

30th Lincoln and 1st Bassingham Scout Group

Minutes of AGM 11th June 2013

Existing Committee present:

Chair	Mick Dorsett	m.d.dorsett@btinternet.com	788549
Treasurer	Vicki McCracken	vicki.mccracken@hotmail.com	788840
Deputy Treasurer	Sarah Coulson	coulsonSarah@hotmail.com	789689
Secretary	Helen Gilman	helengilman@btinternet.com	789072
Group Scout Leader	Alison Kelly	Alison.kelley@nottingham.ac.uk	788241
Beaver Leader	Paul Hubbard	wheelchairkid@tiscali.co.uk	789673
Cub Leader	Stuart Credland	eggy116@hotmail.com	
Troop Leader	Lucy Taylor	lucy@kre-anergy.co.uk	788701
Explorer Leader	Tony Davis	tmlcdavis@tiscali.co.uk	789365
Scout Leader	Helen Wright	hl.wright@hotmail.com	
Scout Rep	Tina Braithwaite	tinabraithwaite@btinternet.com	789180
Cub Parent Rep	Jason Collins	Jason_a_collins@hotmail.com	
Beaver Parent Rep	Rachael Ward	rachael.ward@btinternet.com	

Members of the public **See Appendix A**

1 Apologies for absence

Beaver parent rep, Dianne Atkin,
Beaver parent rep, Jane Bartle,
Stuart Robertson

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

- "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 we hope a container will soon be available which will be able to store a good deal of equipment.
- We hope to see the formation of an Explorers Group in Bassingham, which hopefully will start this year.

- This has been my second 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 a reasonable year in financial terms and have managed our funds very well. Our bank accounts appear reasonably healthy and we have not yet received our Gift Aid for the 2012 year, which we expect to be around £1,200.
- Subscriptions were increased at the beginning of 2013 by £3 per week, which was reasonably well received by parents as this had not happened for a very long time. This was in response to the increasing cost of capitation and was to save having to charge parents the £35 annual fee per child.
- We have now spent the majority of the Co-op grant of £2,500 on equipment, and are currently in the process of applying for a further award. Our savings funds will shortly be used to help with the refurbishment of the new storage container. Whilst exact costs are not known at this stage, we have funds in the deposit account for this purpose and will need to replenish this through fundraising during the year.
- We managed to retain our bag packing this year, which was a huge boost to funds, however this is in doubt for 2013. This is a huge fundraiser for the group and earns £1,000 to boost our funds. We also may see an increase in our weekly hall hire for all three groups in the coming year.
- I would just like to thank all the leaders and their assistants for achieving so much within our financial constraints and providing so much for our children.”

5.1 Receipts and Payments 20010/11 See Appendix B

6.0 Beaver’s Report

6.1 Numbers

- The Beaver colony has had another successful year.
- What we plan as leaders is based around the colony programme; this provides the Beavers with a wide range of activities and badges to achieve while learning about Scouting. All these challenges and activities are achieved each week through craft activities, games, discussions, visits from groups/ organisations and getting the group out and about in the community.

6.2 Meetings

- In the last 12 months we have worked on the Fitness, Promise and Outdoor Challenge Badges.
- Along side the challenge badges individual Beavers have also had the opportunity to work on personal activity badge during this year these have been: -
- Experiment, Health, First Aid, Air, Faith, Explorer and Adventure badges.
- The Beavers have completed the challenges and activities set and been awarded their badges accordingly throughout the year by undertaking the planned activities, some of these have included:-
 - An accompanied walk
 - A visit by a Nurse to teach basic 1st Aid
 - Made lava lamps
 - An evening's visit to explore the church
 - Chinese New Year
 - Sown Sunflower seed to care for
 - Learnt to do some knots
 - An adventure walk
 - Built a scarecrow
- Before the end of term we also have a planned visit to Newark Air Museum and Hill Holt Wood to accompany some of the badge work mentioned.
- Beavers have also learnt, discussed and, if appropriate, made something on a wide variety of annual calendar events:-
- Saints days - both Mothers and Fathers Day - Christmas, Easter and Valentines Day, to name a few
- A number of Beavers visited Cub camp for the day last July which gives them the opportunity to experience camp and the surroundings as well as joining in with the themed activities- a great day out for all!
- We have attended 2 District events this year:-
- 3 Beavers attended the Beaver District sleepover in September and 12 went along to the Easter afternoon party in April at the Showroom. A great time was had at both events.
- We had a good turn out for both Remembrance Day service at St Michael's in November and St Georges Day Parade at the Cathedral in April.
- The last 12 months we have had 7 Beavers progress to Cubs, 1 move away and continue with another colony and 3 decide Scouting wasn't for them. We have had 12 new starters in this time and colony numbers have continuously stood at 20.
- Steve and James have stepped down as colony assistants, the young leaders Cloe and Charlotte have been unable to attend in recent month because of other commitments and come September will be heading off to university and will no longer be able to join us.

- In the last few weeks Anna and Rebecca have come forward and agreed to be colony assistants - this is great news and they will be a great asset to the colony, helping with the weekly running and providing stability to the group's ratios. Plans are also in progress to recruit some new young leaders for September. We still need a warranted leader as a matter of urgency so that we can provide a full itinerary each week, as planned
- 5 of the Beavers that progressed to Cubs were awarded their Chief Scout Bronze awards -the highest award available to a Beaver Scouts.
- Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all leaders (past and present), parents and committee for all their continued help, support and commitment."

8.0 Cub Leader's Report

8.1 Numbers

- "We have 30 Cubs at the moment. 6 received their Chief Scout Award this year.
- 5 have gone to Scouts and 1 is in the process of moving up. We will only have 5 moving up next year. With the number of leaders we have we will struggle to take in all the Beavers next year
- At the moment we have 2 leaders, 2 part time pack assistants and 2 full time one of which leaves us in the summer to go to university. We also have 5 young leaders.

8.2 Meetings

- Summer term- we completed the Athletes and Athlete Plus Badges, had a Camp Fire, cooked sausages and kept the under 6's play area free of litter and weeds. For our summer project we learned Geocaching, and placed our own Geocache site (in the Church yard) also each six made a Geocache and they were placed in sites around Bassingham. One reached Vancouver within a month. We had a really good end of term celebration party with cub's friends and parents alike taking part in egg & spoon, sack and wheelbarrow races.
- Autumn term- we began by making sweets and a Treasure hunt and 5 Cubs ran the Games stall for the Scouts Church Coffee Morning. The whole pack gained a first aid badge tried Mecano modelling, attended a cold but successful camp fire on November 5th, and learned about Bomber Command for Remembrance. 4 Cubs gained their Book Readers Badge, 3 gained their Collectors Badge and 4 gained their Hobbies Badge. The cubs made Clocks for Xmas Presents and the Post Boxes for The Cubs Xmas Post. A day was run for the Sixers and Seconders in November where the cubs cooked their own meals and worked towards their Outdoor plus Badge. The Cubs ran the Xmas post.
- Spring term- We have completed Home Help, Entertainer and Artist Badges, went bowling the last Monday of January and planted trees ready for transplanting as part of the Conservation Challenge. We had a Coffee Evening for Red Nose Day on 11th March each six organised a game for this we raised £102.00. Finally one of the sixers organised the Easter Party to achieve his chief Scout Award.
- 18 cubs went on the night hike and sleep over on 12th April, again they were very well behaved.
- Summer term- in April we completed our air activities badge which involved a visit to Waddington. We are working on our naturalist badge and our Outdoor Challenge. A sponsored Duathlon was run and all cubs took part in some way.

8.3 Group Activities

- We went on our first Group camp at Laughterton themed 'the Celebration year' with activities based on the Jubilee, the Olympics, and 100 years of Scouting in Lincolnshire. The group visited the Brayford celebrations on 14th July.
- Many Cubs went canoeing last summer and started again this May. There was a good turn out for the Remembrance Parade at St Michaels Church. 17 Cubs helped with Bag Packing. 1 Beaver 4 Scouts and 4 Cubs and their families came on the Winter walk (Vale of Belvoir) on 30th December. The weather was dry with occasional sun although it was very wet underfoot

8.4 District events

- We went to the district event at the Brayford and nearly completed the DC challenge but still submitted an entry and came 3rd. 7 cubs went to Pumpkin Party on 26th. 5 cubs & Akela went on the Cub District Santa Special to Twin Lakes, and a representative went to the District Carol Service to collect the Peace Light which was placed in St Michaels Church.
- 2 cubs went to the pantomime at the Theatre Royal Lincoln, 18 to the Play Zone Trip in March and 11 cubs have booked on the District Fun day in June. We also attended the St Georges Day Parade.
- Unfortunately we were unable to organise a football team this year but hope to correct that this year. We are also not going to the District Camp in September, this is not a good time of year as our 1st cub meeting will be after this and it clashes with Bassingham Ball.
- I must thank all the Leaders and Young Leaders for their help through the year. “

9.0 Scout Leaders report

9.1 Numbers

- “Since last year, the scout group has continued with a full troop comprising 22 to 24 scouts.
- 3 scouts left because of:- old age, achieving 1 years old, 1 of whom gained the chief Scout Gold award.
- The mix is currently is 5 girl scouts and 17 boys.

9.2 Meetings

- Since last year we've had a number of events – camping with the cubs for a weekend, hill walking weekend, overnight bivouacs in the woods, and a night hike.
- We have managed to keep up a varied programme with climbing at sudbrooke campsite, initiative hikes in the dark and in the daylight, several visit to the woods just outside the village etc.
- This weekend we have 10 novice scouts attending a camp at wood hall spa, and they'll be visited by 6 patrol leaders who will cycle out from Lincoln, camp overnight then return the next day as their expedition.

9.4 Future meetings

- We also have 13 attending the Poacher camp this Aug at the show ground where we will join 3,000 other scouts for a week of activities in and around the showground.

- Further will be said about this later no doubt but Helen Wright will be taking over running the troop from Sept as I'll be changing to leading the Explorers.
- I couldn't run the troop without the help of Lucy Taylor, Helen Wright, Doug Smart, Darren Booker, Tom Spray and the parent helpers who attend not knowing what the programme is and coping well with whatever they are given to do.

10.0 Group report

- The group continues to work together well, all sections support each other in group events such as the Scout run Coffee Morning at the Church, the Red Nose Day coffee evening. Joint activities are well supported such as canoeing, and the winter walk. This year we had our first Group Camp at Laughterton (the Beavers came on the Sunday) which was very successful and we will try and do it regularly when it doesn't clash with Poacher and an all sections District Camp. We are well supported with parent help but our main problem is getting Warranted help. At the moment we need leaders for Beavers and Cubs.
- The new venture for Scouting in our village is setting up a Explorers Colony and although we are very aware of the fact this does not come under the Group's umbrella but that of the District we hope that liaison between the Explorers and our group will extend scouting in Bassingham and the outlying villages. Although we are sorry to lose Tony from our group as a Leader we shall still retain him as a Skills Instructor so we can continue to use our canoes to the full.
- We have 72 young members recruited from the six villages of the Withamside Parish, Brant Broughton, and Witham St Hughes, the Cubs and Beavers come from 4 primary schools, Bassingham, Brant Broughton, Witham St Hughes and Swinderby, and the Scouts come from a range of Secondary Schools. This means we have a large Interest List for Beavers and a smaller one for Cubs, but we also have some children on a waiting list for both.
- Our main problem at the moment is Storage of equipment and we are in the process of getting a Storage container in place on Bassingham Playing Fields.

11.00 Group Leaders Report

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- Our main problem this year has been resolving the storage issue given that the current storage facility in the Tower is coming to an end. We are in the process of getting a storage container in place on Bassingham Playing Fields and our thanks go to Darren Booker for assisting us with this.
- My thanks go to the many parents who support us so well and especially to Lucy Taylor who is so generous with her time in helping both the Cubs and the Scouts. Moving forward, we will hopefully have a successful future.”

A question was asked from the floor about the state of the leadership and whether or not things were critical? The group leader was also asked of there was a pool of help within the District which could be used to help. This was directed to the District Leader who explained that the shortage of leaders was a common problem and that unfortunately no help was available as recruitment for local groups was normally sourced from parental help.”

10.2 District Leader’s Address

- Max Wrenn spoke to the floor and congratulated the group on its achievements. In his 7 years as District Leader, the Lincoln District is heralded as a positive example to other groups in the county. He thanked the leaders in Bassingham for the efforts which had contributed to this district success. Whenever he visited Bassingham, he would see happy, smiling faces, which was a measure of its success.
- He also congratulated the group on its third place in his Challenge and awarded a cheque in the sum of £100 in recognition of this. A delighted Group Leader thanked him for this unexpected award.

11.0 Election of officers

The new committee was proposed and duly elected:

Chairman	Mick Dorsett
Treasurer	Vicki McCracken
Vice Treasurer	Sarah Coulson
Secretary	Jo Woods
Fundraisers	Darren Booker
	Sarah Coulson
	Richard Welsh
Beaver parent reps	Rachael Ward

	Dianne Atkin
Cub parent reps	Jason Collins Simon Robinson
Scout parent rep	Tina Braithwaite

- Tina asked whether the new Explorers would have its own committee and Tony was unsure at this early stage. Tina expressed an interest in being a parent rep on this committee when it was up and running and Sarah offered to take her place as Scout rep when her daughter joined.

12.0 Any Other Business

12.1 Storage

- Tony updated parents with the fabulous news that Darren Booker had been successful in obtaining an ISO container, free of charge and delivery which was due to arrive on June 21st.
- Doug Smart had obtained 4 railway sleepers to site the container on and all that remained was to paint and rack it out.
- This is a wonderful achievement and was of huge benefit not only in terms of storage for the group but also for its bank balance.
- The committee would like to thank Darren, Doug and Tony for all their hard work in gaining this fabulous facility.

11.1 Fundraising

- An application form was available for parents for submission to Waitrose, to apply for their monthly community charity bid but the committee would finalise the wording at their next meeting.

12.0 Date of next meeting

- 9th July at 7.30 in the Hammond Hall
- The committee very kindly presented the secretary with gifts as she left the group after a very enjoyable tenure in the role. Thank you and good bye.x