



King Alfred District Scout Council

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

For year ended 31 March 2023

Registered Charity 300518

King Alfred District Scout Council
Annual Report of the district Executive Committee
For year ended 31 March 2023

Scout Registration Number **14813**
Charity Commission Number **300518**

Trustees: (Ex-officio appointments)

District Chairman	Chris Harrison	
District Commissioner	David Walsh	
District Explorer Scout Commissioner	Francesca Wellham	W.e.f 18.07.22
District Treasurer	Samantha Riley	

Trustees: (Elected)

Peter Trafford		
Paul Brame		
Stephen Radford		
Paul Steptoe		

Treasurer contact name & address:

Samantha Riley
Woodlands
Wantage Road
Rowstock
Oxfordshire
OX11 0JY

Bankers: Barclays Bank Plc, 17 Market Place, Wantage, Oxfordshire, OX12 8AG

Main achievements and activities of the Trustees Board

The pandemic is now fully behind us and all Groups have returned to delivering the programme as normal.

The Census towards the end of this reporting period showed that the number of Young People (YP) increased from 693 to 712 which represents a 3% increase, a little less than the 4.5% anticipated. New sections continue to open across the District including the first Squirrel Drey in Grove so the District continues to expand. The comparative lack of overall YP growth is because Beaver numbers are down which is now a key focus of the Group Scout Leader's (GSL) team. Great progress has been made on recruiting adult volunteers and most uniformed roles are filled with a constant stream of applications being processed by the cross-County Appointments Committee although several Assistant District Commissioner (ADC) positions remain open.

After much deliberation, the District Patrol Camp went ahead in September following the Queen's death with a modified programme, permeated with reflections and contributions from the Scouts. The overwhelming consensus was that it was the right thing to do and the Scouts benefitted greatly from the experience.

In setting the membership fee to be collected in the 23/24 financial year, we maintained the principle of deciding the District element by setting a Trustees' Board budget and then dividing the total funding requirement across all the Young People in the District. As planned and announced, this year we started to phase in the cost of the District Secretary with a 50% contribution, the remainder again taken from reserves. The additional cost was offset to a degree by reducing costs across all other areas by 14%. The net increase of the District element by 34% resulted in an total membership fee increase of 10%, more or less in line with inflation.

The works to replace the roof of DHQ have now been completed satisfactorily and attention is turning to the remaining repairs identified by the Ridge condition report. The budgeting is nearing completion which is prompting rent reviews with both Scouting and non-Scouting tenants to bridge the operational cost gap. Section 106 money from the Wantage Crab Hill development has been allocated to Scouting for the purpose of increasing provision. The District has employed Ridge and Partners to assist in the design of a new building on the DHQ site in order to secure this grant on the assumption that match-funding grants can be found.

Following the dip last year, the focus of the District Commissioner and his team plus the Training team has resulted in a great improvement in mandatory training with compliance now at national standard levels.

The newly appointed District Explorer Scout Commissioner will join the new streamlined Trustees Board which continues to operate effectively.


Signed.....

Chris Harrison, District Executive Chairperson

Notes to the Accounts for The King Alfred Scout District Council 2022-23

The annual Charity Commission Return for the previous year was completed and returned.

There are no outstanding liabilities for the year ending 31 March 2023.

There are no endowment funds within the committee's management. The Stuart Rae fund is designated and carried forward from year to year. This has previously been the case with The Wantage & Grove Christmas Post fund, however the balance held by the District has now been transferred to the Wantage Scout Group.

The Scout District is made up of seven groups along with four Explorer Scout units; Goodlake ESU and Ridgeway ESU along with White Horse ESU and Shackleton ESU.

Membership income for the District, after settling the County and National components, was £4,617 compared to £4,911 for the previous year. Census figures recorded in January 2023, used to calculate membership levy for 2023/24, reflect a small increase on the previous year 693 to 712 young people.

Rental income from the Wantage Scout groups has been maintained at the same level as the previous year with some additional income being received from the new Explorer unit and other ad hoc Scouting use. Rental income from leisure activities has increased and we have seen a significant rise in other rental income from business tenants using the Scout Lodge on long term agreements.

District level scouting activities, including Patrol Camp and Stuart Rae challenge covered their costs during the year with any surplus being retained to support future years' expenditure.

Total grant income for the year was £9,931, comprising of £9,131 towards DHQ roof improvements and £800 for energy support from The Community Buildings Energy Support Scheme.

Overhead expenditure, in particular utilities, has seen significant increases in line with the current national trend as well as increased usage of our buildings.

The in-year deficit of £65.6k was because of the expenditure on the DHQ roof project that amounted to £82.8k paid for from reserves intended for this purpose.

Risk & Reserve Policy Statement

Financial risks are reduced by the preparation and consideration of regular Receipts & Payments Accounts by the Trustees Board. Payments are made electronically and approved by two of the Trustees holding ex-officio appointments, or by Direct Debit.

At present the District is holding a reasonable level of reserves as we continue with the planned maintenance and repair works to improve the District Headquarters.

We are grateful to Elaine Johnson at Chapman Worth, for undertaking the independent examination of the accounts and providing helpful advice and comment.

Signed



Sam Riley, District Treasurer

Explanatory notes not forming part of the Annual Report

Breakdown of Grant Income received 2022-23

Donor	£	Purpose
VOWHDC	9,130	DHQ Roof Project 2 of 2
Oxfordshire Community Foundation	800	Community Buildings Energy Support Scheme

Breakdown of Grant Income received 2021-22

Donor	£	Purpose
VOWHDC – Support Grant	8,000	Support Pandemic
VOWHDC – Support Grant	8,000	Support Pandemic
Tesco Bags of Help	1,000	DHQ improvements
VOWHDC – Omicron Hospitality & Leisure	2,667	Support Pandemic

Breakdown of Grant Income received 2020-21

Donor	£	Purpose
VOWHDC Support grant - Covid	20,000	Support - pandemic
VOWHDC	9,130	DHQ Roof project 1 of 2
VOWHDC Support grant - Covid	2,668	Support - pandemic
Wantage Town Council Donation	10,000	DHQ Roof project
National Lottery	10,000	DHQ Roof project
VOWHDC - Support grant - Covid	12,954	Support pandemic
VOWHDC - Support grant - Covid	4,192	Support - pandemic

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

King Alfred District Scout Council

As at 31 March 2023

	31MAR2023	31MAR2022
Current Assets		
Cash at bank and in hand		
Community Account	57,835.26	127,876.75
Total Cash at bank and in hand	57,835.26	127,876.75
Accounts Receivable	4,500.00	280.00
Total Current Assets	62,335.26	128,156.75
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Accounts Payable	-	168.24
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	168.24
Net Current Assets (Liabilities)	62,335.26	127,988.51
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	62,335.26	127,988.51
Net Assets	62,335.26	127,988.51
Capital and Reserves		
Current Year Earnings	(65,653.25)	18,742.56
Retained Earnings	126,562.58	107,718.22
Stuart Rae Fund	1,425.93	1,239.84
Christmas Post Fund	-	287.89
Total Capital and Reserves	62,335.26	127,988.51

Statement of Receipts and Payments

King Alfred District Scout Council

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	2023	2022
Income		
Membership		
Annual membership	41,346.60	35,742.64
District Headquarters		
Rent - Scout use	6,137.50	5,000.00
Rent - leisure activities	2,504.00	1,856.00
Rent - other	20,885.00	6,955.00
Total District Headquarters	29,526.50	13,811.00
Activities		
Activities: District Patrol Camp income	1,440.00	1,725.00
Activities: Canoeing trips	133.00	425.00
Badge sales	12.50	155.00
Stuart Rae Challenge	1,111.72	977.26
Total Activities	2,697.22	3,282.26
Grant income	9,931.00	19,667.00
Total Income	83,501.32	72,502.90
Expenditure		
Membership		
Annual membership paid	36,729.00	30,832.00
District Headquarters		
Cleaning Contract	3,448.68	3,409.14
Electrical maintenance	-	376.82
Electricity	3,744.68	1,474.07
Fire/heating system maintenance	1,532.12	3,377.80
Gas	5,187.83	3,663.44
General repairs	108.01	722.38
Insurance and licences	1,995.83	1,975.23
Scout Lodge electricity	1,202.97	578.31
Telephone and broadband	872.41	801.32
Water	428.54	234.40
Total District Headquarters	18,521.07	16,612.91
Activities		
Activities: Beaver	-	204.00
Activities: Canoes & trailer	251.40	89.80
District Patrol Camp expenditure	2,136.06	1,105.03
Christmas post expenditure	287.89	-
Stuart Rae Challenge expenditure	925.63	1,054.09
Total Activities	3,600.98	2,452.92

Other		
District Executive Expenses	6,846.30	1,556.31
Miscellaneous	-	180.60
New Group Seed Funding	400.00	-
Total Other	7,246.30	1,736.91
DHQ Improvements	82,854.72	1,981.60
Website	202.50	144.00
Total Expenditure	149,154.57	53,760.34
Surplus/(deficit)	(65,653.25)	18,742.56

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the King Alfred District Scout Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the King Alfred District Scout Council (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out above.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. 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 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 charity 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: Elaine Johnson FCCA

Relevant professional qualification: Chartered Certified Accountant

Address: 3 The Old Bakery, Bakery Lane, Letcombe Regis, OX12 9JN

Date: 23 June 2023