



SSAGO

*Student Scout and
Guide Organisation*

Minutes of the SSAGO AGM

18th February 2007

The Oakes Campsite, Leicestershire

Present

Rebecca Gardiner
Jonathan Ellison
Michelle Foy
Matthew Rawlings
Michael Walters

Claire Thorpe

Aberdeen
Bangor
Cardiff
Liverpool
Loughborough
Nottingham
Southampton
Strathclyde
UCE
UWE
Wolverhampton

SSAGO Chair
SSAGO Secretary
SSAGO Treasurer
SSAGO Members Officer
SSAGO Publicity Officer
SAGGA / Returning Officer

Aberystwyth
Birmingham
Leicester
London
Manchester
Sheffield
St Andrews
Swansea
UEA
Warwick

Apologies

Bath
Oxford

Cambridge
Girlguiding UK

Minutes from previous meeting

It was agreed that the minutes from the previous meeting were only a partial account of the meeting as portions of the notes taken during the meeting were lost, and therefore no one would be endorsing them as a true and accurate account of the meeting.

Confirmation of tellers

Alex Snow and Mary Hall will act as tellers.

13 non-voting members were moved to the back of the room

Officers' Reports

Publicity Officer

There have been two changes of website, online SSAGO News, the message board has moved to phpBB with sub-forums, we have new merchandise including: magnets, business cards, pens and Christmas cards.

Members' Officer

Last years forms were eventually sorted out, and this years were redesigned. Most of the year's been spent chasing up clubs forms/money, checking everyone on rally's a member and regularly replying to e-mail correspondence such as "What is Scouting?"

Treasurer

This year's been spent tidying up the 2005 membership and audit. I've attended Network Gathering, Gilwell Reunion, SAGGA AGM... I've reviewed event accounts and given clubs advice, sorted out merchandise such as the pens, 2007 and Jamboree shirts. A lot of the year's been spent chasing outstanding rally and membership fees and developing the development fund with the help of the SAGGA Treasurer.

Secretary

I've written a lot of minutes this year, and I'm not going to bore you with all the details of everything I've been up to when it's all documented in the previous minutes if you want to find out.

Chairperson

I've focused on publicising SSAGO at events throughout the year with the Exec, and I've been incredibly proud to see all the members wearing SSAGO merchandise around. The year's seen an abnormally high number of ambulances, but thankfully its almost over

Headquarters' reports

No reports were received. We understand that Girlguiding UK's representative has quit.

SAGGA Report

"We're here – alive, active and growing." We're pleased to be working with SSAGO, and will of course be inviting you to the AGM when the date's set. We've updated the website

with all the new membership information, so come join us when you graduate – “It’s not scary.”

Financial Report

- There’s been a decrease in liabilities, which were several thousand pounds out at the start.
- Merchandise is going well
- Insurance has gone up threefold

Standing Orders

The timings of everything were out by a week, and it would be a shame for everything to not go ahead.

58/66 were for accepting the changed timings and continuing with the nominated candidates.

An item of pigeon post was received from the membership reminding the chair that she hadn’t had the returning officer approved. A vote was held, unanimously approving Claire Thorpe.

Elections

Claire announced that she had lunch booked, so she was going to keep things snappy. Postal votes marked RON would be added to a count of hands in the case of an uncontested election.

Members Officer

Candidates: Will Carr (Manchester), Matt Rawlings (Cardiff),
Paul Thompson (Loughborough),

Proposers and seconders were asked to briefly endorse their candidate:

Paul:

Cat Quinn (Lancaster): “He’s great and I really like him”

Helen Walters (Cardiff): “He’s been around all weekend chatting to everyone”

Matt:

Katey Stacey (Swansea): “He’s very approachable and done a good job this year”

Sarah Smith (Liverpool): “He’s done a great job, and looks better fully clothed”

Will:

Emma Dean (Swansea): “He’s been very efficient on 2007, he’s hardworking and personable”

Jennie MacDougle (St Andrews): “He’s friendly, and always thinking up new ideas like operation big neck”

Questions

Russel Thomas (Liverpool): Do you already have any commitments for 2007?

Matt: None other than Worldjam, I'm going into the final year of my degree.
Will: I graduate this year, so have plenty of time. I have no ties at Manchester.
Paul: My commitments end in a couple of hours time, although people are trying to rope me into other things

Jennie MacDougle (St Andrews): Do you own a Speckled Jim?
Matt: Yes, he's called Speckled Jim.
Will: Yes, called Andy L – he was found on a beach and you have to watch out for his claws.
Paul: Can I ask what's going on?

Steven Agg (Various): Do you have any exciting talents / abilities?
Paul dives over Matt
Will hugs the others

Gerald Telfer (Indie): What skills do you have to encourage members?
Matt: I have a pink dress
Will: New and exciting ideas like Big Neck
Paul: An international rally, the wheels are already in motion

Tim (Bangor): What's the capital of Australia?
Matt: Melbourne?
Paul: Canberra

Mary Hall (Associate): What's your favourite colour?
Matt: Purple
Will: Maroon
Paul: Red / White stripes of Lincoln city

Voting:

Matt: 68
Will: 46
Paul: 51
RON: 1
Void: 2
Abstain: 1

Publicity Officer

Candidates: Mike Walters (UWE)

Statements from proposer / seconder:

Matt Bolt (Southampton): He's done a really good job that most of us couldn't do.
Lesley Bull (St Andrews): He's done a great job, and a lot of work behind the scenes.
Give him another go!

Questions

Sarah Smith (Liverpool): The last two banners for the website have featured Becca's bum – would you like to comment?
Mike: This was purely coincidental. Why not send me one of yours instead?

Ian Clarke (Sheffield): Can SSAGO merchandise be arranged for pigeons?
Mike: Yes.

Mark Glendenning (Cardiff): The website's been improved this year, but what else?
Mike: This year was about the website, it's going to be more about the publicity next year. We need to keep the style, and tie in the World Scout Jamboree and 2007.

Gerald Telfer (Indie): Do you have any ideas for reaching Explorers / Senior Section members?
Mike: I'd like to see a SSAGO poster to match Beavers/Cubs/Scouts posters, but we'd need to liaise on that.

Olly (Loughborough): How do you intend to help individual clubs?
Mike: We need to move the logo to the top of leaflets/flyers instead of the bottoms.

Mary Hall (Associate): How would you arm yourself with just a light sabre, gaffer tape and a towel?
Mike: I'd wear just the towel attached with gaffer tape and use the lightsabre – wow!

Tim (Bangor): How would you use this red balloon?
Mike: I'd pop it to attract attention, or draw on it.

Heather (Cardiff): Will there be any new material for freshers' fair?
Mike: It's six months away, so it'd be tight. I'd try my best, but definitely be restocked by the AGM.

Ian Clarke (Sheffield): How would you propose we share good ideas for freshers' fair between clubs?
Mike: Through the SSAGO Wiki or its own section of the website.

Voting:

For:	Majority
RON:	1
Abstain:	0

Treasurer

Candidates: Ilona Murray (Aberdeen)

Statement from proposer / seconder

Sarah Smith (Liverpool): I was drunk and got asked again.

She's got good ideas and experience

Jennifer Thomson (St Andrews): I completely trust her, and have known her since I was 16.

Questions

- Darren Clowes (Loughborough): As a responsible exec member, can you explain to us how not to lose a mascot?
Ilona: Losing Woggle was an accident due to a handbag with a hole in it. The handbag has been binned now.
- Gemma (Birmingham): Can you count?
Ilona: Up to 10
- Gerald Telfer (Indie): How big's your car?
Ilona: I'm using my dad's Vectra to get to rallies next year.
- Colin Young (Aberdeen): Will you actually make it to rally?
Ilona: I've only written off the one car, so hopefully I'll make it out of Hamilton.
- Sam Robinson (Aberdeen): How will you make SSAGO merchandise more interesting?
Ilona: Maybe a vibrator's not a good idea, we'd need to look for new ideas.
- Michelle Foy (Warwick): How well do you know your post office, and how far away is it?
Ilona: About yay far (gesturing 1m) and I don't know them yet.
- Mark Glendenning (Cardiff): What experience have you got for this job?
Ilona: I'm in my 2nd year as Aberdeen's treasurer, and we've got more money than when I started.

Votes

- For: Majority
RON: 8
Abstain: 0

Chair (1st Vote)

Candidates: Michelle Foy (Warwick)

Statement from proposer / seconder

- Emma Dean (Swansea): She's done a good job, is approachable and always chases things up. It's going to be a big job being chair, and she intends to keep reps short.
- Sarah Smith (Liverpool): She's dragged me round the country this year, she's done a lot and worked hard – she's definitely got the experience.

Questions:

- Matt Rawlings (Cardiff): Can you stand on your head and whistle Dixie?
Michelle: Having spent half the weekend in casualty it's probably not a good idea. Yes, this job is difficult – but I can manage.

Mike (Associate): Do you know the names of everyone in the post office yet?

Michelle: It was Mr Singh at my old post office, there's about 50 million different people at the one in town.

Gerald Telfer (Indie): After one year, what experience can you draw for 2008?

Michelle: It's been invaluable, I've seen what does/doesn't work and what needs improving. I've been working my socks off and networking all year. The first time my mum saw me all year was in *Guiding* magazine. Reps and communication are the keys to running the organisation. I'd like an e-newsletter as a regular update, we're accountable to you and that's what's most important.

Steven Agg (Various): You say you've got a big mouth, have you ever measured it?

Michelle: No.

Mary Hall (Associate): With regard to communications, how will pigeons be used?

Michelle: This morning was probably one of the best reps meetings ever – pigeons rock!

Colin Steward (UWE): Can you use this balloon as a chair?

Michelle: *Balances Matt's Cecil the snail on the balloon*

Mike Walters (UWE): As chair will you compromise?

Michelle: It's a democracy not a dictatorship, I'm open to suggestions.

David Morris (Nottingham): Can you describe my balloon?

Michelle: It's curvy and creamy.

Matt Bolt (Southampton): How will you stop people losing the will to live in the AGM?

Michelle: This is going really quickly compared to usual, we need to get stuff done with flying pigeons.

Votes

Michelle: 67
 RON: 77
 Abs: 23

Secretary

Candidates were invited to stand from the floor for the vacant position.

Candidates: Paul Thompson (Loughborough), Richard Amies (Manchester), Alex Bushell (Manchester)

Questions:

- Jennie Macdougall (St Andrews): Why didn't you stand before now?
Alex: Because I had a lot on at the time of nominations, but now is the perfect opportunity.
- Paul: I wanted to be on the exec, previously stood for members but I'm happy to do this job instead.
- Rich: It appeals because of the lack of contact of contact I've had with my club whilst on placement – it lets me use my experience elsewhere.
- Mike (Associate): What experience do you have?
Rich: I've got good handwriting, and experience of this sort of thing from halls.
- Paul: I've been secretary for my Scouts and cricket club.
Alex: I've been the secretary of ManSSAGO and I'm an active guider.
- Dickon Brant (Bangor): How fast can you write?
Rich: Very
Paul: Fast enough for me to understand
Alex: Me too
- Heather Graham (Cardiff): How are you otherwise committed?
Rich: I'm doing my final year, and jamboree but can balance it.
Paul: Same answer as last time really, the girlfriend's abroad so I've got loads of time...
Alex: I'm busy until March, but then I'm able to give 100%
- Jon Ellison (Leicester): Bearing in mind that you take over if the chair is assassinated, are you ready for it?
Alex: Hopefully I'll have a good team and work with the members.
Paul: I've been Scogui chair for half a year, and a 'recent' rally chair.
Rich: I'd hire bodyguards, I could chair from past experience at uni.
- Steven Millway (Leeds): Could you produce minutes in Esperanto?
Paul: I'd employ people if necessary.
Alex: I've got various language contacts at uni.
Rich: I'd make use of online translation services.

Chair (2nd Vote)

Candidates were invited to stand from the floor for the re-opened nominations.

Candidates: Darren Clowes (Loughborough)

Questions:

Heather Graham (Cardiff): Why did you not submit a nomination on time?
Daz: The week nominations were opened, half of my research group quit – sorting out my PhD was more of a priority.

Marie (Wolverhampton): What will you do about the lack of Girlguiding UK representation?
Daz: I'd need to know who the new Girlguiding UK representative was, but I've had past experience on the SSAGO Exec working with them.

Chris Arner (Leicester): Why the change of heart since saying that you were never running again last year?
Daz: You always feel like that at the end of the year.

Emma Dean (Swansea): What's your key policy?
Daz: A manual for clubs.

Votes:

For: majority
RON: 0
Abstain: 16

Becca thanked Claire for chairing the elections, and allowed her to present her AOB (SAGGA Starburst) before leaving. For the purposes of clarity, these have been moved to the AOB section of the minutes.

Associate Rep

Candidates were invited to stand from the floor for the vacant post.

Candidates: Sez (Bangor)
I graduated in July, was BUGS Secretary for two year, and my life now feels empty after our rally...

Questions:

Mike Walters (UWE): What's your name?
Sez: Sarah Louise Boyle

Jon (Bangor): Will you come back and visit us?
Sez: Maybe

Votes:

Only the associate members were permitted to vote.
For: 8
RON: 0
Abstain: 0

Future Events

February 2008

Candidates: 'Golden Oldies' - The Crystal Maze Rally

We've all been around for a while, we've got the experience, and it's time to give our clubs a rest. The location will probably be Cheshire, to improve SSAGO's reputation there.

Questions:

Cerys Mayne (Warwick): Who's shaving their head to be Richard O'Brien?
Oldies: We'll get a skull cap

Jennie Macdougall (St Andrews): Can you accommodate 638 pigeons?
Oldies: We'll build a pigeon loft if necessary.

Sam Robinson (Aberdeen): How far will it be from Liverpool airport?
Oldies: There are effective train links.

Mary Hall (Associate): Will you serve pudding?
Oldies: Yes!

Mike Walters (UWE): Will you be using the original 4 zones?
Oldies: Yes.

Votes

For	Majority
Against	0
Abstain	2

Summer 2008

Candidates: Swansea (The Big Adventure)

This comes with snorkel and goggles, down under the sea. Possibly including a theme park and pubs.

Questions:

Jennie Macdougall (St Andrews): Will you be providing floatation devices?
Swansea: We've got a lifeguard and there's the coastguard.

Steven Agg (Various): Is this Great Welsh Rally 3?
Swansea: Yes.

Sez (Bangor): Is this the theme park where the girl died?
Swansea: Yes.

Colin Young (Aberdeen): What else is Wales obsessed with?
Swansea: Sheep?

Steven Milway (Leeds): Do you advocated sheep?
Swansea: No, because they expect indoor accommodation.

Mark Glendenning (Cardiff): Do we get to see Matt in swimwear?
Swansea: Ask Matt
Matt: Only if you make it

Matt Rawlings (Cardiff): Are you providing velcro gloves?
Swansea: You'll have to provide your own.

Votes

For: Majority
Against: 0
Abstain: 1

November 2008

Candidates: Aberdeen (Disney)

Do you remember the last Scottish rally? This time it's going to be Disney themed in Glasgow. It's 4 hours by train from London, Strathclyde and St Andrews are on-board, and we're looking at an underground pub crawl, water sports, Glasgow School of Art and ice skating for activities.

Questions:

Steven Agg (Various): Isn't Glasgow the murder capital of Europe?
Aberdeen: It's an opportunity for the chair to be assassinated.

Sarah Smith (Liverpool): Will there be snow for a snowfa?
Aberdeen: We're currently booking it.

Gerald Telfer (Indie): Will you all still be here in November?
Aberdeen: Yes

Megan (UEA): Will there be a Ceilidh?
Aberdeen: Yes, with a proper band.

Victoria (Birmingham): How will the pigeons fare in the cold?
Aberdeen: We'll lay on heated cages and Tennents.

Tim (Bangor): Will there be a distillery trip?
Aberdeen: Hopefully to a whiskey distillery.

Mike Forrester (Liverpool): Will there be assassination as an event?
Aberdeen: There won't be any criminal activities, but we'll support it wherever we can.

Votes:

For: Majority
Against: 1

Abstain: 3

SSAGO Ball 2008

Candidates: Sheffield

We intend to use the Sheffield Hilton, 2 minutes from the station. We want to make it Oscars themed, as we think it'll be great fun.

Questions:

Emma Dean (Swansea): Will there be a choice of menu?
Sheffield: It will be fixed, one meat and one vegetarian option.

Mike Walters (UWE): Will there be a luxury suite for the exec?
Sheffield: Probably not, but its been recently refurbished.

Sez (Cardiff): What's the cost of the Hilton like?
Sheffield: There's a Holiday Inn next door if it gets too expensive.

Mark Glendenning (Cardiff): Did you look at other hotels?
Sheffield: This was the best available at the time.

Stephen Agg (Various): Will there be Friday accommodation?
Sheffield: We can look into it.

Mike Walters (UWE): Will there be categories / awards to vote for?
Sheffield: Possibly.

Votes:

For: Majority
Against: 19
Abstain: 6

All 2008 events were informed they had 6 weeks to submit a budget and event form.

Future Events

SSAGO Ball

Get your £52 in ASAP please.

Reunion Event

6th – 8th July, we're in the process of contacting former members who'll be able to bring their children to the site.

November Rally (Leicester)

Theme is now The Safari Rally. Site from Midlands JFC to be used, with all activities based in Leicester (Scuba diving, climbing, hike, museums, pub crawls...)

Any Other Business

SAGGA Starburst at the World Scout Jamboree

This is a fantastic opportunity to work with friends for under £8 a day including a visit to the Jamboree site. This is the most cost effective way of doing things. This really is a last minute way to join in with the Jamboree as you only need to apply in time for a CRB check to clear.

National Bowling Competition

Aberdeen organised the national bowling competition in the Christmas term of 2006.

Results were as follows:

3rd. Bath (Ruth Weir)
2nd Southampton (Mark)
1st Bath (Matt Haze)

A booby prize went to Becky from Liverpool.

Queen Scouts Working Party

This is a fellowship that run 10-15 events a year. Holding the Queen Scout Award is a pre-requisite of membership, but they are keen for SSAGO members to join.

Go Jamboree

Attention was drawn to this forum / online community for jamboree participants across the event.

Jamboree Build / Take Down

It will take 10,000 man days to build the Jamboree site. So far 3000 have been filled, and volunteers are needed. For 2 days work you get a free day visitor pass to the Jamboree and free food (not from Sedexo the Jamboree caterers)

Jamboree Merchandise

SSAGO at the World Scout Jamboree polo shirts and t-shirts will be available in green. Orders will be taken shortly on a pre-order basis as with Eurojam. Details will be distributed through reps.

Cutlery Cup

"It's a bit of a joke with a serious meaning." Nominations for recipients should be directed to the steering group.

For:	Majority
Against:	0
Abstain:	0

Jamboree OST

There are a variety of activities on land/water at Starburst or Gilwell still needing staff if anyone is interested.

Operation Big Neck

We'll be sewing neckers together in November at rally. Drop offs will be accepted at the ball / 2007 event / Leicester rally. Hopefully this will create links between clubs / Scout / Guide groups.