



Hemel Hempstead District Scouts Beaver Section Meeting

Date: 22nd April 2025

Venue: Hobbs Hill Wood School, Hemel Hempstead

Attendees

- | | |
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| • Robert Rivers | 1 st Hemel Hempstead |
| • Eleanor Cranmer | 3 rd Boxmoor |
| • Claire Mould | 2 nd Hemel Hempstead |
| • Andrea Murphy | 2 nd Hemel Hempstead |
| • Ross Dorras | 1 st Bovingdon |
| • Nikki Farrell | 1 st Gadebridge |
| • Cheryl Guppy | 1 st Bennetts End |
| • Michelle Woodall | 1 st Apsley |

Apologies

- | | |
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| • Nicole Lockwood | 4 th Hemel Hempstead |
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Minutes

Beaver Hike

- Michelle discussed current bookings for the Beaver Hike in May, noting low numbers, with a reminder that parents need to book and pay directly through the booking link.
- 1st Bennett's end confirmed they would not be attending.
- **Action Item:** All leaders should check that expected attendees have booked and paid through the booking link and follow up with parents where expected attendance is low.

Squirrels and Beavers Nature Day

- **Event Details**
 - Date: 28th September 2025

- Venue: Phasels Wood Activity Centre
- Key Organiser: Rob Rivers
- Event Format: Two-hour session with four bases across different continents, followed by campfire songs for all.
- Budget:
 - Expected Attendees: To be confirmed; estimated 50-100 participants.
 - Ticket Pricing: £6 for parents, £5 to the District to directly cover the event costs, £1 to cover group administrative costs.
 - Venue Charge: £2 per head. The £100 deposit has been paid, and the balance will be settled when the final numbers are confirmed.
 - A small profit is expected, particularly as this event has no badge costs. This will be used to subsidise future events that are expected to have higher resource costs.
- Bases
 - Discussed various base ideas, including meeting community members (e.g. emergency service personnel), nature walk, crafting, etc. As this is not a badge event, activities did not need to be selected to meet specific criteria. Leaders wanted to run different bases from the previous nature event.
 - Bases agreed as follows:

	Owner
▪ Axe throwing	Michelle, Eleanor
▪ Scavenger Hunt	Rob, Andrea
▪ Cooking (Nachos)	Nikki
▪ Natural Materials collage	TBC - Young Leaders
▪ Camp Fire	TBC
 - Noted considerations
 - Cooking – food allergies and dietary restrictions.
 - Axe throwing – risk management and adaptations for Squirrels.
 - Scavenger hunt – differentiation of difficulty for Squirrels and Beavers.
 - Parental support – ensure clear expectations for adults supporting the groups, especially the Squirrel section.
 - Materials Needed: to be determined by the base owners
 - **Action Items:**
 - Michelle – ask Simon Fancourt if he can run the campfire.
 - All – continue planning communication in the district WhatsApp chat.

District event calendar

- Spring term event
 - The consensus was that a January event was preferred over an event in March; in either case, a Sunday was preferable to Saturday.
 - **Action Item:** Rob Rivers will investigate venue availability and any clashes with other local events.

AOB

- St George's Day / Promise renewal.
 - Leaders were unclear on the 'familiarisation' procedure and whether this needed to be done in advance or completed on site.
 - **Action Item:** Please get in touch with James Day (programme@hemel-scouts.co.uk) if you, or any other leaders in your group, can support running a base on Sunday 27th April.