

Newham Watersmeet Woodcraft Folk
Annual General Meeting
15th of March 2017



In attendance:

Woodchips - Annie

Elfins - Maya, Nero, Tiara, Elijah, Faith, Rosa, India, Jessie, Suzy, Grace, Rosa, Tilly and Ruby.

Pioneers - Naya, Marley, Bethan, Ezra, Eedie and Merlin.

DFs - Elliot, Arwel, Oliver and Rhiannon.

Adults - Rona, Jack, Angus, Suzannah, Alicia, Ruth, Louise, Michelle, Stuart, Anita, Liz, Sophie (C), David(R), Elsa, Leah, Ruth, Sasha and William

Apologies

Bill Bremner, Mary Robinson, Mike Smith.

1. Minutes agreed as a true record of the 2015/16 AGM
2. Chairs report SW shared report (attached- appendix 1) and provided overview.
3. Proposals and ballot for district campaign -5 motions were proposed and voted on.

Motion 1. "More Trees Less Pollution": This AGM commits to helping the local environment and wildlife by getting involved in local nature projects and reduce pollution.- Proposed by Elfins

Motion 2. Woodgrange Rodsloch Pioneers propose that Newham Watersmeet should focus the year ahead on supporting the environment locally and internationally-Pioneer motion

Motion 3. This AGM commits to organising a district sponsored walk to raise funds for local homeless people.

Motion 4. This AGM commits to organising a district sponsored walk to raise funds for the African famine.

Motion 5. This AGM commits to lobbying for and supporting the Dubbs amendment campaign .

See item 6 for results

4. Presentation of accounts and treasurers report Stuart Walker shared main points from treasurer report (attached appendix 2)

5. Election of officers

The AGM notes the valued input Mike Smith has provided as membership and safeguarding officer and records thanks from the District for all his hard work.

Chair: Suzannah Walker elected unopposed

Secretary: Angus Forbes elected unopposed

Treasurer: Mary Robinson elected unopposed

Membership and Safeguarding: Ruth Doak (Butcher) elected unopposed and welcomed as a new member of the committee

Equipment Officer: Bill Bremner (supported by Oliver Howard and Sasha Das Gupta) elected unopposed

6. Presentation of results from ballot

41 votes cast split vote 14 each for Elfin motion (trees not cars) and Dubbs campaign agreed to take both forward as Newham campaigning priorities. Though other motions should also be added to our activities.

7. Announcements

- this Saturday SALSA night 6-8 Durning Hall
- 20th March DGM Rhe Lodge 7.30pm
- Palestinian Solidarity 21st March Wanstead Tap
- 28th March camp meeting Golden Fleece 8pm
- 2nd Saturday of each month Nurse Bike at Woodgrange market.
- Bike from Boleyn to West Ham Stadium 22nd April

8. End of formal meeting

Appendix 1 Chairs report

CHAIRS REPORT 2016-17

Locally

It has been a year of peaks and a few troughs

Highlights include

Widening participation camp - work with Children's society to bring in migrant families to join us on camp - see the you tube film

Widening participation and Newham, WCF Facebook pages launched

New Woodchips - known as Woodchips under 3, began in winter 2016 and are now registered with national WCF. .

Trip to international camp in Bavaria - took pioneers, venturer and District

Of note

Stuart and Jack now chair national and London Region respectively

Our District Fellows have expanded their activity locally, nationally and in some cases internationally.

Welcome to Sophie Rigg and Racheal Larkin as new group

Elfin report – Elfins going well 25 regular attendees including 3 Woodchips

Pioneer report

Pioneers were a large group in 2016 but numbers have decreased - we are trying various methods to get new children.

We have been involved in Play streets, an international camp, raised money for the local homeless centre and enjoyed a residential with the elfins at Lambourne End

Venturer report

Venturers. Venturer numbers have been very low over the last year and the group became unviable. It was temporarily closed earlier in the year with a view to reopening at the end of February. In spite of efforts by Venturer leaders, additional young people could not be persuaded to join a relaunched group and the closure has become a longer-term plan. Leaders of that group are now freed on group nights and have turned their attention to opening a new group based at the Lodge for younger (Pioneer-aged) children. This will run as a sister to the Godwin group and will provide a platform for a future Venturer group.

DF report

New Groups Report

Were planning to open a group in royal docks. We have a venue and hopefully a group of children to open it with. We will be working on putting together an opening summer programme and recruiting volunteers over the next month.

Appendix 2 Finances



Woodcraft Folk Newham Watersmeet District Treasurers report year ending 31st December 2016

This has been another successful year, ending with a surplus of £3704.13.

Most transactions are now done online, making it much easier to keep track of payments.

We were successful in obtaining 3 grants and I am grateful to those managing the projects for their diligence in keeping track of expenditure and accounting for the money.

Hall hire fees have gone up for the Lodge – although less than was feared. Fees for the schools have remained the same, although we are still awaiting some invoices so the amount on the accounts doesn't reflect the true cost of premises during the year.

Although we received some money for Venturer camp, none was paid as we are awaiting their invoice too.

Thank you to all those who have gift aided their donations.

If there are questions which can't be answered by members of the committee I will be happy to answer by email mary_robinson@btinternet.com

Mary Robinson
District Treasurer

Full submitted accounts available on Newham Woodcraft website.