



Explorer Scout Leader Meeting

Tuesday 7th January 2014

7.45pm for 8pm start. Meeting closed 9.45pm

Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School

1. Present:

Russ (chairing), Frank (co-chairing), Jo Hi, Rich, Tim, Aimee, Maureen, Kieran, Thomas, Uni, Sandra, Robin, Alan, Dave.

Apologies for absence: Jo Haynes, Dan Nathan, Chris West.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Russ briefly recapped the agreed arrangements for Explorer Scout attendance from January 2014 asked leaders to continue to put this across to Explorers over the coming weeks.

3. Unit Programmes and unit update – Spring 2014

Snooks –

- Robin asked the leader room at the DQ be tidied, **Russ agreed** to have this sorted before 14th January.
- Discussion took place regarding the storage of Explorer Scout equipment and **Robin agreed** that two cupboards would be of more use than space in the garage – **Russ agreed** to pursue this.
- Use of equipment belonging to 3rd Boxmoor will be negotiated as part of the partnership agreement to be reviewed this term in light of the possibility of the building returning to their ownership – **Russ agreed** to pursue this.

Noctuum –

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Raging Moose –

- Alan explained that he was now able to return to run the unit on a weekly basis – the other leaders were thanked for making sure the Autumn term ran smoothly.
- This term's programme will have an international theme – including a visit from the ACC International about Explorer Belt opportunities.

District events/other issues

- Frank asked that programmes be ready and emailed to him by 19th January for communication to Explorers/parents – it **was agreed** that programmes should be planned in full until the end of May.
- **Agreed:** to run one evening in half term (a district event)
- **Agreed:** to run first aid over two consecutive Monday evenings (Sandra). After discussion, it was decided NOT to start this in February half term.
- Aimee is aiming to run the fire station course this term, ideally starting before Easter so as to end

4. Dates to note – Spring 2014

Fire & Ice (17th - 19th January)

- Frank and Adam are attending with 8 Explorer Scouts, all in hand.

Explorer/Network linking event (13th February)

- Robin asked for an Explorer/Network linking event to be added to the programme for 13th February

Chiltern Challenge (1st - 2nd March)

- Kieran is co-ordinating team, it was **agreed** that leaders would remind Explorers about returning their forms and payment at the next two meetings.
- **Action:** Kieran to speak to Geoff about registering those who usually help with the organisation as the adult accompanying teams (Kieran, Alan, Russ, Robin, Uni, Dan). Frank and Dave are also available.

5. Dates to note – Summer 2014

Promise Renewal Event (23rd April)

- Russ outlined the arrangements for this event – likely to start at 7pm for Scouts and Explorer Scouts.
- Cost will be £2 per head (leaders free), taking place at the XC.

Awards evening (8th May)

- Invitations will be sent directly to those who have received awards since April 2013.

Scout Community Week (2nd – 8th June)

- Russ raised community week and asked that evening programmes w/c 2nd June have a community theme.

Scout/Explorer Linking Camp (7th – 8th June)

- The Scout section have offered to run a Scout/Explorer linking camp, it was **agreed** that this would go ahead, requiring minimal input beforehand from the Explorer section.

Nimrod (5th – 6th July)

- Alan and Kieran **agreed to co-ordinate** from the Explorer section, Jason Farmer (ADC Scouts) and Katie-anne Monnington (SL) have agreed to lead/support from the Scout section.

Gilwell 24 (11th – 13th July)

- Opinion was split and exam season was raised – **agreed** to ask Explorers at first meeting back what interest there was to attend this event.
- **Action: Russ** to ask Liz Walker (Herts County) about the possibility of camping/catering as a County sub-camp.

District Family Camp is 12th - 14th September at Phasels Wood.



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6. Moving on to Scout Network

None due until May 2014

7. Moving up from Scouts – Spring 2014

Benedict B (KL), Nick B (LG), Macie E (LG), Mitchel F (LG), Thomas H (LG), Tom P (LG), Adam W (3rd Box), Taylor E (3rd Box), Katie L (1st Aps), Christopher W (1st Aps), Joshua vH (1st HH).

- Thomas K (LG) has decided not to move up.
- Russ gave medical information about three of the young people moving up (not noted as these minutes are published publicly on the web).

Linking event dates

Spring term - Thursday 3rd April **Action: Alan** to co-ordinate activity.

Summer term – Frank M to choose (late June)

Autumn term – Frank M to choose (later November)

- It was **agreed** that we would not mark linking events as such on the programme as NO Explorer Scouts showed up to the Autumn 2013 event and it was noted it may be because the usual attendees are older and may not have wanted to mix with Scouts.

8. Admin / membership

Budget for 2014

- This was discussed and the amended draft budget will be put to the District Executive on 14th January, then circulated to the leaders once approved.
- Russ highlighted the funding for leader training, subsidising adults attending events as well as money for the unit programmes and district events.
- It was **agreed** that the unit programme budget be split per head by Explorer's primary unit.
- Aimee asked to clarify that DofE weekends would also be subsidised so as to be fair, this **was agreed**.
- Russ clarified that money for Young Leaders (£500) and Scout/Explorer and Explorer/Network linking (£500) had been provided for in the district's budget so no longer come out of Explorer Scout funds.

Leavers

- Anna P has left Raging Moose, no others leavers are known since the last meeting.

Low-attenders

- Maureen and Russ are contacting low attenders from the Autumn term

Not allocated to a unit

Paige M (RM), Kieran McL (YL only), Ryan Spencer (left)

Facebook group members

- Explorer Scouts who have left/leave are being taken out of the HHEX Facebook group (and encouraged to join the Scout Network group if applicable).
- It was **agreed** that those who have left and request to join will be declined but an explanation should be given.

Updating of Explorer contact details – Maureen

- This is in progress but response from Explorers/parents is slow. Russ has printed out all record cards from OSM and given to Frank. Russ and Frank will attend unit meetings over the next few weeks to work through these.

Leaders not registered

- Emma D – **Rich** to speak to her and find out if she still wants to be involved and if so, what role.
- Chloe S – **Rich** to speak to her and find out if she still wants to be involved, probably as a unit assistant.
- Fiona C – **Russ** to speak to her and agree a role
- Amy S – **Russ** to send an AA form to register as a unit assistant

Explorer badge records

- This was not discussed – Russ and Frank will liaise with Dave to build on the work he has already undertaken.
- Russ highlighted the recent changes to the Queen's Scout Award, mainly the need for Explorers to register with HQ.

9. Young Leaders scheme update

Agreed: Sandra and Frank will liaise on dates for Spring, Summer and Autumn 2014 training

10. Duke of Edinburgh Scheme update

Agreed: Aimee and Frank have published provisional dates – **Aimee agreed** to circulate new date for June due to clash with Lochearnhead pre-camp.

Aimee asked again for leaders to let her know one way or the other whether they could support the date.



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11. Any other business

- After some discussion, it was **agreed that Jo Hi and Sandra** would explore the design and three possible colours for polo shirts to be worn as an alternative to uniform when appropriate (i.e. outdoor activities).
- It was **agreed** that this was NOT to replace uniform and the leader teams would designate each evening either:
 - “uniform” - for the start/end of the evening at least.
 - “polo uniform” - where those without polos would be expected to wear their Explorer shirt.
 - “activity wear” – for evenings when neither of the above is appropriate.

12. Dates of future meetings

Wednesday 30th April – Explorer Leaders Meeting (venue TBC)

Thursday 4th September – all sections meeting (venue: HHW)