

MINUTES

Present:

Neil Young, Chair Paul Boreham, GSL
Avtar Sandhu, Gary Missions, Lynne Mission, Wendy Hurd, Derek Hurd, John McLoughlin,
Kay O'Brien, Jason O'Brien, Phil Hannah, Karen Hannah, Dave Monteith

1) Apologies for Absence

Lyn Medcalf, Darren Enever, Maggie Lilleycrop, Jim Lilleycrop, Phil Wells, Lesley Bauckham,
Pauline Butler

2) Adopt Minutes from the Previous Meeting

The minutes from the previous Executive Committee Meeting on 29 March 2017 and the
AGM Minutes from 11 June 2017 were voted upon and approved.

3) Review Action Points from Previous Exec Meeting

Action points from the meeting from 29 March were discussed and, where individuals were
not in attendance, carried over to the next Exec Committee meeting.

- Bev to transfer £100,000 from New Hall Fund to NS&I to spread risk. **Action:** Neil to check and report back.
- John to confirm authorisation/signature requirements for the NS&I account. **Action:** John still to confirm.
- Lesley to provide scans of Maureen Bloxham's photos for the website. **Action:** Lesley to confirm at next Exec.
- Lyn and Paul to complete District Nights Away Permit paperwork. **Action:** Lyn, Carried over to next Exec.
- Ly to confirm grant value from Hedley Foundation for archery equipment. **Action:** Lyn, Carried over to next Exec.
- Wendy to organise a quiz night. Problems with unpredictability of shifts mean that may be difficult to do with any kind of prior notice.

4) GSL Update on Sections Status and Leadership and A General Discussion about Group Aims

No specific issues were raised by section leaders for risk or expenditure in their individual sections. Neil expressed his concern that some sections never attend an exec committee meeting and so, as a result, the ability of the Exec to support and to regulate the section is limited. Paul ran through the sections and challenges with leadership numbers.

Dave Monteith raised the important question of how the Group should view success and whether multiple sections should be the aim, or if we should consider fewer sections with

the increased numbers that might create in remaining sections. There was a healthy and positive debate amongst those Exec Members present. It was noted that the idea that scouting is so successful currently because it has a huge waiting list nationally, is actually a comment on the difficulty of finding enough leaders to satisfy that demand nationally.

It was considered that it is not necessary to simply keep sections open when we might be a stronger Group by amalgamating sections with increased numbers. As we have seen with Medcalf Troop, a section can be “mothballed” without having the intention of closing it forever. We also touched on the issue of mixed gender sections and the need to offer appropriate transfer between sections for all active young members of the Group.

It was decided that Paul should take the suggestion forward at the next Leaders Meeting and all options remain available to maintain the health of the individual sections.

5) AOB

- Avtar Sandhu kindly donated £443 raised from business networking meetings to the New Hall fund.
- Neil shared latest drawings and the Design and Access Statement from ZedFactory architects. He explained that he has added his comments and asked ZedFactory to confirm costs and timing plan. ZedFactory are developing what is required to submit a planning application in the near future.
- Wendy asked for an update on the boiler and whether it would be working during the Winter. It was agreed that some work would be put in to trialling different timers.
- Karen agreed, on behalf of James/Tom/Ashley, that they would arrange a Race Night to raise funds on November 11th.

6) 6-Month Section Accounts Review

Neil raised the subject of a 6-month Section Accounts review, as the Group Auditor, Bev Panton had some concerns about the accounts at year end and a 6-month review would help to ensure that did not become a repeating issue. Bev has also offered to provide some extra guidance to some of the sections. John will issue the Section Books at the end of October. Sections should NOT zero their BANK accounts this time. The books should be returned completed with all purchase receipts at the next Exec Meeting below.

6) The Next Executive Meeting

The next Executive meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 21st.