

Minutes of last Meeting at Phasels Wood

**NETWORK RUSSIA SCOUT
FELLOWSHIP
29TH OCTOBER 2005
PHASELS WOOD CAMPSITE**

FLAG BREAK

OPENING REMARKS AND WELCOME

Barry welcomes everyone.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

The last minutes suggested we would ask those not present for there comments about the new format.

Bill and Pete proposed and seconded those minutes.

UPDATE OF FINANCES

Not much different from the presented accounts.

Don Collinshaw was thanked for assisting in the preparation of the accounts.

More receipts than expenditure, not monies owed, holding some money to finalise the camp staff programme.

The balance of monies left over from the orphanage trip may be used to purchase mattresses for the orphanage.

£496 placed in a restricted fund for a project (Donated)

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

51 paid up members, down since the AGM when there was 64

The membership card is now available.

Some new members

No new information concerning the distribution of the Scouting Magazine (David Bull is to be sent the list and may be able to assist).

WEBSITE UPDATE

Chris was not present, Barry had seen that it was updated recently.

NEWSLETTER

Barry was pleased that everyone was sending in contributions.

Graham asked for more contributions.

Copies are sent to ARNSO in Russia and Scout head quarters.

CAMP STAFF PROGRAMME

Five young leaders came over.

One had to be swapped because of a road accident and 2 from OMSK weren't able to travel at the last moment due to financial circumstances.

The people who did come were from different areas this time, 2 from PERM, one from St Petersburg and 2 from Georgia who went to Hesley wood before they were hosted for a London trip.

The website has been amended to take note of changes with visa's

Gilwell and Chalfont Heights have volunteered to assist on another year.

Beccy thanked everyone for their assistance, Bill her guide and mentor.

The letters of invitation are sent to the consulate so that they can check them out and control them, this should avoid fraudulent use of the letters of invitation.

David Bull mentioned there are now clear procedures in a fact sheet published by Scout headquarters.

Concerns were raised about not always knowing were some of the Scouts were as they were making their own travel arrangements, one member arrived two days earlier than expected.

Bill asked if there was any way of getting grants to assist this programme so that there are not last minute cancellations due to financial circumstances.

Barry was concerned that if we were seen to be offering financial assistance, we could be used to provide some with free tickets, it is difficult to judge a genuine case for financial assistance.

The International Friendship fund and the brotherhood funds are available on application and could be used if we knew the group and individuals concerned.

SUMMER ORPHANGE VISIT

Eric said that it went well but not

as planned, he thoroughly enjoyed it and was impressed by the young people that went.

Eric relied on Marjorie's organisation but the planning didn't work out, we got on well with the Orphanage staff..

We expected the children would be on camp but they weren't, we had to move children out to accommodate us.

The craft camp was too far for the group to travel so alternative arrangements had to made.

A show of the photos compiled by Graham was shown.

Some sight seeing in Moscow was followed by a train and bus ride to Kolumna Orphanage.

The children were present for two days before going to camp, in the first two days we took time to use and show them the crafts we had taken with us.

Work undertaken included the electrics, painting, removing wooden cladding and replastering.

A tour of Kolumna followed.

presentations from the local council were received and presentations were made to the Orphanage staff.

The journey home went via St Petersburg visiting the sights, going on a boat tour, Catharine Palace Pushkin, some visited Peterhof

PLANNED WINTER EXPEDITION 2006

Paul Findlay reported that Tim has been hosting the team from Losova that look after them is Russia this week

Another 24 are going out this next year, a good crowd from Nottingham and around the north mainly

Paul will provide a video at the next meeting.

The expedition is always a success, we are hoping to involve Russian Scouts next time and hope to have a competition orienteering.



Minutes of last Meeting at Phasels Wood ... continued

We will fly with KLM from Birmingham to Amsterdam and then to Moscow (for £300), the Russians that have just visited have used a new airline for £200 each.

We have had nine people apply ten days later than the deadline, we are however keeping to the deadlines, we will run it next year.

GILWELL REUNION

This year it wasn't organised, there was some confusion as to whether like the previous year Chris would be organising it.

For next year Barry has asked Pete to liaise with everyone to organise Gilwell Reunion.

There are concerns about the cost of attending, David Bull was asked to comment, he hopes that next year he would like all the fellowships to be represented, next year there will be an international marquee. On the cost, the fee is set for everyone, for those stall holders the international team will register them and organise a reduced fee.

Eric made the comment that people would like to see the balance sheet to see the justification for the increased cost.

Steph asked if it would be possible to reserve a pitch, David Bull thought not.

We have £200 donated from ASLA for promotional materials.

The video prepared by Graham was recommended as something we should show at Gilwell.

We need to keep a careful note of all our promotional material to include the flag.

NEW NATIONAL COMMISSIONER FOR SCOUT FELLOWSHIPS

Glen has taken over from Andrew Journey 6 months ago and has been directed to look at the constitution of the national fellowships.

The remit and accounting issues were the main considerations.

At financial year end the accounts must be certified by the bank (but they charge) so David Bull is pro-

posing to change this for his international fellowships but will need to discuss this with Glen still.

Barry invited Glen to attend and has made representations about the new remits, Network Russia has submitted its remit but is concerned that no acknowledgment has been received.

David Bull confirmed that he has signed of the remit for Network Russia.

CURRENT STATE OF RUSSIAN SCOUTING

David Bull reported that the Russian Association of Scouts and Navigators were the approved members of the World Organisation recently.

Our remit is to develop Scouting with this Association, to make links, involve them in the camp programme, we still need an open invitation to all.

Eric has tried to make contact before the last two trips, Sergey has met with him, yet the other Association has not.

David Bull has addresses and links and is willing to assist.

Igor Ivanov in Urkutsck is one good contact from the Scout Association of Biakal this could be a good starting point for a contact.

They have strong links in Moscow, they have some financial support, they operate from a flat in Moscow.

David felt we need to keep going to develop new contacts and would like to see a plan for development.

TRIP TO SIBERIA SUMMER OF 2006

Kevin is still looking at doing it next year, it will be a 14 day trip to Urkutsck for the last two weeks in May, flying all the way there to lake Biakal. Kevin does not have a contact yet but Igor may be able to assist. The cost will be £1500 and there are concerns about this being too expensive. The costs of the flight make it expensive

Barry hopes that the arrangements will be in place before Christmas.

Contact Kevin if you wish to go Paul mentioned Gallina mention her group are going to Lake Biakal next year, Eric believed ARNSO may be organising something. The trip is aimed as a study visit.

David Bull did mention the Brotherhood fund has sponsored/subsidised a study trip to Cairo but it would have to be for a limited number and a good proposal would have to be filed.

Bill mentioned a lot of Russian scouts visit and hold camps in this region, but we need to consider what is the aim of the study visit, are we trying to gain links there, will scout groups be able to afford to send scouts there.

PRESENTATION / AWARDS

Long service - Jo Findlay - for 10 years.

Long service declaration - Lesley Forster for 15 years

Long service declaration to Sue for 15 years

Long service declaration -Beccy Grundy for 15 years

Bar to long Service Declaration-Fred Russell-25 years

Bar to long service declaration to Clare Griffin -25 years

AOB

Fred who has been the Membership Secretary has said that Anne Chapman will be taking over his role. Barry proposed and Dorothy seconded, all approved.

Lesley mentioned that Fred had received a Papal Knighthood, congratulations were given

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Eric will organise this for Cumbria towards the end of March

DATE AND PLACE OF OCTOBER 2006 MEETING

It was suggested that Kevin be consulted to see if he can organise this towards the end of October

FLAG DOWN

