

**BRIDGEND DISTRICT SCOUTS**  
**NOTES OF A GSL MEETING HELD 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2008**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> CORNELLY SCOUT HEADSQUARTERS**

**PRESENT:** Adrian Morgan                      1<sup>st</sup> Cornelly                                      Peter Richards    2<sup>nd</sup> Bridgend  
Carolyn Joseph-Waite    3<sup>rd</sup> Maesteg                                      Lynn Batters       1<sup>st</sup> Nottage  
Christine/Peter Faulkner    3<sup>rd</sup> Bridgend

1. **Welcome and Apologies for Absence.** Margaret welcomed Carolyn Joseph-Waite who has joined 3<sup>rd</sup> Maesteg Group as Group Scout Leader. Apologies for absence had been received from Debbie Robley (2<sup>nd</sup> Bridgend) and Meirion Lewis (1<sup>st</sup> Porthcawl). Other Groups not represented at the meeting, had not sent apologies for absence.
2. **Approval of Minutes of Meeting held 14<sup>th</sup> January 2008.** These were approved as true record.
3. **Matters Arising:**
  - a) District Container. No progress has been made on entering the container sited at 3<sup>rd</sup> Bridgend Headquarters and making an inventory of its contents.
  - b) 2008 Chosen Charity for Collections. This year any District collections made at District events will be presented to the 'Young Carers' charity.
  - c) St George's Day Parade and Service. Peter Richards had hoped to arrange for this to be held in the Odeon Cinema complex at the Designer Village. However, this has proved to be a non-starter and other arrangements have now been put in place. These arrangements are shown later in these Minutes.
  - d) District Events and Challenge Day. GSL's were reminded that there is to be an all Sections Challenge Day held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2008 and a District Beaver Scout Fun Day on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2008. The Beaver Scout Leaders have held a planning meeting for the Fun Day and will meet together again at the Scouter's Meeting in April.
  - e) Area Training and First Response Training. The Area Training Manager was pleased with the response to the two training days that were held in the District in January and February. To date, two First Response Courses have been held and a further Course is to be run in Cornelly Scout Hall on the 16<sup>th</sup> March. This Course is now full.
  - f) Census. There has been a drop in numbers according to figures to hand at the time of the GSL Meeting. A true picture was not available because Explorer Scout numbers had not been finalised with the District Secretary, but figures available reflected a 3.7% drop in overall numbers.
  - g) District Drop-In Training. Even though Scouter's had agreed to support regular opportunities for them to meet and discuss their training progress with District staff, only one person turned up on the arranged evening. This facility will not be arranged again in the near future.
4. **District AGM and Group AGM's.** The District AGM will be held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2008, at the 1<sup>st</sup> Nottage Scout Headquarters 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. All Groups are urged to support the District AGM. Available information on Group AGM's is as follows:
  - 19<sup>th</sup> March 2008 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Bridgend
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2008 - 1<sup>st</sup> Cornelly
  - 30<sup>th</sup> April 2008 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Maesteg
  - 6<sup>th</sup> May 2008 - 1<sup>st</sup> Nottage
  - 7<sup>th</sup> May 2008 - 2<sup>nd</sup> BridgendThe remaining Groups are asked to let the District Commissioner know the dates of their AGM's as soon as possible. Groups are also reminded that the Group's end of year accounts **must** be lodged with the District Treasurer following the AGM.
5. **St George's Day Parade and Service.** This year's event will take place at St Theodore's Church, Kenfig Hill and will be led by the Reverend Richard Spencer, who is the Beaver Scout Leader at 1<sup>st</sup> Cornelly. Groups will meet at the Mynydd Cynffig Infants School at

2.15pm for a Parade start time of 2.30pm. The Service will then commence at 2.45pm and conclude by 3.30pm. After the Service, Groups will parade back to the school before dispersing. The 1<sup>st</sup> Cornelly Scout Group has extended an invitation to all Groups to then attend its Scout Hall, for refreshments. Even if your children are transported and collected by parents, it might be nice for Leaders to meet at the hall for a social chat. If you intend taking advantage of the offer of post Service hospitality, please let the Group Scout Leader Adrian Morgan know, as soon as possible. Numbers would be appreciated. The following arrangements have been agreed for the Service:

- Beaver Scout Promise - Rev Richard Spencer
- Cub Scout Law - 2<sup>nd</sup> Bridgend
- Cub Scout Promise - 1<sup>st</sup> Nottage
- Scout Law - 3<sup>rd</sup> Bridgend
- Scout Promise - District Commissioner
- Collection - Bridgend District Explorer Scout Units
- Flags at the Church - Martin Cox and Adrian Morgan
- Parade Marshall - Peter Richards

One Day Activity forms will be required for those not accompanied by parents. It was agreed that invitations to attend, should be sent to Cheryl Green, Carwyn Jones, Madeleine Moon, Huw Iranca-Davies, Greta Rogers, Town Council Mayor's, Alun Cairns and Janice Gregory. Peter Richards will be responsible for sending out invitations to these people.

6. **Progress on LDO Initiative.** Margaret brought the GSL's up to date with the plan to appoint a Development Officer for the District. Ken Hinton is to submit a bid for funding from the Headquarters Development Grants Board. The Board meets at the end of March and a document setting out targets for the initiative had been drawn up to support the bid. This target document was distributed to the meeting for discussion. New areas have been identified for setting up Groups and these will be targeted first. Alongside this, some existing Groups have also been identified as needing the input of a Development Officer. A full schedule has been drawn up starting August 2008 and ending July 2011.
7. **Group Reports.** 1<sup>st</sup> Cornelly Group reported an increase in this year's census, but expressed some concern that quite a lot of children living in Margam Village were applying to join the Group. The District Commissioner for the area seems quite unconcerned and does not seem to recognise that the Group in the village should be actively engaged in starting a Colony there. It is felt that once the Beaver Scouts are of Cub Scout age they will leave to join the Pack in the village, thus reducing the numbers in the Cornelly Group. 3<sup>rd</sup> Maesteg has recently had some new volunteers to take on roles such as GSL, SL, Group Chairman and Group Secretary, as well as Executive Committee members. The Group has had some leader problems of late, but now seems to be moving forward. 1<sup>st</sup> Nottage has some concerns about the Beaver Scout Colony. Even though the Colony is thriving, it is having difficulty in setting up a parent rota to assist the Beaver Scout Leader. The Group is actively seeking an assistant to the BSL. The Cub Scout Pack and Scout Troop both have good membership numbers and the Explorer Scout Unit is going well. 2<sup>nd</sup> Bridgend is also going well and has a potential Assistant Cub Scout Leader. 3<sup>rd</sup> Bridgend is almost at full capacity and has a waiting list. It did not think that a Group at the Broadlands development would assist in reducing its numbers.
8. **A.O.B.** Margaret still felt that those holding Camping Permits were not adhering to Form NAN rules. A recent camp had also been cancelled without the DC being informed.
9. **Date of next GSL Meeting.** The next meeting will be held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 7.15pm at 1<sup>st</sup> Cornelly Scout Headquarters.

*Margaret Hopkin*

District Commissioner  
10<sup>th</sup> March 2008