

**Newham Watersmeet Woodcraft Folk  
District General Meeting  
22<sup>nd</sup> September 2015**



**Present:** Angus, Suzannah, Bill, Jasmine, Mike, Elliot, Danni, Jack, Arwel, Stuart, Alicia, Mary, Otis, Arwel

**Apologies:**

Item	action
<p><b>Matters arising</b> Bill not got screen yet but he is on the case. <i>Meeting agreed that Bill should take all necessary decisions to make purchase.</i> Lodge CIC is dissolved. FG festival went well but need more adults involved. BBQ and pageant also went well.</p>	<p>Need to ensure prep for getting more people involved in the festival next year. BB to purchase the screen</p>
<p><b>Safe guarding Action Plan (SG):</b> Suzannah updated from SG meeting at annual gathering (AG) main issues in WCF generally have been Pioneers and DFs. Need to be clear about knowing who the SG officer is in each district.  Mike gave overview of new Newham SG policy and the proposed safeguarding action plan for 2015/16. There are a number of actions on the plan that all groups need to review or implement their practice. This includes each group keeping a register, signing children in and out of sessions and creating group ground rules. Also need incident forms and register kept available in the group night venue.  Jasmine suggested a SG rep needed for DFs. This is not a SG role but just a person responsible for updating the other DFs. District moves to accept the new SG policy this was agreed with some minor amendments. District agreed to review SG at each DGM.</p>	<p>Mike to action the minor amendments and distribute the action plan to group leaders.  SJW to load on to website  Group leaders to ensure policy read and implemented in each group and all parents aware of the policy.  DFs to identify an SG liaison person Jasmine will feed this back to DFs.</p>
<p><b>Annual delegate conference:</b> Bill, Mary, Suzannah, Stuart, Angus, Eedie attended plus Oliver as a DF rep. Bill updated on the event which was successful but poorly attended and only just quorate. Stuart was elected onto General Council.</p>	<p>District agreed to pay travel costs of delegates. Suzannah to organize with Mary.</p>
<p><b>Update ABBU</b> DFs attending the trip to Palestine fed back to meeting :11 young people and 4 adults from Newham and Waltham Forest attended the delegation to Palestine which was a success. ABBU participants plan an international solidarity event on the 28th of November to present their experience. ABBU are planning to bring group Palestinian youth to IFM camp in summer 2016. Costs slightly overspent. Other events. Group exploring other events and will promote accordingly</p>	<p>Stuart and Alicia will circulate dates.</p>
<p><b>Summer 2016:</b> The district has potentially lots of events that could clash this summer:</p>	<p>Camp leads to feedback on the 20<sup>th</sup> October when final</p>

<p>IFM 23<sup>rd</sup> of July- 5<sup>th</sup> of August  V-Camp 6-13<sup>th</sup> of August  Elfin Camp 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> August  DF Camp- preferred after V-camp.</p>	<p>decision to be made in relation to coordinating the summer programme.</p>
<p><b>Social</b>  Date has been set for social and AGM. Group discussed need to improve social organization.</p>	<p>Alicia, Suzannah, Angus, Jack and DFs to meet and discuss plan for social on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November.</p>
<p><b>Group updates</b>  DFs- going well good plan for the term, continue to provide support for Elfins and Pioneers.  Venturers- continue Leytonstonia project DFs helping out.</p> <p>Pioneers-20 pioneers, programme set, 3 new pioneers. Looking forward to cycle residential in October. Expecting it to run at a loss as no grant this year. Plus, ice skating planned and Barnet joint play date before Christmas both with Elfins.</p> <p>Elfins- 12 to 15 member at present aiming to recruit more.  Woodcips- going well with 7 at present.</p>	<p>Leaders please keep the date for pea fair 25th November.</p>
<p><b>Finances:</b>  Mary queried the Leytonstonia hall cost Alicia clarified it was in hand.  Bill reported that Lodge costs may be going up.  Mary summarized the accounts overall accounts we have positive balances in accounts.  Costs rising for membership to central WCF to £125 per group plus £12.50 per person.</p> <p>Mary suggested instead of setting up an independent woodchips group that it sit within the elfin group enabling it to ebb and swell without going through the processes of opening and closing it. This was agreed with the provision that a woodchip group meeting on any other night than the elfins would need to be registered separately.</p> <p>In terms of donations for group costs we propose a suggested increase to £20.00 per term in cash/cheque and to £5.00 per month standing order. This is less the actual increase which is in excess of 100% on current costs. This was agreed by district to begin form next term.</p> <p>Mary raised need to have 2 people to approve electronic transfers. Suzannah will do this.  Elliot raised issues issue of DF funding (retrospective) for All Thing costs to be a paid.  GM agreed to pay costs incurred at Allthing and for AG  Suzannah suggested we reimburse Oliver's costs to attend AG.  District also agreed to pay delegate costs for AG.  In the future costs like this will only be approved if agreed in advance by district committee.</p>	<p>Leaders to ensure that in future all forms to present as donations.</p> <p>Suzannah to liaise with Mary over the electronic signature.</p> <p>Leaders to inform members that costs will rise in new year.</p> <p>Mary and Iolo to organize reimbursing DFs for All Thing and Oliver for AG.</p>
<p><b>Feedback from All Thing:</b>  Newham DFs have taken on key roles in safeguarding, zine editor, London liaison and chair of DF committee.</p>	
<p><b>AOB:</b>  Suzannah mentioned leader training and will circulate dates.</p>	<p>Suzannah will circulate leader</p>

Bill reminded need to do Birthday boxes.

training dates.  
Angus and Suzannah  
will sort out birthday  
boxes with Hounslow  
district.

**Next District meetings**

DGM 19<sup>th</sup> of January 7.30 Lodge

AGM 5<sup>th</sup> of March

DGM 15<sup>th</sup> of March