

Faversham District Scout Council

Annual Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2024

Registered Charity Number: 284893



LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Registered Charity Number: 284893

Scout Association Registration Number: 10001184

Hon President: Cllr A Hook

Charity Trustees

Cllr T J Martin, District Chair

Mr S P Moore, Lead District Volunteer

Mr A J White

Mr D P Darby

Mr D Kirsch-Mills, District Deputy Chair

Mr A B Soffe

Rev S D Rowlands (resigned 19 June 2023)

Mr I R Parrett (resigned 16 November 2023)

Mrs S F Beale

Ms J L Greenwell

Mr P J White

Mr J E Elliott

Mr D J Jones, Youth Commissioner

Ms V E Beale

Mr K Barker (appointed 19 June 2023)

Dr J Boyle, District Treasurer (appointed 19 June 2023)

Holding Trustees

Mr E Davis

Mr K Neame

Offical Custodian for Charities (appointed 11 April 2023)

Correspondence Address

15 Preston Park
Faversham
Kent, ME13 8LH

Website

www.favershamscouts.org.uk

Independent Examiner

Mr G D Smith FCA
5 Coppice View
Weaving
Maidstone
Kent, ME14 5TX

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Banks

National Westminster Bank Plc
11 The Parade
Canterbury
Kent, CT1 2SQ

Scottish Widows Bank
PO Box 883
Leeds
LS1 9TY

Investment Managers

St James' Place Plc
1 Tetbury Road
Cirencester
Gloucestershire, GL7 1FP

DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustee Board of Faversham District Scout Council ("District" or "Trustees") have the privilege of presenting their annual report for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Objectives and ActivitiesThe 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 cooperate 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

Main Activities and Objectives

The District is responsible for supporting the growth and development of scouting in Faversham and its surrounding villages. It does this primarily by providing support and encouragement to the four scout groups in the town. It has a particular responsibility for providing scouting directly to young people between the ages of 14 and 25 through its Explorer Scout Units and Scout Network. The District also runs certain large events for its members as well as supporting participation in county, national and international events.

The District owns and operates Shepherd Park Scout Activity Centre in Sheldwich which provides some additional income to support the whole range of scouting activities. It also owns two other freehold properties and one leasehold property within the district which are used for scouting activities. The District is preparing to take a lease on an additional property which will be used for scouting activities.

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.

DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Structure, Governance and Management

The District's governing documents are a constitution which is based upon 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 (POR) of The Scout Association.

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

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the POR of The Scout Association.

The District is governed by its Trustee Board, the members of which are the Charity Trustees of the scout district which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible to the wider District Scout Council for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

During the 2023/4 year, the Board consists (when fully staffed) of 15 Members. The Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and eight other members are nominated or elected at the AGM. These members are joined by the District Lead Volunteer and three members of his team who hold their trustee roles *ex officio*. The Board has the authority to co-opt up to four additional members during the year if necessary. The County Commissioner and County Chair both have the right to attend meetings of the Board should they wish to do so.

New rules have taken effect from 1 April 2024 and from the 2024 AGM the Board will consist of the Chair, Treasurer and 9 Trustees (including two *ex officio* Trustees) and meet every three months.

Members of the Trustee Board complete "*Being a Scouts Trustee*" learning with the first six months of joining the Board.

The District 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 gives young people skills for life.

Finally, the District Trustee Board has a general duty to ensure that scout groups within the District are managed and governed in a way consistent with law and with POR. Where groups fall short of the expected standards, the district will assist and support them in achieving those standards.

DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Structure, Governance and Management (cont.)

The Trustees are aware of the major risks to which the District is exposed and have sought to take steps to mitigate these as far as possible.

The Board would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our volunteers, both those on the front line and those whose contributions go unseen by many, who give up enormous amounts of time to provide quality scouting to so many young people in our town.

Achievements and Performance

The District has continued to support the operation of four scout groups around Faversham providing scouting to over 350 young people, an increase of over 30 from last year. The Board are very happy with the rate of growth and hope that this continues in coming years.

The District has direct responsibility for the provision of scouting to young people in the Explorer Scout and Scout Network sections. This responsibility is discharged via our District 14-24 Team. The Trustees continue to take a special interest in the 14-24 age range. It is the Trustees' intent to foster a seamless and enriching scouting experience, from early childhood through young adulthood, ensuring that the programs remain relevant, challenging and fulfilling for our older young people as they develop leadership skills and prepare for future endeavours.

The District Leadership Team has outlined a comprehensive vision aimed at strengthening the volunteer base, enhancing support for scout groups, and embarking on new initiatives to enrich the Scouting experience. Short-term objectives focus on preparing teams for organisational transformation, expanding volunteer numbers at the district level, and reducing reliance on key individuals within scout groups. The medium to long-term goals include opening new Squirrel Dreys, developing Shepherd Park, and planning for new scout groups in response to community growth. This vision sets a clear path for the Faversham Scouts, emphasising the importance of volunteer development, structural enhancements, and community engagement in achieving a vibrant and sustainable future for the district.

A major focus of the year has been the transformation of the Volunteer Experience, aimed at revitalising the district through organisational restructuring, improved volunteer welcoming processes, and enhanced training supported by a new digital system. This transformation includes a shift towards a team-based volunteering structure, slow introduction of specialised teams like the Programme Team, Volunteering Development Team and the Support Team. These efforts reflect the district's commitment to creating a more flexible, inclusive, and efficient environment that supports the growth and development of both young scouts and volunteers, ensuring a rewarding and impactful Scouting experience for all involved.

DISTRICT TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Achievements and Performance (cont.)

A new team has been appointed to manage Shepherd Park going forward, and the Trustees await with interest the team's plans for the development of Shepherd Park that will be put forward in due course to maximise its potential as a key asset for scouting in Faversham.

Financial Review

The District reports a cash deficit for the year of £5,106 (2023 surplus: £3,959) The District's investment and savings reserves stood at £161,352 (2023: £158,727) at the year end. The full annual accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 are appended to this report.

Reserves Policy

The District's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the district should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Trustees are satisfied that there is currently sufficient resources available to weather most risks that could be encountered.

Investment Policy

The District is in the very fortunate position to have been the recipient of several very significant legacies over the years. After a report authored by an independent financial adviser, the Board arranged for £134,753 to be transferred out of the St James' Place investment and into a 35-day notice interest-bearing bank account. Approximately 26,728 units remains invested in a St James' Place property fund and cannot be accessed because withdrawals have been temporarily suspended. At 31 March 2024 this had a value of £25,309.

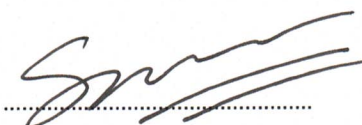
It is District policy to avoid using this capital for day to day purposes, instead reserving it for key projects such as the development of Shepherd Park. Funds will not be deposited into or withdrawn from the investment or savings accounts without the approval of the District Trustee Board.

The District Trustee Board approved this report on 16 May 2024.

Signed on behalf of the District Trustee Board



Trevor Martin
District Chair



Simon Moore
District Lead Volunteer

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF FAVERSHAM DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Faversham District Scout Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Faversham District Scout Council for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Faversham District Scout Council 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 Faversham District Scout Council 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 Faversham District Scout Council as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Signed:



Name:

B. D. SMITH FCA.

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any):

Address: 5, COPPICE VIEW, WEAVERING, HAIPSTONE, KENT ME14 5TX

Date:

16/5/2024

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

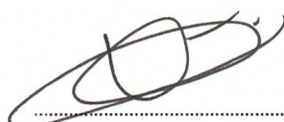
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts					
ESU Monthly Fees (via bank and cash)	-	-	3,786	3,786	3,667
Donations	4,770	-	-	4,770	254
Fundraising	412	-	-	412	-
Red Panda Gift Aid	-	-	175	175	38
Shepherd Park campers	5,685	-	-	5,685	3,233
Badge and Uniform Sales	-	-	-	-	1,066
Red Panda: Other Income	-	-	194	194	-
Bank and Building Society Interest	3	-	1,295	1,298	1
Utilities and Insurance	3,453	-	-	3,453	7,018
World Scout Jamboree Income	2,400	-	-	2,400	-
Camps and Activities					
Whole District Activities	403	-	-	403	208
Network Activities	-	-	-	-	885
Explorer Activities	-	-	1,884	1,884	455
Cub Activities	4,945	-	-	4,945	4,012
Beaver Activities	617	-	-	617	870
Young Leaders	-	500	-	500	39
Capital Movement					
Transfer from Savings/Investments	-	-	-	-	10,000
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<u>22,686</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>7,335</u>	<u>30,521</u>	<u>31,746</u>
Payments					
Capitation paid to county for ESUs	-	-	2,112	2,112	1,767
Utilities	8,777	-	-	8,777	2,328
Insurance	4,083	-	-	4,083	4,397
Shepherd Park Maintenance	9,124	-	-	9,124	3,406
Uniform and Badges	60	-	-	60	379
Activity Equipment	-	-	-	-	242
Admin	258	-	-	258	277
Legal Costs	600	-	-	600	1,712
Red Panda: GoCardless fees	-	-	66	66	-
Bank Commission	-	-	-	-	77
Capitation adjustment	-	-	-	-	19
Shepherd Park Project	-	-	-	-	906
Camps and Activities					
World Scout Jamboree	-	-	-	-	5,600
Whole District Activities	430	-	-	430	-
Network Activities	-	-	-	-	783
Young Leader Activities	-	195	-	195	-
Explorer Activities	-	-	2,924	2,924	1,344
Cub Activities	5,032	-	-	5,032	3,730
Beaver Activities	676	-	-	676	820
Capital Movement					
Transfer to Savings	-	-	1,291	1,291	-
<i>Total Payments</i>	<u>29,039</u>	<u>195</u>	<u>6,393</u>	<u>35,627</u>	<u>27,787</u>
Net of receipts/(payments)	<u>(6,353)</u>	<u>305</u>	<u>942</u>	<u>(5,106)</u>	<u>3,959</u>
Transfer between funds	<u>1,873</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,873)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>(4,480)</u>	<u>305</u>	<u>(931)</u>	<u>(5,106)</u>	<u>3,959</u>
Cash funds at 31st March 2023	14,476	500	8,533	23,509	19,550
Cash funds at 31st March 2024	<u>9,996</u>	<u>805</u>	<u>7,602</u>	<u>18,403</u>	<u>23,509</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

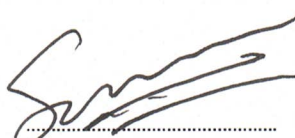
	2024 Unrestricted £	2024 Restricted £	2024 Designated £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Monetary Assets					
Bank & cash District bank account	8,303	805	1,525	10,633	16,076
Shepherd Park account	1,380	-	-	1,380	23
Golden Lions ESU account	-	-	1,645	1,645	4,035
Golden Lions ESU cash	-	-	22	22	-
Red Pandas ESU account	-	-	3,893	3,893	3,117
Scottish Widows deposit account	241	-	-	241	238
Expense cards	63	-	525	587	20
	<u>9,987</u>	<u>805</u>	<u>7,609</u>	<u>18,401</u>	<u>23,509</u>
Other Monetary Assets					
St James' Place investment (see note 4)	25,309	-	-	25,309	158,727
NatWest interest-bearing savings (see note 4)	136,043	-	-	136,043	-
Badges receivable	188	-	-	188	282
Shepherd Park fees receivable	30	-	-	30	604
Cub and Beaver activities receivable	122	-	-	122	50
Utilities receivable (see note 11)	4,721	-	-	4,721	778
World Jamboree	-	-	-	-	6,400
	<u>166,413</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>166,413</u>	<u>166,841</u>
Monetary Liabilities					
Use of 8th Faversham hall by Golden Lions	-	-	1,030	1,030	1,030
Wintercamp 2019 repayable to Mrs D Austin	-	-	714	714	714
Expenses owed to Mr A Shepherd	-	-	41	41	-
Due for utilities	-	-	-	-	2,063
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,785</u>	<u>1,744</u>	<u>3,807</u>
Assets retained for the Charity's own use					
Land and buildings (see note 5)	104,231	-	-	104,231	104,231
Shepherd Park development (see note 6)	135,789	-	-	135,789	136,695
Badge and scarf stock	280	-	-	280	431
Stamp collection (see note 10)	1,140	-	-	1,140	-
	<u>241,440</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>241,440</u>	<u>241,357</u>

The Trustees of Faversham District Scout Council approved this report on 16 May 2024.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



Trevor Martin
District Chair



Simon Moore
District Lead Volunteer

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting Policies**Basis of Accounting**

The Accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice SORP (effective January 2015).

2 Funds

The general fund represents the funds of the District that are not subject to any restriction regarding their use and are available for application to the general purpose of the District.

Restricted funds represent monies donated to the District for a specific purpose.

The accounts include monetary transactions, assets and liabilities for which the District Trustees can be held responsible.

Subject to the above, Receipts and Payments include income as received and expenditure when irrevocably paid.

3 Statement of Assets and Liabilities

The following assets are recognised in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

- Any amount owing to the charity
- Closing bank and cash balances as shown in the receipts and payments account.

The following Liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

- Creditors for goods and services where the supply has been received or relates to the period ended 31 March 2024.
- Monies received in advance relating to following year.

4 Invested Funds

The savings and investments earn interest and dividends and these are accumulated in the portfolio. On the basis that there is effectively a substantial unrealised gain during the year the Trustees have again taken the view that it is not appropriate in 2023-4 to reflect the accumulated income and unrealised gain as a receipt but add them to the value of the savings and investments. The comparative figures have been amended to be consistent.

The value of the invested funds increases and decreases with market price fluctuations. The Trustees consider it would be appropriate to reflect such variations in value in the accounts until such time as they have materialised through a sale. At 31 March 2024 the market value of the investments was £25,309.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

5 Land and Buildings

Faversham District Scout Council owns three freehold properties within the district, all of which are used on a regular basis for scouting activities. Ownership has come about by way of gift or from funds gifted for the purpose. The figure in the accounts is an historic figure and includes monies spent on improvements. It has not changed for a number of years and does not reflect the value of the properties. The District Trustees have sought without success to obtain a valuation of the properties without incurring valuation fees. Given that there is no plan to dispose of any of the properties or use their value for any other purposes, the Trustees are of the opinion that knowledge of their value would have little more than curiosity value. As such the expenditure of valuable scout funds on such an exercise is not considered to be necessary.

Values for insurance purposes are kept under review and cover at the 2023 renewal was set at £1.43m.

6 Shepherd Park Development

The figure comprises the construction costs of the north field toilet block plus architect fees, planning applications and similar costs, and the cost of fundraising.

7 Restricted Funds

	Balance 01.04.2023	Income	Expenses	Balance 31.03.2024
	£	£	£	£
Fire pit	500	-	-	500
Start-up grant	-	500	(195)	305
	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>(195)</u>	<u>805</u>

Restricted funds comprise a grant provided by County (2022) for the erection of a fire pit at Shepherd Park and the first instalment of a grant towards a Young Leader unit (2023).

8 Designated Funds

	Balance 01.04.2023	Income	Expenses	Transfer	Balance 31.03.2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Network	1,302	-	-	-	1,302
Golden Lions ESU	4,034	1,378	(1,481)	(2,066)	1,866
Red Pandas ESU	3,158	4,666	(3,621)	8	4,211
Young Leaders	39	-	-	185	224
	<u>8,533</u>	<u>6,044</u>	<u>(5,102)</u>	<u>(1,873)</u>	<u>7,602</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

9 Trustees expenses

Trustees were not paid any remuneration or expenses during the year or expenses (2023: Nil).

10 Contingent Asset

The Faversham District Scout Council is the beneficiary of a legacy from the estate of the late Alan Swan, a long time scout leader who died 20 March 2021. The legacy consists of his entire stamp collection which is to be sold at auction with an estimated minimum value of £1,140 after deduction of costs. It is therefore now recognised as a non-monetary asset.

11 Money due from groups for utilities at Shepherd Park

The District Trustees recharge groups a proportion of the utility costs for their use of Shepherd Park. The formula has been in use now for more than ten years and for financial year 2024-5 onwards, a session fee will be levied instead. The figure shown represents the amount recoverable from groups under the formula for the final time.