



## The Trustees of the Polish Ex Combatants Association in Great Britain Trust Fund visit St Briavels

On Monday 7th August 2017 we had the great pleasure of welcoming some of the trustees of the Polish Ex-Combatants Association in GB Trust Fund at our activity centre St Briavels. Our association with the Polish Ex-Combatants Association dates back several decades. Polish Scouting became established in the UK in 1943, while the Polish Ex-Combatants Association in GB was founded in 1946. The Trustees of the Polish Ex-Combatants Association in GB Trust Fund have already made two very generous donations to our refurbishment project and they came to see the progress in the work. The Trustees included the Chair of the Board Mr Czesław Maryszczak, Mrs Teresa Szadkowska-Łakomy, Mr Edmund Szymczak and Mr Jacek Bernasiński. They were welcomed by the Chair of the Board of PSA UK Region Anna Bnińska-Gębska, the Project Manager Andrzej Borowy, Committee Member Wanda Petrusiewicz-Allen, the Site Manager Docia Zasadzka and the Site Warden Stan Wojas. During a walkabout around the site the Trustees were shown the progress around the new building and the extent of the work needed to refurbish the current building. After a shared lunch there was a presentation during which we outlined the project details, costing and work with the architects and contractors and the plans for the future use of the site.



It was a very valuable meeting. The Trustees had the opportunity to ask detailed questions and consider the future prospects for the centre. They were impressed at what they saw and how the project was being managed and supported.

The St Briavels Fund needs to raise £1,8m. After recent confirmation of funds from the Polish Senate, secured in cooperation with the NGO Stowarzyszenie "Wspólnota Polska", we have now raised over £900,000. Many thanks to all our donors – organisations and individuals. Your support is very much valued by us.

We need to raise another £300,000 to complete the new building. We hope to be able to raise these funds and complete the new accommodation building so that we can use it for our summer camp in July 2018. After that we will raise funds for the refurbishment of the current accommodation building.

Opening the new building in 2018 will be significant. In 2018 we celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Polish Independence as well as the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our organisation Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego, which was established at the end of World War I, when a number of independent Polish scouting groups from different parts of partitioned Polish lands came together to form one organisation.



Just before the Trustees departed they took time to visit the Polish Scouting memorial dedicated to the Polish veterans who fought with the Allied forces during World War II.