

**1st Broughton Astley
GROUP SCOUT COUNCIL**

Annual General Meeting

8th July 2024

Scout HQ

1. Introduction & welcome

The chair welcomes everyone to the meeting including Adrian Wray (County Secretary)

Attending

Phil Burton, Ruth Burton, Kev Malkin, David Richardson, Emily Emery, Sarah Wakefield, Gerry Mallaghan, Tim Kirby, Alison McGarry, Matt McGarry, Jessica Rayns, Nicholas Sunde, Ross Nicoll, Richard Stephenson, Dominic Shaw, Adrian Wray, Nicola Turpin, Vicki Slade, David Hawkins, Siobhan Halliday, Rose Bayley and Kelvin Jones

Apologies for absence

Apologies have been received from Ryan Powell, Alan Johnson, Jenny Row, Martyn Snow, Ali Sheffield, Amanda Foxon and Robert Row.

2. To approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in June 2023.

The minutes have been previously reviewed by the Group Executive Committee at their first meeting after the previous AGM and so the chair propose that the minutes are taken as read and ask the Group Scout Council to agree that they are a true record of that meeting.

Seconder Kevin Malkin

Unanimously approved by the Scout Council

3. Governance topics

Chair notes to the Group Scout Council members present that this part of the meeting is a necessary part to make sure that the charity's foundations are in good order.

To adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules

In line with the recommendation from Scout Headquarters. The chair proposes that we adopt the model constitution from Chapter 5 of Policy, Organisation and Rules. A copy of this was available for review and inspection prior to this meeting.

Seconded Richard Stephenson

The Scout Council have unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation above.

Note the Group's financial year

Members of the Group Scout Council are asked to note that our charity's financial year is 1st March 2024 to 28th February 2025.

Agree the number of members that may be elected to the Trustee Board

The Group Scout Council must agree at its AGM the number of people that can be elected to the Trustee Board. The recommendation from the outgoing Trustee Board is that 12 people can be elected. The chair proposes that the Group Scout Council approves that recommendation.

Seconded – Kevin Malkin

The Council have unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation above.

Agree the quorum for each of the Group Scout Council (including this AGM), meetings of the Group Trustee Board, meetings of any sub-committees

The Group Scout Council must agree at its AGM the quorum – the minimum number of Group Scout Council members that must be present at a meeting of the Group Scout Council. The recommendation from the outgoing Trustee Board is that the quorum should be set at 7 persons. The Group Scout Council is asked to approve that recommendation.

Seconded Nicola Turpin

The Council have unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation above.

4. Review of the previous year

The chair gave way to the Group Lead Volunteer – Phil Burton

I wanted to start my report with a reflection, this year whilst it has been an exciting and action-packed year, we had the devastating news of the passing of one of our Squirrel Scouts. As many of you will be aware Taylan sadly passed away from a brain tumour and his death was a sobering reminder that as scouts, we need to live for the moment. Taylan was one of the original Squirrel scouts when we opened our doors to our first drey and he loved everything about scouting. Many of his friends belonged to the same scouting section and I know that the leaders were affected by his passing. As a group we continue to send our love to his family.

The 1st Broughton Astley scout group continues to be one of the biggest groups in the South Leicestershire District and we welcome over 170 young people a week to the various sessions that we run. As the Group Lead it is always inspiring to see the achievements of all our young people and we are proud to have

increased our number of girls attending the group and we are also proud to support an increasing number of young people with special educational needs so they can attend, grow and feel safe whilst with us.

The group has increased our presence in our community and taken part in more events than ever before. The progress we have made as a group in the past three years is something we are all very proud of. This year we had 1st, 3rd, 5th, 6th, 9th and 10th place finishes in the county rambling fox incident hike improving on our effort the year before. Our scout came second in the district camp skills competition during St Georges day festivities, and we look forward to taking part in more competitions going forward.

Squirrel Scouts

This year we introduced our 2nd Drey to the group opening the opportunity for another 18 young people. As part of this we welcomed no less than 8 new leaders – Jane, Nic, Paul, Sarah, Amy, Tom, Holly and Henry. Alongside the existing leaders they have had so many opportunities, whether this was visiting the farm, police, bowling or learning the basic skills of fire lighting and hiking, our youngest scouts have had an amazing time. We have given out 18 Chief Acorn scout awards and no less than 445 badges.

Beaver Scouts

It has been a busy time for the beaver scouts as they have been climbing, bell boating, skiing, took part in their first skills camp, met Santa on the steam train and headed into the trees for the go ape session. Beavers has welcomed lots of new leaders over the year including Suzanne, Richard, Vicki, Siobhan, David, Dave, Stuart and Ryan all of which have supported alongside existing leaders ensuring that 702 badges have been awarded and 14 Chief Scout Bronze awards.

Cubs

This year has been all about increasing the options for our cubs. They have been to various camps throughout the year including Cubjam which was an incredible experience for them all. They have been creating digital videos, meet the RAD assistance dogs, supported the community and so much more.

Our leaders were joined by Emily, Ross and Kelvin and have guided their cubs to 540 badges and 6 Silver Chief Scout Awards.

Scouts

The scouts have continued to go on many adventures whilst in the group including sailing and a taster of aerial silks. They have attended several camps whether it be St Georges day or one run locally. They have seen success coming in 2nd place in the camp skills competition at St Georges and winning the first ever Soap Box derby. The leadership has changed over this year and our new leaders who all moved up from

other sections have done a fantastic job of developing the skills and values of the troops earning 446 badges and 9 Gold Chief Scout Awards.

Young Leaders

We have seen a big increase in the number of young leaders across the group over the year which is inspiring our young people and helping to create leaders for the future. Almost every section has a young leader supporting the young people. A big thank you for all the hard work they put into the sections and the group

Adult Volunteers

We have seen a significant number of new adult volunteers this year who have all been committed to supporting the young people in the group. We simply cannot do this without them. A huge thank you goes to all the volunteers across the group whether uniformed or behind the scenes – you are all superstars.

This year also saw 4 members of the group achieve their wood beads with some being awarded them tonight at the district meeting. Achieving wood beads demonstrates a commitment to scouting and I would like to congratulate them all.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers who have completed their time with us over the year. Ali Sheffield, Matt Sheffield and Sandra Grout who are relocating but continuing their journey with another group. Chris Franks who after a decade has hung up his necker for the final time. Every one of them has made a significant impact on scouting in Broughton Astley and I wish them all well for the future endeavours.

Parents

I would like to also thank the parents who continue to support the scout group, bringing their children every week to session to allow them to learn life skills and take part in all the activities we can provide.

The Future

The famous phrase “Scouting is one hour per week” was clearly created by someone who never did scouting however we have great plans for our scout group over the next year as we look to improve the provision further. The scout HQ will undergo a refurb in the holidays making it more suitable for our young people, we have lots of events planned already including a group camp, sailing trip, attending ScoutOUT, and another soon to be announced whole section event local to us. Our leaders are wanting to create bigger and better programmes as many are undertaking nights away permits so they can take you on even more camps.

The future of our scout group is looking good, and we want as many young people to be able to experience scouting as possible so if you want to be part of a forward thinking and amazing scout group, please let us know.

To receive and consider the Annual Report of the Group Trustee Board including the annual Statement of Accounts

The Group Trustee Board has approved the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts and Accounts, and the report on the accounts has been received from the Scrutineer/Independent Examiner.

The chair gave way to Richard Stephenson the Group Treasurer

1st Broughton Astley Scout Group continues to be a financially viable and sustainable group where good financial management and decisions mean we are in the best possible position to support our young people now and for the foreseeable future.

Income

The 2023-2024 financial year saw the group have the highest number of young people take part in scouting in Broughton Astley showing the success of the group and it comes as no surprise that our income from subs has increased to just under £19,000.

After dealing with lots of red tape we were able to submit our back dated gift aid claim and recovered just under £4,000 – thank you to all the parents who have signed up for this.

Trips, activities and camps are now all back in full swing representing around £10,000 worth of income. This coincides with a similar amount of expenditure as our young people get to take part in so many opportunities.

We continue to raise additional funds through our Santa float which in 2023 totalled £2,800 and we had the opportunity to raise a further £872 through our new partnership with the Leicestershire Primary and Secondary Cross Country League, which will continue into 2024 and beyond. The money raised from our fundraising effort is set aside to support our young people who are experiencing financial instability and our larger events.

Overall, the group saw an income of £34,437.45

Expenditure

This year the group has invested in lots of new kit spending over £5,000 on resources to further support and enhance our provision and to allow the young people to learn more skills.

We have issued a record number of badges to our young people totalling over £2,300

Overall, the group expenditure for the year was £28,602.68

Closing Overview

The group at the end of the year had in total £56,079.12 in funds. As a Trustee board we recognise that this is a substantial amount of funds to be holding and are embarking on a number of projects to improve the Scout HQ and the possibility of purchasing our own transport to allow even more young people to attend camps and activities.

The chair expressed her thanks on behalf of the board for Richard's hard work.

5. Making appointments

Chair notes to the Group Scout Council members present that this part of the meeting sets the charity up to be well-led during the period until the next AGM. Particularly, the Group Scout Council appoints a Trustee Board to ensure good governance for the charity over the next year.

To approve the Group Scout Leader's nomination of the Group Chair

The chair gave way to Phil Burton who explained to the Council about the open selection process, and that Jessica has come forward to be the chair. As a result, the GLV nominates Jessica Rayns as Group Chair and asks for a show of hands as approval.

This was approved unanimously.

To elect the Group Treasurer

The 'Group Treasurer' is an elected appointment and, as required, Richard Stephenson has been formally proposed and seconded.

The Council have unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation above.

To elect persons to the Group Trustee Board

The following have been formally proposed by way of open selection to be Trustees of the group

Gerry Mallaghan, Alison McGarry, Matt McGarry, Alan Johnson, Kevin Malkin, Sarah Wakefield, Tim Kirby, Phil Burton (ex-officio), Nicola Turpin.

The Council have unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation above.

6. To appoint the Scrutineer / Independent Examiner / Auditor

Treasurer proposes that Emma Lowe be the independent examiner for the accounts

The Council have unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation above.

7. Closing Remarks

Adrian Wray (County Secretary) to the floor and wanted to thank Phil Burton for his hard work and commitment to the group. Adrian commented that having such a large group and managing this was not easy and that the group was being well lead and doing a great job for our young people. He commented on the number of young people and the number of badges the young people are achieving.

Jessica brought the AGM to close thanking all for attending.