

**Minutes of a meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> Bradley Stoke Scout Group  
Executive Committee Meeting was held via Zoom  
on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 19.30**

**Attendees:**

Nick Nelson (Group Chairman)	Clive Mason (District Commissioner and Acting GSL)
Dave Pace (DGSL – Cubs)	Dan Shadbolt (DGSL – Scouts)
Beena Chheda (DGSL – Beavers)	Richard Shepherd (Marching Band)
Hugh Thorpe (Group Treasurer)	Jo Bland (Group Administrator)
Belinda Hodgson (Group Fundraising)	Ryan Watts (WAU)
Barbara Holliday (Group Secretary)	Shirin Borgall (Thursday Beaver Leader)
Isabel Robinson (Youth Representative)	

**Apologies received from:**

Tony Robinson (Data Compliance)	Gareth Hardwick (ESL – Trident)
Tomi Hernija (WAU)	Eden Shepherd (Youth Representative)
Gavin Southway (Youth Representative)	

<p><b>1. Welcome and Apologies</b></p> <p>Apologies received from Tony Robinson, Gareth Hardwick, Eden Shepherd, Tomi Hernija, Eden Shepherd and Gavin Southway.</p>	
<p><b>2. Minutes of the last meeting, AGM and Action List</b></p> <p>Minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021 meeting were approved and the Action List was reviewed.</p> <p><u>Action List – Active</u></p> <p>a) Nil.</p> <p><u>Action List – Closed</u></p> <p>a) BJH to create Quartermaster booking in and out sheets to form part of the Quartermaster booking in and out procedure in Google forms and a booking system through OSM is to be implemented – BH to meet with DP, DS and BC - <b>To be swept up in the move of the container where we will first consolidate our understanding of equipment held - Closed.</b></p> <p>b) NN to circulate the Gift Aid Form to the Group through OSM to confirm everyone is still eligible to Gift Aid, or if they would now like to consider Gift Aid. – <b>Gift aid request reissued via OSM and will be redone regularly each term - Closed.</b></p>	

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| <p>c) OSM Parent Update – DGSLs to ask all parents to update personal information and photo consent – <b>DS has sent an OSM email to request parents update the young person’s information. Now part as business as usual – Closed.</b></p> <p>d) RS to provide a list of instruments required by the Marching Band for the Executive’s consideration – <b>Just one trumpet purchased and existing grant funding utilised. Given size of the band, nothing further required at this stage - Closed.</b></p> <p>e) NN/DP/DS and CM to consider how new members of the Marching Band, who had not previously been in Scouting, should be dealt with. A new section needs to be set up on OSM which includes the two new members that are not in the Group. CM advised they would need to pay capitation etc, as well as subs. <b>Subs for existing and non-Scouting members now agreed with implementation via OSM – Closed.</b></p> <p>f) TH and Mike Carr to discuss further the expansion of Water Rats to include shooting and bushcraft skills. <b>Meeting had been held and the decision had been made to run as adhoc events not a separate section – Closed.</b></p> <p>g) NN to ask RS to review the admissions policy, DP asked that this include a clear description of what ‘regular involvement’ means - <b>This has been commented on ex committee and a later agenda item at this meeting will review progress - Closed.</b></p> <p>h) Following a discussion amongst the Executive it was decided to arrange a Colour Party representing each section, which would not be advertised so the public would not be encouraged to join, but the occasion would be marked, with just a single trumpeter. NN to discuss with the Willowbrook Centre, and if a positive response, the Remembrance Parade Committee would move forward on that basis. - <b>Willowbrook Centre was supportive of whatever arrangements we thought appropriate - Closed.</b></p> <p>i) It was agreed that the AGM would be held at Brook Way for volunteers with parents and carers attending by Zoom, this would allow volunteers in the Group to meet socially - <b>Arrangements made - Closed.</b></p> <p>j) HT proposed that Marching Band Subs should be £9.50 plus £4.00 capitation, totalling £13.50 and as a second activity £7.00. This was agreed by the Executive and HT agreed to email RS with the details - <b>Action completed - Closed.</b></p> <p>k) DP reported that Cubs are now successfully meeting at Wheatfield School, although storage is a little small, John to speak to Wheatfiel about potentially installing the larger shed from Brook Way - <b>Authority provided and now installed - Closed.</b></p> <p>l) BarbH had asked before the meeting that HT confirm that Dunkley’s are happy with the Annual Report so that it can be signed off and</p> |  |
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<p>circulated before the AGM on 29th September 2021 - <b>Confirmed content - Closed.</b></p> <p>m) DP asked what should be done with the two sets of Brook Way keys held by Scouts now they are based at Wheatfield School. NN asked that one set be returned to him and one set kept. DS advised that he was chasing Alison for her set of Brook Way keys for Scouts - <b>Subsequently Cubs to keep both set of keys but DS had returned the extra set and key list updated- Closed.</b></p>	
<p><b>3. Group Update and Issues</b></p> <p>NN explained that there were two interested parties in the Brook Way container and that arrangements are being made by the first of these to move it. The power had been cut off as requested by the Council so all that we needed to do was empty it. NN will look to hire a tail lift van for the weekend 4-5 Dec 21 for the move and engage volunteers to help. CM then provided a quote for the removal of the padstones, steps and taking everything away as commercial waste. This was £1,875 ex VAT and was considered representative. Given that the remainder of the site would need to be cleared including the concrete area inside the fence line, NN to speak to the council to see if they would consider this part of the wider works.</p> <p>NN then thanked everyone for their contributions to the admissions policy. The current draft was shared on screen to resolve the final aspects and NN agreed to issue the final to the Group's website.</p> <p>CM reflected on the impact of the pandemic that had significantly reduced numbers of young people and adult volunteers within the Group and across the district. More recently there had been a surge in interest and numbers across the district were one less than prior (the Group is nine above at 249). H explained that work was also underway on setting up Squirrel Drey's over the next year for the 4 - 6 year age range.</p> <p>He noted that the uniform review has migrated into a 'what we wear' review and will happen across separate section groups. Look out for communications from Scout HQ in your monthly email. Also preparations are underway to look for the new Chief Scout when Bear Grylls stands down in 2023.</p> <p>DP was concerned that the training modules are not being made available to support the new leaders that have recently joined. Whilst it was agreed that these are slow being provided by the Scouts, there are resources from a variety of counties being provided that we can utilise. CM suggested speaking to the District Training Adviser (Gemma Oram) whenever there is something not available for a particular leader as she maintains a list of what is available.</p>	<p>NN</p> <p>NN</p> <p>NN</p>

<p><b>4. Youth Representatives</b></p> <p>NN congratulated IR on being selected to take part in the next international jamboree in South Korea. This was well deserved against very stiff competition and just four places being allocated across the whole District. There was also another Scout at 1st Bradley Stoke who had been successful. Once the County and District contributions to their fundraising targets were known, we would look to provide further support (as we did at the last international jamboree).</p> <p>IR spoke on behalf of all three Youth Reps, explaining that they will be attending planning meetings to provide a youth focus and use this to book a session each term where they can garner the views of young people. DSGs to ensure they are invited.</p>	<p>DGSLs</p>
<p><b>5. GDPR</b></p> <p>Nothing to report this meeting. However NN to check with TR that our policy remains current.</p>	<p>NN</p>
<p><b>6. Finance</b></p> <p>HT presented the Accounts to October 2021, which showed an overall loss but mainly due to one off costs (including the four tents for Scout camp and a large necker purchase, which NN will chase again as it has not been received). He noted that there were a large number of new members who have yet to process subscriptions (we normally allow a month for this to happen, testing if the young people actually want to stay) which should bring this back into line. We are also yet to see the new subscription rate take effect but would for the next month.</p> <p>The gift aid form has yet to be put in but would generate several thousand pounds of revenue.</p> <p>The Member Awarded Funding grant from Councillors John Ashe and Roger Avenin was welcomed.</p>	<p>NN</p>
<p><b>7. Quartermaster</b></p> <p>DS mentioned that the tents at Scout Camp had been cleaned but that a discussion at a future Exec needs to look at whether we return to smaller tents, especially for Scouts. A proposal might be to purchase two person tents which are easily cleaned (one takes the flysheet, the other the inner) in most gardens and any damage can clearly be attributed to the two people involved. Further discussion required once we have our next camp planned.</p>	

<p><b>8. Fundraising</b></p> <p>Nos pacific update although NN mentioned that hoodies and onesies order that was currently ongoing. Whilst the Group will not receive any fundraising from this, it will help to brand the leisurewear of our members. With a deadline of 1st December to allow despatch before Christmas, NN to send a reminder email to all members.</p>	<p>NN</p>
<p><b>9. Section Update</b></p> <p><u>Beavers</u></p> <p>BC stated that all three sections are open with leaders. They could do with more young leaders on Tuesdays.</p> <p><u>Cubs</u></p> <p>DP said that all Cubs sections are at Wheatfield which is operating well. Currently they have 105 Cubs against a target of 96, so working hot. Wednesday section could do with more leaders and NN mentioned the recent Bradley Stoke Journal article which specifically sought Cub leaders.</p> <p><u>Scouts</u></p> <p>DS said there were approximately 80 Scouts and are very short of leaders for Friday's. Wednesday section had their first young leader for a number of years. At camp, there were 58 Scouts and 10 adults, which was amazing. He mentioned the proposed District Scout and Explorer sleepover in February 2022 at Jump which is likely to be very popular.</p>	
<p><b>10. Marching Band Update</b></p> <p>RS said the band enjoyed producing the Remembrance video to support the virtual events. In the new year, the team are looking to expand and seek new members. DP mentioned that the new joiners from the waiting list - of which there had been many - will not know about the Marching Band. NN suggested providing him with suitable wording to put in an email to all members plus also on our Facebook page</p>	<p>RS</p>
<p><b>11. Water Rats Update</b></p> <p>RW explained that the new owner of the lake takes over next week and that they had met them already. They were keen to develop the site into a water park and would be moving to a model where the Water Rats use their kit and instructors when at the lake. However RW expected that no changes were likely to happen for the next year. There may be small increases in the</p>	

<p>costs per person but that may be offset by a small grant provided by the owner to generate interest in water based activity.</p> <p>All Water Rats equipment would need to be removed from the site including our four trailers. We might move these to Trench lane where our existing storage containers are but that was likely to be at increased cost. CM ws engaging with Woodhouse Park to see if they might be stored there at a batter rate.</p> <p>The operating model of the Water rats may change into more river based activities, camps, etc if the lake was supported by other instructors and equipment. This may mean that additional water provision is generated, which could only be good.</p>	
<p><b>12. Events</b></p> <p>The remembrance arrangements this year were discussed. Whilst we had agreed to move to virtual provision this year due to concerns with Covid, there had been some negative reaction including concerns raised by councillors. We reaffirmed we are committed to generating this event for the community but discussed the benefits of some council involvement. We felt that this still needed to be a Scout led activity - the original project being started on that basis. NN was to share the guidance for Remembrance that the team follow and requested suggestions for where the council may be able to support us. This would allow effective engagement with the council on where we needed additional support.</p>	ALL
<p><b>13. Health and Safety</b></p> <p>The outside lights at Brook Way were mentioned. Whilst some had been turned on (there is now a switch which tells everyone to leave on) those immediately outside the front door and in the car park remain off. NN to chase.</p> <p>We didn't have an opportunity to review accident forms. NN requested that BarbH bring these to the next meeting.</p>	<p>NN</p> <p>BarbH</p>
<p><b>14. Any Other Business</b></p> <p>The three DGSLs discussed moving on numbers for next term and will separately arrange to discuss.</p>	
<p><b>15. Date of Next Meeting</b></p>	

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at Holy Trinity. Agreement that the £7.50 per hour cost was reasonable. However given we no longer have keys, is this practical. BarbH to investigate.

BarbH