

MCG Committee discussions June 2019

Contributors: Bill Chadwick, Doug Harris, Dave Lossi, Dan Mathews, Tom Harrison and Nicky Pearce.

New/Updated Matters:

1. Dan has checked with Hayley about planning and the erection of a scaffold tower for SRT training. Hayley thinks it will not be a problem but that we should ask the local planning department anyway. **ACTION** Dan/Bill. Dan reports that the tower might help attract cottage booking from caving trainers (John C and Stefan N). Two of the original builders of the cottage at the veterans gathering saw no reason why a tower could not be tied to the west gable wall of the cottage with suitable anchors.
2. We settled on a date of the October Member's weekend for the cottage work weekend. **ACTION** Bill to communicate this in the next MCG update. We will need a list of tasks from Doug nearer the time.
3. We settled on a date of the October Member's weekend for the new constitution EGM but this has not proved possible as Steve Porter is away. **ACTION** Bill to sort out another date, formally call the EGM and circulate the draft of the new constitution to members for comment.
4. We have an issue with fire safety approval of our soft furniture and mattresses. We can probably comply with the intent of the Fire Risk Assessment by initiating a rolling policy for mattress replacement. Eventually, we need all soft furnishings to have fire risk labels. Bill will consult Dunlopillo – the existing mattresses are the same age as the cottage. Tom H may be able to get some second hand mattresses through his work. It may be that we should make a significant capital expenditure on new mattresses.
5. Keith has made us some evacuation plans for the bedrooms and library which have been positioned around the cottage. Doug has plans for updating or replacing the bedroom doors to be fire resistant and adding closers.
6. The white plastic lining in the drying room which was buckling up has been reattached by Keith.
7. We have labelled the battery charging shelf in the back lobby to inform cottage users that this is the only area that should be used for charging caving lamp batteries. **ACTION** Doug to clear the charging area, Bill to notify members about using the charging area in an MCG update. The shelf should be covered with e.g. ceramic tiles.
8. Recent Committee and AGM meeting minutes are now available on the member's area of the web site. **ACTION** Miranda and Bill to try and get printed copies from recent years into the proper folder in the library.
9. Doug asks that no more firewood or kindling be bought to the cottage by members – there is no room for it. The boiler room must be kept clear and not used as a store. **ACTION Bill** more items for the MCG Update.

10. Doug reports that our fire extinguishers need inspection.

Matters outstanding from last month:

1. **ACTION** Doug to ask Russ if we can turn the heating off between say May and September.
2. Folk have asked for some racking in the drying room for kneepads etc. Doug suggested using some perforated trunking material that we have. **ACTION** Doug to see what can be done.
3. From the fire risk assessment, it seems we do need to do PAT testing for electrical appliances belonging to MCG. **ACTION** Doug to check with Steve Church how to achieve that.
4. **ACTION** Bill to send out the new web site member's area password of 'charnel' in the next MCG Update and Dave to simultaneously update it on the web site. Members will be reminded not to share this password.
5. Two volunteers, Andy H and Tanya S, have offered to help with Newsletter redaction. **ACTION** ongoing with Bill to get the redacted (phone numbers and addresses removed) Newsletter archive ready for the public side of our web site.
6. We have an unwanted galvanised farm gate taking up space and looking ugly in the garden. We should either sell it or hide it away out of site. Doug offered to sell it to a client with proceeds going to the MCG. **ACTION** Doug to sell the gate for a fair price.
7. **ACTION** Dave L to make a list of the out of date documents on the web site with a view to deletions and updates.
8. DL has written down the role of the web site manager. The credentials for accessing the web hosting have been copied and placed in the Fire Safe. **ACTION** Bill to check that at least one other committee member can update the web site.
9. Nicky reports that we have had complaints about poor anchoring of bunks in the Foreman's lounge. **ACTION** Doug to investigate.
10. Dan asked for funds to purchase 300m of new SRT rope as some is going out of date. **ACTION** Dan to get a quote and circulate to committee for approval.
11. Dan suggested that the tackle store should have slings. The committee proposed that we should make some slings from new (unusually coloured) climbing rope and mark them in the same way as our ropes. **ACTION** Dan to procure (large cost not expected) rope and make and label some slings of varying lengths.
12. Joan has reported some overdue books and missing maps. **ACTION** Miranda to check. Mike Moxon may have some information.
13. Nicky had offered to write/update our protection policy as she has some experience in the matter. **ACTION** Nicky ongoing.

14. **From the May meeting ACTION** BC to liaise with the Doug about a date for changing the key-safe number. The key-safe is the normal way for guest groups to get access to the cottage.
15. **From the May meeting. ACTION** Miranda to introduce a 'this year' folder in the library for holding newsletters from other organisations so that they may more easily be found and read by members. To be filed, per organisation, when documents are a year old.

Bill Chadwick MCG Secretary – 9th July 2019