



Scouts

1st Whitchurch (Andover)

1st Whitchurch Scout Group

Registered Charity No. 1043551

Annual Report and Accounts

Year Ending 31st March 2024

1st Whitchurch Scout Group

Patron HM The King President HRH The Duke of Kent Founder Robert Baden-Powell OM Chief Scout Bear Grylls
Registered Charity no. 1043551

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

Section A Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name: 1st Whitchurch Scout Group
Reg charity No.: 1043551

Charity's Address: The Scout Headquarters, Bere Hill, Whitchurch, Hampshire. RG28 7EN

Charity Trustees:	Alan Bishop	Chairman
	Jenny Ball	Treasurer
	Sarah Dutton	Secretary
	Ian Farley	Group Scout Leader
	Nicola Farley	Scout Section Leader
	Liz Dowling	Cub Section Leader
	Roland Bunce	Beaver Section Leader
	Alex Cruickshank	Parent representative
	Alexandra Hough	Parent representative
	Stephanie Winter	Parent representative
	Ally Jackson	Parent representative

Section B Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document: The 1st Whitchurch Scout Group's governing documents are those of the Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association. The group constitution is defined in section 5.4 of POR.

Additional information: The 1st Whitchurch Scout Group is managed by the Trustee board, the members of which are the "Charity Trustees" of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes charity registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate. The trustee board meets at least every two months.

Risk and Internal Control

The Trustee board has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and actions have been taken to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are noted below.

Damage to the headquarters building, property and equipment. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss. To continue operations in the event of a loss, the Group would request use of buildings, property and equipment from other organisations in Whitchurch (such as the Parish Hall Committee, Gill Nethercott Community Centre, Churches and Schools)

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The Group through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Association's national insurance policy. All leaders are trained to carry out the activities that they are authorised to lead or support.

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Reduced income from fund-raising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fund-raising. The Group as a charity holds a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Trustee Board could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the Group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently. In addition, the Group is well supported and has the ability to run a number of fund-raising activities at short notice if necessary.

Reduction in or loss of leaders. The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the Group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the Group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case this could mean closure of the Group.

Reduction in or loss of members. The Group provides activities for all young people aged six to fourteen. If there were a reduction in membership in a particular section or the Group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case this could mean closure of the Group.

Section C Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the Group are as a unit of the Scout Association.

The aim of the Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local national and international communities. The method of achieving the aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

The main activities conducted in relation to these objectives include:

- A progressive awards scheme;
- The opportunity to gain awards in areas of interest or proficiency;
- A programme of activities conducted on section evenings, during outings and camps.

These activities are organised and managed by adult leaders who are themselves subject to a progressive training programme with the support of adult helpers.

Section D Achievements and Performance

Youth membership was up by 2 members at 119 as of 31st January 2024 when the annual census was taken, Group membership stood at 143, split as follows:

Beaver Scouts	20
Cub Scouts	31
Scouts	68
Leaders	18
Sectional Ass	6

During the year fund-raising was limited to the Christmas shop These fund-raising activities are well supported by the local community and looked forward to throughout the year.

The Trustees would like to recognise the efforts of all those who support the Group by raising funds and assisting at section meetings and camps.

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Section E Financial Review

Policy on Reserves: The Group's policy on Reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group should income and fund-raising activities fall short. The Group Executive Committee considers that a reserve of six months running costs is sufficient to meet this policy and has held this throughout the year 2023-2024.

Accounts: Accounts for the year 2023-2024 are appended.

Banking: The Group has adopted a risk-averse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using a mainstream bank and building society. As a result of receiving a large legacy the group will split its funds multiple banks to ensure the funds are covered by the bank guarantee scheme.

Nevertheless the Trustee board monitors its banking arrangements to ensure that these are appropriate.

Section F Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustee's Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees;

Full Name Imo Francey

Signature

Position

Date

Imo Francey

GSL

25/6/24

Full Name ALAN BISHOP

Signature

Position

Date

Alan Bishop

CHAIR

25/6/2024

1st Whitchurch Scout Group

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GROUP REPORT

I'd like to start by thanking all the leader teams for their dedication and commitment in delivering a fun and active program across all sections. Numbers across all sections remain strong with high retention rates which is a true sign that the fun and adventurous program is keeping members engaged. The limiting factor to our section numbers continues to be the number of leaders, All sections could benefit from additional support.

At present we are running at capacity, this unfortunately means there remain children we are unable to offer places. The issue of the waiting list can only fully be addressed by opening additional sections to provide more capacity, and this is reliant on recruiting more volunteer leaders.

The Trustee board has continued to provide excellent support to the group ensuring the facilities and equipment are available to support the section programmes. One function of the board is to define the direction in which the Scout group should develop, to ensure this occurs we need parental input on the Exec. We always welcome new help to the group on any front, be it leadership, fundraising, the Trustee board or occasional help with the sections.

The groups main source of fundraising is the charity shop. A big thank you goes to the many individuals who help run and staff the shop, Many have been helping since the group was fundraising to build the HQ in Bere Hill, their continued support enables the group to develop our facilities and programme.

Ian Farley
Group Scout Leader



BEAVER REPORT

April 2023 to March 2024

There is currently 20 Beaver Scouts in our colony made up of 15 boys and 5 girls. We have one uniformed leader (myself as section team leader), Two assistant leaders and four sectional assistants. We also benefit from the help of 3 young leaders.

Within this period, we recruited Lucy and Hannah to the team. The number of Beavers currently in the colony is below the desired level of 24 Beavers due to issues with leader recruitment. More uniformed leaders are required.

As the summer term of 2023 got underway, with the good weather and longer evenings, we tried to be outside as much as possible and undertake lots of fun and adventurous activities. Evenings out included climbing in Andover, Jay Miller's Circus at Picket Piece, strawberry picking at St Mary Bourne and navigating around Whitchurch. Back at the Scout Hut we did the Cyclist activity badge, played a big game of rounders, held a Beavers sports-day, went on a bug hunt, had a coronation tea party to celebrate our new King, and had the usual water fun evening in the hot July sun where everyone, leaders included, got very wet!

For the earlier part of the autumn 2023 term whilst the weather allowed, we continued to be outside as much as possible, carrying out a litter pick around Whitchurch, had a campfire and cooked dough sticks, and everyone enjoyed the annual Great Whitchurch Chip Shop Challenge. Once the clocks went back and the weather became less favourable, activities headed indoors more and the Beavers completed the Space activity badge and International activity badge. We also visited Winchester Science Centre, held the annual autumn Night Hike, went to Southampton for the ever-popular Donutting and sang Christmas carols at Bere Hill nursing home and had a mince pie with the residents.

As 2024 got underway, with the typical bad weather and cold evenings, lots of inside badge work was completed including pancake cooking and eating, a games night, junk modelling fun, a simple but very effective Hama beads evening, we completed the Digital Maker activity badge and held a science evening for the Experiments activity badge. Another night hike was also had to get us out of the Hut for one week at least. We also had a charity theme for the 2024 winter term, where through a cake sale and other activities, the Beavers raised £160. Donations were made to The Winchester Beacon, Whitchurch Community Swimming Pool, Dementia UK and The Nchima Trust.

Lastly, I want to take this opportunity to thank Claire, Andre, Janine, Sharon, Lucy, Hannah, Dan, Griff and Cosmo for their ongoing support.

Roland Bunce, Beaver Section Leader

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1st Whitchurch Cubs Section Report

2023 – 2024

1st Whitchurch Cubs meet on Monday evening 6.30 to 8pm. The Cub pack is made up of 31 Cubs aged 8 to 10 ½ years old, 7 leaders and 3 young leaders. Pack nights are full of fun, challenge and adventure.

Pack nights have been busy, we baked cakes at Testbourne school while taking a turn at shooting at the hut. We learnt about the stars at Winchester Science Center, tried Haggis and danced to a Scottish music played on the bagpipes. With the help of Alex Cruickshank we learned about Bats and built our own Bat boxes. We slept in boxes at the Hut after a night hike along with many other hikes we have completed. Fun and challenge was had with a Cluedo style evening. We learnt about the World Scout Jamboree and Project 23 from some of our Explorers that attended, visited All Hallows, where we got to see the bells in the tower and learnt to play some handbells. Outside of all of this we also did a little bit of badge work at the hut. For our Christmas party we took the Cubs for an evening of Ringos fun. Lots of fun and a sleepy coach on the way home

In February we went to Youlbury Scout Activity Centre near Oxford for our Spring camp. This involved lots of activities from Crate Stacking to climbing and go cart racing and singing round the camp fire led by the Sixers. A great time was had by all.

Summer camp this year was at Thriftwood Scout Activity Center. 17 Cubs tested their skills and bravery, sleeping in tents for 4 nights with activities including water roller, which resulted in lots of laughter, Cave bus, Zip line, X-Bows, Cresta run, camp site fire and singing, with many other activities all rounded off by a trip to Diggerland a firm favourite for Cubs and Leaders.

Following a full year of Cub activities and delivering a balanced programme a further 8 Cubs gained their Silver Chief Scout award, the highest award a Cub can achieve. It is a testament to the effort they put in and the diverse programme that is delivered.

All of this would not be possible without the planning and hard work of the leaders and young leaders who give up their time to plan and deliver the programme and activities we do. We would like to say a special thank you to Martin Hayward who stepped down from Scouting after 12 years after Summer Camp last year. We're delighted that Liz agreed to take over as Akela, assisted by Jon, Nick, Abbie and Kate as a regular helper. We welcomed Katie and Steve as new leaders.

1st Whitchurch Cubs continues to thrive and has another busy year of activities and a summer camp planned.

1st Whitchurch Cub Leaders

1st Whitchurch Scout Group

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SCOUTS

Scout Section

Whitchurch must surely have one of the most committed, ambitious and active Scout groups around. Here's a quick summary of the programme of activities we have enjoyed in the last year.

Taking every opportunity to get on the water, we have been kayaking, SUP-ing, and sailing, at our popular water weekend at Cobnor activities centre as well as a family water activities weekend at Reading. We have also held another brilliant Burns' Night themed Winter Camp, Harry Potter camp and survival weekend.

We continue to hone our traditional Scouting skills: using knives and axes, playing with fire, and building amazing 'pioneered' constructions, practicing knots, and putting up the world's most complicated tents (without any instructions too!)

Less traditional 'skills for life' have included rail safety with a hike that crossed the live line. We had a good look at so-called 'healthy' foods too, and made some surprising discoveries that will help the Scouts become savvy shoppers. We also participated in National Parliament Week, found out about the role of parliament and the government, and learned how to vote – how timely. And we learned about Astronautics with a brilliant couple of weeks looking at Space exploration.

A highlight was our brilliant Christmas Gang Show under the direction of maestro Ella. Who knew we had so many talented performers? Those of you who were lucky enough to squeeze in to watch the show will probably never listen to 'Hey Jude' again without a smile.

Our cooking skills are second to none! There is always something cooking at the hut, whether it be fire-cooked bread sticks with the BEST Swedish sugar glaze, soup, risotto, arty pancakes, spaghetti carbonara (even if we might disagree about the ingredients for that one), shakshuka, or a banging curry.

We have been proud and active members of our local community – a particular success has been our collections for the local foodbanks. The generosity of our local community was truly impressive. We have proudly paraded through our town for Remembrance Day.

Congratulations to everyone who has had a go at competing for our troop: we took the lion's share of accolades in shooting competition with some Scouts winning awards at the first time of trying, a real testament to the huge range of new opportunities we can offer to our young people.

Summer 2023 saw many of our Scouts travelling across Europe with Project 23, while others enjoyed - and endured - the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea, an unforgettable experience in many ways. We are so proud of the camaraderie and Scouting spirit they all showed.

We are fortunate enough to work with 70 energetic and open-minded young people who make everything we do fun and worthwhile. We have brilliant young leaders aged 14-18 who selflessly give up their time to help out alongside their studies. Our team of fourteen adult leaders, led by the ever-capable Nikki, all bring different backgrounds and interests and skills to the party. We are always happy to welcome new adults to the team, even if it's just for the odd evening. You will always be made welcome.

Michelle and the leader team, Nikki (Scout Leader), Caroline, Connor, Ella, Graeme, Ingrid, John, Lisa, Lynn, Michael, Pat, Ryan and Wayne.

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1st Whitchurch Scout group

Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended 31st March 2024

Overall Income	2024	2023
Members subscriptions	£12,284.07	£10,968.72
Fund raising	£9,252.83	£9,067.04
Hall income	£680.00	£885.00
Donations	£21,201.00	£1,316.00
Interest	£3,939.69	£1,023.51
Camps & Outings	£23,403.61	£23,064.89
Uniforms and badges	£0.00	£0.00
Sundry Income	£225.00	£11.12
Gift Aid & Tax recovery	£0.00	£0.00
Section Clothing	£459.99	£371.84
Legacy	£0.00	£0.00
	<u>£71,446.19</u>	<u>£46,708.12</u>

Overall Expenditure	2023	2022
Scout Association subscriptions	£6,307.00	£12,239.25
Uniform & badges	£1,358.59	£1,110.86
Utilities	£3,056.62	£3,010.86
Equipment repairs	£0.00	£41.88
Headquarters Cleaning	£758.25	£1,127.16
Fund raising	£2,575.37	£6,748.49
Sundry expenses	£7,103.47	£3,787.77
Insurance (Building & contents)	£1,865.16	£2,165.80
Equipment purchases	£0.00	£0.00
Trip sponsorship	£0.00	£0.00
Camps & Outings	£27,586.68	£21,850.03
Building maintenance	£2,004.30	£720.45
Section clothing	£1,225.04	£918.30
	<u>£53,840.48</u>	<u>£53,720.85</u>
Surplus for year	<u>£17,605.71</u>	<u>-£7,012.73</u>
	<u>£242,405.36</u>	<u>£249,418.09</u>
	<u>£260,011.07</u>	<u>£242,405.36</u>

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1st Whitchurch Scout group

Statement of Assets and liabilities as at 31st March 2024

Monetary assets	2024	2023
HSBC	£78,981.78	£78,247.96
Newbury building society	£134,097.29	£122,846.60
HSBC Money Market	£0.00	£0.00
Lloyds	£46,932.00	£41,310.80
Cash in hand	£0.00	£0.00
	<u>£260,011.07</u>	<u>£242,405.36</u>
Represented by		
Group / General funds	£242,405.36	£249,418.09
Surplus for year	£17,605.71	-£7,012.73
	<u>£260,011.07</u>	<u>£242,405.36</u>

Summary		
Group	£59,543.64	£39,642.24
Legacy	£197,452.01	£194,182.07
Beavers	£396.74	£951.45
Cubs	-£772.55	£3,641.48
Scouts	£3,391.23	£3,988.12
	<u>£260,011.07</u>	<u>£242,405.36</u>

Land and Buildings

Scout Headquarters building		
Value at 1st April 2023	£129,353.02	£129,353.02
Value at 31st March 2024	<u>£129,353.02</u>	<u>£129,353.02</u>

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf

J.Ball

Treasurer

1st Whitchurch Scout group

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1st Whitchurch Scout group

Group Account

For the year ended 31st March 2024

Group Income	2024	2023
Members subscription from sections	£5,521.39	£5,059.65
Fund raising	£9,252.83	£9,067.04
Hall Income	£680.00	£885.00
Donations	£21,201.00	£1,316.00
Interest	£669.75	£174.00
Uniform & Badges	£0.00	£0.00
Sundry income	£225.00	£11.12
Gift aid & Tax recovery	£0.00	£0.00
	<u>£37,549.97</u>	<u>£16,512.81</u>

Group Expenditure	2024	2023
Scout Association subscriptions	£6,307.00	£12,239.25
Uniform & badges	£605.00	£245.50
Utilities	£3,056.62	£3,010.86
Equipment repairs	£0.00	£41.88
Headquarters Cleaning & maintenance	£758.25	£1,127.16
Fundraising	£2,575.37	£2,548.49
Sundry expenses	£251.87	£356.76
Insurance (Building & contents)	£1,865.16	£2,165.80
Building maintenance	£2,004.30	£720.45
Equipment purchases	£0.00	£0.00
Trip sponsorship	£0.00	£4,200.00
Camps & Outings	£225.00	£0.00
	<u>£17,648.57</u>	<u>£26,656.15</u>
Surplus for year	<u>£19,901.40</u>	<u>-£10,143.34</u>
	<u>£37,549.97</u>	<u>£16,512.81</u>
Group fund as 1st April 2023	£39,642.24	£49,785.58
Surplus for year	<u>£19,901.40</u>	<u>-£10,143.34</u>
	<u>£59,543.64</u>	<u>£39,642.24</u>

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1st Whitchurch Scout group

Legacy Account

For the year ended 31st March 2024

Legacy Income	2024	2023
Legacy	£0.00	£0.00
Interest	£3,269.94	£849.51
	<u>£3,269.94</u>	<u>£849.51</u>
Legacy Expenditure	2024	2023

	£0.00	£0.00
Surplus for year	£3,269.94	£849.51
	<u>£3,269.94</u>	<u>£849.51</u>
Legacy fund as 1st April 2023	£194,182.07	£193,332.56
Surplus for year	£3,269.94	£849.51
	<u>£197,452.01</u>	<u>£194,182.07</u>

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Chief Scout - Bear Grylls

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1st Whitchurch Scout group

Beaver colony Account
For the year ended 31st March 2024

Beaver Income	2024	2023
Subscriptions	£2,313.10	£2,095.62
Sundry Income	£0.00	£0.00
Colony Activities	£0.00	£0.00
	<u>£2,313.10</u>	<u>£2,095.62</u>
Beaver Expenditure	2024	2023
Sundry expenses	£1,399.11	£732.15
Badges	£112.15	£140.40
Colony Activities	£200.00	£0.00
Less transfer of subscriptions to group	£1,156.55	£1,047.81
	<u>£2,867.81</u>	<u>£1,920.36</u>
Surplus for year	<u>-£554.71</u>	<u>£175.26</u>
	<u>£2,313.10</u>	<u>£2,095.62</u>
Beaver fund at 1st April 2023	£951.45	£776.19
Surplus for year	-£554.71	£175.26
	<u>£396.74</u>	<u>£951.45</u>
Beaver Colony Fund at 31st March 2024	<u>£396.74</u>	

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Cub pack Account

For the year ended 31st March 2024

Cub Income	2024	2023
Subscriptions	£3,639.28	£3,175.04
Sundry Income	£0.00	£0.00
Camps & activities	£4,878.25	£4,835.39
Clothing	£0.00	£0.00
	<u>£8,517.53</u>	<u>£8,010.43</u>
Cub Expenditure	2024	2023
Sundry expenses	£2,539.29	£2,142.32
Badges	£152.50	£213.60
Camps & activities	£8,420.13	£5,289.52
Clothing	£0.00	£0.00
Less transfer of subscriptions to group	£1,819.64	£1,587.52
	<u>£12,931.56</u>	<u>£9,232.96</u>
Surplus for year	<u>-£4,414.03</u>	<u>-£1,222.53</u>
	<u>£8,517.53</u>	<u>£8,010.43</u>
Cub fund at 1st April 2023	£3,641.48	£4,864.01
Surplus for year	-£4,414.03	-£1,222.53
	<u>-£772.55</u>	<u>£3,641.48</u>
Cub pack Fund at 31st March 2024	<u>-£772.55</u>	

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Scout troop Account

For the year ended 31st March 2024

Scout Income	2024	2023
Subscriptions	£7,572.98	£6,547.48
Sundry Income	£0.00	£0.00
Camps & activities	£18,525.36	£18,229.50
Clothing	£459.99	£371.84
Badges	£0.00	£0.00
	<u>£26,558.33</u>	<u>£25,148.82</u>

Scout Expenditure	2024	2023
Sundry expenses	£2,913.20	£556.54
Badges	£488.94	£511.36
Camps & activities	£18,741.55	£16,560.51
Clothing	£1,225.04	£918.30
Less transfer of subscriptions to group	£3,786.49	£3,273.74
	<u>£27,155.22</u>	<u>£21,820.45</u>
Surplus for year	<u>-£596.89</u>	<u>£3,328.37</u>
	<u>£26,558.33</u>	<u>£25,148.82</u>

Scout fund at 1st April 2023	£3,988.12	£659.75
Surplus for year	-£596.89	£3,328.37

	<u>£3,391.23</u>	<u>£3,988.12</u>
Scout troop Fund at 31st March 2024	<u>£3,391.23</u>	

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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
1st Whitchurch Scout Group

I report on the accounts of the group for the year ended 31st March 2024 set out on the attached pages.

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 charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees 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 required.

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 Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity 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 statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

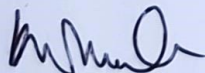
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (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 to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities1 Act

have not been met; or

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



Kevin Wheeler FCA
Wheeler & Co Limited
The Shrubbery
14 Church Street
Whitchurch
Hampshire
RG28 7AB

Date: 9th May 2024