

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting



of the

Ely District Scout Council

Date/Time: Friday 5th June 2009, 7.30 p.m.
Location: Ely Methodist Church
Chaired by: Terry Day - District Chairman
Minutes by: Ian Weatherall - District Secretary

In Attendance:-

Adam Clow; Adam Thorpe; Ali Davis; Andrew Norman; Ben Balinford; Ben Barrett; Brian Harding; Cecilia de Boer; Christopher Ashley; David Bent; David Briston; Derek Wakefield; Diane Philbey; Dick Till; Elaine Chamberlain; Ian Weatherall; Irene Dewsbury; Jane Carter; Jared Fortin; Jeff Parker; John Wells; Josephine Twitchett; Katherine Thompson; Lawrence Noble, County Chairman; Lindsay Frost; Louise Smith; Mark Gordon; Matthew News; Megan Miles; Michael Angel; Michael Wilson; Mick Clow; Mike Philbey; Nancy Allen; Peter Cresswell, Chairman of East Cambs. District Council; Richard Hobbs, Mayor of the City of Ely; Richard Miles; Robert Chamberlain; Stella Johnstone; Terry Day; Tymon Strawson; Valerie Allen; Yvette Briston; Zoe Rees.

Apologies Received from:-

Anna O'Leary; Bart de Boer; Bob Groom; Charlie Hale; Chris Beale; David Lyon; Dene Ashton; Emma Fordham (ABSL); Erika Wedgwood; Giles Philbey; Gina Wigg; Graham Smith; Jacky Smeaton; Janine Rowlands (ABSL); Jessica Weatherall; John Cousins; John O'Brien; Lewis Philbey; Mary Angel; Matt Till; Melanie Moss; Michelle Palmer; Miranda Pratt; Nick Shipp; Paul Grimmond; Rachael Peryer; Rachel Clover; Richard Wedgwood; Sharon Burling; Stephen Roe; Stuart Cree; Sue Malloy; Tim Chapman; Yvonne Turner.

1 Welcome

Terry Day, District Chairman, welcomed everyone to the AGM.

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous AGM on 12th May 2008 were presented, and Terry asked for approval by a show of hands to sign them as a true record of events.

- Approval was given unanimously, and Terry signed them as a true record.

3 District Constitution

A new Constitution for Ely Scout District was offered to the meeting. This is based on the model constitution detailed in POR and has been approved by the District Executive Committee.

Terry offered the District Constitution for acceptance.

- Proposed by: Richard Miles
- Seconded by: David Allen

The Constitution was approved unanimously.

[The Constitution is attached to the end of these Minutes]

4 Trustees Annual Report

The Annual Report of the District Executive Committee, including the Annual Statement of Accounts to 31st December 2008, was presented to the meeting. Terry asked for the meetings approval of the Report by a show of hands.

The Report was approved unanimously.

[The Report is attached to the end of these Minutes]

5 District Officers

5.1 Approval of District Commissioner's Nomination of District Chairman

David Briston thanked Terry Day for all the work he had once again done throughout the year. He asked the meeting for approval that Terry carry on the good work he is doing.

- **Terry Day** - Appointment approved unanimously.

5.2 Election of District Secretary

Terry Day thanked Ian Weatherall for all the work he had done throughout the year. Ian was happy to continue in his role - no other nominations were made.

- **Ian Weatherall** - Appointment approved unanimously.

5.3 Election of District Treasurer

Terry Day thanked Derek Wakefield for all the work he had done throughout the year. Derek was happy to continue in his role - no other nominations were made.

- **Derek Wakefield** - Appointment approved unanimously.

6 Appointments to the District Executive Committee

These appointments were made under the new District Constitution.

6.1 Ex Officio Members

- **Terry Day** - District Chairman
- **David Briston** - District Commissioner
- **John Wells** - District Explorer Scout Commissioner
- **Ian Weatherall** - District Secretary
- **Derek Wakefield** - District Treasurer

6.2 Elected Members

The following were put forward for election:

- **Mick Clow** - Explorer Scout Parent
- **Rachael Peryer** - Explorer Scout Parent
- **Mark Gordon** - Group Scout Leader Representative
- **Jared Fortin** - Young Person's Representative

Terry proposed the above for election:

- Proposed by: Andy Northrop
- Seconded by: Mike Philbey

Appointments approved unanimously.

6.3 District Commissioner's Nominations

- **Diane Philbey** - Assistant District Commissioner (Beaver Scouts)
- **Lindsay Frost** - Assistant District Commissioner (Scouts)
- **Stella Johnstone** - County Executive Representative
- **Nick Shipp** - District Appointments Advisory Committee Chairman

Terry asked for the meeting's approval of the Nominations by a show of hands.

Appointments approved unanimously.

6.4 Right of Attendance

- **Richard Hames** - County Commissioner
- **Lawrence Noble** - County Chairman

7 Other Appointments**7.1 District Accounts Examiner**

- **Whiting & Partners** - Appointment approved unanimously.

7.2 District Representatives to Cambridgeshire County Scout Council

The following were put forward for election:

- **Diane Philbey** - uniformed
- - no non-uniformed representative was proposed.

Terry asked for the meeting's approval by a show of hands.

Appointment approved unanimously.

8 AGM 2010

Friday 4th June 2010 – venue & hosts to be advised.

9 District Commissioner's Address

The Trustees' report shows that 2008 had a full and varied year of activities, both in District, County and international events (such as Ghana and Denmark).

In 2008 two Beaver Colonies opened/reopened and a new Scout Troop opened and our membership numbers have grown by 13% for the second year running. We are, I believe, the fastest growing District in the County. We are now on course to open Beavers at Witchford, and new Cub Packs at both 1st Ely and Stretham in September, with GSLs having more growth planned to meet the growing demand.

The District Roadshow team is there to support you at the right event. The Roadshow's aim is to promote Scouting, and specifically to recruit adults into Scouting and increase the Scouting provision.

The activities which you provide, and which we display pictures of at the roadshow events, create very positive impressions of Scouting to both young people and adults alike; and it pleasing to see an increasing number of joining enquiries from adults (four last weekend) who wish to experience the fun and adventure of Scouting and the opportunities that it, and you, provide.

I am keen that we all, as the local custodians of the Scouting Movement, continue to adapt with the times, changing work patterns and ensure that we actively involve more parents in activities, rather than let them watch. Also that we involve and listen to our young leaders when planning events. Often they are more in touch with Beavers, Cubs & Scouts than many young at heart leaders (including me). YLs & parents are a key part of our investment in the next generation to ensure that through them Scouting continues to grow to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

With some major events in the planning: some 250 booked in for the all District activity weekend in September and an international expedition being planned for next year, the adventure will continue.

Well done and sincere thank you one to all whether a Group Exec member, leader or young leader your contribution is equally invaluable as without your help many Scouting opportunities would not be possible. You have made a considerable difference to both Scouting and the community.

10 Presentations

David Briston made the following presentations, assisted by Richard Hobbs, Mayor of the City of Ely & District Scout Fellowship member.

10.1 Certificates of Appointment:

- **Cecilia de Boer** – District Badge Secretary. David also offered his thanks to Elaine Chamberlain for her work as Badge Secretary over the past few years.
- **Terry Day** – District Chairman (dated 2005!).
- **Jeff Parker** – District Nights Away Advisor.
- **Tymon Strawson** – Cub Sectional Assistant (1st Ely).

10.2 Chief Scout's Length of Service Awards:

- **Tymon Strawson** - 5 Years
- **Richard Hobbs** - 10 Years
- **David Bent** - 15 Years
- **Mike Wilson** - 20 Years
- **David Allen** - 30 Years

10.3 Awards for Good Service:

- **David Bent** - Award for Merit
- **Yvette Briston** - Award for Merit
- **David Allen** - Silver Acorn

11 County Representative

Lawrence Noble (County Chairman) – gave apologies from Richard Hames, County Commissioner, who had been called away unexpectedly on a business trip to China. He congratulated the District for a good year and increase in numbers. He congratulated David Briston and everyone in the District who contributed to this.

12 County Commissioner

David Briston read out the following message from Richard Hames, followed by a presentation on the process for choosing the new Chief Scout.

Hello David

I am sorry I cannot be at your District AGM this year but I am in China at the moment on business, I hope you have some good reports and a successful meeting.

I promised to send you some notes and these come due to my position on the Committee of the Council (the board of the Scout Association) where I have been both able to influence matters and also provide Cambridgeshire with more specific feedback.

In 2008 we had a focus on GSL's this included a special day on the 9th March and a follow up event on October 20th 2008, during the follow up event we had an open forum and feedback opportunity for GSLs, one of the points raised was that whenever POR comes it is difficult to identify the changes without going through the whole publication GSLs do not know what has changed since the last edition. I fed this back to HQ and in the latest version of POR the very front lists the changes since the last edition, this list has also been published in Scouting and elsewhere. For your information I was speaking to the person responsible for POR at HQ recently and whilst there is a major update annually there are other minor change thought the year, so it is always best to refer to the online version.

As you know I have been keen to make sure our young people have input into the direction of the

organisation at all levels - I mentioned this at last years County AGM and have been pushing since, and this year we now have an election to select the young people on the County Executive.

It is important that at Group District and County level you fill all the available vacancies as so you can actively take part in the appropriate meetings, for example a young person standing as the County representative at the National AGM could then be elected to the Committee, people at this level have had a lot of input into the appointment of the next Chief Scout for example.

This example of selection a new Chief Scout there was a young person on the search Group - there were only four on this Group in total the Chairman of the Committee of the Council a Chief Commissioner and myself so young people were represented and asked all the way through, furthermore we had over 3,000 responses to a survey of which most were from young people.

Having said all this I recognise that a "formal" committee meeting is not the best forum for young people to provide their input, so perhaps DCs and District Chairmen may look to other ways to involve them.

I hope that this is of interest you find the presentation also interesting and have a good meeting.

Richard Hames, County Commissioner

13 Closing

Terry Day closed the meeting by thanking everyone who came; and said how much he appreciated everything that everyone put into their Scouting.

The meeting closed at 8.57p.m.

These minutes have been approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

..... Date

Terence Day
Chairman