

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 13th MAY 2009
MINUTES

Mike Hansborough GSL opened the meeting by thanking all present for attending and introduced the present committee. Mike also introduced Mark Dobson Labour councillor for the area.

Mark Dobson spoke to the meeting explaining how the site of the Scout/Guide HQ had come into the current state of disrepair. Mark promised to look further into the problems and the possibility of “adopting” the site so he can over the coming months/years commit monies to an ongoing repair programme. A grant of £6000 has already been given by Mark which was used to replace the roof and it is hoped that more funding is available for the immediate problems of the utility supplies and the access.

Toby Mullen received a special award from Mike H in recognition for his quick thinking when his dad was recently taken very ill at home.

Kevin Chandler group treasurer gave his report on current funds. These have obviously been affected by the recent bills received for repairs but it is hoped as grants become available the group bank account will look a little healthier.

Mike H presented flowers and gifts to Alison and Mandy. Alison (Thursday Beaver leader) is leaving the group due to commitments to a group she runs in Swillington and ongoing health problems. Alison thanked everyone for their help and the great fun she has had while running the group. Mandy (Group secretary) is stepping down after several years due to other commitments and her sons have now left scouting. Mandy thanked all leaders for their help. Mike mentioned that the group is looking for a new secretary should anyone feel they could give their time.

Section reports:

Mike H thanked all the leaders and helpers for the past year, sometimes running groups under difficult conditions due to the ongoing problems with the site.

Apache Beavers: Sarah thanked her leaders and helpers. Apache has 25 members with a further 20 on a waiting list. Various badges have been achieved, the children took part in a sponsored welly walk and went to the panto at Christmas. They have been on outings to the police station and Lotherton Hall, and took part in Remembrance Sunday Parade. Planned is a visit to Group Camp and a wet and wild night to finish the summer term.

St Lawrence Beavers: Alison thanked her leaders and helpers. St Lawrence has now closed due to no leaders. Some children have moved on into Cubs or attending Beavers at Swillington. Various badges have been achieved by the cubs and several completed their Bronze Scout Award.

Eagle Cubs: Richard thanked his leaders and helpers. 25 children are regularly attending meetings. They are running a Pen Pal scheme with cubs in Australia (via

Gill (an ex Garforth leader) Various other activities including camp at Thorner Village Hall, coming 2nd in the annual swimming gala, panto in January and attending the St Georges Parade. A varied programme is planned for this term including attending Garforth Lions Gala and a pack camp to Scarborough in July.

Raven Cubs: Kay has recently taken over as pack leader and she thanked all other leaders for their help. There are currently 29 cubs attending and various badges have been gained. The children have visited the police station and are exchanging letters with a cub pack in America

Delta Scouts: Phil thanked leaders and helpers. Delta currently has only 9 members due to leavers and movers to explorers. 5 of those attending are currently working towards their Chief Scout Award. The group enjoyed attending Poacher summer camp last year in which Garforth took a group of 41 boys (our biggest turnout to date)

Burma Scouts: Mark thanked his leaders and helpers. 2009 will be the 30th anniversary of Burma Scout Troup (and yes Mark was there at the start!) The group have been involved in various activities including poacher, ready steady cook and midnight hike weekend, visit to Doncaster Dome and a very successful dads and lads camp with over 70 scouts and dads attending! It is hoped this will be an annual event. Jonathan Chandler has achieved his Gold Chief Scout Award.

Mike H thanked all leaders/helpers and those who helped on the race night. Mike thanked the current exec and the current chair and treasurer agreed to stay and they were voted in and seconded. The post of group secretary is vacant and a volunteer is sought, Thanks was also given to Ann Dougherty for her help with the Gift Aid application which is hoped will bring in much needed funding.

Building Report: Mark Kemp gave an update on work done/proposed. It is hoped that now Mark Dobson is involved money may become available to speed the work on.

Mike H thanked Mark for all the work he has done in seeking quotes or undertaking the work himself, much of his time has been spent negotiating with builders/suppliers and council officials.

Mark Kemp asked group to thank Mike H for all his hard work as Group Scout Leader specially through the difficult few months since the builders went into liquidation.

Mike closed the meeting by again thanking all for attending.

The next Exec meeting is Monday 29th June at 7.45pm for 8pm start