

**Minutes of Ormskirk Network Core Meeting**

**Briars Hall, 13<sup>th</sup> April 2003, 7:30pm**

## **1. Welcome**

Richard Charnock welcomed everyone to the meeting

## **2. Present**

Michael Nolan, Jenny Ramsbottom, Richard Charnock, Chris Phillips, Tim Seed, Margaret Lomas, Chris Lomas, Miriam Grimes, Jayne Fitzsimmons, Laura Skears, Lyndsay Houghton, Leigh Phillips, Lucy Errington, Chris Pennington, Liz Lomas, Vic Ashurst, Keir Chapman, Stewart Collier, Pamela Tompsett, John Potter, Laura Medway, Sean Kirby, Ash Green.

## **3. Apologies**

Sarah Brett, Martin Freeman, Mike Evans, Tom Hopley, David Jackulis, Andrew Nalborcayk (Nobby), Dave Walton, Jenny Whetnall, James Nevill, Ali Chambers, Imogen Gregg.

## **4. Programme**

Richard Charnock went through some of the events that happened since December. He noted that some activities on the last programme failed to happen and that the Programme team have looked into this and will try to make sure that events on the current programme happen. He thanked everyone for their support over the last three months.

### **4.1. New Programme**

Pamela Tompsett and Jayne Fitzsimmons said what the role of the Programme Team is – to take on board member's ideas and to put together a balanced programme.

Copies of the programme were distributed and some of the events explained. *[A copy of the programme will be distributed with the next bundle of stuff and is available from the website].*

- Some tickets may be available for the theatre trip to Rocky Horror Show or Chicago. Contact Margaret Lomas pretty damn quickly if you're interested.
- Norway – Jayne encouraged others to come along. Cost around £300
- Cartmel Races trip should be bigger and better with the whole County being invited

Pamela and Jayne then led the group in a brain storming session to find out what past events people liked and what new things people want. They will take the results back to the next Programme Team meeting.

Ash Green noted that Alcatraz was missing from the programme. Liz Lomas pointed out that her 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday Party was also absent.

Richard Charnock said that it was good to see how the Network programme had developed over the years. He reminded people that this is their Network and that if there is anything they want to do, to just go and do it. Contact an exec member and they'll help publicise it amongst other members. Ali Daniels said that she'd like to organise a horse-riding holiday during the summer.

## **4.2. Main Events**

### **National Network Gathering**

Jenny Ramsbottom informed us that there are still places. You may also turn up for a few days/nights and pay as you go at reception.

Two minibuses and some cars are going up from Ormskirk. Contact Jenny for more information. Contact her or Tim Seed if you want food.

Activities can be booked on the website (<http://networkgathering.westlancashirescouts.org.uk/>)

The usual Ash Green / Ormskirk Crew shit-fest will be happening on Sunday morning.

Tim Seed is sorting out food. He asked that everyone lend a hand. If you bring £10, there should be some change.

Ash Green reminded everyone of the need to bring the right equipment for activities.

### **Explorer Belt / Taiwan Moot Information Evening**

Chris Lomas explained about these two events.

West Lancashire Scout County are running a supported Explorer Belt expedition based in Slovenia with expeditions in either Slovenia or northern Italy.

At around the same time, the World Moot takes place in Taiwan.

Information evening for both is on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April. Ormskirk will be sharing lifts – meet at the Ring O Bells at 6:45pm. If you are unable to attend, information will be in the pack going out after this Core Meeting.

### **Youth Hostelling**

Michael Nolan and Richard Charnock are planning a Youth Hostelling mini expedition. Taking place 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2003, location to be decided, but possibly Lake District, Peak District or Wales. Cost also to be confirmed but depends on where we stay.

Once information and application forms come out, a fairly quick response is required.

### **Funday – 5<sup>th</sup> July 2003**

Funday is an event run by Scout Network at Waddecar Scout Camp for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers.

Sean Kirby and Laura Medway are Ormskirk Network representatives. The theme is months of the year. Ormskirk has been allocated September and October. The themes suggested by the organising committee are “Back to School” and Halloween. If you have any ideas for bases that fit this theme, send them to Laura or Sean.

Funday has been awarded a grant of over £2000. Suggestions are requested for what this money should be spent on. The committee are currently thinking about a bouncy castle. Ash Green said that a bouncy castle shouldn't cost that much. Chris Lomas and others suggested that the money could go some way to purchasing a marquee. If other things need to be purchased, then the money can be refunded provided receipts are kept.

Ali Daniels and Margaret Lomas both said they have some things left over from previous years available for use.

Richard Charnock stressed that the Funday is a really good event and a lot of fun to run. He asked that as many people as possible support it. Last year there weren't as many as hoped and we had to rely on

the excellent support that Ormskirk District Fellowship provided. This year we should try to do it ourselves.

Sean said that as one of the larger Local Networks, Ormskirk has been asked to help others. Margaret Lomas and Richard Charnock acknowledged this but said that we couldn't do everything and in particular, if equipment is sourced through Ormskirk's contacts, that the people borrowing it should be responsible for collecting and returning it.

Michael Nolan asked that anyone with contacts in Groups try to promote the Funday. So far, 14<sup>th</sup> Rufford are the only Group in Ormskirk to have booked on.

## **Connected 2003 – 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2003**

Liz Lomas is on the organising team for Connected 2003 and explained a few things about it. This year the camp is being held at a site near Barnsley (close to Miriam's house – she said we can use her showers).

Price stays at £23.50 with an extra charge for some of the activities. For £30 you can go fully catered with excellent food provided by 3<sup>rd</sup> Foot 'n' Mouth. All the usual activities plus some new ones including a day at a water park and gliding. Deadline is 23<sup>rd</sup> May – application forms with your pack after this Core Meeting.

## **Do Your Own Thing Week – 21<sup>st</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> July 2003**

Michael Nolan is organising (or not organising, as the case may be) the "Do Your Own Thing" week. The idea is to get everyone in Network out on their own activities, doing what they want to do. The choice of what you want to do is completely up to you, but as an example, Sarah Brett is getting married. Once you've decided what you'd like to do, tell everyone else about it, see who wants to come, and go and do it!

## **Project 2005 – Uganda**

Chris Lomas, West Lancashire International Team Chair, introduced this project.

The International Team exists to promote and support International Scouting within West Lancashire. They provide a newsletter, an international pack and maintain a list of experts you can turn to for more information.

As well as supporting projects, they are going to run a Community Project in Uganda during summer 2005. It will be open to participants aged 16 to 25, led by a leadership team. They are currently seeking applicants for the leadership team and would like to encourage Scout Network members to apply.

They are looking for people with a number of skills, but Richard Charnock said that enthusiasm is a skill and you shouldn't be put off just because you think you're not experienced enough.

## **5. Vice-Chair**

*[Sorry if some of this is a little sketchy – it's hard to talk, listen and take minutes all at the same time!]*

### **5.1. Awards**

We've been running regular Awards Nights on the first Sunday of each month since January. Some people have attended, but not huge numbers. Michael Nolan asked what support and information people wanted. The general response was that perhaps regular monthly nights weren't best suited to how people worked. A list of people to turn to for help as and when required might be better. Quarterly awards nights and ad hoc information evenings might also work.

Richard Charnock asked who had completed their Queen's Scout Award – a majority had. Far fewer had completed their Duke of Edinburgh awards, but many were working towards them.

Chris Lomas said he had run an information day about the Duke of Edinburgh award and how they can be done alongside equivalent Scouting awards. This was aimed towards Explorers and Scout Network but no Scout Network members were there. Richard Charnock said that he hadn't heard any information about it and so didn't know to pass anything on. Chris will look into running a similar session, possibly compressed down into an evening at some point in the future.

## **5.2. Communication**

There are a number of ways in which we send out communication – email, text message, District Newsletter. From after this Core Meeting we will be sending out a Newsletter instead of minutes of the meeting. Minutes will still be available from the website or on request. A full review of communication will be sent out after Michael Nolan finishes his exams.

## **5.3. District AGM Award**

An award will be made at the Ormskirk District AGM in May to the "Network Member of the Year". It will go to a person who has done Good Things within Ormskirk District or further afield. It is not intended to go to the person who has done the most within Ormskirk Network – there are other ways of Awarding such people.

A panel of four people will make the final decision. It consists of: Michael Nolan (Vice Chair, Ormskirk Network), Pete Smith (Ormskirk District Commissioner), Dave Marsh (Ormskirk District ADC Scouts) and Ash Green (Ormskirk District Explorer Scout Commissioner).

Nominations should be sent to Michael Nolan:

5 Rose Place

Aughton

Ormskirk

Lancashire

L30 4UJ

michael.nolan@scoutmail.org.uk

Anonymous nominations are accepted. Please say who you would like to nominate and why.

## **6. Treasurer's Report**

### **6.1. Treasurer Bit**

We have around 50 members registered (Richard Charnock: "Ace").

We have around £250 in the bank available for spending. Jenny asked everyone for items they would place on a wish list of things to purchase. These will then be ranked by the Exec and we can start to buy some or save up money. Liz Lomas asked they we buy Mini Eggs.

### **6.2. County**

Jenny Ramsbottom explained how we in Ormskirk are part of one West Lancashire Scout County Network.

Jenny invited everyone to come along to the County Network Committee meetings to see what happens. A variety of items are discussed each month including Connected, Image Group, Funday etc. They take place on the second Thursday of each month at County Hall in Preston.

One thing to come out of the County meeting is the Millennium Volunteers scheme where you can get money for volunteering.

## **7. Membership Officer's Report**

Chris Phillips has obtained a list of Explorer Scouts in Ormskirk aged 17 and over. Chris Lomas suggested sending them a post card on their Birthday.

Chris Phillips asks that everyone try to make conversation with new members when they come along to Network Drinks.

Chris Phillips asks that the people who got neckers from him pay the £3.75.

## **8. Media Manager's Report**

Tim raised the subject of a Network Banner and asked for suggestions for a slogan.

The website is still there (<http://www.ormskirk.network.redrose.org.uk/>) and has lots of useful information. New sections include photographs of recent events. Network Rambles and reports on events.

## **9. County Scout Network Leader (Ormskirk) Report**

Margaret Lomas has a new title, but assures us that her role has not changed.

CRB Forms: don't need bank details but do need National Insurance details.

Remember you must be CRB cleared for many activities, e.g. camps, Funday where under 18's will be present.

If you have already had a CRB check done through Scouting, that is fine, anywhere else you must have it done again. Sorry.

Take a passport / Birth Certificate and National Insurance card / P45/46 to Margaret to get sorted.

Yellow cards were passed around for those people who didn't have one.

Medieval Fair is taking place at Rufford this year on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June. Around 3000 people are expected. Network has been asked to help with a variety of jobs for which a donation will be made. Also invited to the BBQ and beer tent afterwards. Help is also needed putting up tents on Thursday before.

## **10. Chair's Report**

The next Core Meeting is in June. After that is the AGM in September. Richard Charnock asked people to stand for the Exec. if anyone is interested they can shadow the current Exec members for a couple of months. Chat to any Exec member about it.

Ricko thanked Emma Cunningham for all the work she has done over the last six months.

## **11. Any Other Business**

Leigh and Nev are going cycling in the Lakes on Tuesday

Chris Phillips and Lucy are going Climbing on Monday

Tim Seed asked for money for Gathering food to be paid by Friday.

Ash Green is giving up District Explorer Scout Commissioner in a week.

Ash Green spoke about the National Navigation Award which is now recognised within Scouting. There are a variety of levels and it is ideal for people who have done Orienteering before.

Ash Green's ramblings:

Recruitment – working sometimes but work still needs to be done getting Ventures and Explorers over.

There's sometimes a lot of Politics in Scouting and people can't deal with it. Remember Ormskirk are doing a fantastic job – **be proud**.

Would like to encourage more Explorer / Network joint activities. DESCamp open to Network. Network could run linking events for Explorers.

Finally if you're approaching 25 think about where you're moving on to.

## 12. Presentations

Richard Charnock awarded a Certificate of Excellence to Chris Phillips for his Enthusiasm, promoting Climbing and Walking, making people *feel part of Ormskirk Network* and boosting sales at Four Seasons Leisure.

Ash Green presented Stewart "Smiler" Collier and Laura Medway with their Queen's Scout Award badges.  
**Have a good time at Windsor!**

## 13. Next Meeting

The next Core Meeting is Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2003 at Briars Hall, Lathom starting 7:30pm. Don't forget Network Drinks every Sunday in The Windmill, Ormskirk.