

Oxford University Cave Club Minutes of TGM, Trinity 2001

Present were: Chris Densham, Hilary Greaves, Rich Doyle, Britt Jorgensen, Alison Waterfall, Steve Roberts, Simon Goddard, Paul Mann

Agenda:

- 1) Apologies for absence
- 2) Matters Arising
- 3) Officer's Reports
 - President
 - Chair
 - Secretary
 - Meets Sec.
 - Treasurer
 - Gear Officer
 - Lamp Post
 - Librarian
 - Van Man
 - Expedition Leader
- 4) Election of new Meets Secretary
- 5) AOB

1) Apologies: Keith Hyams, Pippa Crosby, and James Hooper sent their apologies

At the start of the meeting we weren't quorate. However since all decisions made at a TGM should be ratified at an AGM, the meeting was started anyway.

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed

2) Matter's Arising: Chris had copies of the new constitution with him.

3) Officer's Reports:

President: Steve reported in his role of attendee at Clubs Committee meetings. The Clubs committee has something like £30000 that they don't know what to do with and they will be looking for serious suggestions. He suggested we should get together with some other clubs to ask for something to be done with the back of Bevington Road. We have already been written to by Rag who were asking us for money as they want to concrete the back yard and who are planning to rebuild their building. Steve suggested that a two storey building could be built along the back wall. All the current buildings are ancient and falling to bits, and a better use could be made of the space. A new building would be useful for us as at present we have lots of gear stored in random places, e.g. Chris's house. Also there is the safety issue that gear gets eaten stored in the current hut.

As librarian Steve apologised for the fact that the website hasn't been updated recently.

Chair: Chris has written a new constitution, which he distributed copies of. Any comments should be given to Chris.

Bureaucracy: We were going to see Howard Jeffs about safety stuff, but this has now been put off until after expedition. However he would like a few things from us before the expedition goes: An expedition prospectus, names of who is going and what dates, something about travel arrangements, contacts.

We should get something sorted before the Fresher's start coming on trips.

Secretary: Nothing to report

Meets Sec: Keith was absent but had sent in a report:

- 1) All the meetings that have taken place so far this term have run successfully.
- 2) Not many meetings have run this term
- 3) There is a rescue practice in the Peaks this weekend which everyone is encouraged to go to.
- 4) Keith will be a visiting student at the University of Arizona next term (and over the vacation), so it is probably necessary to elect a new meets sec.
- 5) To the incoming meets sec: Gingling Hole is booked for Michaelmas. The permit is in the logbook which Rich has, along with instructions for how to be a meets sec, etc.

Pip had said that if we couldn't find any one for meets sec that she would do it. Chris proposed her for meets sec, seconded by Simon.

Treasurer: (See attached report) We have a lot of money. Hilary can't quite see why we have so much money. Paul doesn't understand it either. It would be a good idea to spend some of this money. (Approx £1500).

Chris said that the van account is massively in debt. The only people who are owed money are Chris and Steve. The club is likely to have to bail out the van account to a tune of £600-£800. The van account may also owe money to Special Projects. Some of the surplus money in the club account should therefore be used to wrap up the van account.

Steve suggested dumping some of the extra money in the special projects account. This is the club's high interest account.

Hilary suggested making a grant to the Xitu expedition. However this wouldn't make sense if at the end of expedition there is money left over which has to be given back to grant bodies. Rich said the expedition is likely to be in excess at the end anyway. There is a chance of giving some of this to e.g. special projects, or of putting the extra money to the cost of Kitty in Spain. We could reduce the deposit for OUCC members, but there is then the question of whether we should tell the grant bodies, etc., which specify that people have to pay at least about £400 per person (not including personal gear). If we reduce the deposit it also undermines our case for top up money from the University expeditions people. However we haven't applied for any yet as we are already in surplus. It was felt that there was a case for including SRT and caving kit ruined over the course of the expedition as part of the cost of the expedition. It was suggested that we wait until the end of the expedition and then decide.

Simon suggested we could spend the money on gear for the club so we can keep expedition rigging gear separate. It was felt that we didn't really need two sets of gear and we should just put a small amount of gear in the hut and keep an eye on it. There is a general appeal for people to buy any caving gear they need now as shops are desparate, so we could buy some new gear for the club now. We could look at buying new things for the freshers. We have lost two of the furry suits we bought and the belts are now down to about two. We should change the lock on the hut again as too many people have keys.

We need a system for taking gear out and bringing it back. A number of people had never seen the apparent book for signing out gear. There may be a problem checking off gear when you bring it back at 3 o'clock. People should check it off when it's being put back in the minibus. Chris suggested never taking the gear out of the minibus at weekends, but we don't want to leave a minibus of gear where it can get broken into.

It should be the responsibility of the people delegated by the meets sec to get the gear back. Steve suggested numbering the ropes. Someone would have to keep a log, but it would be easier than keeping track of a random number of ropes. This is what the Sports Federation wanted us to do! It was decided that we should do this. We should also number caving suits.

After we have used a certain amount of money closing Van account (<£1000) there will still be something like £800 extra to spend on other gear. A subgroup of people could decide what we need and this could be bought now to support the caving shops and put away till October. It may be easiest for Simon to do this as he has been doing the gear order. However we shouldn't assume we'll get the same discount as for the expedition. We could consider buying wellies in sensible sizes. Simon will come up with a proposal.

Membership fees: It was decided we could have a concession for students. It was agreed to knock this down to £10, which is the same as for country members.
We could also subsidise trips more in October.

Ario 2000 still owes the club money.

There was a treasurer's meeting with the sports federation. They objected to us giving club members credit. They also wanted it done in a bound book by hand rather than on the computer, although they eventually decided we could do it that way unless the Proctor's complained. We should keep a paper print out of the accounts. Club members could help by giving the treasurer receipts, and by not having too much club credit.

Gear Officer: Covered in treasurer's report

Lamp Post: Not present

Librarian: The library exists

Van Man: The van exists

Expedition Leader: The planning is going well. They are thinking of leaving gear in Spain, and wanted to check this was ok. It was agreed that it was as long as it's logged. Steve suggested asking at the Ferreteria, or other places for somewhere to store it. He was not so sure about leaving it in a hole although this is safer than taking it back to Oxford. A good place to leave the gear may be 2/5. We received a grant of transport subsidy on the grounds that we wanted to leave gear out in Spain. They wanted to know insurance details. At the moment we don't insure gear, but we could make inquiries to see how much it would cost.

Election of new Meets Sec: Pip was elected.

AOB. There was no other business.

The meeting was closed at 10.40