DRAFT MINUTES OF THE

ANNUAL NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

OF

SCOUTING IRELAND

DATE: Sunday 21st March 2010 at 10:00am - 5pm

VENUE: Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore, Co Offaly

PRESENT: -

1. Michael John Shinnick - Chief Scout.
2. Kiernan Gildea - Chief Commissioner Youth Programme.
3. John Brennan - Chief Commissioner Adult Resources.
4. Michael Devins - National Secretary.
5. Niall Walsh - National Treasurer.
6. All other attendees as listed in the Attendances' Register.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & APOLOGIES

The National Secretary, Michael Devins conveyed the apologies of the following: -

1. Catherine Lenihan (Chief Commissioner Catholic Guides of Ireland)
2. Emer O'Sullivan (Chief Commissioner of the Irish Girl Guides)

AGENDA FOR THE MEETING:

SUNDAY 21st March 2010.

10.30–11.00 Voting for positions on the National Management Committee

10.00 • Opening Thought

• Opening Address of the Chief Scout

• Address by Guest Speaker

• Meeting Procedures and Appointment of Tellers

• Approval of the minutes of National Council 2009

• Adoption of the Annual Report

• Adoption of the Audited Accounts and Financial Report of Scouting Ireland

• Appointment of Auditors

• Endorsement of the Annual Report and Accounts of The Scout Foundation, Scout Association of Ireland Trust Corporation Limited and Scouting Trust Property Limited.

• Election of Honorary Vice-Presidents

• Matters referred by the National Management Committee

• Motions received by the National Secretary

13.00 Meeting adjourned for Lunch

14.00 Resumption of National Council

16.00 Election Results

16.30 Closing address by the Chief Scout.

DOCUMENTS OF THE MEETING:

- Agenda and Registration/Voting Procedure. [circulated in advance]
- Minutes of the Meeting of 21st and 22nd June 2008. [circulated in advance]
- List of Motions. [circulated in advance]
- Annual Report of Scouting Ireland 2009. [circulated in advance]
- Audited Accounts and Financial Report of Scouting Ireland [circulated in advance]
- Audited Accounts of Scout Foundation, Scout Association of Ireland Trust Corporation Limited and Scouting Trust Property Limited [circulated in advance]
- List of Candidates and Nominees for Election [circulated in advance]
- Submission to National Council 2010 [circulated in advance]
- A brief Guide to Motions or Proposals [circulated in advance]

OPENING THOUGHTS & ADDRESSES:

The Chief Scout Michael John Shinnick welcomed all delegates to the meeting of National Council 2010 and handed over to Kiernan Gildea while he left the meeting to greet An Taoiseach, Brian Cowen T.D, who was to address the meeting.

Father Dave Kenneally of the National Spiritual Advisory Committee led the opening thought. He commented on how being observant and alert to the world around us can inspire us to be innovative and creative. Fr Kenneally went on to point out the rewards for

developing this talent and expressed his hope that the ONE Programme will help Scouters to pass on the sense of imagination and wonder to all Scouts in all sections in the present and the future. Fr Kenneally then led the assembled members in the Scout Prayer.

An Taoiseach, Mr Brian Cowen, TD, was then escorted into the meeting by the Chief Scout Michael John Shinnick. In welcoming An Taoiseach; the Chief Scout expressed appreciation to an Taoiseach for accepting the invitation to open the meeting of the National Council and highlighted that Scouting Ireland recognises the support that we have received both locally and nationally from Government and state agencies. This support has played a pivotal role in helping the Scout movement to make a consistent and lasting contribution to Irish society over many decades.

Scouting in Ireland came from two great traditions and the Chief Scout pointed out that this year's National Council will launch the new unified "ONE" Scout Programme, which effectively marks the culmination of the amalgamation of the two former Scout Associations in Ireland.

Since the formation of Scouting Ireland, our membership has shown an unbroken annual pattern of growth. Our adult volunteers in every community across Ireland work flat out to offer opportunities and great experiences to the nation's youth.
The Chief Scout stated that the passion with which these volunteers deliver Scouting is contagious. – Last year alone in a country where, volunteering is in decline, we welcomed a further 1,200 adult members into Scouting Ireland. Our Association is on the cusp of breaking through the 40,000 membership threshold within the next 12 months.

The Chief Scout pointed out the significance of Scouting Ireland's greater presence in communities, with 456 Scout Groups throughout Ireland. This presence in the community will bring benefits to the youth of Ireland. They will have access to Scouting and the Scout Programme and it will assist these youth to reach their full potential into adulthood.

The Chief Scout described the similarities in the Government and Scouting Ireland; both are striving to make society a better place where people can reach their full potential and be enabled to contribute to society, with the aim of bringing about the necessary changes and improvements that will evolve society on to a higher plane.

An Taoiseach, Mr Brian Cowen, TD in response expressed his thanks to James Marks, County Commissioner, Slieve Bloom Scout County for the invitation to address the meeting of Scouting Irelands National Council. Mr Cowen pointed out that he had many happy memories of his days as a Scout with 2nd Offaly, Clara.

An Taoiseach acknowledged the huge contribution that Scouting plays in the development of young people so that they can achieve their full potential and, as responsible citizens, play a positive role in society. He highlighted the research that has shown that young people who join Scouts, do better in later life, citing such names as David Beckham, Richard Branson, Bill Clinton and the French President Nicholas Sarkozy as former Scouts. Mr Cowen also alluded to the contribution that Scouting no doubt paid to the persistence and problem solving skills displayed by the Blarney Venture Scout, Richard O'Shea for his winning project in the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition 2010.

Mr Cowen, praised the many adult volunteers involved in Scouting Ireland, past and present, and thanked them for their invaluable contribution to the recreational and development opportunities for Ireland's young people. He expressed the hope that many more people will be inspired by the example of these Scouters to become involved with their local Scout Groups. Mr Cowen appreciated the real difference, for the better, that these volunteers make to the communities they belong to and to our country, promoting self-discipline, teamwork and a spirit of adventure among our young people. Mr Cowen went on to congratulate this years' recipients of the Cu Chulainn award for their profound and long service to Scouting.

Mr Cowen, outlined the achievements of Scouting Ireland over the past year, listing a new Strategy "Laying the Trail"; the innovative "One Programme"; progress with the Castlesaunderson Project; a number of successful National events including Jamoige; the membership increase of 6.5%; and the new partnership with Gaisce as examples of these achievements. He praised the involvement of young people from Scouting Ireland in the worthwhile projects in Malaysia and India and also made reference to the Venture Scouts who will travel to India this year to refurbish and extend a school in partnership with the Hope Foundation and expressed the hope that many of those involved in these projects will be inspired by their experience to do further work in this area in the years ahead.

In conclusion, An Taoiseach informed the meeting that the Government recognises the great work being done by Scouting Ireland and stated that every year grant – in – aid is

provided under the Youth Service Grant Scheme, which is administered by the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs. The grant last year represented a slight drop in the previous year's allocation and reflects the difficult times we are living in; however Mr Cowen expressed the hope that the increase in Scouting Irelands membership would ameliorate this. Mr Cowen reiterated that Scouting Ireland provides an invaluable service to the people of this island and wished the meeting good luck in conducting the business of National Council and in the future work of Scouting Ireland.

Following the address by An Taoiseach, Mr Brian Cowen TD; the Chief Scout Mr Michael John Shinnnick thanked him for attending today and presented Mr Cowen with a commemorative bowl which had been carved from Elm wood from Larch Hill, National Campsite.

National Council 2009

The Chief Scout explained to the delegates that there had been a recent query with regard to the location of the National Council in Newcastle, Co Down in 2009. The National Management Committee had sought legal advice on this issue and as a result an EGM of the National Council is planned for 8th May. A letter outlining the details and advising of the venue and time for this EGM will be sent to members of National Council.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT THE MEETING:

The following Resolutions were passed at the meeting:-

1. **APPOINTMENT OF TELLERS –**

   The under listed members were appointed as Tellers by a show of hands for the purpose of counting of votes at the meeting:

Donal McCarthy	(Senior Teller)	Sinead Flanagan
Mark O'Callaghan	(Senior Teller)	Niamh Marks
Bill James	(Senior Teller)	Shane Culleton
Alan Palmer	(Senior Teller)	Kevin Shaw
Conor O'Broin		Wayne McCarthy
Jessica Moloney		Aine Bennett
Oisin Lyons		Therese Tynan
Niamh Lyons		Zoe Mortimer
Tommy Ryan		Lorraine Keyes
Billy Breen Slattery		

Rory Keenan (Speakers queue) Kyle Cahir (Speakers queue)

2. MINUTES -

The Minutes of 28th and 29th March 2009 were approved following a show of hands by the delegates.

Matters arising: - It was requested that all undertakings made by National Officers at National Council, be recorded in the Minutes of the meeting.

3. ANNUAL REPORT-

Michael Devins presented to the delegates the Annual Report of Scouting Ireland for the year 2009 which was deemed read. Following a show of hands by the delegates, the Annual Report was adopted.

Matters arising: - Dermot Lacey outlined the circumstances surrounding the retirement of Bridie O'Sullivan following 37 years of dedicated service to Scouting. He strongly criticised the way in which Bridie had been treated and suggested that not only were the train of events unfair and inappropriate, but that Bridie was deserving of Honorary Membership of Scouting Ireland. Dermot called on the National Management Committee to make right the wrong of not having a retirement ceremony for Bridie.

John Lawlor also spoke of the treatment of Bridie and stated that Scouting Ireland should not be shy of acknowledging the efforts and service of Professional Staff members. He stated that the situation had deeply hurt Bridie after her years of dedicated service and commented that this situation was a deep wound into the heart of Scouting.

4. AUDITED ACCOUNTS AND FINANCIAL REPORT OF SCOUTING IRELAND-

The Audited Accounts and Financial Report of Scouting Ireland for the year 2009 was adopted as proposed by Niall Walsh. Niall Walsh read the Auditors Report as stated in the Financial Report. He also gave a brief analyses and graphic illustration of the Association's Income and Expenditure Balance Sheet from 1st October 2008 – 30th September 2009.

5. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS-

The Firm of McCann & Co Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors was appointed as Auditors for Scouting Ireland.

6. **ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF THE SCOUT FOUNDATION, THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND TRUST CORPORATION AND SCOUTING TRUST PROPERTY LIMITED -**

   The Annual Report and Accounts of Scout Foundation, Scout Association of Ireland Trust Corporation Limited and Scouting Trust Property Limited were endorsed by show of hands from the delegates.

7. **ELECTION OF HONORARY VICE- PRESIDENTS-**

   The election of Honorary Vice-Presidents of Scouting Ireland was approved as follows: -

   a) Martin Burbridge
   b) Peter Dixon
   c) Donald Harvey
   d) Eoghan Lavelle
   e) Kenneth Ramsey
   f) Paul Ring

8. **ELECTION OF HONORARY MEMBERS-**

   The election of the following as Honorary Members of Scouting Ireland was approved.

   a) Kiernan Gildea
   b) Niall Walsh

9. **ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE SCOUT FOUNDATION -**

   The election of the following as Members of the Scout Foundation was approved.

   a) Aidan Brennan
   b) John Reid

WORLD JAMBOREE 2011:

John Lawlor, Contingent Leader for the Irish Contingent to the World Jamboree in Sweden in 2011 made a presentation to the assembled National Council members. John Lawlor informed the meeting that this was to be the largest ever Irish Contingent to a World Jamboree with over 800 members planning to attend. He thanked all of the Jamboree Team for their great help and work in meeting the challenge of emulating the motto “All is possible if you take it on”. He went on to thank Pauline Lucas for her inspired idea of

naming the Irish Troops after traditional Irish Trees. He further informed the meeting that for the first time members of the Catholic Guides of Ireland will be taking part in the World Jamboree as part of the Irish contingent.

Plans are in place to have a 300 seater restaurant and theatre on site which will help to promote the Irish Contingent and Irish culture to participants in the Jamboree, with participants already preparing performances to highlight Irish culture and arts.

It is envisaged that the Irish participants will not only find this to be a memorable and formative experience but that their participation will bring dividends back to their Groups.

PRESENTATIONS

John Brennan announced the recipients of Scouting Irelands Order of Cu Chulainn and read the citations to the assembled delegates. The Chief Scout, Michael John Shinnick presented the awards to the following: -

Maeliosa de Buitlear
Bill James
Joe Owens
Bernadette Plunkett
Pat O'Connor
John Wallace
Ann Rochford

LAUNCH OF ONE PROGRAMME

Kiernan Gildea in launching the new "One" Programme expressed sincere thanks and congratulation to everyone who has worked on this project. It has been a huge task and now it is time to hand over to the youth members. He stressed that this new programme was child and youth centered and that adults would guide and enable the young members of Scouting Ireland. Kiernan outlined all of the key points of the new programme and extended a special thanks to the following for their major contribution to completing this task: -

Peter Sheehan
Maeliosa de Buitlear
Colm Kavanagh and the Programme Team
Pauline Lucas

The Chief Scout, Michael John Shinnick, pointed out that we have exciting and challenging times ahead and that the "One" Programme needs to be nurtured and delivered as it should be. We have a youth membership to be proud of and their expectations of this

programme are high. He encouraged everyone to believe in our potential and encouraged Scouters to make a difference to the lives of the young people under our care. The Chief Scout concluded by expressing his thanks to everyone who had worked on this project especially the Chief Commissioner (Youth Programme), Kiernan Gildea.
Pauline Lucas then presented the "One" programme to the Commissioners of the various youth sections, who in turn handed over the Programme to youth representatives of each of the sections: - Beaver, Cub, Scout, Venture and Rover. The programme was also presented to representatives of key areas to symbolize the involvement of the Campsites in the Adventure Skills; the Scouters in the facilitation of the young members and the Management Committee in **********.(I did not get the theme of the Man Comm presentation)

The meeting adjourned at 1.10pm for lunch.

The meeting reconvened at 2.20pm

ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS

Following the votes cast by the delegates, The National Secretary announced the following candidates as elected for the following positions of the National Management Committee:

- National Treasurer – Francis Minogue
- Chief Commissioner Youth Programme – Ian Davy*
- Ordinary Member – Tony Smith*
- Ordinary Member- Niall Kenny*
- Ordinary Member – Ann Kelly*
- Provincial Commissioner Dublin Scout Province – Aidan Smith*
- Provincial Commissioner Western Province – Brian Webster*
- Provincial Commissioner – South East Province – John Watmore*
- Provincial Commissioner – Southern Province – Pat Roche
- Provincial Commissioner – North Eastern Province – Jimmy Cunningham

*****Were presented with a neckerchief by Chief Scout, Michael John Shinnick

MOTIONS

The following Motions as received by the National Secretary were voted on as follows:

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS			
HVP 1		**Honorary Vice Presidents:** That this National Council elects the following people as Honorary Vice Presidents of Scouting Ireland: Peter Dixon Eoghan Lavelle Kenneth Ramsey Paul Ring Donald Harvey Martin Burbridge ***(National Management Committee)***	**CARRIED**
VOTING PROCEDURES			
VP1	**Rule 118**	That Rule 118 be altered to read as follows: - **Voting Procedures** All elections, save where there is one candidate for a position, shall be by proportional representation by single transferable vote. Where there is only one candidate seeking election, the candidate shall only be deemed elected if they receive fifty percent plus one vote of the votes cast. The votes cast shall include any spoiled votes cast. ***(National Management Committee)***	**CARRIED (To come into effect from National Council 2011)**
NOTICE OF MOTION			
NM 1	**Article 38**	That Notice of Motion be accepted to amend Article 38 of the Constitution to read as follows: - The members of the National Council are: (a) Chief Scout (Chairperson) (b) All other members of the National Management Committee (c) The Honorary Vice-Presidents (d) The Programme Commissioners (e) The Training Commissioner (f) The County Commissioners, **(g) County Chairperson, County Secretary & County Treasurer (or three representatives of the Scout County Management Board)**	**WITHDRAWN**

		(h) Two representatives from each Scout County Youth Fora (i) The Group Leaders and two delegates nominated by each registered Scout Group Council (j) Nine representatives of each of the National Youth Fora **(k) Chief Executive Officer** ***Explanation**:* *Some Scout Counties do not have individual's appointed to the position of Chairperson, Secretary or Treasurer. They may however be in position to appoint delegates from the Scout County Management Committee to attend National Council.* ***(National Management Committee)***	
NM 2	**Article 2**	That Notice of Motion be accepted to amend Article 2 of the Constitution to read as follows: - Scouting Ireland is a voluntary, uniformed, non-formal educational movement for young people. It is independent, non-political, open to all without distinction of origin, race, creed, gender, sexual orientation, or ability in accordance with the purpose, principles and method conceived by the Founder, Robert Baden-Powell and as stated by the World Organisation of the Scout Movement. ***Explanation**:* *This addition would bring the Scouting Ireland Constitution closer in line with best practice in the area of equality and equity. Further, these additions would be a clear demonstration that Scouting Ireland does not accept the practice of other scout organisations who expel both adult and youth members solely on the grounds of their sexual orientation.* ***(6 Dublin Leeson Park Scout Group)***	**CARRIED**
NM 3	**Article 38**	That Notice of Motion be accepted to amend Article 38 of the Constitution to read as follows: - By the amendment of section G. The members of National Council are: - g) The Group Leaders and two delegates nominated	**CARRIED**

		by each registered Group Council. A deputy Group Leader may represent the Group Leader in the event that the Group Leader cannot attend. This representation must be approved by Group Council and the necessary documentation signed by the Group Leader or Group Secretary. ***(North Cork Scout County Board)***	
NM 4	**Article 38**	That Notice of Motion be accepted to amend Article 38 of the Constitution to read as follows: - By the amendment of section G. The members of National Council are: - g) The Group Leaders, one delegate nominated by each registered Scout Group Council and one youth member nominated by each Scout Group Council. ***Explanation****:* *The National Venture Scout Forum feel that in order to continue the partnership of young people and adults working together, which is at the very core of Scouting, that a designated youth member ticket to National Council is needed. This would also further the ongoing goal of making National Council more accessible for youth members.* ***(National Venture Scout Forum)***	**FELL**
RULES			
R 1	**Rule 21**	That Rule 21 be altered to read as follows: - The Appointments of Scouting Ireland are: Scout Group: Group Scouter: Programme Scouters Group Leader Deputy Group Leader Group Spiritual/Religious Advisor/Chaplain Group Quartermaster / Bo'sun Group Trainer Scout County: County Commissioner **Deputy County Commissioner** County Spiritual/Religious	**CARRIED**

		Advisor/Chaplain County Programme Co-ordinator County Training Co-ordinator Scout Province: Provincial Commissioner Provincial Training Co-ordinator Provincial International Co-ordinator National: Programme Commissioner Training Commissioner International Commissioner Communications Commissioner Camp / Scout Centre Manager National Secretary National Treasurer Chief Commissioner (Adult Resources) Chief Commissioner (Youth Programme) Chief Scout **Explanation:** *The role of County Commissioner is extremely time consuming and demanding and often the workload is too great for any individual voluntary Scouter to successfully deliver. Currently if a County Commissioner is unable to attend a meeting or function it falls to the CPC/CTC who's roles are already demanding. The appointment of a DCC would aid the CC in his/her role thus delivering quality scouting & support to their county. This is particularly relevant in larger counties*. ***(National Management Committee)***	
R 2	**Rule 80**	That Rule 80 be altered to read as follows: - The agenda for the Annual General Meeting of the Scout County Board shall include, inter alia, the following: a. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting b. Report of the County Commissioner c. Adoption of the Annual Scout County Report as prepared by the County Secretary	**CARRIED**

		d. Adoption of the Accounts of the Scout County as prepared by the County Treasurer e. Adoption of the Reports of the County Programme Co-ordinator and the County Training Co-ordinator f. To receive a report from each Scout Group in the Scout County g. The nomination of the County Commissioner for appointment, when appropriate h. The election of the County Chairperson, the County Secretary and the County Treasurer, when appropriate i. To consider for approval proposals, including proposals to the National Council, reports and submissions submitted in writing to the County Secretary not less than two weeks prior to the date of the meeting by any member of the Scout County Board. j. To present the programme of events to support the Scout Groups of the Scout County. k. **The nomination of the Deputy County Commissioner for appointment, when appropriate and if the County Board decides to fill this role.** All reports, proposals or submissions to be submitted in writing to the County Secretary not less than two weeks prior to the date of the meeting to facilitate circulation in advance of the meeting. **Explanation:** *The role of County Commissioner is extremely time consuming and demanding and often the workload is too great for any individual voluntary Scouter to successfully deliver. Currently if a county commissioner is unable to attend a meeting or function it falls to the CPC/CTC whose roles are already demanding particularly with the introduction of the New Program. The election of a DCC would aid the CC in his/her role thus delivering quality scouting & support to their county. This is particularly relevant in larger counties. The wording allows Counties who wish to appoint a DCC the ability to do so and if a county doesn't wish to do so they don't have to.* ***(National Management Committee)***	

R 3	**Rule 85**	The Scout County Management Committee consists of the following: a. The County Commissioner b. The County Officers: i. The County Chairperson ii. The County Secretary iii. The County Treasurer c. The County Spiritual/Religious Advisor/Chaplain d. All Group Leaders within the Scout County e. The County Programme Co-ordinator f. The County Training Co-ordinator g. Not more than three persons co-opted, if the Committee sees fit, to hold office until the meeting following the next Annual general meeting of the Scout County Board. Such co-optees shall not have a vote. h. Two Representatives from each of the Scout County Scout Youth Fora for Youth Programme Sections 3,4 & 5 **i. The Deputy County Commissioner** **Explanation:** *The role of County Commissioner is extremely time consuming and demanding and often the workload is too great for any individual voluntary Scouter to successfully deliver. Currently if a county commissioner is unable to attend a meeting or function it falls to the CPC/CTC whose roles are already demanding and will get more so with the new program The appointment of a DCC would aid the CC in his/her role thus delivering quality scouting & support to their county. This is particularly relevant in larger counties* *This change will include the Deputy County Commissioner as a member of The County Scout management committee.* ***(National Management Committee)***	**CARRIED**
R 4	**Rule 94**	That Rule 94 be altered to read as follows: - The functions of the County Treasurer include: a) Dealing with the financial affairs of the Scout County. b) The preparation of the budget for the Scout County for the approval of the Scout County Management Committee. c) The preparation of the accounts of the Scout	**CARRIED**

		County for the approval of the Scout County Board. **d) Support of Scout Groups where required in the preparation of their Annual Accounts.** **e) The collection of Annual Accounts from each Scout Group in the Scout County.** ***National Management Committee)***	
R 5	**Rule 106**	That Rule 106 be altered to read as follows: - The Provincial Management/Support Team consists of the following: a. The Provincial Commissioner b. The Provincial Secretary, as appointed by the Provincial Management/Support Team c. The Provincial Treasurer, as appointed by The Provincial Management/ Support Team d. All County Commissioners within the Scout Province e. The Youth Programme Committee representative f. The Adult Resources Committee representative g. The Provincial Training Co-ordinator h. The Provincial International Co-ordinator i. Members of the National Youth Fora from the Province. j. Others as may be appointed by the Team **k. The Deputy County Commissioner may attend in the absence of The County Commissioner if delegated to do so.** One member of the Professional Staff and others as requested should attend meetings of the Provincial Management/Support Team and has a right to contribute to the deliberations of the Team. **Explanation:** *The number of meetings and events that the County Commissioner are huge this would allow that in the event that the County Commissioner cannot attend a Provincial Management meeting then the Deputy County Commissioner can attend in his/her place.* ***(National Management Committee)***	**CARRIED**
R 6	**Rule 169**	That Rule 169 be altered to read as follows: - Every Scout County Board, through its county	**CARRIED**

		Treasurer, must submit its annual accounts to the National Treasurer. The annual accounts of each Scout Group in the Scout County must be submitted by Scout County Board to the National Treasurer. ***(National Management Committee)***	**For - 245** **Against - 166**
R 7	**New Rule**	That a New Rule be introduced to read as follows: - Every Scout Province, through its Provincial Treasurer, must submit its annual accounts to the National Treasurer. ***(National Management Committee)***	**CARRIED**
R 8	**New Rule**	That a New Rule be introduced to read as follows: - The Scout County Deputy County Commissioner I. The Deputy County Commissioner may be nominated by the Scout County Board, recommended by the County Commissioner and appointed by the Chief Commissioner (Adult Resources). II. The Deputy County Commissioner holds his/her Appointment concurrently with the County Commissioner in office at the time of Appointment. III. The Deputy County Commissioner assists a County Commissioner in carrying out the duties and functions of a County Commissioner in addition to any other duties and functions as directed by the Scout County Management Committee. **Explanation:** *This would bring the Deputy County Commissioner in line with the Deputy Group Leader. With the same term of office as the CC and elected in the same manner.* ***(National Management Committee)***	**CARRIED**
R 9	**Rule 160**	That Rule 160 be altered to read as follows: - A) Six members of Scouting Ireland will be elected by the National Council on the nomination of a Scout Group Council or Scout	**FELL**

		County Board to serve as members of the National Management Committee for one term of three years and are again eligible for election after a period of three years' absence from the National Management Committee. Three of these six members shall be under twenty-six years of age on the day of their election. B) Each National youth forum committee will send one member to meetings of the National Management Committee to observe and participate in its discussions. These representatives will not be entitled to vote on resolutions before the National Management Committee. **Explanation:** *This motion is designed to increase youth participation at the highest level of scouting and to ensure that the views of youth members are heard directly during the process of decision making.* ***(6 Dublin Leeson Park Scout Group)***	
R 10	**New Rule**	That a New Rule be introduced to read as follows: - Members of the National Management Committee, elected under Rule 160, may not hold concurrently a National Appointment as outlined under Rule 21 – National. **Explanation:** *If a person is currently holding a national appointment, this rule change would remove a possible conflict of interest as a member of the National Management Committee. The position of the ordinary member should not be influenced by the brief of any national appointment already held.* ***(1 Meath Navan Scout Group)***	**CARRIED**
R 11	**New Rule**	That a New Rule be introduced to read as follows: - Holders of a National appointment under Rule 21, may not hold more than one National Appointment at any one time. **Explanation:** *If a person is currently holding a national appointment, this rule change would remove a possible conflict of interest as a member of the*	**CARRIED**

		National Management Committee. ***(1 Meath Navan Scout Group)***	
R 12	**Rule 49**	That Rule 49 be altered to read as follows: - l) A representative from the Scout section m) A representative from the Venture Scout Section **Explanation:** *This Rule was amended last year to take into account the fifth programme section. As of last years National Council we know the names of each of our youth programme sections, this motion just amends the rule to reflect this change.* ***(North Cork Scout County Board)***	**CARRIED**
R 13	**Rule 85**	That Rule 85 be altered to read as follows: - The Scout County Management Committee consists of the following ……. h) Two representatives from the Scout County Youth Fora for the Scout, Venture and Rover Scout sections. ***(North Cork Scout County Board)***	**CARRIED**
R 14	**New Rule**	That a New Rule be introduced to read as follows: - The National Youth Representatives may propose motions to National Council, as long as they do not contradict the wishes of the National Youth Forum. ***(National Venture Forum)***	**FELL**
R 15	**Rule 157**	That Rule 157 be altered to read as follows: - There shall be a Communications Commissioner whose duties shall include: a) The management and co-ordination, on behalf of the National Management Committee, of the external and public relations of Scouting Ireland through all forms of media; b) The development and maintenance of a	**CARRIED**

		communications programme and strategy suitable for the needs of Scouting Ireland. **c) Consultation with the relevant groups of National Youth Representatives prior to the implementation of initiatives regarding the portrayal of Scouting in the media.** **Explanation:** *The National Venture Scout Forum feels that in order for the image of Scouting Ireland to be relevant in today's media, initiatives to further the portrayal of Scouting must be prepared with the relevant groups of youth representatives as they are the target market.* ***(National Venture Forum)***	
HONORARY MEMBERSHIP			
HM 1		That this National Council confers the title of Honorary Member of Scouting Ireland on: Kiernan Gildea **Explanation:** *The title of Honorary Member of Scouting Ireland be conferred on the individuals in recognition of their exceptional support and service to Scouting Ireland and to scouting in Ireland over a long period of years* ***(National Management Committee)***	**CARRIED**
HM 2		That this National Council confers the title of Honorary Member of Scouting Ireland on: Niall Walsh **Explanation:** *The title of Honorary Member of Scouting Ireland be conferred on the individuals in recognition of their exceptional support and service to Scouting Ireland and to scouting in Ireland over a long period of years* ***(National Management Committee)***	**CARRIED**
GENERAL MOTIONS			
GM 1		That this National Council calls on the NMC to review the conflict resolution policy with a view to ensuring full transparency and consultation of members involved in cases involving parties outside Scouting. ***(Dodder Scout County Board)***	**CARRIED**

GM 2		That this National Council commends the work of the Venture Scouts from Dublinia Scout County, travelling to India to build and extend Schools for children in disadvantaged areas. Furthermore, this National Council encourages Venture Scouts & Rover Scouts across Scouting Ireland to take up the challenge of overseas aid work. **Reason:** *During the summer of 2010, our Venture Scout Group is undertaking its biggest project yet. Venture Scouts from 45th Mount Argus, 44th/93rd Crumlin, 94th Walkinstown and 35th Donore Avenue are travelling to Durgapur, West Bengal, India to extend a school house in a developing area.* *The school is a learning centre for children ages six and up but because of the lack of facilities, girls can only attend until their very early teens. Our group will be in India for about 26 days, and working in partnership with the Hope Foundation, we will endeavour to extend this school, build a new toilet block and refurbish a play school. A recent addition to the scope of our works will be the sponsoring of an irrigation project.* *We plan to include the community in our work by living as part of, and working closely with the locals to teach games, song and culture and indeed to give the local community an ownership of the project.* *In total there are forty people travelling with our group, thirty two of who are between the ages of 16 – 18, boys & girls. This will be a wonderful yet very challenging experience for the Venture Scouts, both physically & mentally.* *The entire group has been working tirelessly fundraising and trying to the raise the profile of this project. These Venture Scouts are embracing the idea of service to the community, local and international. They are fine ambassadors of Scouting and indeed Ireland. If you would like to find out more information about our project or make a donation please email venturehope@gmail.com or visit; http://venturehope.blogspot.com/* ***(Dublinia Scout County Board)***	**CARRIED**
GM 3		That this National Council expresses its concern at the discriminatory and exclusionary practices of the Boy Scout of America, condemning such behaviour	**WITHDRAWN**

		as contrary to the scout law and further instructs the National Management Committee to communicate to our brother scouts in the Boy Scouts of America and on the World Scout Committee to express our concern at these exclusionary policies and our desire to see scouting world wide open to all regardless of sexual orientation. **Explanation:** *The Constitution of the World Scout Organisation of the Scout Movement and the Constitution of Scouting Ireland which both declare that Scouting is open to all.* *The Boy Scouts of America have a long history of discrimination against youth and adult members who are homosexual, expelling them with no regard for their hard work or commitment to scouting.* *Similar actions to this have already been taken by the Swedish Scout Association, The Federation of German Scout Organisations, the Union of German Girl Guide Associations and the European Scout Conference.* ***(6 Dublin Leeson Park Scout Group)***	
GM 4		That this National Council instructs the NMC to insure that all books and program for the New Program be available on soft copy and downloadable as well as hard copy. And that this material be available to Groups as soon as they enter transition training. **Explanation:** *There are a number of reasons for this motion. To insure that costs are as low as possible, to recognise that it is good for the environment to work on soft copies and to recognise that many members use computers on a daily basis.* ***(Slieve Bloom Scout County Board)***	**WITHDRAWN**
GM 5		That this National Council instructs the National Treasurer to create a Grant Scheme for new and re-opened, previously dormant Scout Groups, to the value of, and not exceeding their National Registration fee for the first two years of their existence or reformation. A dormant Scout Group is defined as having no youth members registered for two concurrent years previous to the year of reformation. **Explanation:**	**CARRIED**

		Setting up or re-opening a Scout Group can be a costly exercise, due to training leaders, property costs and purchasing equipment etc. this start-up grant us vital to the opening of more Groups and increasing the membership of Scouting Ireland. Dormant Groups may have more liabilities than assets and need similar held to new Groups. ***(North Cork Scout County Board)***	
GM 6		That this National Council instructs the Chief Commissioner Youth Programme to set the age limits for all National Events as on the last day of the event. **Explanation:** *To ensure our youth members are not excluded from participating in events due to a birth date falling towards the end of the Scouting year.* ***(North Cork Scout County Board)***	**CARRIED**
GM 7		That this National Council instructs the National Management Committee to amend recent guidelines on pending Scouters involvement with youth members, to allow for pending Scouters to work in conjunction with at least two vetted Scouters in a youth programme section, but without a direct leadership role. **Explanation:** *The Guidelines are excessively restrictive and negatively effects the recruitment of potential new Scouters, in attending, in the presence of a minimum of two vetted Scouters, potential risk is the same.* ***(North Cork Scout County Board)***	**WITHDRAWN**
GM 8		That this National Council instructs the National Treasurer to set up a Grant Scheme for Groups who have newly acquired land or a Scout Den and who are vesting it in the Scout Foundation, by way of a rebate on a figure not exceeding 50% of the previous years National registration fee for that Group. This Grant should be made payable to assist in any Legal fees and/or initial development costs, for work or fees incurred in that financial year. **Explanation:** *For a Scout Group to take on the project of building a Scout Den or developing additional facilities is a massive and daunting under-taking. Scouting Ireland would be lending its support to such projects through Grant Schemes and getting assets into the*	**CARRIED** **For – 247** **Against - 212**

		Scout Foundation at an early stage, ***(North Cork Scout County Board)***	
GM 9		That this National Council recognises the innovation behind the new registration fee structure but nonetheless instruct the National Management Committee to devise a more equitable way of implementing it, with particular reference to larger Scout Groups where fees have increased significantly as a result of its introduction. **Explanation:** *The new fee structure is progressive as it will make it more cost effective for groups to keep adult volunteers registered and involved, even at times when they cannot give full commitment.* *Unfortunately, however, this new fee structure has resulted in a significant increase in overall fees payable by some groups. This particularly affects larger groups where ratio of adults to youth members may be smaller or where some Scouters undertake multiple roles.* *At a time when financial hardship is widespread and many groups of all sizes are struggling with fund-raising, we need a fairer way of administering this fee structure to ensure some groups are not being asked to pay more than their fair share of the increase.* ***Example 1*** *A group with 120 youth members and 20 adult members would have paid a fee of 5,434 in the last registration year.* *The same group with the <u>same membership</u> breakdown will pay €6,000 this year, an increase of 11.5% (Nearly DOUBLE the average fee increase predicted by the National Treasurer)* ***Example 2*** *A group with 174 youth members and 25 adults paid €7,562 last year and this year will pay €8,700 and increase of 15% (just short of TREBLE the average fee increase predicted by the National Treasurer)* ***Example 3*** *A group with 100 youth members and 10 adult members paid €4,180 last year and this year will pay €5,000, an increase of 15% (over THREE TIMES the average fee increase predicted by the National Treasurer)* ***(Three Rock Scout County Board)***	**FELL**
GM 10		That this National Council instruct the National Management Committee to devise a financial incentive for Scout Groups who grow their	**FELL**

		membership by 20% in the coming registration year, based on this years census returns. **Explanation:** *If every Scout Group in Scouting Ireland had 100 youth members, it would represent a significant (in excess of 40%) increase on current membership numbers.* *For a Scout Group with 50 members, a 20% increase is ten extra members (two per section in a typical Scout Group)* *Scouting Irelands' membership is growing at a rate of 5% per year; however this growth is often driven by professional and Provincial staff.* *Why not give volunteers in Scout Groups an opportunity to focus on growth for a year and in doing so derive a financial incentive that can be used by the group for new equipment, den improvements or towards a summer camp.* *Youth members only stay in good Scout Groups so this campaign would be unlikely to promote growth to the detriment of programme.* *Possibly not every group will be able to participate but if even half of all groups did, it would give our growth rate a significant boost, give local scout groups a chance to raise funds and ultimately would increase revenues at National Office.* ***(Three Rock Scout County Board)***	
GM 11		That this National Council endorses the ideal that National Council should be a camping event; and instructs the National Secretary to support future National Councils to be held at a camping venue in accordance with the ethos of Scouting commencing with National Council 2011. **Explanation:** *The National Venture Forum feels that in order to adhere to one of the most important Scouting traditions, camping, National Council should be held at a camping venue with suitable facilities to host the event. This will also contribute towards the goal of making National Council more cost effective.* *Examples of facilities that may be used to ensure a campsite is feasible to host National Council, are the use of marquees to host the meeting and use of electrical for electrical appliances required.* ***(National Venture Scout Forum)***	**FELL**
GM 12		That this National Council introduces a quorum to be met at Group Council, County Management Committee and Provincial Meetings to be that there	**FELL**

		must be a youth representative with voting rights in attendance. **Explanation:** ***(National Venture Scout Forum)***	
GM 13		While having due regard for local circumstances, all groups should accept both male and female youth members across all sections. ***(6 Dublin Leeson Park Scout Group)***	**CARRIED** **For – 292 Against - 202**

CLOSING ADDRESS

In closing the meeting, Michael John Shinnick delivered a closing address. He thanked all delegates for attending the meeting and for their contributions to the Association. He gave a vote of thanks to the following-

- County Commissioner Slieve Bloom Scout County, James Marks and his team.
- South Eastern Province for hosting the meeting and their effort in making it a success.
- Members of the National Management Committee for their work at National Council and throughout the year.
- An Taoiseach, Mr Brian Cowen TD.
- The people of Tullamore for their great welcome and Civic reception.
- The members of Professional Staff and in particular Eamonn Lynch CEO and Noel O'Connor, Administration Manager.
- Pat Hollingsworth and his media team.
- The Tellers for their great work.
- All of the Hotel Staff.

The Chief Scout then wished all delegates a safe journey home and officially closed the meeting.

The seventh meeting of the Annual National Council of Scouting Ireland was closed by Michael John Shinnick at 5pm on Sunday 21st March 2010.

Signed: _____

Date: _____