

Tuesday 19 September 2023

Present – Russ Ketley (RK), Paul Boreham (PB), Tim Roscoe (TR), Jason O’Brien (JoB) & Del Hurd DH).

Apologies – Darren Enever, Karen Hannah, Jim and Maggie Lilleycrop.

Meeting opened by RK – Volunteer Trust member – All welcomed, Along with PB passed on experiences at APEX 2023 a Kent Scout event designed to assist the Scout Movement transform into a more “Team Friendly” organisation, with changes to position names, training (now called Learning) etc, all of which is hoped will attract more adult support in the future.

Section Reports:

Burne – TR stated that he had 9 in number and is concerned about future numbers.

Earley – PB has 18 scouts – reported that Keith Furlong had recently stepped down as a leader but both he and his wife were happy to continue to support the 5th in other ways.

Explorers – Job reports 32 on books, with approx. 25 regularly attending.

We were also informed that despite the media horror stories our 2 members that attended the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea – enjoyed the experience and hopefully at least one of them will be able to do a short presentation at the AGM on October 7th.

Karen was not at the meeting but sent a report in – Job & TR discussed the CAF account and reimbursement. Some people have had difficulty activating their expenses cards, also it is believed other leaders are owed money. There has also been some confusion with changing banks during the financial year, but Karen reports that the books are well on course to be ready for the AGM.

RK reported that he had called Baynes Solicitors in July to ask for an update on our application to the Land Registry to have our land registered to us for the first time. The solicitor dealing was a Joseph Davidson – when he asked to speak to him RK was informed the Mr Davidson no longer worked there by a junior member of staff and that someone (busy elsewhere) had taken over his caseload – and would be in touch (they weren’t) RK left a message – was then called again by a junior member of staff on 28/7/23, and told that again the person taking over was busy , about to go on leave would ring me on their return (they didn’t) but also pointed out that some Land Registration cases can take 3 years. After 7 weeks having still not been contacted by anyone from Baynes RK went onto Baynes website to find out who the senior partner was in order to email him direct -however it was not clear who that was – however there was a section where you were invited to make a formal complaint about the service you have received to the Legal Ombudsman – this RK did. RK paid Baynes a £300 retainer back in December 2022 – has seen nothing from Land Registry only the odd email/phone call from Mr Davidson (prior to his departure). So would like to get some clarification on the progress of our application, to ensure that it has actually been submitted. The complaint was lodged a week ago, but RK has still had no contact from Baynes.

Any Other Business:

PB reminded the meeting of the upcoming AGM on October 7th following the NSRA final between 4.00pm and 5.00pm with a shoot off competition for families between 5 & 6.

The Birthday parade was also discussed with a following “Fun” event still to be decided.

The Leader Xmas dinner will be on the 16th December – location still to be decided.

The meeting was closed by RK at 20.30.