

4th St Albans Scout Group

Registered Charity Number: 302569

Annual Report and Financial Statements Year Ended 31 March 2023

4th St Albans Scout Group

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period: 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name 4th St Albans Scout Group

Registered charity number 3 0 2 5 6 9

HQ registration number 1 0 0 0 0 7 6 9

Charity's principal address

Jim Green Memorial Hall
25 Riverside Road
St Albans
AL1 1RX

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Cameron Lavin	Chair	
2	Kelly Drew	Treasurer	
3	Andrew Robins	Secretary	
4	Ian Hamilton Woods		
5	Kathryn-Rhys-Parry		
6	Geoff Bassil		01.04.22 - 11.09.22
7	Mark Young		01.04.22 - 11.09.22
8	Andrew Drummond		11.09.22 - 30.04.23
9	Juliette Warren		26.09.22 - 30.04.23

Section B Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

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.

How the charity is constituted

The Group 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.

Additional governance issues

The Group is managed by the Group Trustee Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group, which 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 Group Trustee Board consists of 3 independent representatives (Chair, Treasurer and Secretary) together with the Group Scout Leader, individual Section leaders (if they have opted to take on the responsibility) and parental representation (ideally with representation from parents of members of each Section). The Group Trustee Board meets every 3-4 months.

Members of the Group Trustee Board complete five training modules within the first 5 months of joining the committee: 'Essential Information', 'General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)', 'Safety', 'Safeguarding' and 'Trustee Introduction'.

The Group Trustee Board 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.

Risk and Internal Control

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 seek to facilitate temporary use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as churches, community centres and other Scout Groups and / or could hold section meetings at outdoor locations. 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.

Section B	Structure, governance and management (continued)
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Risk and Internal Control (continued)

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 Committee could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently and / or look for alternative sources of grants or other income.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of all sections. 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, the complete closure of the Group.

Reduction or loss of members. The Group provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 14. 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 the complete closure of the Group.

Section C	Objectives and activities
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Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

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.

Section C**Objectives and activities (continued)**

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

Scouts

The two Troops continue to grow in strength with almost 80 Scouts between them. The Troops have enjoyed various camping trips and events during the year, including winning the 'I'm a Scout' District competition in July 2022, competing in the District cooking competition in October 2022 and a night hike in December 2022. In February 2023, some of the Scouts went to stay at the Scout Centre in Gradbach where they went hiking and on an overnight expedition. Activities during weekly meetings have included laser tag and bike maintenance.

The Scouts continue to share their programme across the two Troops and some of the leaders / assistances also move between the two nights. One Scout has achieved their Chief Scout's Gold Award.

Cubs

The Group currently has 57 Cubs split between two Packs, with a small but committed leadership team. The Packs have enjoyed a wider and varied programme including glass fusing, tree planting, a trip to Bayfordbury Observatory as well as District camp. Both Packs have been to Well End Scout campsite to work on various scouting skills.

The Cubs have enjoyed participating in #youshape where they run the programme and have taken to the water in the District swimming gala and also doing Dragon boating and raft building. Ten Cubs have achieved their Chief Scout's Silver Award.

Beavers

The Group currently has 44 Beavers split between two Colonies and has a growing leadership team. There was a magnificent turn out for the Scouting celebration on St George's Day. Some Beavers attended the 'Iftar Under the Stars' hosted by the local Muslim Scout Group.

Both Colonies attended the County 'Beavers in Tents' camp where activities included archery, fire-lighting and caving. There was also a pirate themed sleepover and tree planting. All of these activities alongside a varied and active programme with lots of activity badges earned. Nine Beavers achieved their Chief Scout's Bronze Award.

Section C	Objectives and activities (continued)
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Public benefit statement	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.
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Section D	Achievements and performance
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Summary of the main achievements during the year	<p>As can be seen by the Sectional reviews, the Group has continued to run and engage its young people throughout the year under review with all Sections running a wide range of activities throughout their programmes.</p> <p>The Group remains indebted to the efforts of all Section Leaders as well as parents, supporters and other volunteers who give their time, skills and support to enable Sections to run so successfully and the varied programme of events to be provided.</p>
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Section E	Financial Review
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Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves and investments	<p>Reserves Policy</p> <p>The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the group should income from subscriptions, hall hire, fundraising activities and other income sources fall short. Given the Group ownership of the Headquarters building, sufficient reserves to cover on-going maintenance and repair are also required.</p>
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<p>Investment Policy</p> <p>The Group's Income and Expenditure is relatively small and as a consequence, the Group, does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The Group 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.</p>

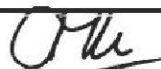

Section F	Other Optional Information
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Plans for future periods	The Group intends to continue to offer a full programme of activities, camps, meetings and events throughout the next financial year.
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Section G	Declaration
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The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Cameron Lavin	Ian Hamilton Woods
Position	Chair	Group Scout Leader
Date	0 6 0 9 2 3	

4th St Albans Scout Group **Receipts and Payments Account**

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

	2022/23 Unrestricted funds £	2021/22 Unrestricted funds £
Receipts		
Donations, legacies and similar income		
Membership subscriptions	16,483	15,615
Donations	-	8,000
Scouting Activities	11,765	4,757
Gift Aid	3,583	-
Other similar income	913	375
Sub total	32,744	28,747
Scout hut income		
Hire of building	12,711	14,024
Sub total	12,711	14,024
Investment income		
Bank interest	91	8
Other investment income	-	357
Sub total	91	365
Total Gross Income	45,546	43,135
Total receipts	45,546	43,135

Payments


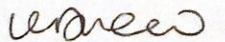
	2022/23 Unrestricted funds £	2021/22 Unrestricted funds £
Payments		
Charitable Payments		
Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)	9,434	8,211
Youth programme and activities	15,348	7,452
Adult support and training	548	848
Water and Sewerage	415	290
Electricity and Gas	3,914	3,060
Insurance	1,371	1,259
Repairs and Renewals	2,595	12,260
Materials and equipment	718	-
Uniforms	4,245	1,224
Scout Group Contribution	350	-
Sub total	38,939	34,605
Total Gross Expenditure	38,939	34,605
Asset and investment purchases, etc.	-	-
Total payments	38,939	34,605
Net of receipts/(payments)	6,608	8,530
Cash funds last year end	75,273	66,743
Cash funds this year end	81,881	75,273

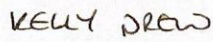
4th St Albans Scout Group

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	31/03/2023	31/03/2022
	Unrestricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £
Cash funds		
Bank current account	39,870	33,353
Bank deposit account	41,706	41,615
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	305	305
Total cash funds	81,881	75,273
Non monetary assets for charity's own use		
Land and buildings	1	1
Sub total	1	1

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 6th September 2023 and signed on their behalf by

Signature



Name
Cameron Macgregor Lavin (Chair)
 Treasurer

England & Wales

Unqualified report for a non-company charity preparing receipts and payments accounts with a gross income of £250,000 or less in the relevant financial year.

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 4th St Albans Scout Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 4th St Albans Scouts for the year ended 31st March 2023

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 4th St Albans 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 4th St Albans 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.

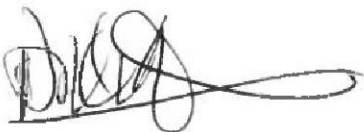
Independent examiner's statement

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 4th St Albans 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.

Signed:



Name: Andre DeRoy

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

CERT, CIB

Address: 26 St Ives Close, Digswell, Welwyn, Herts, AL6 0BB

Date: 28th August 2023