

Ibex Virtual Committee Meeting Minutes – 19th April 2023, via Zoom

Attendees: Karen G, Viv&Jim N, Maggie M, Jan O'B (part of the call), David M, Heather McG, Edna C, Peter R

Apologies: Natalia D-B

KG welcomed everyone.

Actions from last committee meeting

JO'B: to prepare some general guidance for day walks leaders. *In hand*

PR: to circulate AGM minutes and amended Constitution to Club members. *Done*

KG and DM: KG to sign and scan extract from 7 Dec minutes and send to DM to pass to Metrobank. *Done – Needs to be redone with refreshed date and added wording.*

MM: For 2024 renewals, to say that people should pay by PayPal, but if they did not wish to, to contact MM or DM, with a view to paying by cheque. *In hand*

MM : to put a new person on the BMC "prospective member" list when they are due to go on their first weekend. *Done*

MM: to check with BMC as to their policy on people joining in December. *Done*

DM: to respond to MM's email on a number of specific issues on membership renewals *Done*

JO'B: for day walks, to name the prospective members attending, and copy to MM.

KG: to specify that climbing events should be restricted to Ibex (full) members. *Done – email sent to Siobhan.*

NDB: to remind people attending weekends, shortly before they attended, to do a Covid test

KG: to ask Club members' views about a 40th anniversary event in October 2024, including type of accommodation. *Members' views had not yet been sought but KG had asked for volunteers for the subgroup, and Susan W and Mags R had volunteered. It was agreed that VN and/or JN would also be on the subgroup, continuing their involvement. KG would take forward establishment of the subgroup. ACTION KG Terms of reference for the subgroup would be needed.*

ALL: To consider The Derwent or other www.peakvenues.co.uk venues for 40th anniversary event. *JN had forwarded information on Dovedale House. The Derwent was likely to be too expensive. J&VN were also exploring exclusive use of a hostel with YHA. There might be some problems in finding somewhere which could accommodate 40 people. We would want to have booked a venue by September, for inclusion in the presentation of next year's programme*

KG: to ask JH to amend reference on website on day walks booking from three months to one month. *KG had asked JH to make this amendment and would check as to whether this had been done*

KG: to look into the cost of 'Meet Up', to advertise day walks. *KG had looked into Meet Up. A six month package was available and it looked possible for advertising day walks and club nights. However, it could attract people who only wanted to do shorter walks (and so be a disincentive to walks leaders), and it was partly for this reason that the club had decided to end its previous use of Meet up. It might nonetheless be useful to try it. If it resulted in larger numbers on day walks a second leader could be allocated. Agreed that we would research the matter further and decide at the next meeting.*

EC: Take forward development of new website in consultation with David W, and share with the committee intended plans for the infrastructure of the new system. *Discussed later in the meeting.*

President

- Minutes of 15 February meeting approved. Since it was currently not straightforward to put items on the website we would circulate minutes to members periodically. **ACTION PR**
- On a "classified" section in the newsletter, KG had circulated the BMC insurance webinar, and it appeared that the BMC's arrangements were fairly comprehensive. They did not though fully cover the position of non-BMC-insured people on a trip. DM had drafted a question which we should put to BMC insurance if non-BMC-insured people were to be on a trip advertised in the Ibex newsletter. Following discussion, it was agreed that we would allow non-Ibex trips to be advertised in a "classified" section of the newsletter provided the trip did not clash with an Ibex weekend, and that it was limited to (current) Ibex members (who would therefore be BMC- insured). **ACTION HM.** In due course we might considering expanding the coverage of trips that could be advertised, but would first need to raise with BMC insurance the question which DM had drafted.
- The Rugby Tavern would not be available for the 2023 AGM. Several other venues were suggested. KG would investigate these with the aim of deciding on the venue during April. **ACTION KG**
- Arrangements for Ibex 40th anniversary event in 2024 Discussed as above
- An Ibex member (Jen Lee - [*is this the right spelling?*]) had suggested an Ibex presence on Instagram as a way of attracting younger members. She would be happy to attend a committee meeting to discuss. Agreed that we should pursue this. We would need to make arrangements to upload content. KG would discuss further with Jen. **ACTION KG**

Club nights

- **KG:** May would be a roundtable discussion. June and August had still to be decided, but other club nights for the rest of the year were arranged.

Website/Social media

- EC gave an update on recent work by her and DW. There was still some work to do, including on the use of Webcollect. It would not be possible to reproduce precisely the functionality of the existing website, which contained complicated coding. In discussion a number of specific points were raised. Among other things, it would be helpful if information on payments could also indicate the name of the trip for reference. There would need to be training for each committee member, and there would need to be a trial period for the new site. It was likely that DW would be the new webmaster.
- Thanks were expressed to EC and DW for their work. The new site was coming together well. KG would arrange a Zoom call with EC. EC and DW would continue their work on the new site **ACTION EC DW**
- On Facebook, it was noted that people were still mainly using the members' page, rather than the new public one as intended. KG would send a further email to members to remind on this. **ACTION KG.**

Treasurer/Financial Position of Club

- **DM:** report provided. Bank balance=£6,435.17 PayPal = £402.87 Total = £6,838.04. The balance was fairly healthy. The biggest recent expenditure was £2,291.75 in BMC fees for 103 members.
- **DM:** to explore whether to move bank account to Metrobank: Following the AGM, where the Treasurer informed the membership that Ibex is proposing to move its banking to Metro Bank (as they don't charge fees to organisations such as ours), the Ibex committee considered the details of the proposal and the authorisations required. The Treasurer provided details of the Community Current Account at Metro Bank, including that there was no monthly fee and that transactional charges only apply if we exceed 200 transactions per month, but noting that Ibex never exceeds that number of transactions. The President had also reviewed the details of the Metro Bank account, and agreed that it met the requirements for the club. The committee resolved that the Treasurer (David Merry) should open up an account with Metro Bank for the purposes of all Ibex Mountain & Hillwalking Club banking and he is authorised to:
 - open up a bank account with Metro Bank in the name of "Ibex Mountain & Hillwalking Club" or "Ibex MC" for short
 - the Treasurer is to have full access to the account (including via mobile app) for the purposes of making all deposits and withdrawals, up to any amount, to and from the bank account
 - to obtain a debit card and cheque book for the bank account, if required
 - to obtain a paying in book, if required
 - once the account is opened, to also grant full access to the bank account to the President (Karen Goepfert) as a second user
 - to carry out any actions required to give effect to the above

Membership

- **MM:** report provided.
- Membership numbers were holding up, with perhaps a slight growth
- The BMC had not precisely answered the query raised about new members joining in December, However, if we paid the block invoice for renewals and December-

February new members at the end of February, we should be covered within the three months period for the new members who join in December.

- On insurance cover for prospective members, it was important that the people concerned are recorded in membership records
- It would be helpful to inform new members on access to the OS maps website: MM had provided draft for inclusion in the welcome letter, for any comments
- On the possibility of more support to new members, as raised at the AGM, MM has expanded the letter of welcome to new members to provide more information, and also, where a new member attends their first weekend, checks with the organiser as to how they got on. It was agreed that these arrangements were helpful, and it was not clear that there was more that could be done.

Weekend Co-ordinator - 2023

- There had been several cases of problems where drivers offering lifts had changed their plans. Agreed that the form on offering lifts should be amended to ask drivers to contact the organiser if they needed to change their plans, and that organisers should be asked to check with drivers a month before the weekend to confirm their plans. **ACTION NDB**

Weekend Planner - 2024

- **J&VN:** Report provided.
- Agreed to avoid too many weekends in summer 2024, in part to leave space for an Alpine trip

Day Walks

- **JO'B:** report provided.
- Day walk leaders were arranged up to June, and there were three volunteers for subsequent walks.
- The club night on 8 November would be a workshop on the OS maps app.
- The possibility of a navigation weekend was being discussed with DW and SW.
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Newsletter Editor

Date of next virtual committee meeting

- Tuesday 20 June 2023 - 7.30pm

Summary of actions following meeting

JO'B: to prepare some general guidance for day walks leaders.

KG: to take forward establishment of the subgroup to consider 40th anniversary event

PR: to circulate committee minutes to members periodically.

HM: to allow non-Ibex trips to be advertised in a "classified" section of the newsletter provided the trip did not clash with an Ibex weekend, and that it was limited to Ibex members

KG: to investigate possible venues for the 2023 AGM.

KG: to discuss possible use of Instagram with Jen Lee

EC DW: to continue work on the new website

KG: to remind members to use the public Facebook page.

PR KG DM To provide a further signed extract from the minutes to Metrobank to confirm the decision to move the account to them.

NDB: to amend the form on offering lifts for weekends, and to ask organisers to check with drivers a month before the weekend to confirm their plans.