

Stevenage District Scout Council

Report and Accounts

Y.E 31st March 2024

Charity Commission

17 FEB 2025

Received

Trustee Ex-Officio- Appointment

District Commissioner

Mrs Kerry Hall

District Scout Network Commissioner

Vacant

District Explorer Scout Commissioner

Dr Steve Skittrall

District Chairman

Vacant

District Secretary

Dr Steve Skittrall

District Treasurer

Mrs Paula Phipps

Trustees Elected and Nominated

Mr Jordan Dutt

Mr Stephen Hall

Mrs Maureen Nicholson

Mr Roy Nicholson

Mrs Pauline Shackell

Mr Mick Edwards

Yorkshire (Virgin Money) Northampton

Barclays Bank Stevenage

District Registration number with Scout Association 12216

Charity Registration number 302390

Custodian Trustees The Scout Association Gilwell Park, Chingford

Other Advisors Mr J.R. Baucutt FICB MCIPD Independent Examiner

Contact Name and Address

Mrs P.A. Phipps 118 Hydean Way, Stevenage SG2 9XP

Trustees Report

Aims and Organisation

The aim of scouting and of this District is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual and spiritual potentials as individuals and as members of their local, national and international communities. This is achieved by an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training based on the Scout Promise and guided by adult leadership.

Leadership is provided by uniformed Scouters who are appointed by The Scout Association. The youth members are banded into training sections according to their age range: a Beaver Scout Colony for 6-8 year olds, a Cub Scout Pack for 8-10.5 year olds, a Scout Troop for 10.5 to 14 year olds. These sections comprise the Scout Groups. Older scouts move on into an Explorer Scout Unit for 14-18 year olds which is a District provision. From the age of 18-25 members have the option of joining the District Scout Network, or becoming an Adult Leader (or both).

An Executive Committee, comprising of non-uniformed members and principal leaders, appointed in accordance with the policy organisation and rules of the Scout Association, undertakes management. The Committee members are the Charity Trustees.

Local volunteers give all leadership, management and other support, mostly from families of our youth members. None are paid for their services, but may be reimbursed out of pocket expenses, i.e. postage, telephone calls or travelling. The extent of such reimbursement is small and is declared in the accounts.

The District is autonomous although subject to the policy and rules of The Scout Association. It holds its own equipment and is self financing. District has benefit of land and building at Poplars Centre, Gresley Way, Stevenage held by leasehold tenure, peppercorn rent.

Progressive training programmes provide education and personal development for youth members in accordance with the Youth Programme specified by The Scout Association. The training sections each run weekly meetings plus special activities during weekend and holiday periods, all containing the elements of fun and character building training and providing a challenge to the young people.

District Treasurers Report

Y.E 31st March 2024

Before anyone starts nagging me, please remember these accounts are for year ending 31st March 2024. The front page is correct. As I write this I am still the District Treasurer.

General day to day costs this year have not increased excessively, and in fact due to the huge reduction in insurance premium our loss of our fund raiser hasn't hit hard YET. We do not add to the annual membership fee for headquarter costs.

Avva decided they no longer wanted our business even though we have never made a claim. Luckily we have an excellent broker who found Allianz for us, without sacrificing any cover.

We were, however, forced to spend a huge amount at the Canyon to rectify a terrible water leak that had been botched up by the council on several visits and could not be ignored any longer. The resulting works cost us £38,700 but we have cured the water leak removed rotting wood under the floor and replaced with safe new flooring and new toilet facilities. As the building is not ours we were unable to make an insurance claim for the water leak so must continue to try and get some of the expense back from the council.

We need to carry out extensive modernisation to the toilets at the Poplars. This is our main building, our headquarters and the toilets have been bad since day one really.

We will need to apply for grants and look for donations towards these repairs as they could easily cost around the same as the Canyon. We have long term let with the dancing classes and whilst I don't think she would go elsewhere the toilets are a constant complaint.

The shop as usual is going strong under Pauline's management and whilst we gave no membership discount this year, we still gave a percentage back to those groups spending in the shop. This will continue as long as it is well patronised so groups need to continue to encourage parents to use our shop for their purchases. Sadly Pauline's "hubby" Bill died this year. A great loss to her and their family but an equally big loss to Stevenage scouting and the Archery Club. Thank you Bill.

The canyon has gone through thorough checks and approvals this year and the climbing wall and zipp wire are operational. The team at the canyon are certainly getting the word out and the facilities are being used and enjoyed at last. We also have a regular hirer in the main hall which will help with general costs.

I said last year I was standing down but I also said I would support Kerry in her first 5 years as District Commissioner AND as no one else has been stupid enough to volunteer I have continued as District Treasurer, I am not sure what I will be called later in the year but I prefer my current title! A new volunteer has to be found from somewhere.

Paula Phipps 31/3/24

Stevenage District Scout Council

Trustees Annual Report for Year Ended 31, March 2024

At the end of the year income reserves amounted to £139,745.40

The District's policy on reserves is to hold an amount to enable it to support Groups and sections within the Stevenage District, and to maintain the Districts Headquarters Buildings.

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

The accounts have been drawn up on the receipts and payments basis, which is consistent with the previous year.

Approved by the Trustees on September 3rd 2024 and signed on their behalf

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Hall', written over a dotted line.

District Commissioner Mrs Kerry Hall

Stevenage District Scout Council

Year Ended March 31, 2024

| <u>Receipts and Payments Account Summary</u> | <u>This Year</u> | <u>Previous Year</u> |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| General Fund | | |
| Total Receipts for | 65550.72 | 77844.60 |
| Total Payments for | 96094.57 | 70658.92 |
| Net Receipts (payments) for year | (30543.85) | 7186.68 |
| Cash, Bank and similar funds bought forward | 170289.25 | 163002.79 |
| Cash Bank and similar funds carried forward | 139745.40 | 170289.25 |

The above account and accompanying statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the trustees on September 3rd 2024

and signed on their behalf by

Mrs Kerry Hall District Commissioner

Stevenage District Scout Council
Year Ended March 31, 2024

| <u>Receipts for Year</u> | <u>This Year</u> | <u>Last Year</u> |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|

Poplars

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Hall Hire | 17945.52 | 17608.50 |
| Mayors Charity/High Sherrif | 300.00 | 3100.00 |
| Donations | 382.35 | |
| Fundraising | | 1296.00 |
| Membership (net) | 1321.15 | (842.72) |
| O/S membership 2023 | 1224.56 | 4449.38 |
| County Lottery shares | 27.56 | 34.50 |

Refunds:-

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Interest | 291.51 | 71.58 |
| Scouts | 2557.94 | 2254.00 |
| Refund | | 50.00 |
| Mini Bus | 1390.00 | 935.00 |
| Shop | 5264.57 | 5608.65 |
| International Fund from Explorers | 145.00 | 160.00 |
| Jamboree Fund Raising | | 1100.00 |
| Jamboree | 1529.55 | 5749.00 |

Nokeside

| | | |
|-----------|----------|----------|
| Hall Hire | 18,000.0 | 15000.00 |
|-----------|----------|----------|

Canyon

| | | |
|--------------|---------|---------|
| Hall Hire | 6651.84 | 4922.00 |
| Activities | 1022.55 | 3007.20 |
| Donation | | 605.00 |
| Refunds (BT) | | 330.60 |

Explorers

| | | |
|------------------------|---------|----------|
| Subs/membership | 3379.00 | 2908 .00 |
| Gift Aid | 1252.38 | |
| Activity/sundry income | 1058.00 | 910.00 |
| Equipment | 765.00 | 95.00 |

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| District Camp | | 7825.00 |
| Refund | | 100.00 |
| District Wear | | 125.50 |
| Christingle | 50.00 | 416.00 |
| Lochearnhead | 50.00 | |
| First Stevenage | 942.24 | |
| Totals for Year | 65550.72 | 77844.60 |

| <u>Payments for Year</u> | <u>This Year</u> | <u>Last Year</u> |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <u>Poplars</u> | | |
| Water,heat and light | 5849.07 | 5405.51 |
| BT etc | 420.33 | 363.61 |
| Insurances | 886.56 | 2000.00 |
| Cleaning/maint/repairs | 5016.33 | 4907.55 |
| Fire and alarm | 1201.81 | 1037.11 |
| Equipment/hire and training | 325.00 | 1605.62 |
| Garden/Lawnmower rep | 482.42 | 489.62 |
| Fundraising | | 325.00 |
| Licenses | 385.18 | 282.75 |
| Garage rents and | 808.10 | 854.40 |
| Garage Clearance etc | | |
| Stationary/Admin | 776.18 | 155.40 |
| Electrician etc | 1028.49 | |
| Laptop/printer | 372.00 | 279.99 |
| Remb. Day | | 70.00 |
| St. Georges Day | | 240.00 |
| Bank Charges /ret cheque | 56.00 | 169.20 |
| Independent Examiner | 170.00 | 170.00 |
| AGM | 123.96 | 66.30 |
| Shop | 4741.35 | 3610.59 |
| Scouts | 2356.44 | 2072.16 |
| Mini Bus | 1751.59 | 1364.31 |
| Membership Refunds | 127.41 | 375.63 |
| Jamboree | 1527.25 | 8325.00 |
| Data Protection | 80.00 | |
| Projector | 1088.32 | |
| Lochearnhead refunds | 154.80 | |
| Loan to Group | 6000.00 | |
| First Stevenage | 942.24 | |

CANYON

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Electricity/Telephone/water | 2122.38 | 1978.67 |
| Fire and Alarm | 1214.59 | 1058.80 |
| Cleaning/maintenance/repairs | 2985.29 | 2547.36 |
| Annual Inspection | 831.60 | |
| Other activities | 1696.80 | 1721.01 |
| New Shutters /re | 5462.26 | 2564.00 |
| New work (canopy) | 1043.84 | 2071.03 |
| Portacabin | | 2802.00 |
| Cooker | | 96.00 |
| Water heater repair | 110.00 | |
| Toilet/floor repair | 38,700.00 | |

NOKESIDE

| | | |
|--------------------|--------|--------|
| Fire and Insurance | 516.70 | 716.70 |
|--------------------|--------|--------|

Explorers

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|
| Activities | 1828.58 | 901.23 |
| Membership | 1514.51 | 1628.76 |
| Jamboree Leader Donation | | 1023.04 |
| To Jamboree Fund | 145.00 | 160.00 |
| Badges | 40.65 | |
| Equipment | 765.00 | |

District Camp

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Activity | | 12350.66 |
| Christingle Donation | 50.00 | 416.00 |
| District wear | | 1159.44 |
| Christingle | 141.87 | 211.05 |
| Jamboree Leader Fund raising | | 175.00 |
| Cub Camp o/s | | 5712.49 |
| Total for Year | 96094.57 | 70658.92 |

| <u>Assets and Liabilities</u> <u>Year</u> | <u>This Year</u> | <u>Previous</u> |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
|----------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Monetary Assets | 139,745.40 | 170,189.47 |
| BankAccounts | | |
| Cash to hand | 222.73 | 249.42 |
| Other monetary Assets | | 1224.56 |
| (Debts due to District) | | |
| Badge and shop stock | 6068.06 | 4425.95 |
| Mini Bus (Insured value) | 4000.00 | 5000.00 |
| Train and carriages | | 2000.00 |
| (Insured value) | | |
| Trailer | 1000.00 | 1000.00 |
| New Box Trailer | 2000.00 | 2000.00 |
| Poplars furniture and | | |
| Equipment (Insured value) | 30,000.00 | 30,000.00 |
| Canyon Equipment (Insured Value) | 60,000.00 | 19000.00 |
| Liabilities those due within one year | | 3414.99 |
| Contingent Liabilities | | |
| Canyon Activities | | |
| Poplars Toilets refurbishment | 38,000.00 | |

Stevenage District Scout Council

Year Ended March 31,2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

STEVENAGE

SCOUT GROUP/DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

I report on the accounts of the Group/District for the year ended March 31st 2024

which are set out on pages 3 to

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the Act and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and
 - to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached,
3. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the accounting rules of the Group's/ District's constitution have not been met.

Name: JOHN ROBERT BAUMANN

Qualification: FICB MCI.P.D.

Address: 6 GRAVE WAY

STEVENAGE, SG1 5AA.

Date: 28/08/2024

JR Baumann

