

Chair's Report

I am pleased to report that 1st Crookham Scout Group has had another fun and action packed year. This has been made possible through a varied programme of activities and events, which have been planned and delivered by our brilliant Leadership team and Sections.

I would therefore like to thank all of our volunteer Leaders, Section Members and Assistants for running a successful Scouting year for 1st Crookham. I would also like to congratulate some of our longstanding team members, both past and present, who have gained notable achievements and awards including special commendations for service. 1st Crookham is fortunate to have dedicated and experienced leaders working alongside our newer volunteers to create a strong team.

Over the last eight years the group's leadership team has been skillfully led by Mark Medler – Mark has dedicated many years of commendable service to this role, but will be stepping down as Lead Volunteer so that he can focus on managing the Den Rebuild project. The project has needed more time and resource to make progress, and I am confident that Mark's commitment to this will help steer us towards realising plans for a new HQ.

I would also like to thank the Trustee Board for their continued work behind the scenes in ensuring that the group follows good governance and is properly resourced to run an effective programme, with a sound financial footing. A particular thank you to Helen Payne who steps down after more than 10 years of commended service. During this time Helen has played a vital role as Secretary by ensuring that our meetings are well organised and run smoothly and effectively. Over the years she has diligently prepared meeting papers and minutes which serve as a record of key decisions and actions.

Thank you to Iain Soars who is also stepping down after 10 years as Quartermaster: during this time he has ensured that equipment needed to run various activities is acquired, logged and well maintained.

I would also like to thank Emma Evans (1st Crookham 100 Club co-ordinator) who has decided to step down from the Trustee Board. Emma has made insightful contributions to our Board discussions over the last few years, and has notably provided a parent's perspective to help inform key decisions.

Scouts UK is leading a major transformation to change how scouting is run, as detailed in the updated Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) <https://www.scouts.org.uk/por/> Volunteering will follow a new teams-based approach, allowing for more flexibility to suit people's skills, interests and time, enabling tasks to be shared among a team. The Board of Trustees will primarily focus on good governance, health and safety, and safeguarding of our young people. We need new volunteers to equip the group to operate effectively under the

new POR and will soon be advertising roles that need filling. In the meantime, please get in touch if you would like to get involved in any capacity.

If you have any feedback or questions concerning the Group's activities please email me at ssinha@1stcrookham.onmicrosoft.com

Sujata Sinha

Chair

1st Crookham Scout Group

Treasurer's Report

Firstly, I'd like to acknowledge Janette Mann for her hard work as treasurer over the years, and the assistance she has provided in handing over the reins to me during 2023.

I would also like to thank Ian Masters for again carrying out an Independent Review of the accounts.

The Group overall made a surplus of £1,248 for the year ended 31st December 2023, which splits as follows:

'Group activities': deficit of £5,153:

- The Group aims to break even on its normal activities in any one year (i.e. excluding Den fundraising and expenditure).
- We were able to keep subscriptions at the 2022 rates thanks to a surplus brought forward from last year; this has now been utilised.
- As anticipated, costs have increased compared with 2022 including payments to District, electricity charges and gas for camps.

'Den fundraising': surplus of £6,401:

We ran a number of fundraising activities during the year, including a 'Fun day' at the Wyvern, and a collection at the fireworks.

The Statement of Assets shows that the group has total reserves at 31st December 2023 of £164,230, split between the general reserve (£33,596) and the Den improvement/replacement reserve (£129,411). Our policy of holding a level of general reserves continues to ensure we remain in a good position financially.

Looking ahead to 2024, we have been actively looking at ways to minimise the Group's overheads and have been taking steps to reduce these where possible, e.g. ensuring the Group is on the best electricity rates available.

Please send any questions you may have to me at 1stCrookhamTreasurer@gmail.com.

John Wilkinson

Treasurer

1st Crookham Scout Group

GSL's Report

2023 saw the group in good health running a full programme of face-to-face Scouting

The group continued to successfully maintain 3 Beaver colonies, 3 Cub packs and 3 Scout troops with 190 youth members, 45 uniformed leaders & assistants with a full Trustee Board and operated at full capacity through most of the year.

By year end the waiting list remained with 9 waiting for a Beaver place, 27 for a Cub place and 7 for a Scout place.

Leadership was well provisioned, and comparatively strong overall although both Cubs & Scouts ideally need more section assistants. The group was also light on archery instructors.

All sections conducted a full program for the year:

Beavers:

Spring term - Fun and Games, Spy School, Fire Lighting, Adventurous Activities & Den Building, Foodbank, Willow Weaving, Pancakes, Chip Hike, Kit Inspection, Spring Camp

Summer term – Fun and Games, Gardening, Following a Trail, Global Issues, Tomahawks, Fire Lighting, FOBP Community Service, Hike to Odiham Castle , Water Fight

Autumn term - Fun and Games, Fleet pond activity, Building, Tomahawks & Disability Awareness, Guy Making, Fireworks, Health and fitness, Cooking, Stargazing Hike, Emergency Aid, Christmas Fun

Cubs:

Spring term - Welcome, Board Games, Hike, District Chess Competition, Home Safety, Bridge Building, Pancakes, Problem Solving, RAF Odiham, Mens Shed, Escape Room, Sports & Healthy Eating

Summer term – Welcome, Fires, Collectors/Hobbies/Sports Enthusiast, Fleet Pond, Archery, Air Rifles, Water Activities, Athletes Badge, Pizza Hike, Basingbourne Park, Joint meeting at CODY

Cub camp was at Pinsent in June and Cubjam at Phasels Wood in May.

Autumn term - Welcome, Fires, Air Rifles and Tomahawks, Road Safety, Teamwork Evening, Communicator Badge, Guy Making, Joint Bonfire, Introduction to Judo, Local Knowledge, Christmas Surprise

Scouts:

Spring term - Welcome, Team Building/Disability Awareness, Hike Prep, Bluenose Hike, Backwoods International Cooking, Pancakes, Tomahawks, Bridge Building Science Week, Hike Planning, Escape Room, Incident Hike

Summer term - Troop Forum, Games Admin, Fires, Skills Challenge Badge, Commonwealth Games Evening, Bike Night, Fire Skills ,Hantstrek Hike Prep, Hantstrek Hike Camp, Fleet Pond Society Evening, Backwoods Cooking, Archery, Camp Prep & Games, Friends of Basingbourne Park Maintenance, Water Activities (Horseshoe Lake)

Scout Camp was at Braggers Wood in July.

Autumn term - Games/Admin/Troop forum, Chip/ Defibrillator Hike, Shooting -Tin Can Alley/ Navigation, Pioneering, Gwentrek, Pyrography/ Buddy Burners/ Shotgun Cartridge

Matchboxes, Backwoods Cooking, Widegames, Off Ground Camp, First Aid, Fireworks, Indoor Kit Car Drag Racing, Indoor, Badgework, Round the Islands Talk/Christmas Party

The group participated in the Coronation Parade, held a Family Fun day in September, attended the Remembrance Parade and supported Fleet Festivities in November with the Beavers Teddy/Bottle tombola stall.

All our Young People deserve our thanks and congratulations for their perseverance and dedication though the year.

As ever, thanks must go to all the adults and parents who are involved in supporting the group; both on the section leadership side and less visibly, but just as importantly, executive support side.

Notable achievements and mentions:

- Wood Badge – Susan Waddams & Kirsty Hodge
- 5 Year Service Awards – Nikki Nash & Catherine Beigulman
- 10 Year Service Awards – Russell Fox, Belinda Styles, Kirsty Hodge, Mike Mayhew & Natasha Wilson
- Susan Waddams & Suzanne Stinchcombe – Qualified as Archery instructors
- Damian Jordan stood down from Aztecs after 9 years Beaver and Scout leadership
- Stephen Davis – stood down after 9 years as assistant treasurer & Gift Aid management
- Lisa Medler stood back from Saxons leadership after 10 years service to help with fundraising
- Clare Blackmore stood down from Celts SA

Mark Medler
Group Scout Leader
1st Crookham Scout Group

Income and Expense for the Year ended 31st December 2023

	1st Crookham Scouts Year to 31-Dec-23 £	Den Fundraising Year to 31-Dec-23 £	Total Year to 31-Dec-23 £	Year to 31-Dec-22 £
INCOME				
Membership subscriptions	21,359.00		21,359.00	22,782.50
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (District)	(10,175.00)		(10,175.00)	(9,506.00)
Den rebuilding fundraising	0.00	6,404.31	6,404.31	47,296.25
Donations/grants	1,410.00		1,410.00	0.00
Hall Hire	493.00		493.00	792.00
T-Shirts	242.00		242.00	123.00
Gift Aid	4,923.15		4,923.15	17,166.43
Camps / Activities	12,832.60		12,832.60	16,324.00
100 Club	0.00		0.00	250.00
Miscellaneous	0.00		0.00	28.70
Total Income	31,084.75	6,404.31	37,489.06	95,256.88
EXPENDITURE				
Utilities & Cleaning	7,182.94		7,182.94	5,752.11
Insurance	1,743.94		1,743.94	1,940.03
Repairs & Maintenance	775.00		775.00	125.93
Admin expenses	241.49		241.49	160.65
Badges	2,150.00		2,150.00	2,057.40
Den rebuild fundraising expenses	0.00		0.00	1,324.72
Courses / Uniforms	175.25		175.25	0.00
T - Shirts	0.00		0.00	330.00
Equipment	1,722.75		1,722.75	2,836.42
Section Expenses	6,198.95		6,198.95	5,647.27
Camps / Activities	14,691.31		14,691.31	15,670.60
Miscellaneous	78.35		78.35	492.80
Fundraising Expenses	111.83		111.83	69.35
Online payment fees / charges - OSM	1,165.91		1,165.91	1,271.15
Online payment fees / charges - SumUp	0.00	2.92	2.92	10.73
Total Expenditure	36,237.72	2.92	36,240.64	37,689.16
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	(5,152.97)	6,401.39	1,248.42	57,567.72

STATEMENT OF ASSETS

	Year to 31-Dec-23 £	Year to 31-Dec-22 £
Total Assets brought forward	362,981.36	305,413.64
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	1,248.42	57,567.72
Total Assets carried forward	364,229.78	362,981.36
Represented by:		
Headquarters (February 2016 valuation)	200,000.00	200,000.00
Total Non Monetary Assets	200,000.00	200,000.00
HSBC Current Account	0.00	17,865.65
Barclays main current account	33,596.41	20,601.44
Barclays den current account	44,411.24	123,187.20
Dudley BS bond	85,000.00	0.00
Cash	452.62	618.46
Section Funds	769.51	708.61
Total Monetary Assets	164,229.78	162,981.36
Total Assets	364,229.78	362,981.36

Note 1: A valuation of the den for insurance purposes was undertaken and agreed by the Executive committee in 2016

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 1st Crookham (Odiham District) Scout Group (Charity number: 302270)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 1st Crookham (Odiham District) Scout Group for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 1st Crookham (Odiham District) 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 1st Crookham (Odiham District) 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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with these accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set 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.

Signed:



Name:

IAN MASTERS

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

FCA ICAEW

Address:

FLEET, UK

Date:

22/5/24