82nd Craigalmond Scout Group Executive Meeting notes

Thursday 17 November 2022 @ 7.30pm

Committee Room, Kirk Hall

Attending: Sarah Gordon (Chair), Claire McDowell, Paul Rogers, Rebecca Mill, Sandra Smit, Helen Smith (Secretary)

1. Apologies & Minutes of last meeting

Apologies from Graham Cullen and Mike Treanor.

Minutes accepted.

2. Matters arising

One item still outstanding: Gift aid 2021 still to be claimed. SS to follow up with Lisa (and to get 2022 done) approx. £4k to be claimed.

3. Section updates

SS gave an update on Friday Beavers in Jane's absence, the section has 20 beavers and will take 3 more in Jan as 3 move up to cubs. Upcoming activities planned: overnight in hall, Rebecca will help (thanks), zoo, bank on mound.

RM: Friday cubs have 30 cubs. Recent activity: world challenge & International badge, joint camp with Monday cubs 48 plus leaders, Upcoming: Canty bay for sixer and seconder camp (combined Monday and Friday again). Discussed expanding to age/peer group of sixers & seconders so contemporaries don't miss out. 7 moving up to scouts at Christmas and same again at Easter.

PS: the scouts number 64, rising to 72 in January, and the section has 9 leaders and 4 Young Leaders. Recent activity: disability awareness with Graham Cullen, knife safety, what 3 words. Upcoming: China Red and the Santa sleigh, camp at Easter (Lapwing), summer camp not yet fixed because Loch Tay not available.

4. Recruitment - Executive & leaders

No news

5. Finances

a. Question from floor at AGM re subs

Broad discussion re points raised, and noted that as well as spending that was spoken about at the AGM, activities had been funded by sections that were previously at additional cost. Recommendation that if doing make sure to make that clear in parent emails.

The idea of a funded group camp was floated. This was seen as a good possibility, with a suggestion to build it around the September cub camp by extending bookings. Agreed to take this to the Leader development weekend.

Ideas to make the fee-setting process more transparent and visible: could include a vote on subs at AGM, and/or publicise the Group Executive meeting at which it will be discussed and invite input/comment from the parents and attendance at that meeting. To be considered at next Group Exec.

b) Treasurer

SS: £24k in the bank, some outlays still to go.

c) Subscriptions

CM: Many fairly minor issues this year, Scouts have only 2 outstanding, and single figures on others except explorers (letter to parents went out late). Have had so many paying twice, and parents paying the wrong amounts.

Friday beavers have paid £5 too much – question was how to refund. Agreed that easiest way for this to be corrected is for SS will arrange to pass out £5 cash to each.

£14,165 received already, once that's done will start on the gift aid.

6. Fundraising – Xmas Fayre, Santa Sleigh, plant sale, etc.

Fayre -3/12 SN will run the usual hot dogs and mulled wine stall. SS & husband possibly available to help on the day. HS available on the day and evening before if setting up help needed. SN to speak to Mike re getting stall, burners etc. set up.

Santa sleigh: Donald to organise & confirm

Plant sale – Hannah organising with support from James

7. Equipment & storage updates

3 leader tents bought, No other update.

8. Executive Health check - review

Mike Treanor sent this to GC & SN last week. To discuss at Leader weekend.

9. Parent queries

Monday night car park issues raised by HS: extremely busy at drop off time for beavers – looks like it coincides with another group (judo?). Car park congested, parents parking unsafely and blocking drop off zone, turning area and disabled spaces.

SN to speak to GC about asking Kirk about refreshing the road markings.

Leaders could send a parent email with a reminder of etiquette. Rebecca has recently sent a letter to Friday cubs.

Also surfaced a problem with parents dropping off children too early which present safeguarding issues if a Leader is in the hall setting up on their own.

Several scouts desperate to do sea scouts stuff. Discussion around availability: PR said it hasn't really come back yet from the pandemic disruption, but he is hoping to resurrect it next year. Also discussed the possibility of booking Longcraig for a whole group session. PR to consider further.

10. AOB

- a. Request for funds re Sea Scouts Regatta agreed
 - i. Trophy for the new SUP race: one trophy for the scouts made with recycled bike parts
 - ii. Engraving for trophies.
- b. Kirk Xmas Fayre hamper request per GSL email of 3rd Nov. Agreed that the Group will contribute a hamper to the raffle. SN will stock one from the Barnton Post Office, anticipated cost approx. £100
- c. Christmas dinner 8th December at the Burgess. SS to source wine.

11. D.o.N.M

Thursday 16th Feb 19:30 GC to book committee room please

Action points

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