

Annual General Meeting

# 4th May 2012, 6pm

Chair: Matt Everett, President

Number of members in attendance: 28

Matt Everett welcomed the members and gave a brief overview of the meeting.

## Item 1

### Review of the Year

Members were invited to give their views on the highlights of the year, the aspects of the club that did not work very well and what could be done to improve or change the club next year.

Jack Pitts began the discussion by suggesting that the first Peak District trip be moved to an alternate location. Matt Everett replied, pointing out how this trip offers a variety of easy climbing for beginners (and leaders) on gritstone, which provides a nice change from Gower limestone. Jack then put forward other possible climbing locations that are nearer to Swansea such as Tintern Abbey. Matt Everett noted that most easy limestone routes are very polished and the climbing around the suggested area is known for loose rock. Jack then recommended Portland, stating how people do not want to drive for 6 hours to climb for a weekend and suggested that maybe the Peak District could be reserved for summer or Easter trips. Joe McCarty defended the Peaks, testifying to its great number of quality single pitch climbs. Nick Foulds said that essentially, it would be nice to provide a wider range of locations but that either way it is still climbing, a comment that was agreed upon by many. Charlotte Graves then closed the point by mentioning that we only visit the Peaks twice a year, the second trip offering an opportunity for those who could not attend the first one.

Lydia Galloway mentioned that the Self Rescue course was very good. Charlotte Graves mentioned a “trad clean-up” course that could possibly be run next year and highlighted the importance of going on courses with an instructors as not everything can be taught (well) through member to member knowledge sharing.

Nick Foulds and Greg Jones said that they had enjoyed BUCS. Matt Everett offered his sympathy to the team and we moved on before anyone started crying.

Greg Jones then thanked Matt Everett and Matt Riordan for organising the Easter sport trip to Spain, which was widely agreed to be a great climbing holiday.

Alex Wade then thanked the committee for all the work they have done this year :D

Ed said he wanted more mountaineering! This was backed up by Dave who called for more scrambling!

Nick Foulds (training officer) mentioned that he had been intending to run a fear management course for some time and is still willing to run it if sufficient members are interested after our summer trip to Cornwall.

Clare Harris complemented the socials this year, and many members agreed that they had been very good.

## Item 2

### Membership Fees

The membership fees are currently £15 for the year including tuition from experienced members, unlimited use of all club gear and British Mountaineering Council (BMC) membership. Greg Jones asked Matt Everett to outline what the BMC membership offers SUMC members. Matt Everett explained that BMC membership offers 10% discount in hundreds of outdoor retailers as well as nation-wide insurance. Nick Foulds emphasised how good this is. Matt Everett also mentioned that BMC membership covers third party insurance and Greg mentioned how BMC offer international climbing insurance. Nick Foulds reminded members that a taster session at Dynamic Rock is approximately £12 for one session (+ £2.50 each for shoes and harnesses), so members are getting a very good deal when it comes to tuition and gear with SUMC. Matt Everett suggested that the membership fees stay the same as there is no real reason they should increase. Members were then called to vote upon whether fees should stay the same or change. The votes were as follows:

**Stay at £15: 28**

**Change: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

Membership fees will stay at £15 for members next year.

### Website Secretary Position

The committee does not currently have a position for website secretary, but it is felt by the current committee that it would be a valuable position. We have a very good and extensive website (just check out the glossary section of sumc.org.uk) but it is outdated in terms of information and images. Matt Everett gave a brief description of this position and outlined what skills a good candidate would need. It was also emphasised that this was not an essential position and that it could remain unfilled if nobody was willing to stand for it. Members were the called to vote upon whether we should create the position of website secretary. The votes were as follows:

**Yes: 20**

**No: 7**

**Abstain: 0**

The position of Website Secretary will be added to next year’s committee.

## Any Other Business

Members were invited to put forward anything they felt should be discussed but had not been up to this point.

Greg Jones suggested the re-introduction of the Monday night sign-up sheet to make transport of gear more efficient. Nick Foulds then replied by praising the flexibility of Monday night sessions and how members can decide on the day whether they want to/ have time to go climbing. Jennifer Tigwell then suggested that members take the kit they need in Fulton House and be responsible for it until we return to university, therefore reducing the need to take all the gear to Dynamic Rock. Matt Everett pointed out that if the sign-up sheet was re-introduced then should someone forget to sign up and turn up on the night, they would then not have the necessary gear and then would not be able to/ inclined to come climbing. Joe McCarty (gear rep) and Ed (ex-gear rep) both said that transporting all of the gear to Dynamic Rock is not a problem. Jack Pitts pointed out that a whole committee position is designated for this, so the gear rep should be able to organise the transport of all the gear to Dynamic Rock without a problem (which they currently do). Clare Garside suggested that people ask for the gear they require on facebook (Dave then asked “what’s facebook?”). It seemed to be agreed to keep with the current format for transport of gear on Monday nights.

Alex Wade mentioned that a club Gower Guide could be useful and Nick Foulds agreed. Ed said that this had been discussed before, with the suggestion that it be kept in the library. Nick said that it was just another piece of gear which could be kept with the rest of the gear. Matt Everett suggested that the club/ club members could make their own (i.e. take photos, draw on routes etc.), but many people stated that the wiki guide was good enough. Joe McCarty passed his professional opinion as gear rep and stated that people do not treat gear that is not their own with respect and a club guide would be trashed or lost within a year.

The meeting was adjourned whilst members visited JC’s and nominees put their names down for positions.

## Item 3

### Election of next year’s committee

The candidates for Club President were: Eddie Edwards and Charlotte Graves. The votes were as follows:

**Ed: 4**

**Charlotte: 22**

**Abstain: 2**

The candidates for Secretary were: Lydia Galloway. The votes were as follows:

**Lydia: 28**

**Abstain: 0**

The candidates for Treasurer were: Matthew Riordan. Votes were as follows:

**Matt: 28**

**Abstain: 0**

The candidates for Gear Representative were: Alex Linge. Votes were as follows:

**Alex: 20**

**Abstain: 8**

The candidates for Training Officer were: Joe McCarty. Votes were as follows:

**Joe: 26**

**Abstain: 2**

Candidates for Social Secretary were: Clare Garside. Votes were as follows:

**Clare: 25**

**Abstain: 3**

Candidates for the new position of Website Secretary were: Alex Wade. Votes were as follows:

**Alex: 26**

**Abstain: 2**

Candidates for Management Representative were: Matt Everett. Votes were as follows:

**Matt: 15**

**Abstain: 13**

In conclusion the new SUMC committee for next year will be:

PRESIDENT – Charlotte Graves

SECRETARY – Lydia Galloway

TREASURER – Matt Riordan

GEAR REP. – Alex Linge

SOCIAL SEC. – Clare Garside

TRAINING OFFICER – Joe McCarty

MANAGEMENT REP. – Matt Everett

~ End of meeting ~

~Start of Party~