

Minutes of the Leaders/All Hands' Meeting

Held on 11 September 2013

At the 5th Dartford Scout Hall

Present:

Paul Boreham (Chair)	Tim Roscoe
Darren Watts	John McLoughlin
Del Hurd	Tina McLoughlin
Wendy Hurd	Tracey Honey
Delia Davidson	Debbie Prescott
John Butler	Lynn Missions
Jim Lilleycrop	Karen Hannah
Keith Furlong	Dave Monteith
Tracy Gardner	Darren Enever
Kay O'Brien	Lesley Bauckham
Jason O'Brien	

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Zara Austin, Maggie Lilleycrop, Louise Topcliffe, Neil Young, Lyn Medcalf and Gary Missions¹.

2 Minutes of the previous meeting

[Minutes had been prepared, but not circulated, for the previous meeting.]

3 Section reports

General note: several sections would appreciate the help of a young leader. **Action:** Dave to speak to the Explorers about this.

3.1 Johnston Explorers

23 members, 2 linking, 2 leavers (due to reaching 18), activities planned until Christmas, more badges, leadership help always welcome, doing "better than OK".

3.2 Burne Troop

23 members, 2 linking, 1 leaver, next leaver not until next April.

¹ Gary subsequently attended the last part of the meeting

3.3 Earley Troop

28 members, 24 invested, 4 from Phillips, 1 moving up to Explorers in October and another 4 after Christmas.

3.4 Leigh Pack

23 members, 2 to be invested, new enquiry this week, 2 Silver Awards in November, 1 linking to Earley soon, another 3 after Christmas. Full programme up to Christmas including roller disco!

3.5 Collins Pack

20 invested, 3 on 'taster sessions', 1 due to move up to Scouts in October and another 2 in the New Year. Would be nice to have an Explorer down to help, as James is off to university.

3.6 Phillips Pack

17 invested, 3 linking, 3 new, 4 have moved up to Earley, 4 Silver Awards. No help needed.

3.7 Peacock Beavers

18 members, 5 new, 1 about to move up to Leigh Pack, 3 Bronze Awards, no more moving up until April.

3.8 Philpott Beavers

19 members, 1 new, another due to start in a few weeks' time, none moving up until after Christmas, 2 Bronze Awards, 2 more "almost there". Beaver Halloween Party planned for end of October, with the other Beaver colonies if they wish to join in.

3.9 Edwards Beavers

No report due to Vicky being absent.

4 Past Events

- **Dartford Festival** – main issue lack of visibility, priority given to commercial concerns. Next year, it may be worth taking part in the **Wilmington Fair** instead (all charity stalls and children's activities, always well attended, lots of children). **Action:** Paul to speak to Andy Ray about this.
- **Summer Camp, Gravelines** – everyone had a good time, no issues/complaints.
- **Explorer Climbing Weekend, Wales** - excellent weekend, climbing and hiking, accommodation and food very good/well organised, instructors superb, "exhausting but worth it". Dave thanked the fundraising committee, especially Lyn Medcalf, for making the trip possible.
- **Leigh Pack Cub Camp, HMS Belfast** – travelled by train, had pizzas delivered, watched movies in the cabin, saw demonstrations of what life on board was like and visited the London Bridge Experience. John thanked Tracy for stepping in at the last minute. The boys thoroughly enjoyed themselves – and lots of Dads were very envious! John would recommend HMS Belfast to other sections (Cubs onwards).

- **Collins Pack Cub Camp, Hope Hill** – all went well but it was extremely hot.
- **Phillips Pack Cub Camp, Hope Hill** – everyone had a great time, Police themed camp, the Police even arrived and “arrested” Shea (Tracy commented that it was easy to get in touch with the Police and they were happy to take part).

5 Future Events

- **New Hall Presentation Evening** – over the summer, a working party (comprising Tim, Darren and Dave) met and agreed what features/facilities the new hall should have and what it should look like. Before the plans are finalised, the working party would welcome feedback from other leaders, helpers and members of the Executive Committee, to make sure the hall meets everyone’s needs. The presentation will take place on Wednesday 18 September from 8.15pm in the Scout Hall, please bring your own drinks and snacks. (Tim also mentioned that it would be worth seeing if we could rent St. Lawrence House while the building work is taking place.)
- **Duke of Edinburgh Training**, 4-5 October (Dave, and possibly Neil Gardner, attending).
- **Bush Craft Training**, 4-5 October (Darren, Jason and Paul attending).
- **Target Shooting Practice** 1 October and 8 October, in preparation for Bisley. Parents’ meeting scheduled for 9 October and Bisley itself takes place on 18-20 October. Jason was pleased to report that he received full sponsorship for the polo shirts and an order has been placed. (Jason mentioned it might be worth hiring minibuses for the weekend, to keep parents’ petrol costs down.)
- The **District Swimming Gala** scheduled for 9 November has been cancelled.
- **Remembrance Parade**, 10 November, 5th Dartford will again be providing the saluting box this year (as well as a couple of Explorers to “stand watch”).
- **Leaders’ Christmas Social** – preferred date is Saturday 14 December. One suggestion was Assos (the Mediterranean restaurant in Crayford). **Action:** Dave is looking into availability and prices. **Action:** Paul has asked that leaders make similar enquiries if they think of a restaurant that may be suitable.
- **Birthday Parade** – **Action:** Paul to confirm date (will be either 1 or 8 December), the church is keen to encourage audience participation (at least on the part of the children!) this year, Wendy will try and book an entertainer once the date has been finalised. Similarly, Dave will book an activity for the Scouts and Explorers (most likely either bowling or ice skating) once the date is known.
- **Winter Camp** – details due out shortly, the intention is to take part again this year.
- **Disney Camp** – Tracy confirmed that “everything is in place” for this trip.
- **Easter Camp** will go ahead as usual next year, most likely at Thriftwood.
- **National Archery Camp**, 9-11 May – Lynn mentioned that all the equipment is in a good state of repair and that there are plenty of new arrows. **Action:** Lynn kindly agreed to organise a training programme for the 2 months running up to the competition.

- **Summer Camp** – Paul would welcome any suggestions as to where to go next year.
- **Family Camp**, 23-26 May Bank Holiday weekend, either Hope Hill or Thriftwood, Nearer the time, Paul is planning to ask parents what activities they would like to help organise/participate in.
- Wendy is proposing to run a **Quiz Night** on Saturday 8 February.
- **Boxing Day football**, most likely to be held at the Glentworth Club. **Action:** Paul to book.
- There will be no **New Year's Eve party** this year, due to a lack of interest.

6 Fundraising

- **Sainsbury's charity of the year:**
 - We need to ensure that 5th Dartford is as "visible" as possible.
 - Keith is kindly organising labels for the collecting boxes on the tills.
 - Keith mentioned that Chris is happy to be a "go between" (delivering paperwork, passing on messages, etc.) if needed any time.
 - Sainsbury's held a team building meeting in the hall this week - Sainsbury's staff are welcome to use the hall as much as they like.
 - 5th Dartford will be happy to organise a have-a-go/team building session for Sainsbury's staff.
 - It was agreed that Lyn should speak to Chris Boyd about the possibility of:
 - a computer screen in the foyer/near the notice boards (as well as, possibly, a television in the home entertainment area of the store) showing footage of 5th Dartford on repeat;
 - an overnight/24 hour camp in the foyer – possibly with some pioneering activity in the car park, 'campfire singing' and some 'simple' cooking, with the food being donated by Sainsbury's);
 - a Beavers carol concert being held one Thursday between 5pm and 7pm in the foyer; and
 - the possibility of Lockwood Studios (or another local photographer who may provide his services free of charge) being advertised on our posters.
- **Insurance for have-a-go sessions** – Currently, 5th Dartford is fully qualified and insured for offering archery and target shooting have-a-go sessions to the general public, but needs additional insurance (at a cost of £100 per day) from the Scout Association in order to offer out the use of the climbing wall. An alternative approach is for 5th Dartford to pay an annual insurance premium of £500 in order to become a designated "campsite activity centre" which will enable us to offer all our facilities to the general public and charge for their use. This could potentially mean us raising funds from birthday parties and corporate team building sessions (under

the insurance policy we would be permitted to earn up to £30,000 per year). It was unanimously agreed that the £500 premium would be worth taking out. **Action:** Paul to raise at the Executive Committee meeting.

- Next **Masons Craft Fair** scheduled for 27 October (profits being split between 5th Dartford, Wilmington and Help the Heroes). Good opportunity for handing out leaflets (maybe double-sided – new hall/recruitment), possibly running own craft stall.
- The next **Murder Mystery Evening** is scheduled for 7 December.
- Paul is planning another **Race Night**, tentatively scheduled to take place on 8 March.
- **Dartford Lions' Fireworks Display** in Dartford Park scheduled for 2 November. We shall be selling home-made soups, tea, coffee, hot chocolate and cakes. We shall also be offering our services as marshals again this year. **Action:** Lesley to liaise with Edwin (Dartford Lions) and let everyone know what the marshalling arrangements are.
- A generator has been added to our wish list.
- A Zumba teacher has offered to run a 2-hour 'Zumbathon' down the hall, if there is sufficient interest.

7 Any Other Business

- Del mentioned he had some flyers for the World Jamboree if any leaders were interested.
- Maggie has kindly repaired the tents which got torn at summer camp. It was noted that it might be worth considering asking parents for deposits in case of damage to group equipment.
- Delia mentioned that Collins Pack had recently helped Gallions Housing Association in Crayford with some gardening. She said the boys were very well behaved, there was a good turn-out and everyone really enjoyed themselves. Gallions have promised to erect a plaque thanking 5th Dartford for its support. Gallions are planning more developments in Dartford, so there may be other volunteering opportunities in the future (Delia has their contact details, if required).
- John McLoughlin mentioned that he visited Brownsea Island during the summer and donated 5th Dartford scarves and badges which will now be displayed alongside others from all over the world. Paul thanked John on behalf of the group for doing this.
- Action list for the next working party: top of the wall decking needs cutting, plumbing (outside drain-away), plastering and painting. Karen mentioned she could organise a work party from Lloyds if required.
- Lynn mentioned she has submitted a gift aid claim for the last 3 years, worth just over £9,000. It was noted that it is well worth handing out gift aid forms as we get back just over £30 per year per child (Lyn has details of which parents have not yet signed gift aid forms, should leaders have any queries).

- Lesley has recently contacted all leaders and helpers to confirm that the contact details held by Paul for them is still correct. Paul reassured everyone that this information has not been – and will not be – disclosed to anyone else.
- Recruitment drive – Lyn, Lesley and the Butler family are delivering leaflets door-to-door in the West Dartford area, an advertisement appeared in the summer edition of Primary Times and Lyn is distributing leaflets to local primary schools

8 Date of next leaders/all hands' meeting

The proposed date for the next meeting is Tuesday 7th January 2014

Appendix 1 Diary Dates

September

New Hall Presentation Evening – Wednesday 18 September from 8.15pm in the Scout Hall

October

Duke of Edinburgh Training, 4-5 October (Dave, and possibly Neil Gardner, attending)

Bush Craft Training, 4-5 October (Darren, Jason and Paul attending)

Target Shooting Practice, 1 October and 8 October

Bisley parents' meeting, 9 October

Bisley camp, 18-20 October

Masons Craft Fair, 27 October

Beaver Halloween Party planned for end of October, with the other Beaver colonies if they wish to join in.

November

Fireworks Display, 2 November

Remembrance Parade, 10 November

December

Birthday Parade, either 1 or 8 December

Murder Mystery Evening, 7 December

Leaders' Christmas Social – preferred date is Saturday 14 December

Boxing Day football

2014

Quiz Night, 8 February

Race Night, 8 March (TBC)

National Archery Camp, 9-11 May

Family Camp, 23-26 May

Appendix 2 List of Actions

Dave to contact Assos in Crayford as a possible venue for the leaders' Christmas social.

Dave to speak to the Explorers about becoming young helpers.

Lesley to contact Edwin at the Dartford Lions re. marshalling for this year's fireworks display.

Lyn to meet with Chris Boyd at Sainsbury's (and run through the various suggestions set out above).

Lyn to organise a training programme in advance of next year's National Archery Camp.

Paul to book Glentworth Club for Boxing Day football.

Paul to confirm date of the birthday parade.

Paul to raise the issue of insurance for have-a-go sessions at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Paul to speak to Andy Ray about the possibility of 5th Dartford participating in next year's Wilmington Fair.

Paul, when organising the Summer Camp, to ask parents what activities they would like to help organise/participate in.