

NORTH EAST MOUNTAIN TRUST
SCIO Scottish Charity no. SC 008783

Minutes of Council Meeting held 7.30 pm Tuesday 20 April 2021
held via Zoom

Present: Alistair Beeley, Brian Cornock, Debbie Fielding**, Brian Heaton, Morna Harper**, Catherine Lacy**, Alison Mitchell**, Roger Owen**, Donald Thomas*, Ken Thomson*, Dave Windle* (Chair) [* Charity Trustee as Individual Member; ** Charity Trustee as Organisational Representative]

1. Apologies: None

2. Declaration of conflicts of interest: None.

3. Minutes of Council Meeting 2 March 2021: After deletion of the near-duplicate Minute 5.3 in the version previously circulated, the draft was approved without further change.

4. Matters Arising, other than as below: None

5. NEMT Management

5.1. *Membership and Subscriptions:* Cath reported that she had sent members' email addresses to Donald, but had still to chase up subscriptions from some individual and organisational members. Alison agreed to send information on the latter to Cath.

5.2. *Finance:* Alison reported that the bank balance on 20/4/2021 stood at £11,038. Since the last Council meeting, several Clubs and Organisations had paid their annual subscription, and a few individual memberships had also been received. Zoom had been paid two months' subscription and a 'large meeting' fee. Eventbrite had sent a £112.24 credit as event donations. £142 had been paid for gifts to recent lecturers, and £16.20 received from SMT as Adam Watson book royalties. Gift Aid information had not yet been compiled and submitted to HMRC: Dave asked that this be brought up again at the next meeting.

5.3. *Website:* Donald reported that the following had been added: (i) CNPA ATV guide/policy; (ii) *Mountain Views* no. 81; (iii) Ken's Woodlands paper.

5.4. *Mountain Views:* Cath reported that copies of the Spring 2021 issue had been posted to Individual Members, and that the club bundles would soon follow.

5.5. *Lectures:* Deb reported planned dates for Winter 2021/22 as: 6/10, 3/11 or 17/11; 1/12 or 29/12; 12/1/22 or 26/1/22; 9/2 or 23/2; 9/3 or 23/3 or 30/3. Discussion then took place on possible Lecture topics, including SW Coastal Walk, Bennachie Visitor Management and/or Carbon Trail; a JHI speaker; Mountain Biking. It was agreed that each Council Member should send a suggestion or two to Deb before the next Council meeting.

6. Dates of Next Council Meetings (via Zoom until further notice): 1/6, 24/8, 5/10*, 30/11 and 25/1/2022 (* possible clash with the "Challenging Upland Futures" event at Perth)

7. NEMT Policies

7.1. *Mountain Biking:* It was reported that the recent agreed policy was up and running.

7.2. *Trees:* Dave recalled that it had been agreed to consult NEMT members on this issue, and undertook to draft a consultation paper which he would send to Council members for comment before emailing to members.

8. Consultations: None relevant were noted.

9. Threats to Wild Land:

9.1. *Hill and Hydro Tracks:* George's report was noted, with positive remarks on the Glenfinnan hydro application comments, similar to those from Mountaineering Scotland.

- 9.2. *Cairngorm Mountain*: The Coire na Ciste application for overnight campervan/motorhome parking was discussed. Dave undertook to re-circulate this as a HC application, and requested comments as soon as possible so that he could submit a NEMT response.
- 9.3. *Wind Farms*: Brian reported two scoping applications, including a group one in Strathoykel.

10. AOCB:

- 10.1. Roger reported a lack of response by the (or a) Aberdeenshire Access Officer, and a number of suggestions were made. Dave asked that the results be reported at the next NEMT Council meeting.
- 10.2. Ken reported an approach to him re ARCH, a community archaeological group, as regards possible NE contacts for work on signs of the OS triangulation of the country; he would report further after a 26 April Zoom meeting with ARCH.
- 10.3. Alison asked about the Sportsman's Club: Dave replied that he had had no contact to date.

Ken Thomson, 2 June 2021