

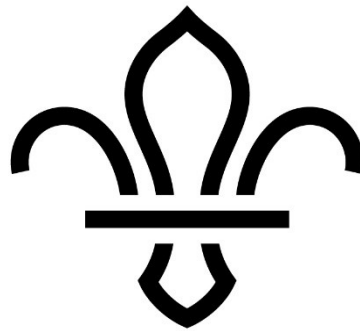
3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group

Annual Report 2022 – 2023



From Little Acorns Mighty Oak Trees grow.....

Scouts



3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 13th June 2023 at 6pm

Agenda

- GSL Welcome and Introductions
- Apologies
- Approval of Minutes of 2022 AGM
- Matters arising
- Group Annual Report by GSL
- Approval of Annual Report
- Financial Report by Treasurer
- Approval of Treasurer's Report
- GSL's nomination of Trustee Chairperson
- Election of Trustees
 - Chair: Stuart Whittaker
 - Treasurer: Neil Truby
 - Secretary: Sam Blease
 - Other Member: Jonathan Littlewood
- Agree quorum for Trustees Meetings
- Agree Maintenance Team numbers, and quorum
- Agree Development Team numbers, and quorum
- Approve GSL Nomination of President
- Ratify appointment of independent Examiner for the coming year
- Review and Agree the Wyvern Explorer Scout Partnership agreement.
- Invitation to District Staff to speak
- Presentations
- Any Other Business
- Close meeting

3RD TAUNTON (BISHOPS LYDEARD) SCOUT GROUP

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on Monday 18th July 2022 at the Hut 7.30 p.m.

Charlie Back (Group President) opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the evening.

Apologies: Jonathan, Gill and Abi Littlewood, Duncan Biddulph (District Rep), Ross Parkman, Sophie Mitchell (Parent)

Yvonne Back welcomed everyone and thanked all leaders for their continued hard work and congratulated the Group for the introduction of its Squirrels Section.

Previous Minutes 2020: Yvonne Back requested that the previous minutes for 2021 be accepted

Approved: by all present

Neil Truby thanked Sam Blease for her continued support of the minute taking.

Group Annual Report: Jana Truby had sent out the report via email and some paper copies were given out to those present. Jana Truby thanked all the Leaders present for the year and welcomed Lucia McGuinness to her role in Beavers, and Ian Lee for his role in Scouts. Jana Truby also thanked all the Young Leaders this year who have all gone above and beyond what was expected of them.

Treasurers Report: Neil Truby has produced the accounts and these have been accepted by the Trustees, and approved by our External Examiner

We have had 2 years of Covid and financially the Group has done well financially, with the continued renting from Green Days and various grants from the Government. Full subs were charged with the exception of one month, but we received a small rebate because of COVID from Somerset County Scouts, and did not have to pay County for Squirrels in this financial year. The Group made a deficit of around £8,000 but this was mainly due to the purchase of the minibus, a one-off cost of £24,600. The Group is financially in a very fortunate position with investments/cash/assets totalling around £160,000.

Approved: Martin Smith Seconded Chris Kurton

Jana Truby mentioned about the new set up for an Explorer Group which will be run at the Hut.

Executive Committee to agree subs – approved Val Lambert Seconded Yvonne Back

Elections:

Jana Truby nominated Yvonne Back as chair for another year. Yvonne agreed

Neil Truby honoured to continue as treasurer

Sam Blease happily agreed to continue her role as minute taker

Quarter Master - Paul Blease

Assistant QM – Tom Luckhurst

Maintenance - Martin Smith

Safety Officer – Stuart Whittaker

Val Lambert – Leader Representative / Andy Coleman

Parent Rep – Scouts Ross Parkman

Parent Rep – Cubs Vacant

Parent Rep – Beavers Vacant

Parent Rep – Squirrels Vacant

All persons submitted to the Charity. Sam Blease and Charlie Black will not be reappointed as Trustee.

Neil Truby proposed Seconded Stuart Whittaker

District Staff: As no official representative from District was available Dave Humphrey (District Beaver Leader) stepped up to say a few words. Dave advised that the District now had a new leadership team with split roles which was working well. Jana Truby wanted to pass on thanks to the whole of the District Team.

Presentations: Sam Blease was presented with a "Good Service Award" for all the hard work that she does in the background for the whole Group. Jonathan Littlewood was also nominated for a Good Service Award as well.

Ben Blease and Lillie Blease were presented with a Thank You card from the Group for their tireless efforts this year which has not gone unnoticed. All of the Young Leaders not present have been presented with Thank You cards as well.

Any Other Business: Chris Kurton thanked Martin Smith and Paul Blease for an excellent job on the new floor in the hut. No other business arose so the meeting was closed by Yvonne Back who thanked everyone for their attendance.

Group Scout Leader's Report



Bishops Lydeard Scout Group has had another great year! We have been able to offer a full, exciting and challenging programme across all sections, equipping our children with 'Skills for Life', as you will see from the Section Reports.

I would like to thank all our Leaders and Helpers for their hard work and dedication. We have an amazing team of Leaders in all sections as I am sure you would agree. As always we do need more adult help in our Sections, especially in Cubs and Beavers. If you think you could help in any way please let me know. Without these Leaders, who are all volunteers, we would be unable to offer such a successful level of Scouting activities.

Our Leaders are supported by Young Leaders helping across all Sections. Young Leaders are an important part of our Sections, sharing their knowledge and experiences in Scouting with the younger members of our Group. This year has seen two of our young leaders, Abi and Ben, turn 18 and become full Leaders, which is a huge bonus for the Group

We welcomed a new District Explorers Section based at Bishops Lydeard. This has been a great success with Scouts from local Scout Troops able to join and participate when they reach age 14.

All of our Sections are full, each with a waiting list. The Waiting List for Cubs exceeds 20. Therefore, from September 2023 we will be opening a new Cub Section in the Cotford Community Centre, meeting on Wednesday evenings. Stuart Whittaker will be leading this Section, and taking on the role of Akela, more details will follow shortly.

Finally, thank you to those on the Executive Committee, who have worked quietly behind the scenes ensuring the maintenance of the hut and grounds and enabling safe Scouting. I would especially like to thank Yvonne Back, stepping down as our Chair after a number of years of calm leadership. Yvonne has dedicated decades of her time and effort to our Group: prior to being Chair she fulfilled many roles, including Section Leader, and for many years as Group Scout Leader.

As part of a wider Scouting programme to streamline governance, the Group's Executive Committee is to be replaced from the date of this meeting by a smaller teams, viz a Board of Trustees; a Maintenance Support group, and a Development Group:

- The Trustees will be responsible for the Finance and governance of the Scout Group.
- The Maintenance support team will be responsible for the day to day running of the site inside and out.
- The Development Team will be responsible for the development of larger projects.

If you can help either by supporting Section meetings or behind the scenes, even just very occasionally and irregularly, PLEASE let me know!!!

Jana Truby
(Group Scout Leader)
gsl@bishopslydeardscouts.org.uk



We have been running our Squirrel Scout Section for nearly 2 years now, and a number of our Squirrels have moved up to Beavers. Our Squirrels have achieved many badges and some have achieved their Acorn Challenge Award, which is the highest level badge that a Squirrel can achieve.



Squirrels have completed many exciting activities including, hikes, den building, making bird feeders and many campfires. We took part in the District Squirrel Fun Day at Huish Woods earlier in the Spring, where we joined Squirrels from all around Blackdown District. We hiked in the Quantocks and visited the fire station.



I would like to especially thank our 3 Leaders and 3 Young Leaders all of whom have run the Section with great enthusiasm and dedication. We would also like to thank the parents and grandparents who stay each week to help. Between us we make a great team!

A big Thank You to everyone for your continued support in this amazing Section.

Jana (Squirrel)

Squirrels@bishopslydeardscouts.org.uk





Bishops Lydeard Beavers report **Riverside Beavers** **Woodland Beavers**

It has been another fabulous year for Beavers at Bishops Lydeard. As always, we have been spending as much time outside as possible.

Our varied programme of weekly activities plus occasional weekend events really does give all the young people an opportunity carry out some varied tasks and give them an opportunity to do something new and different to what would usually occur at school.



Some of the activities we have done this year include:

- For the first time in around 5 years, beavers have been able to do Archery at BL Scout Hut (thanks to Akela co-hosting with Otter when they were Archery GB accredited)
- A hike at Willett Hill and Tower (a first for many of us, including several leaders/parent helpers)
- Chinese New Year celebrations
- Orienteering around Vivary Park
- Ten Pin Bowling
- Spanish night
- Fizzy Fun
- Trip to AirHop and sleepover at the Scout Hut

We are all very much looking forward to another year ahead. The next main event of the year coming up is District Beaver Camp at Huish Woods on 10/11th June – Circus Themed – activities included slip n slide, circus skills, popcorn making, obstacle course, campfire, wake & shake, and wide game to name but a few.

This year have just reached the end of the 2-year programme which we rolled out in 2021/22. This has worked extremely well (there's always room for improvement as we have not done it before). This have enabled all the leaders to plan a programme that is focussed but remains flexible, and exciting to aim to get as many young people as possible to achieve their Bronze Chief Scout Award by the end of their time at Beavers.

Riverside are currently operating at 18 out of 20

Woodland are currently operating at 17 out of 20

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Leaders and parent support for the past year, without all of you combined, we would not be able to run such a varied and wide-ranging array of activities for the young people – Otter 😊

As with all sections we have had a few leaders join however we beginning to struggle with leaders in both Monday and Thursday sections (by September we urgently need leaders in both Colonies) so if you wish to join the leadership team, even if it is only occasionally (it does not have to be every week) please speak with Otter or Jana.

Otter and all the BL Beaver Leaders.

woodland@bishopslydeardscouts.org.uk

Riverside@bishopslydeardscouts.org.uk



Oak Cub Pack report



Firstly as always I would like to thank my amazing team of Leaders and Young Leaders without whom I would not be able to run such a wonderful section, especially following the closure of Acorn Pack, increasing our numbers considerably.

We have been very fortunate over the last 12 months to be able to enjoy some really exciting activities in our programme with many more to come until the end of this term.

We finally managed our sleepover at FlipOut which was a huge success.

We were lucky enough to visit a farm and milk the cows and then have a swing in the hay barn.



We attended County Cub Day at The Wild Place Bristol

We made some natural pictures

And lastly we did our chefs badge with vegetable sushi and chicken stir fry.



Bishops Lydeard Oak Pack
Arkela (Paul)
Oak@bishopslydeardscouts.org.uk



Bishops Lydeard **Scout Troop Report**

Our Scout Troop has had an exciting year with a full and challenging programme. We have completed many 'Scouting' activities including pioneering, fire building, kayaking, first aid, hiking, orienteering, archery, shooting, axe throwing, backwards cooking and more. We attended the Water Camp at Brompton Ralph and had a fun Halloween Camp at Huish Woods. The older Scout completed an Expedition Challenge, hiking from Chepstow Castle over the Bridge to Woodhouse Scout Camp.



Easter brought us the amazing Taunton Gang show with one of our members performing. The Scouts went to watch and to support and it was a great show.

We had number of day trips, including Taunton Pride last summer to experience diversity and equality in society, and we hope to attend again this year; and the Fleet air arm Museum, where we saw Concorde. Some of our Scouts also took part in the Exmoor Challenge a 16 mile hike across the Moors.

We are looking forward to our first Summer Camp for many years in August.

What a great year, and above all the Scouts have proved to be a strong team supporting each other in all they do. It is with sadness we have lost Val as Section Leader this year, and we thank her sincerely for all her hard work over the years. We have been joined by James, Neil, Marve, and Ben has become a leader now he has turned 18, so we still have a strong leadership team to support our young people and help them

to shine.

Scout Leaders

scouts@bishopslydeardscouts.org.uk



Group Treasurer's Report Financial Year 2022/24

General

This was the first full year of activities since the COVID restrictions began in 2020. Member numbers overall since 2020 are up slightly, from 99 to 110, but within this are two important stories: since COVID we have started a Squirrels Section, and we have reduced the two Cubs sections down to one.

This year was the first in which we have had to pay District, County and National Scouting subscriptions for our Squirrels. Nonetheless, per draft accounts, in the course of the year the Group made a surplus on its activities of £16,200.

The Scout Group is a registered charity and such is its level of income that is required both by Scout Association and Charity Commission rules to have its accounts independently examined by a competent person. Our examiner of the past 6 years, Tim Salmon, has stepped down and (subject to approval by the AGM) we have appointed a new one, Jodie Higgins, from a local firm of accountants. Jodie is kindly donating her time for free. She has not had time to familiarise herself fully with our Group and its systems in time for the AGM, and so the accounts presented are in draft form and subject to amendment following her examination.

The Group has built up substantial reserves, somewhat in excess of what, per Trustee policy, is required as contingency. The Trustees do have plans in this coming year to investigate how these reserves can best be deployed for the good of the Group, and ideas under consideration include renovation/rebuilding of the Scout Hut, which is showing its age in places; a boiler upgrade; and an upgrade of the ageing 16-year-old white minibus whose specifications make it unlikely that anyone under the age of 43 can drive it without a special passenger vehicle licence.

Income

Key points:

- We charged full subscriptions for every month in the financial year except for August 2022. Our net subscription revenue was £9,474 (FY2022 net revenue: £8,108).
- It should be noted that, starting in 2022, the subscriptions collected include for the first those of the Wyvern Explorers Group. Although the Explorers Group is actually a part of Blackdown District Scouts, the Trustees of Bishops Lydeard Scout Group has agreed to manage its finances.
- Our rental income from Scout Groups, and from local adult activity group Green Days, totalled £19,620 (FY2022 revenue: £14,944; FY2020 revenue: £18,458).
- Total income for the year was £45,447 (FY2022 revenue: £41,633; FY2020 revenue: £41,120).

Expenditure

- Spending on scouting activities was £17,423 (FY2022: £37,288, but the 2022 figure includes purchase of a new(ish) minibus for £24,600).
- Overheads for the year were £11,815 (FY2022: £12,458).

In total the Group made a net surplus of £16,209 for the year (FY2022: deficit of £8,113, although without the minibus purchase, FY2022 would have shown a surplus of £16,847).

Cash and investment balances

Balances as at 31st March 2023 were:

Description	Amount (£)
Bank Accounts	4,036
Building Society Accounts	77,775

The Scout Group has had for many years an equity investment portfolio built up from legacies down the years. At 31st March 2023 its estimated value was £96,120

Summary

The Group remains well-placed financially, with modest surpluses projected for subsequent years (absent any capital purchases), and significant reserves to fall back upon if needed.

Neil Truby

treasurer@bishopslydeardscouts.org.uk

3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account

		Year start date		Year end date	
	For the year from	01/04/2022	To	31/03/2023	

Receipts and payments

	2022/23				2021/22
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Donations, legacies and similar income					
Membership subscriptions	16,583			16,583	14,507
Less: Membership subscriptions paid ON (National/County/Area/District) enter figures with a	-7,109			-7,109	-6,489
Net membership subscriptions retained	9,474			9,474	8,018
Donations	81			81	14,909
Legacies					
Gift Aid	6,424			6,424	0
Sub total	15,979			15,979	22,927
Grants					
Maintenance grant					
Other grants					
Sub total					
Scouting Activities					
Bags2School/Archery/Teas	0			0	467
Minibus	2,011			2,011	408
Other Activity Income	6,810			6,810	2,657
Sub total	8,821			8,821	3,532
Investment income					
Bank interest					
Building Society interest	898	2		900	230
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service					
Property Rent income	19,620			19,620	14,944
Other income	127			127	
Sub total	20,645	2		20,647	15,174
Total Gross Income	45,445	2		45,447	41,633
Asset and investment sales, etc.					
Total receipts	45,445	2		45,447	41,633

3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account

		Year start date		Year end date	
	For the year from	01/04/2022	To	31/03/2023	

Receipts and payments

	2022/23				2021/22
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Payments					
Charitable Payments					
Youth programme and activities					
Adult support and training					
Cleaning Costs	403			403	169
Light, Power, Heating, Water	2,802			2,802	3,060
Insurance	1,111			1,111	1,072
Repairs and Renewals	1,070			1,070	5,917
IT Software and Consumables	815			815	547
Printing, Postage, Stationery	261			261	151
Banking and Investment Costs	31			31	5
Scouting and Scout Hut Equipment	505			505	199
Legal and Accountancy Costs	2,981			2,981	100
Rates	195			195	334
Advertising and Marketing	116			116	116
General Expenses	555			555	227
Donations	279	26		305	561
Training	665			665	0
Sub total	11,789	26		11,815	12,458
Fundraising expenses					
Minibus Costs	3,519			3,519	26,007
Other Activities costs	13,904			13,904	11,281
Sub total	17,423			17,423	37,288
Total Gross Expenditure	29,212	26		29,238	49,746
Asset and investment purchases, etc.					
Total payments	29,212	26		29,238	49,746
Net of receipts/(payments)	16,233	-24		16,209	-8,113
Transfers between funds					
Cash funds last year end	66,089			66,088	74,201
Cash funds this year end	82,322	-24		82,298	66,088

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	31st Mar 2023			31st Mar 2022
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Bank current account	3,270	766	-	4,036
NS&I			-	-
Building society account	77,775		-	77,775
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service			-	-
Cash/Floats	483		-	483
PayPal	5		-	5
Total cash funds	81,528	766	-	82,294
Other monetary assets				
Tax claim	-	-	-	-
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group		-	-	-
Insurance claim	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Investment assets				
Investment property - detail	-	-	-	-
Quoted investments	96,120	-	-	96,120
Other investments - detail	-	-	-	-
Sub total	96,120	-	-	96,120
Non monetary assets for charity's own use				
Badge stock	-	-	-	-
Shop stock	-	-	-	-
Other stock	-	-	-	-
Land and buildings	-	-	-	-
Motor vehicles	-	-	-	-
Scouting equipment, furniture etc	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Liabilities				
Accounts not yet paid		-	-	-
Expenses incurred but not invoiced	-	-	-	-
Subscriptions not yet paid	-	-	-	-
Loan - detail		-	-	-
Other liabilities	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total Assets	177,648	766	-	178,414

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on Wed 29th June 2022.

Signature	Print Name
	Yvonne Back, Chair
	Neil Truby, Group Treasurer

3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account

Year start date

Year end date

For the year from	01/04/2022	To	31/03/2023
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Receipts and payments

	2022/23			2021/22
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Membership subscriptions	16,583			14,507
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District) <small>enter figures with a minus sign</small>	-7,109			-6,489
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Sub total	20,645	2		15,174
Total Gross Income	45,445	2		41,633
Asset and investment sales, etc.				
Total receipts	45,445	2		41,633

3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account

Year start date

Year end date

For the year from	01/04/2022	To	31/03/2023
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Receipts and payments

	2022/23			2021/22	
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Payments					
Charitable Payments					
Youth programme and activities					
Adult support and training					
Cleaning Costs	403			403	169
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Sub total	11,789	26		11,815	12,458
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Minibus Costs	3,519			3,519	26,007
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Net of receipts/(payments)	16,233	-24		16,209	-8,113
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Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	31st Mar 2023			31st Mar 2022	
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Cash funds					
Bank current account	3,270	766	-	4,036	3,698
NS&I			-	-	
Building society account	77,775		-	77,775	61,884
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service			-	-	
Cash/Floats	483		-	483	506
PayPal	5		-	5	-
Total cash funds	81,528	766	-	82,294	66,088
Other monetary assets					
Tax claim	-	-	-	-	-
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group		-	-	-	
Insurance claim	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Investment assets					
Investment property - detail	-	-	-	-	-
Quoted investments	96,120	-	-	96,120	105,988
Other investments - detail	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	96,120	-	-	96,120	105,988
Non monetary assets for charity's own use					
Badge stock	-	-	-	-	-
Shop stock	-	-	-	-	-
Other stock	-	-	-	-	-
Land and buildings	-	-	-	-	-
Motor vehicles	-	-	-	-	-
Scouting equipment, furniture etc	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Liabilities					
Accounts not yet paid		-	-	-	-
Expenses incurred but not invoiced	-	-	-	-	-
Subscriptions not yet paid	-	-	-	-	-
Loan - detail		-	-	-	-
Other liabilities	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total Assets	177,648	766	-	178,414	172,076

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on Wed 29th June 2022.

Signature	Print Name
	Stuart Whittaker, Chair
	Neil Truby, Group Treasurer

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group for the year ended 31st March 2023

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group 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 3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group 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 3rd Taunton (Bishops Lydeard) Scout Group 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: Jodie Higgins ACA

Address: 18 Ashgrove Way, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6 4UB

Date:

28/07/2023