

Oxford University Cave Club

Hillary Term 2021- AGM

Date of Meeting: 19/03/21

Present: Steve Roberts, Rosa Clements, Rebecca Miller, Rory Rose, Fiona Zhang, Vlad Catanea

Officer's Reports

President (Steve Roberts):

The only "Presidential" thing to report is that it looks likely that there will be an "Invite" on the 1st w/e of October; Rory has booked the usual cottage. Call it Students' Invite or Presidents' invite - or just THE Invite. Anyway: it will happen, barring the usual possible disasters.

Library/ Archive (Steve Roberts):

A few redundant items have been sent off to BCA, ICC and SWCC libraries; others to the big blue recycler. Hardly scratched the surface; plenty to go.

Website (Steve Roberts):

Continues as ever. A few more dusty expedition logbooks have been scanned in and made available through the website. Contemporary pictures will be put on the website if sent (please include suitable caption text, names of people, etc.)!

Chairman (Rory Rose):

Nothing to report as chairman (AOB section)

- If caving had been possible this term, we would have been in good position to cave, lots of people offering help to the club
- Encouraging sounds from Dave Rose to come out on some weekends and help
- Steve sent out an email in support of selection of people to help with transport and leading trip
- Established a body of people willing to help when it comes round to caving again
- Continuation of clubs ability to get to caving places is key
- BCA website- sports fed can get back to sport next term if our national governing body (BCA) allows
- No news from BCA as of yet
- Sports Fed want an update risk assessment update since February
- POINT OF ACTION: Rory will email CHECC to get updated risk assessment
- Need a quotable note from BCA to get things running again

Meets Sec (Nick Adams):

Transport and accommodation currently restricted during lockdown, with the earliest access currently available from the 21st of June (after the academic year ends)

Safety Officer (Nick Adams):

Nothing to report

Welfare Officer (Fiona Zhang):

AGM Agenda

Welfare position has been passed from Rebecca to Fiona

Sports Fed: indoor sports for group can return from 17th May, can we go ahead with non-caving (SRT training) in next term?

POINT OF ACTION: Rory will talk to Dave White about SRT training, find out if SRT training can be done on the old risk assessment

Social Secretary (Sarah Day):

No return to Oxford as of yet, this has led to another term of online socials. This term's strategy was a lower quantity of talks with more advertising around them, all taking place in March for a "month of caving". Attendance was better than last term, with more outreach to other caving clubs and advertisement on ukcaving.com, Facebook groups etc. Thank you to Rory for help with gathering speakers and giving a talk himself! Successful term for caving talks.

We still are not seeing much attendance from students at Oxford University which is unfortunate. I am inclined to say that our best bet with growing the club is sadly just a waiting game to get back to Oxford and continue with in person socials such as SRT training, which was particularly popular in Michaelmas term.

Open to any advice and help!

- OUEC
- Training Socials- Knot Tying
- Social- Among us, Jackbox

Gear Officer (Vlad Catnaea):

Nothing to report

Treasurer (Jeremy Welch):

Balances

Due to some complications with Lloyd's Bank, it has not been possible to check the balances for this report. However, the same problem has prevented any payments from the account for a while too, so it is with reasonable confidence the balances are little changed from last term.

The Sports Federation have held grant payments this year, but it is to be hoped they will progress these when sports have restarted. We have already spent the funds on replacement equipment, so should be in a position to argue for our allocation, even in the light of reduced caving activity.

Operations

While there has been little activity requiring funding recently, there is little to report. However, there is an outstanding payment due to the University Stores for the annual charge and some small expenses claims to address when normal account service is restored.

No payments have been made to BCA either, this year. We need to decide how to proceed on this matter – we haven't collected much in the way of subscriptions this year, unsurprisingly, but we should be cautious about paying liability insurance for everyone from Club funds (and the people who pay subscriptions varies from year to year of course).

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A proposal would be to wait until the Easter Vacation/Trinity Term activities have crystallised into reality, and solicit (probably reduced) subscriptions, incorporating the liability insurance fee for the rest of the year. We would need to agree this approach with BCA, whom one imagines has not been inundated with payments this year, especially from University Clubs.

Proposed Expenditure

Apart from the routine expenditure mentioned above, there are no plans for any exceptional expenditure at this time.

AOB

Positions in committee:

Safety Officer and Meets Sec

These are both positions that do not need to be held by a student, so can be passed on to any Oxford-based member.

I made handover notes a while back, and I'm happy to get the new SO and MS up to speed. Included short versions below so nominated appointees can understand what they're signing up for:

Safety Officer:

- Responsible for reporting incidents to the sports federation
- Review existing risk assessments and produce new ones as required
- Work with the Gear Officer to retire dated or significantly damaged equipment

Meets Secretary:

- Book trips with the sports federation noting:
 - Time, place, drivers & attendees
- Book accommodation
- Liaise with trip leaders to handover responsibility & information when trips are booked
- Renew rolling permits on request (temporary permits are responsibility of trip leaders)
- **Rory Rose proposed Rosa Clements for the position of Meets Secretary**
- **Steve Roberts seconded the proposal**
- **Vote was unanimous in favour of Rosa Clement for the position of meets secretary**
- **Rory Rose proposed Vlad Catanea for the position of Safety Officer**
- **Vote was unanimous in favour of Vlad Catanea for the position of meets secretary**
- **President position officer will be rolled over to next term and position will be voted on next term.**
- **Sarah Day will take the role of delegate for CHECC meetings**

- **Rosa Clements will take on the position of meets secretary**
- **Vlad Catanea will take on the position of safety officer**

Rory:

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- SRT trainer training on the bridge – Can we run a session when allowed to at least train some more experienced members to be able to help run a SRT bridge session?
- CHECC delegates – Need to appoint a new delegate
- Future proofing experience in the club – Discussion

Nick:

A few committee members set up and trialled 'Slack' (messaging and file sharing platform for mobile & desktop) and have an OUCC group set up with discussion channels available for trip planning and advice. Its use has been very minimal during lockdown, but hopefully can offer support to the post-covid generation of cavers.

Link: ouccworkspace.slack.com

I would encourage Summer caving and training trips to take place for the students remaining with OUCC across 2021/22, including those that wished to join this academic year and have missed out on normal trips. Transport and kit are the greatest hurdles, and I would suggest:

a) locations have reasonable public transport routes (e.g. Priddy/Wells, Castleton); and b) recognised student cavers be loaned caving kit for the summer to facilitate these trips without requiring travel to Oxford

If the club would be interested in summer caving then I suggest we run it by the Sports Federation.

- Loan kit out to members who want to cave in summer
- Find a way to get access to the kit
- Rory proposed that caving kit could be lent out to committed cavers over the summer to allows for practice caving to go ahead out of term dates
- Steve seconded the proposal
- Vote was unanimous in favour of caving kit being lent out
- POINT OF ACTION: (For Rory when access to kit is needed again, probably over the summer half term) email David to get access to the kit
- POINT OF ACTION: Vlad to keep track of information of people who loan kit, who kit is loaned to, when it was loaned, expected return date for kit, if it has been returned etc.
- POINT OF ACTION: Michaelmas Term, Sarah will put a report of kit lent, who it has been lent to and if it has been returned in next terms TGM. Information will be collected from Vlad.
- MT meeting, reportage back of kit lent and who it has been lent to and if it has been returned