

In 2022 – 2023 we've been...



CAMPING

FIRELIGHTING



CLIMBING

HIKING



...and there's so much left to do



Scouts

Milton Keynes

Annual General Meeting 2023

MILTON KEYNES DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on the 28th September
2022 at The Cruck Barn, Bradwell Abbey at 7.30 pm

PRESENT : There were 44 persons present – list available on request

1.	Welcome and Opening remarks Bernard Hancox welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Thought read by an Explorer Scout
2.	Apologies for absence There were 10 apologies
3.	Presentation of Annual Report a) Minutes of the AGM held on the 28 th September 2021. b) Financial Report – c) District Commissioner's Report Bernard Hancox asked if anyone had any questions on the report submitted. There were none.
4.	Approval of District Commissioner's nomination for District Chairman Stuart Bailey nominated Bernard Hancox to stand again and this was agreed by all.
5.	Election of District Secretary There was one nomination Pat Pankhurst. Proposed by Bernard Hancox and seconded by Elisa McCarthy. Agreed.
6.	Election of District Treasurer Nomination received for Ashley Pankhurst who is willing to continue as Treasurer. Proposed by Bernard Hancox and seconded by Elisa McCarthy. Agreed.
7.	Election of members to the District Executive Committee Received two nominations by the due date and these were Rosie Worrall proposed by Jason Raggett and seconded Debbie Green (BSL). Elisa McCarthy proposed by Pat Pankhurst and seconded by Rosie Worrall. Agreed.
8.	Under 25 representative to the District Executive Committee Nomination Alex Garner proposed by Andy Frogbrook seconded by Ian Walker Agreed.
9.	Approval of District Commissioner's nominations for members to the District Executive Committee Stuart Bailey's nomination were Russell Horne and Lisa Ferraby.

10.	Appointment of Auditors Bernard Hancox confirmed with the treasurer, Ashley Pankhurst that the appointment of auditors be left for a later date.
11.	Address from County Representative James Palin the County Commissioner congratulated MK on becoming the City of Milton Keynes. Getting back to Scouting after lockdown and the challenges that Covid had brought. Looking at changes to the volunteers experience is taking place which would make volunteers feel more valued. The DC, Chair and the District team, leaders and volunteers were thanked for all they did in their support of Scouting in Milton Keynes. Full report available on request.
12.	Awards and Presentations The District Commissioner presented the following : Lesley Pantling – 25 year service award Martyn Agar – 25 year service award Richard Blackwell – 30 year service award Stuart Ball and Danielle Smith with their wood beads Bill Marks – 5 year service award
13.	Milton Keynes Scout District Jamboree Contingent 2023 The young people that had been selected for the next Jamboree were introduced and questions from the audience were taken and answered. It covered their experiences in Scouting, the Jamboree selection weekend, the Jamboree itself and how they were going to tell people about it after they returned. The District Commissioner stated that there were also a number of young people from Milton Keynes selected to be part of GT23 (Global Tour) and it was hoped that when they returned they would be at the next AGM to tell everyone about their experiences.
13.	Refreshments. Bernard Hancox thanked the Executive for the last year and to those that had prepared and were serving the refreshments. He asked everyone to join in the refreshments after the presentations.

The main business closed at 8.09 pm

BEAVER SCOUT REPORT

Over the past year, we have finally all got back together with challenges ahead and had fun on the way too.

I have visited the Colonies regularly and seen some amazing programme ideas – including pond-dipping, team games - all gaining Skills For Life.

I have been very lucky to have been able to present many badges and a number of Chief Scout Bronze Awards.

As a District, we have hiked around Caldecotte Lake and Tattenhoe, had a sleepover at Safari MK, attended the County Beaveree event at Paccar campsite, and spent days at RAF Hendon and Gulliver's Land.





Our District camp was held at Bromham (whew! It was hot).

This year's District activities will include hikes, a day trip to Gulliver's Land and hopefully another camp.

Barbara Smith "Chatters"
Assistant District Commissioner (Beaver Scouts)

Milton Keynes District Cubs



THANK YOU.....thank you to all the cub leaders and parent helpers who help out at Cub Packs, whether weekly or occasionally – you all make a real difference to the young people in Milton Keynes and the experiences we are able to offer them.

Additionally, a big shout out to all the leaders who have given up their weekends to support our District Cub Events and create some special memories for our cubs across MK.

So, what have we done?

Wizard Camp: May 2022

Our first MK District Cub Camp since Covid restrictions were lifted was a great success thanks to all the hard work of the Quarries site crew, Activity instructors, catering team, Cub leaders and the District team.

The theme was "Wizards" and Friday night saw approximately **260** cubs and leaders arrive on the "Magical Minibuses" from Stony Stratford. The weekend saw our MK Cubs become



MK Wizards by making their own wands and hats, exploring the mythical caves at the Quarries, creating their own Wizard companion (thank you to Rex for providing all the cuddly toys), learning how to light fire in the depths of Mordor (Quarries campfire circle) and many more activities. The Wizard Kitchen (led by Tracey Griffiths) provided all our Wizard with ample food all weekend and no Wizard was left hungry!

Whipsnade Zoo : October 2022

On a sunny Autumn day in October, just over 100 cubs and leaders from groups across Milton Keynes boarded a double decker bus and headed for a fun day out at Whipsnade Zoo. The weather held out for us and so we were all able to enjoy not only the animals but the beautiful views from Whipsnade whilst having our picnics.

**We're Going
To The Zoo,
Zoo, Zoo**
Sunday 16th October



Gulliver's Land : February 2023

What better way to spend a night in February than a sleepover with over 100 cubs at Gulliver's Land? Groups met up at Gulliver's Land for a hot meal before visiting the Land of Lights. Cubs and leaders then settled down for a night's "sleep". After breakfast, Groups then headed off to see the Dinosaurs in Gulliver's Land, before spending a day at the park on the rides. It was a fun sleepover, although not sure how many cubs or leaders slept 😊



Claire Harris – Assistant District Commissioner (Cub Scouts)

Milton Keynes District Explorer Scouts

A year of steady growth, incredible adventures and five hundred and five combined nights away.

The year started out hill walking in Southern Snowdonia, with the Gwersyll Y Bryniau campsite as a base, the group climbed two peaks over the weekend and finished with a wonderful evening watching the sun set over Cardigan Bay.

The following weekend saw us day trip to London, competing in The London Monopoly Run! Placing fifteenth out of well over one hundred groups, an amazing time was had by all.



A flurry of community projects followed, helping at MK Marathon and Milton Keynes Museum.



Soon after some thirty-five people are heading to the Jurassic Coast for a week of adrenalin filled adventure, from coasteering (climbing and jumping from cliff faces into the sea) to visiting Brownsea Island. Our summer camp was a real highlight of the year.

In October we travelled to the Lake District for what was to be an incredibly wet and windy walking camp. Hoping to climb Gibson Knott but being beaten by the weather. Resilient as they always are, the Young People pushed on and we managed a smaller but still fantastic climb before returning to base.

Unit meetings have been growing stronger than ever, with a huge range of activities within the programme, Young People have the opportunity to share new experiences and develop #skillsforlife every single week. There are currently three units within the city and we are actively recruiting volunteers to be able to start more units in the near future.

With the support of leaders, the Explorers are starting to take part in self led programs, with patrols running games, activities and meetings for their peers.

In November of 2022 Milton Keynes District Explorers purchased their own minibus. A 2009 MK7 Ford Transit, 15 seater bus that has already supported many groups in providing transport to their Young People.

The minibus is a fantastic asset for the Explorers to own and we make use of it at every available opportunity! It is especially useful when taking smaller groups to camp, where rental of vehicles is prohibitively expensive.



In December the team got into the festive spirit, helping at MK Museum again, assisting visitors, managing the car parks and acting as elves in Santa's grotto!

These events act as small fundraisers for Explorers, but also provide opportunities for interacting with members of the public.

An open invite Christmas dinner hosted by Newport Unit rounded out the year, with a well earned and much needed festive break to follow.



In the new year we returned with the likes of Southern-50 and Endurance-80 and small but strong willed team entering both events. (Rex and I thought better of it this year!)

Our own winter camp followed in place of the cancelled Gilwell event that we'd usually attend, a fairly relaxed event with some cooking, games and movies.

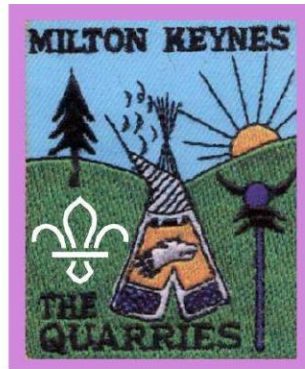
In February Explorers hosted a District Scout night hike competition, open to all Scout Groups in the District - it was a very well attended event, that saw many of the older Scouts mix with Explorers, we are hoping to host more linking events in the near future.

Congratulations to Langland who won the hiking competition this time around!

We have had a brilliant year in Explorers, with amazing support from the team, we have seen great development in all areas of Scouting and look forward to what the next year will bring!

Mike Gibson

District Explorer Scout Commissioner.



How do you report on a year that has been quite a journey and we are not just talking about the crew but those that have camped.

May 2022 saw the District Cub Camp and the crew were out in force to support this, driving tractors, marking out sites, supporting and facilitating throughout the weekend. We manned the Tuck Shop, registration desk and dealt with problems as and when they came in. Do not ask the crew about the portable toilet check and the radio message! Lessons on tractors were needed before trailers were attached!

We welcomed Israeli Scouts based across the country who mostly arrived by coach, some by taxi having arrived in MK by train. There was even a contingent from Israel, needless to say this was the first time that they had been together since before Covid and a chance to catch up and socialise. I think the crew were the only English speakers on site that weekend.

We saw Boy Scouts of America arrive, nobody could have predicted that we as a crew would be in wet weather gear, organising the car park and trying to get kit onto the site in torrential rain. The contingents came from Lakenheath, Mildenhall, York and other areas and bases in the UK. We do have a BSA Scouter in our District who has brought a new activity to the site which we offer on request.





JOTI/JOTA took place in September, the first one since Covid and therefore a scaled down version. We are looking at adding more activities and encouraging groups to camp over the weekend in 2023.

We have welcomed Unit 57 of the World Scout Jamboree to the site as well as GT23 (Grand Tour) a chance for the contingents to get to know each other.

Mid December saw us closing the site for the Christmas and New Year. If the Explorer Scouts had not been holding their Christmas meal in the Oswald Hamilton Building we would not have discovered a leak in the roof in the toilet block. The water came down through the light in the disabled toilet flooding the floor and then going into the electrical cupboard and blowing the electrics. At the same time the boiler in the toilet block stopped working and this was repaired in the New Year.

We were finally able to finish the Leaders room in the Lodge following damage to it and its now back up and running.

The electrics have now been connected to the compound, this was during the freezing weather which caused difficulty with the cable due to its size. We now have electricity in the new compound so we can finally see what we are doing. Thanks to Network Rail and Zero staff for spending days with us. Without the support of these companies some of the works would not be possible.

We continue to welcome our own Groups to the site for evenings and at weekends as well as from other Counties and organisations. Bookings from Duke of Edinburgh Award expeditions see many young people walking in, but in some cases not!

As the site heads towards 100 years, some areas are needing to be replaced, we are currently looking at replacing The Lodge and have instructed architects to come up with plans. Once we are happy then it will then be getting suitable quotes and then the monies, not an easy task in this day and age.

If anyone wants to join the crew, be it every week or when you can please contact either Andy or myself. There are always jobs to do from getting the buildings ready for bookings, doing a deep clean of kitchens, clearing campsites, replacing fencing and painting them, the list is endless.

Pat Pankhurst –The Quarries Scout Active Support Manager
(pat.pankhurst@mkscouts.org)

Andy Frogbrook – Assistant Warden (andrew.frogbrook@mkscouts.org)

MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

Another year and what a fantastic one it has been for scouting in MK. We have delivered thousands of hours and created lots of great memories for our Young People and volunteers a like.

Media this year has been difficult, and I mean this in a good way. I have struggled to keep up with all the fantastic events that have taken place across the district. It is a true delight when I log onto social media and see what you have been up to and the Skills For Life that we have delivered to our YP across MK. Please keep this up and share this wonderful news with the outside world of MK.

Thank you also to the groups that have invited me along to their events and delighted to have been part of the district events too.

Local media outlets are always up for local news, and I urge you to consider using Parish Newsletters, MKFM and MK Citizen. We need to remain proud of what we do and if you need any support with speaking to these outlets, please let me know or speak with Chris Leroux.

Lastly, I would like to say thank you to every single one of you We can only do what we do with you in it. Please carry on delivering wonderful Scouting you do week in week out.

Thank You

Jason Raggett – District Communications Manager (to February 2023)

AWARDS

County Commissioner's Commendation

Eric Swain (Retired Member)

in recognition of his support to Buckinghamshire in maintaining the County Archives and ensuring Groups find historical information when needed.

Carol Blomfield – Group Secretary (Langland) County Safeguarding Awareness (end December 2020)

in recognition of her time devoted to raising safeguarding awareness amongst adults within Buckinghamshire Scouts

Susan Evans – Beaver Scout Section Assistant (Lancelot) – Great Linford

In recognition of using skills learnt through Scouting to assist a member of the general public who had slipped on ice and had several injuries as a result.

AWARD OF MERIT

Barbara Smith

**Assistant District Commissioner
(Beaver Scouts)**

40 YEAR AWARD

Jenny Boden

District Badge Secretary

MILTON KEYNES DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
TRUSTEES REPORT AND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1150177
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Registration Number: 1150177

Trustees:	Bernard Hancox	District Chair
	Stuart Bailey	District Commissioner
	Pat Pankhurst	Secretary
	Ashley Pankhurst	Treasurer
	Philip Monk	District Explorer Scout Commissioner (To 1 st September 2022)
	Danielle Smith	District Scout Network Commissioner
	Rosemary Worrall	
	Elisa McCarthy	
	Alexander Garner	
	Lisa Ferraby	(From 28 th September 2022 to 22 nd February 2023)
	Russell Horne	(From 28 th September 2022)

Principal Address: 51 Carey Way
Olney
Bucks
MK46 4DR

Bankers

Milton Keynes District Scout Council

Lloyds Bank PLC
NatWest Bank PLC
Barclays PLC

Milton Keynes Gang Show
Milton Keynes District Explorer Scouts
The Quarries Scout Campsite
Damboree

Lloyds Bank PLC

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

Structure, Governance and Management

The District is a trust established under its rules, which are common to all Districts. The 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.

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the policy, organisation and rules of The Scout Association.

The Milton Keynes District Scout Council includes the following subsidiaries:

1. Milton Keynes District Explorer Scouts
2. The Quarries Scout Camp Site
3. Milton Keynes Gang Show

Additionally, funds are held on behalf of the Damboree Active Support Unit – a national initiative to promote camping.

The trustees have identified the major risks to which they believe the charity is exposed. They have established systems to mitigate these, hold regular liaison meetings and are continually monitoring the individual finances of each subsidiary.

Objectives and Activities

To promote and support successful Scouting throughout the Milton Keynes District. In planning activities for the year, the trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission with regard to public benefit. There are five different age groups covering ages 6 to 25 and all young people are welcome to join regardless of personal background, faith or personal circumstances. Members benefit greatly in developing their self-confidence and social skills as well as learning new practical and life skills.

Achievements and performance

The charity continues to collect and administer subscriptions from the Scout Groups within its District. There have been a number of successful events, camps and activities throughout the year. Support has been provided to both the uniformed and executive teams within the Scout Groups.

Financial review

At the end of the year, total bank and cash funds amounted to £212,859.

Reserves policy

The District's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the District should income fall short.

The District Executive Committee considers that the District should hold a sum equivalent to 10 months running costs, circa £80,000.

In addition, the District Executive Committee continues to build a fund for the future replacement of buildings at The Quarries Scout Campsite.

Investment policy

The District has adopted a low-risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

Public benefit

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

Plans for future periods

Milton Keynes Scout District intends to continue developing opportunities for young people to experience scouting. It also intends, to increase the participation of young people in decision-making at all levels.

The Trustees will continue to support the excellent work being carried out by the District Commissioner and his team.

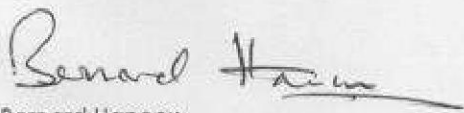
The Trustees are aware of The Scout Association's future Transformation plans and are actively involved in preparing for the proposed changes.

It is intended that, in addition to the ongoing support for Trustees of Scout Groups, there will be additional support in the areas of the Transformation plans that affect the Group Trustees.

The buildings at The Quarries Scout Campsite will be refurbished / replaced as necessary.

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Bernard Hancox
DISTRICT CHAIR
20.8.2023
(date)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above Charity ('the Trust') for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity Trustees of the Trust, 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 the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that, in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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



Simon J Gill

**44 West Side Rise
Olney
Buckinghamshire
MK46 5HP**

04/09/2023

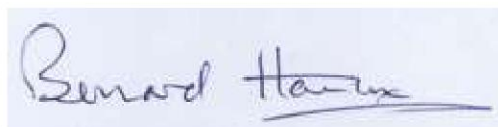
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT SUMMARY

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2022 £
Total receipts for the year (page 5)	224,302	5,050	229,352	157,424
Total payments for the year (page 6)	234,163	4,024	238,187	145,145
	<u>(9,861)</u>	<u>1,026</u>	<u>(8,835)</u>	<u>12,279</u>
<u>Cash, bank and funds</u>				
B/Fwd	221,210	484	221,694	209,415
C/Fwd	<u>211,349</u>	<u>1,510</u>	<u>212,859</u>	<u>221,694</u>

Unrestricted funds are those which the Trustees are free to spend in accordance with the constitution.

Restricted funds are those where the Trustees are bound by conditions which have been imposed by the donor or by the terms of an appeal and therefore can only be spent on specific areas.

Approved by the Trustees on 20.8.2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Bernard Hancox

Trustee and District Chair

RECEIPTS

	General Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2022 £
Membership subscriptions and Gang Show membership	93,096	-	93,096	83,800
Site fees : The Quarries	27,902	-	27,902	20,737
Sale of clothing and badges	465	-	465	421
Camps and activities	42,184	-	42,184	4,630
Donations, grants and Gift Aid	3,755	-	3,755	20,572
Other receipts	22,843	-	22,843	18,763
Jamboree/Damboree/International	31,000	5,050	36,050	8,341
Gang Show (main)	3,057	-	3,057	160
Total receipts for the year	224,302	5,050	229,352	157,424

PAYMENTS

	General Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2022 £
Membership subscriptions paid to HQ	62,452	-	62,452	61,275
Stock purchases	18,475	-	18,475	8,602
Camps, activities and hall hire etc (inc refunds)	29,441	-	29,441	2,505
Gang show expenses	3,931	-	3,931	684
Purchase and repair of equipment (inc bus)	7,720	-	7,720	23,000
Insurance	8,221	-	8,221	9,788
Utilities	13,920	-	13,920	10,453
Administration expenses and development	5,667	-	5,667	1,784
Printing and stationery	230	-	230	395
Sundry expenses	1,765	-	1,765	2,116
Site maintenance	24,535	-	24,535	12,279
Trustee and leader expenses	9,618	-	9,618	7,078
Jamboree/Damboree/Special projects	48,188	4,024	52,212	5,186
Total payments for the year	234,163	4,024	238,187	145,145

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AS AT
31 MARCH 2023**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	2022 £
Cash Funds				
Bank current accounts	200,012	1,510	201,522	186,403
Bank deposit accounts	11,277	-	11,277	35,231
Cash in hand	60	-	60	60
	211,349	1,510	212,859	221,694
Other monetary assets				
Quarries Insurance prepayment	4,805	-	4,805	4,691
Badge stock	6,289	-	6,289	4,551
Scout shop stock and fixtures	7,631	-	7,631	9,195
Quarries tuck shop stock	286	-	286	286
Quarries activity equipment and machinery	21,187	-	21,187	21,187
Quarries land and buildings	420,000	-	420,000	420,000
Other equipment	33,852	-	33,852	26,132
Other liabilities				
Annual membership subscription	(70,902)	-	(70,902)	(62,452)
	634,497	1,510	636,007	645,284
Analysis of funds	£			
General funds	536,007			
Designated funds – Development fund	100,000			
	636,007			

Designated funds - Development fund has been earmarked by the Trustees mainly for future capital expenditure.

Restricted funds are in respect of an account held in connection with Damboree.