

34th Reigate (Meadvale) Scout Group

Annual General Meeting

14 May 2024

Group Trustee Board Chair's Report

2024 will see some further changes in the way that scouting in Meadvale is overseen. At the instruction of the Scout Association, there will be a separation between the Group Trustee Board, which will be focused on good governance, and the Group Leadership Team, which will focus on operations and support. A key change is that section leaders will no longer be automatically on the Group Trustee Board.

This change is not unique to the 34th – it is being rolled out across the Scout Association over the year. The change shouldn't mean much change in the experience of scouting for our Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers, but it should allow the Group Trustees to focus on longer-term issues – this is particularly important today as the Parish pushes ahead with plans to sell the Meadvale Hall site.

As a first order of business, I propose that the Group adopt the revised constitution, in line with Chapter 5 of the most recent March 2024 version of the Scouts' Association Policy, Organisation and Rules, which lays out the separate role of the board.

CAN I HAVE A SECOND? ARE THERE ANY OBJECTIONS? CAN WE HAVE A SHOW OF HANDS TO APPROVE?

A second order of business is for Group Scout Council members to note that the Group's financial year runs from 1 April to 31 March. We will hear from Gill, our treasurer, shortly.

A third order of business is to agree the number of members of the Group Trustee Board. The Scout Association's POR recommends a minimum of 5 people, a maximum of 12. The outgoing board proposes that five people be appointed to the board for the forthcoming year.

CAN I HAVE A SECOND? ARE THERE ANY OBJECTIONS? CAN WE HAVE A SHOW OF HANDS TO APPROVE?

A fourth order of business is to agree a quorum for future meetings of the Group Scout Council (not including today's meeting). The outgoing board proposes 20 Group Scout Council members should be present at future meetings.

CAN I HAVE A SECOND? ARE THERE ANY OBJECTIONS? CAN WE HAVE A SHOW OF HANDS TO APPROVE?

We'll take a break now from procedural matters to brief you on the group's activities. The 34th remains a thriving Scout Group, one of the largest and longest-established groups in the district, offering wonderful experiences to over 80 boys and girls in the Meadvale area. This is thanks to the extraordinary generosity and dedication of our section leaders and volunteers.

Our Beaver section is at close to full strength, with 17 members currently active under the leadership of Ben Cornish, assisted by Philippa Paget (deputy leader) and Paul Rhodes, Steven Duncan and Yas Daudjee (team members). The section will be having a one-night camp in early June at Bentley Copse, and three Beavers – Dylan Betts, Jack Cornish and George Lee – received their Bronze Chief Scout Awards this year.

Our Cubs section has had a very active year, including camps in the Summer and August 2023 terms. We have 20 cubs, most of them quite young with 5 moving up from Beavers over the year. Our Bagheera, Robert Walker, is assisted by Paul Corcoran (Baloo) and Paul Crotch-Harvey (Chil). Eleven cubs received their Silver Chief Scout Awards over the year,

We have 29 members of the Scouts section, led by Kate Milton with support from four ASLs – Niklas, Phill, Charlie and Nikki - and two young leaders, Evie and Nat. Scouts have had 16 nights of camping over the year, including the weeklong trip to the Netherlands last summer (12 Scouts plus 6 Explorers). 11 scouts took part in the October expedition (for the Gold Award), and 11 Gold Chief Scout Awards were awarded this year. The Scouts have also raised an awesome £2,350 towards the cost of this year's summer camp through bag-packing.

Last but not least, our 15 Explorers have had a very busy year, under the leadership of Mark Warner, who is supported by Pete Martin and Roger Lee, as well as Phill Marks and Robert Walker who have supported Explorers as well as their own sections. Highlights of the year include First Prize in the District quiz, second place (very close) in the District archery, and raising £890 from backpacking to help finance attendance at this year's summer camp.

Before we hear from Gill Harley, our treasurer, some words of thanks and farewell.

First of all, a huge thank you to Gill Harley, who stepped into the breach earlier this year, replacing her successor at short notice. Gill said goodbye to us at last year's AGM after a stint of more than five years. Her return this year has helped the group out of a tight spot, and we are enormously grateful. We are looking for a deputy treasurer to support Gill over the next few months.

Second, we say farewell to Claire Patterson, group secretary for the last three years. Claire has brought structure to our meetings, and has helped us to keep our institutional memory even if our human memories sometimes fail us. She leaves now that her children have moved on from scouting, and we thank her for her contributions.

As Claire leaves, we welcome Ewa Townsend as incoming Group Secretary. Ewa brings a wealth of experience in the private and not-for-profit sector to the group, and we are glad to welcome her aboard.

We also welcome Leonard Stevens, our head of fundraising who joined the 34th in late 2023, picking up from Caroline Richardson. Len is a man of many parts, and he is currently working hard with his team to organise the fete in early July. He is still looking for volunteers, so please don't be shy about introducing yourselves.

I don't want to steal James's time, but I briefly want to thank the section leaders for their unstinting efforts, and for the warm welcome they have given me in this, my first year as chair. I also want to thank the ASLs, young leaders, and all other volunteers for ensuring that scouting in Meadvale continues to thrive. I would like to thank Jonathan Bradbourne for looking after the scout hut. Finally, I would also like to thank District for their support over the year, particularly Adrian Jackson and Tony Brown.

The Group Trustee Board has approved the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts, and we are waiting to receive the report on the account from Geoff Stearn, the independent examiner.

I WILL ASK GILL HARLEY TO EXPLAIN THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS FROM THE MEETING ABOUT THE ACCOUNTS?

FOLLOWING QUESTIONS, THE CHAIR THANKS THE TREASURER – NO VOTE NECESSARY

The next order of business is to appoint a Group Trustee Board to oversee good governance for the charity for the next year. Under the new constitution provided by the Scout Association, Trustees serve for three-year terms, which can be renewed a maximum of two times.

CAN I HAND OVER TO JAMES KING OR ALTERNATE TO NOMINATE A CHAIR FOR THE NEW YEAR?

NOMINATE, SECOND, SHOW OF HANDS

CHAIR THEN NOMINATES GILL HARLEY AS TREASURER AND TRUSTEE – SECOND, SHOW OF HANDS

CHAIR THEN NOMINATES EWA TOWNSEND AS SECRETARY AND TRUSTEE – SECOND, SHOW OF HANDS

CHAIR THEN NOTES THAT JAMES KING, AS GSL, WILL BE EX EFFICIO A MEMBER OF THE TRUSTEE BOARD

CHAIR THEN NOMINATES LEONARD STEVENS AS HEAD OF FUNDRAISING AND TRUSTEE – SECOND, SHOW OF HANDS

CHAIR INVITES THE TREASURER TO PROPOSE AN EXTERNAL EXAMINER FOR THE ACCOUNTS
SECOND, SHOW OF HANDS

ANY OTHER BUSINESS, THANKS TO ALL FOR ATTENDING

34th Reigate (Meadvale) Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account

	For the year from	01/04/2023	To	31/03/2024	
		2023/24			2022/23
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Donations, legacies and similar income					
Membership subscriptions	4928	0	0	4928	8,762
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)	0	0	0	0	-3,420
Net membership subscriptions retained	4,928	0	0	4,928	5,342
Gift Aid	944	0	0	944	1867
Donations (General)	540	0	0	540	1
Fundraising	8081	0	0	8081	6,880
Uniform	348	0	0	348	50
Other similar income	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	14,841	0	0	14,841	14,140
Grants					
Maintenance grant	0	0	0	0	0
Other grants	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	0	0	0	0	0
Section Activities & Camps					
Section Activities	5892	0	0	5892	4302
Summer Camp	12605	0	0	12605	11,345
Sub total	18,497	0	0	18,497	15,647
Investment income					
Bank interest	591	0	0	591	168
Building Society interest	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	591	0	0	591	168
Total Gross Income	33,929	0	0	33,929	29,955
Asset and investment sales, etc.	1000	0	0	1000	0
Total receipts	34,929	0	0	34,929	29,955

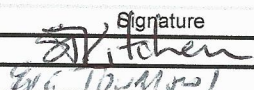

	2023/24				2022/23
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Payments					
Charitable Payments					
Youth programme and activities	0	0	0	0	0
Adult support and training	315	0	0	315	278
Rent	0	0	0	0	0
Council Rates	0	0	0	0	23
Water and Sewerage (shared with village hall)	247	0	0	247	410
Electricity and Gas	691	0	0	691	1306
Insurance	618	0	0	618	782
Repairs and Renewals	129	0	0	129	1975
Materials and equipment	315	0	0	315	72
Financing costs	207	0	0	207	425
Contribution to camp costs	0	0	0	0	0
Minibus	91	0	0	91	2,594
Badges	1293	0	0	1293	919
AGM and trustee expenses	86	0	0	86	135
Uniform	968	0	0	968	0
Fundraising Expenses	4598	0	0	4598	2713
Sub total	9,558	0	0	9,558	11,632
Section Activities & Camps					
Section Activities	7115	0	0	7115	5126
Summer Camp	18989	0	0	18989	10,402
Sub total	26,104	0	0	26,104	15,528
Total Gross Expenditure	35,662	0	0	35,662	27,160
Asset and investment purchases, etc.	150	0	0	150	4104
Total payments	35,812	0	0	35,812	31,264
Net of receipts/(payments)	-883	0	0	-883	-1,309
Transfers between funds	0	0	0	0	0
Cash funds last year end	68,784	0	0	68784	70,093
Cash funds this year end	67,901	0	0	67,901	68,784

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	31st March 2024				31st March 2023
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Cash funds					
Cub Account	2421	0	0	2421	2577
Savings Account	50616	0	0	50616	50024.55
Group Account	14864	0	0	14864	16,182
Cash/Floats	0	0	0	0	0
Total cash funds	67,901	0	0	67,901	68,784
Other monetary assets					
Tax claim	0	0	0	0	0
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group	0	0	0	0	0
Insurance claim	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	0	0	0	0	0
Investment assets					
Investment property - detail	0	0	0	0	0
Quoted investments	0	0	0	0	0
Other investments - detail	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	0	0	0	0	0
Non monetary assets for charity's own use					
Badge stock	0	0	0	0	0
Shop stock	0	0	0	0	0
Land and buildings	1717	0	0	1717	2,020
Motor vehicles	0	0	0	0	865
Camping Equipment	10419	0	0	10419	10,399
Scouting equipment, furniture etc	770	0	0	770	855
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	12,906	0	0	12,906	14,139
Liabilities					
Accounts not yet paid	0	0	0	0	0
Expenses incurred but not invoiced	0	0	0	0	0
Subscriptions not yet paid	0	0	0	0	0
Loan - detail	0	0	0	0	0
Other liabilities	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	0	0	0	0	0

Contingent liabilities and future obligations

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 14th May 2024 (the date of the Annual General Meeting that approved the accounts) and signed on their behalf by

Signature	Print Name	
	SIMON KITCHEN	Chair
	EVA TOWNSEND	Secretary

*
The accounts are prepared using QuickBooks which utilises open banking to pull in transactions electronically because the 31st March 2024 was Easter Sunday some transactions pulled through before they appeared on the bank statements which led to a difference between the group account balance in the accounts £14,864 and the balance per the bank statement £13,648 the transactions making up this difference are included as income in y/e 31 March 2024 and will be excluded from income in y/e 31 March 2025

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 34th Reigate (Meadvale) Scout Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the **34th Reigate (Meadvale) Scout Group** for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the **34th Reigate (Meadvale) Scout Group** 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 **34th Reigate (Meadvale) Scout Group** 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 **34th Reigate (Meadvale) Scout Group** 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:

GEOFFREY MARK STEARN

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): NONE

Address: 62 SOMERSET ROAD, REDMILL, RH1 6LT

Date: 28/1/2025