

30th Lincoln and 1st Bassingham Scout Group

Minutes of AGM 24th June 2014

Existing Committee present:

Chair	Mick Dorsett
Treasurer	Vicki McCracken
Deputy Treasurer	Sarah Coulson
Secretary	Jo Woods
Beaver Leader	Paul Hubbard
Beaver Assist.	Ian Mills
Group Scout Leader	Alison Kelley
Asst Scout Leader	Helen Wright
Asst Scout Leader	Darren Booker
Cub Leader	Stuart Credland
Assistant Leader	Lucy Taylor
Explorer Leader	Tony Davis
Beaver/Scout Rep.	Dianne Atkin
Beaver Parent Rep	Rachael Ward
Cub/Scout Rep	Jane Bartle
Cub Parent Rep	Jason Collins
Scout Parent Rep.	Tina Braithwaite
Parent Rep.	Richard Welsh

Members of the public **See Appendix A**

1 Apologies for absence

- Cub Parent Rep Jason Collins, Beaver Parent Rep Richard Welsh, Scout Parent Rep Tina Braithwaite, Asst Scout Leader Darren Booker and Emma Francis

2 Minutes of last meeting

2.1 These were received, approved and duly signed by the Chair.

3.0 Matters Arising

None

4.0 Chairman's Report

- Welcome to the AGM of the 30th Lincoln and 1st Bassingham Scout Group
- Thank you for coming tonight and showing your support.
- A warm welcome to the District Leader Judy Sylvester who will be saying a few words later.

4.1 Report

- The 30th Lincoln and 1st Bassingham Scout Group has had a successful year and each of the leaders from the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts will give you a detailed report on their activities during the past year and talk about plans for the future.
- I can now report some success in the problem of storage of equipment. We now have storage on the school site and a functional container which is storing a great deal of equipment
- We have seen the formation of an Explorers Group in Bassingham, led by Tony, with Helen being our new troop leader for scouts.
- With Alison taking on the role of Group Scout leader Stuart has now had his first year as Cub leader.
 - This has been my third year as Chair and I am continually overwhelmed by the enormous amount of work undertaken by the group.
 - The committee all put in their time and efforts into making the Group successful. The leaders and their assistants put in so much effort and without their dedication and enthusiasm the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts would not be so successful, and I would like to thank them all on behalf of all the parents and carers.
 - I would also like to thank the committee for the support they give and making it a team effort, which is why the group works so successfully.

5.00 Treasurer's Report

- We have had another steady year financially and have managed our funds well.
- The increase in subscriptions has now been in place for a full year although we have had an increase in our rates for the hall hire from January 2014, which unfortunately eats into the rise in our income.
- Our major concern this time last year was that we would have to invest in a container to store our equipment. Due to the continued efforts of the group, particularly Darren Booker and Tony Davis, we were able to secure a container for free. Our only costs were to shelve and site the container, which totaled approx. £960.00.
- Our fundraising income has remained consistent with the bag packing raising £916.00 and the cubs Christmas post raising £147.36.
- We also received donations of £30 from the WI and a £100 award from the Lincoln District Scout Council.
- Just after our 13/14 year end we also received £150.00 from the No Name Lodge. We also held a joint event with the Rainbows and Brownies, Kids on the Catwalk, which raised £284 (to be split amongst the groups).
- Unfortunately our capitation costs have risen again this year and it is a struggle to fundraise sufficiently to meet this insurance cost. Other Scout groups charge the cost onto the parents; however we have always resisted this. If anyone has any further ideas for fundraising we would be very happy to hear from you.
- At the end of this financial year our current account looks reasonable at £2818.00 and our savings account at £656.00. Our aim for the coming year will be to boost our savings once again.
- I would like to thank our leaders and helpers for their great work with our group as a whole. They consistently carry out fantastic activities with the boys, whilst keeping a mindful eye on the costs.

6.0 Beaver's Report

- The Beaver colony has had another successful year. What we plan is based around the Scout Associations colony programme, this gives the Beavers a wide range of activities and badges to achieve while learning about Scouting. All these challenges and activities are achieved each week through craft, games, discussions, visits from groups and organisations and getting out and about.
- The last 12 months our 3 Challenges badges have been the Global, Friendship and Creative.
- Alongside the challenge badges individual Beavers have also had the opportunity to work on personal activity badge, these have included their: Animal, Healthy Eating, Hobbies, Safety, Creative and Imagination badges. We have also done IT stage 1, Hikes away and older members have been given the chance to do Swimming stage 1 and Music Stage 1 before leaving.
- Beavers have completed the challenges and activities set and been awarded their badges accordingly throughout the year by undertaking activities, which have included:-
 - World Scouting
 - Healthy Eating
 - Wildlife Conservation
 - Bulb planting and care of
 - Chinese New Year
 - A Link with a colony in Malaysia
 - Fund raising for Sport Relief
 - Construction with different materials
 - How magnets work
 - Simple Circuitry
 - Hobbies and interests
 - Fair Trade products and reasons behind them
 - Safety in the home, by water and on the road
 - 999 emergencies
 - And most recently fashion modelling
- Some of the things Beavers have made include:-
 - Paper Boomerangs
 - Pizza
 - A large Wreath for Remembrance Day
 - Instruments out of recycled materials
 - A Scarecrow for village festival
 - Bird feeds
 - Gifts for both Mothers and Father's Day
 - Cards for Christmas and Valentine's Day
 - Chinese paper puppets
 - Knights
 - & our good old faithful Crispy Cakes
- To complete their creative challenges in the next few weeks they will experiment with colours doing tie dye, write and acted out some short plays and prepare for this year's annual visit to group camp.
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- A number of Beavers attended our annual visit to Cub camp for the day last July this gives them the opportunity to experience camp and the surroundings as well as joining in with the cub's themed activities, a great day out for all and looking forward to this year's visit. A small group of 5 joined in the fun at the Beaver District Easter Party. We have also been on a conservation visit to Hill Holt Wood, had a safety evening at and tour of Brant Broughton Fire Station, a winter walk in the dark and a visit to Whisby Nature Park.

- We had a good turnout for both Remembrance Day service at St Michael's church in November and at St Georges Day Parade at the Cathedral in April.
- The last 12 months we have had 10 Beavers progress to Cubs. 6 of them completed and were awarded their Chief Scout Bronze awards before they moved up. We have had 10 new starts in this time and colony numbers continue at 20, with no shortage on the waiting list. We have had a strong contingency of leader this year along with Ian and myself we have now been joined by Amy. Anna and Rebecca continue to support us as colony assistance and Laura has settled in as our new young leader after Cloe and Charlotte departed for university.
- The Colony continues to thrive with no shortage of interest, the current Beavers are well behaved, their all eager to learn, share their experiences and help one and other as they start out in scouting and most importantly enjoy coming, as Beaver leader I am confident that we can continue to run a fun and enjoyable colony learning as we go all about Scouting.
- A big thank you to everyone concern with the Group for their continued help and support.

7.0 Cub Leader's Report

7.1 Numbers

We have 29 Cubs at the moment.

5 went to Scouts at Christmas.

At the moment we have 2 leaders, 2 full time pack assistants and Bagehra and 2 part time pack assistants

We also have 3 young leaders.

7.2 Meetings

Winter 2014 Term

- Finishing the personal safety Badge,
- A First aid night
- Beginning the Local Knowledge Badge starting with a Ghost walk at the Cathedral, followed by a Walt Disney Night

The Cubs were offered a choice of Badges which were completed :-

- Artist
- DIY
- Science
- Chef's Badge

The sixers and seconders completed their navigators badge with a walk along Frogett Edge in the Peak District

Autumn 2013 Term

- We worked towards the Personal Safety badge
- Made Guys and Pumpkin Lanterns to use at our Bonfire Night camp fire
- We looked at what the Navy did in the Battle for the Atlantic in our remembrance evening,
- We visited Lincoln Fire station and learnt about thermal imaging and breathing apparatus as well as letting off the fire hoses and climbing all over the fire Engines
- We made the Post boxes for the Cub Post and made beaded key rings for Xmas presents
- All Cubs had an opportunity to complete either their book reader badge, hobbies badge, collectors badge or sports enthusiast
- We finished with a Xmas party run by the Sixers

We ran a 'soon to be' Sixers and Seconders training day to begin their Promise and Outdoor Plus badges and have started to organise a treasure hunt for the pack and planned a walk in the Peak District. They also cooked their own Lunch.

Summer Term

- We completed the Athletes badge and a few cubs managed their Athletes Plus.
- We started our Communications and Map reading Badge
- The cubs took part in a sponsored duathlon which raised £180.00. We have used some of this to replace our Assault Course equipment.
- We had a camp fire and practice cooking for camp

7.3 Group Activities

- The Church Parade for Remembrance Sunday was well attended
- 20 Cubs came to bag pack at Sainsbury's
- We had a winter walk at Clumber Park
- 17 cubs have taken part in 1 or more canoeing sessions

7.4 District events

- 7 cubs attended the District's Xmas Party on 14th December
- Only 15 cubs attended the St Georges Day Parade (less than usual)
- 12 cubs went to a District Fun Day at the Showroom
- 16 cubs went to the District Play Zone trip

Everyone is looking forward to the upcoming group camp.

8.0 Scout Leaders report

8.1 Numbers

- The Scout Troop has had a successful year numbers wise; we have had somewhere between 24 and 28 scouts. We are currently at 25 with a split of 17 boys and 9 girls.

8.2 Meetings

- At ordinary meeting nights over the past year we have done various activities, working towards challenge badges and activity badges. Including -
 - Lighting and cooking on fires
 - Scarecrow making
 - Assault course
 - Incident Hike
 - Survival Skills
 - Map work
 - Craft
 - Knotting... To name but a few...
- We have also visited the fire station and watched the local pantomime.

8.3 Activities

Over the past year we have also done many extra activities.

- We had a successful week at Poacher 2013 with 15 Scouts (10 boys and 5 girls) attending. Gadgets and Gismo sub camp was the place to be. We met Scouts from around the world although our Scouts seemed to favour the Middle Rasen Guides! Scouts did a wide range of activities including Amateur Radio, Water Zorbs, Micro Quad and Craft on site. Kayaking, Fishing, 10 Pin Bowling and Day Trips off site. The weather was kind to us and we are looking forward to Poacher 2017.
- We had a super night hike. 19 Scouts (12 boys and 7 girls) took part in the 10k night hike from Brough to Bassingham. We were joined by Tony and the Trex Explorers. We had a stop, half

way, for hot dogs and hot chocolate. After a short night's sleep in the hall, we enjoyed a cooked breakfast.

- St Georges Day Parade, at Lincoln, took place on the 27th April 2014. Scouts of all ages Paraded around Lincoln then onto a service held in the Cathedral. I was a very proud Scout Leader with 21 Scouts joining me for the parade.
- We had 13 Scouts Canoeing on Thurlby Lake on Sunday 11th May, and 11 Scouts on Sunday 8th June. These Canoeing sessions could not take place without our Skills instructor Tony Davis.

8.4 Future Activities

We have some camps to look forward to this year.

- Expedition from the 28th – 29th June 2014 – We currently have 5 older Scouts planning their own expedition. The Expedition Challenge is one part of their Chief Scout Gold.
- Group Camp from the 4th – 6th July 2014 – 19 Scouts (5 Girls and 14 boys) will be joining the Cubs, Explorers and Beavers for our Second ever group camp. We are hoping this will become a biannual event for the group.
- District Camp from the 18th – 20th July 2014 – We have 15 Scouts (5 Girls and 10 boys) attending district camp. The camp will be based around survival skills; all the scouts who attend should achieve their survival badge.
- Lucy and I are look into attending Peak 2015 International camp at Chatsworth house in Derbyshire with the Scouts.

8.5 Chief Scout Gold

- At Scouts we are constantly working towards the Chief Scout Gold, which is the highest award they can achieve as a Scout. Only a small number ever manage to gain this award as it takes more effort than just turning up weekly and they have to put in effort at home as well as Scouts. Therefore I am very pleased to say I have 6 Scouts over the past year who have successfully gained their chief Scout Gold. The District has an annual presentation of these awards and 5 of the Scouts were invited to attend on the 13th January 2014. The County Commissioner awarded them with their gold awards. Another Scout was awarded his in March, by our Assistant District Commissioner for Scouts, after working hard to finish his. A big Well done to, Elliot, Stefan, Kimberley, Hayden, Alex and Robert.

8.6 Thank you!

- I have some fantastic leaders who really don't get thanked enough for all they do. So I would like thank all the Scout Leaders – Lucy, Doug, Ian, Tom and Nicola.
- Tony (Explorer Leader) who come and helps whenever I shout and is a godsend with advice.
- Jane who handles all the money for subs, camps, trips etc. and saves leaders time both at the beginning of scouts and at home
- And finally all the Parents, they turn up for their turn as parent helper and ferry their children to do all the activities. The numbers on St George's day parade is because of supportive parents who bring them to attend.

9.0 Group Scout Leader's report

- This has been the first full year that we have a GSL and I would like to say how proud I am of the group and its leaders and parent helpers. Help on the night means we are able to run more exciting activities and Jane and Dianne taking the money is a godsend.
- When Tony and I first worked together the group (including Leaders) was 29 now we have 90 members and 2 young leaders

9.2 Achievements

- Groups working together
 - Cub post
 - Bag Packing
 - Future coffee morning
 - Group Camp
- The Container (thanks to Darren)
- A new updated website (Thanks to Stuart Credland)
- All leaders ensured all the details of the group were on scout base by Xmas
- A New Explorer Group which although is out of our group and responsible to District he stays with us as a Skills instructor

9.3 Group Development

- Old Development plan from 2 years ago we have achieved our:-
 - Plans to gain new leaders we have gained Helen and 2 new scout leaders and 3 Beaver Leaders (need more for cubs)
 - Expanded beaver numbers to 20
 - The number of Scout chief scouts have improved
 - The numbers of older scouts have risen allowing them to take part in the leadership of the group
 - Reviewed the camping, canoeing equipment and their storage
 - Scouts are transferring to explorers
- New Group Development
 - Not completed this yet but I will highlight areas that we are developing
 - We increasing the numbers of our young leaders and ensuring they will attend the Young Leaders course
 - Ensure we have a high profile in the village
 - Health and Physical activities:- all groups have increased their hikes etc. and are always ready for football or athletics would have taken part in the District and the County activities but these have been cancelled.
 - The biggest thing is preventing loss of children from scouting, once in the system they seem to stay due to the sections working together
 - Good taster days
 - Good group activities e.g. Camp, canoeing, fund raising and walks
 - Good planning so that there are new challenges in each group

9.4 Difficulties

- Still need more leaders especially cubs
- Not always providing the correct nights away for cubs and beavers
- Lack of meeting space (build a Headquarters)
- Isolation from the District
- No girls in Beavers and Cubs

9.5 I ask all parents of young people in the group to remember that

- the Leaders are volunteers and not only give up the meeting evening and many have distances to travel, but have to plan these evenings, give up their weekends for District activities, canoeing and more when it comes to Camp planning and getting equipment food etc. ready, and packing equipment away. Often they use their holidays for setting up camp or Bag Packing. Comments of what they should do aren't always helpful.
- Subs every half term
- Help Tony after Scouts

Overall however this is a group to be proud of because of the Young People, their Parents the Leaders and Helpers

10.0 District Leader's Address

- We welcomed Malcolm Moore, Deputy District Commissioner
- DDC talked about the District/National HQ development plan to take Scout numbers from 460,000 to 500,000 by 2018.
- The Compass Scout's database was being outsourced to an outside company and when it's fully launched parents will have access, Scouts can access for badge work and leaders can go on to approve badge work. It will be a fantastic system!
- A massive thank you to the leaders and committee from the district.
- Key note; don't fundraise to support the parents – cover all fixed costs with fees
- 2015-16 Lottery funds can fund new HQ, but to apply you will need proof of running costs and some of the areas below go towards the conditions of grant;
 - Deprivation
 - Land
 - Growing numbers
 - Monies raised
- There are people at HQ who can help to write a bid to the Lottery committee.
- Proposal from the committee
 - COG committee of Basingham can assist in any grants applied for. They have a brochure of what Basingham needs as a community.
- Question from committee; 'Anyone to help with HQ fund raising?'
 - 2nd Lincoln – Chris Horely would be a good contact
 - Land is a big help – you could lease land for 25 years but it has to be suitable to build on
 - Get the local council on your side and the community on board with plans

11.0 Election of officers

The new committee was proposed and duly elected:

Secretary	Jo Woods
Treasurer	Vicki McCracken
Deputy Treasurer	Sarah Coulson

Parents

Scouts Reps	Jane Bartle & Sarah Coulson
Cubs Reps	Diane Atkin & Rachel Ward, Simon Robertson
Beaver Reps	Richard Welsh, 1 vacancy – Rob Vaughan (TBC)

Also on the committee

Alison Kelly	GSL
Helen Wright	Scout Leader
Darren Booker	Assistant Scout leader
Lucy Taylor	Assistant Scout leader
Stuart Credland	Cub Leader
Paul Hubbard	Beaver Leader
Ian Mills	Assistant Beaver leader

12.0 Explorer's

- With the remote nature of Basingham it makes sense to link to local Scout Group
- T-rex Explorers - September 2013 there were 3 members, now joined by a further 3 and in total 5 have been invested and one lost to the RAF

- Meetings are bi-monthly on a Friday due to exams
- Working towards their Gold and Platinum Queens Scout Awards were they set their own targets and are mentored by Tony. Some of their activities include:
 - New flag on the church
 - Mountain bike ride
 - Helped on the night hike
 - Southern 50 – 30km hike, 50km hike and 50 mile hike in 24 hours – 2 Explorers have entered.
 - Expedition training - meals on a budget, canoeing at Sudbrooke Campsite.
- Expedition takes place September – October
- Night hike planned for July and spend the night in copse
- 2 of the 5 explorer's are doing the Dof E Platinum
- 3 explorers waiting to invest, looking to increase numbers to 8

13.0 Any Other Business

Date of next meeting

- 15th July at 7.45 in Carlton le Moorland Village Hall