



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name
5th LEEK (ST MARY'S) SCOUT GROUP

On accounts for the year ended

28TH FEBRUARY 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1061712

Set out on pages

1-10

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended ~~28/02/2025~~

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. *Delete [] if not applicable.*

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

8/7/25

Name:

NICK ARMSTRONG

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

ICEAW

(if any):

Address:

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Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

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aminer wishes to
sclose.

From 1 March 2024 to 28 February 2025

[illegible]

Structure, governance and management

Description of the Charity's trusts

Type of governing document

The 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

How the charity is constituted

The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts

Trustee selection methods

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association

Additional governance issues

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

The Group is managed by the Group 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 the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate

The Trustee Board meets every month except August and December unless otherwise agreed

Members of the Trustee Board complete Being a Scouts Trustee learning within the first 6 months of joining the Board

All Trustees give their time on a voluntary basis and receive no remuneration or other benefits

This Group Trustee Board exists to make sure the charity is well managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and equipment are in good working order and everyone follows legal requirements and the organisation's policies and rules. Their support helps other volunteers run high quality and safe programmes that give young people skills for life

Child protection policy

There is a child protection policy in place. Disclosure and Barring Services 'DBS' checks are carried out for all adults including Leaders, Trustees and other Assistants/Instructors prior to commencement or appointment. These checks are repeated every five (5) years in accordance with the Scout Association Policy, Organisation and Rules 'POR'

Structure, governance and management continued

Risk and internal control

The Group Trustee Board has identified the major risks to which it believes the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

Damage to building, property and equipment. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss

Injury to leaders and members. The Group through its capitation fees contributes to the Scout Associations national accident insurance policy. Risk assessments are undertaken before all activities

Reduced income from fund raising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fund raising. The Group does not hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Board could raise the value of subscriptions to increase income to the Group on an ongoing basis either temporarily or permanently

Reduction 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 scenario the complete closure of the Group

Reduction or loss of members. The Group provides activities for all young people age 6 years to 14 years. We also provide an opportunity for our young members and others from across the Staffordshire Moorlands including young adults aged 14 years and over to join our Scout & Guide Band, a Traditional Marching Band and Members of the Corps of Drums and the Traditional Youth Marching Band Association 'TYMBA'. They are taught to play and march to competition standard.

If there was 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 scenario the complete closure of the Group.

The Group has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include two (2) signatories for all payments and a comprehensive insurance policy to ensure that insurable risks are covered

Objectives and activities

Summary of objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The purpose of Scouting

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society

The Values of Scouting

As Scouts we are guided by these values:

Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal

Respect - We have self-respect and respect for others

Care - We support others and take care of the world in which we live

Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes

Co-operation - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends

The Scout Method

Scouting takes place when young people in partnership with adults work together based on the values of Scouting and:

- enjoy what they are doing and have fun
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors
- learn by doing
- share in spiritual reflection
- take responsibility and make choices
- undertake new and challenging activities
- make and live by their promise

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

See achievements and performance

We welcome all young people regardless of personal background, faith, gender or personal circumstances

Additional details of objectives and activities

Contribution made by Volunteers

A valuable contribution is made by our leaders and other volunteers for which we are very grateful. The Scout Group could not exist without their contribution of time, expertise and patience

Public benefit statement

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

See reports

Sections

Beaver Scouts

Cub Scouts

Scouts

Band

Other

Group Lead

Treasurer

Chair

5th Leek (St. Mary's) Scout Group
Annual General Meeting 2022/23
Beaver Section Report

It's been a very busy year at Beavers. We have 20 invested members and an average weekly attendance of between 16 and 18.

We began with a visit to St. Mary's Church where Father Martin was very welcoming and had already organised a programme that was a great help. The Beavers found out about the statues, the stained glass windows and a bit about the history of the building. We tried to make our own stained glass out of black card and coloured tissue paper but it wasn't a great success unfortunately!

We paid our usual annual visit to the November Camp at Consall. Our programme included a hike, making Guys for the bonfire and we carved out pumpkins and made pumpkin soup which went down very well at Teatime. We also made our own sandwiches at teatime that contributed to gaining the Cook's Badge later in the year. For Divali we painted candle pots. Sixteen Beavers attended the camp and 6 of these stayed overnight on the Saturday night achieving a Nights Away 1 award. At a later meeting we concluded celebration of Divali by tasting Indian food.

Twelve Beavers attended the Armistice Parade in Leek. A good turnout for youngsters that experienced being led by our own Band.

We took part in a Space Badge session that included building a Space Rocket out of boxes.

Christmas was celebrated by making Christmas cards, decorations and party hats which were worn at the Christmas party.

We began the New Year by making calendars that were designed to look like birds nests.

Three Beavers attained their Chief Scouts Bronze awards and moved up to cubs.

Chinese New Year, the Year of the Snake, was our next theme. We tasted Chinese tea, cooked noodles and tried to eat them using chopsticks.

Next it was Pancake Day. Naturally, we made, cooked and ate pancakes. The Beavers learned about safety and hygiene in the kitchen and discussed healthy eating. We also cooked ~~and~~ spaghetti in tomato sauce. We completed the term by making birds nests with chocolate, rice Krispies and min-eggs finishing with a treasure hunt. Everyone was awarded a Cooks Badge. During the Easter holiday we had a fun evening playing Chocolate Bingo. We raised £44.00 for the funds. Every little helps!

May began with a visit to the Climbing Wall at Leekbrook. Sixteen attended and all had a great time and experience.

We had to make some changes to the programme because of the repairs to the building. Luckily, the weather was good so we went outdoors bug hunting, pond dipping and grass sledging a bit earlier than usual.

Sixteen took part in a walk to Rudyard and back. Some money has been donated via the sponsor forms but not all yet and so far it looks promising.

We will complete our summer programme soon and are already planning our next programme.

We have a brilliant, experienced and innovative team at Beavers. To have five leaders and a junior helper is amazing. I would like to thank Julie, Craig, Laura, Nicola, and Albert for all their help, their support and their ideas. Also the parents. We could not do it without them!

Mavis W. Sproat 8th July 2025

Mavis Sproat Section Lead Volunteer.

2025 5th Leek Cubs AGM Report

Leaders

The Cubs leader team has been steady the past year, with the core members being Reuben, James and Pip. We're grateful to have Em Coleman help out when possible, and we're also happy to welcome Emma Hudson as a parent helper and admin extraordinaire. Finally, we also have a fantastic young leader by the name of Jacob who gets stuck in and uses his initiative.

As a team we're very communicative on our WhatsApp group, helping each other out with programme ideas and sourcing materials. We meet up to put each term's programme together, working around each other's availability to keep things running smoothly.

Numbers

We've maintained a steady number of Cubs since last summer, with between 18 and 23 attending each week. In September we'll be saying goodbye to 5 and welcoming 6 or 7 from Beavers, so the healthy numbers look set to continue into the future. We'd be open to having more Cubs, but would like to have an extra leader or two to manage the extra workload.

Programme

In September we kicked off with the Environmental Conservation badge, doing a litter pick of Brough Park and a visit from Alliance Environmental Services based near the recycling centre. We also did the home help badge, showing the Cubs how to make a nice cup of tea, iron their kneckers, sewing badges and other things that you don't quite realise how dangerous they are until you watch a 9 year old try and do it.

The Cubs enjoyed a fantastic Bonfire Camp making dens, cooking marshmallows and all sorts of outdoor activities. Before Christmas we were joined by Felix, one of our parents, who led a fantastic drama workshop - he also helped us with some camp skits too.

In February we took the Cubs to the new bouldering wall in Leekbrook which proved a big hit, and it was only 2 weeks later that Dieter bought in his cornsnake, where he taught us everything there is to know about looking after snakes.

In the Spring we completed the Artist badge and practiced fire lighting, magic tricks, pioneering and learnt about events such as Chinese new year and St Patrick's day.

The absolute highlight of Spring however was the District Dragon Boat Race. After being pipped at the post last year, we booked ourselves in for a practice lap of Rudyard lake the week before the race. The Cubs put in a herculean effort and came first and second, beating Alton, Cheddleton, Endon and 4th Leek. To say the Cubs were over the moon is a big understatement!

The district Moorjam camp was also a huge success. Set at Barnswood, we had 17 Cubs attend and enjoy activities such as canoeing, kayaking, paddle boarding, archery, air rifle shooting, caving, crafts, digger driving and much more. A highlight was watching them perform their skit in front of a crowd of 150 strong. A low point was interrupting their 5am game of cricket. The only problem with Moorjam is we're slightly concerned the Cubs may come to expect this level of fun at every camp - they'll have to learn the hard way. It was clear the district team had put in a huge amount of effort, and it certainly paid off.

Later this month 12 of our Cubs will be joining 6 from Endon for a joint 3 night camp to Scarborough. You'll have to wait until AGM 2026 to hear about that one. Thank you.

Reuben Wilson 08.07.25

5th Leek AGM 2025 - Scout Section

Over the last 12 months since our AGM the scout section have been very busy completing a number of badges and awards (more on this later)

At the moment the scout section has 24 registered members with regular attendance of 22 members each week.

Over the last 12 months we have seen a couple of our older members move on to explorers where they are continuing to enjoy scouting at a district level.

Although we have lost a few members, we did quickly replace those that left to keep our numbers at a high level which is a true testament to the dedication of the leadership team.

In regards to the leadership team, a special thank you goes out to Nathaniel and Lucie for all of your hard work over the last 12 months as without your hard work, we would not have been able to achieve everything that we have.

Since the last AGM we have also welcomed back Aaron into the leadership team in the scout section, which brings with it another dynamic to the team which will allow us to offer a varied program over the next 12 months.

Moving on to some of the activities and awards that we have worked towards and awarded our members since the last AGM.

Firstly I would like to acknowledge the hard work that our scouts have put in over the last year, because as you get older the awards within the scout movement become increasingly difficult to achieve, and can often take a number of weeks/months to complete all of the requirements.

With this said, we have given out a total of 265 badges to our scouts including 2 chief scout gold awards to Ethan and Charlie who moved up to explorers earlier this year. (a very big well done goes out to them for all of their hard work to achieve this over the last 4 years).

Along side this we have also worked towards and achieved some of the 9 challenge awards, the activity centre service, the communicator badge, quartermaster, my faith, electronics, navigator and the entertainers badge just to name a few.

As well as these awards, our scouts also recently took part in their second annual talent show, which was planned, produced and performed by our scouts and was thoroughly enjoyed by our scouts and I would like to say thank you to them and especially Lucie and Nat for all of your hard work to make sure it was a success.

I'm sure that anyone who was able to attend will join me in saying it was a great night.

As a scout section we also took part in the group Bonfire cap which our members really enjoyed (its always been a favourite amongst the scouts) as they get to build the bonfire for the evening spectacular.

More recently we also took part in the district Moorjam 2025 Camp, where we all had a great weekend and enjoyed the opportunities to take part in different activities including water sports, archery, shooting, backwoods cooking, woggle making and much more.

Yet again this was a great success and we are all looking forward to the next one in 2027.

Looking ahead into the summer break we are excited to continue our work towards the expedition challenge award with our oldest members planned to complete this at the end of the month and this will then be the last stage in achieving their Chief Scout Gold Award.

I would also like this opportunity to thank all of the parents/carers for their support over the last year and a special thank you need to be said for Matt Wall who has spent numerous nights with us since Christmas supporting our members with the Navigator and also the expedition award prep.

Your help has been invaluable and we all really appreciate everything that you have done for us.

I'd also like to thank Carolyn for her weekly support in completing the registers and sorting our the subs for us so we can focus of the night and the scouts.

Although we don't always see eye to eye your help is really appreciated and important to the smooth running of a Wednesday night.

Finally, I'd like to thank Dave and the rest of the trustees who work behind the scenes to keep the group going so that we can continue to run our section each week and go from strength to strength.

This concludes the scout report for 2025

Signed



Date

08-07-25

5th Leek (St Mary's) Scout Group AGM Tuesday 08th July 2025

Band Report

1. Membership

Our membership has stayed relatively stable since the last AGM and stands at 21 as of today. We have lost one youngster who hasn't attended all year and very recently gained one new member. We are approaching a time when many of our young people will be pre-occupied with their preparation for GCSEs. So, recruiting to keep our numbers up will be at the front of our minds going forward.

I'm not going to push for a musically qualified replacement Band Leader this year even though it has been 7 years since I took over on a temporary basis!!

2. Parade Activities

Past:

13 Jul 24 – Leek Club Day.

01 Sep 24 – Leek Mayor's Civic Parade.

26 Oct – 24 Lord Mayor's Show rehearsal, Army Reserve Centre, Leicester.

09 Nov 24 – Lord Mayor's Show in the City of London as an element of the Corps of Drums Society.

10 Nov 24 – 2 x Leek Remembrance Parades, from St Edwards Church in the morning and Ball Haye Green in the afternoon.

12 Dec 24 – 24 Doors Event.

08 May 25 – Endon VEDay 80 event.

24 May 25 – Endon Well Dressing.

15 Jun 25 – Macclesfield Flower Parade.

28 Jun 25 – Tideswell Carnival.

05 Jul 25 – Bakewell Carnival.

Future:

12 Jul 25 – Leek Club Day.

06 Sep 25 – Nicholson Monument 100 event.

19 Oct 25 – Leek Lord Mayor's Parade.

25 Oct 25 – Lord Mayor's Show rehearsal, Army Reserve Centre, Leicester.

08 Nov 25 – Lord Mayor's Show in the City of London as an element of the Corps of Drums Society.

09 Nov 25 – Leek Remembrance Parade.

23 May 26 – Endon Well Dressing.

21 Jun 26 – Macclesfield Flower Parade

It should be noted that our engagement list has grown slightly since last year. There are some one-off anniversary events, a short notice appearance at Macclesfield in June and this was the first time we have appeared at Tideswell. The feedback we have received has been tremendous, with comments such

as “a superb band”, “far better than the band that used to do this parade” and “can we book you for next year?”. We also took part in the community 24 Doors Christmas event, performing short 4-to-5-minute sets over a 2-and-a-half-hour period. It was a fun and enjoyable occasion with more than 350 people passing through our doors. The band members should be very proud of themselves as I know the Group, band leaders and parents/carers are. We also took delivery of some new bugles, hoodies and jackets for which we are very grateful to all that helped securing sponsorship and funding.

3. Future Plans

- Continue expanding and improving members’ skills.
- Continue to find fund raising opportunities.
- Continue growing band numbers through active recruitment.

All Band members have excelled over the last 12 months with some learning an additional instrument, giving us increased flexibility. Yet again they are a credit to their families, the Group and the community of Leek. I’d like to extend my personal thanks to Stuart Nixon, Roger Gayes, Paul Bullock, Nathaniel Farrington, Lucie Harris and Maggie Gayes for their continuing support as Skills Instructors, we couldn’t have achieved nearly as much without them. Special thanks to Nathaniel and Lucie for their role in organising our 24 Doors performance and Stuart for picking up my responsibilities whilst I’ve been recovering from a knee replacement. Last, but not least, my appreciation to all our parents/guardians/carers for their continued commitment to the Band, their enthusiasm and encouragement makes it a pleasure to work with the band.

I present this year’s Band Report to the AGM and trust it will be endorsed by the Board of Trustees.



Mark Bradford MInstLM
Band Leader
5th Leek Scout Band



5th Leek (St. Mary's) Scout Group

Registered Charity No 1061712

Group Scout Leader: David Sheldon



5th Leek (St Mary's) Scout Group

AGM Tuesday 8th July 2025

G.L\V. Report

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, as some of you may not know me my name is Dave Sheldon and I'm the group lead volunteer or group scout leaders as we used to be called here at 5th Leek scout group.

What a busy year we've had as a group over the last twelve months with some highs and a few lows.

July 2024 saw the group take part in the district dragon boating and both sections came back with runner up trophies. We also attended the annual club day in which it was nice to see as a whole St. Marys being the largest group out on the day, After the summer months the scouts did there first talents show which I was very proud of the section and proud of Lucy and the scoutleaders for arrangeing. November saw the group take part in our annual bonfire camp and as usual all the leaders efforts paid off and was a great success and enjoyed by all. The band attended the lord mayors' parade in London which again was an honour for them and an honour for the group and they put the group, the moorlands and the county on the map and was so nice to see them on the tv again.

December bought mixed emotions for the group at the start of December the group took part in the 24 doors of Christmas for the first time and was a great success. The end of December bought great sadness as we lost a great member of the team Mr Rodney cork, (Roddas) (Half a degree) as he was known. rod had been a leader with us for over 30years and will be sadly missed but never forgotten.

The start to 2025 started very disappointing as we had a lot of vandalism against our Hq as we saw brough park be closed for renovation we sore our windows to be smashed by youngsters that had nothing better to do. Fortunately for us we had a great response from the general public and you parents to offer help to get stuff tidied up. At this point id like to thank heaths timber yard providing us with timber free of charge to board the windows, Mathew ferns of mjf builders for giving his time to board the windows. the people who fitted the new glass very promptly. And various people who sent donations to help fix the windows the group was very humbled in the big response for help. Id also like to thank Dale western for all his help and support he's given by sorting out the locks for the gates as part as the security and also Mr Paul bullock for supplying us with new security cameras.

As most of you will all know from last year's AGM we were raising money for a new roof in May we eventually reached our targets with a few grants with thanks to our

Headquarters:

Fowchurch Road, Leek ST13 6AT

With thanks to:



Staffordshire
Community Foundation



STAFFORDSHIRE ENVIRONMENTAL FUND

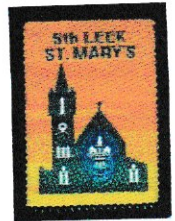




5th Leek (St. Mary's) Scout Group

Registered Charity No 1061712

Group Scout Leader: David Sheldon



treasurer Ms Carolyn Bailey we had the roof replaced in May by Mr Gilbert Rooke who's done an amazing job. And again, a fellow supporter of the group as one of our parents.

March to July saw the group being very busy again with the band going out to various functions each section with all sorts of activities, camps and parades the cubs this time bringing home the dragon boating winners and runner up trophy so proud moment for the group and certainly me as the group lead volunteer. Attending the Moorjam district camp, the scouts did a sponsored water station and raised 100 pounds to, also we had a race night arranged all had a great night and raised a good total towards funds.

All sections of the group are doing very well also number wise in fact we have now got a waiting list of 15 youngsters. All sections are working towards a well-balanced program and seem to be having lots of fun. I would like to welcome three other members to the team Aaron who's joined the scout section, Jess who is to join the cub section and help out with beavers and Steve who is going to come in a support for all sections.

As most of you know I've been through a lot the last 12 months and not really been able to attend a lot of the section meetings. So I'd like to thank all the leaders of the sections for all their hard work and dedication, the trustee board for standing by me and having faith in me, Stuart and Jenny for keeping our grounds and planters looking tidy and smart in which I think you all will agree look fabulous Jason, Dale and Steve for helping me in times of need and lastly James my brother who runs our scout section for all his support even sometimes having to step into the group lead volunteer role and support me.

Last of all you as parents as we can't do things without the support of you and your children.

Please accept my report

Signed *DSheldon*
GLV 5th Leek

Dated *8th July 2025*

Headquarters:
Fowchurch Road, Leek ST13 6AT

With thanks to:



Staffordshire
Community Foundation





5th Leek (St. Mary's) Scout Group

Registered Charity No 1061712

Group Lead: David Sheldon



Group Treasurer's Report Year ended 28th February 2025

The Trustees Report and Accounts for the financial year ended 28 February 2025 were approved by the Trustees at the Trustees Board meeting held on Tuesday 13th March 2025. The Report and Accounts have been prepared in accordance with The Scout Association Policy, Organisation and Rules 'POR' and guidance provided by the Charity Commission for England and Wales. The accounts and supporting financial records have been independently examined by Armstrongs Chartered Accountants, Leek. We are very grateful for their time and expertise in undertaking this process again.

Fundraising opportunities remain low having been considerably reduced over several years such that we continue to rely on our subscriptions to cover section activities and our HQ running costs. While most other activities will aim to be self-funding, we have been successful with applications for grants and donations which have helped in whole or in part to fund band equipment and uniform, the coach to London to enable our band to once again participate in the Lord Mayor's Parade, increased electricity costs following the end of a more favoured contract in 2024, the November Camp and our new roof project. We would like to thank the following for their support which is very much appreciated and which has gone a long way to helping us to achieve so much: -

Councillors

Cllr Mike Gledhill Councillors Community Initiative Fund

Cllr Charlotte Atkins Staffordshire County Council 2024 Community Fund

Local Business

F Ball & Co

Advanced Proteins

Samuel Sigley & Sons Ltd

Local Organisations

Staffordshire Community Fund – We Love the Moorlands

Rotary Club of Leek

National Foundations

The Gosling Foundation

The Bernard Sunley Foundation

Baron Davenport's Charity

Headquarters: Fowlchurch Road, Leek ST13 6AT

With thanks to:

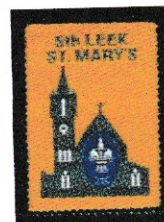




5th Leek (St. Mary's) Scout Group

Registered Charity No 1061712

Group Lead: David Sheldon



We were also chosen to benefit from the Leek Town Mayor's Fund in 2024 and our thanks to Cllr Matt Swindlehurst for that and for his personal donation together with donations made by the Leek Town Crier Bill Lomas and the Trustees following the vandalism suffered at the end of February 2025 when our front windows were very badly damaged. The damaged panes have all been replaced thanks to their help and without having to pursue a claim under our insurance policy.

The restricted fund balance of £7,650 at the year-end relates to funding for the increased electricity costs and our new roof project. A further grant for the latter of £2,700 was pledged in 2024 but paid post year end in May 2025 when the project was underway. All grant reporting in accordance with terms and conditions have been completed and the restricted monies totalling £10,350 were utilised by 31st May 2025 following completion of the project.

On a sad note, I would like to mention the late Rod Cork. Rod was one of our Scout Leaders for over 30 years and a dedicated supporter of this group. Although he stepped down from leader duties in his later years he continued to help where and when he could. We lost Rod in December 2024 and miss him. We would like to express our thanks and appreciation to Margaret and the Cork family for a donation of £500 in his Memory. It is as she said what he would have wanted.

Finally, it only remains for me to say thank you to my colleagues on the Board for their help, a huge thanks to all our Leaders and to our parents/guardians for their support and for entrusting their children to us. We could not do it without you.

Carolyn Bailey

Carolyn Bailey

Group Treasurer/Trustee

5th Leek (St Mary's) Scout Group

Registered Charity No 1061712

Dated 8/7/25
8th July 2025

Headquarters: Fowlchurch Road, Leek ST13 6AT

With thanks to:



5th Leek (St. Mary's) Scout Group

Annual General Meeting 2024/25

Chairman of Trustees' review of the year

I found that I could not start this report without first paying tribute to a long standing member of the Trustee Board that served it and its predecessor for several years as a loyal and hard-working member and before that as a Leader in the Scout Section, Rod Cork passed away in December last and was eulogised at his funeral in January by our fellow Trustee, Chris Wakeham, who was also his Leadership partner in the Scout Section. I cannot attempt to match that heartfelt eulogy in this report but can only add that his absence is felt by all of us who served with him.

At the meeting last year I invited anyone that felt they could contribute to the Trustee Board to come forward. Three more Trustees have joined us. Brian Williamson was recruited at the last AGM and brings a wealth of Scouting experience. Liz Pegg joined us during the year. Liz's mother, Sylvia Sullivan, preceded Carolyn Bailey as the treasurer of our Group and Liz herself was a member of our award-winning Band years ago and went on to lead our sister Guide Group. Latterly we were joined by Paul Bullock who has held various positions in the Group over recent years including working to resurrect our Band a few years back. These last two additions have also served to bring down the average age of the Trustee Board which can be no bad thing in itself!

The Trustee Board has nine governance responsibilities, largely related to ensuring that the Sections can thrive as well as they need to by management of our resources and our funds and ensuring that our Group is operated in accordance with Scout law and values. Sections comprise the uniformed members of the Group; these are the Beavers, the Cubs, the Scouts and the Leaders and many section helpers. We are not there to manage the Sections but to facilitate their functioning.

This year we have worked to ensure that we have sufficient resources to continue to deliver high quality programmes. We are informed of the ideas and wishes of the Sections and carefully consider ways of these being delivered.

One essential that we consider at every Trustee meeting is reports on Health and Safety. Recently premises safety has been on our mind sparked by the vandalism of our premises that received remarkably wide press coverage both locally and nationally. My sister-in-law who lives in Northumberland read about it! Of course, we were insured but did not action a claim as we wanted repairs to be expedited. This has also resulted in us to add security grids to the windows that will be done soon. One of our Trustees, Paul Bullock, generously gifted us outside security cameras that you can see installed at either end of the HQ. The fences have also been reinforced and new locks for the gates will be fitted shortly.

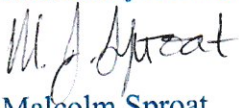
During the year we were asked by another Group in Leek for advice on management matters that were affecting them at the time. We are not in competition with the other groups and were pleased to hear and empathise with them. There are now fewer Groups in Leek than only few years ago. Scouting membership nationally is growing. We do not want Leek to be an exception and the Trustees are happy to assist the District whenever we can.

These premises date from the Second World War when our American allies were here. They have been modified since then, especially by 5th Leek, but this year it was apparent that the roof needed to be replaced. This was done in a remarkably quick time and should last a long while. The vandalised windows too were replaced to a high standard in a quick time.

Within this Group I know that we have Trustees, Leaders and helpers at every level who are committed to the success, well-being, and continuation of the Group despite hearing unsubstantiated speculation of it being subsumed. We continue to grow. Group loyalty is real and is vital to Scouting surviving as it has done for the many years of its existence. All of the people in the Group are valued for their dedication, their industry, their imaginative input and their innovative ideas as well as the time they give voluntarily. Perhaps I am being a trifle impertinent in mentioning individuals by name because, I confess, I do not see a tenth of what people do but I feel I must give credit where I see it. Our Group Lead Volunteer, David Sheldon, spends huge amounts of his time on this Group, planning, managing, working on the building, sorting out issues, training, administering, etc., etc. Dave, Thank you. Stuart and Jennie Nixon to whom we owe the state of the grounds, the presentation of our exterior, and an eye on the premises. Again, as in every year, Carolyn Bailey whose zealous account keeping and pursuit of grants keeps our funds healthy and accounts at a high standard.

I will resist going on or it will sound like an Oscar Awards ceremony.

I ask that you receive my report.



Malcolm Sproat

Chairman of Trustees

8th July, 2025

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's 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 fundraising fall short

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable

Further financial review details

The Group does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer term investments and has therefore adopted a risk averse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only a mainstream building society

Other optional information

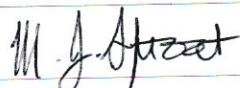
Two signatories are required for all payments

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature



Full Name

Malcolm John Sproat

Position

Chair

Date

8th July 2025

Disclosure section

None to report

5th Leek (St Mary's) Scout Group

Registered charity number 1061712

Receipts and Payments Account

For the year from	01/03/2024	To	28/02/2025
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Receipts and payments

	2024/25 Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2023/24 Total funds £
Receipts				
Donations, legacies, activities and similar income				
Membership fees See payments				1,991
Section subscriptions	5,405		5,405	5,307
Donations	2,720	1,988	4,708	1,515
Gift Aid	1,175		1,175	0
Activities	3,706		3,706	2,872
Neckerchiefs	0		0	65
Sub total	13,006	1,988	14,993	11,749
Grants				
Maintenance grant				
Other grants		8,450	8,450	1,000
Sub total	0	8,450	8,450	1,000
Fundraising events (gross)				
Moorlands Community Lottery	255		255	138
Picnic in the Park	162		162	0
Sub total	417	0	417	138
Scout hut income				
Hire of building	804	0	804	380
Sub total	804	0	804	380
Investment income				
Gift Aid interest	35		35	
Building Society interest (gross)	552	0	552	405
Sub total	587	0	587	405
Total Gross Income	14,814	10,438	25,251	13,672
Asset and investment sales etc.	0	0	0	0
Total receipts	14,814	10,438	25,251	13,672

5th Leek (St Mary's) Scout Group

Registered Charity No 1061712

Receipts and Payments Account

For the year from	01/03/2024	To	28/02/2025
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Receipts and payments

	2024/25 Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2023/24 Total funds £
Payments				
Charitable Payments				
Membership fees <i>received</i> £2,340				
Less: Membership fees <i>paid on</i> (National/County/District) £3,248	908			2,700
Activities	5,749	804	6,552	6,160
Adult support and training	182		182	52
Business Rates	52		52	49
Waste Management	157		157	152
Heat and Light	1,017		1,017	971
Water and Sewerage	190		190	313
Fire Equipment service	66		66	136
Ground Rent	100		100	100
Repairs and Renewals	576		576	1,360
Insurance	972		972	940
Uniforms	120	1,584	1,704	0
Subscriptions and Donations	65		65	115
Other expenses	428	14	442	2,336
Sub total	10,581	2,402	12,983	15,384
Fundraising expenses				
	0	0	0	0
Sub total	0	0	0	0

Total Gross Expenditure	10,581	2,402	12,983	15,384
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Asset and investment	103	486	589	0
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Total payments	10,684	2,888	13,572	15,384
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Net of receipts/(payments)	4,129	7,550	11,679	(1,711)
Transfer between funds				
Cash funds last year end	16,735	100	16,835	18,546
Cash funds this year end	20,864	7,650	28,514	16,835

5th Leek (St Mary's) Scout Group
Registered Charity No 1061712
Receipts and Payments Account

For the year from	01/03/2024	To	28/02/2025
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Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	28-Feb-25 Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	29-Feb-24 Total funds £
Cash funds				
Building Society account				
General	18,903	7,650	26,553	16,306
Building Society account				
Premises	1,960	0	1,960	529
Total cash funds	20,864	7,650	28,514	16,835
Non monetary assets for				
Land and buildings	221,151		221,151	221,151
Trailer	3,663		3,663	3,663
Band and Scouting equipment,				
Furniture	38,403		38,403	38,403
Other				
Sub total	263,217	0	263,217	263,217
Liabilities				
Accounts not yet paid				
Expenses incurred but not invoiced				
Subscriptions not yet paid				
Other liabilities				
Sub total	0	0	0	0
Total net assets	284,081	7,650	291,731	280,052

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on Tuesday 11th March 2025 and signed on their behalf by

Signature

Print Name

MALCOLM JOHN SPROAT 

MALCOLM JOHN SPROAT

Chair



CAROLYN BAILEY

Treasurer