

Josh White  
Youth & Development  
21 September 2020



# September 2020 minutes

## Present:

Josh White (JW) - Convener  
Phil Rowsell (MP) - BCA Chair  
David Botcherby (DB) - CHECC Chairperson  
Rostam Namaghi (RN) - BCA Publications and Information  
Paul Wilman (PW) - Head of National Caving Scout Activity Support Unit  
Rob Watson (RW)  
Ciaran Thompson-Hayes (CT)  
Sally Morris (SM)  
Alasdair Shaw (AS)  
Dan Wyatt (DW)

## Minutes:

- 1) Introductions
- 2) JW spoke briefly about the issues being faced by university clubs.  
Issues likely to include transport, accommodation and getting hold of kit as universities are 'holding it hostage'.  
DB advised that a Covid advice document is being put together to be able to be provided to universities to show that caving is safe, but impending announcements from UK Government mean this is a constantly changing landscape  
MP keen to think long term 'out of the box' with regards to transport issues, and offered BCA's financial support to assist with this. Potential for financing minibus hire.  
DB hopeful that huts can be negotiated with to allow university groups to stay
- 3) JW spoke about the scouting set-up of caving permits, and hoped that guides may be able to follow suit, as currently the only way guides can go caving is with

an outdoors instructor (expensive) or as a joint  
PW advised that previously guides recognised scouting permits but wasn't aware of the reason behind this.

CT happy to take this on, but based on JW's lack of responses thus far, thinks this will be a job for once things start getting back to 'normal' at guide headquarters.

- 4) RN confirmed discussed his view for a national youth caving team. A series of youth teams around the country, with leaders in each caving region  
Would provide a link between instructed caving and regular recreational caving.  
LCMLA quals would be required as well as DBS checks etc - from discussions with Chris Boardman (BCA Safeguarding officer)  
Discussions have been had with QMC that a document could be provided to all CICs in order to pass onto clients who may want to get involved in caving regularly.
- 5) RN and JW to discuss a document to be provided to clubs to dispel myths about their ability to take young people caving, and show the actual considerations that need to be taken
- 6) JW discussed that within the D part of Y+D he sees diversity and inclusion, and has started to think about the considerations to be taken in this space.  
discussions to happen between Y+D and P+I to discuss what information is required.  
JW has started to speak to 'Black Girls Hike'.  
DB suggested SUSS's 'we are international' as a potential source of information  
Post meeting Lisa Crow has volunteered to help out on this project
- 7) RW confirmed that BCRA are looking at running a zoom meeting aimed at young people getting into cave science.  
Will circulate details to Y+D for circulation to schools/scouting groups