

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2021**  
**1<sup>st</sup> AMERSHAM COMMON (ST. GEORGE'S) SCOUT GROUP**

**Executive Committee Members (*Ex-Officio*) & Trustees**

Group Scout Leader:	Victoria Golby	Nominated
Scout Leader:	Stephen Cooper	Not a Trustee
Assistant Scout Leader:	Stephen Woodrow	Not a Trustee
Cub Scout Leader:	Brian Alston	Nominated
Assistant Cub Scout Leader:	Jules Hargreaves	Not a Trustee
Beaver Scout Leader:	Victoria Golby	Nominated
Group Chairman:	Robert Gormley	Elected
Group Treasurer:	Peter Golby	Elected
Group Secretary:	Jennifer Marks	Elected

**Bankers:** Barclays Bank plc, 4 Sycamore Road, Amersham, Bucks, HP6 5DT

**Scout Association Registration Number:** 36458

**Charity Registration Number:** 267352

**Charity Contact Details:** P Golby, 21 Loudhams Road, Amersham, Bucks, HP7 9NY

The year ended March 2021 was challenging for the 1<sup>st</sup> Amersham Common Scout group, with the COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacting activities and the normal use of our facilities. Furthermore, the Scout section remained suspended throughout the year, following a temporary closure in Autumn 2019 as a result of insufficient support and assistance for the Scout section leader.

Victoria Golby has taken over as Group Scout Leader and also continues to lead the Beaver section together with support from Charlotte Castle. The weekly Thursday evening Beaver sessions have been held on-line via video whenever restrictions and infection rates prevented face-to-face meetings. Sessions involved varied activities including an at-home camp, science experiments in the kitchen, exploring the outdoors in many different ways, and the Beavers' 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Despite needing to meet on zoom a lot and keeping to smaller numbers when we could meet face-to-face, we have been able to work on several badges, focusing particularly on Navigator, Experiment, Communicator, most of the Challenge badges and some new At-Home Scout badges. Beaver numbers decreased only slightly during the year due to more limited activities being possible; but these have grown beyond pre-pandemic levels since the year-end to approximately 25 members. The Beaver leaders wish to thank Jane and Brian Moore for their help, enthusiasm and support during many different sessions; and all parents and Beavers for making the leadership experience fun and rewarding.

The Cubs continue to be led by Brian Alston with support from Victoria Golby, Julia Hargreaves and Claire De Charmant. The Cub section declined significantly even before the pandemic due to a large number of older cubs moving on. However, the Cub section continued to operate throughout the year through Brian's dedication and commitment despite minimal members. The Cub section now meets on Tuesday evenings, although on-line video sessions were held jointly with the Beaver section on Thursdays whenever restrictions and infection rates prevented face-to-face meetings. Cub numbers have grown significantly since the year-end to approximately 23 members. Brian would like to thank all parents and carers who have helped with the pack this year and to thank the Cubs themselves for making the weekly sessions fun and enjoyable to run!

Whilst the Scout section remained closed throughout the year to March 2021; it has subsequently re-opened in Summer 2021 under the leadership of Stephen Cooper. Stephen is being supported by Victoria Golby and Stephen Woodrow. Membership has already been built to over ten members and Stephen is looking forward to developing the section further through a varied program of outdoor activities including joint activities with other local Groups.

At the Group level, our biggest ongoing concern is the continued uncertainty surrounding the future of our Scout Hall facilities. Whilst St George's Church's plans to establish houses at the back of their site have been put on hold; discussions are ongoing as to how best to utilise the site in the future. Our Exec Committee continues to pro-actively engage with the Church, but progress and clarity is limited with plans still being debated within the Church. We may still need to explore alternative temporary or permanent accommodation options in the future; depending upon the direction the Church takes. We have the full sympathy and support from the other Groups in the area and the District Executive. Furthermore, we are determined to do our best to continue to provide the varied and exciting activities that our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts enjoy.

Finally, the Executive Committee wish to thank everybody, especially the parents who are volunteering their precious time and the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts themselves!



## Accounts

The accounts for the year show an overall surplus of £34,021, being significantly higher than the prior year deficit of £(1,859), predominantly driven by the benefit of receiving £33,000 of government backed business support grants relating to COVID-19.

Income from members was lower than Prior Year, mainly due to lower membership as a result of the temporary closure of the Scout section in Autumn 2019, reduced Cub Section membership, and a general impact on membership numbers from reduced activities as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Termly member subscription fee rates were also temporarily reduced at certain points during the current year due to reduced activities. The reduction in Income was partially mitigated as subscriptions paid on to National, County and District of £1,166 relating to the current financial year were not paid until April 2021. In the prior financial year, the amount of £1,989 was netted with subscriptions received. Gift Aid claims on member subscriptions and other fundraising receipts have not been submitted in the current or prior financial years; but have subsequently been claimed in early 2022 as claims can be made going back four years.

Income from hall lettings decreased in the current year due to the impact of COVID-19 on events organised by third parties; but regular bookings at times outside of lock-downs have mitigated this impact.

Certain government backed business grants relating to COVID-19 have been made available to non-essential hospitality and leisure organisations (including village and scout halls) by Buckinghamshire Counsel based upon the rateable value of premises upon which business rates are paid. 1st Amersham Common (St Georges) Scout Group has two such premises and has claimed grants where available within the scheme rules. These funds will provide benefit to members through scouting activities and will enable the Group to improve facilities available for both scouting and the local community.

Section Activity fees are sometimes charged as a contribution towards the costs of certain activities where significant third-party costs are incurred; but such activities have been curtailed in the current financial year due to the impact of COVID-19. There has also been a significant delay in the submission of claims for activity costs by section leaders, partially due to the impact of COVID-19 on our manual banking facilities. Subsequent to the year end, in April 2021, expenses relating to section costs of approximately £1,750 were claimed, of which ~£520 related to the current financial year activities (FY 20 - 21) and ~£1,230 related to prior financial year activities (FY 19 - 20).

Rent for the Scout Hut Premises is £700 per annum, but we have not been invoiced for rent for periods subsequent to 30 November 2015. We may be invoiced for subsequent periods at some point, but this would need negotiation and timing is uncertain. We recognise costs on a cash basis within these accounts.

As a result of the site redevelopment, we have not incurred any significant repair or maintenance expenditure during the Current Year, but as timing of redevelopment remains uncertain, essential repair and equipment expenditure has been budgeted for next year relating to kitchen equipment and the main access door. Sufficient reserves will still remain available to cover any other essential maintenance and equipment expenditure as necessary. Other costs were in line with both Budget and Prior Year overall, apart from some payment timing differences, such as on business rates.

At the end of the year, income reserves amounted to £49,429. The policy on reserves is to earmark funds to provide for future expenditures on repairs & maintenance, equipment and special projects and an allowance for contingencies. The present levels of reserves are

expected to decline over the next couple of years as we replace equipment and utilize reserves for the benefit of members.

Member subscriptions and other Group income is primarily used to fund the annual membership fees payable to the Scout Association, along with the cost of running and maintaining the Group's facilities and equipment. Any remaining income surplus is used to subsidise section costs and activity expenditure. Section bank accounts are holding a similar proportion of unspent funds to last year end overall and these funds are earmarked for future activities.

The objectives of the Group are to provide scouting activities for the young people of the area in a safe, nurturing environment. The Group is a Trust established under rules which are common to all Groups. Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation & Rules of The Scout Association.

The Accounts have been drawn up on the receipts and payments basis, which is consistent with the previous year.

Approved by the Trustees on 28 January 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



**Robert Gormley**  
Group Chairman



**Victoria Golby**  
Group Scout Leader



**Jennifer Marks**  
Group Secretary





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name  
**1<sup>st</sup> AMERSHAM COMMON (St. GEORGE'S) SCOUT GROUP**

On accounts for the year  
ended

**31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

Charity  
no (if any)

**267352**

Set out on pages

**7 and 8**

Donation 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 31 / 03 / 2021.

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

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:

- 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.

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.

Signed:

Date:

**28 January 2022**

Name:

**Peter Gregory**

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

**ACMA / CGMA**

Address:

**Culverton Cottage, Stag Lane, Great Kingshill, HP15 6EF**

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

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

# STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

	Actual 2021	Actual 2021	Notes	Actual 2020	Actual 2020
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
Net Subscriptions		1,424	A		2,017
Tax Refunds on Subscriptions		-	B		-
Section Activity Receipts		-	C		897
Hall Lettings		315	D		490
Government Grants		33,000	E		-
Fund-raising		-			60
Interest & Dividends Received		68			62
Donations		100			-
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>£ 34,907</b>			<b>£ 3,526</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>					
Section Activity Expenditure	-		F	1,957	
Section Costs from group	-		F	206	
Equipment	-			-	
Sundry Expenses	-			19	
<b>Total Payments on Members</b>		-			<b>2,181</b>
Storage Hut Rent	-			100	
Scout Hall Rent	-		G	-	
Electricity	526			527	
Insurance	-		H	1,299	
Business Rates	-		I	309	
Fire Inspection & Equipment	-			-	
Cleaning & Waste	360		J	788	
General Repairs & Maintenance	-			183	
Major Repairs Contingency	-			-	
Loan Repayments	-			-	
<b>Total Payments on Facilities</b>		<b>886</b>			<b>3,204</b>
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>£ 886</b>			<b>£ 5,386</b>
<b>Net Receipts/(Payments) for the Year</b>		<b>£ 34,021</b>			<b>£(1,859)</b>
Opening Cash & Bank for Year		15,408			17,267
<b>Closing Cash &amp; Bank for Year</b>		<b>£ 49,429</b>			<b>£ 15,408</b>

## BALANCE SHEETS AS AT 31st MARCH 2021

### Reserves

Equipment, Maintenance and General Renewals	49,429	15,408
<b>Total Closing Reserves</b>	<b>49,429</b>	<b>15,408</b>

### Other Liabilities

None	-	-
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>£49,429</b>	<b>£15,408</b>

### Bank Accounts

Group Account	37,748	3,837
Beaver Scout Account	802	760
Cub Scout Account	233	233
Scout Account	642	642
<b>Total Current Accounts</b>	<b>39,425</b>	<b>5,472</b>
Scouts Investment Service (SASTIS)	10,004	9,936
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>£ 49,429</b>	<b>£ 15,408</b>

These Accounts were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

P D H Golby - Group Treasurer .....

### Note:

See related notes to the financial statements

All Leaders, Helpers and Exec Committee Members give their time voluntarily and are not paid



## **RELATED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021**

- A** Subscriptions paid on to National, County and District of £1,166 relating to the current financial year were not paid until April 2021. In the prior financial year, the amount of £1,989 was netted with subscriptions received. The £2,583 YoY decrease in gross subscriptions (from £4,006 to £1,424) was primarily driven by a ~40% reduction in members as a result of the temporary closure of the Scout section from Autumn 2019, a large number of older Cub section members leaving, and the general impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on membership; combined with a temporary ~45% reduction in membership fee rates due to there being reduced activities.
- B** Gift Aid claims on member subscriptions and other fundraising receipts have not been submitted in the current or prior financial years; but have subsequently been claimed in early 2022 as claims can be made going back four years.
- C** Section Activity fees are sometimes charged as a contribution towards the costs of certain activities where significant third party costs are incurred; but such activities have been curtailed in the current financial year due to the impact of COVID-19.
- D** Hall lettings fees decreased in the current year due to the impact of COVID-19 on events organised by third parties; but regular bookings at times outside of lock-downs have mitigated this impact.
- E** Certain government backed business grants relating to COVID-19 have been made available to non-essential hospitality and leisure organisations (including village and scout halls) by Buckinghamshire Counsel based upon the ratable value of premises upon which business rates are paid. 1st Amersham Common (St Georges) Scout Group has two such premises and has claimed grants where available within the scheme rules. These funds will provide benefit to members through scouting activities and will enable the Group to improve facilities available for both scouting and the local community.
- F** There has been a significant delay in the submission of claims by section leaders, partially due to the impact of COVID-19 on our manual banking facilities. Subsequent to the year end, in April 2021, expenses relating to section costs of approximately £1,750 were claimed, of which ~£520 related to the current financial year activities (FY20/21) and ~£1,230 related to prior financial year activities (FY19/20). Claims for significant Out-of-Pocket expenses will be made on a more timely basis going forward so as payments made each year give a more representative view of actual annual costs; as costs are recognised on a cash basis within these accounts.
- G** Rent for the Scout Hut Premises is £700 per annum, but we have not been invoiced for rent for periods subsequent to 30 November 2015. We may be invoiced for subsequent periods at some point, but this would need negotiation and timing is uncertain.
- H** Due to the impact of COVID-19 on our manual banking facilities; the current year insurance premium of £1,319 for buildings and contents was settled by one of the Group Leaders and has been subsequently claimed as an expense in April 2021. This will be recognised in next year's accounts as we recognise costs on a cash basis within these accounts.
- I** As a charitable organisation, we ordinarily receive 80% relief on the business rates on our two premises; but business rates were temporarily reduced to Nil in the current financial year.
- J** Cleaning costs have reduced in the current financial year due to periods of facility closures due to COVID-19. Some additional cleaning costs have been paid as support to our cleaning service provider in the following financial year, enabled from Government Grants.
- K** Repair and maintenance costs continue to be limited to essential work only in view of ongoing uncertainty over Scout Hut and Storage Hut location facility plans.

### **Pro-forma Accounts Summary Per Indicative Subscription**

	<b>Actual 2021</b>	<b>Actual 2020</b>
<b>Indicative Subscription Received</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>126</b>
Gift Aid Uplift	0	0
Other income	1,599	19
Fees Payable to National, County and District	0	(63)
Rent	0	(3)
Rates	0	(10)
Insurance	0	(41)
Electricity	(25)	(17)
Cleaning & Waste removal	(17)	(25)
Maintenance & Equipment	0	(6)
Sundry Expenses	0	(1)
Contribution towards section activities	0	(40)
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit) per Indicative Subscription</b>	<b>1,625</b>	<b>(58)</b>