

5TH CRAWLEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 305877

Details

Other names	5TH CRAWLEY BOY SCOUT GROUP
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1966-08-10
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	2 Blackwater Lane Crawley West Sussex RH10 7RL
Phone	01293882547
Email	treasurer@5thcrawley.org.uk
Website	https://www.5thcrawley.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 5TH CRAWLEY BOY SCOUT GROUP

Activities: The purpose of Scouting is to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social & spiritual potential. This is achieved through a programme of activities including creative arts, outdoor exploration, community, physical activities and international awareness often leading to badges & awards. These activities can take many forms indoors & outdoors.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Amateur Sport, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** POUND HILL, THREE BRIDGES AND NEIGHBOURHOOD
- West Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£29,428	£32,703	-	-
2024-03-31	£27,352	£33,638	-	-
2023-03-31	£20,941	£29,784	-	-
2022-03-31	£28,844	£25,064	-	-
2021-03-31	£32,950	£13,585	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Magdalene Palling	Chair	2025-09-13
Cathryn Pernstich		2022-09-24
Edward Ellis Hills		2015-01-01
Karolis Pulokas		2018-11-01
Samuel Bird		2025-09-13

5TH CRAWLEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 305877

Accounts



5th Crawley Scout Group

Annual Report

2024/25

Annual General Meeting

13th September 2025



Chair's Report

Welcome to this years Annual General Meeting and the Annual Report for the past year. You will learn of the fabulous achievements earned by our young people and leaders.

Probably one of the most notable is the formation of our new Squirrel Drey led by Sam Richards. Opening a section for 4–6-year-old is new experience. It has been very popular, so much so with the extra interest we could open a second drey in Maidenbower but can only do so if we have a minimum three new volunteers. This is an exciting age group and the and will contribute to further growth of the Group. Prior to the Summer holidays young people numbers stood at 130 and 27 adults, with 23 eligible Squirrel and Beaver aged children on the Group waiting list.

After the initial updating of the Group Website, it now being maintained by Gareth Thrower, soon to be come a Beaver Leader with the Group. Take a look at it and see the new content and features at www.5thcrawley.org.uk.

Mandatory safety training has been updated, with leaders and trustees undertaking this online this year. In addition, the Group has reviewed the H&S Risk assessment for the premises at Gales Place including fire safety and passed a West Sussex Fire Service inspection.

One area we are still working on is recruiting Scout section leaders; the situation has become serious for the Friday Phoenix Scouts. As well as parent helpers we urgently require leaders too. If you can help on Friday evenings, please can you respond to the request later in this report.

I'd like to thank all the volunteers whether leaders, trustees or parent helpers, your input and support is greatly appreciated. I would like to say how grateful we are for Karolis's efforts as our Treasurer. After several years performing this responsible role he feels the time is right to hand the baton on. He has made great strides in delivering a great service and providing valuable financial information.

This is my last AGM as Chair and a trustee as my work and family commitments currently must take precedence, I feel sure the Group will continue to flourish under the current Trustees and Leadership team.

Clive Hilton, Chair of Trustees

Three Bridges Squirrels - Leader Sam Richards

Summary: May-25 - Sep-25

We opened our first Squirrels Drey within 5th Crawley on 6th May 2025 after much interest and growing numbers on the group waiting list, investing our first member on 10th June 2025.

Attendance & Support

There is always good support from parents at each session, and if asked, are willing to help with activities. We are currently pursuing DBS checks for interested parents to become regular helpers. We have lost 2 leaders; however other section leaders have volunteered to help on rotation as a temporary solution. We are urgently looking for 2 permanent leaders as a matter of priority.

Current Section Numbers

We opened with 3 leaders, and a maximum number of 12 members. This fluctuated over the first term, mainly due to member age/ not feeling ready/ wanting to wait for Beavers. We will open the Autumn term with 12 members, and all will have been invested by the beginning of October 2025. First members moving on to Beavers will be February 2026 and there are plenty on the waiting list to fill spaces.

Key Activities

- Investiture of our first Squirrels within 5th Crawley
- Gardening skills and growing our own plants
- Exciting science experiments which wowed!
- Keeping fit with sports activities
- Our first hike to Three Bridges playing field

Other Points

Still finding our feet with regards to what works and what doesn't. Admin help to start in September, mirroring Maidenbower Beavers. Payments/ subs via OSM working well. Most Squirrels will move on having not had the opportunity to earn their Acorn badge; however, this is a goal for the younger members and new intake to work towards going forward.

Future Events

- District Teddy Bears' Picnic- September 2025
- Poppy Sleepover- November 2025, 1 Squirrel currently attending
- 1st moving on ceremony- February 2026
- 1st Squirrels sleepover- TBC 2026

Three Bridges Beavers – Leader Helen Ives / Kyle Garner

We had roughly between 16 and 20 beavers over the course of last term, with the number diminishing as we went through the term. Averaged about 14-18 turning up on an evening. Due to beavers moving to Cubs, we will drop to 13 members on the books by the time we start back in September.

We have sent invites out to seven new beavers and had confirmation that two will join on 8th September, we are hoping to have around 20 by the end of the year.

We are expecting to have 3 squirrels move up to Beavers in the coming months and usually in September we see an influx of new members.

We have issued four Chief Scout Awards to Evan Garner, Felicity Lane, Peter Hodgson and Leo Johnson. We are also expecting to present two further Beavers with their Chief Scout award in the first month of returning.

We have also awarded 195 additional badges this year.

Overall, the colony has been very engaged with most of the evenings, especially when we are doing activities outside of the hut and with visitors. They all appear to be getting on very well, working well within their lodges, and supporting each other. It's great to see positive relationships building amongst the Beavers.

Some highlights to note over the last year would include:

- Chinese New Year Camp
- Fire building and climbing at Stanford
- Group Bowling with Maidenbower Beavers
- Mother's Day café, the beavers invited all moms to their café and served them cake, tea and presents they had prepared
- Squirrel and Beaver Open Day in July

Looking forward to next term, we have a busy programme coming up including:

- A visit to a fire station
- Emergency First Aid session
- Completing lots of badges both for indoor and outdoor activities

James and Charlotte have joined the leadership team and have been a massive help with running and planning evenings; we have also had Valerie join us as a helper.

Maidenbower Beavers – Leader Veronica Bird/ Gareth Thrower

Attendance & Support: The number of leaders is currently at 6, which will reduce to 5 after October Half Term. This includes 2 leaders that are not always able to attend due to other commitments. An additional parent provides well appreciated admin support. Other parent support is good with several parents expressing interest in DBS checks.

Current Section Numbers: 25 beavers (3 linking to cubs) Current concerns are that 11 beavers will transition to cubs in 2025. Presently, with Maidenbower Cubs being unable to take our Beavers on reaching the age of 8, we are promoting Three Bridges cubs, unfortunately there is some reluctance to follow this path. 6 new beavers are forecast to join in October 25. The waiting list longer term looks reasonably healthy providing we can recruit Squirrel leaders for Maidenbower.

Key activities held in the last year - What A Busy Year we've had!

- 3 Sleepovers: Joint Poppy & Winter Sleepovers, 2-night Summer Camp
- 2 District Events: Xmas Crafts, Easter Funday
- Various Group Events: Celebrating Differences Day, Christmas Panto, St Georges Day, Remembrance Parade
- Joint Events with Three Bridges Beavers: Bowling, Trick or Treating, Family Funday
- Other Events & Trips: Fruit Picking, Rowfant Trail, Wings Museum, Bluebell Walk, Goffs Park Railway, Litter Picking, Fire Lighting at Stanford

We attended County 'Go Beavers 25 in June

Well done to the 9 beavers who have achieved their Bronze Chief Scouts Award.

14 beavers have been invested

500 badges have been awarded - including 16 Nights Away Badges

8 beavers went on their first night away.

Other News- Behaviour is manageable, supported by Code of Conduct and lodge points. Finally, paying subs and investment is still working well via OSM.

Future Events - Hospital Walk to thank workers - - - - September Sleepover 25 (for those not yet done one)

Beavers & Squirrels Fun Day- Gales Place



Three Bridges Cubs - Leader Cathryn Pernstich

As a Section we run at around 18 - 20 members, with these coming from Beavers and brand-new joiners.

Over the last year we ran a successful camp jointly with Maidenbower Cubs where 22 children camped for two nights, using their skills of pitching and striking tents, making a draining board with various knots and cooking dinner for themselves. The Cubs also had fun building dens, working towards the Earth Tribe Award, embarked on 5km hike and sang a lot of songs.

The Cubs have earned a varied lot of badges - Photography, Skater, Naturalist, Emergency Aid, Animal Carer, Musician, Entertainer, Communicator as an example.

We visited local parks to look at the different trees and settings, taking photographs of what we saw. Whilst there we also managed to do some bouldering and had a go on the zip wire. We visited Pets at Home and the Ambulance Centre. The Cubs had great fun bandaging themselves in different ways.

The Cubs marked various anniversaries and events, enjoying a red, white and blue themed party for VE Day where they played hopscotch, tiddlywinks and jacks as well as biscuits and ice cream for a mini street party. Celebrations were also had for Chinese New Year, Thanksgiving and Pancake Day.

A big thank you goes out to all the Leaders, Supporters and Parents for the help given in

enabling us to run a successful and action-packed programme. Plans are in place for more fun and activities in the coming year.

Three Bridges Cubs on one of their local park visits



Cubs Maidenbower - Leader Courtney Palmer-Jones

We had 22-25 cub pack members over the course of last term, with the number steadily increasing. This is a very positive compared to last AGM's report when we saw a decline in numbers. Attendance is still high, a sign of engagement and enjoyment. We have had 2 Cubs move into Scouts, 1 leave for personal reasons, and one Cub due to move up between now and Christmas; considering this and forecast of upcoming Beavers into Cubs, we will be operating at our maximum by Christmas.

We have had 4 Chief Scout Silver Awards achieved since our last AGM, a massive congratulations to: Joshua Upfold, Emily Pope, Alfred Bird, and Sienna Chivers. We do not have any Cubs targeted to complete their Silver between now and Christmas 25, we will continue to create an environment where this will happen during 2026.

As always, the Cubs have been extremely engaged with the delivered programme, and it's been great to see their skills and confidence growing as they develop. We have had a diverse programme, including some notable highlights:

- A visit to The Apple Tree Centre to learn about the Hindu faith
- Exploring Reigate Caves and the deep history hidden under the town
- Evenings at Stanford sessions include Backwoods Cooking and Competitive Games
- Undertaking a community litter pick around Maidenbower

Next term's programming is almost entirely youth led, incorporating ideas from our recent Cub forum where the young people told us what they want to see more of in the programme. These will include rock climbing, Disability Awareness, cooking, and finishing the term with a party to celebrate a fantastic 2025

With adult help, we have had a rough 12 months with a fluctuation in regular leader numbers; at one point, we had only 2 leaders regularly attending, which was particularly challenging, and we wouldn't have been able to manage without the support of parents who are always willing to assist when required. We now have a strong team of approximately 5 leaders attending each week including new joiners Kyle (Buck) and Tracy (Rama). Our Young Leader, Conner, is still helping each week and it has been a joy to see him grow in his supporting role and we're proud of the development he has made.

Overall, it's been a challenging year to manage, but with the support of many hands, we are able to deliver a quality programme to our young people who are benefitting from the activities they are undertaking, and that is what we do this for.

Maidenbower Cubs explore ancient local caves



The combined packs at the Joint Spring Cub Camp on a hike



Scouts

Friday Phoenix Troop – Eddy Hills

Both Scout Troops follow similar programmes during the year and over time through attending meetings and demonstrating progress and understanding of the activities, the Scouts have been able to add to the badges and awards gained. Completing a badge requires effort and sustained learning, this is achieved by putting learning in to practice.

The following summarises the activities undertaken by Phoenix and Kraken Scouts -

Pioneering - building bridges, learning lashings and putting them to a practical use especially at survival camp.

Backwoods Cooking - including fire lighting without matches and learning and using sheath knives safely to prepare wood for fire lighting.

Survival Camp – shelter building and cooking without utensils, including a chicken dinner and full English breakfast over 24 hours.

Communicators Badge - concluding with the Jamboree on the Air and a visit to Crawley Amateur Radio gaining the opportunity to learn about radio communications as well as talking to other international scouts.

Navigation Exercises - including map and compass training, an evening hike to Stanford in the dark and a day hike through Worth and Tilgate Forest, both hikes involved invaluable parent support. In time this practice will lead to a two-day Scout led expedition with an overnight lightweight camp, counting towards their Chief Scouts Gold Award.

Social and fun activities - these involved campfires, wide games (always a big hit), team games and a water fight at the end of the summer term.

Community Engagement - meeting a Borough Councillor and learning about local issues affecting young people, with the wider changes being introduced at Government level being discussed.

Camp Preparation - in preparation for summer and autumn camps learning about different cooking methods/ and safely using the equipment. Preparing camp menus which can be used for these events. Looking at what equipment to take and how that can change depending on changes in weather, location and activities

Summer Camp- a range of activities were carried out, some for the first time, with those including quad biking, angel knife throwing, archery, climbing, various water sports, human football table. Those attending took part in a day hike on the North Downs with a Leader to support but with each Scout contributing to the navigation of the route. Every Scout had a day cooking in the camp kitchen for their fellow twenty scouts and leaders.

I would like to thank Cathryn for leading the Phoenix Troop on the many occasions when I was unable and Fran for her weekly support. We have had regular help from many parents over the year especially from Trish and Terry who we hope will join us as team members

along with Valarie shortly. Many thanks to everyone who has helped with Scout evenings, hikes, putting tents up, decorating, or other work for the Group.



Thursday Kraken Troop – Hayden Titman

This year our troop has continued to thrive with 17 Scouts. We saw some leadership changes, with Emily stepping down and myself taking over, as well as welcoming Claire, Sarah, Ronnie and Helen to the team. Our Scouts have enjoyed a wide variety of activities including archery, axe throwing, climbing, festive Christmas cooking, and the highlight of the year – our amazing summer camp. These experiences have given our young people the chance to learn new skills, grow in confidence and most importantly have fun together. A huge thank you goes to all parents and volunteers for their time, energy, and support – we couldn't do it without you!

Joint Summer Camp Capers – Lower Grange Farm, Nr. Maidstone





Group Lead Volunteer's Comments – Eddy Hills

5th Crawley Scout Group has once again had a remarkable year making it one of the larger Groups in the District with 127 youth members and 27 leaders and team members.

At times it has proved a challenge to find volunteers to help in its sections, however the current leaders have been instrumental in finding solutions in most cases. In other situations, Cathryn and I have covered gaps for sections. This is only sustainable for the short term. I have personally felt the impact on my Group role of covering for vacancies in other sections on different nights of the week especially with the introduction of new headquarter processes and systems, which have brought about additional work.

Last year, the youth numbers had started to decline in some sections, yet one year on those sections have made positive gains. Further supported by the opening of our newest section Squirrels.

Our Cubs and Beavers excelled themselves by gaining many Bronze and Silver Chief Scouts Awards over the past 12 months. Again, each section held joint camps and activities whilst running their weekly programmes independently.

The two Scout sections are now making good progress towards their badges and awards and in time this will result in Gold CSAs. They shared an exciting summer camp in Kent in extreme UK temperatures undertaking a range of activities.

This year a significant number of scouts have moved on to Neil Armstrong Explorers, as the main partner with the Explorer Scout Unit, this is very satisfying to see former Beavers, Cubs and Scouts graduate through the sections into the Unit. We look forward to learning of their future progress in the older section.

All adults helping the sections are volunteers and they dedicate a good deal of their time to the young people running meetings and activities and indirectly by training

and planning programmes. Some sections in the Group are now struggling, needing more help from parents immediately especially for the scout and squirrel teams so our young people do not miss out. Please see the vacancy at the end of this report for further details.

Our Maidenbower Cub Lead Volunteer, Courtney, has completed her King's Scout Award as part of Crawley Network Scouting, this is a significant achievement – Many Congratulations.

On a sadder note, two of our Trustees are stepping down this year. I am very grateful for Karolis Pulokas and Clive Hilton for their support to the Group in their different roles.

Clive has served as Chair for nearly 2 years, although he had worked with the Group as a leader and helper in the past. He has helped bring together a leader team in transition, overseen the Health and Safety ensuring the HQ is complaint with best practices and initiated the refresh of the Group's Website and aspects of its IT.

Karolis has been Treasurer since 2018, transforming how 5th Crawley managed its finances during which time membership has doubled, OSM adopted, impacted by Covid and needed to replenish much of its equipment. His approach has been refreshing ensuring that the Group had what it needed yet was able to meet its commitments.

Finally, I thank all leaders and helpers for their ongoing support to the Group whether that is running or supporting sections, providing administration, carrying out essential maintenance at the HQ.

Group - St. George's Day Memorial Gardens Crawley



Treasurer's Report (Please see meeting agenda)

5th Crawley Scout Group

Financial Statement for the year ended 31 March 2025

INCOME STATEMENT	Notes	2024-25	2023-24
Income			
Membership income	(1)	21,165	18,276
Charitable activity income		7,381	7,081
Grant and donation income		87	1,567
Other income		795	428
Total Income		29,428	27,352
Expenses			
Building Expenses:			
Property, plant and equipment		2,006	1,299
Repairs and maintenance		1,010	2,030
Rent	(2)	3,293	1,941
Insurance		895	797
Electricity	(3)	900	1,808
Water and sewerage		903	1,060
Cleaning		738	673
Total building expenses		9,745	9,607
Charitable activity expenses:			
Activities	(4)	4,526	8,430
Camps		3,368	2,902
Uniforms and badges		3,718	3,265
Total activity expenses		11,612	14,597
Administrative expenses:			
Capitation		8,470	8,308
Administration		1,226	903
Loan Repayments		0	0
Donations		232	0
Bank charges		0	0
Payment fees. Events		305	222
Payment fees. Subscriptions	(5)	568	1
Miscellaneous expenses		339	0
Total administrative expenses		11,139	9,434
Total Expenses		32,495	33,638
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		(3,067)	(6,286)
BALANCE SHEET as at 31st Mar		2024-25	2023-24
Accumulated funds			
Balance at 1st Apr 2024		19,647	25,933
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(3,067)	(6,286)
Balance at 31st Mar		16,580	19,647
Represented by:			
Cash in hand		1,057	1,091
Cash at bank		15,523	18,556
TOTAL ASSETS		16,580	19,647

5th Crawley Scout Group

Notes to the accounts for financial year 2024-25

- (1) +£2,889/+16% increase in subscriptions vs last year. The group integrated the Payments module from Online Scout Manager to collect subscriptions which avoids gaps experienced previously when collecting by cash or bank transfer.
- (2) +£1,351 increase in rent due to Maidenbower rent for Sep-23 to Feb-24 (prior financial year) paid in Apr-24 i.e. the next financial year.
- (3) £908 decrease in electricity expense due to reduced tariff and subsequently lower monthly charges.
- (4) -3,904/-46% less in activity expenses due to different choice of events that provide a better value for money.
- (5) +£568 increase in subscription fees due to integration of the payments platform. The platform provide a more efficient collection which provides the returns several times over the cost.

Appendix 1

Agenda- Annual General Meeting 2025

Date: Saturday 13th September

Time: 14.00 - 15.00

Location: Crawley District Scout Campsite Old Brighton Road Pease Pottage

Agenda:

1. Welcome
2. Chairperson's introduction (or delegate in their absence)
3. Apologies for absence
4. Approval of minutes for last year's AGM (See Appendix 2)
5. Draft Financial Report and questions (meeting to be asked to approve that the final audit accounts can be approved at the next Board of Trustees Meeting)
6. Nominations & approval of Group Chairperson
7. Nominations & Approval of Group Treasurer
8. Nomination. & approval of Trustees to the Board of Trustees
9. Presentations - Awards and Spirit of 5th Crawley
10. Group Lead Volunteers Comments
11. District Lead Volunteer's Representative Comments
12. Closing Remarks by Group Chair (or delegate)

Appendix 2

Minutes of 5th Crawley Scouts AGM 14th September 2024 Stanford Scout Campsite Crawley

1. Clive introduced himself as the new Group Chairman, he welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending including our guest Ollie Gidman the District Lead Volunteer. He explained that 5th Crawley held a special memory for him as many years ago he was a Scout in the Group. He went on to say that he has seen first-hand what a positive difference Scouting makes to the lives of young people, and he was honoured to be asked to be the Group chairman.
2. Apologies have been received from Hayden Tiltman, Michael Gauntlett, John Simmons, Jane Pelham, Russel Stallibrass, Jenny Kolda, Courtney Palmer-Jones and Veronica Bird.
3. Copies of last year's minutes were distributed in the pack and were approved. Clive asked for a show of hands from the meeting to agree last year's minutes. They were agreed.
4. Financial Report-Karolis Pulokas- Group Treasurer. The accounts were presented in the pack however they were currently still with the auditors and regrettably have not been audited prior to the AGM. Those present were asked to confirm that they gave permission for the next Trustee meeting to formally approve the accounts. This was agreed by the meeting. Karolis reported that the group finances were in a good position but were £6286 down on the previous year. Following on from Covid- The Group Trustee (Exec) committee had made the decision to use some of the grant monies received to improve the HQ facilities as well as to purchase equipment items for sections to use. During the past year the Group have continued to build on this by purchasing new tents and improving the activities offered to the young people. The membership has increased from 107 last year to 120 this year so there was an increase in subscriptions received. There have been additional expenses incurred by increased water and electricity charges, repairs and maintenance at the HQ to keep compliant with the Scout Association safety guidance. The Group have continued to build on the use of OSM (Online Scout Manager) for processing payments and will be moving to collecting subs by this method in the coming year. Karolis invited comments from the meeting about the financial position and was happy to clarify any queries, however, there were no questions regarding the accounts.
5. GSL Nomination of Group Chairman-Eddy had asked Clive if he will kindly agree to continue as Chairman for the next year and he has agreed. He also mentioned that if anyone would like information about joining the Group Trustee committee then please speak to either Clive or Eddy. The meeting approved the nomination of Clive Hilton as Group chairman Eddy Hills proposed Clive, and this was seconded by Fran Head.

6. Election of the Group Trustee Committee- The list of people who had agreed to serve on the Group Trustee Committee for the coming year was read out to the meeting. Eddy Hills GSL, Clive Hilton Chairman, Karolis Pulokis Treasurer, Bev Hills Secretary, Emily Donald, Hayden Tiltman, Cathryn Pernstich, Veronica Bird, Francesca Head, Russell Stallibrass and Magdalene Palling.

The meeting was asked to confirm the election of the committee members by a show of hands-this was approved.

7. Presentation of Awards- The Sprit of 5th Crawley -Certificates/tokens were presented to some of the young people who were nominated by their section lead volunteers for outstanding participation and attitude. The overall winner of the Spirit of 5th Crawley was Joel Harrison-Kitcherside from Kraken Scout troop. The other award winners were Shradha Tummalapenta Three Bridges Beavers, Abby Williams-Three Bridges cubs, Ewan Garner Maidenbower beavers, Darcey Spencer-Maidenbower cubs and Connor Sellers Pheonix Scout troop.
8. The GSL Eddy summarised the year. He thanked everyone for attending the AGM and highlighted all the section reports in the pack, which was a good reflection of all the activities that the Group have done over the past year. The current group membership is 115 youth members, and we continue to get regular enquiries about joining 5th Crawley however we are facing some adult leadership challenges in the coming months. The Group are grateful for all parent support received and have been fortunate to have had good responses from parents when requested. Eddy highlighted the leaflet about volunteering (on the chairs), he mentioned that most parents enjoy participating in weekly meetings. He promised that volunteering is flexible and no one would be 'dropped in it'! If anyone would like further information, please speak to Eddy or any of the section lead volunteers. He also mentioned that all volunteer leaders and Trustees undertake Safeguarding and Safety training to keep all young people safe. As mentioned previously there are some leadership changes and challenges. Three Bridges beavers have lost the team of Jane and Marie, who after over 60 years of combined service have decided to step down as section leaders. They have been with 5th for the last ten years having previously helped at 6th Crawley, 1st Crawley and Marie started her volunteering in Haywards Heath. He thanked them for all that they have done at 5th and was pleased that they are not leaving the group completely. Helen Ives has moved from supporting Maidenbower beavers to take the lead at Three Bridges and support the new leaders until a replacement lead volunteer can be found. There are also changes to the Scout troops. Emily (Thursday troop leader) will be relocating to Oxfordshire after 8 years at 5th Crawley. We thank her and wish her all the best, she will be missed as this year's summer camp which was masterminded by Emily and the team was the most successful ever-with 24 Scouts attending. Hayden will be moving to be the lead volunteer at Thursday troop and will be working with Emily until she moves-which

leaves Eddy to cover as lead volunteer at Friday Scouts until a replacement leader can be found. Eddy also thanked Clive and Cathryn for keeping the Group on an even keel during the last year, whilst he had faced some health challenges. He continued by saying that the group is continuing to grow and that in due course we hope to open a Squirrel section. This year the young people had achieved the most Bronze and Silver Chief Scouts Awards to date and he hopes the group would continue to build on this success. He concluded with giving his thanks to all the parents for their continued support, the Trustee committee and every leader for all their hard work during the last year.

9. Ollie Gidman the District Lead Volunteer was asked to say a few words-he introduced himself and explained that he was responsible for approx.1000 young people and 350 volunteer leaders in the District. He endorsed Eddy's mention of volunteering, 'every little helps and Scouting needs volunteers to be able to continue to deliver the activities to our young people. He also expressed his thanks to Clive and Cathryn for their extra work in covering whilst Eddy was absent due to his health. He presented Karolis and Clive with their 5-year service awards, Emily and Cathryn with their Wood Badges and finally he presented Marie with the Award for Merit for outstanding service. He mentioned that there was another Merit Award to be presented in the near future, and he looked forward to being able to do this as soon as possible.

Clive thanked all for attending the AGM/Fun afternoon -gave an outline of the rest of the day's activities/timings and brought the meeting to a close.

Appendix 3 - Things to do

1. Make sure your child's OSM record is up to date especially parent or carer's contact details and medical history.
2. Sew badges on to uniform, check out [5th Crawley Scout Group | Skills for Life](#) for positioning.
3. Consider completing Gift Aid form for subscriptions for your child if applicable (this can be a valuable source of income for the Group). Details in Group Handbook / See Website [5th Crawley Scout Group | Skills for Life](#)
4. Check subs payments are set up correctly – see Group Handbook.
5. Sign up to your child's section parent rota, the Group relies on every parent volunteering twice a term. Speak to your Child's section leader.
6. Consider becoming a team member, Trustee or helping in other ways.. See Poster for contact details.

Thank you for your support.

WE NEED YOU!

5th Crawley is looking for more volunteers to help within the Group!

Whether you want to work **directly with young people**, help with the site, or as a **trustee...**



We need people who want to **share skills** and a **willingness to get involved!**


Scouts
5th Crawley

Contact:
cubs.threebridges@5thcrawley.org.uk
with any questions!

5th Crawley Scout Group

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Loan Repayments		0	0
Donations		232	0
Bank charges		0	0
Payment fees. Events		305	222
Payment fees. Subscriptions	(5)	568	1
Miscellaneous expenses		339	0
Total administrative expenses		11,139	9,434
Total Expenses		32,703	33,638
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		(3,275)	(6,286)
BALANCE SHEET as at 31st Mar		2024-25	2023-24
Accumulated funds			
Balance at 1st Apr 2024		19,647	25,933
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(3,275)	(6,286)
Balance at 31st Mar		16,372	19,647
Represented by:			
Cash in hand		849	1,091
Cash at bank		15,523	18,556
TOTAL ASSETS		16,372	19,647

5th Crawley Scout Group

Notes to the accounts for financial year 2024-25

- (1) +£2,889/+ 16% increase in membership income vs last year. The group integrated the Payments module from Online Scout Manager to collect subscriptions which avoids gaps experienced previously when collecting by cash or bank transfers.
- (2) +£1,351 increase in rent due to Maidenbower rent for Sep-23 to Feb-24 (prior financial year) paid in Apr-24 i.e. the next financial year.
- (3) £908 decrease in electricity expense due to reduced tariff and subsequently lower monthly charges.
- (4) -3,696/-44% less in activity expenses due to different choice of events that provide a better value for money.
- (5) +£568 increase in subscription fees due to integration of the payments platform. The platform provide a more efficient collection which provides the returns several times over the cost.

**5th Crawley Scout Group
Independent Examiner's Report**

I report on the accounts of the 5th Crawley Scout Group for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The Group's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility:

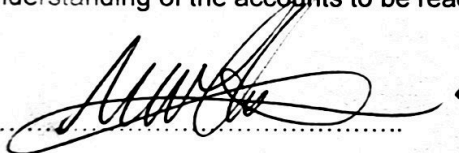
- to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charities Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Group 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements to :
 - keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and;
 - prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act has not been met; or
2. which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Name: Mitchell Clark

Address: Citycal House
12 Bridge Road Business Park
Haywards Heath
RH16 1XT

Date

29/12/2025

5TH CRAWLEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 305877

Accounts

Annual General Meeting 2024

Date: Saturday 14th September

Time: 14.30 - 15.15

Location: Crawley District Scout Campsite Old Brighton Road Pease Pottage

Agenda:

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Chairperson's introduction
- 3 Apologies for absence
- 4 Approval of minutes for last year's AGM
- 5 Draft Financial Report and questions (meeting to be asked to approve that the final audit accounts can be approved at the next Executive Meeting)
- 6 Nomination & approval of Group Chairperson
- 7 Nomination & approval of Trustees to the Group Executive
- 8 Presentations - Awards and Spirit of 5th Crawley
- 9 Group Scout Leader's Comments
- 10 District Commissioner's Representative Comments

Minutes for 5th Crawley Scout Group Annual General Meeting

1st July 2023

1. Michael welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending including our guest Tim Hall the new ADC Scouts.
2. Apologies have been received from Ollie Gidman DC, Ian Head, John Simmons, Marie Robson, Alan Mayes, Alini, Russel Stallybrass, Victoria Kolda, Carol Brackpool, Courtney Palmer-Jones and Helen Maguire.
3. Copies of last year's minutes were distributed in the pack and were approved. Proposed by Cathryn Pernstich and seconded by Jim Kitcherside.
4. Financial Report-Karolis Pulokas- Group Treasurer. The accounts were presented in the pack however they were currently still with the auditors and regrettably have not been audited prior to the AGM. Those present were asked to confirm that they gave permission for the next Trustee meeting to formally approve the accounts. This was agreed by the meeting. Karolis reported that the group finances were in a good position but were £9000 down on the previous year as no grants had been received. The main expenditure during the last year was on the HQ fencing at Three Bridges to improve security, this was taken from the Covid grant monies previously received. The Group Exec committee had made the decision to use some of this money to improve the HQ facilities as well as to purchase equipment items for the sections to use. The other notable change during the past year was to move from a cash system for collecting payments on to an online payment method via OSM. This has been successful so we would be looking to move forward to use this method for collecting subs in the future. Finally, Karolis mentioned that the finances were in a strong position as prior to Covid the average bank balance was £10000, and currently this was £26000. If parents/leaders had ideas for future expenditure items or thoughts on the way the group finances were operated, then please let him know. There were no questions regarding the accounts.
5. GSL Nomination of Group Chairman-Eddy had asked Michael if he will kindly agree to continue as Chairman for the next year and he has agreed. Whilst formally accepting the role Michael gave his thanks to all the Leaders for their hard work and the Executive committee for their support.
6. Election of Officers to Group Trustee Committee-Karolis Pulokas to continue as Treasurer-and Bev Hills as Secretary this was proposed by Michael Gauntlett and seconded by Frances Head.
7. Nomination of parent members to the Group Trustee Committee-The following parents have agreed to stand on the committee-Helen Maguire, Jeff Curnick and Carol Brackpool, Frances Head and Magdalena Palling. They were proposed by Michael G and seconded by Eddy Hills.
8. Nomination of Leader members to the Group Executive-The following leaders were nominated to stand on the committee-Alex Donald SL, Hayden Tiltman ASL, Jane Pelham BSL Marie Robson ABSL Three Bridges. Catherine Pernstich CSL, Ian Head and Jenny Kolda ACSL's Three bridges, Ronnie Bird ABSL Maidenbower. These were proposed by Sarah Hughes and seconded by Magdalena Pulling.
9. Presentation of Awards- The Sprit of 5th Crawley certificates were presented to the 7 Young people who were nominated by their section leaders for outstanding participation and attitude. The overall winner of the Spirit of 5th Crawley was Freya Chubb from Maidenbower cubs.
10. The GSL Eddy summarised the year. He thanked everyone for attending the AGM and highlighted all the section reports in the pack for people to see what activities had happened over the past year. The group has grown from 20 members in 2013/14 to a current membership of 120 young people, making it the 2nd largest in the District. All the six sections have waiting lists and we are having to redirect some

enquiries to other groups as we are limited by the capacity of our HQ. The group has been juggling leaders with most of the sections- just about covered- however we could always do with more help-so if you are interested, please speak to Eddy during the afternoon. It is 65 years since 5th Crawley was established this year -so a 'design a badge' competition was held, and the final badge version was a combination of two very good designs by two cubs. The badge can be seen on the cake/cupcakes and will be made into uniform badge over the next few weeks. Eddy concluded with giving his thanks to all the parents for their continued support, the Executive/Trustee committee and every leader for all their hard work during the last year.

11. Tim Hall the newly appointed ADC Scouts representing the District -was asked to say a few words-He thanked the group for the invitation and mentioned that ours was the first AGM he had attended in his new role. Whilst he has been a member of 7th Crawley for many years this is a new challenge for him. He invested Ollie our new DC as a cub several years ago and is proud to have seen him progress through Scouting to DC. He highlighted that although each group may have their own traditions and ways of doing things, they are all part of the same organisation with the aim of equipping our young people with 'Skills for life'.
12. Michael thanked all for attending the AGM/Fun afternoon -referred people again- to the Annual Report Pack and brought the meeting to a close.
- 13.

5th Crawley Scout Group Trustees 2024

Eddy Hills	eddy.hills@btconnect.com
Karolis Pulokas	kaolispulokas@yahoo.com
Aleander Donald	alexander.donald1992@gmail.com
Hayden Tiltman	haydentiltman@googlemail.com
Cathryn Pernstich	cvmpernstich@btinternet.com
Carole Brackpool	brackpoolc@gmail.com
Jane Pelham	jane1901@live.co.uk
Marie Robson	robson494@btinternet.com
Ian Head	ian1head@yahoo.co.uk
Francesca Head	fran.head@outlook.com
Ronnie Bird	vrbird717@gmail.com
Russell Stallibrass	russell.stallibrass@cdscouts.org.uk
Beverley Hills	hills.family@btconnect.com

Financial Statement for the year ended 31 March 2023

INCOME STATEMENT	Notes	2022-23	2021-22
Income			
Subscriptions	(1)	15,182	13,502
Investiture fees		539	754
Hut Hire		458	500
Fundraising		0	0
Camp Contributions		1,839	511
Activity Contributions		2,424	2,005
Grants	(2)	0	10,667
Loans received		0	0
Donations received		500	906
Miscellaneous income		0	0
Total income		20,941	28,844
Expenditure			
Building Expenses:			
Property, plant and equipment	(3)	4,142	3,337
Repairs & Maintenance		420	1,065
Rent	(4)	3,330	2,011
Insurance		712	698
Electricity	(5)	1,024	185
Water & Sewerage		281	295
Cleaning		722	593
Total building expenses		10,631	8,183
Activity Expenses:			
Activities		4,897	4,742
Camps		4,098	459
Total activity expenses		8,995	5,201
Administrative expenses:			
Capitation		6,902	7,049
Administration		398	473
Loan Repayments		0	0
Donations		83	407
Uniforms & Badges		2,776	3,752
Bank charges		0	0
Miscellaneous expenses		0	0
Total administrative expenses		10,158	11,680
Total expenditure		29,784	25,064
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		(8,842)	3,780
BALANCE SHEET as at 31st Mar		2022-23	2021-22
Accumulated funds			
Balance at 1st Apr 2022		34,776	30,995
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(8,842)	3,780
Balance at 31st Mar		25,933	34,776
Represented by:			
Cash in hand		448	582
Cash at bank		25,486	34,194
TOTAL ASSETS		25,933	34,776

Notes to the accounts for financial year 2022-23

- (1) +£1,680/+12% increase in subscriptions vs last year due to increase in members.
- (2) The group received no grants this year in comparison to £10,667 in Covid related grants last year.
- (3) +805/+24% increase in PPE vs last year. £3,952 out of £4,142 has been spent in replacing the old fence around the premises with a new one. Last year most PPE expenditure was on purchasing tents and other equipment.
- (4) +£1,319/+66% increase in rent costs vs last year due to increased rental rate by the Crawley BC and full year rent taken this year.
- (5) +£839/+454% increase in electricity costs due to £243 rebate received last year and the energy price hikes seen across the energy sector.

Note- Due to timing of the AGM and our auditors' workload, unusually the accounts are awaiting scrutinization and not yet approved by the auditor. This will take place shortly.

In the meantime, you are welcome to review what has been compiled by our Treasurer and supported by the Executive Committee. Please ask any questions you may have.

To comply with the rules under which we operate, we ask that the meeting supports the proposal that the Group Executive be allowed to sign off the final accounts once they have been approved by the Group Auditor.

Contents:

Group Updates

-Chairman's Report

-Group Overview

Section Updates

- Beavers

- Cubs

- Scouts

Group Contact:

GSL Eddy Hills

Annual Report

Chairman's report: Michael Gauntlett

What a great year we have had as 5th Crawley, to list a few highlights, 9 Beavers achieving Chief Scout Bronze awards, 9 Cubs achieving Chief Scout Silver awards. The coronations capers event in honour of the king. Go Beavers where Blackland's Farm was invaded by 600 Beavers. Running Indoor bonfires (I won't ask) the Cubs spring camp, tomahawk throwing and rock climbing and the forthcoming Scout camp amongst many other activities.

I advocate for all of the leaders to be outside and run activities wherever they can, to enhance the experience of the young people. To think outside the box and to come to me with ideas, I will support whatever I can to make the programs your young people enjoy as diverse as possible.

I have two clear missions as Chairman of 5th Crawley.

- 1- To support the GSL in providing as many young people as possible the opportunities to gain skills for life through the scouting in a safe and secure environment and ensure that the volunteers within the group are supported, trained, happy and motivated.
- 2- To ensure that the Group is governed well and follows the rules laid down by the Scout Association and The Charities Commission.

It does not take much to realise that one cannot occur without the other. The safety of the young people within our care is paramount and is always our first priority.

This however can sometimes make my second mission difficult. We all rely on the time our leaders give scouting each and every week, and without them we simply would not exist. Myself and Eddy our 5th Crawley Group Scout Leader look to these leaders and work with them, with the aim of creating a sustainable program every week. We are in a situation where the sustainability of our programs is under threat as our leaders are stretched running multiple nights. Our secondary source of support in order to fulfil mission one comes from the parents. You, as parents, can provide a great source of support for the group throughout our program. Parent support also allows us to utilise our leaders in the best way possible.

My simple ask is this,
Review the program, speak to your leader. I am not asking for a commitment here, one night every now and again is fantastic as it really allows me to fulfil my missions.

Group Overview

Group Scout Leader: Eddy Hills

The past year has been a busy year on several levels with the development of the sections for young people, changes in leadership and improvements to the assets.

Last year I shared with you how the Group is made up and the importance of the adults to the future of the Group. We have seen leaders and assistants step away from roles which for a while has added to pressures on those remaining. Also, in April the Scout Association, recognising these challenges nationally, shared a more flexible approach which is intended to lighten the load on adult supporters. Whilst these are welcome the changes were reliant on adult numbers being close to where they need to be, otherwise they have little immediate benefit. Although at 5th Crawley we are better placed than many Groups we still need to close the gaps to help alleviate the pressure on all our volunteer leaders, whether that's with new help stepping forward and/or additional parent help. I can't ask our current leaders to give more than they already do, most are already involved in more than one section in some way. So, parents please continue to support your children's sections as much as you can to ensure we still offer varied and fun programmes to as many young people as possible.

The other change introduced was the management of Groups and the focus on good governance. Again, 5th Crawley has largely been good on this front from a financial, safety and safeguarding perspective with the key Trustee role filled and enough experienced supporting trustees. Ideally a leader from each section is a member of the Trustee Board along with a parent representative for each section as Trustees. This can be more challenging to achieve even for a well-supported Group like 5th Crawley we always have vacancies on the board. We ask Trustees to spare us one evening every 2-3 months to review how the Group is running and help carry out improvements where required. Again, please consider if you can help us in the role of a Trustee. Last year the Trustee Board was called the Group Executive Committee, this change makes us more aligned to similar organisations which look to meet the requirements of the Charities Commission.

Over the past 12 months we have recruited new leaders and adults helpers in to our sections and this is paying dividends, both in terms of the activities we can offer and also in the progress our members are making towards badges and Top Awards. We opened our second Scout Troop last September and albeit it's been a slow start it is now beginning to grow at pace as Cubs reach the age they transfer. It has ensured that we can offer every Cub a place going forward. Whilst each of our six sections operate independently on different nights, in 2 locations, we do share programmes and often run joint events especially where scale helps. Please read the sections reports provided to find out what our 120 youth members are doing.

On a less exciting note, we have invested some of the grants we have been awarded on making our HQ in Three Bridges more secure and updating various items of camping and games equipment. We have supported leaders to undertake activity training including tomahawk throwing and rifle shooting and subsidised a number of activities for our members.

For the past 3 months I have had to take a back seat so I am very grateful to all our Leaders, Section Assistants and occasional helpers for the extra work you have taken on. Many thanks to our Executive Committee under Michael's chairmanship for their support during the last 12 months providing the vital support. Finally, the real rewards are seeing our young people develop over the years becoming more confident and capable; it's not just about badges and awards, it's seeing the fun, teamwork and friendships they gain over their time in Scouting.

Section Updates

Maidenbower Beavers : Helen Ives (Fox) BSL

Beavers have enjoyed a year full of fun and activities.

In November we joined 1st Northgate with a Poppy camp, visiting the town centre and Crawley Museum before heading back to St Paul's for crafts and games and a chippy tea. On Remembrance Sunday we attended church parade and ran the refreshments afterwards, which was much appreciated.



Beavers LOVED the pantomime and also King's Coronation Capers at Stanford.

We enjoy spending time in the Maidenbower forest school area and feel very lucky to have access. We have learned how to light a fire, cooked on an open fire and sung songs.

Beavers have continued their link to the residents of Schaffer House, planting tubs and visiting to have a virtual campfire in their lounge. A good time was had by all and they've invited us to return next term.

We have had visits from an eco-roadshow and blind man and his guide dog and visited the mini railway in Goff's Park where we had attended the St George's Day parade in April.

All this activity goes towards badges and Beavers have earned over 170 badges including a Chief Scout's Bronze.

None of this could happen without the dedication of the Leaders. We lost two regular helpers and then doubled our Leader team this Spring when both our Young Leaders turned 18 and decided to stay on as adults. We are delighted to welcome Corey and Oskar to the team. Both have been in Scouting since being Beavers and Corey has been at 5th Crawley ever since. Thanks go to the parents who stay to help. It's invaluable and enables us to do so much more each evening.

We are looking forward to our Summer camp at Stanford in August and lots more fun and adventures and of course the opportunity to learn new skills and earn more badges.

Three Bridges Beavers: Jane (Bubbles), BSL

We have had an exciting year enjoying being able to get out and about again

We visited Caddies for mini golf, had a sleepover at Burgess Hill which included a visit to Jumpin Inflatables.

12 beavers recently had a fun filled day with lots of activities at go beavers , held at Blackland's farm with 600 beavers from all over West Sussex.

We have covered the disability awareness badge with an informative visit from a lovely man with his guide dog , who showed us many things that help him be independent.

We also had a visit from Morris dancers which was extremely fun and all the beavers and leaders thoroughly enjoyed learning their dances.

8 beavers completed their chief scout bronze award and 3 more have almost finished, big congratulations to them all.

We have recently welcomed Poonam and Raoul to our leadership team and thank them for all their help , we would also like to thank our young leaders Jess and Vishwa and the parents who have helped on our outings and sleepover.

Three Bridges Cub Pack: Cathryn Pernstich (Kaa) ACSL

Over the last year, 5th Crawley (Three Bridges) Cubs has seen steady growth in numbers through intake from Beavers and from those who have never experienced scouting before. We have also continued to move our older Cubs to Scouts so as to enable them to continue on their journey. We remain steady with 5 adult Leaders, but this number will lessen over the coming months. Ad hoc parent support is received and is welcomed. We are always happy to receive the additional help and will be announcing soon a space for a more regular helping role within the Pack.



As a Pack, but the time we get to the AGM, the Cubs have earned in excess of 300 badges between them, with six Cubs achieving the Silver Chief Award. There are a good many more Cubs well on their way to

earning their Silver Chief Scout Award. Our badge system also shows that we have many more activity and staged badges to come along the way.

Since the last AGM, we have embarked on many activities and visits and also had guest speakers come to us. We sent a message to the King following the death of the Queen and were very excited to receive a response back. We have visited Panto, Crawley Fire Station, the Hindu Temple and the Houses of Parliament. Our guests speakers have included the local PCSO, a spokesperson from Oxfam, an airline Pilot, our local MP and a chicken. Be warned if you come to talk to the Cubs though, as you are likely to be asked how much you earn! Some of our Cubs have also presented to their peers teaching them about their hobbies and interests - bee keeping, karate, chicken keeping and collecting Pokemon cards being examples. We have taken part in indoor golf, games in French, bouldering, moved hula hoops around without breaking hands, played many team games and learnt new games from other Cubs in the Pack. Towers and shelters have been built and wildlife at the Hut has been looked after. We have run around outside, got messy, dressed up to celebrate different occasions and learnt about different cultures. Owing to the weather, we had a rather unusual but alternative bonfire night inside which was great fun - never say something cannot be done. We have learnt about recycling, sustainable living, global issues, personal safety when using the internet and visiting certain places, practiced driving (remote control) cars and entertained ourselves with shadow puppet plays about the Jungle Book.

The resounding success of the last part of the Scouting year was our Spring Camp when 41 Cubs over three different Packs joined together to sleep under canvas for two nights at Stanford Scout Site. We could not have been luckier with the weather, meaning we did all of our planned activities outdoors and without getting wet - pitching and striking tents, hiking to Buchan Park and back, looking for lost post boxes, starting fires (under supervision), singing camp fire songs, cooking dinner, lashing poles together to make a towel rail, visiting the Bird Man to see his rescued wild birds and misplacing many things along the way!

All in all, 5th Crawley (Three Bridges) Cubs is a definitely a Pack with a lot of energy and enthusiasm.

Maidenbower Cub Pack – Courtney Palmer- Jones (Mysa) CSL

We currently have 20 members, with most turning up weekly, averaging 16-18 attending each week. At the end of the summer term, 4 cubs will be moving up to Scouts leaving us slightly low on numbers, but one Beaver will be moving up from TB to MB Cubs. So, we will have space for new members. The Pack have been brilliant this term and all the young people have been engaged and proactive each evening, including cubs running games and showing off their achievements to peers.

Some highlights to note over the last year include:

- The Mother's Day puppet show – all the Cubs did such a great job in a short amount of time and got a big round of applause at the end! This all went towards their Entertainers badge.
- A visit from Guide Dogs for the Blind which was informative and simultaneously cute to work towards the Disability Awareness badge
- Muslim Temple visit to Apple Tree to work towards the World Faiths badge
- A trip to the Fire Station to work on the Fire Safety badge
- A trip to the Territorial Army, contributing towards the Adventure Challenge badge
- A talk from a commercial pilot (now DC!) Oliver Gidman as part of the Air Activities Stage 2 badge

We have also had 3 Chief Scout Silver Awards achieved this term by Freya Chubb, Caine Christie-Browne, and Poppy Harnett. We have 2 others in the wings, Oliver Clark and George Palling,

we will push to get these completed before they move up to Scouts over the coming year.

Looking forward to next term, we are currently looking to arrange a few exciting visits such as:

- A visit to the Wings Museum is in discussion to finish the Air Activities badge
- A possible trip to a local ambulance centre may be on the cards as part of the First Aid badge

For adult help, Courtney has joined the leadership team this term, as well as Corey turning 18 and becoming a leader following on from being a YL with the group for a few years. This means the leader team

is doing well at the moment with Courtney, Ian, John, Corey, and Aline. There are also 3 parent helpers who stay on very regularly, and we appreciate their support greatly.

Thursday and Phoenix Scout Troops: Alex Donald ASL & Hayden Tiltman (ASL)

We are happy to report that the 5th second section on a Friday night is beginning to fill out. The Phoenix troop continue to share a program with the Thursday night troop. We are starting to see more interest in adult help on a Thursday, but we still urgently need additional adults on a Friday, especially in leadership roles. Interested adults, parents, carers etc. should get in touch. We anticipate a good flow of Cubs linking from our two Cub Packs through the next year, and hope they enjoy the next phase of their scouting. Regular attendance remains in the low 20s, which continues to show the value in listening to how the young people want their programme to be. Total numbers on the Thursday section is 22 and the Friday troop has 5 scouts at present which will soon climb as more cubs move up from both our feeder packs. This year has had activities as varied as archery, pioneering, cooking, shooting, 1st aid, team building; we have climbing, and cycling to come this term also. Our summer camp planning is almost complete with the scouts this year camping at Broadstone Warren. Scouting is youth informed, the opinions and suggestions by our members is used to build the programme we deliver. Please do not be shy in coming to leaders with suggestions, we may not have thought of it!

I'd like to thank our parents for their continued evening support with the in-person meetings, the cycling is particularly helpful! Parent help is always appreciated and is fun for you too! We look forward to seeing you with us on nights and events into 2023/24, your help really is essential.



Neil Armstrong Explorers – Russell Stallibras (DESL)

Firstly, let me take this opportunity to introduce ourselves as I believe this is our first time, we've entered a report into the AGM. We are Neil Armstrong Explorers who are based at 5th Crawley, we meet on Wednesday nights throughout the term time, we are the next stage up from Scouts aged for 14 to 18 years old.

Unfortunately, we can't be with you today at the AGM, as you are reading this report, we are currently on a sailing boat somewhere off the shore of Shoreham with our Explorers on a day's sailing trip.

This year has seen a number of changes in the unit with myself and Paul taking the reins in September, since then, we have doubled the size of the unit to 12 which is great, there is more growth to come which means we can offer even more opportunities to our young people going forward. We have also started to improve the linking between ourselves and 5th Crawley, personally I have attended a number of exec meetings this year and have managed to make it to a scout meeting to introduce myself. I hope to improve on this over the next year. This year two 5th C scouts have moved up to us, we hope to continue the improvement in this area over the next twelve months.

Over the past year we have, taken the unit away for a week to the New Forest where we included a Silver Duke of Edinburgh expedition which four of our members completed.

We organised scuba diving for our explorers which was well attended over four Thursday evenings at K2 leisure centre, this was a fantastic new experience for many of our members.

We organised a joint meeting between us and scouts where we went to lazer tag before heading back to the hut for some food and games. This proved popular from both Scouts and Explorers with large numbers in attendance.

We have improved our programme since September and offer a varied and exciting weekly programme and are very often away from the hut enjoying these activities.

As there is only Paul and myself as leaders currently, we are on the lookout for another leader to join us and share some of the workload, if anyone is interested in volunteering in the older age range of Explorers then please feel free to reach out to us.

5th Crawley Scout Group

Financial Statement for the year ended 31 March 2024

INCOME STATEMENT	Notes	2023-24	2022-23
Income			
Membership income	(1)	19,053	15,771
Charitable activity income		6,304	4,297
Grant and donation income		1,567	500
Other income		428	458
Total Income		27,352	21,026
Expenses			
Building Expenses:			
Property, plant and equipment		1,299	4,142
Repairs and maintenance	(2)	2,030	420
Rent	(3)	1,941	3,330
Insurance		797	712
Electricity	(4)	1,808	1,024
Water and sewerage	(5)	1,060	281
Cleaning		673	722
Total building expenses		9,607	10,631
Charitable activity expenses:			
Activities		8,430	4,897
Camps		2,902	4,098
Total activity expenses		11,332	8,995
Administrative expenses:			
Capitation		8,308	6,902
Administration		903	398
Loan Repayments		0	0
Donations		0	83
Uniforms and badges		3,265	2,776
Bank charges		0	0
Payment fees. Events		222	85
Payment fees. Subscriptions		1	0
Miscellaneous expenses		0	0
Total administrative expenses		12,699	10,243
Total Expenses		33,638	29,869
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		(6,286)	(8,842)
BALANCE SHEET as at 31st Mar		2023-24	2022-23
Accumulated funds			
Balance at 1st Apr 2023		25,933	34,776
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(6,286)	(8,842)
Balance at 31st Mar		19,647	25,933
Represented by:			
Cash in hand		1,091	448
Cash at bank		18,556	25,486
TOTAL ASSETS		19,647	25,933

5th Crawley Scout Group

Notes to the accounts for financial year 2023-24

- (1) +£3,283/+21% increase in subscriptions vs last year due to increase in members.
- (2) +£1,610 increase in repairs and maintenance mostly due to landscaping works and electrical installation condition report.
- (3) £1,115.40 Maidenbower rent related to Sep-23 to Feb-24 period was not charged until the next financial year on 2nd Apr 2024.
- (4) +£784 increase in electricity expense driven mostly by increase in rates in 2022 and 2023. Recent rates have decreased.
- (5) +£778 increase in water expense due to some of the water bills charged for both last and the current year.

**5th Crawley Scout Group
Independent Examiner's Report**

I report on the accounts of the 5th Crawley Scout Group for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The Group's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility:

- to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charities Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Group 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements to :
 - keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and;
 - prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act has not been met; or
2. which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Name: Mitchell Clark

Address: Citycal House
12 Bridge Road Business Park
Haywards Heath
RH16 1XT

Date

11th NOVEMBER 2024

5TH CRAWLEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 305877

Accounts



Annual General Meeting 2022

Date: Saturday 24th September

Time: 14.30 - 15.15

Location: Maidenbower Junior School, Crawley

Agenda:

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Chairman's introductions
- 3 Apologies for absence
- 4 Approval of minutes for last year's AGM
- 5 Financial Report and questions
- 6 GSL's nomination of Group Chairman
- 7 Election of officers to the Group Executive
- 8 Nomination of members to the Group Executive Committee – parent reps
- 9 Nomination of members to the Group Executive Committee – leaders
- 10 Presentations - Awards and Spirit of 5th Crawley
- 11 Group Scout Leader's Comments
- 12 Visitors Remarks
- 13 District Commissioner's Representative Comments



Minutes for 5th Crawley Scout Group Annual General Meeting

Date: Saturday 11th September 2021
Time: 3.00-3.45pm
Location: Stanford Campsite

Minutes:

1. Welcome

Michael Gauntlett welcomed our guests The District Commissioner Wendy Keeley, the District Chairman Barry Jones and everyone present thanking them for joining us for the Group Fun day and AGM.

2. Chairman's introductions and Comments

Michael thanked the Leaders for their hard work over the last year as we all negotiated the unprecedented time of the pandemic-he also highlighted the resilience of the young people and their enthusiasm for embracing the new ways of meeting-digitally and face to face. He was pleased that the Group was in a stable financial position and thanked Karolis for his excellent financial management. He went on to also thank parents for their continued support and the Group Executive for all their hard work over the past 15 months since our last face to face AGM and to thank the GSL Eddy for all his efforts which ensured the group is in a stable position.

3. Apologies

Apologies were received from the following leaders-

Jane Pelham
Alan and Naomi Mayes
Helen Ives and Kevin Ives
Chris Hobbs

4. Approval of minutes for last year's AGM

A copy of last year's minutes had been provided to all. The meeting was asked if there were any queries, of which there were none, it was agreed they were an accurate record. Proposed by Ian Head and seconded by Alex Donald.

5. Financial report and questions

Copies of the accounts with supporting notes were provided to all. Karolis highlighted the main points of Group income and Expenditure. Our income had increased to £31000 which was up from £11600 previously due to the Covid grants received by the Group. The subscriptions income had reduced by 18% (£2500) overall -however this was better than at the start of the pandemic when they were down by approx. 30%. Due to the efforts of all the leaders to keep members and recruit new ones the Group subs were in a healthy position and back to the pre pandemic levels. Karolis said that the drive of the GSL to obtain the Covid Grants was greatly appreciated and it will ensure the Groups financial future for years to come and give the young people the best opportunities. The Group expenditure was reduced from £18.600 in the previous year to £13500 which was due to reduced outgoings in renting Maidenbower Community Centre and less activities due to the pandemic -however expenses were incurred in obtaining Zoom licences and extra cleaning and

materials for the section/group Covid kits. Karolis confirmed that the accounts had been audited and asked if there were any questions arising; there were none.
Proposed by John Gardner and Seconded by Ian Head

6. GSL's nomination of Group Chairman

GSL chooses who they want to be chairman and this does not need to be voted on. Michael Gauntlett was nominated by Eddy Hills- he has been in post for the last two years-firstly shadowing Sarah Dodwell then fully taking over last year -just in time for the pandemic! He is happy to continue in this role and Eddy thanked him for his continued support.
No vote required.

7. Election of Officers to the Group Executive – Group Secretary and Group Treasurer

Karolis Pulokas had already expressed that he was happy to continue his role as Group Treasurer for another year.
Bev Hills was prepared to continue to act as Group Secretary.

Proposed by John Gardiner Seconded by Tina Harwood

8. Nomination of members to the Group Executive Committee – Parent Representatives

The following parents have volunteered their help on the Executive and were appointed to the committee subject to a satisfactory DBS clearance being received in due course. They were nominated en mass.

Helen Maguire	TB	Cubs Three Bridges
John Gardiner	M	Scouts
Deborah Crawford	M	Maidenbower Beavers
Jeff Curnick	TB	Scouts

Proposed by Alex Donald Seconded Abbie Gauntlet

9. Nomination of members to the Group Executive Committee – Leaders

Leaders were invited to opt in to Group Executive, the following leaders have confirmed their intent to support the Executive. Again this was communicated en mass.

Ian Head	TB	Cubs
Jane Pelham	TB	Beavers
Marie Robson	TB	Beavers
Alex Donald	TB	Scouts
HaydenTiltman	TB	Scouts
Alan Mayes	M	Beavers/cubs

Proposed by John Gardiner seconded by Tina Harwood

10. Section Reports

These had been distributed prior to the meeting in the pack and highlighted some of the activities enjoyed on Zoom and face to face during the last year for each of the sections.

11. GSL's comments

Eddy referred to his report but wanted to add an explanation of the Spirit of 5th Crawley Award for each of the sections and to explain the leaders Commissioners Award nominations with the exceptional work that had prompted them during lockdown. He also expressed his thanks to the leaders, the Exec especially Michael and Karolis for their support and all the parents. He went on to explain that the Covid grants (which were progressively more difficult to obtain) would help to secure

the Groups financial position -however we are currently experiencing a rent review -which without a rebate would double the rent -so things could change going forward. He also said that some of the grant monies have been used to purchase tents and equipment for the group and a monetary award has been given to each section to go towards a specific activity or event e.g. camp or kayaking. Today's group day was also funded from the grants.

Presentation of Awards by the District Commissioner

John Simmonds -Commissioners Award

Ian Head-Commissioner Award

Bev Hills 15 years service award

CSA Bronze certificate-Bradley Harwood

Spirit of 5th Crawley Awards presented by the GSL

Trophy-Harry Gardiner

William Bundy

Eva Gauntlett

Zac Mayes

Melisa Henderson

Danielle Ikondo

12. District Commissioners comments

Wendy thanked the Group for inviting her to the AGM and congratulated the young people on their awards. She thanked the leaders for their efforts and explained that they were all volunteers who delivered Scouting in their free time-more leaders were always needed and if anyone wanted to become more involved please speak to herself the GSL or another leader for more information. Finally she mentioned the benefit of Scouting and the 'Skills for Life' aspect which equips young people as they progress through Scouting and move on to further education, apprenticeships and university. Showing that by being actively involved in Scouts, Explorers, the Young Leader and D of E programmes this demonstrates the positive characteristics which are recognised by universities and employers.

The meeting concluded at 3.45 pm.

5th Crawley Scout Group

Financial Statement for the year ended 31 March 2022

INCOME STATEMENT	Notes	2021-22	2020-21
Income			
Subscriptions	(1)	13,502	11,615
Investiture fees	(2)	754	0
Hut Hire		500	643
Fundraising		0	0
Camp Contributions		511	0
Activity Contributions	(3)	2,005	(216)
Grants	(4)	10,667	19,908
Loans received		0	0
Donations received		906	1,000
Miscellaneous income		0	0
Total income		28,844	32,950
Expenditure			
Building Expenses:			
Property, plant and equipment	(5)	3,337	1,160
Repairs & Maintenance		1,065	1,039
Rent	(6)	2,011	967
Insurance		698	648
Electricity		185	372
Water & Sewerage		295	816
Cleaning		593	629
Total building expenses		8,183	5,630
Activity Expenses:			
Activities	(7)	4,742	802
Camps		459	0
Total activity expenses		5,201	802
Administrative expenses:			
Capitation	(8)	7,049	4,680
Administration		473	561
Loan Repayments		0	0
Donations		407	490
Uniforms & Badges	(9)	3,752	1,422
Bank charges		0	0
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Total administrative expenses		11,680	7,153
Total expenditure		25,064	13,585
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		3,780	19,365
BALANCE SHEET as at 31st Mar		2021-22	2020-21
Accumulated funds			
Balance at 1st Apr 2021		30,995	11,631
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		3,780	19,365
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Represented by:			
Cash in hand		582	517
Cash at bank		34,194	30,478
TOTAL ASSETS		34,776	30,995

5th Crawley Scout Group

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 - £2,667 Omicron Hospitality & Leisure Grant, Jan-21
 - £8,000 Restart Grant 2 - Hospitality.Accommodation.Leisure.Personal Care.Gyms, Apr-21
- (5) £3,337 in PPE for acquisition of 1 mess tent, 5 x tents, 5 x cooking sets, knives, water urn, water containers, wind shields, gas consumables, pipe, spanners, first aid kits, etc.
- (6) Rent expense increased as we resumed activities in maidenbower.
- (7) Activity expenses are +£2.7k higher than activity contributions as the group decided to spend some of last year's grant money for activities by each section.
- (8) £7,049 capitation fee vs £4,680 as memberships increased from 72 members last year to 111.
- (9) £3,752 spent for uniforms & badges vs £1,422 last year due to increase in activities following a lockdowns last year and the group has spent £1.3k to renew leader uniforms.

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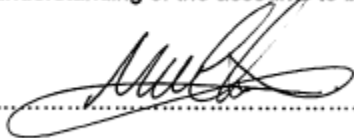
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Signed



Name: Mitchell Clark

Address: Citycal House
12 Bridge Road Business Park
Haywards Heath
RH16 1XT

Date

20th September 2022.

Contents:

Group Updates
-Chairman's Report
-Group Overview

Section Updates

- Beavers
- Cubs
- Scouts

Group Contact:
GSL Eddy Hills

Annual Report

Chairman's report: Michael Gauntlett

Welcome to 5th Crawley's AGM and thank you for joining us.

5th Crawley has had an incredible year across all sections with fantastic activities and experiences being undertaken by our young people. Highlights include Go Ape and the Jubilee Camp.

That parents and young people are responding to the way we are running 5th Crawley is most apparent through the continued operation of the second Cub Pack at Maidenbower and the opening of a second Scout Troop at the HQ.

I give my greatest thanks to all those involved, parents for their continued support and flexibility and to the young people who are developing their outdoor and indoor education skills, returning week after week smiling and eager to learn and have fun. However, my greatest thanks, as always, goes to our Leaders, Sectional Assistants and our GSL. Without any of these people we simply would not exist. Our team continually volunteer to provide diverse and exciting opportunities to our young people. I am constantly challenged by ideas from Leaders to provide for our sections.

With that thanks in place, we as a collective need to consider how we operate sustainably with expanding numbers and long waiting lists. Our biggest restriction is the number of Leaders and Sectional Assistants.

Without a new influx of volunteers we indirectly increase the pressure on our existing support. My plea to all that read this, is to consider supporting us with your time -whether that is an hour a month or an hour a week. We can offer varied and exciting roles and training across a broad spectrum of interests.

My focus as Chairman has always been to put the young people first by providing the best possible scouting experience. That focus, however, is challenged by our ability to safely run sessions with the correct adult support. If anyone can spare any amount of time it is greatly appreciated by us all.

Group Overview

Group Scout Leader: Eddy Hills

We held our last AGM a little over 12 months ago and as we have come to expect we have had an extraordinary year with continued growth across our sections.

It's customary to describe the formation of the Group - there are two Beaver Colonies, two Cub Packs - split between Three Bridges and Maidenbower - and now two Scout Troops both based at the HQ in Gales Drive, Three Bridges. We try and operate each section by their own team of volunteer leaders and helpers who run weekly activities. In addition, we partner with Neil Armstrong Explorer Scout Unit who meet at our HQ on Wednesday evenings. The Group is supported by a team of parents and leaders (Executive Committee). They support the running of the Group, ensuring this is done safely with the funds to do so and within the frameworks of the Charities Commission and The Scout Association.

The last month has delivered its share of sad news. With the passing of the Queen (our Patron), our programme has been adapted to ensure that we have reflected and shown our respect as members, individuals and as Scouts for her guidance and leadership. We also learnt that our former chair Sarah Dodwell had sadly died in August after a long fight with cancer. Sarah had been a shining example by helping put the Group back on track after a number of challenging years. We are thinking of her family at this difficult time.

Each section report summarises what each has done so I will avoid repeating their content. The Group has enjoyed a busy year and growth this year prompted the opening of a second Scout Troop in September in partnership with 1st Northgate, which is beneficial for both Groups. Following the reopening of normal meetings, our numbers at the last count were recorded at the last count as totaling 125 members. To the credit of our leaders, and with parent help, we are making good progress in each Section with members earning the top awards, especially amongst our younger Sections. Congratulations to everyone who has completed their Chief Scouts Awards. We are anticipating that our older members will qualify for their Bronze and Silver Chief Scouts Awards over the next few months. Each Section offers a range of activities - including nights away, which as a Group we have subsidised from funds and grants. In addition, we have given the interior of HQ a face lift and the Cubs created and maintained a colourful display of flowers throughout the spring and summer for the Group and the local community.

Our Chairman has highlighted our biggest challenge this year - recruiting adults into leadership roles - which is probably a continued consequence of not being able to meet face to face during Covid. We have made progress in a number of Sections, but it is a constant problem. Although our parent help from week to week is very good, I'd like to see if we can convert some of that help into leadership roles over the next 3 months, especially at our Maidenbower sections where the need is becoming more urgent. Please talk to me if you feel you can take that next step. We have shown that by working in teams we can support each other, share the work and have some fun too!

A big thank you to our Leaders, Section Assistants and occasional helpers, you have been magnificent. I've seen great team work across the Sections which is paying dividends. Many thanks to our Executive Committee under Michael's chairmanship for their support during the last 12 months providing the vital support and decision making that keeps the Group heading in the right direction. Scouting doesn't happen - the important ingredient are our youth members. Thank you to them for their enthusiasm and hard work.

Section Updates

Maidenbower Beavers : Helen Ives (Fox) BSL



It was so lovely to be able to meet face to face again after lockdown and we have tried to make the most of it by getting outdoors as much as possible. We have even managed to camp for a night in June with other members of the Group and then join the Platinum Jubilee Event at Stanford where we enjoyed ice cream and face painting.

We have always been oversubscribed, this year being no different and we do our best to accommodate as many from our waiting list as possible.

As well as the use of the Community Centre we are so lucky to have the use of the school's forest school area and enjoyed our end of term campfire with songs and marshmallows to toast.

Beavers have worked hard and done very well to earn their badges; the Leader team have produced a programme which gives them the opportunity to complete the Chief Scout's Bronze Award.

Our thanks go to the Beavers for their fun and enthusiasm and to the parents for their help and support, sometimes at short notice.

We look forward to the coming year with more fun and adventures.

Fox, Squirrel, Hedgehog, Rabbit, Robin, Badger and Woody

Three Bridges Beavers: Jane (Bubbles), BSL

It has been amazing this year to get back to face to face and be able to do visits, sleepovers and Group and District events.

First we had a lovely Christmas themed sleepover in December with themed crafts and a visit from Santa's elves .

Twelve of our beavers and their families took part in the District Easter event and had loads of fun at Stanford with lots of different activities including crafts, mini crossbows, campfire cooking and sing along . We all met the Easter Bunny and got an egg to take home.

In June, as well as the Platinum Jubilee event, we had amazing day at Go Beavers with 800 beavers from around West Sussex. We took part in wall climbing, archery, caving, nightlife assault course, campfire cooking, crafts, water games and bouncy castles to name just a few.

In our Monday meetings we have covered compass work, global issues, campfire cooking, visited NHS staff to take them Valentine's treats (where we made nurses cry happy tears), been to Metro Bank to complete our money skills badge, learnt basic first aid and made nature pictures with things we collected on our walk.

9 Beavers achieved their Chief Scout Bronze Award, which is the highest award that a Beaver can attain. Congratulations to them all, we are very proud of them.

Marie and myself would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents who have helped us on

Mondays and at our events. We could also like to thank Ronnie from Maidenbower for her help at Go Beavers and Helen for her help at our sleepover. A special thank you to our young leader Jess!

Three Bridges Cub Packs: Cathryn Pernstich (Kaa) ACSL



Over the last year the Cubs at 5th Crawley (Three Bridges) have earned over 300 Activity and Challenge badges with four Cubs earning their silver Chief Scout Award. The Cubs have earned badges such as Astronomy, Environmental Conservation, Global Issues, Chef, Road Safety, Money Matters, Fire Safety and a good selection of the Challenge Awards.

In earning the badges the Cubs have learnt how to plan and cook a two course meal, looked at the moon through a large telescope, embarked on a litter pick, planted trees and bulbs, played games from a different country in a different language, celebrated Chinese New Year, met with a first aider, a fireman and a speaker from Oxfam, swung like monkeys in the trees at Go-Ape and visited a bank.

To celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, the vast majority of our Cubs attended a two night camp where they took part in fire lighting, group rounders, camp fire singing, raising and striking camp, a jubilee themed party and tree planting with a big highlight being the night hike to watch the Jubilee beacon being lit - bedtime at nearly midnight is exciting!! For a good number of our Cubs this was their first time away from home and they were utterly brilliant, joining in with all activities with gusto.

The challenge to match the excitement for next year is on.

Thank you to our team of leaders, assistants and our young leaders who have made a big difference this year.

Maidenbower Cub Pack - Alan Mayes (Chill) ABSL

We are currently running with 18 members, 3 of which will be moving to scouts and we have another 8 due to come up from beavers when we start the new term.

With very few Covid restrictions we have managed to have camp at last at Stanford in June with other sections of the Group, attend the Platinum Jubilee Fun Day at Stanford (which was very popular) and we also took part in our own St George's Day Service and activities.

We have run joint events with Three Bridges Cubs as well, which included attending the Pantomime, Laser Tag, and Go Ape. It's been great to be able to get out and do activities which is what scouting is all about.

For the year ahead, we will be carrying on with our evening meetings hoping to expand those with activities such as a visit to the Hindu Temple, widening our first aid knowledge and possibly scuba diving.

Many thanks to our young leader Corey who attends every week and also to the parents who support our weekly meetings. We couldn't do it without you.

An Update from the Scout Troop: Alex Donald ASL

Demand for and retention of Scouts in the last 12 months has been excellent so much so we are happy to report that 5th Crawley has opened a second section on a Friday night. The Phoenix troop (who's flag was already in the group inventory) will share the HQ on a Friday with our good friends at 1st Northgate, a return to an arrangement that has been mutually beneficial in the past. Pooling leaders for the moment allows for our expansion and gives us the time to recruit a more stable leadership for the Friday troop. The aim is for those leaders to work with the Thursday troop and Northgate for years to come. Interested adults, parents and carers should please get in touch.

We anticipate a good flow of Cubs linking from our two Cub Packs through the next year, and hope they enjoy the next phase of their scouting. Regular attendance is climbing towards the low 20s, an improvement from last year's report and shows that the programme which is informed by the views of the young people is both in their interests and works within the framework of the Scout section. Total numbers on the Thursday section is 28, though this may rebalance with some of those moving up going into the Friday troop.

This year, we have had activities as varied as archery, pioneering, cooking, shooting, first aid, team building. We have had a number of firsts for the troop where 4 members took the opportunity to attend a Mechanics day hosted by the Army in Kent. Some of our members now shoot with the District at 4th Worth most Saturdays. Other activities have included serious off road fun with quad biking during our recent and very successful summer camp, where Stefan from Northgate also joined us on a day hike, and a visit to the heritage Spa Valley Railway in Tunbridge Wells. Our recent summer camp saw 14 Scouts enjoying fantastic weather and facilities at Adamswell Campsite. We will return there in the future, though we've had requests to look into camps with more water based activities for next year.

We have been investing in new camp equipment and innovating with the kit we use to deliver a modern scout camp, which improves camp safety and brings our set up bang up to date. We will continue to discuss with Group Executive how we can deliver activities effectively and with the kit to back it up.

We are pushing for more activities into the new year with footgolf, one that was pitched and seemed to be a popular suggestion. Scouting is youth informed, the opinions and suggestions by our members is used to build the programme we deliver. Please do not be shy in coming to leaders with suggestions, we may not have thought of it!

I'd like to thank our parents for their Thursday evening support with meetings such as the cycling. Parent help is always appreciated and is fun for you too! We look forward to seeing you with us on nights and events into 2023, your help really is essential.

Y.I.S

Alex Donald ASL 5th CRAWLEY SCOUTS

5th Crawley Scout Group

Financial Statement for the year ended 31 March 2022

INCOME STATEMENT	Notes	2021-22	2020-21
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5th Crawley Scout Group

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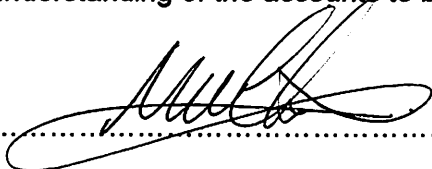
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- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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2. which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed 

Name: Mitchell Clark

Address: Citycal House
12 Bridge Road Business Park
Haywards Heath
RH16 1XT

Date *20th September 2022.*

**5th Crawley Scout Group
Independent Examiner's Report**

I report on the accounts of the 5th Crawley Scout Group for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The Group's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

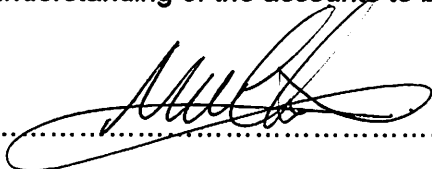
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Date *20th September 2022.*

5TH CRAWLEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 305877

Accounts

Contents:

Group Updates

-Chairman's Report

-Group Overview

Section Updates

- Beavers
- Cubs
- Scouts

Group Contact:

GSL Eddy Hills

Annual Report

Chairman's report, Michael Gauntlett

Welcome to 5th Crawley's AGM and thank you for joining us.

First of all, I would like to thank all the Young people within our group for their resilience throughout this pandemic. Times have been difficult and many of our young members have continually stayed positive and enthusiastic about our programs and activities, turning up to outdoor sessions and contributing to online activities.

As always, my continual thanks goes out to all the section leaders and helpers for supporting the whole section throughout our journey into and now hopefully out of the pandemic. These volunteers have spent large amounts of time devising programs and writing risk assessments to ensure we can provide the best possible experiences and learning we can. Thank you all.

The executive committee has met continuously throughout the past 2 years and have ensured we run the group within all expectations. My special thanks has to go to Eddy Hills who has arranged many things that allows us to operate and has also arranged levels of funding through community grants.

We have exciting plans ahead, both for our infrastructure and for activities across all sections. Sections reports are included in this newsletter.

We would very much like to hear from any parents who feel they can make a small commitment to our Group by providing this. Any support - please let Eddy know if you think you can help. Thank you also to parent reps who have supported us this year - your input is very much appreciated.

Thank you

Michael Gauntlett, Chairman



Group Overview

Group Scout Leader- Eddy Hills

Fifteen months has passed since our last Annual Report and it's been an interesting journey for us and I hope that we are in a better place now, however we will continue to adapt going forward.

It's customary to describe the formation of the Group - there are two Beaver Colonies, two Cub Packs, split between Three Bridges and Maidenbower and a Scout Troop based at the HQ in Gales Drive, Three Bridges. Each section is supported by their own team of volunteer leaders and helpers who run weekly activities. In 2021 we were asked to partner with Neil Armstrong Explorer Scout Unit - we look forward to developing this relationship. The Group is supported by a team of parents and leaders (Executive Committee) who support the running of the Group, ensuring this is done safely with the funds to do so within the frameworks of the Charities Commission and The Scout Association. The Scout Association has aligned our ways of working to match the national covid situation throughout. We have now resumed most activities taking appropriate safety measures.

Each section reports summarise what each has done so I will avoid repeating their content. The Group has enjoyed an eventful year and has shown growth, although when there were no face to face meetings it was difficult to recruit new youth and adult members and we recorded a small decline on our annual membership census in January. However our leaders used various recruitment methods to overcome this challenge. With Clive's skills we now have a website which is fit for purpose, please take a look. Many will recall that we lost Liz in March which has left a big void, Liz Oke supported Maidenbower since its inception. Members raised over £400 towards flowers, a tree and her parents' chosen charity Great Ormond Street where as a child Liz had been a patient.

The past year has been difficult for many Groups nationally and 5th Crawley leaders, supporters and helpers with constant hard work continued to deliver high quality Scouting throughout. The following words are from the citation that accompanied the award for their efforts, the Commissioners Commendation-

- *"Collectively leaders and supporters across the Group kept scouts, cubs and beavers meeting throughout various phases of the pandemic. Every leaders' circumstances were different but they were willing to adapt, learn new skills and support each other often across different sections.*
- *In some cases this meant changing nights or running different age groups on additional nights, staying involved and leading meetings remotely even though they had moved to a new area of the country, stepping up to more responsibility.*
- *Being prepared to support face to face meeting even though they were at higher risk themselves. Considering new ways to give young people an enjoyable weekly experience in spite of the limitations.*
- *Being pro-active in planning to ensure that as near complete programmes were ran so that young people still gained experiences and achieved badges and awards throughout.*
- *Mentoring so that other leaders gained the knowledge and skills to be able to deliver quality on line experiences. Even though personal circumstances may have hindered some from their usual week to week involvement.*
- *Recognising the importance to look forward and stay in touch with the local community to recruit new young people to take part in current meetings or join in the near future.*

As a consequence 5th Crawley has continued to flourish with their young members gaining awards and life skills. Many thanks to all leaders and supporters who played a role during the past year."

Many thanks to our Executive Committee under Michael's chairmanship for their support during the past 15 months. Finally Scouting doesn't happen without the support of our youth members and parents- you have been great, we appreciate your dedication and efforts. Thank you!

Section Updates

Maidenbower Beavers - Alan Mayes (Chill) ABSL

There are currently have 22 beavers who attend meetings regularly.

During the various lockdowns our meetings were run on Zoom, which for the first part of the year which was a shared programme with



Three Bridges Beavers, Jane and Marie kindly running the sessions. We returned back to face to face from May onwards. We had 6 beavers move up to cubs and have more moving up between November and December. We also have 6 due to start shortly to replace them, we also have a healthy joining list who will be 6 in the coming year.

We have managed to run a varied programme which has included hikes , pioneering with marshmallows and spaghetti and the cyclist badge. We also held the beavers olympics! Most importantly we held camp fires at Stanford and Maidenbower Junior School with s'mores and toasted marshmallows. We had six beavers who were awarded their Chief Scouts Bronze award during lockdown and they were presented electronically with some internet magic from Eddy. We also invested some beavers online and others face to face when we held the activity day in June.

We sadly lost our beaver leader Liz Oke earlier this year and she has been greatly missed by us all. We remembered Liz at our activity day in the summer which ended with Liz's family being invited to plant a tree for her which was very well attended.

We have welcomed Rachel and Debbie who have joined us to support Alan in running Maidenbower Beavers. In addition we are also grateful to Helen, our Young Leaders and all mums and dads who have helped as part of our parent rota over the past year.

Three Bridges Beavers - Jane (Bubbles), Beaver Scout Leader

The last year in Scouting has presented us with many challenges when Covid 19 hit, and in Late March 2020, we had to close completely due to Lockdown. We then had to decide how best we could continue to deliver Scouting to the young people.

After April Half Term we began Zoom meetings. This was tough at the beginning – virtual meetings took some getting used to! The Beavers and their parents showed great resilience and persevered with online meetings. We managed to source fun and engaging guests to join us virtually through the 1st Virtual Scouts Facebook Group. These included a Drumming lesson using household items, a live talk about rats, rodents and reptiles and we were able to see them up close virtually.

We had a virtual visit to the Army Museum and a gory talk from a Roman Soldier! One of our favourite sessions was with Megan and her two Guide dogs for our Disability Badge. What a truly inspirational lady!

We prepared and delivered activity packs to be completed in our sessions, which resulted in our Beavers achieving 310 badges collectively over the year! An amazing achievement, and just shows how well the Beavers adapted to online meetings. We have also presented 11 Chief Scout Bronze Awards. We have managed to maintain our numbers throughout the pandemic, which shows just how well we have all worked together to give the Beavers the best Scouting we could in such difficult circumstances. This would not have been possible without the help of the Parents joining every week and helping their children with the online activities - for that we are truly grateful.

Three Bridges and Maidenbower Cub Packs- Chris Harris ACSL /Alan Mayes (Chill) ABSL



Much of this last year has been conducted under lockdown and so we held the majority of our Cub meetings online via Zoom. To reduce the load on our leaders, we continued to unite the Three Bridges and Maidenbower packs in the meetings, regularly seeing about 20 Cubs in each session (fairly evenly split between the packs). In May, we were able to fully resume face-to-face meetings and these were run by Alan and John with help from Hayden and Ian. At this point we re-divided the packs and ran alternating programmes, where one group would meet online (led by Chris and Jenny) while the other would be face-to-face and then vice versa the following week. This was quite successful and enabled us to maintain our level of activities and badge work despite the challenges.

In Three Bridges we have had 3 Cubs move up to Scouts and 4 Beavers move in to Cubs during the year - with more on their way. We have also managed to help number of Cubs get ever closer to their Silver Chief Scout's Silver Award - with congratulations to Kiran for completing before his move to Scouts! Presently there are 16 cubs meeting and we are expecting this to grow over the coming months. Thank you to Natasha who is shortly due to attend University, we hope you will visit us when you are back during the holidays.

Maidenbower cubs currently have 13 members, over this year 4 have moved to scouts and have earned their Chief Scouts Silver Award, we also have 6 due to move up shortly from beavers .

Sadly we unexpectedly lost one of our leaders during the year and Liz's presence was certainly missed as we emerged from the lockdown cocoon. We were pleased to be able to welcome her family to join us as we planted some trees in her memory at Stanford during our Activity Weekend (or "Not-A-Camp Camp"). There will always be a part of her with us now whenever we camp there.

There have been a wide range of activities this year, including a remotely-led Escape Room, remote sleepovers, clay modelling, microwave baking, making Chinese lanterns and dream catchers, quizzes, environmental awareness, fitness sessions and Cub Olympics, cycling and finally canoeing on Tilgate Lake. We also had a number of brilliant visitors including Lucas Jet's Circus and some disability awareness sessions where we learned about visual impairment and deafness (and how to sign to songs). As mentioned, we were really pleased to be able to hold an activity weekend at the end of May where the Cubs did everything but sleep overnight - putting up tents, cooking, pioneering, den building, fire lighting, campfire, making kites!

As a close to the term and the year Alan ran a camp for the Cubs at Stanford (this time with overnight stay!) with the assistance of Chris, John and Corey - and the chef skills of Helen and Naomi. Although it was really rather wet, we managed to complete a load of activities AND Alan successfully passed the requirements to achieve his Night's Away Permit! However, the camp ended on a slightly bittersweet note as Chris bid farewell to 5th Crawley as he moved on to Bromley District.

It has been a challenging year, but we look forward to moving on and up into the next year with your support as we discover more activities and new adventures!

Many thanks to Ian, Jenny, Victoria, John, Hayden and our Young Leaders, Natasha, Corey, Oscar.



An Update from the Scout Troop - Alex Donald ASL

Scout numbers have remained stable in the last 12 months thanks in part to a large number of members moving up from cubs. Many of whom were invested in the presence of the District Commissioner at the end of the term. We have a couple still to invest who could not make that evening. At present our numbers look to be around 20 scouts and we are regularly seeing 14-16 each Thursday evening.

This term has seen the return to regular in person scouting and the young people have readapted to the return to face to face really well, completing complex pioneering challenges, cooking, learning about lightweight expeditions we hope to look back on what we were planning to do pre-pandemic and action things that got cut short such as the running of a fundraiser which the scouts had planned, we will re-plan this event so it's fresh in everyone's mind. We hope to maximise our attendance at activities such as shooting, climbing etc. making good use of the excellent facilities available across the District.

I'd like to thank our parents for putting up with the challenges of the last 18 months of scouts through the various phases of the pandemic, especially their help during Zoom sessions. There were many successful Zoom meetings and some less so, even so they were usually a source of some comedy however they turned out. We experienced mug cooking, paddle boat making, mini-pioneering, virtual tour of Buckingham Palace from the Royal Collections (a first for this institution), emergency kit preparing, quizzes and of course some online games.

Thanks also to the parents that give up their Thursday evenings to support the in person meetings, the hike practice, litter picking and the cycling were especially helpful! Parent help is always appreciated and is fun for you too!

We are looking at options for summer camp next year. Hopefully we'll have a really successful year, full of interesting activities that the scouts enjoy.

Many thanks to the help in the past year from Hayden, we are pleased see our young leader Ben back too.

Y.I.S Alex Donald ASL

5th Crawley Scout Group

Financial Statement for the year ended 31 March 2021

INCOME STATEMENT	Notes	2020-21	2019-20
Income			
Subscriptions	(1)	11,615	14,067
Hut Hire		643	955
Fundraising		0	28
Camp Contributions		0	803
Activity Contributions	(2)	(216)	2,568
Bank Interest		0	0
Grants & Loans	(3)	19,908	1,027
Donations received	(4)	1,000	40
Miscellaneous income		0	0
Total income		32,950	19,487
Expenditure			
Building Expenses:			
Property, plant and equipment		1,160	1,737
Repairs & Maintenance	(5)	1,039	505
Rent	(6)	967	2,286
Insurance		648	623
Electricity		372	96
Water & Sewerage		816	258
Cleaning		629	774
Total building expenses		5,630	6,279
Activity Expenses:			
Scouts		193	357
Cubs		116	1,322
Beavers		453	1,903
Group		40	10
Camps		0	707
Total activity expenses	(7)	802	4,299
Administrative expenses:			
Capitation		4,680	5,580
Administration		561	392
Loan Repayments		0	0
Donations		490	150
Uniforms & Badges		1,422	1,908
Bank charges		0	0
Miscellaneous expenses		0	0
Total administrative expenses		7,153	8,030
Total expenditure		13,585	18,609
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		19,365	879

BALANCE SHEET as at 31st Mar	2020-21	2019-20
Accumulated funds		
Balance at 1st Apr 2020	11,631	10,752
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	19,365	879
Balance at 31st Mar	30,995	11,631
Represented by:		
Cash in hand	517	428
Cash at bank	30,478	11,203
TOTAL ASSETS	30,995	11,631

5th Crawley Scout Group

Notes to the accounts 2020-21

- (1) -£2,494/-18% decrease in Subscriptions due to reduction in members caused by the pandemic lockdowns.
- (2) Negative income in Activity Contributions (-£330) represent refunds for Go Beavers 2020 contributions collected in the prior year. The event could not go ahead due to the National lockdown.
- (3) £19,908 in grants vs £1,027 last year. Grants this year include:
 - £10,000 Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant, Apr-20
 - £1,334 National Restrictions Grant, Nov-20
 - £8,097 Business Support Package for Lockdown from 05/01/2021, Feb-21
 - £476.50 Local Restrictions Support Grant, Feb-21
- (4) £1,000 donation from SSP Foundation for volunteering activities by one of the leaders.
- (5) £1,039 in repairs & maintenance include installation of smoke, heat and carbon linked detectors, lighting and power for our storage shed, new LED PIR front flood light.
- (6) £1,320 cost saving in rental expenditure (£967 vs £2,286 LY) due to suspended agreement related to the Maidenbower site.
- (7) £3,557 cost saving in activity expenditure (£743 vs £4,299) due to most activities carried in virtual space. As a consequence activity contributions are lower by a similar amount.

**5th Crawley Scout Group
Independent Examiner's Report**

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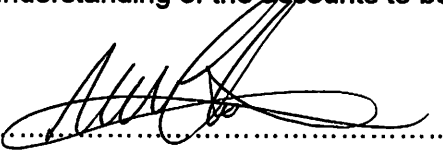
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Date 1st JUNE 2021