

## **1st COOKHAM SCOUT GROUP**

Report & Accounts  
for the year ended  
31 March 2025

## 1st Cookham Scout Group

1<sup>st</sup> Cookham Scout Group is registered as a Scout group with the Scout Association - reference number 31163. It is constituted under the terms of the Scout Association's Royal Charter and is a Registered Charity - number 300491.

The Group adopted a new Constitution at the AGM on 24 September 2024. As a result, the number of ex-officio trustees was reduced. The Trustees are as follows:

### TRUSTEES: Ex-Officio

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Nigel Hague       | Chair (resigned 24 September 2024)                   |
| David Baddeley    | Chair (appointed 24 September 2024)                  |
| Andy Pearce       | Group Scout Leader                                   |
| Mike Day          | Assistant Group Scout Leader                         |
| Tim Sharples      | Group Treasurer                                      |
| Jeff Hurst        | Cub Leader (removed after change in constitution)    |
| Andrew Sutherland | Scout Leader (removed after change in constitution)  |
| Martin Delahaye   | Beaver Leader (removed after change in constitution) |

### TRUSTEES: Elected

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Sally Crichton (resigned September 2024) | Tamsin Jones (resigned September 2024) |
| Brenda Davison                           | Rebecca Danks-Burrows                  |
| Nick Powell                              | Emma Thornton                          |
| Charlotte Strudwicke                     | Susie Felix                            |
| Kate Dilley                              |  |

### TRUSTEES: Co-Opted Member

Dave Hellmuth (changed from ex-officio to Co-opted member when constitution changed)

### SECRETARY

Joelle White

### PRINCIPAL BANKERS

Lloyds Bank Plc. High Street Maidenhead Berkshire SL6 1JS

### Contact

Mr TN Sharples Sulby Cottage Lower Road Maidenhead SL6 9HW

## Structure, governance and management

The Group's 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.

The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association and make up the Group Trustee Board.

The Group is managed by the Group Trustee Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is registered with the Charity Commission as an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes maintaining the registration, keeping proper accounts, and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

This Group Executive Committee exists to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments and is responsible for:

- The maintenance of Group property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.

The Group Trustee Board has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

### Damage to the building, property and equipment

The Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community centre and other Scout Groups. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with these organisations. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.

### Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members

The Group through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Associations national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.

### Reduced income from fund raising

The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The Group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Trustee Board could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.

#### Reduction or loss of leaders.

The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section, or the group as a whole, then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario, this could be the complete closure of the Group.

#### Reduction or loss of members

The Group provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 18. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario, this could be the complete closure of the Group.

## Objectives and activities

### The 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 co-operate 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.

The main activities in the year, in relation to these objects, are set out in the reports of the Chairman and Group Volunteer Leaders. The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.



## Trustees Annual Report for the Year ended 31 March 2025

### Chairman's Report for the last year

Firstly, I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to Nigel Hague for his dedicated service as Chair of the Group's Trustee Board since 2019. His leadership and commitment have been instrumental in guiding the Group through a period of sustained activity and stability.

The Trustee Board is working well, and I want to say a big thank you to the trustees, our Group Secretary, Joelle White, for all her help with organising the meetings, and to our Group Treasurer, Tim Sharples, for doing such a great job managing our finances.

I'm pleased to report that the Group remains in a satisfactory position, both financially and in terms of participation, as evidenced in the attached accounts and the Lead Volunteers' reports.

A major milestone this year has been the purchase of the field at White Place Farm, which is now nearing completion. The legal documentation is being finalised, and we are immensely grateful to our fundraisers and the generous donations that have made this possible. The next phase involves detailed planning to transform the site into a fully functional venue for scouting activities, creating lasting value for our members.

The Scout Hall continues to require ongoing maintenance and careful management. Plans are now in place for significant roof repairs later this year. As our Group continues to grow, so does the demand on our facilities, and we are actively seeking additional volunteers to help maintain and manage small projects both the Scout Hall and White Place Farm.

We are also pleased to note that Cookham Montessori School, despite changing ownership, continues to rent the Scout Hall, providing a vital income stream that supports our operational costs.

On the international front, the Group remains committed to expanding horizons and experiences for our members. We are proud to support attendees from the Cookham Group at both Alps 2025 and Wings 2026, continuing our tradition of global engagement and opportunity.

Finally, I wish to express deep appreciation to all the fundraising volunteers and parents who tirelessly support our events – whether putting up tents, running stalls, selling tickets, or seeking donations. Your enthusiasm and effort year after year make our scouting programme possible. We are truly indebted to you all.

Yours in Scouting,

David Baddeley, Chairman of Cookham Trustee Board

### Group Volunteer Leadership Team report

Our Scout group continues to thrive with no let up with children eager to join 1st Cookham Scout Group. Our total membership of Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers is 196, this is all due to our Section Teams continuing to produce outstanding programmes offering adventure, challenges and fun.

We currently have 46 adult volunteers helping to run our Squirrel, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorer sections, including our Trustee Board members. Andy and I would like to thank them all for their continued dedication, time and commitment to provide outstanding Scouting in Cookham.

All the sections had a camp last year, the Beavers and Cubs held their usual camp in the May Bank Holiday at White Place Farm, whilst the Scouts held their annual Scout summer camp on the Gower.

Our Scout Group are very lucky to have the use of White Place Farm whilst the purchase of our Scout campsite at continues.

The Bonfire and Firework display, together with the Summer Fair remain as our main fund-raising activities, we would like to thank all the parents and leaders who helped making last year's events a success. May we remind you that all the money raised is used to heavily subsidise all our Squirrel/Beaver/Cubs/Scouts and Explorers activities and camps and also funding White Place Campsite once it is acquired.

After 40 years of service, Heather Hague has decided to retire. Heather has been a Cub Leader with 1st Cookham for nearly 30 years, she has held District roles as well as being a Training manager, helping to run numerous Scout Summer Fairs and raise a lot of money through the silent auction. Nigel has also stood down as chair of the Trustee Board, the group presented them both with a Red-Letter Day voucher in our appreciation of their service to Scouting, we wish them both a well-earned retirement.

We couldn't run Cookham Scouts without our Trustee Board, my thanks go to David as our Trustee Board Chair, together with thanks to Tim our excellent treasurer, Joelle our Group secretary who also manages all the admissions from our extensive waiting list, and the other Board members who all do vital jobs.

A number of our sections have insufficient number of adult volunteers to help and we have had to introduce parent rota's. We continue to require an increasing number of adult volunteers to help, to ensure we meet the ratio requirements to keep our young people safe and ensure they have a great experience. Please speak to a Section Team Leader or email: [volunteering@scoutscookham.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@scoutscookham.org.uk).

Andy Pearce & Mike Day  
Group Volunteer Leadership Team


May 2025

## Financial Highlights

|   | This Year<br>£ | Previous<br>Year<br>£ |
|---|----------------|-----------------------|
| Guy Fawkes Public Firework Display  | 8,770          | 12,289                |
| Summer Fair   | 8,194          | 5,275                 |
| Marquee hire  | 650            | 600                   |
| Catering activities   | 2,168          | 2,327                 |
| Total net fund raising for the year   | <u>19,783</u>  | <u>19,981</u>         |
| HQ Rental income  | 21,411         | 20,821                |
| Donations towards purchase of White Place Farm  | 38,594         | -                     |
| Amount spent on improvements to HQ outbuildings   | 3,740          | 2,980                 |
| New tents and other equipment purchased totalled  | 1,128          | 2,709                 |
| The Group subsidised activities including section activities, minibus hire & and supporting individuals who would not otherwise have been able to attend camps. Excluding waived subscriptions. | 2,786          | 3,372                 |
| Leader training & insurance cost  | 570            | 1,804                 |
| At the end of the year Group reserves amounted to   | 217,296        | 153,646               |
| These reserves are allocated as follows:  |                |                       |
| Working capital requirements  | 4,000          | 4,000                 |
| Contingency fund in case of fund-raising failures or disaster costs   | 36,000         | 66,000                |
| Reserve for future development  | 177,296        | 83,646                |

Approved by the trustees on 17 September 2025 and signed on their behalf by

  
D. Baddeley &

  
T Sharples


## Receipts & Payments Account Summary for the year ended 31 March 2025

|   | This Year<br>General<br>fund<br>£ | Previous<br>Year<br>£ |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Total receipts for the year (see supporting analysis) | 136,314                           | 84,613                |
| Total payments for the year (see supporting analysis) | <u>72,665</u>                     | <u>69,089</u>         |
| Net receipts (payments) for the year                  | 63,649                            | 15,524                |
| Surplus/(Loss) on revaluation of investments          | -                                 | 3,291                 |
| Cash, bank and similar funds brought forward          | 153,647                           | 134,832               |
| Cash, bank and similar funds carried forward          | <u>217,296</u>                    | <u>153,647</u>        |

Approved by the trustees on  
behalf by

  
D Baddeley &

17 September 2025 and signed on their

  
T Sharples

## Receipts for the year ended 31 March 2025

|   | This<br>Year<br>£ | Previous<br>Year<br>£ |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS</b>                                       |                   |                       |
| Subscriptions from members  | 19,504            | 18,748                |
| Less Paid to Scout District   | (11,528)          | (10,884)              |
|   | <u>7,976</u>      | <u>7,864</u>          |
| <b>INVESTMENT INCOME RECEIVED</b>                                     |                   |                       |
| Bank and building society interest                                    | 2,999             | 1,636                 |
| Dividend  | -                 | -                     |
|   | <u>2,999</u>      | <u>1,636</u>          |
| <b>DONATIONS, GRANTS and CLOTHING SALES</b>                           | 39,990            | 2,322                 |
| <b>CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED FOR ACTIVITIES</b>                          | 10,411            | 8,405                 |
| <b>FUND RAISING INCOME</b><br>(before charging fund raising expenses) | 41,846            | 39,863                |
| <b>INCOME FROM HIRE OF HEADQUARTERS BUILDING</b>                      | 21,411            | 20,821                |
| <b>OTHER INCOME</b>   |                   |                       |
| Income tax recovered on subscriptions and donations                   | 11,681            | 3,703                 |
| <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR</b>                                    | <u>136,314</u>    | <u>84,613</u>         |



## Payments for the year ended 31 March 2025

|  | This<br>Year<br>£ | Previous<br>Year<br>£ |
|--|-------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>PREMISES</b>                                    |                   |                       |
| Running costs                                      | 9,953             | 11,753                |
| Repairs and Renewals                               | 3,740             | 2,980                 |
| Consultancy and legal fees re White Place Farm     | 8,856             | -                     |
| <b>DONATIONS/GRANTS: Cookham Explorers</b>         |                   |                       |
| Cookham Explorers                                  | 2,174             | 1,500                 |
| Others   | 3,518             | 1,316                 |
| <b>ACTIVITIES</b>                                  | 16,568            | 19,806                |
| <b>FUND RAISING EXPENSES</b>                       | 22,115            | 19,972                |
| <b>ADMINISTRATION &amp; ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES</b> |                   |                       |
| Leader training and insurance                      | 570               | 1,804                 |
| Miscellaneous                                      | 1,562             | 1,208                 |
| <b>PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT</b>                       | 1,128             | 2,709                 |
| <b>INTEREST PAID</b>                               | -                 | -                     |
| <b>PURCHASE OF BADGES AND UNIFORM</b>              | 2,481             | 6,042                 |
| <b>TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR</b>                 | <u>72,665</u>     | <u>69,089</u>         |

## Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31 March 2025

|   | This<br>Year<br>£ | Previous<br>Year<br>£ |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>MONETARY ASSETS</b>                                    |                   |                       |
| Interest bearing accounts at banks and building societies | 122,041           | 147,384               |
| Non-interest bearing accounts at banks                    | 85,544            | 15,163                |
| Cash in hand  | -                 | -                     |
|   | <u>207,585</u>    | <u>162,547</u>        |
| <br><b>OTHER MONETARY ASSETS</b>                          |                   |                       |
| Tax refunds reclaimable from Inland Revenue               | 1,363             | 1,323                 |
| Sundry receivables  | 9,018             | 3,818                 |
|   | <u>10,381</u>     | <u>6,141</u>          |
| <br><b>LIABILITIES</b>                                    |                   |                       |
| Expenses to be reimbursed                                 | 1,762             | (1,427)               |
| Capitation Fees due                                       | ---               | (10,884)              |
| 2025 camp and summer fair fees reimbursable               | (292)             | (1,730)               |
|   | <u>(1470)</u>     | <u>(14,041)</u>       |
| <br><b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>                               | <u>217,296</u>    | <u>153,647</u>        |

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cookham Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 1st Cookham Scout Group for the year ended 31 March 2025.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 1st Cookham 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 1<sup>st</sup> Cookham 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 1<sup>st</sup> Cookham Scout Group as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



Peter Austen  
Chartered Accountant  
Pippins, Popes Lane, Cookham Dean, Berkshire SL6 9NY

17 September 2025