

ULSA AGM 2015 Minutes

15th March 2015

Present: John Holloway (JH), Ian Peachey (IP), Nadia Raeburn-Charradi (NR), Rose Wilson (RWi), Nick McEntyre (NM), Karen Wilton (KW), Jenny Cook (JC), Lyndon Easterbrook (LE), Richard Vidler (RV), Ian Brown (IB), Tim Williams (TW), Ian Hodge (IH), Marion Nutter (MN), Stuart Abbott (SAb), Ann Barber (AB), Mike Butcher (MB), Daniel Lenartowicz (DL), Sarah Parker (SP), Michael Fearn (MF), Shezi Mohamadi (SM), Robert Rignall (RR), George Bissett (GB), Sam Allshorn (SAI), Chris Williams (CW), Holly Bradley (HB), Matthew Day, (MD), Caroline Nunn (CN), Rachel Turnbull (RT), Brendan Hall (BH), Nathan Walker (NW), Rob Watson (RWa), Noel Snape (NS), Paul Fretwell (PF)

Minutes taken by JH, transcribed by MN/JH

Proxy Votes:

IP for Nathanael Dalton and Katey Bender
RWi for Simon Jepps
NM for Dave Birch
JC for Caroline Jepps
MB for Tom Fenton
HB for Dinny Davies
RT for six LUUCaS members

The meeting commenced at 9:45.

1. **Apologies:** Dinny, Mark Cake, Simon, Dave, Caroline
2. **Minutes from the last meeting** - available on the ULSA website
 - a. *Proposal to accept:* Proposed by SAI; Seconded by MF
 - b. *Vote:* All in favour
3. **Officer's Reports**
 - a. *President* (HB)
 - i. Given the previous night at the meal.
 - b. *Vice President* (MD)
 - i. Given the previous night at the meal.
 - c. *Secretary*
 - i. Good year, good GIAGs,
 - ii. Student membership rose,
 - iii. Good caves, meeting other clubs
 - d. *Meets & Minutes Secretary* (JH)
 - i. Several trips cancelled due to rain,
 - ii. Several successful trips, notably Birks Fell Cave,
 - iii. Trip to White Scar Cave on 14/03/15
 - e. *Treasurer* (CW)
 - i. Membership £150
 - ii. approx 70 members overall
 - iii. Money outgoing £77/pa BCA membership
 - iv. £2100 club account,
 - v. £920 Watty fund
 - f. *Tackle Master* (RWa)
 - i. New rope 400 m, 20 new maillons, new Krabs

- ii. New funding: 6 new SRT kits, 8 helmets and lights
- g. *Training Officer*
 - i. Post currently vacant
- h. *Recorder/ Librarian*
- i. *Photographer* (BH)
 - i. Finalised video for Riley awards
- j. *Editor*
 - i. Would like people to write articles for the newsletter
- k. *Web Master*
 - i. Struggles for time but would still like to stand
 - ii. Would like help
- l. *Distribution Officer* (SAI)
 - i. Sold some surveys
 - ii. ULSA 1 available £15

4. **Elections**

- a. *President*
 - i. HB Proposed by SAI; Seconded by MD
 - ii. *Vote:* All in favour
- b. *Meets and Minutes Secretary*
 - i. JH Proposed by SAI; Seconded by MD
 - ii. *Vote:* All in favour
- c. *Treasurer*
 - i. CW Proposed by SAI; Seconded by HB
 - ii. *Vote:* 31 in favour, 1 abstention

[At this point, several people declared their proxy votes as described above.]

- d. *Training officer*
 - i. Katey Bender (absent) Proposed by IP; Seconded by RW
 - ii. MD Proposed by MD; Seconded by MB
IP suggested the title "Training Officer" be changed to "Training Coordinator" to reduce liability. RV suggested both people take on responsibilities. SAI suggested changing the title before voting in the post and that they may not want to work together
 - iii. *Vote for title change:* All in favour
 - iv. *Vote for joint role:* 30 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention
 - v. *Vote for Katey as Training Coordinator:* 16 in favour, 9 abstentions
 - vi. *Vote for MD as Training Coordinator:* 25 in favour, 10 abstentions
- e. *Recorder/ Librarian*
 - i. MB Proposed by RWa; Seconded by NW
 - ii. *Vote:* 31 in favour, 1 abstention
- f. *Photographer*
 - i. BH suggested DL should stand
 - ii. BH Proposed by RWa; Seconded by AB
 - iii. DL Proposed by MD; Seconded by BH
 - iv. *Vote for BH as Photographer:* 6 in favour, 3 abstentions
 - v. *Vote for DL as photographer:* 20 in favour, 8 abstentions
- g. *Editor*
 - i. IP Proposed by RW, Seconded by RV
 - ii. *Vote:* All in favour
- h. *Ordinary Members*

- i. Caroline Jepps Proposed by SAI; Seconded by MD
- ii. RWi Proposed by SAI; Seconded by RWA
- iii. Vote for Caroline Jepps as an ordinary member: 30 in favour, 2 abstentions
- iv. Vote for RWi as an ordinary member: 31 in favour, 1 abstention
- i. *Webmaster*
 - i. Jon Haynes Proposed by SAI; Seconded by NS
 - ii. Vote: 30 in favour, 2 abstentions
- j. *Distribution Officer*
 - i. SAI Proposed by LE, Seconded by RV
 - ii. Vote: 31 in favour, 1 abstentions

5. **Matters arising**

- a. *ULSA membership fees*
 - i. 40 non student members
 - ii. Most pay £10
 - iii. Proposal for Keeping membership fees the same: Proposed by SAI; Seconded by MF
 - iv. Vote: All in favour
- b. *Should the club continue with its CNCC committee position role (SAI)*
 - i. MB suggested putting updates in the newsletter
 - ii. IP and LE said they would be happy to go to meetings
 - iii. Vote: All in favour
- c. *Electing club CNCC representatives (HB)*
 - i. JH, IP and LE proposed
 - ii. Vote: All in favour
- d. *Use of Watty fund (HB/ SJ)*
 - i. Currently to be used for outstanding contributions to caving/ the club. Nobody has made any outstanding contributions thus far. SAI suggested this remains the same. HB would like the money to be used to help the club by buying surveying equipment. IP suggested using survey instruments as a prize. HB said that surveying should be encouraged as it is not at present. There is already a surveying kit. TW said that Watty would have liked a survey kit to be bought, but also sees other viewpoint. If the kit is lost then so is the money. HB suggested surveying to increase club funds MN said survey equipment could be lost or hidden away/ inaccessible HB said it would have to be looked after SAI suggested interesting new local caves should be surveyed to make money RWi suggested that the club could commit to replace the survey equipment with normal club funds if it was lost NS said that the equipment shouldn't be used to make money, more about getting people to learn surveying. He would be happy to help teach. MD offered for LUUCaS to buy the survey gear. IP asked if survey gear would be a fitting award if it would be used as club gear. Names could be engraved on the gear as an award.

LE suggested the gear might not get used. Could get survey equipment and still keep the rest of the money as now. Survey equipment could be looked after by ULSA president.

Nicole Leivers suggested it could be engraved in memory of Watty

RV said a set could be bought and maximum usage gotten out of it

SAI said that the current survey set is unused and a second one would not change that. Also there could be a new project to survey Fountains Fell

RWa said Nathanael Dalton surveys with other clubs

RV suggested having an annual surveying weekend on the calendar and an annual Watty award similar to the Paul Pot award

HB wants to encourage surveying and the current gear is not in good condition

SAI said that most surveying is done with a disto.

HB said that people should start learning by using a compass and clinometer

RV suggested that whoever runs the surveying weekend could commit to maintaining the kit and buy whatever they deem necessary

HB said that more people were needed within the club who could teach surveying, rather than relying on non-members

NS suggested creating a new committee position

PF (newly arrived) suggested that survey data should go in the database (cave registry) and somebody in the club should organise some survey trips

AB said that the three caving officers in LUUCaS could help

IP said that they probably won't

HB said that experienced people should organise it, but students could help the student side

IP said that the main barrier was the "back end" work for example surveying and an experienced person needs to be in charge

TW reminded everyone that the vote was to change the Watty fund or leave it as it is

MB said that the student fund is transient and that they should spend the LUUCaS money on gear

HB said that people want survey gear to be used

IP suggested that starting a project would demonstrate that the equipment would be used

NS said that experience is more of a barrier than gear

IP said that ULSA needed projects to send interested people to

PF said that West Kingsdale still needs resurveying and he is happy to enter data into surveying

NS said that students should learn surveying

RV said that the funds should stay as they are for now

- ii. Proposal for Leave the funds as they are and revisiting the matter in future:
Proposed by HB; Seconded by TW

- iii. Vote: All in favour

6. **Any other business**

a. *Change of Venue*

TW said that the venue is getting stale and the food is not as good as it was in the past as well as being more expensive. Should an alternative venue be considered?

HB said that in the past it was played by ear and a vote would constrain the organisation

SAI proposed that the dinnermeet remains in the remit of the committee

HB said that involving LUUCaS would avoid problems

PF said that both committees should discuss this in the next month

HB said it needed to be discussed soon

PF said that they needed to discuss a budget and compromises

MD said to leave it open to discussion to give leeway to the people organising it

LE said that the vote last year constrained this year and that this year was not value for money and the food was not good

PF said it was time for a change

- i. Proposal for leaving the dinnermeet in the remit of the committee: proposed by HB; Seconded by MD
- ii. Vote: All in favour

b. *Watty's Picture*

- i. SAI suggested it be paraded around Ingleton and Dent
- ii. HB will look after it and bring it to dinnermeets

c. *Library Budget*

- i. SAI proposes that librarian may not cause club to be indebted
- ii. PF said that there may not be a three year subscription any more
- iii. HB suggested this should be reviewed over the year
- iv. SAI said that the librarian should speak to the treasurer before spending money
- v. Vote: All in favour

Meeting closed at 11:15.