



5th Annual General Meeting of Central Brussels Scouts Group

Tuesday 26th January, 20.30 to 21.30

Via [Teams](#)

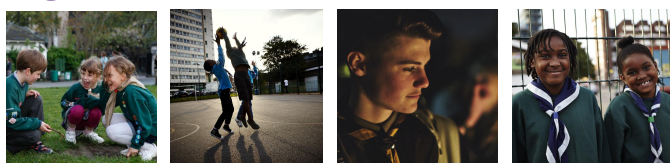
Agenda

1. Chair's Welcome (5 mins)
2. Approval of minutes of 4th CBS AGM
3. Group Scout Leader's Report (15 mins)
4. Financial Report (10 mins)
5. Election of Committee (10 mins)
6. Question and answers (10 mins)

Attendees

Alberto Burba
Ana Silva
Bevon Mc Donald
Caroline Cambas
Edith Frenoy
Ellen Heinrich
Martin Harris Hess
Michelle van der Straaten
Mike Jefferson
Narla Saranya
Samantha Lister
Conrad Toft
Vanessa Ludden
Neil Corlett
Carmen Gonzalez Hernandez

Agenda



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The agenda had been circulated with the invitation to the meeting. There were no amendments made to it.

Chair's Welcome:

Martin Harris Hess (MHH) opened the meeting by thanking all leaders, on behalf of the parents, for their resilience and hard work in keeping CBS scouting going over 2020 in very difficult circumstances.

Approval of the minutes of the 4th AGM

The minutes were approved without modifications.

Group Scout Leader's Report:

Vanessa Ludden (VL) and Conrad Toft (CT) presented the report (a Power Point presentation was used to illustrate the presentation).

Main points:

2020

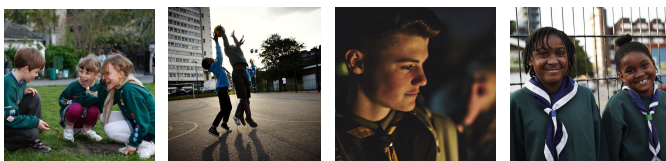
CBS has changed since its start in 2014. Present configuration includes Shackleton Beavers (18 members); Newton Cubs (14 members); and Tongalu Scouts (24 members). Gender distribution is close to parity with 30 boys and 26 girls. The number of scout teams has been reduced from two per level to only one, mainly because of a lack of leaders.

There are currently 157 names on the waiting list (a 20% reduction from 2019)

Current Leadership Teams include three people in Beavers (Sam Lister, Section Leader) ; four in Cubs (CT, Section Leader) ; and four in Scouts (Mike Jefferson (MJ), Section Leader)

The presentation covered activities done over the years for all three groups.

The pandemic situation had a strong impact on what could be done in 2020, so the biggest success of the year was to keep CBS scouting going. Sessions and activities took place in person while it was still possible. Following the deterioration of the



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situation in November, Scouts activities moved online, with Beavers maintaining face to face sessions and Cubs using a mix of both. Scouts have used the opportunity of online meetings to work towards their Team Leader badges (animating sessions for example)

Governance: VL and MJ took over the positions of Group Scout Leader and Assistant Group Scout Leader.

The equipment was upgraded (tents and a trailer)- and a new garage was rented for storage

The bank account was transferred to new signatories

Looking to the future- challenges and opportunities:

Keep up the motivation (both for scouts and for leaders).

Find more leaders (in particular for Beavers and Cubs). It was clarified that having children is not a requirement to join.

Search for a new and bigger garage with easier access. The current one is rented for one year.

Brexit-related difficulties in buying uniforms and badges, due to additional customs duties for orders over EUR 22. CBS has some stock but it is likely to run out by September.

Need to update the current website.

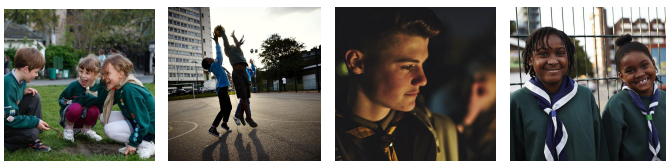
Provide leaders and Executive Team members with MS Teams accounts through the Scouts organisation.

Create and maintain a central knowledge base once the move to from Google Drive to MS Teams is complete.

Financial Report (1/9/2019 to 31/8/2020)

The post of treasurer has been taken recently by Edith Frénoy.

Income has fallen due to smaller numbers in terms of membership.



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Costs have risen, with some extraordinary expenses linked to the upgrading of existing pieces of equipment and the acquisition of new ones. There is a shortfall in terms of coverage of running costs. This is not only the case for CBS, the pandemic has meant that scouting in general, both in the UK and outside, is experiencing financial difficulties.

Some membership fees and payments due for activity days and uniforms are unpaid. There was a discussion on what to do with these, given the pandemic's impact on attendance. It was pointed out that a number of costs have been incurred based on expressions of interest in joining made at the beginning of the school year. These costs are due regardless of whether the attendance has been kept up or not. VS to reflect on how to take this issue forward.

Election of the Executive Committee:

VS thanked retiring members for their work. Candidates had been found for most of the vacancies and they needed to be nominated officially by the AGM (with the exception of the GSL position).

Voting returned the following results:

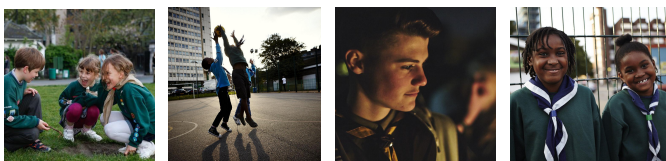
- Martin Harris Hess - Group Chair
- Julie James - Executive Secretary
- Edith Frénoy – Treasurer
- Carmen Gonzalez Hernandez- Membership Secretary (Adults)
- Michelle van der Straaten (MvdS) - Membership Secretary (Children)
- Conrad Toft- Quartermaster
- Caroline Cambas (CC)- Groups Liaison Officer

There are still two vacancies, Communications Officer and Special Projects Team coordinator. CT will cover the Communications position *ad interim*. CC will check with those that have volunteered for the Special Projects Team to see if anybody is interested in taking these posts.

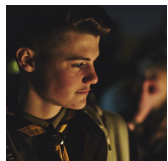
Q&A:

The questions covered the state of the waiting list and any possible availability to join CBS. For now, all groups are full. There may be some space in Beavers, following the move of current members to Cubs. MvdS will go through the list to check if people are still interested to join.

The meeting finished at 21h30.



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