

# BRAINTREE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

England & Wales · Charity number 1037288

## Details

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Other names	BRAINTREE SCOUTS
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1994-05-06
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Address	6 Marshalls Road Braintree Essex CM7 2LL
Phone	07738881955
Email	<a href="mailto:braintree@essexscouts.org.uk">braintree@essexscouts.org.uk</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.essexscouts.org.uk/districts/braintree">http://www.essexscouts.org.uk/districts/braintree</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO ENCOURAGE THE PHYSICAL, MENTAL AND SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE SO THAT THEY MAY TAKE A CONSTRUCTIVE PLACE IN SOCIETY.

**Activities:** scouts camping and training.

## Classification

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- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** IN PRACTICE BRAINTREE
- Essex

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£29,979	£32,147	-	-
2024-12-31	£36,280	£33,869	-	-
2023-12-31	£37,616	£36,257	-	-
2022-12-31	£19,611	£18,901	-	-
2021-12-31	£6,453	£6,530	-	-
2020-12-31	£16,877	£18,541	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Amy Edwards		2023-06-29
Anne Quartermain		2022-07-06
DAVID WHIPPS		2011-06-17
Deborah Wood		2022-07-06
Gavin Wood		2021-08-01
Jason Barnes		2014-06-20
Jody Leonard Etherington		2022-07-06
LESLEY BOJKO		
Leigh Calder		2022-07-06
Mark Wells		2022-07-06
Matthew Barker		2022-07-06
Patrick Abel		2022-07-06

**BRAINTREE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**

England & Wales - Charity number 1037288

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# Accounts

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**BRAINTREE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**  
Annual General Meeting

Cressing Temple  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
3.30pm  
AGENDA

1. **Introduction and welcome**
2. **Apologies for absence**
3. **Governance topics**
  - a. Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27 April 2025
  - b. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR)
  - c. Note the District's financial year
  - d. Approve appointed and community members of the District Scout Council
  - e. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board
  - f. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the District Scout Council (excluding this AGM)
4. **Review of the previous year**
  - a. The District Lead Volunteer's review of Scouts
  - b. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Board, including the annual Statement of the Accounts
5. **Making appointments**
  - a. Appoint the District Chair, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustee Board
  - b. Appoint members of the District Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustee Board
  - c. Appoint the Independent Examiner of accounts
  - d. Nominate representatives of the District Scout Council to represent the District on the County Scout Council
6. **Closing remarks**

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2026

This report provides an overview of the work of District Trustees for the year 2025.

The Trustee board meets quarterly, and its' role is strategic management of the districts activities in line with Charity Commission requirements and Scouting policy organisation and rules.

### **Membership**

The district is made up of 12 groups, an Explorers section , Network section and adult support provision. Membership numbers and district structure at the January 2026 census is as follows.

- Total Youth Membership: 780 -5.7%
- Total Adult Membership: 281 +14.2%

### **Group Breakdown**

- Number of Squirrel Dreys: 7
- Number of Beaver Colonies: 13 (-1)
- Number of Cub Packs: 12 (-3)
- Number of Scout Troops: 11(-1)
- Number of Explorer Units: 6
- Young leader Units: 1

### **Key Observations**

Youth membership has decreased by 5.7% compared to the previous year, this reflects the picture across Essex and locally temporary closure of the Gosfield group and unit closure of Cubs in Rayne due to a lack of leadership

Adult membership has increased by 14.2% compared to the previous year.

Squirrels grew 1.2%  
Beavers declined -1.0 %  
Cubs declined -12.9%  
Scouts declined -8.1%  
Explorers declined -6.7%

At census there were 103 young on waiting lists to join groups, this is a 29% reduction from 2025.

There is still need for additional adult leaders to support the growing number of groups. And young person demand.

### **Governance**

District Trustees meet quarterly to review and discuss strategic management of the district and to provide advice and support to the operational team as required. During this year there has been focus on Trustee responsibility, premises safety and the district camp site. We have continued to review policy and procedure and developing structures to support the wider district.

All trustees are up to date with required training and have met governance checking requirements.

### **Property**

The district holds some land and property including a campsite and these are all held within the Scout Trust Corporation. Condition and use are reviewed by the Trustee board. Sale of land held at Deanery Hill is still not complete, however there is willingness on both sides to pursue this to completion.

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2026

### **Insurance**

The districts insurance needs have been reviewed, and trustees are satisfied the insurance cover is appropriate.

### **Training**

Trustees are responsible for ensuring training is completed and maintained in line with POR requirements, this is managed through our local training manager. Overall district compliance with this requirement is good. The following areas are being closely monitored; safety, safeguarding and first aid.

### **Safety**

Safety is a standing item on the Trustees agenda; there have been no safety issues raised this year.

District Trustees recognise the increased focus on safety and the Charity Commissions requirement to evidence all Trustees in scouting are aware of their responsibilities for safety. All District Trustees have met this requirement.

### **Policy and procedure**

A range of policies and procedures are in place and maintained.

### **Finance**

The financial position is reviewed at each meeting and audited accounts for the last financial year are shown below

The district is financially sound.

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

AGM 2026

## **DISTRICT LEAD VOLUNTEER REPORT**

It has been another extremely busy year across the district with all groups giving our young people skills for life and lots of fun along the way too

I have been amazed at the number of Nights Away across the District, and I always aim to get out and visit as many as I possibly can. What has been really good to see is we have had nights away experiences for our Squirrels all the way through the sections to Network

We came together as a District with about 250 people for District camp at Skreens Park in July, it was amazing to see many groups attend and everyone together and we had lots of activities on offer. It was a great event, and we plan on running this again in 2027 with even more groups support.

We held badge days for Beavers and Cubs and a day for our Squirrels which a big shout out goes out to Leigh Calder for making these happen and those groups which support and adults who ran the bases

The Scout section held a back to basics camp in October at Danemead, which was well attended across several groups and those Scouts attending earned their Survival Skills badge

I was delighted that in the Autumn we had confirmation that 13 young people from Braintree District following a rigorous selection process have been selected to represent Braintree in the Essex Contingent to attend the World Jamboree in Poland, North America, Iceland or Kenya during 2027. The young people are already busy fundraising towards the cost.

Our District Scout camp site at Twinstead has been used more than before which again is great to see and makes overnights really affordable for groups.

The Friends of Braintree District Scouts have been active meeting on a monthly basis and helping with craft at section nights when asked, please reach out if you would like them to come along for a night, they do a great evening of craft and badge making.

We have invested a lot of time this year on Safe Premises audits to ensure our meeting places are safe for our volunteers and young people.

We have an amazing team of very dedicated individuals, and I want to thank all our leaders and adults working directly with young people, our trustee board across the district and groups and our young leaders. Without all these volunteers Scouting would not be so alive in Braintree

**Gav**  
**District Lead Volunteer**

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

AGM 2026



## Braintree District Scouts Receipts and Payments Account



### Receipts and payments

	Year ended 31 December 2025			Year ended 31 December 2024
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
<b>Receipts</b>				
<b>Donations, legacies and similar income</b>				
Membership Subscriptions	41,617.33	0.00	41,617.33	34,263.00
Less: Membership Subscriptions Paid Onto Essex	-37,306.00	0.00	-37,306.00	-30,217.00
Net Membership Subscriptions Retained	4,311.33	0.00	4,311.33	4,046.00
Legacies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gift Aid	1,615.49	0.00	1,615.49	1,108.96
Other Similar Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,965.75
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>5,926.82</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5,926.82</b>	<b>13,120.71</b>
<b>Grants</b>				
Maintenance Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Fundraising (gross)</b>				
World Scout Jamboree	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Detail 2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Detail 3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Fundraising Activities	200.00	0.00	200.00	3,700.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>3,700.00</b>
<b>Investment income</b>				
Bank Interest	0.16	0.00	0.16	0.16
Building Society Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Rent income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other investment income Closed Band Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.16</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.16</b>	<b>0.16</b>
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>				
District Events	9,184.29	0.00	9,184.29	492.40
Income from Badge Sales	196.50	0.00	196.50	118.25
Explorer Subscription	3,558.00	0.00	3,558.00	4,238.00
Explorer Activities	1,840.00	0.00	1,840.00	720.90
Explorer Camps	7,319.50	0.00	7,319.50	12,573.00
Miscellaneous Income	1,754.00	0.00	1,754.00	1,317.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>23,852.29</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>23,852.29</b>	<b>19,459.55</b>
<b>Total Gross Income</b>	<b>29,979.27</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>29,979.27</b>	<b>36,280.42</b>
<b>Asset and investment sales, etc.</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>29,979.27</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>29,979.27</b>	<b>36,280.42</b>

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

AGM 2026



## Braintree District Scouts



### Receipts and Payments Account

Receipts and payments				
	Year ended 31 December 2025			Year ended 31 December 2024
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Payments</b>				
<b>Charitable Payments</b>				
Youth programme and activities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
District Events	10,423.03	0.00	10,423.03	866.55
Explorer Events	1,592.88	0.00	1,592.88	1,514.01
Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme	0.00	0.00	0.00	168
Explorer Rent	2,729.17	0.00	2,729.17	1246.5
Badge Expenses	1,636.33	0.00	1,636.33	908.53
Online Scout Manager	2,531.78	0.00	2,531.78	2,456.83
Insurance	773.11	0.00	773.11	817.06
Repairs and Renewals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Materials and equipment	1,585.55	0.00	1,585.55	6003.34
Printing and photocopying	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
District Newsletter	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Contribution to World Jamboree	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Explorer Uniforms	1,523.77	0.00	1,523.77	1290.66
AGM and trustee expenses	211.50	0.00	211.50	241.39
Adult support and training	335.00	0.00	335.00	0
Miscellaneous	1,992.35	745.27	2,737.62	2332.25
Explorer camps (including WSJ)	6,067.29	0.00	6,067.29	14,752.14
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>31,401.76</b>	<b>745.27</b>	<b>32,147.03</b>	<b>32,597.26</b>
<b>Fundraising expenses</b>				
Detail 1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Detail 2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Detail 3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Other fundraising costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>31,401.76</b>	<b>745.27</b>	<b>32,147.03</b>	<b>32,597.26</b>
<b>Asset and investment purchases, etc.</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>31,401.76</b>	<b>745.27</b>	<b>32,147.03</b>	<b>32,597.26</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>-1,422.49</b>	<b>-745.27</b>	<b>-2,167.76</b>	<b>3,683.16</b>
<b>Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>28,064.74</b>	<b>7,055.00</b>	<b>35,119.74</b>	<b>31,436.58</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>26,642.25</b>	<b>6,309.73</b>	<b>32,951.98</b>	<b>35,119.74</b>

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2026



### Braintree District Scouts Receipts and Payments Account



#### Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	Year ended 31 December 2025			Year ended 31 December 2024
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Cash funds</b>				
District Exec Barclays Bank current account	11,824.07	7,555.00	19,379.07	22,374.06
Badge Bank Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Explorer Current account	10,525.36	0.00	10,525.36	10,104.17
Explorer GoCardless Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Explorer 2nd Account	11.90	0.00	11.90	11.74
Explorer Majendie-Trinity A/C	3,035.65	0.00	3,035.65	2629.77
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Cash/Floats	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>25,396.98</b>	<b>7,555.00</b>	<b>32,951.98</b>	<b>35,119.74</b>
<b>Other monetary assets</b>				
Tax claim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Insurance claim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Investment assets</b>				
Investment property - detail	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Quoted investments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other investments - detail	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Non monetary assets for charity's own use</b>				
Badge stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Shop stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Land and buildings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Motor vehicles	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scouting equipment, furniture etc.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Accounts not yet paid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Expenses incurred but not invoiced	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subscriptions not yet paid	-4,264.00	0.00	-4,264.00	0.00
WSJ & NA payments to be transferred to Essex County Scouts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-4,264.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-4,264.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 24 April 2026 and signed on their behalf by

Signature

Print Name

David Whipps	Chair Person
Deborah Wood	Treasurer

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

AGM 2026

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORTS TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRAINTREE DISTRICT SCOUTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

I report on the accounts of the District for the year ended 31 December 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes set out on page 1 to 3.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for my examination work.

### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The District's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Charities Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the District and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act ;and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

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2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Mrs A S Kaley  
Xeinaidin South East Limited, The Old Grange, Warren Estate, Lordship Road, Writtle, Chelmsford,  
Essex, CM1 3WT

Date: 24 April 2026

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2026

### **DISTRICT REPORT 4-14 TEAM REPORT**

We have aimed to hold regular termly meetings to plan events with leaders. These have been open to all volunteers and have had mixed attendance. They have been held on Tuesdays in May and September. Our January meeting was cancelled due to poor weather and was not rescheduled.

Volunteers can come together to share ideas and plan for upcoming District events and suggest new ones. It has been great for newer members to network with more experienced people and share programme ideas and resources. Unfortunately we have also been very disappointed with the amount of interest in District events, which greatly impacts how these events are run.

Those that attended, very much enjoyed both the district camp and our activity sessions at Prances. The latter had to be condensed into joint sessions for Squirrels/Beavers and Cubs/Scouts due to a lack of leader support to run bases.

Cub Environment and Communicator Badge Day on 12<sup>th</sup> October was unfortunately cancelled.

Beaver Safety Badge Day on 19<sup>th</sup> October held at Black Notley Village Hall was a great success and was supported by Hedingham, Gt Notley, Black Notley . 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Braintree. My thanks to the leaders who ran some great activities for our young people.

#### **Future events include.**

- **An activity session for each section, to be held at Prances over the weekend of 26-27/9/26 to celebrate Squirrel, Beaver and Cub birthdays.**
- Essex Weekend for leaders and their families 15-17/5/26 Skreens
- County Survivor Camp for Scouts 12-14/6/26 Skreens
- County Big Beaver Birthday 20-21/6/26 Skreens
- Extra Jam for Explorers 26-28/6/26 Belchamps
- County Squirrel Day 13/9/26 Skreens

We hope to form a team to help organise these events but as always, will need the participation of Dreys, Colonies and Packs, to run successfully. Watch this space for meeting dates.

#### **Leigh Calder and Clare Darch 4-14 Team Leaders**

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2026

### **DISTRICT REPORT 14-24 TEAM REPORT**

#### **EXPLORER UNITS**

We continue to operate with five Explorer Scout units and a Young Leader unit. All units continue to provide a brilliant programme on a weekly basis to all of our members.

#### **Network**

Scout Network in Braintree continues to run with regular meetings happening roughly once a month for its members. Patrick continues to drive forward Network and helps to coordinate its members into running activities and also speaking with Explorers who approach 18 and getting them involved.

#### **Census**

In 2026, our total explorer membership figure dropped by 6.7% down to 83 explorer scouts across the district and network dropped by 43.8% to 23 scout network members.

#### **Events**

We had seventeen Explorer Scouts attend Voice in March 2025 – a county run event giving Explorers across the county their opportunity to speak up about what events and activities they would like the county to offer. We also participated in the District Activities Camp at Skreens Park in July, along with the district events for St George's Day and Remembrance Parade. Our Seax unit attended Scare fest in October – the national Halloween themed camp held at Gilwell Park, and Vortex ESU had some members compete in the County Marathon in September. We had a Christmas sleepover at Thorrington Scout Campsite in December which was offered to all the Explorer units. Four of our units also headed into London in March to compete against each other in a Monopoly Run which we organised ourselves. Looking forward, we hope to hold a Chill Out Camp in June for all units in the district, Seax ESU will be attending WINGS in the summer too. Unfortunately, an alternative summer camp for our other units was offered to the New Forest, however this has been cancelled due to not getting enough interest.

#### **Young Leaders**

We have 32 active young leaders within the district all providing valuable support to the leadership teams across the district in the younger sections. We continue to offer the Young Leader training modules to help our Explorers in their Young Leader roles and hope to offer more and more of these training opportunities going forward. Clare Darch has been pivotal in making Young Leader opportunities available to our members and made links with other districts to help offer modules and also set up the ability for our Young Leaders to complete their training online.

#### **Duke of Edinburgh Award**

We have 15 members working towards their Duke of Edinburgh awards (6 bronze, 6 silver, 3 gold) and in the past year we have awarded 2 Bronze awards and 1 Silver award.

#### **Top Awards**

We have issued 2 Chief Scouts Platinum Awards over the past 12 months.

I would finally like to take the opportunity to say a massive thank you to all of the adults who volunteer their time, effort and commitment to providing Scouting opportunities to the 14-24 age range within the district. Without these leaders, we would be nothing and their continuous hard work, ideas and enthusiasm makes them a pleasure to work with.

#### **Jason Barnes 14-24 Team Lead**

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2026

This is my first report as Volunteering Development Team Lead.

### **Training**

There has been a great effort to bring training up to date. All leaders are reminded of the far tighter timescales required for completion of our basic training.

We have improved our training position during the past year, the main area of difficulty remains First Aid Training. Some local courses have been arranged, and I am currently recruiting a local First Aid Trainer to assist with this to increase the number of local courses.

There is a move towards local delivery of face-to-face training, so I am looking into courses which could be run in parallel to our First Response courses. I am also looking for potential new trainers and presenters for other courses.

### **Welcome Conversations**

There are (at the time of writing) 36 incomplete Welcome Conversations. We do need to recruit and train more Welcome Conversation Volunteers to ensure that all new volunteers are 'Welcomed' under the new system, which is currently being established.

Ann Quartermain

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT TEAM LEAD

**ANN QUARTERMAIN**

**BRAINTREE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**

England & Wales - Charity number 1037288

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# Accounts

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## **BRAINTREE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**

### **Annual General Meeting**

The Sports hall, Notley High School  
Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025  
1– 2pm  
**AGENDA**

- 1. Introduction and welcome**
- 2. Apologies for absence**
- 3. Governance topics**
  - a. Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 29 June 2024
  - b. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR)
  - c. Note the District's financial year.
  - d. Approve appointed and community members of the District Scout Council
  - e. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board
  - f. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the District Scout Council (excluding this AGM)
- 4. Review of the previous year**
  - a. The District Lead Volunteer's review of Scouts
  - b. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Board, including the annual Statement of the Accounts
- 5. Making appointments**
  - a. Appoint the District Chair, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustee Board
  - b. Appoint members of the District Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustee Board
  - c. Appoint the Independent Examiner of accounts.
  - d. Nominate representatives of the District Scout Council to represent the District on the County Scout Council
- 6. Closing remarks**

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2025

This report provides an overview of the work of District Trustees for the year 2024.

The Trustee board meets quarterly, and its' role is strategic management of the districts activities in line with Charity Commission requirements and Scouting policy organisation and rules.

### **Membership**

The district is made up of 10 groups, an Explorers section, Network section and adult support provision. Membership numbers and district structure at the January 2025 census is as follows.

- Total Youth Membership: 827
- Total Adult Membership: 240

### **Group Breakdown**

- Number of Squirrel Dreys: 7
- Number of Beaver Colonies: 14
- Number of Cub Packs: 14
- Number of Scout Troops: 11
- Number of Explorer Units: 5
- Young leader Units: 1

### **Key Observations**

During this year 6 Squirrel Dreys have opened.

Youth membership has increased by 7.9 % compared to the previous year with notable growth in some groups.

Adult membership has increased by 1.7% compared to the previous year.

Squirrels grew 186%.  
Beavers declined 3.8%.  
Cubs grew 9.2%.  
Scouts grew 1.6%.  
Explorers grew 4.7%.

At census there were 146 young on waiting lists to join groups, this is a 20% reduction from 2024.

There is still need for additional adult leaders to support the growing number of groups. And young person demand.

### **Governance**

District Trustees meet quarterly to review and discuss strategic management of the district and to provide advice and support to the operational team as required. During this year there has been focus on premises safety and the district camp site. we have been reviewing policy and procedure and developing structures to support the wider district.

### **Property**

The district holds some land and property including a campsite and these are all held within the Scout Trust Corporation. Condition and use are reviewed by the Trustee board. Sale of land held at Deanery Hill is almost complete, this land use is for the Sporting 77 football club building and has not been used for scouting for a number of years.

### **Insurance**

The districts insurance needs have been reviewed and trustees are satisfied the insurance cover is appropriate.

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2025

### **Training**

Trustees are responsible for ensuring training is completed and maintained in line with POR requirements, this is managed through our local training manager. Overall district compliance with this requirement is good. Transfer to the new membership platform has created some delay in access but the board is following up with those whose training has lapsed or is close to renewal.

### **Safety**

Safety is a standing item on the Trustees agenda, there have been no safety issues raised this year.

### **Policy and procedure**

A range of policies and procedures are in place and maintained.

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2025

### **Finance**

The financial position is reviewed at each meeting and audited accounts for the last financial year are issued with the papers for this meeting. The district is financially sound.

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2025



### Braintree District Scouts Receipts and Payments Account



#### Receipts and payments

	Year ended 31 December 2024			Year ended 31 December 2023
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>				
<b>Donations, legacies and similar income</b>				
Membership Subscriptions	34,263.00	0.00	34,263.00	29,798.00
Less: Membership Subscriptions Paid Onto Essex	-30,217.00	0.00	-30,217.00	-24,832.50
Net Membership Subscriptions Retained	4,046.00	0.00	4,046.00	4,965.50
Legacies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gift Aid	1,108.96	0.00	1,108.96	786.73
Other Similar Income	365.75	7,600.00	7,965.75	3,789.54
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>5,520.71</b>	<b>7,600.00</b>	<b>13,120.71</b>	<b>9,541.77</b>
<b>Grants</b>				
Maintenance Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Fundraising (gross)</b>				
World Scout Jamboree	0.00	0.00	0.00	346.00
Detail 2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Detail 3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Fundraising Activities	3,700.00	0.00	3,700.00	115.28
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>3,700.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3,700.00</b>	<b>461.28</b>
<b>Investment income</b>				
Bank Interest	0.16	0.00	0.16	0.10
Building Society Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Rent income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other investment income Closed Band Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.16</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.16</b>	<b>0.10</b>
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>				
District Events	492.40	0.00	492.40	13,050.00
Income from Badge Sales	118.25	0.00	118.25	133.00
Explorer Subscription	4,238.00	0.00	4,238.00	3,775.00
Explorer Activities	720.90	0.00	720.90	1,333.00
Explorer Camps	12,573.00	0.00	12,573.00	9,322.00
Miscellaneous Income	1,317.00	0.00	1,317.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>19,459.55</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>19,459.55</b>	<b>27,613.00</b>
<b>Total Gross Income</b>	<b>28,680.42</b>	<b>7,600.00</b>	<b>36,280.42</b>	<b>37,616.15</b>
<b>Asset and investment sales, etc.</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>28,680.42</b>	<b>7,600.00</b>	<b>36,280.42</b>	<b>37,616.15</b>

The Restricted Funds in the accounts relate to the District Camp Site at Twinstead, which when transferred from Halstead And Colne Valley District these funds were restricted for the future running of Twinstead

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

AGM 2025



## Braintree District Scouts Receipts and Payments Account



### Receipts and payments

	Year ended 31 December 2024			Year ended 31 December 2023
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
<b>Payments</b>				
<b>Charitable Payments</b>				
Youth programme and activities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
District Events	866.55	0.00	866.55	19,202.10
Explorer Events	1,514.01	0.00	1,514.01	606.75
Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme	168.00	0.00	168.00	383.5
Explorer Rent	1,246.50	0.00	1,246.50	2215
Badge Expenses	908.53	0.00	908.53	0
Online Scout Manager	2,456.83	0.00	2,456.83	2,474.24
Insurance	817.06	0.00	817.06	558.14
Repairs and Renewals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Materials and equipment	6,003.34	0.00	6,003.34	268.28
Printing and photocopying	0.00	0.00	0.00	90.64
District Newsletter	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Contribution to World Jamboree	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Explorer Uniforms	1,290.66	0.00	1,290.66	948.34
AGM and trustee expenses	241.39	0.00	241.39	112.41
Adult support and training	0.00	0.00	0.00	141.99
Miscellaneous	1,787.25	545.00	2,332.25	1220.15
Explorer camps (including WSJ)	15,099.70	902.80	16,002.50	8,035.86
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>32,399.82</b>	<b>1,447.80</b>	<b>33,847.62</b>	<b>36,257.40</b>
<b>Fundraising expenses</b>				
Detail 1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Detail 2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Detail 3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Other fundraising costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>32,399.82</b>	<b>1,447.80</b>	<b>33,847.62</b>	<b>36,257.40</b>
<b>Asset and investment purchases, etc.</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>32,399.82</b>	<b>1,447.80</b>	<b>33,847.62</b>	<b>36,257.40</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>-3,719.40</b>	<b>6,152.20</b>	<b>2,432.80</b>	<b>1,358.75</b>
<b>Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>30,533.78</b>	<b>902.80</b>	<b>31,436.58</b>	<b>30,077.83</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>26,814.38</b>	<b>7,055.00</b>	<b>33,869.38</b>	<b>31,436.58</b>

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2025



### Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	Year ended 31 December 2024			Year ended 31 December 2023
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Cash funds</b>				
District Exec Barclays Bank current account	14,819.06	7,555.00	22,374.06	17,635.45
Badge Bank Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Explorer Current account	10,104.17	0.00	10,104.17	10,457.29
Explorer GoCardless Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Explorer 2nd Account	11.74	0.00	11.74	11.58
Explorer Majendie-Trinity A/C	2,629.77	0.00	2,629.77	4572.62
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Cash/Floats	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>27,564.74</b>	<b>7,555.00</b>	<b>35,119.74</b>	<b>32,686.94</b>
<b>Other monetary assets</b>				
Tax claim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Insurance claim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Investment assets</b>				
Investment property - detail	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Quoted investments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other investments - detail	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Non monetary assets for charity's own use</b>				
Badge stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Shop stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Land and buildings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Motor vehicles	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scouting equipment, furniture etc	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Accounts not yet paid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Expenses incurred but not invoiced	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subscriptions not yet paid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
WSJ & NA payments to be transferred to Essex County	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,250.36
Other liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,250.36</b>

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on <sup>24</sup> ~~XX~~ April 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Signature


Print Name

David Whipps	Chair Person
Gavin Wood	District Commissioner
Deborah Wood	Treasurer

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

AGM 2025

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORTS TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRAINTREE DISTRICT SCOUTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024

I report on the accounts of the District for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes set out on page 1 to 3.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for my examination work.

### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The District's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Charities Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the District and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent Examiner's statement

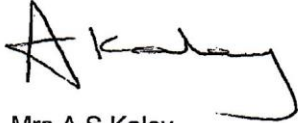
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act ;and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2025

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Mrs A S Kaley  
Xeinaidin South East Limited, The Old Grange, Warren Estate, Lordship Road, Writtle, Chelmsford,  
Essex, CM1 3WT

Date: 23 April 2025

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

AGM 2025

## **DISTRICT LEAD VOLUNTEER REPORT**

I am delighted with the progress of the district over the last year with growth in numbers of nearly 10% across Young People and Adult volunteers this compares with a national picture which has not seen growth in numbers over the last year. We have seen further expansion in our Squirrels section with further openings and we have seen 180% growth in the 12 months. We have also seen the reopening of a new Explorer unit based at Coggeshall and thanks go to the team at Coggeshall for stepping forward and making this happen. Thank you to all our new volunteers who have signed up in the last year. To all our new and existing members, we truly appreciate your time in giving the young people of Braintree District fun, friendship and skills for life

I have been amazed at the number of Nights Away which have happened across groups in the last 12 months, and I have loved getting out and about in visiting as many of these events as possible.

It has also been great to see the use of the District Camp Site at Twinstead being used and I encourage more sections to use it for evening activities and camps, for District groups it is free of charge to use.

During the year we have seen District badge days, and activity days in the different sections thank you to the programme team for making these possible. It was really good to come together with our adults for a new year afternoon tea at the start of 2025 and thanks again to Coggeshall in hosting this event.

I have been amazed by the number of overnight experiences that groups have been offering our young people and love getting along a visiting as many as possible.

It has been a year of progress as the Scout Association continues to transform the volunteer experience, this has been seen especially with the change of structures and the introduction of a new membership system. This hasn't been as smooth as the Scout Association had hoped so thank you for bearing with us as we navigated through the changes, I am starting to see some real benefits of the new system in saving time and we will continue to support adults in the adoption of the new system as we go through the coming months

The Trustee Board governs the district and over the last year we have seen progress across our management of risk across the district and the management of some ongoing property changes, I want to thank the trustee board for their governance and support to the District.

I want to thank all our adult volunteers in whatever role you fulfil you are making a difference to young people.

I look forward to another year of progress in Braintree District

**Gav**  
**District Lead Volunteer**

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2025

### **DISTRICT REPORT 4-14 TEAM REPORT**

We are still very much getting to grips with the transformation, but have had a good year, especially for our younger sections.

We have started to hold regular termly meetings to plan events with leaders. These have been open to all volunteers and have had mixed attendance. They have been held on Tuesdays, at the start of each term. Volunteers can come together to share ideas and plan for upcoming District events and suggest new ones. It has been great for newer members to network with more experienced people and share programme ideas and resources.

We have had two very successful Squirrel events. The first was a Teddy Bears Picnic at Cressing Temple Barns. Squirrels took part in parachute games, circle games, story time and a hunt for bears in the walled garden. We also went exploring the site to look for old things, things made of wood and metal and things that were growing. We finished the morning by having a picnic on the lawn. This was well attended by three Dreys and parents, and had good feedback.

Our second event was a Pirate Morning in Black Notley. We had five Dreys attend and the Squirrels had a great time with boat making, an obstacle course, scavenger hunt, floating and sinking and chocolate banana boats on the fire. We had around 60 young people in attendance.

Our Beavers had a Money Skills Badge Day at St Michael's Church hall in October. This went fairly well but we could have had more bases as some of the older Beavers completed the tasks quickly. This would have worked better if more groups had supported the event. Nevertheless, the young people enjoyed playing shop, ordering coins, making a healthy meal, coin rubbing and other money related activities.

Cubs enjoyed another International Day, where they could work towards their World Faith and International Badges. It was a good event with activities including different countries, cultural games, Rangoli patterns, food tasting to name but a few. The young people had fun mixing with each other and making new friends from other Packs.

Future events include;

An activity session for each section, to be held at Prances over the weekend of 21-22/6,

District Camp at Skreens 4-6/7

Cub Environment and Communicator Badge Day on 12<sup>th</sup> October

Beaver Safety Badge Day on 19<sup>th</sup> October. These will both be held at Black Notley Village Hall.

There is also an adult skills weekend on 10-12/10, run by the County that is open to all to attend either a few sessions or the whole weekend. I think there is also a Scout Backwoods event in the planning stages for the Autumn, dates TBC.

We hope to form a team to help organise these events but as always, will need the participation of Dreys, Colonies and Packs, to run successfully. Watch this space for meeting dates.

**Leigh Calder and Clare Darch 4-14 Team Leaders**

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2025

### **DISTRICT REPORT 14-24**

#### Explorer Units

For the second year running, we have opened a new Explorer unit within the district. This now takes our total number of units up to 5 and a massive thanks to Ian and Adam who have stepped forward to open this unit in Coggeshall. The new unit will be known as Seax ESU and we look forward to joining up with them at events in the future. Our other units continue to provide a great programme to our Explorer Scouts on a weekly basis.

#### Network

We still have a Scout network running in Braintree district, although network hasn't been as active over the last year as we would like. However, Patrick is always looking to encourage more activities and for new members to join to give this a much needed boost!

#### Census

In 2025, our total explorer membership figure rose by 4.7% up to 89 explorer scouts across the district and network dropped by 5.9% to 16 scout network members. This is extremely positive and shows that we are building our numbers as we continue to look to offer more and more scouting opportunities to our community.

#### Events

In June 2024 we held our usual chill out camp for the explorers, this time at Thriftwood giving the Explorers a chance to relax and have some fun with their friends. We attended Essex Jamboree last summer which we had a brilliant number of Explorers go to and all had an amazing time and made memories of a lifetime. We were also involved in the Remembrance Parade in Braintree town centre with the rest of the district. We ended the year with an ice skating session for all four of our Explorer units from the district represented. Braintree Explorers have also had members attend the county Voice camp in the last year.

#### Young Leaders

We have 26 active young leaders within the district all providing valuable support to the leadership teams across the

district in the younger sections. We continue to offer the Young Leader training modules to help our Explorers in their Young Leader roles and hope to offer more and more of these training opportunities going forward. Clare Darch has also stepped forward to help us manage our young leader processes and support our training offering. Thank you Clare.

#### Duke of Edinburgh Award

We have 24 members working towards their Duke of Edinburgh awards (14 bronze, 8 silver, 2 gold) and in the past year we have awarded 2 Bronze awards.

I would finally like to take the opportunity to say a massive thank you to all of the adults who volunteer their time, effort and commitment to providing Scouting opportunities to the 14-24 age range within the district. Without these leaders, we would be nothing and their continuous hard work, ideas and enthusiasm makes them a pleasure to work with.

**Jason Barnes 14-24 TEAM LEADER**

**BRAINTREE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**

England & Wales - Charity number 1037288

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# Accounts

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**BRAINTREE DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**  
Annual General Meeting

The Learning Village, Alec Hunter Academy, Stubbs Lane, Braintree, (Broadoak Suite)  
Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024  
7.30 – 9pm  
**AGENDA**

1. **Introduction and welcome**
2. **Apologies for absence**
3. **Governance topics**
  - a. Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 29 June 2023
  - b. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR)
  - c. Note the District's financial year
  - d. Approve appointed and community members of the District Scout Council
  - e. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board
  - f. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the District Scout Council (excluding this AGM)
4. **Review of the previous year**
  - a. The District Lead Volunteer's review of Scouts
  - b. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Board, including the annual Statement of the Accounts
5. **Making appointments**
  - a. Appoint the District Chair, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustee Board
  - b. Appoint the District Treasurer, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustee Board
  - c. Appoint members of the District Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustee Board
  - d. Appoint the Independent Examiner of accounts
  - e. Nominate representatives of the District Scout Council to represent the District on the County Scout Council
6. **Closing remarks**

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2024

This report provides an overview of the work of District Trustees for the year 2023.

The Trustee board meets quarterly, and its' role is strategic management of the districts activities in line with Charity Commission requirements and Scouting policy organisation and rules.

### **Membership**

The district is made up of 12 groups, an Explorers section , Network section and adult support provision. Membership numbers and district structure at the January 2024 census is as follows.

- Total Youth Membership: 754
- Total Adult Membership: 236

### **Group Breakdown**

- Number of Squirrel Drays: 2
- Number of Beaver Colonies: 14
- Number of Cub Packs: 14
- Number of Scout Troops: 11
- Number of Explorer Units: 5
- Young leader Units: 1

### **Key Observations**

During this year 1 Squirrel Dray has opened.

Youth membership has increased by 3.3% compared to the previous year with notable growth in some groups.

Adult membership has increased by 9.8% compared to the previous year.

There is a notable need for additional adult leaders to support the growing number of groups.

### **Governance**

District Trustees meet quarterly to review and discuss strategic management of the district and to provide advice and support to the operational team as required. In this first year of transformation we have been reviewing policy and procedure and developing structures to support the wider district

### **Property**

The district holds some land and property including a campsite and these are all held within the Scout Trust Corporation. Condition and use are reviewed by the Trustee board.

### **Insurance**

The districts insurance needs have been reviewed and trustees are satisfied the insurance cover is appropriate.

### **Training**

Trustees are responsible for ensuring training is completed and maintained in line with POR requirements, this is managed through our local training manager. Overall district compliance with this requirement is good.

### **Safety**

Safety is a standing item on the Trustees agenda, there have been no safety issues raised this year.

### **Policy and procedure**

A range of policies and procedures are in place and during this year a risk register has been developed, and the following policies are to be agreed. Safety, privacy and data protection and equal opportunities.

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2024

### **Finance**

The financial position is reviewed at each meeting and audited accounts for the last financial year are issued with the papers for this meeting. The district is financially sound.

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORTS TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRAINTREE DISTRICT SCOUTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023**

I report on the accounts of the District for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes set out on page 1 to 3.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for my examination work.

### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The District's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Charities Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of Independent Examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the District and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent Examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act ;and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2024

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Mrs A S Kaley  
Chartered Accountant  
Fisher Michael, The Old Grange, Warren Estate, Lordship Road, Writtle, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1  
3WT

Date: 6 June 2024

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2024



### Braintree District Scouts Receipts and Payments Account



its

#### Receipts and payments

	Year ended 31 December 2023			Year ended 31 December 2022
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>				
<b>Donations, legacies and similar income</b>				
Membership Subscriptions	29,798.00	0.00	29,798.00	26,415.00
Less: Membership Subscriptions Paid Onto Essex	-24,832.50	0.00	-24,832.50	-22,125.00
Net Membership Subscriptions Retained	4,965.50	0.00	4,965.50	4,290.00
Legacies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gift Aid	786.73	0.00	786.73	455.21
Other Similar Income	3,789.54	0.00	3,789.54	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>9,541.77</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>9,541.77</b>	<b>4,745.21</b>
<b>Grants</b>				
Maintenance Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Fundraising (gross)</b>				
World Scout Jamboree	0.00	346.00	346.00	0.00
Detail 2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Detail 3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Fundraising Activities	115.28	0.00	115.28	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>115.28</b>	<b>346.00</b>	<b>461.28</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Investment income</b>				
Bank Interest	0.10	0.00	0.10	0.01
Building Society Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Rent income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other investment income Closed Band Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>0.01</b>
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>				
District Events	13,050.00	0.00	13,050.00	1,120.00
Income from Badge Sales	133.00	0.00	133.00	20.00
Explorer Subscription	3,775.00	0.00	3,775.00	2,535.00
Explorer Activities	1,333.00	0.00	1,333.00	1,339.48
Explorer Camps	9,322.00	0.00	9,322.00	7,431.69
Miscellaneous Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,420.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>27,613.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>27,613.00</b>	<b>14,866.17</b>
<b>Total Gross Income</b>	<b>37,270.15</b>	<b>346.00</b>	<b>37,616.15</b>	<b>19,611.39</b>
<b>Asset and investment sales, etc.</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>37,270.15</b>	<b>346.00</b>	<b>37,616.15</b>	<b>19,611.39</b>

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2024



### Braintree District Scouts Receipts and Payments Account



its

#### Receipts and payments

	Year ended 31 December 2023			Year ended 31 December 2022
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Payments</b>				
<b>Charitable Payments</b>				
Youth programme and activities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
District Events	19,202.10	0.00	19,202.10	869.89
Explorer Events	606.75	0.00	606.75	1,004.63
Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme	383.50	0.00	383.50	424
Explorer Rent	2,215.00	0.00	2,215.00	834.8
Badge Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Online Scout Manager	2,474.24	0.00	2,474.24	2,164.88
Insurance	558.14	0.00	558.14	603.01
Repairs and Renewals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Materials and equipment	268.28	0.00	268.28	1504.24
Printing and photocopying	90.64	0.00	90.64	92.5
District Newsletter	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Contribution to World Jamboree	0.00	0.00	0.00	2750
Explorer Uniforms	948.34	0.00	948.34	722.35
AGM and trustee expenses	112.41	0.00	112.41	129.73
Adult support and training	141.99	0.00	141.99	199
Miscellaneous	1,220.15	0.00	1,220.15	895.53
Explorer camps (including WSJ)	8,035.86	0.00	8,035.86	6,706.64
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>36,257.40</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>36,257.40</b>	<b>18,901.20</b>
<b>Fundraising expenses</b>				
Detail 1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Detail 2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Detail 3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Other fundraising costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>36,257.40</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>36,257.40</b>	<b>18,901.20</b>
<b>Asset and investment purchases, etc.</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>36,257.40</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>36,257.40</b>	<b>18,901.20</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>1,012.75</b>	<b>346.00</b>	<b>1,358.75</b>	<b>710.19</b>
<b>Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>29,521.03</b>	<b>556.80</b>	<b>30,077.83</b>	<b>29,367.64</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>30,533.78</b>	<b>902.80</b>	<b>31,436.58</b>	<b>30,077.83</b>

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2024



its

### Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	Year ended 31 December 2023			Year ended 31 December 2022
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>Cash funds</b>				
District Exec Barclays Bank current account	17,135.45	500.00	17,635.45	22,502.52
Badge Bank Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Explorer Current account	10,467.29	0.00	10,467.29	9,975.56
Explorer GoCardless Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Explorer 2nd Account	11.58	0.00	11.58	11.48
Explorer Majendie-Trinity A/C	4,572.62	0.00	4,572.62	
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Cash/Floats	0.00	0.00	0.00	35
<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>32,186.94</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>32,686.94</b>	<b>32,524.56</b>
<b>Other monetary assets</b>				
Tax claim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Insurance claim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Investment assets</b>				
Investment property - detail	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Quoted investments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other investments - detail	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Non monetary assets for charity's own use</b>				
Badge stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Shop stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Land and buildings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Motor vehicles	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scouting equipment, furniture etc.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Accounts not yet paid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Expenses incurred but not invoiced	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subscriptions not yet paid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
WSJ & NA payments to be transferred to Essex County Scouts	1,250.36	0.00	1,250.36	2,446.73
Other liabilities		0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,250.36</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,250.36</b>	<b>2,446.73</b>

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 21/6/24 and signed on their behalf by

Signature


Print Name

David Whipps	Chair Person
Gavin Wood	District Commissioner
Deborah Wood	Treasurer

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2024

### **DISTRICT LEAD VOLUNTEER REPORT**

Wow what a year it has been, Scouting is certainly alive in Braintree District we have seen young numbers grow by 5% yr on yr and adult volunteers grow by 9% yr on yr which is the first time we have seen growth in over 5 years of our volunteers. Thank you to all our new volunteers who have signed up in the last year. In July last year we held our first full District camp in 23 years with all sections and nearly all groups taking part, 450 young people and adults coming together at Skreens Park for a rather hot weekend of activities, fun and building of friendships.

During the year we have seen District badge days, activity days and camps in the different sections it was really good to come together with our adults for a new year afternoon tea at the start of 2024.

In the Autumn one of our neighbouring Districts Halstead and Colne Valley closed down, I was delighted we could welcome the teams in Gosfield and Castle Hedingham to join the District and I have enjoyed getting to know the teams in those groups and look forward to continuing to do so and supporting them in the year ahead. We also welcomed Majendie-Trinity Explorers into the District Explorers team.

As Halstead and Colne Valley closed, we were really pleased that they wanted Braintree District to take ownership of Twinstead camp site a lovely location between Halstead and Sudbury and free for groups to use offering a really affordable way for groups to offering camping experiences.

I have been amazed by the number of overnight experiences that groups have been offering our young people and love getting along a visiting as many as possible.

During the last 12 months we have opened Squirrels dreys in Rayne, 1<sup>st</sup> Braintree, Black Notley, Gt Notley and soon to be Coggeshall. It is a good way to grow membership for now and the future and brings new volunteers. It has been really good seeing Scouting developing so much in all groups with so much happening for our young people.

I want to thank all of our adult volunteers in whatever role you fulfil you are making a difference to young people lives and giving them skills for life. I am inspired in seeing the difference your work makes to young people and delighted to be a part of it.

I look forward to another year of progress in Braintree District

**Gav**  
**District Lead Volunteer**

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2024

### **DISTRICT REPORT 4-14 TEAM REPORT**

This has been our first year in our new roles and we are still very much getting to grips with the transformation.

The Beavers had a successful Badge Day, at St Michaels Church House, covering their Safety Badge.

The Scouts had a back to basics camp at Danemead Scout Campsite.

The whole District joined in with a very successful camp at Skreens Park. Most Groups were represented, and a wide range of activities were run by us and the Skreens staff. This was the first District Camp for over 16 years, and it was great to see so many of our young people joining in and making new friends.

Future events include a Cub World Faith and International Badge Day on 12<sup>th</sup> October and a Beaver Badge Day on 19<sup>th</sup> October. These will both be held at St Michaels Church house as this is a central venue. I also hope to have our first District Squirrel meet up. This will likely be a Teddy Bears Picnic event with games and craft. Date and venue yet to be decided but hopefully September.

We hope to form a team to help organise these events but as always, will need the participation of packs and colonies to run successfully. Watch this space for meeting dates.

### **Leigh Calder and Clare Darch 4-14 Team Leaders**

### **DISTRICT REPORT 14-24**

#### **Explorer Units**

We now have 4 explorer units operating in the district since gaining Majendie-Trinity ESU from Halstead & Colne Valley district. All our units are currently providing an excellent programme on a weekly basis and engaging well in district events. We now have strong leadership teams across all of our units with Matt Barker stepping forward to assist Jody and Sam at 3 Rivers ESU and Bea Buckley taking on a leadership role at both Rebels ESU and Vortex ESU since aging out of the Explorer section themselves.

#### **Network**

Scout Network is operating in Braintree district and being driven by Patrick Abel our Scout Network Team Leader. Over the past year, they have held many events at which they have had a reasonable turn out, including a camp at Riffhams and an overnight stay at Black Notley.

#### **Census**

In 2024, our total explorer membership figure rose by 28% up to 85 explorer scouts across the district and network rose by 750% to 17 scout network members. This is extremely positive and shows that we are building our numbers as we continue to look to offer more and more scouting opportunities to our community.

#### **Events**

We have offered various different events to our members over the past year including District Camp at Skreens Park which was enjoyed by our members. We were also involved in the Remembrance Parade in Braintree town centre with the rest of the district and held a Christmas Sleepover at Belchamps Scout Activity Centre in December cooking the Explorers a full Christmas dinner. We ended 2023 taking over Colchester Leisure pool for an evening where we had all four of our Explorer units from the district represented. Braintree Explorers have also continued to offer Chill Out Camp each year having held this a couple of weeks ago. We also look forward to attending Essex Jamboree this summer, taking 44 of our Explorer Scouts to the event.

# DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT

## AGM 2024

### **Young Leaders**

We have 27 active young leaders within the district all providing valuable support to the leadership teams across the district in younger sections. We continue to offer Young Leader training modules to help our Explorers in their Young Leader roles and hope to offer more of these training opportunities going forward.

### **Duke of Edinburgh Award**

We have 29 members working towards their Duke of Edinburgh awards (16 bronze, 6 silver) and in the past year we have awarded 1 Silver awards and 1 Gold Award. We are arranging a bronze expedition to take place in September and are working towards plans to make silver and gold expeditions

I would finally like to take the opportunity to say a massive thank you to all of the adults who volunteer their time, effort and commitment to providing Scouting opportunities to the 14-24 age range within the district. Without these leaders, we would be nothing and their continuous hard work, ideas and enthusiasm makes them a pleasure to work with.

**Jason Barnes 14-24 TEAM LEADER**