

## DISTRICT CUB SCOUT LEADERS MEETING

12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2013

1<sup>ST</sup> BENNETTS END HQ

PRESENT.

Andy Glass	District		Sheila Neep	DCSL
Sue Stretton	1 <sup>st</sup> Hemel		Mary Plunkett	2 <sup>nd</sup> Hemel
Rachel Thomes	4 <sup>th</sup> Hemel		Bruce Gregory	Warners End
Richard Haynes	1 <sup>st</sup> L Green (Hawk)		David Fisher	1 <sup>st</sup> L Green
Joanna Hartley	1 <sup>st</sup> L Green		Simon Fancourt	1 <sup>st</sup> Apsley/Gadebridge
Gareth Ford	3 <sup>rd</sup> Boxmoor		Julie Randall	1 <sup>st</sup> Bennetts End
Karen Yilmax	1 <sup>st</sup> Bennetts End		Lorna Glass	1 <sup>st</sup> Bennetts End
Phil McLachlan	1 <sup>st</sup> Kings Langley			

APOLOGIES.

Tina Lee 1<sup>st</sup> Apsley, Jackie Eskdale 3<sup>rd</sup> Boxmoor, Steve Gilden 7<sup>th</sup> Hemel, Chris D'Arcy, 1<sup>st</sup> Leverstock Green, April Parrott 2<sup>nd</sup> Hemel, Jeff Boote 4<sup>th</sup> Hemel, Sue West 4<sup>th</sup> Boxmoor.

Andy opened the meeting at 8.02pm welcoming all present and thanked them for coming, he then went on to explain why Paul was not present, the reason being that he has decided to stand down as ADC Cubs. Paul did however wish to extend his thanks to all Cub Leader in the District for their support to him over the years and hoped that they would continue to support the District into the future. Bruce wanted it minuted that all Leaders in the district would like to thank Paul for all he has achieved in the Cub section and District over a number of years. It was advised, following the DCs e-mail of Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February that we currently have no ADC Beavers, Cubs or Scouts so Andy is overseeing all 6-14 Sections in the short term until suitable replacements can be found.

Andy stressed that these meetings are for the Leaders and that that District support would be made available as required to ensure quality Scouting is available for as many youngsters in Hemel Hempstead as wished to get involved. It was advised that the commitment of the District team is to ensure that this support is made available to all sections to allow them to deliver on this aspiration. Rules to manage within the District will be Scout Association POR and any additional rules getting in the way of this delivery will be avoided where possible. The question was asked exactly what the Cub Leaders wanted from these meetings and they were all asked to give this some thought for discussion at the next meeting.

There being no prepared agenda for this meeting the previous format whereby recent activities undertaken were discussed was followed:

DUXFORD. This took place Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March, it was felt that it went well with two coach loads taking part. The clash with Mother's Day was unfortunate and it was generally felt that this substantially reduced the numbers taking part. Feedback however was very positive and it was felt that these outings are good for the Cubs and the consensus was that Cubs would like to carry on

doing them with the help of the District. Thanks were expressed to Simon from 1<sup>st</sup> Apsley for having organised this event.

**SWIMMING EVENT.** This went well, numbers low due to half term but 8 groups took part. Discussion took place around the timing for this event, having it on a fixed weekend each year was felt to be beneficial but feedback was that booking a year in advance is currently not possible with the Sports Centre. **Action:** Andy to contact Sports Centre management to find out if a fixed annual booking is possible when we represent such an amount of youngsters within the District.

**SCIENCE DAY:** This event was very popular and went well Phil gave the leaders the badges at the meeting thanks was given to Phil for organising it. Suggestion was that a good range of experiments was available for the age range.

**LONDON TRIP.** 14<sup>th</sup> April This is going ahead, letters have been given out. It was stressed that all responses need to be made by the advertised deadline as Maureen Shelley will be unavailable to take responses after that date. Make sure you get in early to avoid disappointment. Please also note that the date for this event is Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April. District Diary on Hemel Scouts website is suggesting 13<sup>th</sup> April. **Action :** Andy to make sure District Diary is updated.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY.** Format used again last year was considered suitable for Beavers but not engaging enough for Cubs. Some Groups were of the opinion that without a change they would not be participating again. **Action:** Xmas party organisers to be made aware of these concerns.

Discussion then took place around forthcoming events:

**ST GEORGES DAY 27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL.** Russ Dyble is overseeing this. Intention is that each Group will have an area off the road from A41 Car park to main site and will join a procession in turn as the District moves towards the main field. There will be a short Promise renewal ceremony plus possibly some adult awards. There is a climbing challenge planned for all sections which will measure the distance climbed and relate this to ascending mountains. We might scale Everest! Different facilities will be available for each section. In addition the intention is there will be a number of themed activities relating to Scouting Values. Groups will probably be asked to run these activity bases. Further information will be forthcoming shortly.

**CHIEF SCOUT AWARDS.** This is all in hand and Keith is working on this event, it will take place in May in the Mayors Chambers all will be revealed soon. Belief at this time is that this will be for Scouts and Explorers. This to be confirmed soonest.

**DISTRICT AGM 21<sup>ST</sup> MAY.** Venue not yet known. This will be the required formal meeting. It will not this year be a part of an activity evening. There will be a photo presentation as an agenda item during this meeting to ensure that all are able to see what Groups within the District have been up to in the last year. **Action:** Anyone wishing to contribute photos for this event, please get them to Andy Glass as soon as possible. This is a worthwhile event and a good opportunity to catch up with other Leaders in the District. As a sweetener, there will be a buffet provided by Sheila.

CUBS WATER ACTIVITY DAY This was discussed as being a very good event where Cubs have the opportunity to try out a number of water activities. Previous years have seen booking directly through the County website with a number of Districts apparently having parents attend with their children as opposed to running through Groups. Intention this year is that this will be booked and run through Groups. Details available on County website <http://www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/>

COOKING AND CAMP FIRE 10<sup>th</sup> July at Phasels. Each group will be asked to run a base and the Cubs will move round these bases, there will be a Campfire at the end run by Simon and Richard.

COUNTY CUB NIGHT HIKE. 21/22<sup>nd</sup> September information going out after half term. This event will once again be based at Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School.

DISTRICT CAMP. This has previously been discussed as a possibility to piggy back onto a Cub camp which 1<sup>st</sup> Apsley do each year. Uptake from other Groups potentially wishing to get involved has been poor. Therefore this will not be taking place this year as a District event for Cubs.

SIXERS AND SECONDS CAMP. For the last few years there has been a Sixers and Seconds day held at Phasels. Previous discussions had taken place around extending this into a weekend camp. Discussion took place around limitation of dates available for this year. It was further

Conversation then worked around the possibility of having alternate plans on a rolling two year basis for Cub District activities. One year would see a Cub Camp plus a Cub Night Hike, the following year seeing a Sixer and Seconder weekend camp plus a Fun Day. With the availability of dates for the rest of this year it was decided to start this programme from 2014 with that year seeing a Cub Camp (potentially July 4<sup>th</sup>~6<sup>th</sup>) and a Night Hike. This to be confirmed at subsequent meeting.

COUNTY CYCLOCROSS 13<sup>th</sup> October at Well End. Previously this was only available to a very limited number of participants per District. Changes to rules this year will allow up to 4 Cubs per Pack to take part. Further information, when available, will be on <http://www.hertfordshirescouts.org.uk/>

COUNTY ON YER BIKE. This is a sponsored event the cost being £2 per cub or £9 per family. Discussion around the cost for this event and the expectation for families to pay what was considered an excessive entry fee plus donate half of any sponsorship to the County Appeal. It was unanimous that this was too much to ask in the current financial climate. Conversation took place about the possibility of us running our own event within the District with a nominal entry fee.

**Action:** Richard to meet with organising team from County and feedback at next meeting if any changes to this proposal/fee structure are possible.

ROUND TABLE TROPHY. This has been an event which was previously run within the District but which was not run for a number of years. Cub Packs are awarded points in various categories with the Cub Pack gaining the most points winning. Only three Groups have been taking part but the decision was made that awarding of the trophy will continue. Intention discussed was around making this award at the St Georges Day event. **Action:** Andy to get detail of current status of Round Table trophy plus to check if current administrator is happy to continue doing this role.

OTHER TROPHIES: It was discussed that there are a number of trophies available to the Cubs with the District but that a number of them have fallen into disuse. **Action:** Sheila to come to next Cub Leaders Meeting with the detail of what is available to form the basis of a discussion around which, if

any, of these trophies there might be an appetite to reinstate. **Action:** All Cub Leaders to give cross Pack activities some thought and to come to the next meeting willing to discuss possible options.

AOB:

The subject of training was discussed. Leaders suggested that more local training would be of benefit to them. Andy advised that the whole area of training is currently being looked at and one possibility that is being investigated is supplying required modules in a local environment and hopefully in a more interactive and engaging way than sometimes currently is the case.

A.S.A.P WEEKEND AT PHASELS 13<sup>TH</sup>~15<sup>TH</sup> SEPT. A weekend event at Phasels which can include catering. Day tickets also available to use all of the Phasels activities for only £10, information available at <http://www.phaselswood.org.uk/diary-courses/asap/>

Their being on other business meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Andy thanked everyone for attending and noted that the turnout on this occasion was extremely good. He encourages others who have possibly not been able to make these meetings recently to try and get along to subsequent ones to make sure all of the voices within the District are heard and that we are able to deliver what the majority wish.

NEXT MEETING 8PM 7<sup>TH</sup> MAY AT 1<sup>ST</sup> BENNETTS END HQ.