

## **The 46<sup>th</sup> Epping Forest South Scout Group 2024.2025 Trustees' Report**

- 1 The Group sections have been well attended and active over the year, although the Beaver leaders stepped down in October 2024, the group is grateful to both for their extensive work and enthusiasm which had built up a thriving section. As has been found in the past, it proved difficult to find alternative volunteers to lead the section, this was a serious concern for the group. Each section is reliant on each other to ensure children are moving up, ultimately to the scouts, without a beaver section it would only be a matter of time before the group closed. To prevent this, the cub and scout leaders took on the running of the beaver section as well as continuing with their own sections. The group sections, parents and executive are hugely grateful to the leaders for their generosity and dedication to the group, especially when they already give so much to ensure the group continues to operate successfully.
- 2 We were delighted & relieved when three parents got together and stepped forward to lead the beaver section. There was a need to change the meeting day so that leaders could fit in with work commitments, and the new leadership team is a great success, with the beaver colony now around 10 in regular attendance. Thanks must also go to the parents and carers who assisted the interim leaders each week to ensure the beaver colony could meet safely.
- 3 The Cub Pack numbers around 18 in regular attendance. Cubs completed a range of badges, and plenty of outdoor activities along with the regular camping trips, including hikes, climbing and rafting.
- 4 The Scout Troop numbers around 24 in regular attendance. Scouts also enjoyed similar activities to the cubs some of which were shared excursions, but included the challenging task of building a wood glider that could remain air-borne for 25 seconds.
- 5 In May there was a camping weekend at Thriftwood campsite, with a good turnout of cubs and scouts attending. For the first time beavers were also able to attend for one day accompanied by parents/carers. This worked well and provides the youngest group members with sometimes their first camping experience.
- 6 The family camp was organised for July at Gilwell Scout Camp, & headquarters of the Scout Association. The section leaders work extremely hard to make this a fun-packed activity weekend for the group and their parents/carers. Leaders put a great deal of effort and their own time into planning for the event, including ensuring that all parents/carers camping are DBS checked, purchasing provisions for the weekend as well as putting up & taking down tents, cooking and of course organising and overseeing activities to fill each of the days.
- 7 The group AGM was held at the family camp weekend on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2024, the weather in recent years has been kind to the AGM, but rain did make minute taking a bit of a challenge this year!
- 8 Fundraising socials included a quiz night in April 2024, which raised £766 for the group.  
  
Hut lettings are a valuable source of income, and vital to keep the hut running and repaired.

Sadly, the Wanstead Players amateur dramatic society closed in September, they had used the hut for rehearsals for many years. Another amateur dramatic society did book for rehearsals for a few months, but have since returned to their former venue following its refurbishment. The group continues to actively promote the hut for local groups to use. A cleaner was employed during the course of the year to ensure that the hut remains attractive to regular users.

## **9 Financial Report.**

The group is satisfied with the level of reserves and current financial position of the accounts. However there is a significant reliance on regular hut lettings for income which contributed £8,000 income to the group in 2024.25. As noted, the group will be aiming to attract more regular hut bookings to secure this income stream. Subscriptions from section members is being received regularly, there were no increases in subs this year and income for the year was £6,310. Parents and carers are regularly reminding to provide gift aid forms if they are taxpayers, as gift aid provides another valuable source of income.

An employer of one of the leaders made a donation to the group of £2,150 and the group wishes to express its thanks to the generosity of the employer and to the leader concerned for promoting the group.

The scout hut maintenance costs over the year were £4,000 which included installation of emergency lighting.

Net income for the year was £7,371, with funds carried forward of £42,379.

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**46TH EPPING FOREST SOUTH SCOUT GROUP ACCOUNTS** **2024-2025**

**Income**

Bank Interest	1,185.78
Donation	2,150.00
Events	0.00
Events - Beavers	0.00
Events - Cubs	0.00
Events - Scouts	3,651.40
Family Camp	2,429.53
Fundraising	430.00
May Camp 25	860.00
Membership Fees	6,310.20
Minibus Claim	0.00
Rent	8,025.00
Scout Camp 25	3,100.00

**Expense**

Admin	58.68
Badges	414.68
Bank Fees	276.60
Camping Equipment	408.41
Events - Beavers	0.00
Events - Cubs	641.61
Events - Scouts	4,465.14
Family Camp	3,080.74
Fundraising	0.00
Insurance	1,578.15
May Camp 25	130.30
Meetings - Beavers	308.94
Meetings - Cubs	52.80
Membership Costs	2,660.00
Scout Camp 25	842.24
Utilities	1,841.50
Venue Maintenance	4,010.80

**Account balances**

CCLA	27,849.98
NatWest	14,529.34

**Summary**

Account balance brought forward	35,008.00
Total income	28,141.91
Total expenditure	20,770.59
Net income	7,371.32
Account balance carried forward	42,379.32

INDEPENDENTLY EXAMINED

MR ANTHONY MOORE

A. J. Moore  
28.1.26,