

# MCG AGM 2021

## 4th September 10AM



The Mendip Caving Group is a Registered Charity No. 270088

## AGM Agenda

Notice of 67th Annual General Meeting for 2021

The Annual General Meeting of the Mendip Caving group will be held at the MCG Cottage, Nordrach on Saturday 4th September 2021 and will start at 10:00 AM. Participants may also join the meeting remotely using Zoom.

1. Welcome, appointment of Chair.
2. Record of those present, indicating physical or virtual presence (via Zoom).
3. Short review of the 2020 AGM minutes and any actions therein.
4. Vote to agree that Minutes of the 2020 AGM (provided separately) are a true record of the meeting.
5. 2020/2021 officer's and trustee reports (to be supplied separately to this notice).
  - a. Secretary – Bill Chadwick
  - b. Treasurer – Tom Harrison
  - c. Caving Secretary – Mark Edwards
  - d. Cottage Warden – Jason Kirby
  - e. Tackle Master – Dan Mathews
  - f. Recorder/Librarian – Dave Lossl
  - g. Social Secretary – Nicola Pearce
  - h. Editor – Richard Carey (resigned)
  - i. Custodian Trustee – Ben Cooper

## 6. Election of Honorary Officers for 2021-2022 (completed nomination forms to be provided at the meeting)

- a. Secretary – Bill Chadwick
- b. Treasurer – Tom Harrison
- c. Caving Secretary – Mark Edwards
- d. Cottage Warden – Jason Kirby
- e. Tackle Master – Dan Mathews
- f. Recorder/Librarian – Dave Lossi
- g. Social Secretary – Nicola Pearce
- h. Editor – new post holder sought

## 7. Election of Non committee posts for 2021-2022

- a. Conservation and Access Officer – Hayley Clark willing to stand again but would prefer a new person to takeover
- b. Rescue Warden – no longer required MCR no longer has club members

## 8. Election of Account Examiners for 2021-2022

2020 examiners were Linda Milne and Peat Bennet

## 9. Conversion of the MCG to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation

At the Emergency General Meeting held on the 16th November 2019, the Group passed a resolution

*“That the MCG registered charity number 270088 should convert to a CIO”.*

A working group was directed, by the Annual General Meeting held on the 3rd October 2020, to

*“Produce a draft constitution that can be brought back to the membership at the 2021 Annual General Meeting for their consideration”.*

This has been done. The working group’s draft constitution dated 14<sup>th</sup> June. has been made available to members for review. We have received just one comment on the content of the proposed constitution. With regard to that comment, we need now to make a choice, by vote, between the following three wordings for sub-clause (9) (5) of the draft CIO constitution:

- 1. *Members may request the charity trustees for a reduced-rate personal subscription:*
  - (a) if they are a full-time student;*
  - (b) if they are experiencing financial hardship*
  - (c) if they live overseas for at least 6 months a year.*

2. *Members may request the charity trustees for a reduced-rate personal subscription:*
  - (a) *if they are a full-time student;*
  - (b) *if they are experiencing financial hardship.*
3. *Members may request the charity trustees for a reduced-rate personal subscription if they are experiencing financial hardship.*

There are some background notes with more detail of these three options here

[https://www.mendipcavinggroup.org.uk/app/download/11416854/MCG\\_feedback\\_notes.pdf](https://www.mendipcavinggroup.org.uk/app/download/11416854/MCG_feedback_notes.pdf)

Once this vote has taken place, we should then vote on the following motion, referring to the 14<sup>th</sup> June draft CIO constitution as amended by this meeting to:

*“Accept the terms and conditions detailed in the draft Constitution of the MCG as a CIO and to authorise the MCG committee to apply to the Charity Commission for registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on the basis of the draft CIO Constitution”.*

We require a four fifths majority to pass these two resolutions as they affect the constitution, or future constitution, of the MCG.

Following the CIO’s acceptance of the draft constitution, a further general meeting will be needed to vote to complete the transformation from a Charity to a CIO.

Nicola Pearce suggests that we are over complicating the issue of admitting under 18s as members of the MCG and requests that the following motion be considered by this meeting.

*“That once the new CIO constitution has been approved by members and the Charity commission, that the following amendment is made: the removal of the phrase "over the age of 18 years old" within the eligibility of membership and any further mentions of 18, so as an example, clause 9. 1(a) would therefore read as:*

*9. 1(a) Eligibility Membership of the CIO is open to anyone who is interested in furthering its purposes, and who, by applying for membership, has indicated their agreement to become a member and acceptance of the duty of members set out in sub-clause (3) of this clause. Only individual members are permitted, no corporate bodies or unincorporated organisations may be members.”*

Nicola adds: For reference:

- the BCA's constitution does not mention age
- that good law / constitution only gives a basic overview of principles to allow guidance to fit the individual club needs and circumstances
- that members under 18 would still need to follow the membership qualification system and be approved by the committee, so we can demand a level of competence
- that the committee has already put in place steps re safeguarding and who under 18s should be accompanied by
- admitting under 18s would support the continuous growth and renewal of the club.

We have prepared some preliminary background information on under 18 membership of the MCG which can be found here

[https://www.mendipcavinggroup.org.uk/app/download/11428738/Membership\\_of\\_the\\_MCG\\_by\\_under\\_18s.pdf](https://www.mendipcavinggroup.org.uk/app/download/11428738/Membership_of_the_MCG_by_under_18s.pdf)

**10. Matters for discussion and a vote:**

- a. Consider any guidance to members we might wish to make regarding the presence of dogs in the cottage.
- b. Any formal General Meeting motions received by the secretary.

**11. Any Other Business:**

- a. Award of the Knibbs trophy for 2021.
- b. Award of the digging trophy for 2021.

**12. Date, venue and mode (physical and/or virtual) of next AGM.**