



**MINUTES: SOUTH LEICESTERSHIRE SCOUTS (SLDS) DISTRICT EXECUTIVE**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2020 – 7.30PM**

**Via Teams Online**

For publication



i	Description	Who needs to take action and what needs to be done. Information.	By when	Finish time
1 a and b	<p>Interim meeting. Conducted via Microsoft Teams because of Coronavirus (also called Covid-19) restrictions.</p> <p>In attendance were: Claire Gill (Chair), Victoria Speed (Secretary), Rob Row (DC), Nic Rowe (Chair Campsite Cttee, Ullesthorpe Camp Site (UCS)), Kev Peacocke (Exec member), Peter Betts (Appointments), Elizabeth Hope (DESC).</p> <p>Apologies for absence: Rik Lewis (Deputy DC and Treasurer), Andy Hickinbotham (Head Warden, UCS)</p>			19:31
2	Coronavirus	<p><u>Coronavirus pandemic.</u> District Commissioner (DC) outlined the activities that some Scout Groups are undertaking to support Scouting during the Coronavirus 'lockdown'. There is variation between groups and some are using online meeting resources and others offline or web-based content. The Explorer Scout Unit (ESU) have been on a virtual camp and are walking around Britain. There is plenty of content on OSM and The Scout Association (TSA) website (The Great Indoors).</p> <p>At present, TSA are working on normal Scouting activities resuming in the Autumn but clearly this may change.</p>		19:45
3.	District Commissioner's update	<p>DC met online with GSLs and Chairs of Scout Groups during w/c 30<sup>th</sup> March. In the previous week, w/c 23<sup>rd</sup> March the DCs and County met online.</p> <p>TSA has some reserves but is not expecting any income over the next few months. As part of the drive to improve the finances of TSA overall, there will be a £5 increase on the national part of the capitation payment in 2021.</p> <p>DC explained that some Scout Groups are waiving subs for next term. The financial impacts are different for different groups; those who have their own Scout huts have different outgoings compared with those who rent village halls, for instance.</p> <p>DESC/DC highlighted that some groups and the ESU are disappointed at not being able to undertake any fund-raising activities for future trips.</p> <p>DC highlighted that DBS checks are not able to be processed at present and new adults should not be added to COMPASS (as this starts the clock on getting a DBS check done).</p> <p>DC added that the 'lockdown' was a good opportunity for adult volunteers to complete online training especially modules like safeguarding.</p> <p>Chair, flagged up a communication that will go out to groups from TSA at a national level, to help Scout Groups contact parents about continuing to support the Scout Group during Coronavirus.</p>		19:50



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		<b>ACTION:</b> Secretary to send round a copy of the national communication with the minutes - entitled '08Apr2020LetterGSLsfromTSA'	With minutes	
4.	Campsite Committee	Campsite Chair, explained that maintenance of the campsite has been reduced to a weekly visit to check all is okay, along with a weekly clean and putting the bins out.  The financial reserve of £5,000 will keep the campsite going for the next 6 months.		
5.	District events and AGM	<p>i) It was highlighted that we need to amend the District Constitution to allow the AGM to take place online. It was agreed to invite the GSLs and Chairs of Scout Groups to the AGM, plus County and Exec.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Chair, to send round the current constitution to review anything we may want to change and to add a minor change to the constitution to allow an online AGM and then agree it during the AGM - attached to the email with these minutes.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> All Exec members to review current constitution, entitled '<b>[revised - for Exec approval] SLDSC Constitution - April 2020</b>' and email Chair with comments on the proposed amendment to allow a virtual AGM to take place online (see page 6 para 21) and/or to propose any other changes.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Secretary to invite attendees to AGM as outlined above.</p> <p>ii) Decisions will need to be made in the coming weeks about the Beaver Sleepover and Cub camp – both in June – as these will need to be officially postponed (assuming Government advice stays the same).</p> <p>iii) There was some discussion about honouring campsite bookings for September and October (especially events booked before March 2020) and the need to balance availability to re-schedule District events.</p> <p><b>DECISION</b> - It was agreed that there may be flexibility in using weekdays and during the Summer holiday.</p> <p>iv) It was agreed that some kind of event for leaders (and families) at the campsite would be welcome – when everything returns to normal.</p>	<p>Sent with minutes</p> <p>By end of April</p> <p>By next meeting</p>	20:00



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6.	District finances	<p>Chair, as interim treasurer, gave the meeting an update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) The District is up to date with census capitation payments.</li> <li>ii) A Scouting member from Gilmorton will be our Scrutineer for our accounts at the end of the year and this has been checked and is not a conflict of interest.</li> <li>iii) The previously mentioned issue (16 March 2020 meeting minutes item 3) with Nottingham Building Society, whereby they are closing our account means that the money in the account will be refunded to us in September, Chair said she would try and bring this forward.</li> <li>iv) Chair has spoken with the new ESU leader, about setting up an account for the ESU so it runs like the Campsite Committee account. Steps will be taken (as and when banks can accommodate) to put this into place.</li> <li>v) Going forward we will be looking for a new Treasurer, as this role is being looked after on an interim basis.</li> <li>vi) Planning for Iceland 2021 has been postponed and deposits (£1,500 per person) returned in these uncertain times.</li> <li>vii) EuroJam, Poland, has been postponed to 2021 as well. This will have implications for the proposed attendees, some of whom will no longer be eligible to attend as young people, and the funds we had allocated to them for attendance. Details to be confirmed in due course.</li> <li>viii) Going forward, the District needs to move to online banking as the recent Coronavirus problems have highlighted the challenge of physically paying in and issuing cash/cheques. Treasurer to progress as and when banks can accommodate.</li> <li>ix) I) Exec member highlighted the need to keep in touch with Groups about finances before the AGM to check that everyone is managing with the Coronavirus problems. Groups are adopting different approaches or have get to make decisions about subs.  II) Chair and DC posed questions around when groups will know about their financial position and it was agreed that DC and Exec member will contact groups to have a conversation about how they are doing financially, at the start of May.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION:</b> DC and Exec Member to contact groups at start of May to ask about their financial situation.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Secretary to add 'finance support for groups' to the May agenda.</p>	<p>Before next meeting Before next meeting</p>	20:10
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8.	Appointments Committee update	<p>Chair of Appointments Committee suggested asking GSLs and Chairs of Scout Groups to look out for potential adult volunteers to become leaders or occasional helpers, so that we keep up the momentum of finding new volunteers.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> DC to progress and raise with GSLs and Chairs</p> <p>Exec member said his Scout Group are trying to include new Occasional Helpers in the online events to make sure they feel involved.</p>		20:28
8.	AOB	<p>i) DC, has made progress with the OSM District offer (including 10% reduction for Sections). DC still has to work out a few details, such as how to apply the discount and ensure no-one loses out because renewals are at different times of the year. Most of the groups are already using OSM Gold level (highest functionality).</p> <p>ii) Huncote &amp; Croft have their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday during April.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Secretary to confirm to County who is in the Exec. This is in response to a recent email. We will use the District email addresses.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Chair to approve minutes electronically (confirmatory email) for the time being,</p>	<p>Done 11<sup>th</sup> April</p> <p>Approved by email 14<sup>th</sup> April</p>	
13	Close	<p>2020</p> <p>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May (by online Microsoft Teams) 7.30pm – which will include documents in readiness for the AGM, and Group financial positions.</p> <p>AGM 12<sup>th</sup> June</p>		20:30