

# Black Canon Collective

## Meeting Minutes and Action List

Prepared by Caroline Mackinlay

### 1. Meeting Info

**Meeting:** The "We're Back On (a) Track" meeting!  
**Date:** 5 June 08  
**Time:** 20:00  
**Location:** The Rose and Crown, Warminster  
**Attendees:** Andrew Denham, Will Hardy, Ben Irons, Robin Liquorice, Alastair Mackinlay, Caroline Mackinlay, James Richards, Tom Rickhuss

**Meeting Chaired by:** Andrew Denham

### 2. Meeting Agenda

- a) Minutes from 22 May 08
- b) Outstanding Actions
- c) Membership Applications
- d) Meeting with Head Forester
- e) Website
- f) Club Logo
- g) Risk Assessment
- h) Any Other Business
- i) Actions

### 3. Minutes

#### a) Minutes from 22 May 08

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

#### b) Review of Last Meeting's Actions

Al and Andrew have updated the Black Canon Collective website with information about who we are and why we've formed a club.

The Data Protection Statement is on the website but needs linking.

Al still has to circulate the temporary membership card .jpg.

Rob now has the office phone number for Chain Reaction Cycles.

Andrew chased his mate for an update on the Club Logo – see section F.

Andrew also chased James Sinclair for an update on the Risk Assessment – see section G.

The Frome branch of Mole Valley Farmers has offered us a 5% discount on a kit order for the forthcoming dig day.

Robin brought some more information on the Rotary Club Dinner – it will be on the 7<sup>th</sup> July and a maximum of three club members can attend (two being Robin and Andrew). The BCC members have to do a short presentation about the Black Canon Collective in exchange for a free meal and potentially some sponsorship. If you're interested in being the third person, please email or PM Andrew ASAP.

There is no longer a need for a traffic count for the bridleway up the side of the Allotment as we have a good relationship now with the horse riding club, and we also have permission to screen the Allotment from the bridleway by transplanting rhododendrons.

Rob has still been trying to contact Will at CRC regarding a Freelaps system but has had no luck yet.

### **c) Membership Applications**

As of 22 May, we have 24 completed membership forms and 15 people have paid. If you have joined and paid, but didn't send a photograph, please could you send a digital photo of yourself to AI ([ai@blackcanoncollective.co.uk](mailto:ai@blackcanoncollective.co.uk)) for the temporary membership cards.

We have had three membership applications resulting from the signs we put up at the Allotment.

Please could everyone continue to chase people they know who had said they'd join, but haven't yet.

### **d) Meeting with Head Forester**

Andrew, Ben Irons and Neil met with Rodney, the Head Forester from Longleat, to review the felling at site. There is an update on the BCC website but to summarise, we can have the area on the east side of site (the slope with BBMS on it), and also the land at the bottom below the fire road (which includes the derelict building), **immediately**. This land won't be felled for four or five years.

We can unofficially have an area above the top fire road to use as a run-in but this won't be marked on any map related to our licence. We have to take care not to disturb badgers in this area.

We are allowed to transplant any rhododendrons on the Allotment as they are a non-native species, and we can use these to form screening from public rights of way.

Rodney will (imminently) provide barbed wire and wood so that we can fence off the derelict building.

### **e) Club Website**

The club website [www.blackcanoncollective.co.uk](http://www.blackcanoncollective.co.uk) has had a revamp – thanks to AI and Andrew for all their hard work. We have had positive feedback on the new content. The site is a work in progress and suggestions were requested by Andrew for things people would like to see on the site. Suggestions included:

- more photos (this is planned)
- a Build Blog (this is also planned)
- a calendar showing which races/events club members are attending, so we can organise car shares etc
- a booking system for club equipment
- photo/video upload – although AI suggested that it would be better to host these on Youtube and then embed a link

Please let AI or Andrew have any further suggestions and comments

### **f) Club Logo**

There are now some basic suggestions for the club logo from Andrew's friend Joe on the website – please feel free to leave constructive criticism and comments via the site or the SDH forum.

Some people felt that the suggested logos were a bit “busy” - Andrew stressed that they are just ideas at this stage. It was generally agreed that we would rather stick with a more esoteric theme than a bike-related one. The most popular two logos thus far are logos 3 (the arched window, aka “the three tombstones”!) and 5 (the “chainring”).

We would probably want to change the font so that the B of BCC looks less like a G.

### **g) Risk Assessment**

James handed over the work he'd done on the site risk assessment as he is currently short of time and we now need the risk assessment complete so that we can get back onto site.

Now that we have a patch of land that we can access, we are ready to start rebuilding, but before this we need the risk assessment in place. Al will lead this work so that we can get up and running at site, and then James will resume his Health and Safety role when he has moved house.

The initial risk assessment is to include the following information:

- A statement of our risk and what we'll assess
- A statement of the risks of our sport (for this we can use the Adelaide MTB club's documents; they have given us permission to use them)
- A risk assessment of our specific site, to include the locale, plants and animals
- A risk assessment of specific activities, e.g. building tracks, running races etc (but not riding – this is covered below)
- A risk assessment of types of features, e.g. drop offs under 2', doubles etc

Last Thursday (29 May) Al, Andrew, Caroline, Ben Irons and Ben Batt met at site to restart the risk assessment work. The area including the eastern slope and the top run-in was risk assessed and it was agreed that the obvious track to start rebuilding was BBMS. A short risk assessment of BBMS as it now exists was conducted. Al is going to write this up, and summarise the risk reduction actions which have to be done during the Dig Day to make the track as safe as reasonably possible.

### **h) Any Other Business**

Last Sunday (1 June), Andrew received a text from Clare who runs the horse riding club, saying that a blue Transit van was parked up in the village at the bottom of the Allotment and that riders were in the tracks. Ben Irons and Ben Batt went out and tried to talk to the riders but the riders basically ignored them, and said that the current signs don't say that people can't ride at the Allotment. The riders were mainly from Asham quarry.

Andrew has since added more signs to say that the site is currently closed to all riders as a result of the felling, and that when it reopens it will only be open to members. He has also destroyed the current tracks to make it evident that the area is closed (don't worry – it means we can rebuild everything properly!) Andrew is also going to contact Cliff to explain what's going on at the Allotment now.

James Richards said that videos posted on the internet (e.g. Bristol Freeride) don't help our case – Andrew has been asking the owners of any videos he is aware of, to remove them. Could anyone who spots any Longleat videos online please let Andrew know.

The first BCC Dig Day will be held on the weekend of 14/15 June. Before the day, we need to decide what we are going to do. During the last site risk assessment visit it was felt best to reopen BBMS – everyone seems happy with this. We will also look at extending the track across to link up to the area of land at the bottom (where the derelict building is). The first

hour of the Dig Day will be spend discussing what modifications we want to make to the existing track, and how to extend to the bottom.

Tom asked whether we have to risk assess the track before we build it. Andrew said that this isn't required if we're resurrecting an old track (as in the case of BBMS). We need to risk assess modifications before we build, but essentially the risk assessment of "course features" which AI is currently preparing will be sufficient to cover BBMS.

Everyone will be required to wear gloves for the Dig Day – the club will provide these. Please let Andrew or Neil know if you plan to attend so that enough gloves can be bought.

Also before the Dig Day, Andrew will contact Longleat to find out what colours of spraypaint we can use to mark trees.

Maria and Helen (Andrew and Neil's girlfriends respectively) have kindly offered to feed the troops – the default options are cake and bacon butties. This will be free but there will be a donation box with the proceeds going to the club. Please bring your own water / drinks.

Andrew requested that if anyone has any old plastic plates, tables etc that they don't use any more, could they please donate them to the club!

We now have a demo Longleat Sign – Andrew has given some feedback to the manufacturer. The quote is for a thick aluminium sign but we will ask for a quote for a thin one that we can mount on marine plywood. The signs are estimated at £100 for four. Our own signs, for now we will continue to use the laminated signs until we know exactly what we want the signs to say. Ideally we want the Longleat Signs ready to erect at the Dig Day.

Caroline has been sent the minutes of the British Cycling national council meeting; there are a couple of items that may be of interest to BCC members so she will summarise these points for everyone and post on SDH forum. If anyone wants a copy of the whole minutes, please contact Caroline.

Andrew requested that AI set up an email for [info@blackcanoncollective.co.uk](mailto:info@blackcanoncollective.co.uk); the emails should forward to committee@ for now.

Andrew has emailed SPAM and all BC member clubs in the South and South-West to make them aware of our existence and activities.

Caroline suggested contacting the person who covers the South West for Dirt Magazine, but it was felt that now is too soon for that kind of publicity – maybe in a few months once we have tracks open.

Ben suggested planning an August race to give us a focus. It was felt that this is a bit of an unrealistic time frame. Andrew suggested Spring might be better – we did agree that we want to do this though. We will revisit this suggestion in a month when we have a better idea of how things are going at the Allotment. If anyone has any suggestions for events then please contact Andrew or Rob Lewis.

Will asked whether we can rebuild the stepdown on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> – Andrew replied that we want to reopen BBMS as a priority but if there is time then we can certainly rebuild the stepdown.

## 4. Actions

(in alphabetical order)

Al – Write up the initial Risk Assessment ready for the Dig Day.  
Link the Data Protection statement on the BCC website  
Circulate the jpg mock-up of the temporary membership card  
Set up [info@blackcanoncollective.co.uk](mailto:info@blackcanoncollective.co.uk) email address

Andrew – contact Longleat to ask which colours of spraypaint we can use at site  
Update Neil on the Dig Day plans  
Buy gloves for the Dig Day  
If possible, order the Longleat Signs ready for the Dig Day  
Contact Cliff at Asham Quarry to let him know about Black Canon Collective

Caroline – Ask whether it's possible to borrow the TF Tuned pit tent for the Dig Days  
Get a price for a first aid kit from the stationers on the Northacre Ind Pk  
Summarise BC National Council Meeting minutes

Everyone – chase anyone you know who's said they'll join the club, to do so

## 5. Next Meeting

The meeting will provisionally be held in the Rose and Crown, Warminster, on Thursday 12 June, at 7.45pm for a prompt 8pm start.

Draft Agenda for meeting:

- Review minutes from meeting of 5 June (these minutes)
- Review Actions
- Review of Risk Assessment
- Dig Day preparation
- AOB
- Agree next meeting