

Newham Watersmeet Woodcraft Annual General Meeting 2016

March 2nd Godwin School

Minutes

Present

Suzannah Walker, (chair) Stuart Walker, Dina Ward, Gupri Hamp, Tamsin Black, Prity Patel, Mike Smith, Bill Bremner, Mary Robinson, Andrew Howard, Lisa Adda, Louise Klarnett, Jon Lloyd, Sasha Das Gupta, Alicia Francis, Shone Pollode, Anita Anderson, Jack Walker, Anna Carlile (Minutes),

Elfins: Minel Anchur, Rosa Tripp Rule, India Tripp Rule, Elijah Klarnett, Ezra Klarnett, Marley Smith, Suzy Lloyd, Matthew Bryzak, Knysna, Leila Adda

Pioneers: Hrydai Bedia, Jacob Hamp, Bethan Lloyd, Noor Anchur, Rytis, Dylan Clubb, Louis Ward, Jake Ward Monsen, Merlin Fox, Eedie Thompson, Lola Clubb, Sam Bryzak, Merlin B

Venturers: Nicole Marsland Smith, Betsy Byworth, Lula Dune Fletcher, Kai Lotan-Buckley, Olivia Trew, Rose Taylor, Louis Luck,

DF's: Oliver Howard, Princess Gere, Elliot Francis Hewitt, Arwel Walker, Dani, Iggy Fletcher, Otis Romaine,

Apologies

Rona Lotan, Jo Ward, Angus Forbes

Corrections and Matters Arising

Safeguarding: include Mike Smith's name in minutes

Safeguarding and membership role has been combined into the same role but this needs clarifying

Other than this, last AGM's minutes were accepted as a true record of last year's AGM

Chair's report- Suzannah

Pioneers and Venturers and DFs are present and their policies will be put into action

See Appendix 1 below, for Chair's report

Proposals and ballot for District Campaign for 2016- Jack

All groups have discussed how they would like to help the local community. The District came up with five projects. Proposers spoke to the motion and there were two questions. There was then a vote.

The five proposals were as follows and were presented by representatives of each group.

1. This AGM commits to helping the environment and wildlife by volunteering in the Forest Gate Community Garden with planting and habitat building

Presented by Elfins: Susie and Jack

A good environment means a better place to live. It is really nice that Forest Gate now has a space that is being used by lots of different people- it is important to look after the environment and the animals and the Community Garden would be a nice place to fulfil our beliefs.

Question:

-Would that be on group nights or weekends?

- people may be interested to go to open events on Saturday mornings and they may open it up for group nights
- How will it work with the planting seasons? They are getting stuff ready so from now to June is important but we could help maintain it all year

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- 2. This AGM commits to working towards having less people use cars

Presented by Elfins: Ezra

This is important because the ice is melting at the N and S pole. We should do banners and a campaign and a protest

3. This meeting resolves to make a car free day in Forest Gate

Presented by Pioneers- Rytis

It will create less pollution. We want people to walk home more. It will help the environment and trees grow. Mostly people use cars and motorbikes. We will plant new trees. We will have a car free festival- nobody will have to go to work. We will put locks on the cars and motorbikes. All clubs will be outdoors so we can learn more about the environment

Question

Won't people be angry if we put locks on the motorbikes?

Suzannah- we could have a Play Street event

4. We motion that the subject for which we shall campaign over the next 12 months is anti-austerity

Presented by Venturers- Shona

At this moment in British history it is important that we oppose cuts to the vulnerable and disabled. They should not have to pay for the mistakes of bankers. We should be helping at food banks, going on demonstrations, talking with people in colleges, and speaking out against austerity

5. We support the children of migrant communities because there are many reasons but over all we trying to span the world with friendship

Presented by DFs- Elliot

We think it is a really important part of being a Woodcrafters- we should do everything we can to promote the ideal and that it is really relevant

Questions-

When is the benefit gig coming up? 5th March, this Saturday

What activities will deliver the goal? Some things are in progress- on District Camp this year we will link with children of migrant families to join all or part of our camp. Work linking with Palestinian people will continue (Suzannah) We will do joint workshops, with puppeteers (Stuart)

Presentation of accounts and Treasurer's report- Mary Robinson

Accounts were reported and are appended at Appendix 2

Over the year we made a deficit of 784.09 but we carry forward over 9000. We are not in dire straights but need to try a bit harder with events to cover our costs.

The use of Internet banking has been really useful but people who pay by mobile phone come without a name- just a line of numbers.

Action: Where people pay by phone members should email Mary with the last four digits of their account number

It has been advised by Woodcraft national that we should have two people looking at the accounts. Mary is asking another member to help

Accounts don't need to be looked over by an external person. They have been accepted by Woodcraft nationally.

Question: subs look low

Answer: standing orders with Gift Aid are recorded in a different column

The meeting was asked to accept the accounts.

The AGM accepted the accounts unanimously.

Election of officers- Alicia Francis

The District Committee stood down temporarily for the election of the following year's committee

- Chair

Nominations: Suzannah Walker

Suzannah was happy to accept and was seconded by Olivia Trew

There were no further nominations. Suzannah was elected as Chair.

- Secretary

Nominations: Angus Forbes

Seconded by Mike Smith

Angus, in absence, had passed on a message that he was happy to be nominated.

There were no further nominations. Angus was elected as Secretary

- Treasurer

Nominations: Mary Robinson

Seconded by Jack Walker

Mary was happy to accept and was elected as Treasurer

- Safeguarding

Nominations: Mike Smith

Seconded by Kai Lotan -Buckley

Mike was happy to accept and was elected as Safeguarding Officer

- Membership

Nominated: Stuart Walker

Seconded by Suzannah Walker

Stuart was elected unopposed as Membership Officer

- Equipment

Nominated: Bill Bremner

Seconded by Eedie Thompson

Bill was elected unopposed as Equipment Officer

Bill has asked for someone to shadow him and learn the job.

Oliver was nominated as shadow, and the meeting agreed this role

The Chair thanked all volunteer officers and Alicia and others who come to district meetings and on group nights as leaders and volunteer helpers

The Chair was thanked for her work.

Presentation of ballot results- Jack Walker

Proposal 1- 13 votes

Proposal 2- 2 votes

Proposal 3- 15 votes

Proposal 4- 6 votes

Proposal 5- 17 votes

Proposal 5 won the vote.

The Chair said that the Pioneers put through many great suggestions and many of them will be included in the programme for the year, including at least one Car Free Day

Announcements

1. Stuart: There is a big camp coming up in May- working with local groups especially those from migrant communities- especially children born here but who do not have British citizenship- the children are seriously disadvantaged and discriminated against. The booking forms have gone out- some have submitted deposits.

Action: members should transfer money into the bank account and email Stuart to say they have done this- do not miss the deadline

2. Alicia: Meeting 24 April 3pm to 4pm to help organise the District camp. Crèche will be available

3. Suzannah: we are taking a delegation including DFs and Pioneers to the International Falcon Movement camp in Bavaria two week camp, cost £ 300

Action: If members are interested they should email Stuart immediately.

4. Bill: there is an open event at the Community Garden 19th March including music, activities and a library and children's area- all welcome

5. Mike: For anyone over 16-

Action: all over 16s going to camp must get a Woodcraft DBS. There have been delays so please get in touch with Mike as soon as possible

6. This Saturday, 5th March DFs have organised a a Span the World music event at the back of Forest Gate Hotel to raise money for refugees. Find Span the World with music on Facebook for this and all related events