

FURZE PLATT SCOUT GROUP
TRUSTEES REPORT
For the YEAR to 31st MARCH 2022

President:	Vacant
Vice Presidents:	Angela Fecher Maggie Kearney
Trustees Ex-Officio – Appointment:	Neil Trivedi
Trustees – Elected:	Jo Buy Martin Bicknell Malcolm Burt
Trustees – Nominated:	Tony Doolan Simon Barrett Matt Keen Sajid Khan
Bankers:	Barclays Bank plc 92, High Street Maidenhead Berks. SL6 1PX
Group Registration Number:	32726
Charity Registration Number:	271398
Contact:	Neil Trivedi 86, Braywick Road Maidenhead Berks. SL6 1DE n.trivedi@hotmail.co.uk

Group Scout Leaders report

2021-22

Squirrels

After starting in March 2022 Squirrels now has 20 children attending on a regular basis with a small number on the waiting list. 4 children have already moved up to Beavers.

For 2022 our top 3 activities have been –

Teddy Bears Picnic – our very first day camp during which the Squirrels learnt how to pop up a tent, build dens for their teddy bears. We had a picnic lunch and toasted marshmallows!

Science Experiments – we ran a carousel activity which saw the children making balloon rockets, trying to make bags explode, learning how to make giant bubbles as well as make and fly paper kites.

Creatures & Critters Camp – another day camp this time with a nature scavenger hunt, followed by making our own bug houses to populate the campsite's new bug hotel, make your own campfire pizzas for lunch and of course toasted marshmallows.

I am the only Leader at present and I do have the support of parent volunteers and a DofE student.

Almost every session we have run so far has had some highlights though another standout session would have to be the Bee Keeping followed by the Fashion Show, as this is a brand new group and we are learning as we go along. We have been having lots of fun, the children have been fully engaged and they are a wonderful group.

Our biggest challenge is recruitment of adult volunteers and interest in training as a Section Leader but I am hoping this will come in time. It would be great to have a Young Leader or two attached to the group in due course too.

Beavers – Monday

We have had a great year at Monday Beavers , At the beginning of the year we had around 19 Beavers attending and we are now up to 22 Beavers with two more Beavers joining us next month to take us up to full capacity of twenty four.

We have a good team, consisting of Carole Church Smith as BSL, Helen Lynes and Molly Curran as ABSL. We also have support from our two enthusiastic Young Leaders George Irvine -Fynn and Luka Wilson and a permanent Parent volunteer Kerry Neighbour. We also have a rota of weekly Parent help, which we couldn't do without.

We have run two sleep overs for our Beavers in the past year, a Harry Potter themed camp. and a Royal themed camp for the Queens Jubilee year, where our Beavers made their own butter for an afternoon tea of jam and scones. Both were well attended.

Our top three activities have been:

Visiting an Airfield where our Beavers got to explore the hangars and were able to sit in the cockpits of the planes and talk to the pilots.

Having a visit from birds of prey, where every Beaver got to hold a peregrine or a barn owl and watched the birds swoop around the Scout hut.

Kayaking on Taplow lake, where even the most nervous Beavers were brave enough to have a go and discovered that they really enjoyed kayaking

Other highlights:

Litter picking in the local park, a visit to a local gym to have a fitness session with Personal Trainers, a visit to a local chicken coop, archery, and a very hot Summer evening spent having water games, ice-lollies and cooling water melon slices.

With just one exception, all our Beavers that have been with us for more than a year and have had a good attendance, have earnt so many badges, that we have been able to award them with the much-coveted Chief Bronze Awards, the top badge available to Beavers.

We raised £140 pounds to support Ukraine by selling sunflower growing kits and having a sunflower growing competition. Our Beaver, Sam Golding ,grew the largest plant reaching a magnificent 3.4 metres!

We value our young people's opinions and encourage them to take part every term in feedback about what they have enjoyed most and what activities they would like to do in the future.

Beavers – Thursday

- Numbers for 2021-22 and current numbers
 - Sept 2021 – Sept 2022 we had around 24 to 26 Beavers on the books throughout
 - Currently at 27
- Top 3 activities 21-22
 - Canoeing at Taplow Lake
 - Witches & Wizards Sleepover
 - Fire Station Visit
- Leader numbers
 - 4 + 1 YL
 -

Sunday Cubs

- Numbers for 2021-22 and current numbers
- We had 24 cubs during this period and currently have 26 Cub scouts in our groups
- Top 3 activities 21-22 (April 21 – March 22)

This is a difficult one as there were many activities our Cubs enjoyed, I would say the top three activities are as follows: -

- Cubs really enjoyed the night Hike and Mosque Sleep over in October 21
- Cubs loved attending Jump In in Slough in December 2021
- Our Cubs loved the visit to Maidenhead United Football Club in March 2022, where they learned the history of the club and the current ground on the York road.
- Leader numbers
- We had four leaders during this period
- Any other highlights
- After the Lockdown, cub scouts were really pleased to start face to face sessions in April 21. We have had packed program which has really been enjoyed and appreciated by our cub scouts and parents!
- Any challenges
- Some challenges engaging parents to help with our sessions which sometimes left us thin on the ground however we now have some regular parent helpers which has made a big difference!.

Tuesday Cubs

Tuesdays numbers were 25 in 2021 and now we are running at 30 with a waiting list. Top three activities, during covid we had some amazing online sessions, one of which was mind reading and magic with Chris Cox. Kids really blown away. Other things they enjoyed were kayaking and of course Cub camp which signified a real 'getting back to normal'.

One leader and One helper Kaz. Soon to be three YL this term.

Huge highlight and something I'm very proud of is the covid sessions that we ran online throughout the whole of covid 21. We cooked, danced, learnt martial arts, wrote poetry to name but a few. Despite the kids being 'zoomed out' they joined in, had a great laugh and I was very proud of their

resilience. Another highlight was being able to do cub camp 22, they kids loved it and it was wonderful to hold a proper full camp.

Challenges: the main challenge for me was building some cubs confidence back up after covid, it has affected many children much more than people anticipated.

Cubs – Wednesday

- We have been consistent at around 28-32 for the past 12 months.
- Top 3 activities 21-22
 - Cub Camp 2022 – another great camp with 40 members joining us for the weekend
 - Visit to Maidenhead FC – very enjoyable session having a tour of the stadium
 - Stand Up Paddleboarding at Taplow Lake
- Leader numbers
 - Currently 5 (Luke, Caitlyn, Libuse, Berj and Julia). There will be a need to recruit additional leaders to start from September as a couple of leaders have confirmed their intention to step down after the summer term.

Scouts

Scouts received a large intake of Cubs last September raising the troop numbers to 52 Scouts, resulting in FPSG Scouts being the largest in District. It has been pleasing that the drop off between Cubs and Scouts has remained low and the troop is still numbering close to 50 Scouts and we have transitioned 14 Scouts to the new Explorer group over the last year.

We held a successful summer camp this year in the New Forest. Activities included Mountain Biking, a two day canoe trip to Brownsea Island and visits to the Beach. The Scouts really enjoyed cooking their own food during the week and one evening created their own three course banquet. The Scouts have taken part in a varied activity programme over the last year with two Gold Award Expedition Hikes, a Winter Camp for the older Scouts and a Thames canoe trip from Hambleden to Marlow. We are close to awarding 14 Gold Awards over this last year period, which is a record achievement for us. FP Scouts also won the District Night Hike Trophy this year.

We have a well supported leader team and have been able to draw on parent support when needed.

FPSG has supported Scouts this year with the purchase of new expedition quality hike tents and new gas stoves. These purchases have allowed us to increase the quality of Scouting activities we can provide.

Kaizen Explorers

From January 2022 onwards, a group of ten older scouts, having completed their Gold Award, have enjoyed a tailored programme, developing their scouting skills and providing further opportunities to access the great outdoors. A further three older scouts joined them at Easter. We then joined the scouts for the summer camp, although once more, doing separate activities. The programme focused on many traditional scouting skills, including pioneering, and we had a memorable night building and racing seder chairs as well as taking advantage of the invention of the wheel to build and race chariots. There has also been a focus upon fire-lighting, experimenting with different materials and methods to start fires depending on the environment, and thank you to Simon Smith generally and specifically for our first ever attempt at making charcloth. A third strand has been handling and using bushcraft knives with the ambition to have a no-metal camp at some point in the future. Thank you also to Shelley, and specifically her culinary expertise among her many other qualities and talents that have been foremost in delivering an excellent programme.

Summer camp with the scouts was a great experience, so thank you to Nick for all his support. A particular highlight this year for many of the older scouts was achieving their level 2 Paddle Sports badge and invaluable kayaking experienced at Engage Watersports – and thank you to Maidenhead District for continuing to so generously subsidising this - culminating in kayaking across to Brownsea Island on summer camp. The camp has also inspired us to do more water sports, mountain biking and consider other outdoor, coastal activities using alternative energy, such as kite sandsurfing.

Kaizen Explorers is now formally established with a partnership agreement in operation. Twelve scouts continue to make up the core of the new Unit, however, we have had interest from other young people, whom we warmly welcome. We will be looking forward to grow and develop our programme with an international dimension, but rooted in a constructive, positive relationship with Furze Platt Scout Group and working closely with Nick, his team and the scouts.

Summary

A very good year for FPSG, with 2 new sections opening, Squirrels and the associated Explorer group. I do have concerns around volunteers though with ongoing exec vacancies and future section leader vacancies.

Facilities report

Campsite

No major expenditure to camp site. Buildings are showing signs of wear, repair work needed on cabin and old kitchen. Cabin floor painted, climbing wall painted. Grounds have suffered from drought and several more trees are likely to have died - they have shed their leaves early but may recover next year. Prior to this years drought the grass was regularly cut, however, the Camp site still needs a good amount of work to keep the hedges and patrol areas from being further overgrown.

Neil Trivedi

Group Scout Leader

Furze Platt Scout Group

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf.

Furze Platt (3rd Maidenhead) Scout Group (Charity no. 271398)

Receipts and payments account

	Year start date		Year end date
For the year from	01/04/2021	To	31/03/2022

Receipts and payments

	2021/22 Unrestricted funds £	2020/21 Unrestricted funds £
Receipts		
Donations, legacies and similar income		
Membership subscriptions	23,122	14,101
Donations	10,390	39,699
Legacies	-	-
Gift Aid	5,429	-
Activities	345	-
Badges and Uniforms	184	-
Camps and Expeditions	1,742	2,598
Other similar income	453	-
Sub total	41,665	56,398
Grants		
Maintenance grant	-	-
Other grants	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Fundraising events (gross)		
Easy Fundraising	18	38
Detail 2	-	-
Detail 3	-	-
F3	-	5,970
Sub total	18	6,008
Scout hut income		
Hire of building	310	105
Hire of equipment	-	-
Other Scout hut income	-	420
Sub total	310	525
Investment income		
Bank interest	-	-
Building Society interest	-	-
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	-	-
Other investment income	1,762	-
Sub total	1,762	-
Total Gross Income	43,755	62,931
Asset and investment sales, etc.	-	-
Total receipts	43,755	62,931

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Receipts and payments

	2021/22 Unrestricted funds £	2020/21 Unrestricted funds £
Payments		
Charitable Payments		
Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)	9,683	8,606
Youth programme and activities	2,234	-
Adult support and training	-	-
Rent	-	420
Water and Sewerage	1,813	-
Electricity and Gas	2,695	4,559
Insurance	2,939	-
Repairs and Renewals	4,347	7,229
Cleaning	348	-
Printing and photocopying	-	-
Contribution to camp costs	14,118	14,413
Uniforms	1,911	181
AGM and trustee expenses	-	-
Equipment Expensed	1,178	4,484
OSM Costs	24	412
Funds due to Dragons	11,636	-
Finance Costs	787	-
Sundry	20	11,199
Sub total	53,733	51,503
Fundraising expenses		
Detail 1	-	-
Detail 2	-	-
Detail 3	-	-
Other fundraising costs	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Total Gross Expenditure	53,733	51,503
Asset and investment purchases, etc.	78	-
Total payments	53,811	51,503
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 10,056	11,428
Cash funds last year end	64,852	53,424
Cash funds this year end	54,796	64,852

Furze Platt (3rd Maidenhead) Scout Group (Charity no. 271398)

Receipts and payments account

	Year start date		Year end date
For the year from	01/04/2021	To	31/03/2022

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	31st March 2022 Unrestricted funds £	31st March 2021 Unrestricted funds £
Cash funds		
Bank current account	52,875	46,793
Bank deposit account	-	16,059
Building society account	-	
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	1,921	2,000
Cash/Floats	-	-
Total cash funds	54,796	64,852
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account)	ok
Other monetary assets		
Tax claim	-	-
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group	-	-
Insurance claim	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Investment assets		
Investment property - detail	-	-
Quoted investments	-	-
Scout Bond	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Non monetary assets for charity's own use		
Badge stock	-	-
Shop stock	93	-
Other stock	-	-
Land and buildings	247,000	247,000
Motor vehicles	-	-
Scouting equipment, furniture etc	25,666	24,488
Other	160	-
Sub total	272,919	271,488
Liabilities		
Accounts not yet paid	-	-
Expenses incurred but not invoiced	225	-
Subscriptions not yet paid	-	-
Loan - detail	-	-
Other liabilities	-	-
Sub total	- 225	-
Total net assets	327,490	336,340

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on Xth X 200X (the date of the Executive Committee meeting that approved the accounts) and signed on their behalf by

Signature

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Print Name

Chair
Martin Bicknell Treasurer

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Furze Platt Scout Group ('the Scout Group').

I report to the charity trustees on examination of the accounts of the Scout Group for the year ending 31st March 2022.

Responsibilities & basis of the report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act;
or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

In carrying out my examination I noted one matter to which your attention should be drawn in this report. The Statement of assets and liabilities as at 31st March 2022 states the value of scouting equipment and furniture held at that date was valued at £25,666. No schedule of such equipment was made available to me to support this valuation, on the other hand I have no reason to believe this valuation is unreasonable.

I confirm there are no other matters to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Name: Alan G Abrahamson. FCCA (Retired)

Contact email: mdscfinance@gmail.com

Date: 24th April 2023