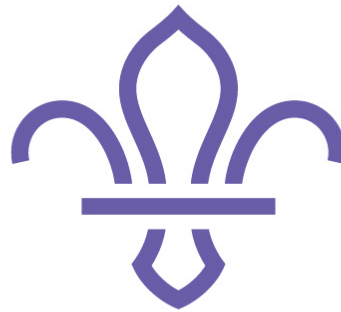


BEAVERS

cubs



Scouts

Crawley

SCOUTS

EXPLORERS

network

Crawley District Scouts Council

Crawley District Scouts AGM 2019

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Minutes of Crawley District Scouts AGM 2018
held at Tilgate Golf Club
at 1930
on
Wednesday 25th April 2018

Welcome

Barry Jones welcomed everyone to the meeting

Present

64 adults & 10 Explorers

Apologies

Were received from

Henry Smith, Brian Quin, Julia Foxcroft, Kevin Ives, Helen Ives, Sean Edwards, Craig Edwards, Brian Eastman, Dominic Smith, Maya Jasko

Minutes of 2017 AGM

The minutes of the 2017 AGM were in the reports circulated before the meeting.

They were accepted as a true record

Proposed by Jayne Dalton, Seconded by Mick Hill

DC's Review of 2017

2017 was a busy year with Eddy Hill's stepping down at the last AGM and I can't believe it has been nearly a year since I took on the DC role.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported me and wished me well in the role. Especially Eddy Hills, Allen Heath, Maureen Dean and Chris Hobbs who have given me excellent advice and a listening ear, along with others on the District team and GSLs.

A full report has been distributed already detailing achievements across the sections and Stanford and I don't want to duplicate too much what you have already read.

I have been fortunate with most of the team staying on, Graham stepped down as NAN adviser and Eddy has been covering this role but I am looking for 2 or 3 people to take this on collectively. Helen Ives stepped down as ADC Beavers and Lou Baker took over. She has made a great start to the role and overcame logistic problems when there was a double booking of the hall for the Beaver Craft Day in December and introduced a new format to the day by having two shorter sessions. The kids seemed to be enjoying themselves when I dropped in but had to forgo my coffee due to a vomiting child.

I am still seeking an ADC Cubs but in the meantime Ian Head and Pauline Maddocks are covering the District meetings, however, it would be good to see every group represented at these as the District cannot ensure they are delivering what the youth in all Groups want if we don't get to hear their views. An ADC Cubs is required to support all our leaders in this section. I enjoyed visiting their craft day also and was made very welcome at the leaders Christmas dinner.

Kevin Ives has stepped down as ADC Scouts but continues to be DDC and a fantastic support at Stanford. Alan Spackman has expressed an interest in taking over and has been appointed District Scouter. He has made contact with all Groups and is intending on visiting Troops over the coming term. I have had the honour of interviewing a number of Scouts who have achieved their CSA Gold Award and attending the County presentation. I visited some very wet Scouts at WS2017 when visiting on the all sections day but they all seemed to have a fantastic week regardless of the weather.

Explorer scouts remain strong under the leadership of Allen Heath. 5 members from Network completed their Explorer belt in the Netherlands which was the first across the County in many years and many more continue to work towards their Platinum and Diamond awards and hopefully it won't be long before we see another QS. We

have a number of Explorers turn 18 and become leaders, however, it is still proving difficult to bring all the 18-25 year olds together as strong Network. It was really pleasing, however, to see 6 of them travel to the Netherlands and gain their Explorer belt which was the first to be earned in the County for many years.

Chris has been doing a fantastic job co-ordinating the training of leaders across the District. Whilst there are still some leaders who mandatory training is out of date we are pushing to rectify this. In recognition of new leaders completing their Getting Started training they will receive a silver pin badge and be presented with a certificate. I am looking forward to presenting the first of these.

Stanford campsite had a successful year but there are problems with the electric supply and we are currently looking at how to resolve this. It was fantastic to get the bunkhouse project back on track and see the portacabins finally placed on site over two cold and wet December days. A lot of funds need to be raised and hardwork done to convert them into indoor accommodation of 3 rooms sleeping accommodating a total of 18 youth members, together with a leaders room, wardens room and open plan kitchen, living area as well as toilets for overnight use. Many thanks to Sheila who does a fantastic job managing the bookings and ensuring invoices are paid and someone is available to open and lock up, this is in addition to her supplying badges across the District. Mick Hill is now SAS Manager for Stanfords and has put dates in for weekend work parties throughout the year. If you are interested in coming and helping please speak to Mick about joining, even if you can only spare a few hours it will be appreciated.

Ken Berreen has taken on the role of ADC Activities and has been co-ordinating the shooting across the District which has seen a number of our members joining the National Shooting Squad and 1st Southgate offering this experience at their HQ on a Tuesday as well as 2nd Ifield on a Friday and 4th Worth on a Saturday. Paul Raine, Craig Edwards, Gemma Hobbs and many others also give a lot to support this.

It was great to welcome Adam Jasko, Jack Sharp, Phoebe Woolard and Courtney Palmer onto the YouthShaped team and it is with sadness that Sean Edwards is stepping down from this as of tonight. Sean will still be a member of the Exec and is attending the World Jamboree along with Vicky Prince. I had a wonderful time at the Jamboree selection weekend and can say that Megan, Will, Kristofer and Ben fully deserve their place. They are here tonight raising funds and have started their 100 club. Currently there are still spaces available please speak to them for further information.

Langley Green Scout HQ has seen the addition of a bouldering wall and 2nd Ifield now offering climbing sessions monthly on a Saturday on their wall.

The District Exec have met regularly to ensure we are fulfilling our requirements across the District. Michael has had a steep learning curve with the accounts and the changing of treasurer mid year has not been without its challenges but we have been working together to ensure that going forward we will be on top of the accounts.

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone who helps to deliver Scouting across Crawley District and look forward to hopefully greeting new leaders going forward. I hope the change of venue is too your liking and the drink we have provided this evening is just a token gesture of appreciation for all that you do.

Finally I would like to present Arthur Simmons with a small gift as thank you to him for being Chairman of the appointments committee which he has now decided to step down from. Theresa Ayers has agreed to take on this role

Annual Report & Accounts

The reports which make up the annual Report of the Trustees had been circulated before the meeting. The accounts were distributed at the meeting.

Subject to satisfactory independent examination/audit they were accepted

Proposed by Paul Raine

Seconded by Kerry Waudby

Post meeting the accounts were signed off following independent examination

DC's Nomination of Executive Chair

Wendy as DC nominated Barry Jones as Chair of District Executive

Election of Secretary & Treasurer

The following were elected as Secretary & Treasurer

Treasurer Micheal Waudby

Secretary Julia Foxcroft

Proposed by Pauline Maddocks

Seconded By Lou Baker

Appointment of Auditor

Mr M B Yearwood has agreed to continue as our Independent Examiner

Proposed by Pauline Maddocks

Seconded by Jayne Dalton

Election of District Executive Members

The following are either members of the District Executive by virtue of their position or have agreed to serve for another year as members of the District Executive

Wendy Keeley

Lou Baker

Mark Eastmen

Ken Bereen

Chris Hobbs

Kevin Ives

Maureen Dean

Paul Masters

Raj Sharma

Phoebe Woolard

Jack Sharp

Adam Jasko

This was agreed

Proposed by Sandy Pritchard

Seconded by Paul Raine

The following were also added to the District Executive

Bev Hills

Sean Edwards

Proposed by Chris Hobbs

Seconded by Paul Raine

Presentation of Awards

Wendy presented a five year service award to Felicity Stapleton

Robert Sawyer presented Paul Masters with his Silver Acorn award

Barry in addition mentioned that Wendy had been presented with her Silver Acorn Award last Sunday at the Annual parade at Windsor Castle.

The Cornwall Shield was presented by Wendy to 5th Crawley to mark their work in 2017 in improving their HQ and recruiting new Leaders and growing their numbers.

Address by Honoured Guests

Michael Priest County Youth Commissioner

There have been a number of County Competitions held this year and several Youth Shaped Events which have been well attended including the recent Crawley Event. February sees the official end of Youth Shaped Year but County intend to continue the initiative over the coming year. Youth Commissioners are attending District and County events. It was good to see the Explorer Belt awards the first for several years. He is looking for two 18-14yr olds to represent West Sussex on the National Youth Committee

Robert Sawyer County Commissioner

He thanked the District Executive, and especially Wendy. It was good to see that youth members had again increased locally and across the County and that a number of new Sections had been started or were being planned. He thanked all Leaders and reminded them that County are there to help and assist with all aspects of Scouting in Crawley.

Maria Cook - Chair of Autism for Crawley

She is Chair of Autism for Crawley and Mother of an Autistic Child and told the meeting about the work of this Group. How it had grown from a few families to nearly 900 in just a few years. They organise meetings and offer support to families touched by Autism as well as respite and fun events for the careers such as pamper evenings Kareoke etc. There next major event is a conference with Guest speakers on May 8 at Manor Green

Suzanna Few - County Commissioner for Diversity

Her key message was the importance of continuing communication with the families and carers She is running Workshops on Positive Behaviour and Special Needs across the County and there is one in Crawley on May 26 at Lark Rise, but leaders can attend whichever date suits them. She is aiming for a Special Needs Advisor in every District across the County.

Presentation by Jamboree Contingent

Megan, Will, Kristofer and Ben gave a brief presentation on their selection for the 19th Jamboree in West Virginia in 2019 at which there will be 162 countries represented. They also described the various plans they have for raising the £14000 they need for them to attend and encouraged the meeting to take come along to the various events to support them.

District Commissioners Report 2018

The January 2018 census figures show a growth of 5% from 2017. This is reflected in all sections except Beavers which has very slightly decreased. Figures in brackets are 2017's - Beavers 273 (280), Cubs 328 (302), Scouts 216 (203), Explorers 97 (85) Total 914 (870). It was great to see 2nd Crawley open a new Cub Pack during 2017. Our ethnicity % is slightly low and it would be good to increase this and some Groups/Sections need to increase the number of girls they have.

The Section ADC and representatives are still struggling to get engagement from leaders across the District. As a reminder Lou Baker is ADC Beavers, we are still seeking an ADC Cubs so if anyone is interested please do let me know, in the meantime Ian Head and Pauline Maddocks are doing a great job holding the fort, Kevin Ives has stepped aside as ADC Scouts and I would like to thank him for all he has done over the years, Alan Spackman is considering the role and gaining experience currently as District Scout Leader as well as continuing to run his own troops. Allen Heath is responsible for Explorers with Denise Kilpatrick supporting Young Leaders and Mark Eastman for Network. Please do ensure your Groups are represented at the District meetings, we cannot deliver what you want if we don't get to hear your ideas.

Mick Hill is Active Support Manager for Stanfords and works very closely with Kevin Ives ensuring the site is kept spick and span. The electricity supply has issues and work began to find where the break in the cable is. I was very pleased that despite the bunkhouse project, at Stanford, being shelved we could get it back on track and on a wet and muddy day in December finally managed to get the portacabins placed on site. There are still some problems to overcome and a lot of hardwork and money to raise to turn them into a bunkhouse.

All Groups across the District continue to deliver good quality Scouting to their members and I hope to get around and see more leaders during 2018. You will see the hi-lights from 2017 in each of the section reports.

The amount of CSA awards being earned is beginning to pick up again now that the new badge requirements have bedded in and transition between the old and new has finished.

Many across the District attended WS2017 for a very wet week of camping and a horrendous day (weather wise) on the section visit day but from what I saw it was a fantastic experience and enjoyed by all those who attended whether for the day or the whole week.

In September we held a selection camp to pick four members to represent the District at the 2019 World Scout Jamboree in America. This was a wonderful weekend with many strong candidates and it was difficult to choose 8 to go through to interview. Meghan, Ben, William and Kristofer were the four who were chosen and they have been working hard, along with the support of their parents, to raise the funds required to attend.

Our Adults Appointments Team has continued to review new leaders and those changing roles. However, there are still many who have been outstanding for longer than they should because references are not received. Our Secretary is working hard to resolve this.

Our Leader Training Manager works tirelessly ensuring our leaders complete their training commitments along with a dedicated team of Training Advisors. However, due to the large number currently working towards their Woodbadge and the amount of training which needs validating they are quite stretched. Please remember doing online learning or attending a course is not the end and it is a leader's responsibility to ensure what they have learned is put into practice and validated. I look forward to receiving Woodbadges for presentation as they are completed. It is also important that the ongoing training and mandatory training is kept up to date and whilst there are some outstanding we are one of the best in the County for least number of members out of date with training. Please continue to log into Compass to check your training and update your personal details.

We are blessed with an amazing number of Young Leaders in the District who work tirelessly to ably assist Leaders in all sections. We currently have a record number in placement and our YL Leader trains and supports them excellently.

Sean's Youth Commissioners increased having recruited Adam Jasko, Phoebe Woolard and Jack Sharp to work alongside him and ensure the Scouting we deliver is YouthShaped. I am looking forward to working with them in 2018.

I am still finding my feet and have many challenges ahead but look forward to my time ahead as DC working alongside many wonderful and dedicated leaders who give their time freely for the benefit of others. Many thanks for all the time, effort and hardwork you and your families put in to Crawley District Scouts.

Wendy Keeley

Beavers Report:

As always, the Beavers have had an amazing fun packed year, culminating in a large number of them being awarded their Chief Scout Bronze Award.

Events:

Christmas crafts were once again a great hit with the Beavers with over 100 attending over two sessions, they are enjoyed making some fun crafts to take home and the session ended with a visit and of course a present from Father Christmas.

Sadly the Welly Walk this year had to be cancelled as Buchan Park said that we were unable to park more than twenty cars in the car park so instead we held an Easter Hunt, where the children had to find and name 20 Easter Bunnies. We had a lovely afternoon running round and for everyone that took part there was a special Prize! Refreshments were provided and the event also supported the Jamboree four!

Colonies:

As always, our fantastic Colony Leaders/teams have been using their creative skills to provide exciting and challenging programmes to the youngest Section Members to ensure they have the best start on their Scouting adventure. They are far too many and varied to list them all, but all are the building blocks for what they will go on to develop further in Cub Scouts and beyond.

All colonies are strong in numbers and most now have regular leaders/young Leaders/support. I have visited several of the colonies and had a great time, playing games, Climbing, visiting the museum, making Chinese dragons and food tasting to name a few things and look forward to visiting more in the not so distant future,

We are looking forward to the coming year, we aim to continue the progress on badges and gaining lots of new skills and experience, as well as having lots of fun. And I would personally like to thank all the Leaders, Young Leaders, Active Support members, regular helpers and parents for their ongoing support.

Lou Baker
ADC Beavers

Cub Report

Cubs are still without an Assistant District Commissioner. During the last year we have had our conker competition and handicraft day. Both were well attended and enjoyed by all cubs who attended.

Cubs are continuing to achieve their Silver Chief Scouts Award as evidenced by the number attending the ceremonies held throughout the past year.

Pauline Maddocks and Ian Head

Scout Report

Another year has flown by and once again Crawley Scouts have enjoyed a fun-packed programme not only within their Troops but with District too. The majority of Troops went away in 2018 for Summer camps to various places.

The Spring camp went well, although only a handful of Groups were represented which is disappointing. Unfortunately the September 2018 District camp was cancelled because thieves had stolen the electric cable and consequently there was no power.

Unfortunately no teams entered the Overland Hike this year. I would like to see more entries in the Overland Hike from Crawley but this is for competent map and compass users.

I am pleased to say we had a large number of Scouts achieving their Chief Scout's Gold Award this year. There had been a dip, primarily because of the change to badges and it taking time for Scouts to get accustomed to the new demanding requirements, primarily the addition of the expedition challenge. Congratulations and a big thank you to those Leaders who helped Scouts achieve this milestone. Let's continue the good work.

St George's Day saw the return to Queen's Square and whilst well attended with the introduction of the fountains was not such a good location.

All Troops continue to offer a good balanced programme. On behalf of all the Scouts and their families I would like to thank all the Leaders, Young Leaders, Troop Assistants and Helpers for their continued hard work, time and enthusiasm in providing great activities throughout the year. Without you Crawley District Scouts would not be where we are today. I would also like to thank other members of the District Team and Executive Committee who are working hard in the background to keep Crawley District running smoothly. Let us continue as a team with confidence to provide excellent Scouting to our young people here in Crawley District.

Wendy Keeley
District Commissioner

Explorer Report

I would first to thank all the Explorer leaders for their hard work throughout the last year. Without them we would not have been able to put on great programmes, which have increased Explorer numbers over the years! In Crawley District there are 6 explorer units: Ray Mears (Young Leaders), Sir Ranulph Fiennes, Shackleton, Neil Armstrong, Drake and James Cook. (At the end of the year we have taken the decision to rest James Cook ESU, due to low numbers and merge them with Neil Armstrong ESU.

On the January 2018 census there were 92 Explorers. 2017 (97). 2016 (86). At the end of 2018 there were 65 Young Leaders.

During 2018 members of the units took part in the Greater London North Monopoly Run, The Sussex Downsman Hike, Gilwell 24, Bisley National Shooting competition.. We also had our youth shape forum in February followed by Airhop.

During the Summer, Explorer Units went to Isle of Wight, France, Italy and Slovenia. In October, Crawley District Explorers spent a weekend away on a mountain activity camp in Wales, activities included Rock Climbing and Hill walking.

2019 is the next World Scout Jamboree being held in West Virginia, USA. Ben Lyon, Kristofer Bolin-Schmitt, Megan Elliott and William Lingard have continued to fund raise throughout the year.

Several Explorers though out the year have achieved their CSA Platinum (2), CSA Diamond (5) and Young Leader Belt Buckle (15)

Within the district we also offer the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme alongside the Scout Association progressive award scheme. Keith Prior is the D of E advisor and helps with the D of E at each unit when required. We currently have around 60% of Explorers enrolled into the D of E scheme. During the year the following were completed Bronze 15, Silver 4.

Once again, a big thank you to all the leaders for their support.

Allen Heath District Explorer Scout Commissioner

Network Report

Crawley Scout Network has continued to be active in Crawley. Although meetings have not happened on a regular basis a number of meetings happen, mainly during the academic holidays.

In the summer 7 members of the unit travelled to Sbovinia with Drake Explorers and enjoyed some activities on their own including mountaineering. One member also travelled with SRF on their trip to France.

Also organised was a pilgrimage to Canterbury, jointly with some Explorer scouts, as part of the members Queen's Scout award requirements. The pilgrimage was a success as two Network members gained their Queen Scout award (alone with one of the Explorer members)

The year concluded with the traditional Christmas celebrations with a meal and evening in Crawley.

Mark Eastman District Scout Network Commissioner

Training Report

CONGRATULATIONS to the 24 Leaders and Managers that have achieved a Woodbadge for Leadership training during 2018, 11 of those being their first Woodbadge;

- Barney Woolard, SRF
- Adam Jasko, Drake
- Michael Stevenson, 1st Balcombe
- Kayleigh Davis, 1st Southgate
- Claire Harden, 2nd Crawley
- Ali Coles, 2nd Crawley
- Jamie Kirkman, 1st Balcombe
- Gary Hearn, 2nd Crawley

12 Leaders and Sectional Assistants have achieved their Getting Started certificates and pin badges and hopefully many of them will go on to complete a Woodbadge.

These achievements cannot be made without the support of their Training Advisers and GSLs, so thanks goes out to those called upon to support this year;

Carol Stevenson Denise Kilpatrick Graham Mitchell

Ian Head John Yarlett Keith Prior

Maureen Dean Mick Hill Paul Masters

Shona Graves Eddy Hills Julia Foxcroft, since stepped away

During the year; 26 (29 last year) training events were provided in Crawley, all free to attend. 3 (1) cancelled – as insufficient scouters booked. No validation workshops were attended

187 leaders and assistants in Crawley 104(49) potentially working through a wood badge.

12 new leaders need to attend or e-learn the module 1, essential information, learning; many exceeding the 5 month commitment they made. This will be blocking their 'full' appointment. essential information. **32** (24) have done the learning but need to validate.

77 (55) WS scouters have attended 6 first aid courses in Crawley. 29 (13) are currently out of date. safeguarding ongoing learning ; 13 attended the workshop in Crawley 21 are currently out of date. safety awareness ongoing learning 24 attended the Crawley workshop, 16 are currently out of date.

Crawley scouters provided WS with 24 leaders 912 in Crawley) trained in residential experiences and able to apply for a nights away permit

I am no longer able to monitor how many leaders are not on schedule to complete their wood badge within the 3 years they commit to on appointment.

If you want to know more about influencing and supporting new leaders through their early months in Scouting please let me know. TA can be a VERY rewarding role.

A sincere well done, thank you and congratulations to all who have put time and effort into their scout training my hope is that this enables everyone to enjoy safe scouting.

Chris Hobbs

Stanfords Campsite Report

2018 started off well for the unit with a number of projects being completed from our long list of things that need going around the site.

The outside of the Hut has been repainted along with the fence which was repainted with the help of the Beavers from 2nd Crawley.

New posts have been put in place for the archery nets.

Other projects were due to be completed but unfortunately in September someone took a liking to our mains cable and removed about 100 meters. With the lack of electricity, we have had to scale back some of the projects. Running on generators has not proved convenient.

The Bunk house has been put on hold while a few technical problems are being sorted.

It has been decided to hold 3 Meetings during 2019 where a representative from each of the groups / units will hopefully attend. These meetings are being designed to find out what the groups would like to see on site.

It would also be nice to see more people attending the work parties, with all the Leaders and helpers in District it is always the same few faces that turn up on a regular basis.

With more commitment we would be able to complete more projects.

Mick Hill

District Executive

The District Executive have met four times in the past year.

We manage Stanford Campsite on behalf of the District and jointly manage Lark Rise HQ building with 1st Langley Green Scout Group.

As reported by Wendy the Bunkhouse project has largely been on hold for much of the year due to a problem with the building inspectors, although we are hopeful that a way ahead has now been found to which they will agree. The interior has been completely stripped out ready for the rebuild once the go ahead is received and of course subject to available funds.

As mentioned last year we were having problems with the electric supply to the Main hut and the rest of the site. Late in September this was brought to a head when person or persons unknown removed the first 100 metres of

our feed cable running from the fuse box to the site. As a result we have had no electricity on site since that time. Unfortunately because they removed the electricity it also meant that we had no CCTV of the incident.

We have made a claim on our Insurance and hope that this together with some crowd funding and two generous donations by local firms associated with Scout Leaders in 5th and 7th Crawley will mean that we should have sufficient funds to get the supply restored and the extension of the supply from the main hut to the bunkhouse installed whilst the contractor is on site.

I would like to thank all members of the District Executive for their support throughout the year, and wish Maureen Dean a speedy and complete recovery from her recent fall and to thank her for her many years of service on the Executive from which she has decided to retire. Raj Sharma has also decided to resign from the Executive due to his many other commitments.

Barry Jones
Chair

Accounts

These will be published on the web site and a limited number of hard copies will be available at the AGM