

Ibex Virtual Committee Meeting Minutes – 16th April 2024, via Teams

Attendees: Karen G, Maggie M, Heather McG, Mags R, Patrick T, David W, Jan O'B, Natalia D-B, Peter R

Apologies: None

KG welcomed everyone.

Actions from last committee meeting

- **PR KG DM:** to provide to Metrobank a signed extract from the minutes including the resolution relating to the Metrobank account. *Done. Arrangements with the Metrobank account were working well.*
- **DW:** to consider if Net Host (and payment to WorldPay) would continue to be required for the new website. *DW: the two payments relating to Net Host were for the old website. We would close down the old site in August/September and then ask David M to cancel the two payments. ACTION DW*
- **KG HMcG:** to discuss the advertising of certain non-Ibex trips and other items as appropriate in the newsletter. *Discussed, and some non-Ibex advertising had now been included in the newsletter.*
- **KG:** to explore with Jenn Li if she could take on the social media role. *Not much progress on social media issues, but would be taken forward. ACTION KG*
- **KG:** to aim to organise an informal climbing event for Ibex members at The Castle. *It had not yet been possible to progress this, but it would be taken forward. ACTION KG*
- **PT:** to check with DM whether the incentive for weekend organisers could be done by an adjustment to the expense spreadsheet, without any complications. *PT: Expenses spreadsheet is already a complicated form, and best not to add this adjustment to it. The incentive should be paid separately, as a direct payment.*
- **KG:** to inform people who organised weekends in 2023 that they would need to pay the full membership rate, but that we would be offering them the £5 payment that had been available under the previous weekend organiser reduction. *Not yet done, but would be taken forward. We might suggest that people might want to donate this. ACTION KG*
- **KG:** to do a note on use of Meet Up to publicise day walks and club nights. *Not yet done, but would be taken forward. ACTION KG*
- **KG:** to arrange a further meeting of the sub-committee on arrangements for the 40th anniversary event in November 2024. *Done, and good progress made [see below]*

- **PT:** to provide updated figures on bank balances when feasible. *Done. [Covered later]*
- **PR:** to put minutes of Ibex committee meetings on the new website, in the "Downloads" section. *Not yet done, but would be taken forward.* **ACTION PR**
- **KG:** to email members asking for volunteers to do a presentation at a club night. *Done, and good progress made on arranging club nights. [Covered later]*
- **KG:** to get admin rights to the Ibex Facebook page. *Not yet done, but would be taken forward.* **ACTION KG**
- **KG:** to send a further email to members seeking an organiser for the early May BH weekend. *Done, and organiser arranged.*
- **KG NDB:** to include in weekend organiser guidance material the agreed arrangements on where a weekend organiser had to drop out for exceptional reasons. *NDB would include these arrangements in weekend organiser guidance material* **ACTION NDB**

President

- Minutes of 6 February approved.
- The sub-committee on arrangements for the 40th anniversary event in November 2024 had met and made good progress. A caller (bringing recorded music) for the dancing had been arranged. The event had been advertised and 21 people had booked so far, which was encouraging. On the assumption that 30 would book in total, some money should be available for incidental costs of the event, though it was likely that Ibex could also contribute something to costs. Catering was being arranged at a cost of £25 per head. It would be best to organise a bar for the event. There might be a case for organising some communal transport arrangements and the sub-committee would consider this. **ACTION KG.**

Club nights

- **KG:** arrangements made for all club nights through to December. The calendar competition would be in September and the presentation of the 2025 programme in October.

Treasurer/Financial Position of Club

- **PT:** updated figures provided. There was currently a healthy balance but a number of deposits for 2025 had yet to be made (and these should be made before deciding how much Ibex might contribute to the 40th anniversary event).
- The 2023 figures were agreed and closed off.
- We would aim to close the HSBC account, although a complication was that three people had renewed membership by standing order to the HSBC account but were not responding to emails.

- PT noted that the lack of information from the new WebCollect system on the event for which a payment was made created problems, and increased considerably the work involved in producing accounts. It was not clear why WebCollect could not output this information. There was also a complication with the new system where two payments were made, one on behalf of someone else. Following discussion, it was agreed that DW would raise these problems with WebCollect and ask whether solutions were available. **ACTION DW**
- It was noted that it might be useful for Ibex to have a second bank card.

Website/Social media

- Generally the new website was working well, and comments were very positive. There had been an IT problem at WebCollect in March which had affected bookings for day walks, but that had been resolved.
- Social media - as above there had not been much progress. KG would take forward. **ACTION KG**

Membership

- **MM:** report provided.
- There were some features of the new website which required additional vigilance by the membership secretary.
- The higher non-renewal rate was noted, although about a half appeared to have bona fide reasons for not renewing.
- A number of people had not yet responded to emails. MM or KG would email them further. **ACTION MM KG**

Weekend Co-ordinator - 2024

- **NDB:** not much to report. Some updating of documents continued to be needed. We had organisers for all forthcoming weekends.
- NDB was preparing handover notes in case required.

Weekend Planner - 2025

- **MR:** update provided.
- It was agreed to book Ribblehead for January 2025, paying the deposit.
- MR would take forward plans for 2025. In general, average attendance for weekends should be about 15, with maximum attendance (mainly for Easter and Christmas) of 20. A number of possible locations were discussed. MR would circulate the spreadsheet of planned events before meetings, with suggested ideas, for discussion. **ACTION MR**
- It was noted that the £40 pppn cap applied just to the December weekend.
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Day Walks

- **JO'B:** report provided. Arrangements made for walks for the rest of the year (apart from October)
- There were usually 10-12 people on day walks

- A communications arrangement had proved useful when one person due on a walk had missed a train. JO'B would provide details of this for the next newsletter and for the day walk guidance material. **ACTION JO'B**

Newsletter Editor

- **HMcG:** report provided. HMcG introduced the proposal that, to avoid duplication the newsletter now take the form of an email to members, with links to the website, where information on weekends was now held. The email would also contain any other information (eg on non-Ibex trips). This proposal was agreed. People doing write-ups would also be asked to keep them short and ensure they were suitable for a public website, avoiding any confidentiality issues (eg no reference to children, and use of participants' first names only). We would inform members of the change in format of the newsletter, saying that, with the new website, we were experimenting with the format of the newsletter. **ACTION HMcG**

AOB -

- It was not clear whether Ibex had YHA membership. PT would check on this with David M. **ACTION PT**
- It was noted that 5 committee members would be standing down at the AGM in November after 3 years in their roles. We should start considering who might take on these roles, and would email members on this. **ACTION KG All**

Date of next virtual committee meeting

- Tuesday 4 June 2024 - 7.30pm

Summary of actions following meeting

- **DW:** to close down the old website in August/September, and then ask David M to cancel the two payments for Net Host. **ACTION DW**
- **KG:** to take forward social media issues, including getting admin rights to the Ibex Facebook page.
- **KG:** to aim to organise an informal climbing event for Ibex members at The Castle.
- **KG:** to inform people who organised weekends in 2023 that they would need to pay the full membership rate, but that we would be offering them the £5 payment that had been available under the previous weekend organiser reduction, though they might want to donate this. **ACTION KG**
- **KG:** to do a note on use of Meet Up to publicise day walks and club nights.

- **PR:** to put minutes of Ibex committee meetings on the new website, in the "Downloads" section.
- **NDB:** to include in weekend organiser guidance material the agreed arrangements on where a weekend organiser had to drop out for exceptional reasons.
- **KG:** to take forward arrangements for the 40th anniversary event in November
- **DW:** to raise the problems identified with the new website with WebCollect, and ask whether solutions were available.
- **MM KG:** to send further emails to people who had not yet responded on renewing membership.
- **MR:** to take forward plans for bookings for 2025.
- **JO'B:** to provide details of the useful communications arrangement used on a recent walk, for the next newsletter and for the day walk guidance material.
- **HMcG:** to experiment with different formats for the newsletter.
- **HMcG DW KG NDB:** to prepare updated guidance for weekend reports to make them more in blog format.
- **PT:** to check with David M whether Ibex had YHA membership.
- **KG All:** to start considering new people for the committee to take on the roles of the 5 standing down at the AGM in November