

LONSDALE DISTRICT SCOUT LEADERS' MEETING



Notes of Scout Leaders' Meeting held on 4 July 2011 DHQ, Moor Street, Lancaster.

Present:

Forton: Geoff Trimnell, **5 Lcr:** Jonathan Holland, **53 Lcr:** Andrew Buckley, Don Hartley, **16 More:** Alan Hague.

District: Mark Walker (ADC), John Buckley (DSL), Arthur Griffin (Campsites Management Board (CMB))

Apologies:

1. Review Minutes of 6 June 2011 Meeting

There was nothing additional to report that was not on the agenda for this meeting.

2. SilverHelme Campsite, Toilet Block

In response to a request, Arthur gave a report on progress in addressing the replacement of the toilet block. Following consideration of options the CMB had decided that their preferred course of action was to demolish the existing block and to construct a new building. This would have the same footprint as the existing.

Giles Worthington, an architect and CMB member, had had draft plans prepared and these were tabled for information and comment. Planning permission had been submitted and granted in December of last year; Construction therefore needed to commence within 3 years of that date.

The budget cost had been estimated at £60k but detailed plans would need to be drawn up to firm up the cost. This was being looked into but was likely to incur a reasonable cost. Unofficial estimates sought had indicated an alternative construction cost of £45 – 50k. Bearing in mind that the new wet weather shelter in course of construction at SilverHelme was costing around £20k, the CMB had access to possibly in the region of £30k for the toilet block project.

Possible funding sources would be investigated and a proposal was also made to perhaps launch a District-wide appeal for Groups to hold fund raising events, to celebrate the golden jubilee of SilverHelme in 2012/13. The project was on the agenda for the District meeting to be held in October and this could be considered further then.

Thanks were expressed to Arthur for presenting the report.

3. Chief Scout's Gold Award

There was just one Scout from Lonsdale going to the next presentation of certificates which was taking place on 20 July at the VILLAGE Hotel Herons' Reach, Blackpool.

Every Scout completing the award now required to be interviewed by Mark and this was highlighted as a potential difficulty in workload terms. Mark was looking at ways of streamlining this process.

It would be good to have an attendance from Lonsdale at the County Go 4 Gold camps, details of which had been circulated.

Looking at Activity Badges why not try promoting the Instructor badges.

4. Competitions Review:

a. Camping Competition, 17-19 June 2011

John reported that only 4 teams had taken part. It was felt that those who had attended had enjoyed the event. There was a difficulty in scoring the teams as Troops now used differing equipment.

In order to promote greater participation in the future, a suggestion had been made to involve Young Leaders in the planning and running of the event, possibly overseen by District.

The YL's Leader had been approached and had welcomed the proposal. Discussion would take place on a format, including a re-branding of the event, in due course.

Comment was made that the requested change of season for the competition had not improved attendance and so it was decided to return to a September date.

b. Hiking Competition 2011, 1 - 2 October

John circulated entry forms at the meeting. Copies were also available on the website. Successful completion of the event would go a long way towards Scouts gaining the Expedition Challenge badge.

c. Night Activity 19 November 2011

John would circulate entry forms at the September meeting.

5. Patrol Leaders' Training Camp, 15- 17 July 2011

This camp for PL's, APL's and prospective PL's was to be held at Littledale campsite. Four Troops had indicated that they would be sending Scouts along. Please let Mark know by this Friday if you have any nominations.

6. Leader Training & Support (Leaders meetings)

Please let Mark know any items that you would like discussed. Troop admin matters had been suggested previously.

7. County Events:

a. Go Alpine

The closing date for applications had been 31 May. The leaders had been chosen for this event which was to take place at Kandersteg, Switzerland in 2013 based around snow sports.

b. Crew Challenge

This popular event would take place on Beacon Fell on 12 November.

c. Go 4 Gold Camps

See item 2 above.

8. Any Other Business

a. Football Competition

This is scheduled for September. Discussion took place on whether it was necessary to have two age groups and there was a consensus that it was not.

b. Badge Secretary

Mark reaffirmed that the Badge Secretary did not attend to issue badges on Mondays.

c. Circulation of Information on Courses etc.

Geoff asked if it would be possible for information to be sent out rather than have to search for it on the website. Alan advised that the District website was in the process of being radically altered and re-branded, partly for this very reason, and it was envisaged that in future this facility would be available.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting was arranged for 5 September at 7.30 pm at DHQ.