

Woodcraft Folk DFs

Althing 2024 Minutes



16-17th August 2024, Chester

Tyler: "And does anyone have anything negative to say about the treasurers....?"
Joe H: "They owe me fifteen hundred quid!"

Present: Tyler, Nuala, Simeon, Wilf, Eunice, Joe H, Seren, Thomas B, Maddie, Katy, Alex T, Anna, Mickey, Ben D

0 Introductions	3
1 Ratification of Althing 2024 minutes	3
2 Annual Reports	3
2.1 Reports from Committee Members	3
2.2 Reports from Non-Committee Role-Holders	12
2.3 Reports from Supervisory Role-Holders	13
3 Treasury Reports	14
3.1 Annual Financial Report	14
3.2 Treasurer Performance Report	14
4 Motions	14
4.1 Motion 24-01 (No Brunch)	14
4.2 Motion 24-02 (Change to the Food Policy)	15
4.3 Motion 24-03 (Preventing Laymember Overexertion)	16
2.4 Motion 24-04 (Altering the two-stage Election Process)	17
4.5 Motion 24-05 (Change to the Shift Policy)	18
4.6 Motion 24-06 (Manchester Liaison)	20
4.7 Motion 24-07 (Two Events Reps)	21
4.8 Motion 24-08 (Committee and Non-Committee)	22
4.9 Motion 24-09 (DF Moots)	24
4.10 Motion 24-10 (2027 Moot)	25
4.11 Motion 24-11 (International Moot)	26
4.12 Motion 24-12 (No clan for coord team)	27
4.13 Motion 24-13 ("Manchester Leiasgon")	28
5 Musings	28
5.1 DFs in the Summer of 2025	28
5.2 Internal comms	29
5.3 Spring Awakening	29
5.4 Integration of different groups of DFs	29
6 Hustings	30

6.1 Committee Roles	30
6.2 Non-Committee Roles	35
7 Election Results	38
7.1 Committee Roles	38
7.2 Non-Committee Roles	39
7.3 Supervisory Roles	39

0 Introductions

Tyler took the chair and welcomed everyone to Althing. The meeting started 20 minutes behind schedule. Tyler began a round of introductions and afterwards explained the rules for quorum. Where people have left and joined the meeting, this has not been recorded in the minutes.

1 Ratification of Althing 2024 minutes

The minutes were approved unanimously.

2 Annual Reports

Note: In advance of Althing, anyone holding a Committee or Non-Committee role was contacted and asked to prepare a report which answered 7 questions. Some questions are not applicable to all roles.

2.1 Reports from Committee Members

2.1.1 Activism Representative (Paul Nolan-Paley)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- The activism workshop at Winter Wonderland, though attendance was low compared to the size of the event.

Is there anything which you would like to have done which you didn't manage to do in the year?

- Activism

How are you feeling about the role?

- This is a role which has lacked a framework since it existed as Campaigns rep before the pandemic. Naturally, the core committee team have been focused on events and bolstering numbers, but now would be an ideal time to utilise those numbers for youth empowerment and generate discussion on how DFs can do activism

Anything you've found difficult which you would like to review?

- Two main barriers to feeling empowered to take action in this role:
 - Lack of clarity on how political DFs are "allowed" to be within the context of the wider charity.
 - Lack of interest from members and external organisations (or perhaps people don't realise DFs have an activism rep)
- We also haven't been receiving invites to the co-op meetings, which used to be frequently attended by the activism rep, so this should be looked into.

Anything else you would like to add?

- Activism is crucial in enabling youth empowerment, which is a core goal of Woodcraft DF's. Whilst there are valid discussions to be had about redefining the role, and whether it needs to be committee or non-committee, abandoning it at a time when DF's is gaining so much traction and when the right to protest is under increasing threat would be a serious misjudgement

2.1.2 Chair of DF Committee (Tyler Eckersall)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- Being so so proud of everyone after seeing our work come together time and time again. Autumn Nocturne was the strongest start we could have asked for, and our events have just got bigger since. I think DF Committee is stronger than it was this time a year ago, and that makes me very hopeful for the future.

Is there anything which you would like to have done which you didn't manage to do in the year?

- The DF committee internal comms system needs a rework. I'd like to work on a discord server instead of a group chat for next year's committee, but I'm unsure if I will have time before old/new.

How did your handover go?

- My handover was about one sentence long. After serving a year in this role - this makes a lot more sense to me now. Being Chair of Committee is completely different person to person, and so trying to hand it over is a difficult task. This year, I have some guidance on internal comms to give to my successor, but not much else!

How are you feeling about the role?

- thrilled. It's been a lot of fun. Putting in a ton of work and then actually seeing it pay off is immensely rewarding

If your role continues into the next year, what do you want to do with your role?

- If I am re-elected, I want to try out a new process for internal comms, and also try and work with specific roles I feel didn't get as much airtime last year. There's potential everywhere.

Anything you've found difficult which you would like to review?

- I think we are moving towards a future where DF Committee and individual event co-ord teams are made up of mainly different people, but in the short term, I've found that it does get messy quite quickly when committee politics gets in the way of event politics. I do not know what the solution here is.

Anything else you would like to add?

- Thank you!!!! I heart DFs

2.1.3 Communications Representative (Tyler Eckersall)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- Finally creating and evolving a DF branding kit that has made our Instagram look so much more professional. Similarly, there is now a growing number of people who get their information from our website, which I feel as though I can finally use effectively.
- I believe I have managed to end the era of DF news being stuck in one place (Instagram)
- Our website is becoming a very important tool to us and I hope the next communications representatives feel the same.
- Being a founder of the Communications working group for all of Woodcraft Folk is also a big deal, I hope the next comms reps take seats there too.

Is there anything which you would like to have done which you didn't manage to do in the year?

- The DF Bulletin (the idea stuck in development hell somewhere between a mailing list and a news broadcast) never materialised. I really hope someone pulls through and fulfils my vision in the future. I also regret not being able to update the wikipedia page.

How did your handover go?

- My handover two years ago feels like a world away. DFs has significantly evolved since then. This year I plan to create an extensive PDF containing everything I have learnt and every issue I've had to deal with, so the next comms team have a better starting point than I did. (No shade to the previous comms rep, we get along)

How are you feeling about the role?

- I will really miss it

Anything you've found difficult which you would like to review?

- The relationship between our comms and central comms is much better these days, but there are still constant promotion requests from them that I rarely have the capacity to deal with. I always had to focus on sorting our posts out first before working on posts for other organisations.

Anything else you would like to add?

- No or I will get emotional

2.1.4 Events Representative (Nuala Doak)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- DF Camp felt like the most immense culmination of intense hard work and will always be the camp, which I will remain proud of for the rest of my life. I would like to take a moment to thank the incredible team of people who have dedicated so much of their time and energy to creating such a wondrous event, enjoyed by everyone in its attendance. Cheesy Night and The Freak Map will go down in DF history, worming their way into archives, just as Delilah, the previous DF Chair, who led the DF History Workshop taught us. This camp birthed an even deeper appreciation for DF's than I

knew was possible, as everyone stepped out their comfort zone and interacted with each other. In hindsight, I can see that the programme on this event created the space for people to talk to each other, with a nice range of activities, which everyone could enjoy. The campfire created a warm environment in the evening's, reminding us of many woodcraft traditions; I have to say, it was nice to sing so many folk songs and I suppose that this is kind of the point I'm getting at - DF Camp was so good because I think we collectively remembered the organisation, which we're a part of and came together and shall go singing to the fashioning of a new world.

Is there anything which you would like to have done which you didn't manage to do in the year?

- Spring Awakening was one of the biggest disappointments of the year. I say this aware of how the cancellation was absolutely no one's fault (it was because the site was giving everyone static shocks). Either way, this camp would have kept the momentum of DFs going and could have expanded our numbers even further. There is definitely discussion to be had about the place of spring awakening, especially as it always falls during exam season. This is a conversation I want to raise and speak about now (at Allthing) because I think we continue to mildly miss the mark about Spring Awakening, despite the incredible events we've had.

How did your handover go?

- My handover this year was slightly rocky and threw me in the deep end of the Events role, which I was only able to navigate, thanks to everyone around me. I have worked hard this year to ensure the calm and effective handover of the Events representative role, ensuring that the Shadow Events was involved in the running of camps and felt knowledgeable about the running of events. Something I have been absolutely transparent with my shadow about is the stress and responsibility of this role, leading to the Co-option of the role. I can sleep well knowing that this job will be shared between people and intent to make this official in our constitution.

How are you feeling about the role?

- I want to transition into the role of chair as I feel I could effectively support the new Events reps and the committee as a whole. I won't speak at length about this as I understand that campaigning is not a part of my annual report.

If your role continues into the next year, what do you want to do with your role?

- I want to transition into the role of chair as I feel I could effectively support the new Events reps and the committee as a whole. I won't speak at length about this as I understand that campaigning is not a part of my annual report.

Anything you've found difficult which you would like to review?

- I would like to review having two events reps and also giving specific job descriptions to each part of the coord team as I found difficulty in delegating jobs

Anything else you would like to add?

- It has been the most wonderful year to be involved in DFs, the organisation is changing so massively, and I'm happy to see a return to health in our numbers and spirit !

2.1.5 Fundraising Representatives (Parker Murray and Noah Williams)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- Getting completely ignored by Glastonbury despite contacting them 20 times through various methods ;) other than that we began to finalise some merch pending the approval of other members and organising finances. We thought that the best option for starting up would be something cheap, small and easy to store: festival cups. We've come up with various designs (that I'm hoping to dig up and send over), which include the df logo (either the og df Silhouette or something more creative) and a small text saying something we can all agree on, maybe just "woodcraft DFs" or something more fun like "at least I'm not on shift"

Is there anything which you would like to have done which you didn't manage to do in the year?

- Yes! We wanted to get DFs into Glastonbury for workers beer, but unfortunately all we heard from them, despite many desperate attempts, was radio silence. I'm hoping that we can work past this with them for the following year.
- I'm also eager to get DFs applying for grants however, many won't simply give money to DFs for no reason. We have to have a project or got specific criteria. Previously I was looking at the Paul Hamlin foundation youth fund, however it was very convoluted. More recently I've been looking into the European youth foundation, who have been providing small scale grants to support youth opportunities for Ukrainians both within the uk and internationally, which potentially could be applied for to bring Ukrainian DFs to DF Events

How did your handover go?

- We didn't really have much of a handover from the previous rep, which I'd definitely like to improve for the following terms. I feel having another younger person on the team (who won't be aging out just yet) will improve a ton. Not only will it give us the time to discuss any uncertainties, it'll allow us to work on the following projects together.

How are you feeling about the role?

- Pretty alright, although i feel we could've done better. I went through a pretty rough year and would have liked to have seen some merch going for the most recent social event but life gets in the way. Hopefully with the help of a younger member, we can have a more fruitful year

If your role continues into the next year, what do you want to do with your role?

- Finalise merch as that was my biggest motivating factor for the role. As well as of course get in with Glastonbury for workers beer and apply for funding wherever possible

Anything you've found difficult which you would like to review?

- mostly filling and applying for grants, many of which we don't qualify for and the ones we do can be rather convoluted

2.1.6 Even Laymember (Isla Douglas)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- Organising and running MEST UP at Vcamp 2023
- Trying to help organise international participation at camps- liaising with a German and Catalanian group
- Working on Volunteer Support for Camp 100

How are you feeling about the role?

- Good

Anything else you would like to add?

- It's been a pleasure

2.1.7 Odd Laymember (Simeon Ainsworth)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- In all honesty I didn't do much and was unable to attend a lot of camps for a variety of reasons. Will elaborate in other questions.

Is there anything which you would like to have done which you didn't manage to do in the year?

- I would like to improve communication with other members of committee and more actively look for ways to help out. I found it difficult to know what was going on or what to help with since the committee chat wasn't used very much (?)

How did your handover go?

- Wasn't much handover and not sure much was needed, emails set up fine.

How are you feeling about the role?

- Neutral

If your role continues into the next year, what do you want to do with your role?

- Want to be more active

Anything you've found difficult which you would like to review?

- Communication and how to get more involved

2.1.8 MEST-UP Coordinator (Amelia Wallbank)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- organising and delivering mest up training to a group of 25 where many showed interest in learning more about mest up and becoming apart of it

Is there anything which you would like to have done which you didn't manage to do in the year?

- i would have liked to organise some external workshops so mest up reps can feel much more confident like how to properly mediate and use active listening skills

How did your handover go?

- i wasn't at old new, but i did go into it in the dark and had to fend for myself a little

How are you feeling about the role?

- i think it's an exciting role and is very fulfilling when others then show an interest in it!!

Anything you've found difficult which you would like to review?

- i found it hard to delegate and ask for help, when reading the role description mest up coordinator also helps other mest up reps to facilitate workshops and learn more. also as mest up is a df made movement it's tricky to draw the line in terms of what mest up reps are capable of so o think it would be useful to have a review of what we want mest up to be and be realistic about it

2.1.9 Safeguarding Representative (Sadie Lamont)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- No one was really in this role last year so I've had to work to bring safeguarding back as a priority and think about how we'll do it in the future. All of committee has had some big challenges this year that I think we've over come admirably.

Is there anything which you would like to have done which you didn't manage to do in the year?

- Some situations remain unresolved but that's just how it works

How are you feeling about the role?

- Reinvigorated by camp if a little weary. I'm hopeful that people will chill out this year 🙌

If your role continues into the next year, what do you want to do with your role?

- I'd like to attract some interest in the role for next year and potentially organise an extended handover/ shadow situation towards the end of the year because I think this is one of the bigger roles that's difficult to just step in to but doesn't have a shadow for obvious reasons.
- Potentially write more safeguarding guides for the future.

Anything you've found difficult which you would like to review?

- Workload more recently. Because of the sensitive data it's difficult to delegate.

2.1.10 Secretary of the Movement (Wilfred Lamont)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- Creating a new suite of templates for use by the secretary at Things.
Feeling like I was getting into the rhythm of preparing for meetings and

Is there anything which you would like to have done which you didn't manage to do in the year?

- Do more work to sort out the committee drive and dig up the useful stuff whilst getting rid of useless info.

How are you feeling about the role?

- I really enjoy this role and I'm looking forward to continuing into my second year.

If your role continues into the next year, what do you want to do with your role?

- Create more Rough Guides and Tips from the Secretary documents to help my successor secretary and the movement at large.

2.1.11 Shadow Events Representative (Callista Smithson-Swain)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- Admining for winter wonderland, and also attending committee events such as spring thing.

Is there anything which you would like to have done which you didn't manage to do in the year?

- I would have liked to be involved in different roles on the coord team so I plan to volunteer for more next year.

How did your handover go?

- The handover went well, I think the shadowing for a year made me much more confident in the role.

How are you feeling about the role?

- I am feeling confident and I am excited to work with the rest of committee and coord to run the next year's camps

If your role continues into the next year, what do you want to do with your role?

- I would like to continue having a large co-ord team on events to get more non committee members involved and spread out the workload more evenly

2.1.12 Shadow MEST-UP Coordinator (Joseph Hammond)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- attending business events and joining the coord team for DF camp, aswell as beginning my involvement with the Camp-100 planning team and PAC project. I believe these experiences have sufficiently prepared me to take on more responsibility as MEST-UP coordinator next year, and have given me the opportunity to consider how I believe MEST-UP should be run at DF events next year as well as Camp-100.

Is there anything which you would like to have done which you didn't manage to do in the year?

- As my primary responsibility as shadow MEST-UP was to prepare to be MEST-UP coord and I feel I have done so, there is nothing in particular I feel I have failed to achieve in my tenure. I would perhaps have liked to have had a more active role in MEST-UP during my year as shadow, but whoever becomes shadow MEST-UP next year will not have this issue as they will need to be quite involved in assisting me in coordinating the planning for MEST-UP at camp 100

How did your handover go?

- At last old new there were no incumbent or newly elected MEST-UP or shadow MEST-UP coordinators other than myself. This was not much of an issue as the role I was taking on did not require me to take on any direct responsibilities straight away, although it did leave me a little confused as to the exact parameters of my role. This will not be an issue this year as I will be attending old new and all thing and can explain what a shadow role entails. And as there are far more MEST-UP representatives trained now than there were this time last year, I feel that many DFs have a much clearer idea of what exactly MEST-UP is.

How are you feeling about the role?

- Confident. We have an enthusiastic, newly trained MEST-UP team and I feel that whoever takes on the role of shadow next year will find there are many ways to get involved over the year. With camp 100 coming up, I'm hoping that the next shadow coordinator will be able to become progressively more and more involved in planning for that and DF-camps. And with the training and MEST-UP presence I predict at camp-100, will take over the role of Coordinator after camp-100 with a skillset and a team of MEST-UP reps behind them that will allow them to continue to expand and improve MEST-UP over their tenure.

2.1.12 Shadow Treasurer (Maya Liley)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- I got added to the bank account (very useful as a treasurer) and took over from Joe in July as head of the team. I was in charge of paying for the DF camp site as well as reimbursements and fairer fair related to that camp.

How did your handover go?

- A little rushed but I got my core questions answered.

How are you feeling about the role?

- A little overwhelmed but I know I can go to Joe or Morgan with any questions and they'll answer them without judgment.

If your role continues into the next year, what do you want to do with your role?

- Make sure DFs are able to continue putting on successful and productive events.

Anything you've found difficult which you would like to review?

- Make sure DFs are able to continue putting on successful and productive events.

2.2 Reports from Non-Committee Role-Holders

2.2.1 Big Camps Representative (Seren Waite)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- Camp 100 planning is well underway and going really well!!! Bookings are open and the volunteer team is growing as bookings start to come in - my year has been taken up by working on lots of aspects and coordinating Camp 100

Is there anything which you would like to have done which you didn't manage to do in the year?

- I would like to start getting in some bookings of lone/groups of DFs who don't have a district to come to camp 100 - and a way to reach out to recently aged-out DFs to make sure they'll come back for Camp. Also DFs should start pestering their districts to get their booking applications in!

If your role continues into the next year, what do you want to do with your role?

- The work for Camp 100 will increase over the year as we approach - my aim for the role within DFs is to use it to help as many to attend and volunteer at camp as possible, and feel involved in all the aspects of decision making about the camp (the camp is for young people and should also be run by young people!)

2.2.1 Scottish Liaison (Aisling Stuart)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- I loved helping to connect scottish dfs to national events. This year I've aimed to try and foster a better understanding of dfs within Scotland and I believe this will result in a higher Scottish presence at future events.

Is there anything which you would like to have done which you didn't manage to do in the year?

- I would've loved to create a group of scottish dfs to share their opinion to committee to try and advocate for better considerations when it comes to travel to events from scotland.

How did your handover go?

- I did not receive a hand over as previously this role was not filled.

How are you feeling about the role?

- Really good! It's felt like a good launch point into my involvement with committee in the future

Anything you've found difficult which you would like to review?

- I think the lack of guidance of what regional liaisons roles means is lacking. I'm happy to speak to future liaisons about my experiences.

Anything else you would like to add?

- Thank you for the best year in committee evvaaaaa 

2.2.1 Welsh Liaison (Lara Sayers)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- I had some level of communication with the Scottish Liaison and managed to gain some knowledge on how DF Committee works

Is there anything which you would like to have done which you didn't manage to do in the year?

- Create more contact across Welsh DFs

How are you feeling about the role?

- I feel as if I didn't do enough last year, and I would like to do more

If your role continues into the next year, what do you want to do with your role?

- I would like to gain more contact with other Welsh DFs to create more of a community

Anything you've found difficult which you would like to review?

- It's hard to get in contact with other Welsh DFs. But that's more of a me problem

2.3 Reports from Supervisory Role-Holders

2.3.1 Accessibility Representative (Esme Thompson)

What were the highlights of your work for Committee this year?

- Creating the first aid kit spreadsheet and working alongside safeguarding to help make our events more accessible for some individuals

Is there anything which you would like to have done which you didn't manage to do in the year?

- Allow for the first aid spreadsheet to be scaled, propose a sort of merge of the training and first aid fairy roles and to come up with a better way to store our access information so that those who need it receive it properly

How are you feeling about the role?

- Pretty good

If your role continues into the next year, what do you want to do with your role?

- Hard to finish things in a timely manner, I tend to forget about things until right before an event

3 Treasury Reports

3.1 Annual Financial Report

Neither of the treasurers nor the Shadow Treasurer could make Althing and the Secretary forgot to get a financial report in advance. However Joe had presented a financial report in July at Summer Thing which covered the finances of the past 12 months and showed generally stable reserves and no causes for concern.

3.2 Treasurer Performance Report

As required by the Constitution, Committee submitted a report on the success of the Treasurer in order to inform elections for this important role. Wilf delivered the report:

Committee would like to give a really big thank you to our wonderful treasurers, Morgan Britton-Voss and Joe Walker, who are both leaving us this Althing. We would like to extend particular thanks to Joe, who is finishing his third year of service as treasurer, including his shadow year when the actual treasurer was AWOL in Australia. This continuity has been vital for cleaning up the books and bringing our finance practice up to a standard that will allow application for grants and other great stuff.

4 Motions

Tyler explained the hand signals used in democratic discussions in DFs, including quotations from the A to Z of Good Discussion.

4.1 Motion 24-01 (No Brunch)

- Proposed By** Nyx Cook-Hayward
- BODY** This DF Althing believes there should be no brunch on DF events. Ever.
- RATIONALE** If you were at summer camp, this will be self-explanatory.

Tyler presented the motion on behalf of the proposer. At DF Camp 2024, there were two mornings with Brunch instead of Breakfast and Lunch. It was agreed that the end effect of this was less food for participants, which came as late as a normal lunch, and which delayed the start to the day. Althing acknowledged that the theoretical basis of brunch on DF events (reducing work for early-morning

cooking clans) was sound, but that the execution was not good. There was a low temperature on overnight oats, but a proposal was accepted for a recommendation for simpler breakfasts.

The meeting moved to take a vote on the motion.

For: 11; Against: 0; Abstain: 1
Motion carried

4.2 Motion 24-02 (Change to the Food Policy)

Proposed By Paul Nolan Paley

BODY This DF Althing changes section 4 of the [Food Policy](#) of the Movement to reflect what is, for the most part, already practised on camps. The proposed edits to section 4 can be found below.

RATIONALE These changes would set a standard that DFs should not expense meat in line with our values of running as ethically and sustainably as possible

The production of meat and other animal products can have a burden on the environment and is important in planning a meal as sustainability is a key aspect of our movement. **Preparing meat also presents more food hygiene risks than vegetarian/vegan options.** It is suggested to make Vegan meals **whenever practicable** as they can be more sustainable and allow everyone to eat it rather than creating many different meals.

While this is true, a fully vegan event is not inclusive to everyone, coming to a DF event can be a difficult step and we should strive to make people feel welcome and comfortable. **Therefore, As a middle ground that reflects an effort as a movement to be more ethically and environmentally conscionable, camp menus should be made fully vegetarian, and vegetarian protein sources should be provided in an appropriate amount across the event. This is not designed as a ban on meat from camps, but as a guideline that KPs should not include meat in camp menus, and that meat products will not be expensed for events. A reasonable exception to this is when allergens mean an individual(s) on camp are unable to meet their protein requirements from vegetarian sources, or when other medical requirements render meat essential to their diet. ~~meat and other animal products should be provided in an appropriate amount across the event. e.g. bacon/halloumi for breakfast, meat/cheese in sandwiches, cheese to add to pasta, etc. Vegetarian protein sources should be provided in an appropriate amount across the event.~~**

Concerns about cruelty to animals are important as people may not be comfortable with an event supporting these industries and should be considered when finding suppliers. In order to reduce discomfort, the Clan Rota should make

sure that people preparing meat are meat eaters and that clans have a fair balance of dietary requirements.

Tyler presented the motion on behalf of the proposer and summarised the proposals. Nuala explained that the DF Camp coord team had a discussion on this topic which generated this motion. Concerns were raised about complaints from participants and about placing too many limits on KPs who already have many competing factors to consider when catering a camp

Tyler summarised the sense of the meeting as support for the content of the motion but a reluctance to enshrine all of its requirements in policy, given that coord teams always have their own negotiations on this issue for each event. The food policy is in need of review, and Winter Thing will be a better forum to workshop finer wording changes.

| *Action: Update the Food Policy at Winter Thing 2024*

The meeting moved to take a vote on the motion.

For: 0; Against: 10; Abstain: 2
Motion falls

4.3 Motion 24-03 (Preventing Laymember Overexertion)

Proposed By Tyler Eckersall

BODY This Althing sees an addition to section B.1.5.6 of the constitution, specifying that the laymembers may not also hold another Committee Role

RATIONALE Last year, DF Committee had to co-opt a new laymember after the elected DF (who also held another committee role) realised they had unknowingly taken away a space of a DF not on Committee. Similarly, in the past, we have had issues with laymembers being unable to complete their role of easing other DF's workloads because they themselves are hard at work on a separate woodcraft project.

No longer permitting the laymembers to have another committee role should mean that we maximise involvement in DF committee, whilst also helping to keep everyone's workload slightly more balanced.

Tyler presented the motion and clarified that this did not prevent holders of non-committee roles from holding the Laymember role. It was raised that this motion aimed to prevent committee members from taking on too much responsibility, but the Constitution still allows roles such as Events and Chair to be held by the same person.

A proposal was made to pause the discussion and resume after Motion 24-08 Althing reconvened to discuss the motion. The focus of the proposed amendment was to avoid overexertion of all committee members but concerns were raised about emergency situations developing where there weren't enough nominations to cover all Committee roles.

Amendment: This Althing changes section B.1.4.6 of the constitution so that one person may not hold more than one role on DF Committee.

The amendment passes.

The meeting moved to take a vote on the amended motion:

This Althing changes section B.1.4.6 of the constitution so that one person may not hold more than one role on DF Committee.

For: 10; Against: 2; Abstain: 0
Motion carried

4.4 Motion 24-04 (Altering the two-stage Election Process)

Proposed By Tyler Eckersall

BODY This Althing will see section B.1.7.1 and B.1.9.1 of the constitution altered to allow elections for Chair of DF Committee and MEST-UP Coordinator to no longer require a second round of voting if there is one candidate who has been selected as EVERY voters first choice on the ballot form.

RATIONALE Currently, the elections for Chair of DF Committee and MEST UP Coordinator require a second round of voting to happen after the entire movement has had their say, in which the newly elected DF Committee and the MEST UP reps choose their respective coordinators. This makes a lot of sense in an election that is highly contested, but for specific circumstances where there is only one candidate running alongside RON for each role, I believe this causes an

unnecessary admin headache for the person running the election.

I think that if one candidate is everyone's first choice, ensuring that not even one DF placed RON first, then this second election should be no longer required. We need to ride the Althing momentum as a movement and we don't need this extra step getting in the way.

This process should absolutely remain for all truly contested elections.

Tyler introduced the motion and explained the current system. It was suggested that it might make sense to extend the motion so that any election with just one candidate does not require a second round, but this would remove the possibility of the second round voters collectively rejecting a lone candidate and leaving the position vacant or re-opening nominations.

The meeting moved to take a vote on the motion:

For: 12; Against: 0; Abstain: 0
Motion carried

4.5 Motion 24-05 (Change to the Shift Policy)

Proposed By Esmé Thompson

BODY This DF Althing updates the [Shift Policy](#) to make the following provisions for large DF events:

- At least two people on shift trained in MEST-UP
- At least two people on shift trained in first aid
- A 1:10 ratio of sober adults to other participants

RATIONALE This reflects current practice in DFs and external guidelines.

Wilf presented the Motion on the proposer's behalf and explained the provisions in the current shift policy:

- For events under 50 participants, a minimum of 2 people on shift
- For events over 50 participants, a minimum of 4 people on shift
- Every shift must contain one MEST-UP and one First Aider

There were concerns that the new policy requirements would be too high to meet at every event, but also a recognition that written documents produced by DFs are always aspirational in nature and should present the best picture of what

should be done. The idea of a 'get out' clause was floated, but it was pointed out it was unwise to create contradictions in policy instructions.

Discussion moved to shifts on DF Camp 2024. This event was the first to expand the Coord/Committee shift to a general volunteering shift for those who wish to take on responsibility on camp. Althing agreed that there were aspects of the implementation of this new 'Orange Shift' that could be improved. The volunteers on Orange Shift were often not well-informed enough to perform the role previously filled by Coord/Committee Shift, meaning that off-shift coordinators were often called upon by participants. Althing recommended that Orange Shift volunteers be made aware of the following things in a meeting at the start of an event.

- The location of important resources on camp
- Their responsibility for recording participants leaving and returning to site.
- The kind of support for the operation of the event that they are responsible for.

Althing additionally recommended that:

- Handover between shifts be improved, with a defined time, location and content of handover between Orange Shift volunteers.
- A role description for the Orange Shift be prepared at Old/New.
- That more members of DF Committee receive safeguarding training so that they can act as the event Safeguarding Lead, who currently has oversight over shifts.

Action: Investigate Safeguarding training for more members of Committee

It was noted that the practicalities of shifts during the day and during the night are very different, and that the recommendations are good for the higher demands of night shifts, but that numbers do not need to be as high for day shifts.

Amendment: Create a distinction between day and night shifts in policy and retain the existing rules for day shifts and only apply the new numbers to night shifts on large events.

Amendment passes.

The first two points of the motion cover the DF-conceived notions of peer responsibility and 'shifts', whilst the third covers broader legal guidelines for residential events for children, taken out of the DF context. It was suggested that the third point is therefore an assumed baseline which is beyond the scope of collaboratively edited DF policy.

Amendment: Remove the third point from the motion.

Amendment passes.

The meeting moved to take a vote on the amended motion:

This DF Althing updates the [Shift Policy](#) to define a difference between nighttime and daytime shifts and to make the following provisions for night shifts at large DF events:

- *At least two people on shift trained in MEST-UP*
- *At least two people on shift trained in first aid*

The policy for other shifts will remain those currently written in policy.

For: 9; Against: 2; Abstain: 1
Motion carried

Action: Secretary to update the policy

4.6 Motion 24-06 (Manchester Liaison)

Proposed By	Thomas Boxall
BODY	This Althing removes the non-committee role of Manchester Liaison from the DF Constitution.
RATIONALE	It is recognised that the Manchester Liaison Role was a role created by DF democracy, but it is pointless and was created at a camp with a large Manchester group.

Althing acknowledged that the regional liaison roles - that is non-committee DFs taking responsibility for increasing DF engagement on a local level in their own region. However, a truly decentralised regional model needs all regions to be represented, and there is not currently capacity for a full suite of regional reps. Althing praised the effectiveness of London and Scotland (practically, the Central Belt conurbation) as local centres of DF action, but it was suggested that other potential regions are either too disparate (eg. Wales) or do not have large enough DF populations (eg. Manchester).

At the same time, Althing recognised that it was important to retain constitutional provision for roles like these so that they can be filled if a willing DF and regional DF community appears.

The meeting moved to take a vote on the motion:

For: 4; Against: 8; Abstain: 0
Motion falls

4.7 Motion 24-07 (Two Events Reps)

Proposed By Nuala Doak

BODY This Althing sees an addition of another Events Representative to the role of 'Events', making it a two person role

RATIONALE The Events Representative undertakes an extensive workload, which can be a great source of stress and incredibly overwhelming. This motion seeks to protect the Events Representative, ensuring that they are never left alone in their role.

The implementation of this would mean that both Events Representatives would have a vote on Committee, as well as being expensed for Things.

Nuala opened discussion on the motion. The cause of stress for the Events Rep in the past year was agreed to be a failure of support systems on Committee and not the nature of the role *per se*, but action is needed to protect the holder of this demanding role from burnout. The Events Rep has a large responsibility for coordination of different teams. This means it is easy for the role-holder to take on too much responsibility without meaning to. Althing agreed that looking into underlying issues with events coordination could be more productive than increasing the number of reps permanently - the '22/'23 Committee had two events reps and was not necessarily more successful with this issue. Althing noted that the Events Rep or Reps should never be required to come to every social event or be heavily involved in its coordination.

Action: Old/New to compose a new set of Coord Team role descriptions

Action: Old/New to compose a constitutional role description for the Events Representative

The meeting moved to take a vote on the motion:

For: 1; Against: 8; Abstain: 3
Motion falls

4.8 Motion 24-08 (Committee and Non-Committee)

Proposed By Wilfred Lamont

BODY This DF Althing amends the list of primary roles on DF Committee and the list of Non-committee roles (Articles B.1.4.1.3 and B.3.3.2.) The current composition of the lists is found in Table A and the amended lists are found in Table B, both below

RATIONALE This motion is a development of a musing at Winter Thing 2023. At the moment it seems that the only distinction between committee and non-committee roles is whether or not they are expensed at Things, and the side of the line that a role falls is sometimes slightly arbitrary. I think we should focus on the distinction between roles that have a role in continuing our organisation through institutional frameworks (committee) and the coordinators of grassroots action to actually achieve the Movement’s aims (non-committee).

Table A

Underlined roles are two-year roles

Starred* roles are one-year roles with shadow-roles

Committee	Non-Committee Roles
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activism Representative • Chair of Committee • <u>Communications Representative</u> • Events Representative* • <u>Fundraising Representative</u> • <u>Lay Member 1</u> • <u>Lay Member 2</u> • MEST-UP Coordinator* • <u>Outreach Representative</u> • <u>Safeguarding Representative</u> • <u>Secretary of the Movement</u> • Shadow Events Representative • Shadow MEST-UP Coordinator • Shadow Treasurer • <u>Training Representative</u> • Treasurer* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zine • Web Fairy • First Aid Fairy • Venturer Committee and Venturer Camp Liaison • International Opportunities • <u>General Council (Even)</u> • <u>General Council (Odd)</u> • Podcast Coordinator • London Liaison • Wales Liaison • Scotland Liaison • Manchester Liaison • Big Camps Representative • Sustainability Representative

Then there is a third category with just one role

Supervisory Role: Accessibility Representative

Table B

Underlined roles are two-year roles

DF Committee	Non-Committee
(running any charity) • Chair of Committee* • <u>Secretary of the Movement</u> • Treasurer* (running a youth movement) • <u>Communications Representative</u> • Events Representative* (running a safe and ethical movement) • Accessibility Representative • MEST-UP Coordinator* • <u>Safeguarding Representative</u> • <u>Training Representative</u>	• Activism Representative • Fundraising Representative • Outreach Representative • Venturer Committee and Venturer Camp Liaison • International Opportunities • London Liaison • Wales Liaison • Scotland Liaison • Manchester Liaison • Big Camps Representative • Podcast Coordinator • Zine
Shadow Treasurer Shadow Events Representative Shadow MEST-UP Coordinator	<u>General Council (Even)</u> <u>General Council (Odd)</u>

First Aid Fairy becomes a secondary role of committee

Wilf presented the motion and Althing split into a number of small discussion groups to come up with recommendations for the movement of roles on and off Committee. The discussion groups compared their findings and worked to establish consensus. Althing wished to retain the supervisory status of some roles, rather than incorporating them into Committee, because their independence from Committee needed to be safeguarded. Althing agreed that the sustainability of the Movement was integral to its functioning and that therefore it was inappropriate to have the Sustainability role off committee. Like accessibility, the holder of this role should be able to act independently of Committee, as a critic where necessary. No other roles were approved for movement. The agreed change was formulated as an amendment and voted on.

Amendment: Include reference to supervisory roles and specify the change as making sustainability a supervisory role

Amendment passes.

The meeting moved to take a vote on the amended motion:

This DF Althing amends the list of supervisory roles to DF Committee and the list of Non-committee roles (Sections B.2 and B.3.3.2.), so that the Sustainability Representative is made a supervisory role.

For: 9; Against: 2; Abstain: 1
Motion carried

4.9 Motion 24-09 (DF Moots)

Proposed By Wilfred Lamont

BODY This DF Althing amends article B.1.2.4 of the DF Constitution from:

In order to achieve the above purposes [of DF Committee], the DF business events (see section B.4) may from time to time establish sub-committees and working groups with delegated powers.

To:

B.1.2.4 Delegation of Powers

In order to achieve the above purposes, the DF business events (see section B.4) or DF Committee may from time to time establish Moots with delegated powers.

B.1.2.4.1 The purpose and powers of a Moot should be clearly defined and it may be established for a limited period or on a permanent basis.

B.1.2.4.2 A Moot must update the Movement on its work at Business Events, through verbal or written reports, proposals or motions.

B.1.2.4.3 A Moot **must** appoint a chair, who is responsible for coordinating the group and chairing meetings.

B.1.2.4.4 A Moot **may** appoint a secretary who is responsible for record-keeping for the group and minute-taking at meetings and may appoint any other roles designated by the Moot.

B.1.2.4.5 A Moot may have a closed membership defined by DF Committee or the Business Event that establishes it, or may be open to

RATIONALE

Jack Brown's DF Standing Orders contain references to 'posses' /'pɒ.si/ ([definition](#)), which seem to have been permanent sub-committees open to all members of the Movement and chaired by a member of committee, for example the 'Finances and Fundraising Posse', chaired by the Treasurer.

This is funny because me and Tyler were just talking about establishing proper constitutional support for working groups and brainstorming a special DF name for them at DF Camp this year.

The concept itself is not unfamiliar to DFs in 2024. Currently we establish unelected, open-membership discussion/planning groups multiple times a year - they are called coord teams. We need to encourage the creation of similar groups to achieve the purposes of DFs through means other than residential events.

Other name ideas: sub-committee, working group,, wapentake, dynamo

After Wilf had presented the motion, the meeting moved to take a vote.

For: 14; Against: 0; Abstain: 0
Motion carried

4.10 Motion 24-10 (2027 Moot)

Proposed By Wilfred Lamont

BODY This DF Althing establishes a '2027 Moot'. The moot will be responsible for conducting long-term planning for the 50th anniversary of the DF Movement in 2027. This includes but is not limited to the planning of events, publications, campaigns and educational projects. The moot will be in operation until Althing 2026, at which point its work will be transferred to the 2026/27 Committee. The moot will be chaired by the Shadow Events Representative of DF Committee and will also appoint a secretary. The moot may from time to time create other roles (eg. comms, kinsfolk liaison, budget adviser etc.) to be taken on by its members, according to the plans it makes. Membership of the moot is open to all DFs and will be promoted in national comms.

RATIONALE Delilah's history of DFs workshop at DF Camp got people

talking about the upcoming anniversary. It feels like a long way a way so it would be easy for it to fall by the wayside if we don't create a space in our organisation dedicated to it. Camp100 and Vcamp 2026 are the two key milestones between now and our anniversary and we don't want to let them pass us by without using them to build up this project - so let's get started now!

A motion or even a musing is too short to contain all the ideas that could go into Project 2027, so we need to create a group that will meet regularly outside Things and social events to work on them. Additionally, a good proportion of the 24/25 Committee won't be part of the Movement by 2027, so it's not really up to us to lead the discussion.

After Wilf had presented the motion, the meeting moved to take a vote.

For: 13; Against: 0; Abstain: 1
Motion carried

4.11 Motion 24-11 (International Moot)

Proposed By Mickey Lowe

BODY This Althing establishes an International Moot for discussion of and work towards international participation on DF events and increased participation by DFs in international events. The moot will be chaired by the International Opportunities Representative.

RATIONALE This is a difficult task and requires coordination of different members of committee. It would be good to have dedicated space to work on this project with a team to support the International Rep.

After Mickey had presented the motion, the meeting moved to take a vote.

For: 11; Against: 1; Abstain: 2
Motion carried

4.12 Motion 24-12 (No clan for coord team)

Proposed By Nyx Cook-Hayward

BODY This Althing recommends that members of the coord team for a DF event are not included in the event clan rota.

RATIONALE

Coord teams do so much to make these events run smoothly both before and during the event. Therefore this would ensure that the work of making the event enjoyable and good would be spread more evenly among all attending dfs. This would also incentivise more people to step forward to be a part of coord teams, meaning that more events could be run, they would be much more stress-free for those organising, and again the burden would spread more evenly among dfs. This does not mean that the coord team would be doing nothing on the event, of course that would not be the case. Instead, they would be available all day whenever they are needed to help with anything that their specific role requires rather than being bound up by being on clan. For example, the kps would be available to help with cooking clan, restocking the snack table or to help someone who accidentally missed a meal, the programme team would be able to dedicate their day to running and preparing for the programme activities that have been planned for that day/ the event, the kes would be available to help with site tidy clans/ any technical difficulties that occur while on the event, the admin coord team would be available to check that those going off site are not on clan/ have found cover for their clan to help combat the lack of dfs that actually turn up for clan. Additionally, all teams would be available to help with any general concerns or qualms to do with the running of the event all day- such as clan wrangling, which would also help to combat the lack of dfs turning up for clan.

Wilf presented the motion on the behalf of the proposer. Everyone at a DF event should contribute to the management of the community, which is why clan is so important to the way we operate, and why skipping clan is not acceptable. Althing agreed that event coord teams make a very large contribution already. This contribution starts well before camp and coord team members are regularly called upon during the event. For this reason, Althing agreed that inclusion of coord team members on the clan rota, giving them additional work was not desirable.

The meeting moved to take a vote on the motion.

For: 10; Against: 0; Abstain: 2
Motion carried

4.13 Motion 24-13 (“Manchester Leiasgon”)

Proposed By Maddie Wilkes-Blazewicz

BODY This Althing changes the title of the Manchester Liaison role to “Manchester Leiasgon” [including quotation marks]. Each time it is spoken aloud, it must be with air quotes. Punishable by enforced clan, enforced by other liaisons.

RATIONALE The Manchester liaison has been unnecessary and will be held in 2024-25 by someone from Bristol who has never visited Manchester. But it was created by DF democracy and should serve as a reminder of poorly thought out decisions, the tyranny of the majority etc.

After Maddie had presented the motion, the meeting moved to take a vote.

For: 9; Against: 3; Abstain: 0
Motion carried

5 Musings

5.1 DFs in the Summer of 2025

Seren led a discussion on DF plans for the Summer 2025. DF camp has had to be scaled back in recent years when Woodcraft has held a Big Camp nationally - Common Ground in 2022 and Vcamp in 2023. There are concerns that there will be fewer people to volunteer and attend a week-long DF Camp and Althing weekend soon after Camp100 next summer. Althing split into two breakout rooms to discuss the issue and reconvened to compare conclusions. Althing recommended that DFs should hold a combined Althing and DF camp about a week after Camp100 over four nights.

It would offer an opportunity to integrate more DFs in 2025's elections and democratic processes and could be prepared with democracy workshops throughout the year. The combined event may be billed under the DF Camp name, the Althing name or a third alternative name.

Althing wants to continue to promote volunteering by DFs at Camp100. Workshops and discussions will continue at DF events coming up in the next year. Althing wants to make it easy for young volunteers to find a role that suits them. Anna plans to develop a flowchart-style guide or online tool that will help with this. Its distribution will be supported by DF Comms. Althing particularly encourages young people to stay for Camp100 takedown and arrive early to help with Working Week. A large DF presence in these efforts would be positive for the Movement's image and make a good social environment.

5.2 Internal Comms

A Musing developed over lunch about internal communications on the New Committee that was to be elected. Internal comms will be improved for the new committee to allow everyone on Committee to know what's going on with different roles and to improve division and coordination of labour. Suggestions were made for a change in the platform we use for DF Business. WhatsApp Communities as an alternative to disparate chats were suggested, as well as a move to a Discord server, as has been done for Vcamp and Camp100 coordination.

5.3 Spring Awakening

Nuala led a discussion on the nature of the Spring Awakening event. Spring Awakening 2024 was cancelled by the site managers due to an electrical fault developing leading up to the event. The Spring Awakening event is usually smaller because it falls before the beginning of exam season for those in education. Althing recognised that it is more useful to work on cultivating a good atmosphere on a scaled-back event than to aim for a large and ambitious event that will not attract as many bookings or be supported by a large team of volunteers. The ambition in the planning and the execution of a Spring Awakening event is a function of the exam stress of those involved.

Althing recommended that Spring Awakening would work well in 2025 as a chiller, smaller event with a focus on wellbeing, led by MEST-UP. Quiet time to make revision possible should be built into the programme. It is hoped that for those who do choose to attend, the event will have a positive impact on their wellbeing as they enter a stressful period of their education.

5.4 Integration of different groups of DFs

Wilf introduced the musing on the behalf of Nyx. The musing aimed to find ways to integrate different social groups of DFs on larger camps, where cliques are often present. The decisions coordinators can make through programme and other camp structures were up for discussion.

Camp Friend was mentioned in the introduction to the musing and Althing agreed with the muser that its focus should be on creating social connections rather than anonymous gift exchange. Joe Hammond expressed Althing's view concisely with the following:

'Do something *with* your Camp Friend, not just *for* them.'

However, this guidance can only ever be guidance as the breaking down of cliques through programme and other coord team action is only effective if accompanied by a cultural shift across the whole event.

Smaller events are less prone to division and elements of camp design (eg. the location and attractiveness of the smoking area) have a noticeable effect on where people congregate and the cliques that form. Working together to run camp is the best way of creating a unified social group, so clan work, clan

teambuilding and grassroots organising for games and activities (walks, ratchet screwdriver, ball games, card games) rather than top-down programme are very effective. Althing remembered positively the increase in contributions at Circle by ordinary participants over the course of DF Camp. It was also reminded of the fact that the coord team and DF Committee are in fact the 'biggest and best clique of them all'. They should lead the cultural shift they want to see.

6 Hustings

Nominations for 2024-2025 Committee and Non-committee roles were closed. The list of roles remaining to be filled can be co-opted after Old/New.

The list of roles was read out and one-by-one each person gave their short hustings speech. Candidates running *in absentia* had submitted hustings speeches in advance. These we read out and committed to the minutes

6.1 Committee Roles

6.1.1 MEST-UP Coordinator

Joseph Hammond (20)

I have been shadow MEST-UP coordinator for a year and am now ready to take over as MEST-UP coordinator

6.1.2 Shadow MEST-UP Coordinator

Martin Munns-Faleyev (16)

I am very interested in learning about supporting, organising MEST-UP, and being involved with such things in the future

Alyx Langford (17)

As someone who's been helped a lot by the people in MEST-UP I understand how important the space is and want to give something back and help others in the same way. I am a good listener and feel like I could do lots in the role because I care about people and want to help in any way I can.

6.1.3 Events Representative

Wren Chambers (17)

I enjoy helping others and being able to participate and see my impact in events and in the woodcraft community. I want to be elected for the role because I am good at organizing and able to listen and take on advice and build on it in group discussions. I want to be able to see my impact in woodcraft.

Aisling Stuart (18) and **Callista Smithson Swain (20)**

Aisling: Hi! My name's Aisling, and I am running for the role of Events Representative, you might know me from admin coord teams or as a member of the committee last year. I am co-running for this position with Callie.

My past experience standing as Scottish Liaison has not only allowed me to immerse myself into both committee and coordination sections of the df movement, but has extended my interest into event coordination. Additionally I am attending university for production management after the summer. The skill set required within production management is closely aligned with that of the role of events, for example, facilitating communication, the organisational aspects, administration techniques, as well as most importantly planning. All of these skills allow me a running start into the events role.

I want to make our events a more inclusive and welcoming place to all of our attendees to help make our events unforgettable! By voting for me and Callie, you are supporting two highly skilled committee members who can help us bring our dream events into reality

Callie: I think that I could contribute a lot to the events team, bringing new ideas and being actively involved in the planning and running of df camps and trips. Being shadow events for the last year has given me a lot of experience in understanding how a woodcraft event is organised and ran. Within this year I was on the admin team for winter wonderland, and spring awakening, and have really enjoyed taking an active part in committee. Woodcraft folk events have been a huge part of my life, from regional camps as a woodchip, to df events of all kinds. This is why I would love the opportunity to continue helping to organise them, and would really enjoy being on the events team.

6.1.4 Shadow Events Representative

Nyx Cook-Hayward (17)

I have been part of the programme team for two events for two different roles (programme and kp), which means i have an understanding of how these two roles work- albeit this is limited for kping due to the cancellation of spring awakening. I love coming to df events and will be dedicated to continuing to attend and also making the event run smoothly so that others will choose to come again/ want to attend for the first time. I am prepared to help the events representative in any way they need, if i am able to do so. Idrk what else to put but also im great pls vote for me 😊

Wren Chambers (17)

I enjoy helping others and being able to participate and see my impact in events and in the woodcraft community. I want to be elected for the role because I am good at organizing and able to listen and take on advice and build on it in group discussions. I want to be able to see my impact in woodcraft.

Cherry Tucker (18)

DF events are so wonderful and are such a safe space. Getting to spend time at events and with cool people is brilliant and I always have so much fun. With that being said I know it is this way due to the organising and coord teams and I'd love to be a part of making it happen. I think I'd be good at the role as I'm very organised, I like planning, and seeing a final product is a great feeling. I have planned protests /events before but nothing residential so I'd love to expand my horizons in the shadow role

6.1.5 Treasurer

Maya Liley (20)

Having been shadow treasurer for the last year, I've developed vital skills for running the treasury team and learnt from the very best. I am committed to providing a stable treasury for DFs to allow us to continue putting on the very best events we can (the best year of DFs is on the horizon!). I've been in woodcraft since elfins and I would love the opportunity to give back to the organisation that formed a large part of my childhood.

6.1.6 Shadow Treasurer

Alex Thompson (17)

I have been in woodcraft my whole life and have always enjoyed volunteering and helping the movement. Currently I have lots of time to donate, and this role really resonates with my skill set, being a maths student; (also would look great on ucas icl). I would be able to ensure better budgets, and create more transparency with DFs so people know where money is going and why. Also it would be great for DFs to get younger members into the treasurer position so that votes can be competitive, and the role can be filled by the person doing the best, rather than the only option.

6.1.7 Activism Representative

Salma Nassar (16)

I think I should be elected to be the activism representative because I am very passionate about the politics and morals behind organisations such as woodcraft, and I think it is important to curate a clear view of what woodcraft folk stands for

6.1.8 Fundraising Representative

Eddie Baker-Thompson (19)

I think the DF movement could do with having some more money and there are lots of missed opportunities for us to get some. I have some experience applying for grants, funding and awards that would be really useful to this role. I also think part of the reason woodcraft is such a powerful thing is that it can give young people such great opportunities and as fundraising rep I'd be able to help create more such as trying to coordinate festival volunteering. I'd love to explore DF

merch and strongly believe the lack of it is a missed opportunity. Get DFs money and cool stuff!!!

6.1.9 Even Laymember

Wren Chambers (17)

I am good at organizing and love working in a team and discussing and building ideas. I also want to be able to see my impact in DFs and wider woodcraft.

Lara Sayers (17)

Having been on DF Committee for the past year as the Welsh Liaison, I would like to take a more active role in helping and supporting the committee in running DFs. Taking this role would mean a great deal to me, and I would love to start taking steps in helping and supporting DFs.

Huw Hickman (20)

Having been on GC for two years I've realised just how important the role of DF's is peoples Woodcraft experience specifically in the transition from young person to adult. It is also one of the only aspects of Woodcraft Folk that is truly youth-led and I'd like to be a part of that and help out how I can.

6.1.10 Outreach Representative

Molly Hawker (19)

As someone who has only recently discovered the wonderful world of DFs, I feel I have missed a big three year chunk of opportunity of DF involvement. I am now determined to encourage young folk up and down the country to join this beautiful organisation before it's too late and if I am elected as the outreach representative of DF committee, I believe this would give me an opportunity to do so. I would also be super keen to work with the events team to encourage DFs as an organisation to get involved/support various other youth movement organisations/action groups to ensure DFs can consciously contribute to wider world issues via national youth co-operation, as well as creating a space to learn from other organisations in ways that will be beneficial to both us and them.

6.1.11 Training Representative

Esmerelda Thompson (20)

I've been first aid trained for several years and have been sorting out the DF first aid kit for the last year. I recognise the ongoing need to train more first aiders and meet up representative and would love to help arrange this. As DF'S we have a unique opportunity to provide young people with these skills to carry into their later lives and I would love to be a large part in facilitating this.

6.1.12 Communications Representative

Katy Indeka (17) and Lida Vincent Agarwal (17)

Hi, we are Lida and Katy, we are co running for communication representatives because we believe we can use our shared experiences of website building, photo and video editing and running instagram pages to move the DFs social media prescience forwards in a way that is informative reflects the movement's current aims and values. We would also like to expand onto instagram reels and potentially other apps and websites.

6.1.13 Chair of DF Committee

Nuala Doak (19)

I've been incredibly successful in my term as Events Rep, restoring camp attendance to pre-covid numbers and successfully running a wonderful DF Summer Camp, that was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone in attendance. This year as Events has given me powerful insight into the inner workings of DFs and DF Committee, I operate with an awareness now of some of the key aspects, which would make us a more optimal team.

Something I've observed is that I have felt quite stressed this year by the amount of responsibility I have taken on and have been grateful for all the support given by my peers. However, I feel that this needs to be structurally implemented into how we function as a team.

Therefore, I will bring pastoral support to the table, as Chair, as I feel we need to honour and look after this incredible team and manage everyone's stress. I want to facilitate the running of a beautiful, harmonious Committee where everyone feels relaxed, proactive, and able to reach their fullest potential. We're moving into a new age of DFs and I would be grateful to give my time, my love, and support to all the lovely people who contribute so much to this organisation.

Tyler Eckersall (19)

For years, DFs has been trying to bring itself back to the glory days of the movement in a pre-pandemic world. Each year, a new committee has been elected on the principles of getting closer to that goal.

Last year, we finally made it. And as chair of last year's committee, I could not be prouder of everything we have achieved. One year ago, I stood here and made a series of big promises to you all. A brand new DF event - Autumn Nocturne. Our biggest Winter Wonderland in 5 years. And to cap it all off, a DF Camp that embodied the spirit of youth organisation and democracy that our movement is founded on.

Together we fulfilled those promises.. And for us to be here now is only thanks to the incredible work of the Committee and the event teams over the last 12 months. Now, with no more catching up to do with our pre-pandemic counterparts, it's time to take DFs to the next level.

My proposition to you is that “DFs never dies”.

WE will be the generation of DFs that represent our movement on the world stage at Camp 100, and we have the opportunity to get one hell of a run-up! Our growth and success means we have so many incredible DF volunteers eager to organise a full calendar of social AND business events, as well as new areas for DFs to expand to on a local level, with the reintroduction of events such as Span The World With Music.

With so many things to get involved with, it is my hope that, if you choose me to chair the next DF Committee, DFs will reach its full potential as a national youth movement and become its own living thing that ANY DF can feel empowered by and in control of, regardless of whether they sit on this committee.

The role of chair isn't to lead the movement. That's not what we're about. It's to be the hype man for all the incredible things we are about to achieve. And that starts with you. A vote for me is a vote for you. Stay with me, and together, we will ensure that for many years to come, DFs never dies!

Thank you.

6.2 Non-Committee Roles

6.2.1 Sustainability Representative

George Goodman (16)

Our world is now in an environmental crisis and has been in this crisis for decades. Yet, governments have sat by as our world burns. Therefore, it is ever the more necessary for individuals and organisations such as ours to not do this and to not sit by. I believe that as an organisation that is aware of our Earth's situation we must ensure that sustainability and the environment must be a core value in the decisions that we make. As you can see, I feel passionate about protecting our environment and hope that this passion can convince you that I deserve your vote for sustainability representative.

Cherry Tucker (18)

My single biggest life goal is to protect the planet. It might sound dramatic but I get so much peace from being outside. I want to protect it. As DFs we do have the power as to keep changing things and making life better for everyone and everything. I want to further what the movement does towards sustainability because we do genuinely have the power!

6.2.2 Zine

Eunice Gardham (18)

Hihi! I'm really into making zines currently, so I would love to ensure materials are available for, and help facilitate zine making at events, and distribution afterwards. This would help us preserve and share all the memories we make. I also have a fair bit of experience making informative zines as resources. I worked on a youth led program, where we made zines to support queer youth wellbeing, supported by a couple charities (and also somehow NHS funding?). Currently I am working on a zine about accessing trans healthcare after the cass review. As well as helping DFs make zines, I would love to use this experience to make some informative zines about DF related topics, for example, maybe a zine to help people feel more confident attending their first event. Thank you :)

Eunice also invited submissions for the Althing Zine.

Action: Zine to investigate Scrap Store via Nuala

6.2.3 Podcast Coordinator

Salma Nassar (16)

I think I would be a good podcast coordinator because I am creative and have an interest in social activities such as podcasts, in addition I have ideas that could make a podcast more interesting, interactive and informative for people both in and out of woodcraft

Wren Chambers (17)

I enjoy planning and organizing and think that coordinating a podcast would be really fun and exciting as I enjoy listening to podcasts myself.

6.2.4 Big Camps Representative

Seren Waite (19)

As Camp 100 Coordinator I'm a good link between centenary plans and the DF movement, and want DFs to be as involved as possible in making Camp 100 happen and guiding what woodcraft should be.

6.2.5 International Opportunities Representative

Mickey Lowe (19)

I was international rep last term and while being the rep international participation by woodcraft has risen from 2 members consistently going to these event to 7+ new members attending international events. This was through my links In ifm to be able to spread the word about and promote woodcraft DF

participation at these events. I planned to get international participation at our latest DF event but it was unsuccessful, however I now have the tools and contacts to lay a solid foundation for the next DF event in hopes of having international participation.

6.2.6 First Aid Fairy

Esmerelda Thompson (20)

I have been first aid fairy and firmly believe this role needs to be continued and expanded into inventorying the kit before events and insure those doing first aid on events are familiar enough with the first aid kit. I have been working towards a thorough inventory spreadsheet but believe there is still work to do so I am rerunning

6.2.7 Wales Liaison

Lara Sayers (17)

I would love to regain my role as Welsh Liaison, and hopefully do more with this role in the coming year. I would love to encourage more community amongst Welsh DFs, and create a community that can grow with time.

6.2.8 London Liaison

Madeleine Wilkes Blazewicz (18)

If you elect me I will use all my planning and organisational skills to ensure the connection and representation of London districts. Woodcraft has been like a family to me, so I want to give back and make others experiences more enjoyable and fun.

6.2.9 Manchester Liaison

Alex Thompson (17)

having literally never been to manchester in my life; I believe I am perfectly suited to this role. shit place anyway, big ups to bristol, btr city.

6.2.10 Accessibility Representative

Eli Knowles (16)

I believe that everyone should be and feel able to participate in DF activities, no matter their physical or mental ability and would like to work to make this as possible as I can. The more people who are able to not only come to DF events but enjoy them to the fullest improves the experience for everyone involved and is incredibly important in my opinion.

I have a personal connection to accessibility through both my own, and my whole family's struggles with ASD; as well as having previously gone to a school that gave a lot of focus to children with disabilities of all kinds. These things have given me the insight to understand that accessibility isn't just physical but about

mental challenges too as well as to the wide variety of accommodations that can improve activities for those with accessibility needs.

Mickey Lowe (19)

Me and Esme coord this role last term and I feel it went successfully, my role would simply be to ensure that everyone who attends any DF events has the right to access everything provided by DFs. I myself have struggled with accessibility issues, I used to be in a wheelchair when I was younger and personally know the struggles people go through and how demeaning it is. If I am elected I will ensure that everyone can attend and enjoy freely DF events. (Happy to coord again)

7 Election Results

Nominations for election opened before the start of DF Camp and workshops were run at the event to introduce the concepts of DF Democracy and encourage nominations. DFs opting in from the wider movement and all of the participants of DF camp were registered to vote in the elections online. After those present in person at Althing had also voted, the votes were combined and counted and the results announced on Saturday evening. The newly elected Committee met online the day after Althing had ended to discuss the candidates for Chair before voting to select their chair, which was carried out by a secret online ballot.

7.1 Committee Roles

Treasurer: Maya Liley

Shadow Treasurer: Alex Thompson

Fundraising: Eedie baker Thompson

Events: Callista Smithson-Swain & Aisling Stuart

Shadow Events: Nyx Cook-Hayward

Activism: Salma Nassar

Outreach: Molly Hawker

Training: Esme Thompson

Communications: Lida Vincent Agarwal & Katy Indeka

Even Laymember: Huw Hickman

MEST UP coordinator: Joe Hammond

Shadow MEST-UP Coordinator: Alyx Langford

Not up for election: Secretary, Safeguarding Representative, Odd Laymember

Vacant: none

7.2 Non-Committee Roles

Zine: Eunice Gardham

International Opportunities Representative: Mickey Lowe

Podcast Coordinator: Salma Nassar
London Liaison: Maddie Wilkes-Blazewicz
Wales Liaison: Lara Sayers
“Manchester Leiasgon” – Alex Thompson
Big Camps Representative – Seren Waite

Vacant: Venturer Committee Liaison, Even General Council Representative

7.3 Supervisory Roles

Accessibility: Eli Knowles
Sustainability: George Goodman