

**VCCC AGM Minutes**  
**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2009**

Author: Stewart Boutcher

**AGM commenced: 18:30**

**AGM ended: 20:05**

**Present throughout:**

Mick Holding (President)  
Stewart Boutcher (Secretary)  
Martin Birdsall (Treasurer)  
Paul Langan  
Richard Wallace  
Tim Fryer  
Julie Taylor  
Mark Chaney

**Arrived during the AGM:**

Diana Gardiner  
Jenny Fox  
Jason Bowerbank  
Ian Durham  
Peter Lewis

**1 - Re-appointment of committee**

The 3 members of the committee standing for re-appointment were re-elected unanimously.

Jason Bowerbank had previously confirmed his intention to stand down as Vice-President. Paul Stephenson had previously offered himself as Vice-President, seconded by Mick Holding, and was elected unanimously at the AGM.

The VCCC committee for 2009 are confirmed as:

Mick Holding, President  
Paul Stephenson, Vice-President  
Martin Birdsall, Treasurer  
Stewart Boutcher, Secretary

The first committee meeting to be held by arrangement prior to the middle of February. Mick Holding to arrange details.

## 2 – Treasurer's report

Martin Birdsall presented the following information, which was understood and accepted by the AGM.

Balance as at 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2008	£512.04	
2008 Receipts		£42.50
2008 Payments -		
SMS 2008		£50.00
Bolt Fund		£100.00
BMC		£214.90
Domain registry fees 08+09		£11.75
SMS 2009		£57.50
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TOTAL Payments		£434.15
Balance as at 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2009	£120.39	

Martin accepted 3 subscription payments during the course of the AGM, increasing the bank balance to £157.89. He agreed to report to the committee at his earliest convenience ref the 2009 BMC payment due date & amount.

## 3 – 2009 events list

After discussion, the following points were agreed upon by consensus:

- Weekend events need someone to look after them – arrange location, camping & attendees. Stewart Boucher offered to look after any events he was attending and it was agreed that a member of the committee would look after each weekend event. Richard Wallace offered to provide a simple “co-ordination” sheet to assist in this process.
- There will be a weekend event in each month from March to October, but there will also be a listed Sunday event on the same weekend for those unable or unwilling to attend the weekend event.
- All Wednesday events will be targeted more at beginners, with Sundays reserved for experience climbers (not necessarily better, just more experienced).
- Between March and September, there will be a designated “Welcome Day” one Wednesday each month for new members; the committee to decide on the details at their next committee meeting.
- Martin Birdsall agreed to work some more on the events list to allow the committee to agree on the final events list at their next committee meeting.
- Jason Bowerbank proposed that during the winter, the club use only Aireborough Leisure Centre climbing wall, rather than alternating between Aireborough and Leeds Climbing Wall. This proposal was defeated by 8 votes to 2 with 3 abstentions.

## **4 – Social events**

After discussion, the following points were agreed upon by consensus:

- There will be 4 social events in the year.
- Social events to be arranged by the Vice-President, supported by other members of the committee.

## **5 – Website enhancements**

### **PayPal for subscription payments**

It was agreed that PayPal be integrated to the website for payment of subscriptions, provided that the rate for payment receipt was no more than 4%. Stewart Boutcher to investigate & set-up all account details.

Passed by 5 votes to 1 with 7 abstentions

### **Forum usage**

After discussion, it was agreed to remove the current forum as it was underused and replace it with a simpler “notice board” linked to the front page, where any subscribed member could post small messages for the notice of other members of the VCCC.

An amendment to allow any members (subscribed & affiliated) was defeated.

Replace forum with notice board passed by 10 votes to 0 with 3 abstentions.  
Amendment defeated by 9 votes to 1 with 3 abstentions.

Stewart Boutcher to arrange implementation.

### **Where did members hear about us**

Mick proposed that the registration form include a question asking the new member how they heard about us. This was unanimously agreed.

### **Regular emailed newsletter**

Mick proposed that a weekly newsletter be automatically generated, showing full details of the next week’s events and a summary of the events for the next month, along with a welcome to new members. This newsletter to be extended with further features over time.

This proposal was passed unanimously and Stewart Boutcher was tasked to arrange implementation.

### **Show member mobile + email details**

Questions were asked why it was not possible for subscribers to view each others mobile & email details. Stewart explained that the 2008 AGM passed a resolution to remove this information from the profile.

Mick proposed that mobile & email details be opened to other subscribers, but not to affiliate members. This proposal was passed unanimously and Stewart Boutcher was tasked to arrange implementation.

### **Photo upload not working**

Mark Chaney reported that photo uploads were not working. Stewart Boutcher agreed to look further into this.

### **Links with other sites**

It was suggested that the VCCC web site include links to other sites. Stewart Boutcher complained that the site was not intended to be a portal, and proposed that links only be allowed with other sites that would in turn place a link on their site to the VCCC web site - know as "retro links". This proposal was passed unanimously and Mick Holding was tasked to generate a list of suitable "link partners" for the next committee meeting.

### **"vccc info" text service**

Stewart proposed a new text service, where all members could receive details of the next event to their mobile, useful when a member is out and about, or wants confirmation of event details near to the event.

The service will allow the member to send the words "vccc info" to 82772 and by return, receive up to date information of the next event. The service will be free to subscribed members (for a trial period of 1 year whilst usage is assessed) and cost 25p for affiliated members.

The proposal was seconded by Mick Holding and agreed by consensus.

### **Update calendar events**

Stewart Boutcher proposed that the calendar be modified to include any updates sent by SMS related to an event, so that anyone looking at the web site would also be able to see SMS correspondence even if they hadn't been signed up at the point that the SMS was sent out. A major gap in the current communications strategy!

The proposal was seconded by Mick Holding and agreed by consensus.

### **Alerts costs**

The following costing schedule was passed unanimously:

- Event alert free to subscribed members, 25p to affiliated members. This type of alert is sent when a member ticks an event to indicate their attendance.
- Event alert free to all members when a "marketing" or general information is sent out.

Stewart Boutcher was tasked to implement this in the system.

## **6 – Advertising**

### **Leaflets**

Mick reported that there were still a number of leaflets available for distribution to local shops and businesses.

Mick offered to place leaflets with Leeds & Ingleton Walls. A number of other members offered to place leaflets at various other locations and to liaise with Mick to collect leaflets and allow him to keep track of the locations of leaflets.

### **Notice board at Aireborough Leisure Centre**

Jason Bowerbank reported that the notice board outside the climbing wall was now filled with another club's marketing. It was agreed that Paul Stephenson would approach the leisure centre with regard to use of that notice board area for VCCC marketing, or failing that another area.

### **Aireborough wall routes**

Mark Chaney offered to document existing bouldering routes at Aireborough wall, to be attached to the notice board inside the climbing wall "with the compliments of the VCCC". It was suggested that this be presented in a downloadable PDF from the VCCC web site as well as printed, which would enable it to be kept up to date as new bouldering problems were included.

Mark's proposal was warmly received by the AGM and he was tasked to do that. Stewart Boutcher to support with access to the website where required.

## **7 – Use of funds**

It was agreed that a contribution to the Yorkshire bolt fund would be deferred this year until the financial position was known after all subscriptions were in. Martin Birdsall to keep the committee up to date.

## **8 – Any other business**

It was generally proposed and agreed by all that an alternative venue is found for the 2010 AGM, as the Red Lion was too noisy. Mick Holding was tasked with this.

No other business being raised, the President ended the AGM as 20:05.