



BEAVER SCOUT TEAM FOR WALES

The minutes of a meeting of the Beaver Scout Team for Wales held on 6th March 2010 at Builth Wells High School, commencing at 1.45p.m.

PRESENT	Barbara Turton (Chairman)	AAC	Mid Glamorgan/Comm BS (Wales)
	Sue Woodberry	AAC	CATVOG
	Angela Jones	AAC	Carmarthenshire
	Claire Dyer	AAC	Ceredigion
	Sue Lloyd		representing Clwyd
	Alison Chapman	AAC	Eryri a Mon
	Christine Dyer	AAC	Glamorgan West
	Lorraine Paul	AAC	Gwent
	Sandra Booth	AAC	Pembrokeshire
	Sian Meredudd	AAC	Radnorshire
	Alison Jones		Secretary

PART ONE – RECOMMENDATIONS

The Beaver Scout Team recommends:

To ScoutsWales:

- (i) That information about the Welsh Assembly initiative Health Challenge Wales should be re-issued.

To Headquarters
none

Project Proposals to Scouts Wales

Project 2011. AAC's to gauge the amount of interest in the Partnership Awards and gather ideas for resources etc. for discussion at the November 2010 meeting.

Actions agreed

- (i) AAC's consider the number of Chief Scout Bronze Award as part of their "Health Checks", and report back to the team in November
- (iii) Action on promoting the Moving On Award will be postponed until the Commissioner Cub Scouts (Wales) is appointed.
- (iv) Individual action points from the Moving On/Joining List session,

PART TWO – MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Barbara welcomed everyone, and introductions were made. Barbara pointed out that because the plenary sessions with Headquarters had taken place during the morning, the Team had a shorter time than usual for their discussions. She explained that minutes will automatically be sent to the regular attendees; those standing in for just this meeting were invited to add their details to the list.

2. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14th NOVEMBER 2009

These were read and accepted.

4. MATTERS ARISING

- (a) It had been recommended at the last meeting that information about Health Challenge Wales should be re-issued; it was agreed to carry this recommendation forward.
- (b) New resources are now at the printers and will be available from the 1st April 2010; Jenny Winn will promote them at the Beaver Leaders Conference.
- (c) The All Wales Civics Award, discussed at the November 2009 Team meeting, is to be launched in the Autumn 2010 and will be named the Democracy Challenge. It will be a staged badge with content appropriate to each section. The requirements for Beaver Scouts are as discussed and recommended by the Team. **Information is embargoed until the official launch.**
- (d) Development and Census Reports were the subject of the discussion groups during the morning session. As this year's figures are incomplete it is not possible to compare to last year's, however numbers appear to have increased.
- (e) Area Reports on the Chief Scouts Bronze Awards – generally Colonies are achieving this top Award. AAC's said that they have a variety of ways of celebrating the occasion and presenting badges, some held at District or Area level. Barbara suggested AAC's look at this aspect as part of their "Health Checks".

5. FEEDBACK FROM THE CHAIR AND UK ADVISER'S WORKING GROUP

- (a) Tim Kidd, Chief Commissioner England presented an update from Headquarters during the morning plenary session.
- (b) Blue Book – updated copies of the Blue Book (A Guide to the Workings of the Teams for Wales and Team Day) were distributed, together with the leaflet "So Now You Are a

Wales' Team Member", which is of particular relevance to those attending as a stand-in or on a one-off basis.

- (c) A leaflet about a Dress Up or Down Day on 30th April to raise funds for Ty Hafan was distributed; this information has also been circulated to schools.
- (d) The Sainsbury's Active Kids and Tesco for Schools and Clubs are voucher-saving schemes available to Scout Groups. Groups need to register online.
- (e) Consultation on Vision 2018 has now closed, but AAC's were reminded that Your Programme Your Voice, online surveys of Leaders' views, has a direct influence on HQ decisions. The current survey about badges and resources will shortly end.
- (f) The Adults Support Team is considering Flexible volunteering.
- (g) Following last year's success of The Big Adventure, it will be re-launched this year, sponsored by Sainsbury's, with resources available from the Information Centre.
- (h) New resources – Scouting Skills and the new Scouts Handbook are available.
- (i) New resources for the Young Leaders schemes will also be available shortly. AAC's discussed training for Young Leaders (usually organised by DESC), together with First Aid and Child Protection. AAC's felt there is a need for advice for Leaders on how best to use Young Leaders in the Colony. The presentation given at last year's Team meeting is no longer on line, but will be available at the Conference.
- (j) John Kitson of the Special Needs Team at HQ joined the meeting to discuss ways to include young people with special needs in Scouting. A variety of tips were given:
 - Discuss specific needs with parents;
 - Be aware that some parents have special needs themselves and might benefit from completing forms together with the Leader;
 - All risk factors need to be considered – the Beaver with special needs, other Beavers, how much supervision is required;
 - One to one support – technically Social Services should provide support but as this is not always available, a Young Leader could be asked to take this responsibility as their Service.
 - Young people with special needs may stay in a section beyond the usual age-range if this is appropriate (the necessary form must be signed by the DC).

AAC's were reminded that Special Needs Advisers are available to give information and advice.

6. 2010 CONFERENCE

Barbara provided an update:

- (a) The Keynote Speaker will be John Tudor of the Children's Commissioner's Office

- (b) Jenny Winn, Programme and Development Adviser, HQ, will launch new resources, provide information from HQ in the morning and also host a drop in session about Programmes Online in the afternoon.
- (c) The training team will be attending for the day so will be acting as facilitators during the morning's Discussion Groups, which include:
 - Working as a Group – links and Moving on Award
 - Supporting Beaver Scout Leaders – who/what
 - Safeguarding Children in our Care
 - Including Disabilities in the Colony.

There will be several groups, depending on numbers attending, with time allowed for feedback.

- (d) Lunch will be a hot meal with desserts. There will not be a choice, so special dietary needs should be notified. Coffee and tea will be available in the morning and afternoon.
- (e) The opening time of 9.45a.m. with the start at 10.15a.m. is to allow the Market Place additional time. Barbara expects the afternoon sessions to end before 4.30p.m.
- (f) Bookings may be made online www.scoutswales.org.uk or by telephone – details have been distributed in Sgowtaid. The closing date for applications is Friday 2nd April 2010. Barbara asked that AAC's encourage bookings a.s.a.p. – if insufficient bookings are made then the Conference will be cancelled.
- (g) AAC's discussed the afternoon Workshops – some have already been confirmed and suggestions for others were noted by Barbara, who asked AAC's to contact her should they think of any more.

7. IDENTIFY AND SHARE GOOD PRACTICE / COMMON ISSUES AND SUPPORT REQUIRED

Aspects of good practice and adult retention were discussed during the earlier sessions on Moving On/Joining Lists and Health Checking and Good Practice.

8. PLANS FOR 2011

- (i) **Partnership Awards** - AAC's discussed the problems encountered in getting all sections of a Group involved in Partnership Awards. It was pointed out that Partnerships can be within Scouting or with other appropriate groups. It was agreed that AAC's should gauge the amount of interest in these Awards and gather ideas for resources etc. for discussion at the November 2010 meeting. The proposal is to create a bank of ideas and resources to be put on the website. In the meantime, Barbara will consider whether an application for funding will be required.

- (ii) **Moving On Award** - It was agreed that as this aspect of the Programme requires cooperation between sections, it is advisable to wait until a Commissioner Cub Scouts (Wales) is appointed.

9. SWAPSHOP

A variety of ideas for resources and programmes were exchanged.

10. EVALUATION OF THE MORNING'S SESSIONS

AAC's generally felt the earlier sessions were useful, and each took away an action point from the Moving On/Joining List session, some in cooperation with their Cub counterpart.

11. DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Dates to be noted:

Saturday 17 th April 2010	Beaver Leaders Conference "Working Together"
Saturday 30 th October 2010	Talkabout / AGM
Saturday 13 th November 2010	Team meetings

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no other business the meeting closed at 3.50 pm.

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE

DATE
