in this post he would prefer not to be responsible for the wall. Andrew and Julie appointed jointly; both had expressed a willingness to do this.

Website – Al to bring this up to date. New beginners section to be added.

The Wall:

Both the Treasurer and the Wall Secretary emphasised that the wall was using up all the group's money. Not enough people were using the club sessions. These are now Tuesday only, currently booked until the end of April.

Various methods were discussed of making more money out of the wall sessions. Greater publicity was one of them. A poster on the notice board, an article for the Shetland Times and a regular announcement on Radio Shetland's "What's On" were all decided on.

Pete Richardson suggested that the first hour be a youth hour, whereby youngsters would be able to come down without parents and climb under supervision for a suggested fee of £3.50. He had negotiated a reduced wall hire fee of £7.00 for this hour. The session would require at least one qualified (SPA) supervisor to be there, who would also have to be disclosed. Andy Long to chase this up straight away. Kids to be S1 and above.

It was decided to adopt this. Pete would "feed" inducted youngsters into the system. 28th October was mooted as the first evening. Publicity avenues mentioned above to be used. Andy Long to write article for Times.

Andy Long mentioned that membership renewal forms would be posted out to all present members.

No further business and the meeting was closed.