

New Forest District Scout Council Trustees' Annual Report

1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name: New Forest District Scout Council

Other names the charity is known by: New Forest District Scout Council

Registered charity number: 302319

Charity's principal address: 12 Antells Way, Alderholt, FORDINGBRIDGE, Hampshire

Postcode: SP6 3AW

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity.

(These will be published in the annual report of the charity and the Charity Register if reporting for a Registered Charity with a charity regulator)

	Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Donna Kerrigan	Chair	
2	Roger Newland		
3	Antony Parker		
4	Ryan Parry		resigned April 2023
5	Sian Winter	Treasurer	
6	Sara Le Bas	Secretary	
7	Andrew Chatwin		
8	Steven Osborn		
9	Joy Sellwood		resigned June 2023
10	Julie Mair		
11	Sara-Marie Andrews		
12	Kevin Harmer		
13	Lynn Tatavossian		
14	Robin Mair		
15	Michael Doncom		appointed April 2023

Names and addresses of advisers

	Type of advisor	Name	Address
1	none in 2023-24		

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document

The District Scout Council's governing documents are those of The Scout Association (charity 306101). 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.

How is the charity constituted

The District Scout Council is a trust established under its rules, which are common to all Scouts.

Trustee selection methods

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association. The District Scout Council is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.

Additional governance information

The District Scout Council (hereafter referred to as the Council) is managed by the 'Charity Trustees' and is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Council consists of 3 independent representatives (Chair, Treasurer and Secretary) together with the District Commissioner team and other trustees within various branches of the Scout District's activities. The Council and meets every at least every 3 months.

Members of the Council complete all of the compulsory training within the first 5 months of joining. This Council exists to support the District's Scout Groups in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments, training and governance. It is responsible for:

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

Risk and Internal Control

The Council has identified the major risks to which they believe they are 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 Council has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.
- Injury to Leaders, Helpers, Supporters and Members.
The District Scout Council 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 Scout District is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and events. The Council holds reserves to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income in the short term. The Council could raise the value of subscriptions or reduce the range of activities and they support to maintain

their funding envelope either on a temporary or permanent basis, depending on the reason for the reduction in funding.

- Reduction or loss of leaders.

The Council is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer their activities. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular area then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of that area.

- Reduction or loss of members.

The Council supports the District Groups to provide activities for all young people aged 4 to 25. 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 potentially closure in that area.

- Risk and Internal Control.

The Council has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include 2 signatories for all payments and a comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Section C Objectives and activities

Public benefit statement

The Council meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

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.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

Provision of Harry's Island Scout Camp to support young people to take part in outdoor activities and learn by doing, taking responsibility and making choices to develop their skills in a safe environment. When Harry's Island achieves a surplus the funds can be used to provide additional opportunities and support for both our own (Scout) young people and other groups of young people who use the site through a scheme of developments. Surplus funds are also used to provide additional Scout District activities such as grants for projects, Chief Scout Award celebrations, Eagle Trophy challenge, etc.

Providing training and support for adult volunteers who support the Scout Groups and Section Scout activities within the Scout District, including recruitment and appointments.

Facilitating a range of opportunities for young people across the Scout District to access activities and opportunities that might not be available within their Scout Group or Section.

Managing the Council's assets to ensure financial sustainability in the short and long term for the Scout District.

Section D Achievements and performance

The highlights of our activities are covered in our regular newsletter 'Tails of the New Forest', which are published on our website in the 'What's happening with us?' section: <https://newforestscouts.org.uk/>

Section E Financial Review

Quantify and explain any designations

Any property holdings and changes in holdings – the Scout District's only holding is Harry's Island which remains unchanged in this financial year.

Reserves Policy

The District Scouts policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the District Scouts should income and fundraising activities fall short.

The District Executive Committee considers that the Scout District should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, circa £16,000 for Harry's Island plus £8,000k for the basic running costs of the District – total £24,000. Where District events are planned across more than one financial year a temporary increase in reserves to support the event will be considered.

Investment Policy

The Scout District's Income and Expenditure is usually earmarked for specific purposes and as a consequence the Scout District does not have sufficient funds to invest in higher risk longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The Scout District has therefore adopted a low risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

The District Executive regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the group obtains maximum value and income from its banking arrangements. Occasionally this may involve using an account that requires a period of notice before funds may be withdrawn, before doing so the District Executive considers the cash flow requirements

Section F Other Optional Information

Plans for future periods (details of any significant activities planned to achieve them):

The funds realised from the sale of Strides Lane land in 2021 are mainly being used to update and improve the Harry's Island facilities, this work is currently in the planning stages, with plans submitted to New Forest National Park Authority Planning Department.

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

CHAIR:

D Ewing

Date:

18/07/2024

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

all funds are unrestricted

	Total Funds this year £	last year £
Receipts		
Harry's Island	15,062	44,927
Badge Secretary	7,854	6,132
SAS	202	659
Explorers	68,826	55,788
Network	48	32
District	146,679	67,017
Funds on Deposit Interest Received	813	145
Total Receipts	239,484	174,700
Payments		
Harry's Island	(8,429)	(63,249)
Badge Secretary	(7,091)	(7,346)
SAS	(190)	(1,002)
Explorers	(85,485)	(44,096)
Network	0	0
District	(88,940)	(66,518)
Total Payments	(190,134)	(182,211)
Net Receipts/(Payments)	49,350	(7,511)
Cash Funds Brought Forward	133,184	140,695
Cash Funds At Year End	182,533	133,184

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

As At 31 March	note	This Year	Last Year
Cash Funds			
Cash at bank: DEPOSIT ACCOUNT		49,605	48,792
Cash at bank: CURRENT ACCOUNT		132,928	84,392
Total Cash Funds		182,533	133,184
Assets Retained for the Charities Own Use			
Land at Harry's Island Camp Site	1	120,000	120,000
Badge Stock	2	4,319	3,683
Total		124,319	123,683

Notes:

- 1 Land at Harry's Island was valued in September 2014 by CMC Andrews (Property Surveyor & Valuer). The trustees consider this valuation to remain a reasonable assessment of the value of the land at 31 March 2024. The next revaluation will be done once the planned works on the site are completed.
- 2 The value of badges held in stock for resale is calculated by the badge secretary at current cost of badges held at 31 March.

D E Heungan

18/07/2024

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of New Forest District Scouts

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the New Forest District Scouts for the year ended 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the New Forest District Scouts 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 New Forest District Scouts 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 New Forest District Scouts 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.

Mike Walsh

Signed:

Name: Michael Walsh

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): ACCA 3811866

Address: 23 Maryland Close, Southampton, SO18 2DX

Date: 14th July 2024

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