

# **Gravesham District Scout Council**

Trustees' Annual Report and  
Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2024



Registered Charity No. 303399

## Trustees who have served at any point in the year

Henson Appleby	(District Commissioner until 31 December 2023)
Fraser Patrick	(District Lead Volunteer from 1 January 2024)
Paul Livett	Chair (until 7 September 2023)
Keith Jones	(Chair from 22 September 2023)
Pat Duncumb	Secretary
Susan Livett	Treasurer
Dave Moesli	District Explorer Scout Commissioner
Lucy Stanford	District Scout Network Commissioner
Jack Reeves	District Youth Commissioner
Alan Skelton	Darren Stanford
Hannah Booth	Janet Jones
Myles Sullivan	Marion Weston
Richard Ruddick	Richard Painting
Terry Duncumb	Rob Viner
James Treadwell	(from 22 September 2023)

Custodian Trustee: The Scout Association Trust Corporation

Contact address: Mr F Patrick, 3 Michele Cottages, Chalk Road, Higham, ME3 7JZ

## Structure, Governance and Management

### *Description of the charity's trusts*

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

### *Risk and internal controls*

The District has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include dual approval for payments, regular reports to the trustees including emerging issues and comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that relevant insurable risks are covered.

Trustees need to be alerted to possible conflicts of interest which may arise.

Trustees are required to identify and declare any conflict of interest; trustees are removed from any decision making process where a conflict of interest is declared or identified; details of discussions and decisions made when a conflict has been identified are recorded and care is given to managing the conflict of interest once a decision has been made.

## **Objectives, activities and achievements**

### *Objectives*

The objectives of the District are as a unit of The Scout Association. Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. 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.

### *Activities and achievements*

The District operates four Explorer Scout units for 14-18 year olds and a Network Scout unit for young people aged 18-25 and supports 13 groups across Gravesham which provide Scouting to 4-14 year old girls and boys. It also operates a campsite (Hopehill in Meopham).

The District has run a full programme of activities for all section which have been well attended and are documented in the blog on the website.

Hopehill remains busy and has benefitted from fibre-optic internet, a tomahawk range and completion of security upgrades this year. Work on updating the toilet block continues with a new electricity supply installed and planning underway.

The annual census at 31<sup>st</sup> January showed an 8% increase in youth membership with growth in 9 out of 13 groups. Explorers at 99 members have reached an all time high.

Scouting in the District is entirely dependent on the volunteer Scouters and other adults who give their time and energy to plan and run activities and provide support for the benefit of the young people.

### *Public benefit*

The District meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings. The trustees have regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission when exercising any powers to which the guidance may be relevant.

## Financial review

### *Performance in the year*

The accounts show a deficit due to expenditure on projects, largely the toilet block. Scout HQ have closed their deposit account and we have used some of the funds for this. Operating returns on a comparable basis are similar to last year.

The Clifford Allen Memorial Trust (which is included in the accounts) has increased its cash holding in readiness for funding towards the toilet block; it showed an increase in carrying value of 6%.

### *Reserves and investments*

The District continues to maintain sufficient reserves to provide for the ongoing operation of its activities, including future capital requirements for its properties in the short and long term. Cash is held in various current and deposit accounts.

Investments are managed under a low to moderate investment risk and balanced income & capital growth investment objective and made in accordance with the recommendations of our advisors, Brewin Dolphin.

## Plans for the future

The District will continue to provide activities for Scouts in Gravesham (including hill walking, water activities, camps, clay pigeon shooting, archery and many more). The Scouts transformation project which includes embedding a team based volunteering culture is moving forward and will be implemented in the next financial year, including adopting a new constitution at the next AGM. At Hopehill, the project to refurbish the Madeline Allen toilet block will continue with pre-planning approval received and environmental studies ongoing

The trustees declare that they approved this report on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Signed on their behalf by:



Keith Jones



Fraser Patrick

## Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2024

Receipts	This year	Last year	Payments	This year	Last year
	£	£		£	£
				Note	
Membership subscriptions	50,297	34,189			
Less paid over	(39,062)	(35,696)			
	<b>11,235</b>	<b>(1,508)</b>	Administration	1,583	825
Adult training	580	353	Adult training	334	368
Donations and grants	331	257	Grants to groups	-	-
Interest	514	793	Purchase of equipment	422	390
Investment income	13,935	14,063	Investment management costs 2	4,793	4,940
	<b>14,449</b>	<b>14,855</b>			
District activities	26,751	25,404	District activities	28,650	31,598
Explorer activities	11,433	7,049	Explorer activities	15,811	10,078
	<b>38,184</b>	<b>32,452</b>		<b>44,461</b>	<b>41,676</b>
Property receipts	57,707	54,470	Property running costs	51,441	46,244
Insurance claim	-	2,738	Insurance replacements	95	2,512
	<b>57,707</b>	<b>57,208</b>	Property improvements	56,555	6,012
				<b>108,091</b>	<b>54,768</b>
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>122,486</b>	<b>103,618</b>	<b>Sub total</b>	<b>159,684</b>	<b>102,966</b>
Sale of investment assets	81,204	93,344	Purchase of investment assets	9,400	101,673
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>203,690</b>	<b>196,962</b>	<b>Total payments</b>	<b>169,084</b>	<b>204,639</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>(169,084)</b>	<b>(204,639)</b>			
<b>Net receipts / (payments)</b>	<b>34,606</b>	<b>(7,677)</b>			

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

## As at 31 March 2024

		This year £	Last year £
	Note		
<b>Monetary assets</b>			
Cash held		1,481	1,077
Bank current accounts		28,229	44,503
Bank deposit accounts		48,246	10,128
Clifford Allen cash held	2	97,983	17,036
Scout Association Charity Deposit Account		-	68,589
		<u><b>175,939</b></u>	<u><b>141,334</b></u>
<b>Investments</b>			
Quoted securities at market value	2	<u><b>434,821</b></u>	<u><b>485,046</b></u>
<b>Debtors</b>			
Due from Scout Groups		-	5,050
Gift Aid from HMRC		1,480	1,415
		<u><b>1,480</b></u>	<u><b>6,465</b></u>
<b>Non monetary assets held for charity use</b>			
Stock for resale at cost		1,423	1,249
Land at cost	3	75,000	75,000
Buildings and equipment at insurance value	3	1,500,964	1,500,964
		<u><b>1,577,387</b></u>	<u><b>1,577,213</b></u>

Signed on behalf of all the trustees on 10 September 2024 :



Susan Livett



Fraser Patrick

# Notes to the accounts

## for the year ended 31 March 2024

### 1 - Basis of preparation

These accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis. The statement of Assets and Liabilities includes cash and investments at market value, land and stock for resale at historic purchase price and other assets at insurance / replacement value.

They include all the activities of Gravesham District, including Hopehill Scout Campsite, four Explorer Scout units, a Network Scout and Active Support units and the Clifford Allen Memorial Trust.

The thirteen Scout Groups in the District are separate charities and are not included.

### 2 - Clifford Allen Memorial Trust

	This year £	Last year £
Market value at 1 April	502,082	554,228
Grants to District	-	(10,000)
Investment management fees	(4,793)	(4,940)
Net investment returns	35,515	(47,206)
Market value at 31 March	<u>532,804</u>	<u>502,082</u>

This comprises Quoted Securities of £434,821 (last year £485,046) and cash of £97,983 (last year £17,036)

### 3 - Property

The District owns the land and buildings at Hopehill Campsite and the land at Istead Rise Scout Hut.

### 4 - Hopehill campsite

	This year £	Last year £
<i>Income</i>		
Camp fees	36,503	32,311
Building hire	14,599	11,977
Site activities	4,253	5,363
Tuck shop	2,253	2,425
Insurance claim	-	2,738
Other	99	2,394
	<u>57,707</u>	<u>57,208</u>
<i>Ongoing expenditure</i>		
Utilities	(23,340)	(23,241)
Insurance	(9,853)	(8,780)
Running costs	(1,121)	(1,234)
Activity maintenance	(2,444)	(1,238)
Tuck shop	(1,309)	(1,582)
Cleaning	(3,507)	(3,025)
Maintenance	(9,690)	(6,527)
Ongoing equipment replacements	(177)	(616)
Insurance replacements	(95)	(2,512)
	<u>(51,536)</u>	<u>(48,756)</u>
<i>Projects</i>		
Security upgrade	(12,616)	(648)
Toilet and Shower block	(43,372)	(5,364)
Tomahawk range	(567)	-
	<u>(56,555)</u>	<u>(6,012)</u>
	<u>(50,384)</u>	<u>2,440</u>

**Independent Examiner's Report  
to the Trustees of Gravesham District Scout Council  
(Registered Charity No, 303399)  
on accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024  
set out on pages 5 to 7**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the District") for the year ended 31st March 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

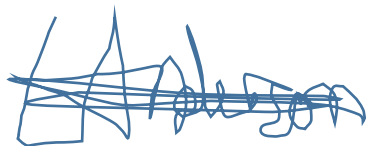
I report in respect of my examination of the District's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act;  
or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting 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.



Name: Luke Anderson

Professional qualification: ACA

Address: 21 Goodall Close, Parkwood, Gillingham, Medway, ME8 9NG

Date: 24 November 2024