

AGM Minutes

Participants

Adam Parsons (**AP**) – Chair
 Alesia Vallance (**AV**) – Climbing Secretary
 Alexandra Garnett (**AG**) – Orienteering Captain
 Alfie Sibley Hunt (**ASH**) – Gear Secretary
 Anna Jamieson (**AJ**) – Walking Secretary
 Eva Spurling (**ES**) – Orienteering Captain
 Grace Darcy (**GD**) – Welfare and Inclusivity Officer
 Harry Jackson (**HJ**) – Secretary
 Joel Simmons (**JS**) – Social Secretary
 Katie Lake (**KL**) – Orienteering Secretary
 Luc Jersing (**LJ**) – Media Secretary
 Matthew Lake (**ML**) – Treasurer
 Raffaele Mercadante (**RM**) – Climbing Secretary
 Tom Watts (**TW**) – Walking Secretary
 Wider Club Members

Items

Item	Discussion/Description
1	<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ground rules laid down
2	<p>Committee Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Committee gives introductions
3	<p>Joke Competitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Matt wins!
4	<p>2025/26 Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very good year for membership. Outdone previous years. Exceeded target membership of 300. - For more detailed stats look to the AGM slides. - More trips than we've ever organised. There was a response to last year's AGM feedback that there weren't enough spaces on trips, making us want to plan more.
5	<p>Response to AGM Survey</p> <p><u>Socials feedback notes from Joel</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Socials have been similar to last year. Plan this year has been to have preplanned socials throughout the year, and the rest of the time is to be filled in with pub socials. Aiming for regularity. We like pubs as they're low pressure. - Doesn't think he's seen or heard of any drinking pressure. AGM last year had similar feedback to this for socials. - Often there's a want for more clubbing. Last AGM had a club wide poll for more non pub socials. Majority wanted the same level of pub socials, that's

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why we've kept it the same this year. Hoping to run a film social later in the semester. Would like to trial run some wide games, capture the flag etc.

Doing Bingo Lingo this year on St Pat's Day.

- More themed socials were asked for, there's a potential for this (bad shirts social etc), however there is a risk of leaning towards the drinking culture that our club tries to avoid. However, we aren't too worried about a one-off drinking heavy night, where drinking is encouraged. There was a feedback idea to have a heavy drinking night early next year at the beginning of semester 1.
- From the crowd (FTC): we could do a running around town social without the drinking. Drama soc does this if we want ideas.

Walking feedback notes from Anna and Tom

- We are trying to get more walking trips/activities as there's feedback saying they want more. Difficult to run weds or sat trips this year as both walking secs are very busy already on those days.
- There's a want for walking route recommendations. Current idea is a form that people can fill in with their own route recommendations.

Climbing feedback notes from Alesia and Raffi

- Frome is now our main weekly climbing session for the club. For the past two years the weekly plan has been to pick specific gyms and go to them as the club. This year we've been using a poll on the WhatsApp chat to say where you're going each week.
- Vote initiated. Options: keep everything as is with a poll to say where people are going (23); have a weekly organised climbing session no poll (2); weekly organised session and poll (16); abstain (18).
- Keep everything as is wins by vote.
- Had feedback that weekly climbing is expensive, but unfortunately we can't do anything about that.
- There is a want for more outdoor trips, and more are coming. Want to encourage people to organise their own things outside of club activities.
- There is a want for more trad climbing, there should be a trad daytrip at some point in the future this semester. We don't want to risk it with an incompetent trad climb leader.

Orienteering feedback notes from Katie, Alexandra, Eva

- Literally no negative comments on the feedback form!
 - FTC: is there any chance to do two loops at the moment? Answer (A): we used to do this earlier in semester 1 but lots of committee are injured / busy. There is an option for people to go on further by themselves, without committee with them.
 - FTC: is it possible to do trail run on a different day? A: It's hard to find evening time in general across mountaineering, really it's only Monday and Wednesday we have free. It is encouraged to use the community chats to arrange runs.
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- FTC: is there a way to get more people first aid trained? A: will be answered later in the AGM.

Welfare feedback notes from Grace

- From the form: can committee try to be more interactive with new members? A: We will try our best, but it's hard to be extremely talkative all the time, and we can also be nervous too.
- There was feedback to be better at advertising that activities are beginner friendly. With this in mind, we will be advertising more that things are beginner friendly on the insta and on the emails.
- Grace will be putting in an anonymous suggestion box to put feedback, complaints etc for herself / committee to discuss.
- There was feedback about mocking of various disciplines: This is true and it's true that we do this as a committee and as a wider club. We know that this isn't ill intentioned but understand that as a committee we have a greater influence and need to keep ourselves in check. (this applies to inappropriate jokes and comments as well). Again, as committee we are a part of this and will be holding ourselves to a higher standard.
- People can come to any of us with concerns, not just Grace. Certain inappropriate songs have been removed from playlists used in club trips. Grace will be implementing an anonymous feedback form, and this can be used, however please also come to us in person / online.
- FTC: There is an international newsletter that comes out every month. A: We will look into this.
- There have been lots of texts to the Instagram. A big question that gets asked frequently is where is the best place to start with the club? Luc answers that the best place is a pub social.

General feedback notes from Adam

- Look at AGM slides for the positives, and general improvements!
- People aren't happy with signups occasionally being during Frome, but it's hard to have this not happen as there's so many signups all the time.
- Planning to have a way in future of people arranging summer trips outside of the club.
- Trips are limited by how many drivers we have available most of the time, and we are always attempting to train up more drivers to drive MPVs. We have more spaces on all trips this year than in previous years.
- Photos sharing conclusion: Facebook is best.
- We are organising too many events to have no overlap.
- We have to have people buying the product quickly due to SU paperwork needing to be sent off rapidly. Can't have signups too early as we would have too many people dropping out.

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Finance Update

- For finance information look at AGM slides.
 - £700 allocated fundraising has come from the orienteers.
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8 **Update on Changes to BUMC General Risk Assessment**

- Look at AGM slides to see updates. There is also a new international trips risk assessment (RA).
- We will not get be able to get signed off on going in caves, as we would not be insured to do this.

9 **Changing Committee Roles**

- This year we are back to a situation where orienteering has the same workload as walking and climbing. One orienteering sec is no longer enough. We want to create a second orienteering sec position to bring it in line with walking and climbing. We are concretely limited to 12 committee positions due to SU policy. We are now allowed to get rid of the named role welfare and inclusivity, and also the named role of secretary. We plan to combine welfare and inclusivity and secretary into a new role potentially called vice chair or something along the lines of “secretary and inclusion officer”.
- FTC: Potential problem with merging of roles: merging roles tends to make one role take less of an important position.
- Vote initiated. Options: should welfare be merged with secretary or gear sec or social sec? Secretary (wins by a vast majority); Gear (1); Social Sec (8); abstain (3).
- Merging with secretary wins by vote.
- Vote initiated. Options: What should the role be called: “supporting officer” (13); “secretary and inclusion officer” (33); “welfare secretary” (8); Abstain (2).
- Calling the new role “secretary and inclusion officer” wins by vote.
- Note: BUCS captains don’t get access to club email.

10 **Constitution Changes and Modernisation**

- See AGM slides.

11 **Introduction of Captains**

- Committee has been very stretched thin this year. We want to lessen the load on committee, so that the role becomes more enjoyable and people come back to the roles again. Some activities have suffered from the lack of committee time to put into them (walking on Sundays etc).
 - To solve this problem, we want to introduce captains to help share the load. The idea is that they would run things like day trips, Sunday walks, etc. Captains would not be elected, committee are elected, then committee can decide who are captains. If a captain wants to be involved for the whole year, then they can, but there isn’t the same level of commitment, which we see as a good thing.
 - Activity captain idea: does Sunday walks, orienteering training, climbing walkdowns. Essentially weekly events.
 - Competition captains: do competitions
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- These would all be more specific and tailored to the area of mountaineering that they are in (i.e. climbing, walking, orienteering)
 - Items have been added to the club constitution to try to combat committee members simply appointing their friends as captains (see AGM slides).
 - We will work with future committee to iron these details out.
 - FTC: We could try to utilise groups on the WhatsApp for first aiders, potential captains etc? A: This seems like a good idea, and we will be implementing this.
 - Will be attempting to improve handovers this year as well.
 - FTC: What about training members? A: will be adding a training captain.
 - Look at AGM slides for more info.
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13 **AOB**

- No other business.
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