



**Student Scout and Guide Organisation
Executive committee discussion with The Scout Association
Gilwell Park
15th November 2010 - 11am**

Present:

Stuart Malcolm

Kayleigh Urquhart

Emma Saunders

Sam Marks

Chairperson 2010-2011

Secretary 2010-2011

The Scout Association

Adult Support, The Scout Association.

Apologies:

Kirstie Wright

Louise Flower

Alice Pike

Treasurer 2010-2011

Members 2010-2011

Publicity 2010-2011

Meeting opened: 11:00

Meeting held at Gilwell Park to discuss status of SSAGO within The Scout Association. GirlguidingUK were invited but unfortunately were unavailable. Meeting with them to be arranged for a later date.

KW, LF and AP unable to make it due to work commitments.

As this was a lengthy meeting, key points have been written rather than a full list of the days conversation.

1) P.O.R

Under P.O.R SSAGO are listed as an associate organisation. ES and SaM questioned what this means. There are currently no other associate organisations and does not entitle our members to associate membership.

It was suggested that becoming more of a partnership would be more appropriate.

The Scout Association currently have partnerships which come under two categories: Commercial, those that sponsor the organisation and badges, such as Sainsburys and Edam, and Non-commercial, such as charities that the Scout association work with.

Clearly we would not fit completely in with their current partnerships but a partnership would allow an official written 'contract' with the TSA of how we fit in with them.

Currently POR lists how SSAGO works which is not particular relevant information for The Scout Association. Partnership contract would outline what we get from the Scout Association and what they get from us.

2) Factsheet

Factsheet currently entitled the responsibilities of SSAGO. Too formal, wrong impression of SSAGO role within The Scout Association.

It was discussed wither just to scrap the factsheet altogether, however it was felt that when members are searching for what SSAGO is on the scout website, the factsheet is what comes up. Scraping it all together could potential make SSAGOs status even more vague.

Information about how SSAGO works is probably not relevant. Should focus on what SSAGO is and how to get involved.

Suggested:

- What SSAGO is!
 - Only the key items, Run ourselves, Non-uniformed (inc why) Links.
- What is the aim?
- Where?
- How to contact
- Shortened History

3) Network and SSAGO

Important to keep the identity of SSAGO. Working with The Scout Association to show and argue why there is a need for both.

Points that were discussed:

- SSAGOers are often at a similar point in their life.
 - Many SSAGOers have just moved away from home for the first time.
 - Similar daily routines of which can be very different from Network members who may have full time jobs. As well as a different year routine when it comes to holidays.
 - Similar financial situation.
 - Members move to and from the area at set times and are in the area usually for a set length of time (3 years). SSAGO allows members to join together as 'freshers' and allows for a natural time of moving on. (However is more than possible for members to join and move on outside of those timings.)
 - Some students are unable to give regular commitments to Scouting both with helping out with sections or regular weekly socials/activities. SSAGO allows for them to help out as and when.

- With Network groups it is often that its members have moved up through the sections together and therefore know each other very well and can be difficult for someone who has moved to the area to break into that social network.

Plan:

ES would like us to build up case studies and examples of:

- How SSAGO has promoted Scouting to people who have not previously been Scouts (or Guides) and have as a direct result have become involved with Scouting.
- How SSAGO has helped members maintain their Scouting while at University. Particular if still directly active with scouting at home but only involved with SSAGO while at Uni.
- How SSAGO groups have affected Scouting in their areas. Such as organising district events etc.

Under the partnership it may be possible to have some input/a page into the Explorer/Network supplement.

4) GirlGuiding UK

Things that need to be addressed!

P.O.R reads that SSAGO is an associate organisation of The Scout Association and recognised by Girlguiding UK. What does recognised mean?

As far as aware currently follow The Scout Association and GirlGuiding UKs rules which ever is 'stricter'. But very little else to do with the GirlGuiding UK. Is this because they are happy for The Scout Association to deal with most items such as CRB's, NAN Forms etc

What involvement do they want?

Break for lunch and tour of Gilwell Park © 13:00pm-14:00pm

ACTION POINTS

- 1) TSA needs to address what is an associate organisation.

- 2) Partnership agreement, How that would fit in with us? How it would work? Would probably need to be ratified every AGM
- 3) Emma and Sam to recommend POR changes.
- 4) What would happen if at AGM the membership declined to accept Scouting partnership agreement? What would that mean for SSAGO? Copyright of the term Scout?
- 5) Exec need to brain storm at Reps meeting, what is it that people/clubs want from SSAGO. Where do they want to go with SSAGO?
- 6) SM suggests that they are looking at a micro site on the scouting website for Students. ? SSAGOS involvement.
- 7) SSAGO exec need to rewrite factsheet.
- 8) SSAGO case studies.
- 9) SSAGO exec need to meet with GirlGuiding UK to discuss how we fit into GirlGuiding UK and to discuss the new changes within The Scout Association and how this effects our status within them. If the membership were to decline the Partnership with The Scout association how would that effect us within GirlGuiding UK?

Meeting closed: 14:45