

# 1<sup>st</sup> Wargrave Scout Group Annual General Meeting

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2015

Scout Hut, Wargrave

**Present:** 13 people were present, including the GSL and representatives of the Leaders and the Exec Committee.

**Apologies:** Donald McDonald, Nigel Bevan, Helen Price, Christine Walker and Jo Smith.

## 1. Introduction

8.15pm

Pete Fry, the GSL, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending.

start

## 2. Minutes of the AGM held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2014

Copies of the previous year's AGM minutes were distributed to those present. Nigel Board proposed them and Lesley Hucker seconded.

## 3. Treasurer's Report

Copies of the Treasurer's Report were also circulated, and Janet Moseley summarised the main items of note:-

Overall the Group still remains on a strong financial footing, with assets totalling nearly £23,000. An increase in membership subscription has been received (from £6,360 up to £7,577 this year), along with £860 of Gift Aid tax being recouped for the 2012-2013 tax year.

Fundraising has remained strong across the Group's events with £1,900 collected on the gates at the Fireworks and £780 surplus on refreshments that night. The Easter Egg Hunt (2014) made a surplus of £300 despite being run as a break-even event, and the Christmas Post continued to raise around £300. Revenue from the hire of the Scout Hut has also doubled to £2,095 mainly due to a number of regular bookings, and thanks were expressed to Sarah Ayel for her hard work in achieving this.

In terms of expenditure, £1,200 was spent on the new chairs and trolleys in the hut, and shelving for storage was purchased using a donation from the Wargrave Heritage Trust. A marquee that was used at WINGS was also bought for £150. The most significant increase in expenditure was the purchase of badges – from £220 last year to £800 currently.

A donation of nearly £350 was made to Breast Cancer Care following the fundraising at the Almost Christmas Show, and Henry Best received £250 towards his trip to the World Scout Jamboree 2015 in Japan.

Dave Moseley queried the difference between the Designated Funds and the General Funds; Janet explained that the Designated Funds were for the running of the Fireworks event, and for the various Sections' activities.

Pete Walsh asked whether the music licence included the playing of DVDs/videos in the hut; Pete Fry explained that it did not, but as Helen Price (District Secretary) would be organising a combined licence to cover DVDs/videos for all branches of the District, we would be asking whether she could also organise a combined one for the music licence.

Pete Walsh also asked why the internet costs for the hut were not shown; Janet explained that Andy Silby has not yet claimed the cost of this back, but it will eventually go into the finances as 12 payments of £15.

Nigel Board asked if there were plans to spend some of the Group's funds; Pete Fry said that an

events shelter would be bought, the paintwork in the hut would be touched-up, and equipment in the stores would be replaced. Nigel expressed an interest in purchasing some new tents, since we do have a very healthy bank balance, and it was suggested that the Leaders should discuss their requirements at their meeting.

The accounts have been independently examined as required by the Charity Commission. Pennie Withers proposed them and Pete Walsh seconded.

#### **4. Group Scout Leader's Report**

Pete Fry then summarised his GSL report; the full reports from all the sections are available on the website.

We have seen a number of changes in the last year; Janet Moseley, Jane Austen and Chris Bookless retired from the Lumberjack Beaver colony after 25 years' service, although Janet has remained as Group Treasurer and Chris is helping with the Wildcat Cub pack. Fortunately Jen Herrington and Clare Pagdin have stepped up to share the Leader role for the colony.

Paul Worthington has moved to the Scout Troop after 6 years as Leader of the Woodchuck Beavers. Unfortunately Neil Day, who took over from Paul, has now had to withdraw from the role due to work pressures, and so Ken and Hilary Burke have stepped in to run the Woodchucks; in Pumas John Wheals will be leaving at the end of the summer term.

We need to (as ever) recruit more people to help in the Group as a whole. Articles are going into the Wargrave News every month now to keep the Group's profile raised, but we need to be able to reassure people that it does not need to be a full-time commitment; any help or involvement on a regular (or semi-regular) basis will always be appreciated.

Pete thanked all the Leaders and the Exec for their work over the past year, and looked forward to the events which are coming up: manning both of the water stations for the 10K run (14<sup>th</sup> June); the Festival Parade (27<sup>th</sup> June); the Festival Tea Tent (parents and Cubs) and the Fruit Stall (Scouts) both at the Festival Fete (27<sup>th</sup> June).

We also have an Activity Day pencilled in for 19<sup>th</sup> September, followed by the Remembrance Parade and the Fireworks Night.

#### **5. Election of Officers/Committee**

**Chair** – the GSL proposed Helen Vonka to continue in her role, and this was agreed by all.

**Treasurer** – Janet Moseley was proposed by Helen Vonka and seconded by Ken Burke to also continue in her position as Treasurer.

**Secretary** – Wendy Dowling was proposed by Helen Vonka and seconded by Janet Moseley to also continue in her role until a replacement could be found.

Helen noted that we also need to recruit more parents to the committee, but welcomed the recent addition of two Beaver parents Jo Smith and Nick Woods.

#### **6. Automatic payment of subs via OSM**

From the 1<sup>st</sup> September the Group will only accept subs payment via direct debit; using the facilities on the Online Scout Manager (OSM) the payments will go out electronically, and parents will be informed via an automatically generated email. Gift Aid enrolment will also benefit from this system, and at a later date ad hoc payments (eg camp fees) will be available for payment via this method. All parents should have their OSM accounts set up by 1<sup>st</sup> July.

## **7. Any Other Business**

Pete Fry awarded Fiona Keen her 5 year service award.

The Scout Troop also displayed the Loddon District Camping Challenge Award trophy which they had won jointly with 5<sup>th</sup> Woodley.

There was no further business and the meeting was closed.

9.12pm  
finish