

## Trustees Report – 1<sup>st</sup> Welwyn Scout Group 2020

Our sections in the Group had in the order of 80 young people across beavers, cubs and scouts throughout the year, despite the very real challenges of Covid in Q2 to Q4

Also 40 or so girls meet in the hut in Rainbows and Brownies

At lockdown in March, meetings stopped for about 4 weeks whilst the Scout Association through the National Youth Counsel, agreed with Government what meetings could take place. Virtual meetings commenced in April, and apart from a brief period in September/October when face to face meetings outside the hut were allowed, the virtual meetings lasted throughout the year

Our Group Scout Leader and his team of 18 leaders are to be congratulated on this fantastic effort, despite their own work and family commitments

### Finances

Opening balance in 1/2020 in all accounts with Charity Aid Bank £29,138, closing balance £40,492

No fund raising took place in Welwyn Week, when we usually raise £1800 from our Duck Race and car park manning duties, as the Week was cancelled due to Covid

Initially a number of parents took up our offer to stop paying subscriptions in March as lockdown stopped meetings, but most continued, and many of those that stopped payments, recommenced them later in the year. Overall, we lost just under £2,500, reducing income to £9,650

We also lost around £1800 in Gift Aid claims, but our treasurer still achieved a 23% recovery rate. All but a handful of parents have now completed GA forms, so in 2021 we expect to achieve close to the 25% recovery from HMRC of our subs income

Our income from tenant lettings, which had increased substantially in Q1, fell away dramatically in Q2 to Q4, reducing income to £1500, when we expected it to achieve just short of £5,000 for the year

However we qualified for a government grant of £10,000, a local supporter gave us £1700, and the local Am/Dram Group a further £500

### Premises

Following the refit in 2013/4 the HQ is in good condition, with new roof, wall insulation, new doors and windows, toilets and mains services. We are fortunate to have a committee member who attends promptly to any maintenance work as required

### Covid costs

To make the HQ Covid compliant we put in hand sanitizers, extra wash stations, signage and other alterations costing in the order of £900, and as we are allowed to reuse the hut in 2021, these costs will enable sections and tenants to continue to use the property safely and in compliance with guidelines

We also completed external works for £1800 to pathways and drainage which had been omitted in 1977 when the hut was extended. The absence of those works had led to serious water ingress to the hut in the years leading up to the hut being condemned in 2012, when its use ceased for two years. During that time the £140,000 refit took place, and the path and drainage works were the last element of that refurbishment

## Insurance

We continue to use the Scout Association insurance company Unity to cover the building, contents and volunteer insurances. They reduced their premium requirements when our treasurer obtained other quotations

## Recruitment

We have managed to maintain our very high number of uniformed leaders at 18 plus our Group Scout Leader Tony Worsley, despite all the challenges Covid has thrown at them, and we are proud of what they have achieved. Beavers only has 3 leaders, two of whom may have to step back due to work commitments in 2021, so more recruitment, perhaps from our 32 parent Group Occasional Helpers, will be required

## Fund raising

We ask parents to man fund raising activities, to build up reserves for equipment (£20,000 of which is in the stores and needs renewal every 5-10 years) and to cover capital works to the HQ. We hope to restart those activities if Covid restrictions permit, in 2021

## Tenant management

We have gradually built up a wide range of mainly community based tenants

Art, yoga, baby massage, rock band, Am/Dram, and other groups

In a normal full year we hope these will bring in around £4-5,000 which adds to our equipment and building replacement funds, exceptional costs (e.g. Covid!) and special events for the Group or community.

The tenants are well managed by a committee member

## Summary of the year

This has been one of the most difficult years for the country, for the community, and for the Group

I am proud to report that I think the Leaders, GSL and our committee have managed to ensure that the 80 scout section youngsters have continued to be given the chance to learn Skills for Life, despite all that has gone on

Also the 40 guide section youngsters in Rainbows and Guides have also met when their leadership rules have permitted

I am confident we will deal with what ever challenges the coming year has for us, in the same resourceful and cheerful way we have in 2020


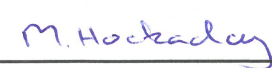

Andy Trotter

Group Executive Chairman

**1st Welwyn Scout Group (Reg Charity 302603)**  
**Receipts and Payments for year ending 31.12.20**

YE 31/12/2020			YE 31/12/2019	
Receipts	Payments		Receipts	Payments
£9,650	£3,981	Subscriptions	£12,136	£3,708
£2,213	£0	GiftAid	£2,976	£0
£240	£589	Camps/Activities	£5,811	£7,617
£12,200	£0	Donations/Grants	£700	£250
£0	£12	Fundraising	£1,751	£12
£23	£60	Bank Int / Charges	£33	£60
£0	£2,445	Utilities	£0	£696
£1,487	£0	Hall Hire	£2,954	£0
£0	£2,794	Maintenance	£0	£4,384
£0	£951	Insurance	£0	£902
£377	£1,950	Section Expenditure	£58	£3,719
£0	£510	Equipment	£0	£816
£26,190	£13,292	Totals	£26,419	£22,163
Net receipts	£12,898		Net receipts	£4,256


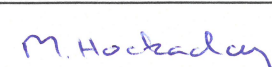
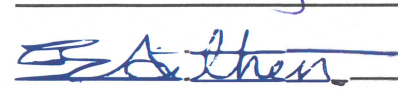
Funds Held YE 31/12/2020		Funds Held YE 31/12/2019	
CAF Cash	£5,305	CAF Cash	£3,974
CAF Gold	£35,184	CAF Gold	£25,161
Virgin	£3	Virgin	£3
	£40,492		£29,138
Bank movement	£11,354		£2,224
Accrued Income	£664		£563
Costs prepaid	£880		£1,469
Bank and accruals	£12,898		£4,256

		Date
Group Executive Chair	Andy Trotter	 25/02/2021
Treasurer	Martin Hockaday	 02/03/2021
Examiner	Beverley Aitken	 25/02/2021

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