

Transport requirements for Hayling Scouts

There are approximately 2,500 school children on Hayling Island. The Hayling Scout Group has 250 young people of school age who attend meetings each week and if we include members from their sister movement, the Girl Guides, then one in every five school-aged children regularly wear the Scout or Guide uniform. There are many similarities between the two organisations and both, recognizing the other's strengths, work together to maximise opportunities for the young people of Hayling Island. Both Scouting and Guiding are movements built around basic principles of Their Laws and Promises, based on the ethos of "thinking of others before ourselves" and develop programmes and activities on the needs and wishes of its members with guidance from adult leadership teams. It is very heartening to report that both movements have seen significant growth over the last five years.

The growth experienced in the Hayling Scout Group has been in excess of 10% per annum, and has resulted in the formation of three new sections in the past two years. Their HQ is used every evening and many weekends. Further meetings take place at Mengham Infant School for the Saturn Cub Pack and Hayling School for the fourth Scout Group. These new Sections mean additional books, badges, games and camping equipment are needed, most of which has been achieved by donations, fundraising and a lottery grant in 2008.

Their latest challenge is to source suitable transport to support their Summer Camps, which take place at different UK locations

and sometimes abroad. With this number of week-long expeditions, transport for equipment has become a significant requirement and problem for the group. They need to supplement their existing twin axle trailer which is already used fifty times a year with a Ford Transit Van and a box trailer. These additional resources would give them much greater capacity and flexibility in meeting peak summer demands for expeditions as well as removing some of the restrictions faced by their Leaders in terms of what they are allowed to tow and drive. In addition to the current use of their existing trailer by community groups, organisations and individuals on the Island it is the intention that these additional vehicles would also be made available for use by members of the Hayling Community when not required for scout activities. **For further information regarding the Hayling Scouts plans see page 34.** They are very bold and exciting.

It is our intention at The Hayling Trader to support this endeavour and we shall be launching an appeal called "The Pound a Head Appeal" in the March/April Hayling Trader to help raise the money to finance their transport requirements.

Enquiries for advertising in the Hayling Trader to:
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Hayling Scouts launch Master Plan for the Future

Every business and organisation has to plan for the future based on the challenges facing them at a particular time. The Scout Movement is no different and we have seen since its formation in 1907 many fundamental and sometimes radical changes in programmes, uniforms, age groups, etc.

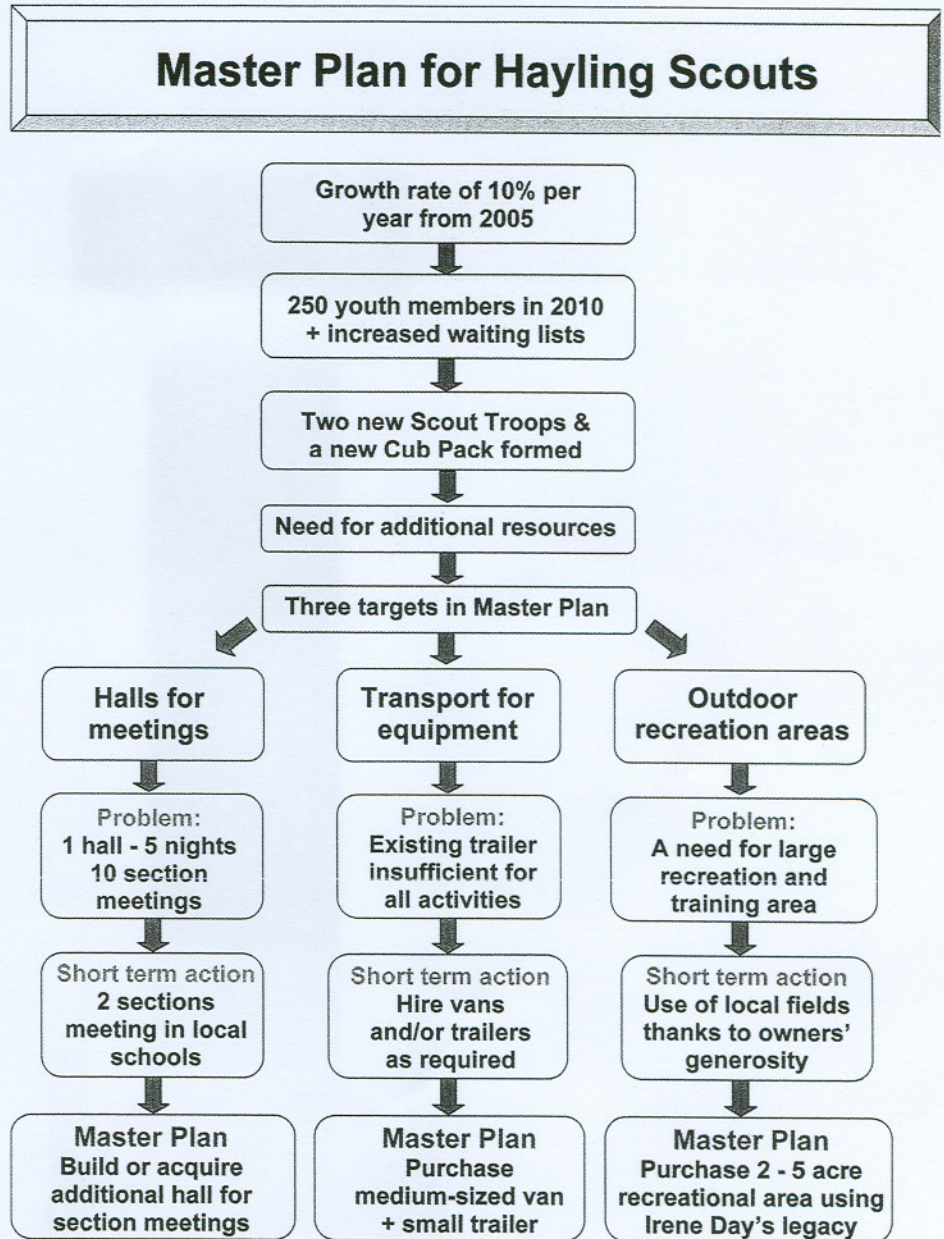
On Hayling, we have also pursued a policy of continuous improvement and controlled change to ensure that Scouting offers an attractive opportunity for our young people. Most importantly, we have to ensure that we can provide the necessary resources to maintain our standards at the highest level and to deliver the programmes successfully.

Our key challenge in 2011 is how to manage an unprecedented growth in numbers over the last five years, averaging more than 10% per year and an increase in waiting lists. We have been able to accommodate this growth to some extent by formation of additional Sections, use of school halls and purchase of additional equipment and resources. These measures, however, have not fully satisfied the current needs and fall short of meeting future requirements.

The Group Development Team has therefore prepared a Master Plan, which should enable Hayling Scouts to accommodate their anticipated requirements for at least another five years. Details of the plan are shown in the summarised diagram.

The outdoor recreational area project has been previously reported in the Hayling Trader and the project for an additional meeting hall is ongoing.

For the transport requirements, a separate fundraising project has been



initiated and we are very grateful to John Clayton of Bishops who has agreed to co-ordinate this project. Details are shown elsewhere in this issue.

We have not set a specific timescale

for completion of our three-part Master Plan but we are hopefully optimistic that significant progress will have been made by the end of 2011 and will be issuing regular reports through the Hayling Trader and on our website www.haylingscouts.org.uk