



Scouts
2/77th Manchester
(2nd Whalley Range)



Scout Hut Update February 2020

Back in May 2019, when we were planning the building programme, we anticipated that the Hut would be complete in early October. To give ourselves some room for delays, we said we expected the hut to be open in November 2019. Now, in February, we are hoping to have the hut ready for the start of the summer term, towards the end of April. We are in the final stages of the work now, so we can be reasonably confident about this, but there are still things that could delay this, so it is a hope and not a promise.

The delays in the building process have been frustrating for all concerned, but particularly for our Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers, who have been relying on the hospitality of other groups. Despite the delays, we think the wait is worth it because the new hut will be fantastic, not only for our members, but for the wider community too.

Executive Committee, 2nd Whalley Range Scouts Group

10 February 2020

Progress to Date

After a very wet summer, the bad weather continued into the Autumn, meaning that contractors could not work some days. We also had problems getting supplies of essential materials, such as roof tiles, so the roof was finished several months late. In December 2019, our Principal Contractor, Centum, went into Administration. Although most of their work on the demolition, site clearance and groundworks was complete, they still had work to complete and we are having to pay other contractors to finish work off.

Now, in February, the electrician and plumber are doing their initial work before the building is boarded out internally. We are hoping that the boarding and plastering will be complete by the middle of March, leaving the final installation of electrical fittings, heating and plumbing, flooring and internal doors. We also have the external finish of the building to complete (3km of Larch cladding to put up), and the final site levelling and surfacing of the driveway.

Funding

Despite the delays and additional costs due to Centum going out of business, we are still on budget. However, it is very tight, and we are having to do a lot of work ourselves to save the expense of contractors. Fundraising is still very important for us. An additional £5,000 in donations would saving us from having to make too many compromises on the finish of the building. If you can help, please get in touch.

If you can contribute in any way, through donations of money, building materials or skilled



labour, we would love to hear from you!

We continue to rely on volunteers to do some of the work, and the next major task will be fitting the external Larch cladding. We will use a joiner for the complex parts of the building, but we need to do the majority of the work ourselves.

Getting Involved

Do let us know if you would like to get involved in the last few stages of the project. There is work going on in the hut most weekends and we can arrange access during the week if that suits you better. There is a project page on our website at www.2ndWhalleyRangeScouts.org.uk/newhut where you can see photographs of the whole of the build process.

Finally, if you know of anyone who would like to hire a fantastic space from June 2020, let us know.

contact@2ndwhalleyrangescouts.org.uk