

34th Reigate (Meadvale) Scout Group

Annual General Meeting

14 May 2025

Group Trustee Board Chair's Report

I will be brief in my report for the year, as the reports of the treasurer, the GSL and the section leaders cover much of what the 34th has been up to over the past twelve months.

This meeting sees the 34th in good health. We now have 88 children in our four sections, and a solid waiting list for our Beavers section, which brings fresh blood to the group. Our membership has grown over 10% the past year in spite of the rival attractions of football, swimming, and even GCSEs. The success of the 34th is a tribute to the commitment and hard work of our Section Leaders – Ben Cornish, Robert Walker, Kate Milton and Mark Warner – their assistants, and all of our parent volunteers. Robert Walker – Baggy – deserves particularly recognition in 2025, as this is his Silver Jubilee year with the 34th – he has been with us for 25 years.

I also want to pay tribute to my fellow trustees, who work tirelessly – and often invisibly – to support the work of the 34th. James King, our GSL; Ewa Townsend, our secretary; Leonard Stevens, our head of fundraising; and last but absolutely not least, Gill Harley, who stepped into the breach in early 2024, and who works so hard to look after our cash and make sure that it goes where it should. Gill leaves the 34th this year, and I want to thank her for her many years of service.

The 34th is an important institution in the Meadvale community. Our summer fete is, I dare say, a highlight of Meadvale summers, and we are looking forward to this year's edition on 5 July. Our Christmas tree sale is – for those prepared to brave the weather – a wonderful chance to choose your own tree and then walk home with it. Our meetings support that Meadvale institution, the Old Oak. And of course many many people living in Meadvale and beyond have done some of their growing up here, learning responsibility and making friends, spending winter evenings in this hut and summer evenings venturing forth.

This year is one of change. The St John's PCC formally announced a few months ago that it was looking to sell the Meadvale Hall site. For the trustees of the 34th, it is a priority that

scouting continue in Meadvale. We have been in contact with the PCC since they first began considering this sale, and have also held two public meetings to gauge local support for keeping the site in community hands. Unfortunately, the Community Ownership Fund, which we had thought would help us to buy the site, has been suspended.

Right now, we are working to raise money from other sources, and continue to talk with the PCC. Ultimately, we as trustees want to focus on supporting scouting in Meadvale. We'd prefer not to manage the broader Meadvale site, and we want to get the broader community involved in the site's future. We are also considering other options, such as operating from another site, but our preference is to stay put on Somerset Road. We will keep you informed of our progress.

The future of the Meadvale site has raised the question of the financial sustainability of the 34th. We have cash in the bank, but we will likely have to use a lot of those funds to secure the future of the 34th. Meanwhile, our subs of £32 a term are the lowest in the district. No-one at the 34th can remember when we had the last increase. With reluctance, the trustees have decided that subs will increase to £120 a year, payable by monthly standing order, with effect from September. We will still endeavour to support those who cannot pay, but costs have risen a lot in recent years and we need to take note of that.

A final word on what you – the members of the 34th - can do to support our work. The lifeblood of the scouts is volunteering. I have already paid tribute to our section leaders, their assistants, their volunteers, and to our trustees. They give a great deal to make scouting in Meadvale possible.

I wrote to many of you last week to ask your help in finding a new Treasurer – without a treasurer, we cannot operate. Thankfully, Liz Boadella-Burton has stepped up, and I believe that we have some volunteers to share her duties. But you can always do with a bit more help. So please consider giving up an hour or two to support the work of the 34th – to help run a stall at the fete, or help counting cash, or selling Christmas trees, or helping at your child's weekly meeting. A little of your time can make a huge difference. Don't be shy.

With that, I would like to thank District and County for their continuing support, and once again pay tribute to all of our volunteers – uniformed and 'civilian' – without whom none of this would be possible.

Thank you.

Simon Kitchen

Chair, 34th Reigate (Meadvale) Scouts

Annexes

Group Scout Leader report

“As you will see from the individual section reports, the group has been very active putting on activities from regular weekly meetings, weekend events, and camps for your children. Under the leadership of Bat, and his incredible leader recruitment drive, Beavers has been able to put on a jam packed itinerary for our children over the last 3 terms, and many have, or will imminently get their Chief Scout Bronze award. Two new Young Leaders from Explorers have supplemented the leadership team”

“5 Cubs have got their Chief Scout Silver award over the last year. In Scouts, our section leader, Kate, has now qualified as a Duke of Edinburgh Award leader. This will enable us to not only work in conjunction with schools to help your children attain the Duke of Edinburgh Award, but mean we can do it fully in house (Across all age levels for the DofE award) ,offering further opportunities for personal development for our children. 5 Scouts have attained their Chief Scout Gold award over the last year, 2 also getting the Duke of Edinburgh silver award.”

“We have Explorers imminently doing their Diamond and Platinum hikes, with three currently looking to achieve the Kings Scout Award (Equivalent to Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award). We also have one Explorer - the first in district - who has achieved the Senior Explorer Scout Young Leader Award, and a BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Teamwork and Personal Development in the Community, through this Scout Group.”

“Finally, on the scout hut - you will appreciate the complexity of the situation with the church looking to sell this site. We are in regular communication with the church, and retain an interest in trying to ensure the whole site remains in community use. These discussions, of course, have potential to be commercially sensitive. As soon as we can, we will share more information.”

Group Treasurer Report

Gill presented her report as follows:

The Accounts for the financial year 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025 have been “Approved” by the Group Executive Committee and now must be presented for

“Adoption” by the 34th Reigate (Meadvale) Group Scout at the AGM. The receipts and payments accounts based on the Group’s accounting records as at 31st March 2025 are available for review and will be independently examined post AGM

The Receipts and Payments accounts are presented to you using the Scout Association recommended multi fund template for groups, districts and counties/areas, where annual income is equal to or less than £249,999 in England, Wales and Scotland.

On the income side:

- Gift Aid contributed £1888 from Subscriptions, £9,030 of subscriptions were received. We paid the full Group subscription to the district at a cost of £4,176.00 in April 2024 for 2024/25 and £4,664 for 2025/26 in March 2025.
- Fundraising contributed an additional £3,940 raised from the Meadvale Village Fayre and Xmas tree sales. We also received £1,017 from donations and £751 bank interest.

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On the expenditure side:

- Section activity/event costs are usually expected to balance income and expenditure as much as possible. This year there is a shortfall of approximately £3,341 and the group covered this with subsidies for some activities.
- Summer Camp – These costs relate to the final payments and expenses for 2024 and deposits and payments received for the 2025 Barcelona camp.
- Facilities & other expenditure is down on last year at £4,377,
- The group made payments of £3,300 in relation to saving the Meadvale Village Hall and scout hut site to try to ensure the group has a home going forward

The closing accumulated cash funds have decreased from last year £67,901 (2024) to £67,821 (2025).

The cash funds are held in two Group accounts:

- £51,367 is held in the Group Savings account which is primarily reserved for capital investment in buildings or vehicles.
- £16,454 is held in the Group account which is the primary account for Group and section income and expenditure.
- As announced at the previous AGM the Cub account was closed in April 2024 and its balance of £2,421 was transferred to the group account.

The underlying finances of the Group have remained stable

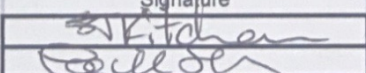
This really is my last AGM and I am very grateful to Liz Boadella Burton who has agreed to be treasurer and Sarah Goodson who has agreed to support her it will be good to leave knowing that the group is in safe hands and can continue to provide the wonderful experiences it does to its members I have said I will be happy to support Liz and Sarah while the transition takes place.

34th Reigate (Meadvale) Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account

	Year start date		Year end date		
	For the year from	01/04/2024	To	31/03/2025	
	2024/25				2023/24
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Donations, legacies and similar income					
Membership subscriptions	9030	0	0	9030	4,928
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)	-8840	0	0	-8840	0
Net membership subscriptions retained	190	0	0	190	4,928
Gift Aid	1888	0	0	1888	944
Donations (General)	765	0	0	765	540
Fundraising	8329	0	0	8329	8,081
Uniform	304	0	0	304	348
Other similar income	252	0	0	252	0
Sub total	11,728	0	0	11,728	14,841
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	4273	0	0	4273	5892
Summer Camp	20368	0	0	20368	12,605
Sub total	24,641	0	0	24,641	18,497
Investment income					
Bank interest	751	0	0	751	591
Building Society interest	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	751	0	0	751	591
Total Gross Income	37,120	0	0	37,120	33,929
Asset and investment sales, etc.	0	0	0	0	1000
Total receipts	37,120	0	0	37,120	34,929

	2024/25				2023/24
	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	492	0	0	492	315
Rent	0	0	0	0	0
Council Rates	0	0	0	0	0
Water and Sewerage (shared with village hall)	0	0	0	0	247
Electricity and Gas	657	0	0	657	691
Insurance	622	0	0	622	618
Repairs and Renewals	33	0	0	33	129
Materials and equipment	0	0	0	0	315
Financing costs	408	0	0	408	207
Meadvale Village Hall	3300	0	0	3300	0
Minibus	0	0	0	0	91
Badges	1224	0	0	1224	1293
AGM and trustee expenses	0	0	0	0	86
Uniform	941	0	0	941	968
Fundraising Expenses	4389	0	0	4389	4598
Sub total	12,066	0	0	12,066	9,558
Section Activities & Camps					
Section Activities	7614	0	0	7614	7115
Summer Camp	16884	0	0	16884	18,989
Sub total	24,498	0	0	24,498	26,104
Total Gross Expenditure	36,564	0	0	36,564	35,662
Asset and investment purchases, etc.	636	0	0	636	150
Total payments	37,200	0	0	37,200	35,812
Net of receipts/(payments)	-80	0	0	-80	-883
Transfers between funds	0	0	0	0	0
Cash funds last year end	67,901	0	0	67,901	68,784
Cash funds this year end	67,821	0	0	67,821	67,901

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year					
	31st March 2025				31st March 2024
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Cash funds					
Cub Account	0	0	0	0	2421
Savings Account	51367	0	0	51367	50616
Group Account	16454	0	0	16454	14,864
Cash/Floats	0	0	0	0	0
Total cash funds	67,821	0	0	67,821	67,901
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	1459	0	0	1459	1,717
Motor vehicles	0	0	0	0	0
Camping Equipment	10859	0	0	10859	10,419
Scouting equipment, furniture etc	693	0	0	693	770
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	13,011	0	0	13,011	12,906
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	
		GILL HARLEY		Treasurer	

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 2025.

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.

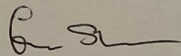
Independent examiner's statement

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, REDHILL, RH1 6LT

Date:

30/01/2026