

LONSDALE DISTRICT SCOUTS

MINUTES OF THE ACMB MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15th NOVEMBER 2016

1. Present, Nigel Pullen, Dorothy Ryan, Kieron Ryan, David Wilkinson, Mick Woods, Terry Bond, Craig Dewar, Tony Andrews, Andrew Lyall.

2. Apologies, Ray Salisbury, Giles Worthington.

3. Chairs remarks. Nigel spoke about the contribution Andrew Buckley had made to the running of Littledale, he was always there to help in any way that he could. His untimely passing was a blow to all of us and he will be sadly missed.

4. Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

5. Matters arising. The Silverdale Explorers contribution for the use of Mortimer lodge at Silverhelme had still not been resolved. Other explorer groups pay between £100 per year and up to £220 per quarter for their meeting places. Craig said that the Silverdale Explorers had now offered to pay £150 per year. After some discussion this was agreed.

The problems with the soak away for the lodge at Littledale were continuing with it requiring pumping out every month. Mick supplied a quote for remedial work involving digging out, install and extend new soak away including materials, from E. J. Ward & Sons of £2140 plus VAT. This was accepted and Mick will arrange for the work to be done at a suitable time.

6. Finance report. As of 31st October the CAF account was £37,744.15 with a further £45,000 deposited at Skipton Building Society. Expenditure to date is £38,117.36 which includes major expenditure on heating and fire alarm systems (£7,578.88). Income to date is £ 46,131.20. This includes £ 7122.92 for the mast and donation of £1125.04. Chubb have carried out the work at Littledale. The ACMB budget was presented to the finance sub-committee , the main recommendation being a 10% increase in lodge and camping fees, the budget now goes to the District Exec.

Insurance has been renewed at both sites, Littledale being £1431.90 and Silverhelme £1105.25. Savills had been paid £2100 for negotiating the mast renewal contract but we have received an additional retrospective fee of £3384.80 for last year.

It was agreed that the Andrew Buckley bequest of £700 be spent on archery equipment for Littledale together with a contribution of £500 from the District budget. This leaves the £254.04 in memory of Jack Armstrong, £541 in memory of Peter Hewitt and a £20 donation from the 23rd Lancaster, all of which must be used at Littledale. Members were asked to think of some tangible items for these funds.

| Proposed Charges for 2017 | Lonsdale | Other Scouts/Guides | Other Organisations |
|---------------------------|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Lodges April/Sept | £165 | £250 | £330 |
| Oct/Mar | £195 | £275 | £360 |
| Day Visits per day | £66 | £110 | £110 |
| Littledale training cabin | Free | £20/day | £20/day |
| Marquee hire | £55 | £55 | £55 |
| Camping fees per night | £2-20 | £4-40 | £4-95 |
| Day/Evening visit | Free | £2-20/person* | £2-20/person* |
| Silverhelme Den 6 people | £44/night | £44/night | £55/night |
| Den day visit | £25 | £25 | £35 |

*Minimum charge £26

Craig said that he thought that the proposed charges were too high. He felt that we would lose some prospective bookings because of the costs with the result that our income may fall. He pointed out that the charges at other sites were lower. Others disagreed and Nigel pointed out that on Ray's budget the charges were needed to balance the income/expenditure account particularly as we were faced with costs of maintenance at both sites. After a long discussion it was agreed to amend the marquee hire charge for other organisations to £100, and to present the proposed charges to the District Exec in their present form with information from Dorothy on the make up of our users.

7. Silverhelme toilet block. It had been found that we did not have a drawing of the slab details. Nigel had contacted Anthony, who is still not well following his heart attack, who had sent some drawings and notes by e-mail. Kieron is looking at these and it is hoped that the builder will be contacted in the next 3to4 weeks. Tony said that he would continue to check on the procedure on obtaining a vat exemption certificate.

8. Health and Safety. The two accidents at Silverhelme had been correctly reported. Craig said that any accident that required medical treatment needed to be reported to him.

9. Silverhelme report. Kieron said that the floor in the lodge between the kitchen and the girls toilet had been found rotten with wet rot. This had also affected the partition walls and the shower cubicles, work was in hand by the volunteers to carry out the extensive repairs. Nigel pointed out that the work being done by Kieron, Steve and Ray was saving us in the region of £6000 to £7000. Many thanks were expressed for their efforts. Parts of the camping fields have been cordoned off to allow the grass to recover.

10. Littledale report. Mick said that new doors had been fitted to the toilet block and would soon be repainted. The bridge up to the chapel has been replaced with stone as the wooden one had rotted, Ramps have been laid to the pot wash. The top field toilets have been drained ready for winter. The water supply filter system has been serviced. The leaf blower has gone in for service as it is not working properly. The mower deck is in a poorer condition than was thought and will have to be replaced soon.

11. Bookings. Dorothy said that bookings were still coming in. There were still problems in obtaining instructors for the activities. Craig said that a list was available of all qualified instructors which would be made available to Dorothy.

12. Marketing. A discussion took place on marketing. David agreed to contact a leader who has marketing experience to see if any help can be provided to us. Craig suggested that we ask our users to fill in a survey form when leaving our sites outlining their experience with us and what they thought of their stay. Dorothy agreed to produce such a form.

13. AOB. Nigel said that Dorothy had worked at organising an afternoon tea fund raising event for the Silverhelme toilet block. This had to be cancelled because of lack of response, only 4 people booked, Nigel and Joan, plus two of their friends.

14. Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 31st January 2017.

Nigel Pullen,

Chair of ACMB

16th November 2016.