

**Newham Watersmeet Woodcraft Folk  
District General Meeting  
28<sup>th</sup> of November 2017**



**Present:** Suzannah, Angus, Alicia, Bill, Mary

**Apologies:** Sasha, Jack, Sophie, Rachael, Stuart, Ruth

| Item   | action  |
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| <p><b>Matters arising:</b><br/>                     Alicia has uploaded volunteering policy to website<br/>                     Alicia has contacted FGCS camp arranged for the 17<sup>th</sup> of July, Elliot asking DFs to help<br/>                     Alicia and Sophie produced leaflet with examples of widening participation.<br/>                     Alicia and Mary still to organise invoice for previous camp to FGCS<br/>                     Angus not yet organized planning for winter social</p> | <p>Alicia to follow-up on FGCS camp and follow-up on last years invoice.<br/>                     Angus to organise winter social planning meeting.</p> |
| <p>Group updates and registrations<br/>                     See appendix 1<br/>                     Venturer group fee registration to be paid as a solidarity donation.<br/>                     Group registrations</p>  |   |

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| <p>Coordinating and managing events/activities 2018<br/> £200- Party Started to district<br/> £9931- Awards for all<br/> Co-op grant discussed about how it is to be used and what obligations are on it being spent.<br/> Jack Patchy award continues to Magpie Pioneers awarded to Aryan Raj will fund residential to Darsham<br/> Events:<br/> Winter social 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> of March<br/> AGM 14<sup>th</sup> of March<br/> Training camp 7<sup>th</sup> of May<br/> District camp 26<sup>th</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> of May<br/> Forest Gate Festival ???<br/> FGSC camp 17<sup>th</sup> of July<br/> London camp 28<sup>th</sup> of July 4<sup>th</sup> of August<br/> Shambala 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> of August<br/> Cudham residential 5<sup>th</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> of October</p> <p>Events to be co-ordinated through district camp planning meeting.<br/> Suggestions for district contribution to London Camp:<br/> Film making and news<br/> Political wide game 'Find Utopia'</p> | <p>Stuart to check on the terms and conditions for Co-op grant (see additional notes appendix 2).<br/> Suzannah to co-ordinate spending on Co-op grant.<br/> Alicia to ask Jack to look into equipment for film making.<br/> Angus to check with London camp planning committee about foreign delegations.<br/> Angus to feedback on Marathon fund raising plans.</p> |
| <p>Memorial for Rene<br/> Discussed options identified to so something in Newham possibly a sculpture or blue plaque plan to discuss with a local councilor.<br/> Discussed the idea of giving a Rene Pool award to support a local good course or young people in the district.</p>   | <p>Suzannah to discuss with Anne Easter to see what council will provide.<br/> District to come back with ideas for Rene Pool award,</p>  |
| <p>Affiliating as an Amnesty Youth Group<br/> Group agreed</p>   | <p>Mary and Suzannah to action payment</p>  |
| <p>Shambala<br/> Jack and Sasha asking to run a bushcraft session at the Shambala festival.</p>  | <p>Suzannah to check with Sasha for details of plan.</p>  |

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| <p>Safe-guarding update<br/>         Actions for database update (membership and DBS renewal) will go out this week.<br/>         Ruth is designing crib sheet to help volunteers complete DBS and membership</p>  | <p>Plan to run membership and safeguarding session early next term 7<sup>th</sup> of February Godwin school- Suzannah to confirm with Ruth.</p>   |
| <p>Finances update<br/>         Accounts all in order "get the party started award" paid in.<br/>         Mary mentioned her succession plan with idea that Sophie(C) would take over the role. Once new bank account established this would be easier.<br/>         Agreed to pay for Rene's wreath from district accounts.</p>                                     |   |
| <p><b>AOB</b><br/>         Bill is dealing with Debden over last years district camp. We agreed to pay current invoice. For next year we will agree a more robust register of attendees per day/night.<br/>         Bill highlighted that there may be changes a foot in Debden camp with some proposed developments there which may have an impact on the Shed.</p> | <p>Bill to liaise with Debden over booking next years field with aim of making a block booking for a field.<br/>         Bill to keep district updated on any developments at Debden.</p> |
| <p><b>Next District meetings</b><br/>         16<sup>th</sup> of January<br/>         20<sup>th</sup> of March</p> <p><b>AGM</b><br/>         14<sup>th</sup> of March<br/>         Other dates:</p> <p><b>Winter social 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> of March</b><br/>         7<sup>th</sup> of February training session for adults Suzannah and Ruth</p>     |   |

## **Appendix 1 Group Reports**

### **Woodchips (0-3yrs)**

#### **RDLAC group**

#### **Magpie Pioneers**

Magpie Pioneers is a small but perfectly formed group. We have attendance of about 8 young people, they are already very committed. We are looking forward to a winter residential at Darsham to fuse this group. We're planning to attract more pioneer-aged children and increasing the size of this group. We are pleased that the group has drawn some young people from outside Forest Gate and outside our traditional social catchment area. Last month one adult ex Woodcrafter expressed interest in volunteering and attended a few sessions but has not been recently.

#### **Venturers**

#### **Woodgrange Skyline Elfins**

Currently about 17 Elfins and 3 older woodchips, with average attendance 15-17. We have been working on social inclusion with a theme of different but the same. Highlight was the Elfin puppet performance which is available on the website as video. We have some behavioural issues in the group and we are going to involve Elfins in setting their own boundaries and rules and will get more parents to engage with this too.

#### **Woodgrange Rodsloch Pioneers**

Average attendance of 12-13 kids a week

The transitioned elfins appear to have fitted in well, confident and welcoming to visitors and new members.

The group enjoyed the residential at Lambourne End and particularly having the Magpie Pioneers to hook up with.

We have had a possible volunteer visit the group Ben Jenkins. He was very positive in feedback and has gone to think about the commitment as it means a detour on the way home from work and leaving early. Thanks to Sasha for recommending he give us a try.

The pea fair went well with the pioneers taking a real pride in their stalls this time.

Income was £70, but we really missed all our Venturers and DFs. Woodgrange Rodsloch pioneers had agreed to give the funds raised to the night shelter in Woodgrange Rd.

Next year we could look at a more collaborative pea fair between the 2 groups.

We still have Rhiannon supporting 1 child and this is working well.

No behaviour issues at group nights.

## Appendix 2 Co-op grants updates from Stuart

### Notes on COOP community grants:

1- When the grants are awarded we are not told how much we will receive. This makes financial planning of projects challenging.

2- it appears we are not asked to report back on project successes.

3- We were awarded a FG fund in March 2017 following application submitted (Dec 2016) for Spring Camp 2017 ( who are these folk). The amount finally awarded was about £3.7k and we received in November 2017.

4- Royal Docks application (July 2017) has been successful (notified Nov 2017). From the coop store website, it says this is to be used for environmental education Jack will be able to provide more information. This round (round3?), is a 12 month round so potentially worth more.

5- the other application (July 2017), appears to have been lost. I'm in discussion with the fund organises regarding this matter.

6- we need to be alert for announcement of next round for application -summer 2018?

