

# Ibex Virtual Committee Meeting Minutes – 22nd August 2023, via Zoom

Attendees: Karen G, Viv&Jim N, Maggie M, Jan O'B, David M, Natalia D-B, Heather McG, Peter R

Apologies: Edna C

KG welcomed everyone.

## **Actions from last committee meeting**

- **KG:** to go to a Metrobank branch with ID and to sign the opening account forms. *Done*
- **KG HMcG:** KG to suggest to HMcG that the possibility of advertising certain non-Ibex trips be mentioned in the covering email with the newsletter. *Not yet actioned, but would be*
- **KG:** to investigate the potentially suitable venue for the AGM on 28 October *Done*
- **KG:** to contact Jenn Li on taking Instagram forward. *Done, and Jenn Li will take forward with EC*
- **EC DW:** to continue work on the new website, including testing of arrangements for paying. *Very good progress made. Implementation of new site planned for 1 January. Might be possible to stagger the payment of subscriptions.*
- **EC KG:** EC to prepare guidance for use of new Facebook page for the newsletter. KG to remind members on this saying more information would be in the newsletter. *Guidance prepared, but difficulties in accessing so it would be issued again.*
- **KG:** to do a note about the cost of Meet-up. *Not yet done, but would be.*
- **KG:** to prepare a note on forthcoming clubnights for the website. *Done*
- **NDB:** to do a report for the AGM recommending the return to a two-month notice period for weekends. *In hand*
- **NDB:** to review the documents used for organising weekends, and do some redrafting where appropriate. *Done*
- **VN:** to email Viv Palmer to check on the possible camping trip from 12 to 14 July. *Done*

## **President**

- Minutes of 20 June meeting approved.
- The progress on the website was very welcome. For the future it would be good if each committee member carried out their own role in maintaining the website, so

avoiding the need for a separate website manager. Admin roles for the new website were in the manual prepared by DW. Group email addresses would continue to operate in Google.

- We agreed we would get DW a gift in recognition of all his work on the website
- Arrangements for the 2023 AGM were in hand
- On 2024 committee membership, V&JN, DM and EC were stepping down after their three years. Mags Ruttle had volunteered to take on the weekend planner role for a year, Patrick Tehan was taking on the Treasurer's role, and KG would explore with Jenn Li if she could take on the social media role. **ACTION KG** The other committee members were happy to stay on for 2024. DW as webmaster would also be happy to be on the committee.
- For the Ibex 40th anniversary event, V&JN had booked Thornbridge Farm House for 8-10 November 2024, including a provisional booking on a hall that could be used for a ceilidh. V&JN would be happy to continue on the planning sub-committee for the 40th anniversary event.
- KG would discuss with Siobhan the possibility of restarting some climbing activity, perhaps re-establishing a climbing night. **ACTION KG**

## Club nights

- **KG:** Club nights all arranged apart from December

## Website/Social media

- No further report.

## Membership

- **MM:** report, and emails of 16 and 21 August on membership issues brought to light by arrangements on the new website, provided
- There was a case for retaining some basic data on members who leave Ibex, in order to prevent their "gaming the system" by seeking to rejoin as a prospective member after some time (though the extent to which this might happen was not clear). We would need to be clear on the justification for retaining this data. Following discussion, agreed that it might be reasonable to hold such (probably just name; email address or phone; and date left), and to retain this for three years, though not longer. However it was agreed that we would reflect on this and consider again at the next meeting. **ACTION All**
- Under the new website arrangements, prospective membership would start when someone applied for a day walk or weekend, and there would therefore be problems for BMC insurance if an event they attended as a prospective member was more than three months from that date. In discussion several people thought it would be appropriate to specify that a prospective member should join Ibex within three months of applying for a day walk or weekend, and also probably that a prospective member could only attend one event (day walk or a weekend, but not both). However KG felt that there was a distinction between a day walk and a weekend and that we should not treat the two the same for prospective membership. Following discussion it was agreed that we would consider this issue further and discuss further at the next meeting. **ACTION All.** In the meantime, we would check/clarify with BMC what

precisely "triggers" the three-month period for insurance for prospectives: MM would draft an email on this and show to KG for comments. **ACTION MM KG**

- KG expressed thanks to MM for raising two important issues

## **Treasurer/Financial Position of Club**

- **DM:** Report provided
- Bank balance= £4,379.55; PayPal= £240.08; Total= £4,619.58
- The pricing arrangements for the new website good - many thanks to DW. Test payments made on the new website had been refunded
- The arrangement proposed by DM for identifying for which weekend a deposit was being made (by adding pence to the deposit according to the month of the trip) was agreed
- The new bank account with Metrobank had been set up OK and would start to be used from October. We would notify members who pay subscriptions by standing order to cancel the order since new arrangements would apply. We would plan to close the HSBC account around February, to allow for possible complications from subscription payments in January
- The resolution at last year's AGM on the weekend participant contribution was noted. Since the Club's financial position was not wholly restored (and in part also because of the cost of the new website) it was likely that the participant contribution would be required for a further year. Following discussion, agreed that we would put forward a resolution to the AGM to retain the participant contribution for a further year, but avoid implying it would be permanent. **ACTION DM** For the longer term it would probably be appropriate for the participant contribution to be discontinued, with a corresponding rise in the membership fee.

## **Weekend Co-ordinator - 2023**

- **NDB:** No major developments. Continuing with the updating of documents used for organising weekends.

## **Weekend Planner - 2024**

- **J&VN:** Report provided.
- Rydal Hall in Ambleside had been booked for Easter 2025.

## **Day Walks**

- **JO'B:** report provided.
- Arrangements in hand for the OS maps workshop at the club night on 8 November. Noted that wifi is not available at the pub, and a hotspot needs to be used. JO'B would let people know that they can use data on their phones, and would also arrange for a larger amount of data on her phone.

## **Newsletter Editor**

- **HMcG:** No major developments
- It would be helpful to receive contributions for the October newsletter by 15 September.

## **Date of next virtual committee meeting**

- Tuesday 10 October 2023 - 7.30pm

## **Summary of actions following meeting**

**KG HMcG:** KG to suggest to HMcG that the possibility of advertising certain non-Ibex trips be mentioned in the covering email with the newsletter.

**EC:** to re-issue guidance on use of new Facebook page for the newsletter.

**KG:** to do a note about the cost of Meet-up.

**KG:** to explore with Jenn Li if she could take on the social media role.

**KG:** to discuss with Siobhan O'Shea the possibility of restarting some climbing activity,

**All:** to consider further whether to hold some data on leavers (probably name; email address or phone; and date left), and to retain this for three years

**All:** to consider further the arrangements for prospective members

**MM KG:** MM to draft an email to BMC for KG comments on what "triggers" their three-month period for insurance for prospective members.

**DM:** to draft a resolution to the AGM to retain the weekend participant contribution for a further year, but avoid implying it would be permanent.