

**INSTITUTE OF OUTDDOR LEARNING
MIDLAND REGION
AGM
SUNDAY JANUARY 22ND 2006**

1. Apologies:

Pete Stacey, Doug Jones, Giles Smith, Glynn Roberts, Jez Britten, Bill Taylor, Richard Batty, Paul Kenwright, Melanie Bardgett, Andy Stewart, Kaz Brush, Jo Murphy, Tom Lillee, Paul Marshall.

2. Welcome

The Chairman, Dan Whittaker introduced himself and the two elected officers, Sonia Wright as Secretary and Mike Smart as Treasurer. Dan thanked everyone for coming and stated how pleased he was with the turnout.

3. Election of Committee

The members were given names of those who were willing the work on the Midland Management Committee. Dan asked the members if there were any more names to be added. As no additional names were added, the group were voted, by the members, on block. The Midland Regional is committee is as follows;

Chairman	Dan Whittaker, Frank Chapman Centre Worcs.
Secretary	Sonia Wright, Bell Heath Centre, West Midlands
Treasurer	Mike Smart, Bell Heath Centre, West Midlands
	Alison Broom, Frank Chapman Centre, Worcs.
	Chris Jones, Frank Chapman Centre, Worcs.
	Ben Keen, Blackwell Adventure, Worcs.
	Jacqui Dutton, Bear Creek, Worcs.
	Jez Britten, Stables Centre, Worcs.

4. Midland Regional Constitution

The members were given a copy of the constitution. This document was agreed and will be sent to the National Executive Committee for their approval.

5. Information slips and Raffle

Sonia Wright explained the information sheet to the members. It was important that all members filled in these sheets, as it was an opportunity for them to have their say in how they would like the region to work for them.

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The region is looking for venues for their conference meetings and family days. More importantly a venue is being sought for the next AGM in January 2007. The information slip will give members an opportunity to let the new committee know what is on offer. Sonia has also given the members her e-mail address as a contact for members to reach the committee.

6. Treasurer

Mike Smart reported that the Midland Regional fund was based on membership fees paid to IOL. £5/member was paid in the Midland fund. The Region needed to spend £440 before Dec'05. The committee have managed to ring fence some of the money as bursaries for the current round of APIOL. The criteria, for the bursaries, were given out to the members and a letter of application was needed from applicants. Up to £150 could be given to members towards their award.

There was another £750 for 2006 to be used by March 31st. The AGM had cost the committee approximately £250 in expenses, so there was £500 for future events.

Mike gave figures regarding APIOL

20 APIOL

10 Assessors

21 Mentors

14 Aspiring APIOL

Dan added that we would soon be looking at Fellowships within the Region and he also wished to thank Giles Smith and Bill Taylor for all their work within the region.

Dan asked Heather Brown to explain the set up of APIOL

Within a region there is a Regional assessor, Bill Taylor and a Regional Organiser, Giles Smith. There is also a professional Support post. Paul Marshall has taken up this post, within the Midland Region. Paul will be helping aspiring APIOL with their award. Guiding them towards further experiences and awards. Heather has suggested that Paul join the Midland Committee so that APIOL has a strong link.

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7. 2007 AGM, Date and Venue

Sonia informed the members that two weekends had been highlighted for next years AGM; January 20th-21st and January 27th – 28th. A vote was taken to assess whether a Saturday or Sunday was preferred. The majority vote was for a Sunday. It was therefore decided that next years AGM would take place on either Sunday 21st or 28th January, venue permitting. Sonia has asked members for suggestions for the venue. The committee are looking for a 'free' venue with only paying for expense i.e. Catering speakers etc. Sonia asked members if they could look into their own site bookings and come back to her so a venue could be booked. Sonia also stressed that it would be a good idea to move further East as this may attract more members from this area. Heather Brown informed the committee that there was a promotional event for APIOL in East Anglia on 3rd February and this may bring in more members.

8. Chairman's Statement

Dan was very pleased with the turn out for the AGM and stressed that the committee was working for the Midland members. Dan thought the industry was going through exciting times with the new documentation, such as Every Child Matters, Children in the outdoors and the new Manifesto. The committee would be keeping the members informed. The IOL has influence at government level and members should come to the committee with suggestions or problems and they can be passed on. Dan informed the members of Mike Smart's involvement with the updating of the web site. It is going to become more user friendly. Dan asked what the members would like to see on the web page so that he could let the National Executive know their ideas. Dan told the members that he was keen to encourage not only the adventureists but also the environmentalists into the organisation. Outdoor Learning encompasses all activities outside the classroom. We need to understand and learn from each other.

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The Midland Committee is looking at putting on three events in any one-year. The AGNM would take place in January followed by a Family Day in May and another conference in October. It was felt that a family day would recognise the people who support us, i.e.; wives, children.

Dan introduced our speakers for the conference;

Marcus Bailie	AALA
Heather Brown	Representing National Body and APIOL
Wendi Vick	Forest Schools

There was an apology from BCU as Mike Devlin had been programmed to talk but he had double booked.

Dan thanked everyone again for his or her support on the day

**Date of Next AGM January 21st/28th 2007
Venue to be announced**

**Date of next committee meeting;
Friday 10th March 6.30pm at Bell Heath Study Centre
Items for agenda to be sent to Sonia Wright,
Deadline 3rd March
sonia.wright@bellheath.bham.org.uk**

**Copies of Marcus Bailie's presentation and article available
from secretary, Sonia, along with Forest School information.**

AGM closed at 11.25 am