

DISTRICT CUB SCOUT LEADERS MEETING

14th November 2013

1ST BENNETTS END HQ

PRESENT.

Andy Glass	District		Lorna Glass	1 st Bennetts End
Sheila Neep	District			
Sue West	4 th Boxmoor			
Kay Evans	1 st Apsley			
April Carter	2 nd Hemel			
Gareth Ford	3 rd Boxmoor			
Karen Yilmaz	1 st Bennetts End			

APOLOGIES.

Julie Randall 1st Bennetts End; Joanna Hartley 1st Leverstock Green.

Andy opened the meeting at 8.00pm welcoming all present and thanked them for coming. He stressed again that these meetings are for the Cub Leaders to ensure that they are able to get the support they require to ensure effective running of their Packs and good quality activities are made available for all of the Cub Scouts in the District. He again reiterated the intent of the District being the supply of good quality activities on a regular basis to allow effective planning to take place in both the short and longer term. It was also noted again that the District encourages Groups to work together and that previous rules whereby any more than two Groups working together makes an activity 'District' is no longer in place.

The search for an ADC for Cubs was noted as continuing, possible expressions of interest have been received and these will be followed up in the fullness of time by Andy Glass.

- A. The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed as being a correct record of that meeting.
- B. Attendees gave a brief introduction of themselves and which Group they were from.
- C. Review of recent and forthcoming events:
 - 1. Cooking and Camp Fire event: Feedback was generally positive with it noted that the youngsters who did attend enjoyed the event, however it was considered that there had not been enough activities to keep all of the youngsters engaged, signage was felt to need improvement so everyone knew where they were going. Safety was also raised as a concern with it being felt that there were too many people around the fires and that on occasions youngsters were running around unsupervised in the vicinity of fires. Consideration to splitting this as a separate event for Beavers and

Cubs with a bit more structure and Groups knowing what the bases were prior to the event was noted as worth considering.

2. Gr8 Big Bash (Bear in the air). Feedback again was extremely good. It was considered that crowd safety was rather limited, it was also noted that the activity wear a number of youngsters were wearing was totally inadequate and that stressing the necessity of proper equipment in letters would have been a benefit. It was however noted that all youngsters who took part were thoroughly buzzing and continue to talk about this day.
3. County Cub Night Hike: Feedback was very positive with it noted that all youngsters who took part thoroughly enjoyed this event as ever. It was noted that this event may however be getting too big, the need now to actually read maps is limited as on most occasions simply following the group in front is possible. It was also felt that consideration of using a different route would be worthwhile.
4. County Cyclo-cross: It was noted that no Groups from Hemel District took part in this event in 2013.
5. Astronomer badge: Being held at Hobbs Hill Wood school Sunday 24th November. Intention is to rotate this activity badge day with Astronomer/Scientist/Artist on a rolling three year basis. Plan being that this day will happen on the last Sunday of November going forward. Resources to be developed such that this is not a new learning every year to ease organising.
6. Christmas party: Taking place on Sunday 15th December. 1015~1215 at Hobbs Hill Wood. Following feedback from previous parties we have decided to do something different this year. This year we have engaged Colonel Custard <http://www.magiccastle.co.uk/custard.aspx> to entertain the Beavers/Cubs. Unfortunately by the time this was booked the only slot available was such that a joint party was the only way this could be fitted in. Plan is to have Colonel Custard run 1030~1115, games and a Grotto. Beavers/Cubs will be separate for games and grotto. Intention for 2014 is to look at a Panto instead of a party. We have started exploring this possibility with Boxmoor Playhouse.
7. Swimming. As advised previously, the intention is to put a fixed date in the District Diary for an annual swimming event. Intention is this will alternate between a badge day and a swimming event. For 2014 the date is to be Saturday February 8th. Andy advised that he is in negotiation with Sportspace around this event.
8. St Georges Day. Intention is that we will run an evening for all Sections at Xscape on Wednesday 23rd April. Intention is to run a session for Beavers and Cubs 5pm~7pm, have all sections in place for Promise Renewal 7pm~7.30pm followed by a session for Scouts/Explorers 7.30pm~9.30pm. There will be a nominal charge of £2 per young person for this event this time round to cover some of the costs of what is a relatively expensive location. Additional cost will be picked up by District. Skate park will be available as will climbing wall, caving and high ropes (for those aged 8+). Youngsters will have to bring their own skates/skateboard/bmx to use in the skate park.
9. Sport Relief day: Intention is to hold this All Sections day at Hobbs Hill Wood school on Sunday 23rd March. More detail to follow.

10. District Night Hike: It was discussed and agreed to hold this event in 2014 on 26th/27th April. Intention as per the previous event was to hold this on a route around Hemel utilising various Group HQs to host activities around the chefs badge, this is an extremely similar event to that held in 2011. Simon from 1st Apsley organised that time and he will be approached to consider using the organising he had from that event.
11. District Cub Camp: It was discussed and agreed to hold this event 4th~6th July 2014. It was considered that a Commonwealth games theme should be used. Discussion took place as to where this camp may happen, Gilwell, and Well End were mentioned as possibilities. **Action:** Determine costs for camp fees at these locations for a decision to be arrived at during next section meeting.
12. County Cub Bushcraft Day : This activity day is taking place at Harmergreen Wood on 22nd March 2014. It was noted that the detail for this activity was available on the County Website <http://www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/> . It has subsequently been noted that participation in this event is limited to 15 Cubs per District. Action: Determine who may want places and how these are to be distributed at next section meeting.
13. District Family Camp: Intention is to hold this in conjunction with ASAP at Phasels weekend of 12 – 14th September 2014.
14. Possible events for 2015 were noted as being:
 - a. Sixer & Seconder Day
 - b. Cub Fun Day
 - c. Tudor Challenge
 - d. Conker Competition.

D. Discussion points from previous meeting.

1. Nil

E. District/County News/Future Meetings:

1. Training – The recent initiative to use ‘training trains’ was discussed. This saw 19 Leaders across all section from Hemel District & West Herts do the training Modules Nos 5,6 & 7. Training was done by people passionate about the subject matter and feedback was extremely positive about the day. The plan with this initiative is that three Modules will be delivered on one day in each term which can see a Leader progress to Wood badge within two years. Verification of Modules is not completed on these days and will still require some time to be spent with a Training Advisor to complete this. Next session for Train 1 is due on Saturday 8th February and will cover Modules 14,15 & 17. Train 2 will start in February on Sunday 9th and will cover Modules 5,6 & 7. Intention is that going forward training will take place on one weekend in February, June and October.
2. Training – ‘Trains’ as mentioned above are designed for new leaders, those who are part way through their training however will not be forgotten. To this end there is a

training evening at District HQ on 4th December at 8pm. If you need modules signed off come along to this evening to spend some time with a Training Advisor.

3. Training – We have been advised that there is a Module 38 training event taking place in Harpenden on 18/19 January. Undertaking this training and having it verified will qualify Leaders to hold a 'indoor' camping permit. This will appear on the County website <http://www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/about-adult-support/training/> in due course. If you are interested in attending this training please advise Steve Harris (ltm.gtwhite@btinternet.com) directly.
4. Quiz evening – Following the success of the fund raising which was held before the District trip to Holland last year, it has been decided to hold a District Quiz Evening again in 2014. This will take place on Saturday 22nd March at Hobbs Hill Wood school. More detail to follow but please keep this date in your diaries.
5. Global & Promise Challenge: It was noted that resources are available on the County website to assist Leaders in delivering these challenges. Information can be found at <http://www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/cub-scouts/resources-for-adc-cubs/>
6. Next meetings:
 - Tuesday 7th January – All Sections – Hobbs Hill Wood School – 7.45 pm
 - Thursday 6 March – Beaver Section – Hobbs Hill Wood School – 8pm
 - Tuesday 20th May – Beaver Section – Hobbs Hill Wood School – 7.30 pm

F. AOB:

1. District funding for Cub events previously has taken the form of an amount of money being allocated to each event being run by the section. Going forward the proposal is that an amount per member of each section will be available to the section on an annual basis dependent upon the annual census for that section. In the case of Cubs this should be an amount in the region of £500. The way in which this is used will be decided by the Leaders attending these meetings. Please come to the next meeting in January with any suggestions you may have as to how this money could be used. Examples may be; Giving each Group the opportunity to do an activity evening at Phasels funded by the District, subsidising Christmas party/panto for youngsters within the section, purchasing resources for each Group or for District events etc etc. At the end of the day this is up to the Leaders to use as they see fit to best deliver for the Cubs.
2. It was noted that Adeyfield School have made an approach to us via Kay Evans to consider the possibility of using their facilities for Cub events. Benefit to the school being the fact that this may make youngsters familiar with the school and it's layout prior to possibly starting at the school. This to be explored further as eg use of science labs etc may be something we could consider for scientist badge.

3. It was advised that Chiltern North hold a chess/draughts competition in February/March. April to supply further detail of this activity for the possible interest of Groups.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.00 pm.