



## SCOUT ACTIVE SUPPORT UNIT TEAM FOR WALES

The Minutes of a meeting for The Scout Active Support Unit Team for Wales held on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at Builth Wells High School commencing at 10.30am.

<b>PRESENT</b>	Glenys Shelley	Chairman (CATVOG)
	Ron Burden	Secretary (Miskin)
	Margaret Brown	Pembrokeshire
	Margaret Germain	Torfaen
	Eunice Marsh	Monmouthshire
	June Smith	Wrexham
	Margaret Thompson	Newport
	Barbara Davies	West Glamorgan (Part-time)
	Philip King	Montgomeryshire (Part-time)
	Laura McManus	Programme & Development Adviser-Support Unit, Headquarters
	Mike Pitham	Headquarters volunteer

### PART ONE – RECOMMENDATIONS

There were no recommendations from this meeting.

### PART TWO – HEADQUARTERS LAUNCH OF SCOUT ACTIVE SUPPORT

#### 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman welcomed the Headquarters guests and introduced everybody, explaining the format of the day.

The morning and early afternoon would be an explanation of the changes that were taking place in the changeover from Fellowship to Active Support. Team business would follow. The Chairman also explained that an invitation had been sent to other ScoutsWales Teams to send a representative to join us, as the changes could affect the composition and the support functions of Scouting as a whole – it was disappointing that none of these invitations had been accepted.

#### 2. HEADQUARTERS INPUT

##### a) Reason for Review

- Consultation of the movement took place over a period of three years.
- Fellowship was still being seen as “The Tea & Coffee Brigade”.
- There was a clear need to improve the management of the many types of support being given to the movement.

b) Why Change?

- There was a great strength in various types of support being given to Scouting, some of which was not being used effectively
- The title of 'Fellowship' was not welcomed in some Area's
- The focus in some Area's was not always on service – some Fellowships were merely social gatherings.
- There was some misunderstanding in some parts of the movement on the role of 'Fellowship'.
- Many Fellowships were not as effective as they could be.

c) What is Scout Active Support?

- A flexible Group of adult volunteers who give support to the movement as a whole. Giving support to all Units in a variety of ways.

d) Structure / Management

- Active Support Units can be within a Group / District, or operate with a County or Area.
- They will be under the responsibility of a Manager who will be supported by a Co-ordinator/Co-ordinators.
- Training will be available to cover the needs of Managers / Co-ordinators / Members.

e) Information / Support

Information and Support Guides are being made available from Headquarters either online or as printed material.

- The Headquarters Scout Active Support Team is available and ready to answer any problems which may be experienced during the changeover.

f) Questions / Problems / Opinions

After an active and profitable series of questions which were answered by the Headquarters Team, the input was summed up by Mike Pitham. The Chairman thanked the Team for their input which had very adequately covered the concerns, worries, some misconceptions and antagonism which the thoughts of change have brought to the minds of members.

### **PART THREE – MINUTES OF THE TEAM MEETING**

#### **3. APOLOGIES**

No apologies had been received.

#### **4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of previous meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2009 had been circulated. These were taken as read and signed as a true record.

#### **5. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

## 6. DISCUSSION ON HQ INPUT

The rest of the meeting mainly took the form of a discussion on the HQ input of the morning. How it might affect our existing Fellowships; how it could affect the format and composition of our future meetings; whether the increase in the inclusion of all forms of 'service' into the Scout Active Service Groups would mean the re-organisation of the Welsh Scout Council Team meeting. Obviously questions which would require clarification in the future months.

In the main the input was welcomed by Members and greatly helped to clarify the situation of the future of 'Fellowships'.

Although it would be fair to say all Members agreed with the changes or for the need of some of them.

## 7. AROUND THE FELLOWSHIPS

*MONMOUTHSHIRE:* Although small in numbers and having difficulties in responding to requests for help the Fellowship has had an active and profitable year. Activities include: assistance at Cub and Scout Swimming Gala; ran bases at Beaver Fun Day; ran bases at overnight Training Venture; organised Cub Quiz Day; organised district St Georges Day; assisted on local campsite; provided marshals for Welsh Scout Council River Wye Canoe Cruise; etc etc. Great concern had been expressed over change of name.

*MONTGOMERYSHIRE:* Again small in numbers. Most members have another role in Scouting; supports Beaver Scout Football Team; Assist Campsite Service Crew; assisted organisation of 'Operation Commando' at Hafren Forest; assistance at Swimming Gala etc.

*NEWPORT:* Currently have 39 Members. Assist organisation District Swimming Gala; ran base at District Beaver Fun Day; ran front of house at District Gang Show; ran Jamboree on the Train; organised Scout & Guide Christmas post; Members cover roles of District Badge Secretary; District Quartermaster; assist on District Campsite; assisted on International Camps etc etc

*PEMBROKESHIRE:* Have concentrated on recruitment during year with some considerable success; arranged District St Georges Day; ran bases at Cub Adventure Day; timekeepers at District Swimming Gala etc.

*TORFAEN:* Awarded Commissioner's Bugle for work on campsite; ran information and recruitment base in Cwmbran Town Centre; ran training bases at District Scout camp; have organised District but and Scout Swimming Gala etc.

*WREXHAM:* Numbers have fallen this year; assisted organise District Carol service; ran Skill and Craft Bases at District Camp etc.

## 8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

As there was no other business and no future dates to note, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and their contribution and closed the meeting.

9. DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Next Team Day Meetings: Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2010

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE

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DATE

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