

Notes from Enfield District Group Scout Leaders' Meeting, 7th April 2014 at Tristram Drive

Present: Paul Symons (DC), Andrew Myers Nobbs (Deputy County Training Manager), Margaret Boothby & Kim Parker (1st), Jason Persaud (5th), Beryl Davis (8th), Linda Marchant & Jackie Wheeler (10th Ed), Jas Chadha (12th), Keith Spong (14th), Cheryl Keen (18th Ed), Jim Bailey (19th), Darren Leonard (23rd), Corinne Dowsett (27th), Janette Earney (Minutes)

	Item	Detail	Action
1	Welcome	Keith Spong opened and chaired the meeting, which began at 8.14pm.	Guest Andrew Myers Nobbs was welcomed.
2	Apologies	Roger Gleave, Colin Ayres, Peter Jones, Richard Osmond, Paul Dockley, Andy Gill, Nancy Azevado, Graham Ratnage, Mike Thurston	
3	Minutes of the last meeting	Minutes approved.	
4	Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Census – it was mentioned on the last minutes that figures from 13 groups were 'approved'. Clarification was asked of what this means. It is not 'a test which has to be passed'. It is just a formal term for part of the census approvals process. 	
5	Health & Safety, & safeguarding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No reported incidents or issues 	
6	DC's Spot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointments certificates were distributed. NAN FORMS. Important – please ensure that these are always sent through in advance of camp! AGMs. The DC has been invited to 2 or 3 already. If you have a date for yours planned, please let him know ASAP Challenges. Is everyone on track with the outdoor challenges? General consensus was yes. St Georges Day – a document was handed out with the schedule for St G Day. <i>(NB Peter Jones from 6th/13th sent word that James G will deputise for him on the day of the event).</i> Badges – Has anybody seen the new badges? Mainly affecting Beavers and Cubs, and some staged badges. Capitation - Mike T has sent through a request that capitation for young leaders at 2nd, 12th and 27th be paid to him ASAP Census – current trend figures were shown with a slide presentation. The numbers for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have dipped slightly across the District, but Explorer numbers are up. This is the main reason for the introduction of outdoor challenges this year. Surveys show that kids seem to love the outdoor element of Scouting An acknowledgement was made that sometimes nights away are offered, but are not taken up for cultural or family reasons. However, we should still aim to include camps in the program. If you are struggling to get the numbers, or if your leaders don't have the relevant permits, speak to the ADCs to see if District could help you link up with other groups in the same boat 	<p>Action: ALL</p> <p>Action: ALL</p> <p>See separate document</p> <p>All new badge details are on the Scout Association website.</p>
7	GSLs' Seminar Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was decided to defer this until next time, when more GSLs and the DDC are present. The idea is to identify and prioritise future agenda items so that the needs of GSLs are met 	Any additional feedback on this to the DDC is welcomed

8	Training – Andrew Myers Nobbs and Corinne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Andrew highlighted that Manager training modules are available for all who need it. Most GSLs present had already completed these modules. Module 34 MANAGING ADULTS at Frith Grange on 30th April. DC asked question about validation of modules. Corinne explained that most validation is done on the job. The TA speaks informally to the GSL as a follow up after a leader has attended training, to confirm that those leaders are actively planning and delivering. Occasional shrinking violets might need further coaching. Some modules are hard to validate – eg Challenging Behaviour First Response dates on 18th May and 15th June are not listed on County website. Reserve your places quickly! Question was raised – can GSLs be informed who has done the training? Answer – too much work for TA to facilitate this for all. All GSLs were all supplied with a spreadsheet not long ago and GSLs have access all their leaders’ info on the database. Andrew explained that the launch of Compass has been delayed. The priority has been getting the data entry system to work. Front end presentation and design yet to be refined and improved to make it more appealing and accessible. Question was raised – why can’t all permits be listed on warrant card? Answer – too wordy for such a small space. 	<p>Adult training dates – sheet handed out at meeting</p> <p>Respond quickly to book First Response</p> <p>N.B. It is often difficult to access the database during peak periods.</p>
9	District Way Forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questions were raised by the GSLs about the circumstances surrounding the recent departure of the chair of the district exec. Concern was voiced that all adult volunteers should be treasured and retained wherever possible, as it is so hard to recruit them - and the question was asked whether the chair had been offered another role? DC explained his reasons for feeling a need to replace the chair at this stage and his own perception of the requirements of the role. He had felt the chair wasn’t always able to give him the support he needed due to a heavy workload and young family. Exec roles are renewed on an annual basis, so the DC felt that this was the appropriate time for a change. He has great respect for the retiring chair, is very grateful for his hard work to date, and is sorry that he has taken this decision personally. He would be very happy to hear from him regarding ideas for an alternative role in Scouting The DC is confident that his proposed nominee for role in the year ahead can fulfill the requirements of both Exec Chair and Nights Away Manager, and has checked with Gilwell that this combination of roles is allowable 	
10	AOB	<p>Jas – would like his warrant card to be corrected to reflect that he is a Training Advisor</p> <p>Corinne – please support the training days which are out there</p> <p>Margaret – has anybody got a spare Beaver leader? She is recovering from an operation and Rob and Kim are having to cover for her. Corinne - offered Margaret support by suggesting piggy backing onto her own Beaver meetings if no one comes forward</p> <p>Darren – it is very important to hang onto the Leaders we have, because it is so hard to recruit new ones</p>	<p>Action: Corinne</p> <p>Action: All</p> <p>Action: Can anyone offer help to Margaret?</p>
11	Date of the next meeting	<p>23rd June 2014 at 8pm, outdoors at Stratton Avenue. Chair Jackie Wheeler (or Jas if unavailable). Please send through any agenda items and apologies to Janette GSLadmin@enfieldscouts.org</p>	<p>Action: All</p>

Meeting ended at 9.20 pm