



**Minutes of the Club Committee Meeting of the
New Zealand Alpine Club** held on Saturday 15th May 2010 at
the Home of Mountaineering, Raycroft Street, Christchurch.

Present: Peter Cammell (President), Phil Doole (Immediate Past President), Helen Wilton (Honorary Secretary), Gillian Crombie (Honorary Treasurer), John Palmer (Publications Convenor), Magnus Hammarsal (Auckland), Paul McCullagh (CNI), John Jordan (Taranaki), James Wright (Wellington), Chris Short (Nelson), Philip Tree (Canterbury/Westland), Ian Rogers (South Canterbury), Nick Shearer (North Otago), Paul Prince (Otago), Greg King (Southland), Chris Brown (Australia), Sean Wright (Auckland).

Staff: Ollie Clifton (Executive Officer), Pat Deavoll (Activities Coordinator)

Apologies for lateness: John Palmer (Publications Convenor), Paul McCullagh (CNI)

Items discussed:

1. Strategic Plan update

Constitutional changes were discussed - the main change being the addition of a Climbing convener to the club rules. In practical terms this could be a shared role between Brian Alder and Chris Short. It was suggested that the Strategic plan model needs to be translated to section committees, such that the whole club is running on a similar framework.

The role of conveners and development of the Strategic plan into business plans was discussed. Accommodation committee working well in this way.

It was agreed that there is too much info in the operational plan. Need to separate developmental plans out from operational plan. The sheer volume of info in the operational plan causes ambivalence - people get lost in the words!

2. Unwin Fundraising Proposal

It was discussed that the current proposal was a new way for the club to operate – Sections have never contributed large sums of money for capital projects.

Sean Wright outlined his thoughts on how to manage the section contributions:

- capital would be repaid over time into a separate fund and made available for the next project.
- repayments for the overall Unwin project would be prioritised: Bank loan paid first, then member loans second, sections last.
- Banff money to National office for two years – local volunteers need to see money going back to their area.
- Returning capital to sections a good way of getting sections to buy into national projects.

- the model needs to be applied equally across all sections.

Phil Doole expressed some concerns:

1. Is it appropriate for sections to hold large amounts of \$?
2. Why are we treating \$100,000 plus as surplus in section accounts? Club Committee ultimately sets the policy for club finances.
3. Members are members of club first and foremost.
4. Sections don't need money back.
5. We have never had a debate about the purpose or desirability of sections building up large reserve funds.

Geoff Gabites commented on the idea of being one club, vs stronger regional ownership – which builds a stronger club? Probably need to aim for a good balance between the two ideas.

Brian Alder commented that most alpine club members don't associate themselves with sections, and it is the bulk of our members who we are doing these projects for.

Chris Short commented that if we are one club, these are our reserves. Asking the club to pay interest on section contribution is ridiculous - acknowledgment is all we need, CCM should view sections as partners in specific fund raising initiatives.

It was agreed that we were definitely committed to redeveloping Unwin, and that fundraising for this will come from section reserves, club hut funds, member loans, community trust loan, and future generated surpluses.

Each section was then asked how we should deal with section contributions and on what terms?

Taranaki: \$5000 grant already made, and more funds available. Prefer a loan as model, and at end of 10 years may not need it back.

South Canterbury: \$10,000 - 50% grant, 50% loan.

Need to acknowledge where the money comes from, and Sections need to be able to call back commitment in emergency circumstances.

Nelson/ Marlborough: won't want money back so long as see some benefits. There has been a fixation on spending \$ on huts, and a fear that the section will never see a hut in their area.

Wellington: if stripped of savings then no rainy day fund exists. Uncertainty over whether the club would bale us out, and on what basis? On what terms would we get \$ from National Office.

Comment that we must be aware of risks that sections are taking. Agreed that we couldn't let any section get into an emergency situation with their finances – access to emergency support funding would be on a case by case basis.

Geoff Gabites commented that communication to our core volunteers (120 to 150 people) needs to be improved. The rest don't care!

CNI are happy to give their cash reserves to club capital reserves. Banff - OK to contribute all profits to National Office. Section general surplus: if the section don't need the money, it should be put to good use for whole club. Donation vs Loans: what ever is appropriate.

Chris Short commented that the Section surplus approach would require consistency between sections in recording finances. Suggested that ring-fencing national events would work better- gives more certainty about funds coming in for projects, and stops sections from trying to hide funds by doing things on a break even basis.

North Otago: Support proposal. Standard financial reporting a good idea. NO will make donation. The section have the local Climbing wall as a source of income. (\$2000 a year after costs) – hence can make an ongoing contribution.

Gillian Crombie: Like the idea of an earmarked fund. Banff easier to manage than an overall section surplus. Ring fenced event model easier to sell, determine final figures, and more timely.

Auckland: Endorsed Sean's recommendations. Agreed that we will end up with less using the section surplus model, and easier to ring-fence events. Could do both as per Sean's model - carry on with Banff but x amount of surplus go to national.

Australia: Sold as capital works fund. Happy to donate surplus funding - believe in 'one club.' No projects in our back yard. \$1,000 available.

Canterbury/Westland: \$12,000 available. Reservations about a 75% annual surplus – there will be problems working it out. Better to have agreements over events. Personally find it difficult to understand why sections aren't sending in the money they are supposed to (from Banff) in a timely manner - if we are having this much problem with event profits, it's never going to work out with annual surplus!

Otago: Committed to \$10,000, leaving a bit in reserve - donation, interest free. Commit to 50% of Banff - \$14,000 or 15, 000 over next couple of years. Still allows us running costs.

It was agreed in principle that we would:

- Pool our finances into a central fund, used initially for the Unwin Project.
- Funds will be turned to this central fund, to support other projects.
- Contributions from sections will be either donations or loans, interest free.
- National event surpluses will be ring-fenced for contribution to the central fund.

3. Instruction

Chris Short outlined the key points of the Instruction Plan:

- Requirements of club instructors under the new Instruction framework: 20 days personal climbing; 1st aid course; previous instructing experience; undertaken some training in risk management; avalanche awareness course completed; operate within terrain guidelines. Also noted that we only instruct club members.
- This framework has been discussed with MSC – they are happy with this. Potential for NZAC to utilise MSC instructor database.
- The budget figures used are aspirational, and based on needing to maintain a base of 100 instructors, @ \$800 per instructor.

Philip Tree outlined the gulf between the C/W instructors and the requirements of the framework. Time requirement is a big factor. C/W section are fearful that if the framework is adopted the local courses will end up being taken by people who are primarily instructors, and not really climbers.

Greg outlined the Southland section approach, which was to subsidise NZAC members to do courses with MSC.

Questions were also asked about:

- The tasks required of a half-time instruction position.
- What happens if SPARC doesn't fund it?
- Incentives for instructors
- Time commitment for instructors to stay current, when the section only runs 2 weekends of instruction per year.

4. Bolting Position

Peter Barnes outlined the work that had gone into developing this position, and thanked the other members of the working group of Sam Bosshard, Ross Cullen and Phil Doole for their efforts. It was noted that NZAC is not a regulatory body in any sense.

Brian Alder commented that the position has been left quite open, such that it probably won't change people's behaviour.

Peter Cammell expressed his thanks to the working group, and to Peter Barnes for his work as Recreation Advocacy Convenor.

5. Reports from Section Representatives

Wellington (James):

- thriving, membership increasing
- wide instruction programme
- trips popular

- section evenings and events well-patronised
- Issues: 1. Ruapehu: Tukino Hut - Don French working on this as NZAC rep
2. No chairperson (James by default).

Central NI (Paul)

- Membership increasing
- Lost instruction coordinator
- Banff significant downturn this year, maybe due to timing (held early)
- Waipapa crag access denied

Nelson (Chris S)

- Membership static
- Turnout to section evenings down
- Banff prices slightly increased this year, sales going well for next week

Southland (Greg)

- Membership steady
- More younger people on committee and in membership
- Initiatives to increase membership (78 members, many 60+)
- Continue to subsidise MSC alpine courses
- Club nights at climbing wall
- Weekly trips rock climbing
- Arrange climbing partners Homer hut area
- Winter climbing meet well-booked for July this year (20+ every night)
- Homer Hut roof painted, lighting needs work
- Supportive of improvements to Club assets (Unwin), will donate \$1000

South Canterbury (Ian)

- Membership greying, although some new faces at meetings
- Beginning meets at climbing wall next week, will progress to outside meets
- Working bee at Unwin – painting, woodpile
- A few good speakers and trips

Taranaki (John)

- Banff coming up
- Ticking along nicely

North Otago (Nick)

- Fundraising for wall going well – have received \$8000 in grants in last year
- Section trip to Arapiles (3 members)
- Concern around liability issues for indoor wall
- Elcho work party in June (woodshed and paint)

Auckland (Magnus)

- Course and trips running well
- Banff – have preferred venue this year, cheaper and larger
- Good speakers and attendance at monthly meetings
- Membership – more active rock climbers now on committee
- Website - local developing. Keen to see national developed further.
- Courses – will need to expand number of instructors
- Access is a concern – anticipating problems in Wharepapa region

- Targeting youth – changed meeting venue to Speights Ale House – better numbers and younger people, better quality of speaker.
- Advocating Reel Rocks concept of engaging youth with sport-based film, panel of leading climbers, bouldering demo at quarry, bouldering competition. Suggest running in October prior to rock climbing season.

Australia (Chris Brown)

- Social nights in Perth – climbing meet, local speaker (re Nanga Parbat)
- Brisbane planning climbing meet
- Organised winter courses (3) and Instructional courses (issues around liability being dealt with)
- Changes in committee – Paul Day stepping down

Canterbury/Westland (Phil Tree)

- Reasonable year
- Section trip to Tasmania
- Phil T standing down this year
- Reel Rocks less successful here than in Auckland (because held on a Saturday night? Possibly event saturation?)
- Banff ticket sales going well

Otago (Paul)

- Fewer trips
- Summer camp successful although weather average
- Aspiring anniversary (November) went well
- New committee members, one of whom has rebolting plans, will support.
- Colin Todd hut is leaking badly, hence money needed for work on this in next couple of years
- Banff coming up

6. Annual Climbing Camp Dates – Phil Tree outlined the plan for January 2011, based at Broken River skifield lodge.

7. Operational Plan

Access issues in Auckland, Nelson/Marlborough (Hangdog camp) and Southland discussed.

Action Point 1: Peter Cammell will in the next month produce a positional paper on managing the interface between climbers and those controlling access.

8. Draft Budget: Executive Officer and Treasurer are happy that 2009/2010 budget is tracking well.

Areas of concern:

- Warden not required for the period when Unwin will be closed
- SPARC funding uncertainty

Action Point 2: Peter Cammell suggested that:

- 1. \$5,000 expenses be provided for Access issues.***
- 2. Budget should be re-worked to allow for a maximum loss of \$10,000***

The meeting ended at 4pm.

Minutes of the Club Committee Meeting of the New Zealand Alpine Club held on Sunday 16th May 2010 at the Home of Mountaineering, Raycroft Street, Christchurch. The meeting commenced at 9am.

1. Attendance

In attendance were Peter Cammell (President), Phil Doole (Immediate Past President), Helen Wilton (Honorary Secretary), Gillian Crombie (Honorary Treasurer), John Palmer (Publications Convenor), Magnus Hammarsal (Auckland), Paul McCullagh (CNI), John Jordan (Taranaki), James Wright (Wellington), Chris Short (Nelson), Philip Tree (Canterbury/Westland), Ian Rogers (South Canterbury), Nick Shearer (North Otago), Paul Prince (Otago), Greg King (Southland), Chris Brown (Australia).

Staff: Ollie Clifton (Executive Officer)

2. Apologies

Geoff Gabites (Executive Committee Convenor), Tony Clarke (Accommodation Convenor).

3. Confirmation of Minutes

It was moved that **“The minutes of the October 2009 Club Committee Meeting be adopted as a true and correct record.”**

Helen Wilton/Nick Shearer CARRIED

4. Action Points and Resolutions from October 2009 CCM

Action Point 3: Look at ways to meet with FMC representatives in 2010.

Meeting took place in March 2010. The intention for 3-4 meetings a year is a good start for future communications with NZAC.

5. Subscription Rate Review

Discussion points raised:

- The lack of youth membership.
- Streamlining (reduce number of membership categories)
- Look at long term membership and transitioning new members into it
- How a GST increase will affect membership rates
- SPARC research indicates events (not Clubs) are a growth area
- Possibilities suggested: Corporate membership
Crag access membership
Limited membership allowing access to parts of website
Discounts (commercial) for members

It was moved that **“Annual Subscriptions for full members be increased to \$105 from the date of a GST increase, or from 1st January 2011, and this 5% increase apply on a pro rata basis to other member subscriptions to the nearest dollar rounded up.”**

Nick Shearer/John Jordan CARRIED

Discussion continued on a possible shortfall in 2010-2011 subscription revenue.

Suggestions were to communicate what we do better e.g. advertising in publications, and better promotion of Club in publications.

6. Life Member Nominations

Peter Cammell advised that he had convened a Committee of three past presidents to decide on outstanding climbers/ contributors to the Club, to be nominated for Life Membership – this year Dr Rick Mc Gregor and Nick Cradock have been nominated. It was moved that **“CCM appoint Nick Cradock to Life Membership.”**
Peter Cammell/Magnus Hammarsal CARRIED

It was moved that **“CCM appoint Rick McGregor to Life Membership.”**
Peter Cammell/Philip Tree CARRIED
Abstention: James Wright

7. Audit or Review?

It was moved that **“The Club undertake an audit every three years or more frequently if required by the Club Committee, and conduct reviews in intervening years.”**
Gillian Crombie/Philip Tree CARRIED

8. Unwin Fundraising Proposal

It was moved that **“A Club Development Fund be established to advance the Club’s Strategic Plan.”**
Chris Short/Chris Brown CARRIED

It was moved that **“An Establishment Committee be formed to develop rules and processes as to how that fund is administered.”**
Ian Rogers/Phil Tree CARRIED

It was moved that **“The Club appoints Gillian Crombie, Chris Short, Ollie Clifton and Peter Cammell as a Development Fund Establishment Committee, to report back to CCM.”**
Peter Cammell/John Jordan CARRIED

It was moved that **“Sections will transfer funds as listed into the Development Fund within 90 days of today (being 16th May 2010) and that Sections who are uncertain as to that sum will confirm within 10 days.”**
Peter Cammell/Phil Tree CARRIED
Abstentions: Phil Doole, James Wright

The sum to be transferred per Section was noted as follows:

Section	Amount to be transferred to the Development Fund
Auckland	30,000
CNI	10,000
Taranaki	5,000
Wellington	20,000 (13,500)*
Nelson/Marlborough	24,000
Canterbury/Westland	12,000
Otago	12,000
South Canterbury	10,000
North Otago	1,500
Southland	1,000

Australia	1,000
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*NB The figure for Wellington Section was found to be in error after the meeting - the corrected figure is also shown in the table above.

It was moved that **“Sections advance surplus funds to the Club Development Fund which will have governance rules that will recognise, via an internal ledger, section contributions. It will be indexed, no interest will be payable, and repayments to the Development Fund will rank below commercial debt and member loan debt. In the first instance funds will be applied to the Unwin Upgrade Project, and subsequently tagged for the advancement of the Strategic Plan Club projects.”**

Peter Cammell/Chris Short CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It was moved that **“The Club Committee requires Sections to contribute a minimum of 50% of funds raised from partnered activities to the Club Development Fund, within 3 months of completion of the activities.”**

Peter Cammell/Phil Doole CARRIED

It was moved that **“The Club holds all its reserve funds on deposit with a trading bank or trust bank until they are distributed.”**

Peter Cammell/Chris Short CARRIED

9. 2010-2011 Business Plan & Budget

It was moved that **“The draft national office budget for 2010/11 be approved in principle, with the provision that the Executive Officer remodel the budget to provide for a maximum overall loss of \$10,000, and include \$5,000 for Access expenses in the event of no SPARC funding being provided. Final approval of the budget is delegated to the Executive Committee.”**

Peter Cammell/Nick Shearer CARRIED

10. Instruction

It was moved that **“The Club adopt the NZAC Instruction Detailed Plan (as presented to the meeting) in principle, subject to budgetary constraints.”**

Chris Short/Nick Shearer CARRIED

Abstention: Greg King

CCM acknowledged the importance of ongoing evaluation of the Club's instruction programme, development, implementation and maintenance of the Instruction Plan to ensure that Club's instruction activities are in accordance with its Strategic Plan, meet the needs of members and ensure ongoing compliance with Club's legal obligations.

11. Bolting Position

It was moved that **“The CCM adopt and disseminate the Bolting Position (as attached.)”**

PhilipTree/Ian Rogers CARRIED

12. Membership Retention

It was moved that **“National Office and the Club Secretary coordinate an ongoing Club-wide Membership Retention Programme in conjunction with Sections.”**

Helen Wilton/Geoff Gabites CARRIED

In conclusion Pete Cammell thanked everyone for their contributions to this CCM,

and made a special thank you to Philip Tree for his many years of service to CCM.

The meeting concluded at 1.15pm.