

3RD ASHTON-UPON-MERSEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 520155

Details

Other names	3RD ASHTON SCOUT GROUP
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1963-04-02
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	48 Carrington Lane Sale M33 5ND
Phone	07814536324
Website	3rdashton.com

Activities

Objects: PURPOSES OF THE 3RD ASHTON SCOUT GROUP

Activities: We are part of the Scouts Organisation. The purpose of Scouting is to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** SALE, ASHTON AND DISTRICT
- Cheshire East
- Cheshire West & Chester
- Trafford

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£33,216	£41,399	-	-
2023-12-31	£28,927	£32,612	-	-
2022-12-31	£34,440	£35,871	-	-
2021-12-31	£31,584	£36,496	-	-
2020-12-31	£44,944	£46,699	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
SIMON MURRAY	Chair	2013-08-15
ALASDAIR FERRO		2011-09-30
ANDREA MORGAN		
Dr Adam Roberts		2016-05-21
Fay Brocklebank		2021-09-18
MR HARRY PEET		2002-09-01
Mandy Westhead		2016-03-01
ROBERT BLAIRS		
SALLY YARWOOD		2017-07-01
SARAH GOODSTADT		
Sean Cameron Warman		2025-01-07
Stuart Thompson		2016-05-21
William Thomas Yarwood		2025-01-07

3RD ASHTON-UPON-MERSEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 520155

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date				Period end date			
From	01	01	2024	To	31	12	2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name **3RD ASHTON-UPON-MERSEY SCOUT GROUP**

Other names charity is known by 3rd Ashton Scout Group (old name)

Registered charity number (if any) **520155**

Charity's principal address **Brayton Avenue**
Sale
Cheshire
Postcode **M33 5HF**

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Simon Murray	Chair		Group Scout Leader
2	Alasdair Ferro	Secretary		Scout Group at the AGM
3	Andrea Morgan	Treasurer		Scout Group at the AGM
4	Harry Peet	Group Scout Leader		Scout Association POR
5	Sarah Goodstadt	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
6	Robert Blairs	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
7	Amanda Westhead	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
8	Sally Yarwood	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
9	Stuart Thompson	Assistant Section Leader		Group Trustee board.
10	Adam Roberts	Parent Committee Member		Group Trustee board.
11	Fay Brocklebank	Parent Committee Chair		Group Trustee board.

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

<p>Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)</p>	<p>The Group's governing documents are those of the Scout Association.</p> <p>They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.</p>
<p>How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)</p>	<p>The Group is a trust established under the Scout Association rules which are common to all Scouts.</p>
<p>Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)</p>	<p>The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.</p> <p>Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the Annual General Meeting.</p>

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

All our members, trustees, leaders, helpers and assistants give their time on a voluntary basis and received no remuneration or other benefits.

The Group is managed by the Group Trustee Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity.

As Charity Trustees, they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities.

This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Group Trustee Board consists of 11 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary, together with the Group Scout Leader, individual section leaders, and a maximum of 6 elected members representing supporters and parents. The committee meets every 2 months. The agreed Quorum for meetings is $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Board + 1, and via email - $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Board + 1. Rounded to the nearest whole numbers, equates to 5 and 9 respectively.

The Group Trustee Board exists to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments and is responsible for:

- The maintenance of Group property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.

Risk and Internal Control

The Group has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include appropriate financial controls and comprehensive insurance to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objectives of the group are as a unit of the Scout Association.

The aim of the Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

The method of achieving the aim of the association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have

In planning our activities for the year, we keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustees' meetings.

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The focus of our activities is based on the Scout Associations planned programme and award schemes, reinforced with related fun activities and camping / outdoor experiences. This benefits young people by developing their self-confidence and social skills alongside practical and life skills.

In line with the Scout Association guidelines, we welcome all young people regardless of personal background, faith, gender, personal circumstances or disability. This philosophy of openness to all, enriches our young people aged 6 to 18 and our volunteers, through the sharing of skills, aptitudes and life experiences.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

All of the income from subscriptions, donations and fund raising is spent for the benefit of all of our young members (Beavers, Cubs and Scouts). This includes maintaining the Scout Hut, necessary to provide a safe venue for regular meetings of all sections of the Group.

Parents and leaders have helped directly with building maintenance to keep costs down and, where specialist skills have been needed, have raised the funds to carry out essential work improving facilities and cost efficiency. Ongoing improvements are planned and financed in the same way. The funds provided by claiming Gift Aid help enormously, this has allowed the group to finance and or subsidise activities for the young members. Where some families have struggled financially the group waives or discounts subscription and camp fees depending on the need.

The group relies entirely on volunteers. All Leaders, skills instructors, helpers, assistants, parents and trustees, willingly give many hours of their time for free. Only through their tireless enthusiasm is the group able to achieve so much.

The partnership with the Explorer unit continues to work well. The Scout group allows the Explorer unit to use its facilities and equipment for their meetings, activities and camps. In the same way the Group allows Girlguiding, Sale Scout and Guide Band to use the premises and equipment owned by the Group. Additionally, the group allows the hut to be used for Young Leader and Adult training courses.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D Achievements and performance

Reports for 2024

Group Finding and retaining volunteers is increasingly a problem for all scout groups including our own. During 2024 we lost some key leaders due to personal circumstances. Fortunately, the leaders and helpers we retain continue to work tirelessly to provide a diverse, exciting and fun programme year after year.

Beavers Lots of badge and award work. Explored the cultures of many countries including America, Italy, China, Ireland, and even designed our own imaginary lands! The disability badge was fun. Great teamwork and learning the importance of helping others including pushing our friends round in a wheelchair. Talk of how we can be a good friend led to some great conversations. We visited the local park in order to complete our cycling badge, followed courses up and down hills, had races and one Beaver took off his stabilisers for the first time. Other activities away from the hut included a tour of St Martin's church, bulb planting in Ashton Park. A trip to Sale water park where the Beavers had a list of things to find and take a group selfie with them, some great action shots and a chance to explore. We held a talent show which included dancing, magic, sports displays and music. Beavers enjoyed camping with their parents at group family camp, the first time for some. Award and badge work at the hut

Section D

Achievements and performance

resulted in 254 badges being presented during the year.

Cubs (Sir Peter Scott Pack) (Lord Mountbatten Pack) The year began with designing a Badge for Crime prevention organized by Greater Manchester Police. Then a trip to the panto at the Waterside Theatre which hopefully will become a regular yearly outing. Cooking and the chef badge culminated with cubs making puddings at home. Astronomer badge where they made full solar systems, moon phases from Oreos and marshmallow constellations. A Mother's Day craft in March followed by a St Patrick's Day treasure hunt finished the term at the hut ready for our indoor Red Nosed themed camp at Ashworth Valley. Lots of activities and hikes. April, May and June saw the weather improve so we managed to get outside with archery, and axes, map work and a hike along the Trans Pennine trail. Canoeing, fishing and a litter pick finished off the activities and we spent the last few weeks of summer preparing for Group Family Camp. Back for a new term in September with healthy eating, disability awareness, bulb planting, First Aid, Book night and 3 weeks of safety badges finished our year off. Lots of badges earned and fun to be had. Congratulations to everyone who gained their Silver award.

Scouts (Tim Peake & Ellen MacArthur Troops) Both troops bursting at the seams with 30+ members on each night. Back to basics with some traditional scout skills, tent pitching in the dark, different ways of fire lighting, pioneering and safe use of axes and saws. Talent show resulted in some fantastic efforts including dog agility, magic, speed Rubics cube, a marshmallow eating contest and one scout that could draw any countries flag he was asked to! Once again, every Scout brought £1 to buy as much as they could to donate to the food bank. The team work, organisation and budgeting was fantastic to see. Both troops have been on hikes and camps and lots of outdoor activities to build on their skills and confidence. The group were donated some old costumes which the scouts upcycled. Choosing fabrics and designing their own outfits. The following week they were loaned several sewing machines, which they used to make their creations. At "The absolutely fabulous fashion show" there were some great performances on the catwalk. Just over 240 badges have been earned during the year including 3 Chief Scout Gold awards.

Friends of 3rd Ashton The role is to support the Group with fund raising and be 'an extra pair of hands' when needed, which in turns helps to keep subscriptions low for our young members. There are several established fund raisers in the calendar which include the spring bedding plant sale, start line marshals for the Manchester Marathon and the half marathon, and the Halloween party. In 2024 we supported the group with all these events and also provided additional support helping with the group family camp

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Scout Group should income and fundraising activities fall short, or major maintenance work on the premises is required.

The Group Trustee Board considers that the Group's funds should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months basic running costs (utilities and insurance etc), which is approximately £6,500.

Additionally, the Group strives to set aside sufficient funds over the year to pay the annual capitation fees paid to the Scout Association in March each year without undue difficulty, which was £7345 this year.

In addition, during December each year, the Group Trustee Board set a budget for the following year. All major expenditure is highlighted and finances held in the bank account are ear marked to cover the costs in good time.

Any other major expenditure arising during the year is agreed at the Group Trustee Board meetings. During 2024 a roof had to be replaced at a cost of

	£7740. This was agreed by the Trustee Board and covered by reserves set aside for such a contingency.
Details of any funds materially in deficit	None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity’s principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The main source of funds allocated for running costs is the monthly subscriptions paid by the Group members and regular fundraising which is mainly organised by the Friends of 3rd Ashton committee.

The majority of income is used to fund the running costs of the Scout hut which is the regular weekly meeting place for all the group members, and the cost of programmes, related activities and camps. All of which serve to improve the development of our members.

Other major ongoing costs are the annual capitation paid to the Scout Association which provides support and insurance for all of the members.

The Group has additional insurance for non- members.

When necessary, the Group waives or discounts subscription fees / camp fees for members whose families may otherwise struggle to meet the cost due to hardship.

We allow other local groups to use the facility on a regular weekly basis. The stated aim of all of these groups is to promote the development of young people.

When possible, they make a donation towards additional costs, wear and tear of equipment, insurance, gas, electricity and water costs.

The Group does not have sufficient funds to make long term investments. It has therefore adopted a risk adverse strategy to the investment of its funds.

All funds are held in cash using only one mainstream UK bank.

Section F Other optional information

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Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees’ report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees

Signature(s)

Full name(s)

Simon Murray	Alasdair Ferro
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Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair	Secretary
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Date

05/10/2025

Group Profit & Loss

2023		2024	
GROUP	<u>INCOME</u>	GROUP	P&L
14430.40	Subscriptions	15263.60	-10958.65
3680.40	Camps & Trips	6515.33	-5806.95
900.00	Donations	2515.00	2515.00
3681.98	Gift Aid	3619.21	3619.21
5273.46	PEC - Plant Sale	4383.98	1563.73
577.64	PEC - Halloween	605.00	570.00
0.00	Neckers/Hoodies	0.00	0.00
0.00	Development Fund	0.00	0.00
15.67	Other	0.00	0.00
318.00	Deposit Interest	314.49	314.49
28927.55		33216.61	-8183.17
	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>P&L Category</u>
-1584.76	Insurance / Rent	-1603.87	Subs
-3705.22	Utilities	-3896.08	Subs
-6049.50	Capitation	-7345.00	Subs
-4140.41	Section/Hut Activities	-2723.99	Subs
0.00	Training Fees	-670.00	Subs
-970.81	Badges/Neckers	-1089.43	Subs
-1424.42	General Equipment	-206.95	Subs
-978.27	Buildings & Maintenance	-8686.93	Subs
-8888.88	Camp & Trips Expenses	-12322.28	Camps
-1000.00	Donations	0.00	Donations
0.00	Gift Aid	0.00	Gift Aid
-3690.08	PEC - Plant Sale	-2820.25	Plant Sale
-165.57	PEC - Halloween	-35.00	PEC
0.00	Development Fund	0.00	Development
-14.69	Other	0.00	Other
-32612.61		-41399.78	
-3685.06	Income over Expenditure	-8183.17	

Group Balance Sheet

£ 4,603.80	Opening Balance Current a/c	£ 6,482.18
£ 33,028.05	Opening Balance Development a/c	£ 26,033.75
£ 6,482.18	Current Bank Balance	£ 5,724.52
£ 26,033.75	Current Development Fund Balance	£ 18,608.24
£ 32,515.93	Overall Balance	£ 24,332.76

I declare these figures to true to the best of my knowledge

Prepared by:

Examined By: Bev Sanders

Signed: **A L Morgan**

Signed: **B Sanders**

Date: 6/3/2025

Date: 6/5/2025

Item	Notes	Revenue	Cost
Subscriptions	Subs income up slightly on 2023 (+£832) Unpaid subs down to a manageable level £7,740 spent on Building Maintenance (new roof) Captitation increased £1300 over 2023	£ 15,263.60	-£ 26,222.25
Camps	The Group subsidised Group Camp (£1,400) and other camps and trips this year (£4,400) for the benefit of all our members. This was funded through Gift Aid & Donations	£ 6,515.33	-£ 12,322.28
Donations	£1290 from Marshalling (both Half & Full Marathon) Also received donations for use of the hut and from the Coop	£ 2,515.00	£ -
Gift Aid	Received from HMRC - 25% of subs. Typically used for the benefit of all our members to subsidise Camps & Trips (see above)	£ 3,619.21	£ -
PEC	Another successful Halloween event organised by the team of parents and group volunteers who make up the PEC.	£ 605.00	-£ 35.00
Plant Sale	The legendary annual plant sale continues to be a successful event, raising over £1500 this year	£ 4,383.98	-£ 2,820.25
Development Fund	Deposit Interest	£ 314.49	£ -
Totals		£ 33,216.61	-£ 41,399.78

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Profit	
-£	10,958.65
-£	5,806.95
£	2,515.00
£	3,619.21
£	570.00
£	1,563.73
£	314.49
-£	8,183.17



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

3rd Ashton-on-Mersey Scout Group

31 December 2024

520155

1-2

On accounts for the year ended

Charity no (if any)

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2024

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

B Sanders

Date:

05/06/2025

Name:

Bev Sanders

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

MAAT - Member of Association of Accounting Technicians

Address:

14 Quarndon Heights

Allestree, Derby

DE22 2XN

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

3RD ASHTON-UPON-MERSEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 520155

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date				Period end date			
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Section A Reference and administration details

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Other names charity is known by 3rd Ashton Scout Group (old name)

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Charity's principal address **Brayton Avenue**
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	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
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6	Robert Blairs	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
7	Amanda Westhead	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
8	Sally Yarwood	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
9	Nicholas Edmondson	Parent Committee Member	01/01/23 to 08/07/23	Group exec.
10	Stuart Thompson	Assistant Section Leader		Group exec.
11	Adam Roberts	Parent Committee Member		Group exec.
12	Fay Brocklebank	Parent Committee Chair		Group exec

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

<p>Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)</p>	<p>The Group's governing documents are those of the Scout Association.</p> <p>They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.</p>
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Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

All of the income from subscriptions, donations and fund raising is spent for the benefit of the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. This includes maintaining the Scout Hut, necessary to provide a safe venue for regular meetings of all sections of the Group.

Parents and leaders have helped directly with building maintenance to keep costs down and, where specialist skills have been needed, have raised the funds to carry out essential work improving facilities and cost efficiency. Ongoing improvements are planned and financed in the same way. The funds provided by claiming Gift Aid help enormously, this has allowed the group to finance and or subsidise activities for the young members. Where some families have struggled financially the group waives or discounts subscription and camp fees depending on the need.

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The group relies entirely on volunteers. All Leaders, skills instructors, helpers, assistants, parents and trustees, willingly give many hours of their time for free. Only through their tireless enthusiasm is the group able to achieve so much.

The partnership with the Explorer unit continues to work well. The Scout group allows the Explorer unit to use its facilities and equipment for their meetings, activities and camps. In the same way the Group allows Girlguiding, Sale Scout and Guide Band to use the premises and equipment owned by the Group. Additionally, the group allows the hut to be used for Young Leader and Adult training courses.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Reports for 2023

Leaders work hard to provide an exciting programme at the scout hut and through many external activities. The efforts of the exec and the friends of 3rd Ashton, ensure funds and support are always available for leaders to concentrate on providing our young members with learning and fun throughout the year. A great deal of hard work goes on behind the scenes and we are extremely grateful the effort put in by the many volunteers.

Beavers.

Beavers have had a busy year with many badges earned including Safety / first aid / scientist / communications as well as challenge badges and several Chief Scouts Bronze Awards. We started the year with a visit from the short story lady who led the Beavers on a live version of the Going on a Bear hunt story which helped us with the book reader badge. February saw several Beavers (and leaders) take part in Sale Gang Show. We practiced marching for St Georges day parade and had a great turn out. First hike badge was a scavenger hunt hike, Beavers took turns at reading the maps and deciding which way to go and had things to hunt on the way. As part of an environmental clause for our world challenge we took part in a litter pick.

Summer saw our annual group family camp which was attended by many of our Beavers and their families. Lots of fun and a great time was had by all. There was a busy end to the year with more marching at the Remembrance parade. We had a sleepover at the hut, for some it was the first time staying away from home and we had fantastic fun. As part of the youth shaped award our Lodge Leaders planned a meeting, arranged and ran it themselves. They worked so hard with only a little help from the young leaders. We had a lasting effect on the Vicar from St Martin's church when the Beavers, as part of the group carol service, performed a nativity play. There was a real baby for Jesus, 'sheep' that barked and a 'dog-key'. The Vicar entered in to the spirit with her final story where she gave them all poo hats which they found very funny.

Cubs (Sir Peter Scott Pack)

2023 has been another busy year for the cubs. We've covered the Astronomy, Home Safety, Pioneering, Cooking, Naturalist, Communicator, Collector, Athletics, Artist, Fire Safety and the Entertainer badge. We've also covered a lot of the Challenge badges and are proud to have seen 6 cubs achieve their Silver awards. Camping started in the Spring, where we went go-karting, hiking, a low ropes course, crate stacking and on a very long zip line. Group family camp at Dunham with an "I'm a Celebrity" theme and lots of great activities. Autumn camp was really enjoyed getting back to basics and living like cavemen; exploring the woods, cooking on the fire and building dens. Finally, our Xmas hike and sleepover took us to Santas Grotto, a barge trip down the canal, and a hike back to the hut. Other activities have included the canoe and Cub Mudder competitions, Gang Show, a night at Dunham, tracking to the chippy, games in the park, parades and the Xmas service.

A very big 'thank you' to the leaders, young leaders and parents for making it all happen.

Cubs (Lord Mountbatten Pack)

Year began with a trip to the theatre to watch the Nomads Xmas Panto. We celebrated Chinese New Year sampling their food and traditions, this was part of our World challenge badge. The following few weeks we learnt about the body, good and harmful foods and first aid. This covered quite a few challenge badges and one staged badge. After the February half term, we asked the cubs to bring in any hobbies or collections from home. We had lots of football cards and even a rock collection. We finished the term with a trip to Bean and Brush where our creative cubs painted and took home their own plates and ornaments. Next half term we concentrated on the Monarchy and everything traditionally British. We learnt about St George, played soft archery and celebrated the Coronation of King Charles. The following few weeks we completed our staged air activities badge by making kites, paper airplanes and taking a trip to Manchester airports viewing area for a game of airplane bingo. The run up to the summer holidays saw Canoeing down the canal, a survival night hosted by Wyvern Explorers and litter picking at the local park. Our annual Group Family Camp was also well attended. After the summer break we learnt about our local area and went on a local knowledge quiz around Sale. In October we had the opportunity to go the cinema to see Elemental which everyone loved. Halloween games next followed by a Remembrance Day activity of spinning poppies. Our next trip was to the new climbing Centre at the chill factor and we ended the year with Xmas crafts and a Carol Service at St Martins. Congratulations to everyone who gained their Silver awards and Myself, Sally and Joe would like to thank all our volunteers at Mountbatten including Dan, Samantha and Matilda and also the financial support from group who subsidise our fun trips out.

Scouts (Tim Peake & MacArthur Troops)

Section D

Achievements and performance

Began with challenges for the scouts, the first was Third World Science solutions where patrols had to design an invention that could help 3rd world countries. Many fantastic inventions including solar powered water filters, emergency survival packs to be airlifted in to inaccessible communities, wind powered filtration systems and clip together emergency shelters. Then we had Taskmaster themes, make yourself in cake, build your friend out of clay, make human sized board games including hungry hippos and snakes and ladders. Scouts took part in the Gang Show and both troops helped build props with over 100 glow-in-the dark flowers! The Scout and Guide band based at our HQ came and ran an evening with the Scouts. Anyone who played an instrument brought it with them and those who didn't borrowed one from the band for the evening. By the end of the night we managed to all play a tune together with cello's, violins, recorders, all kinds of brass, drums and percussion, saxophone and a didgeridoo. Played a very unique version of Sweet Caroline. Other activities included a virtual escape room experience, then with limited funds 20 challenges to complete before a race to Dunham Scout Camp using public transport without any prior knowledge. County Cardboard canoe competition at Sale water park, making and rowing a canoe made of cardboard is as mad as it sounds. Scouts have attended group family camp in big numbers and had loads of fun with the more traditional activities as well as the slightly stranger ones such as their own bush tucker trial! Older Scouts arranged their own hike from the hut to Dunham Scout Camp for their expedition challenge. Planned their own menu's, equipment, budget and route. The weather was awful and they got extremely wet but spirits were high and they made it all the way there and back with no incidents and only saw leaders at pre designated check points. All scouts at the St Georges Day and Remembrance parade. Took part in a community litter pick, climbing at chill factor and lots of fears were conquered and we finished the year off with a trip to Nerf Xtreme. Both Troops are full to bursting but we are busy and have lots planned for the coming years.

Friends of 3rd Ashton (Parents Committee)

The FoTA support the Group with fund raising and when needed as an extra pair of hands. There are several established fund raisers in the calendar. Financially the spring bedding plant sale and the Halloween party are the most successful. In 2023 we supported the Group with these events and also provided additional support for the group family camp. Once again we were selected to be start line marshals for the Manchester marathon and the half-marathon which brings in very reasonable donations to group funds.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Scout Group should income and fundraising activities fall short, or major maintenance work on the premises is required.

The Group Executive Committee considers that the Group's funds should hold a sum equivalent to 3 months basic running costs (utilities and insurance etc), which is approximately £6,000.

Additionally, the Group strives to set aside sufficient funds over the year to pay the annual capitation fees paid to the Scout Association in March each year without undue difficulty, which was £6,050 this year.

In addition, during December each year, the Group Executive Committee set a budget for the following year. All major expenditure is highlighted and finances held in the bank account are ear marked to cover the costs in good time.

Any other major expenditure arising during the year is agreed at the Group

Executive Committee meetings.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity’s principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The main source of funds allocated for running costs is the monthly subscriptions paid by the Group members and regular fundraising which is mainly organised by the Parents Committee.

The majority of income is used to fund the running costs of the Scout hut which is the regular weekly meeting place for all the group members, and the cost of programmes, related activities and camps. All of which serve to improve the development of our members.

Other major ongoing costs are the annual capitation paid to the Scout Association which provides support and insurance for all of the members.

The Group has additional insurance for non- members.

When necessary, the Group waives or discounts subscription fees / camp fees for members whose families may otherwise struggle to meet the cost due to hardship.

We allow other local groups to use the facility on a regular weekly basis. The stated aim of all of these groups is to promote the development of young people.

When possible, they make a donation to cover additional costs, wear and tear of equipment, insurance, gas, electricity and water costs.

The Group does not have sufficient funds to make long term investments. It has therefore adopted a risk adverse strategy to the investment of its funds.

All funds are held in cash using only one mainstream UK bank.

Section F Other optional information

[Empty box for optional information]

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees’ report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees

Signature(s) [Empty signature box]

Full name(s) Simon Murray Alasdair Ferro

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc) Chair Secretary

Date 24/07/2024

3rd Ashton upon Mersey Scout Group Charity No. 520155 Full Year Summary

Group Profit & Loss

2022		2023	
GROUP	INCOME	GROUP	P&L
14686.04	Subscriptions	14430.40	-4422.99
4003.50	Camps & Trips	3680.40	-5208.48
4462.00	Donations	900.00	-100.00
2886.24	Gift Aid	3681.98	3681.98
6672.25	PEC - Plant Sale	5273.46	1583.38
1297.40	PEC - Halloween	577.64	412.07
349.63	Kanderstag	50.00	50.00
12.69	Other	15.67	0.98
70.53	Deposit Interest	318.00	318.00
34440.28		28927.55	-3685.06

EXPENDITURE		P&L Category	
-1506.32	Insurance / Rent	-1584.76	Subs
-2677.71	Utilities	-3705.22	Subs
-6250.00	Capitation	-6049.50	Subs
-2114.90	Activities	-4140.41	Subs
-279.80	Training Fees	0.00	Subs
-1519.81	Badges/Neckers	-970.81	Subs
-636.68	General Equipment	-1424.42	Subs
-1992.00	Buildings & Maintenance	-978.27	Subs
-8661.11	Camp & Trips Expenses	-8888.88	Camps
-804.70	Donations	-1000.00	Donations
0.00	Gift Aid	0.00	Gift Aid
-4692.05	PEC - Plant Sale	-3690.08	Plant Sale
-312.35	PEC - Halloween	-165.57	PEC
-3079.64	Kanderstag	0.00	Kanderstag
-1333.33	Development Fund	0.00	Development
-10.74	Other	-14.69	Other
-35871.14		-32612.61	
-1430.86	Income over Expenditure	-3685.06	

Group Balance Sheet

£ 4,603.80	Opening Balance Current a/c	£ 4,435.74
£ 33,028.05	Opening Balance Development a/c	£ 31,765.25
£ 4,435.74	Final Bank Balance	£ 6,482.18
£ 31,765.25	Development Fund Balance	£ 26,033.75
£ 36,200.99	Overall Balance	£ 32,515.93

I declare these figures to true to the best of my knowledge

Prepared by: Andrea Morgan
 Signed: **A L Morgan**
 Date: 3/11/2024

Examined By: Bev Sanders MAAT
 Signed: **B Sanders**
 Date: 4/15/2024

Expenditure and Categories Notes

Item	Notes	Revenue	Cost	Profit
Subscriptions	Subs income slightly down on 2022 Utilities increased by 28%	£ 14,430.40	-£ 18,853.39	-£ 4,422.99
Camps	The Group subsidised Group Camp (£2,200) and other camps and trips this year (£3,000) for the benefit of all our young members	£ 3,680.40	-£ 8,888.88	-£ 5,208.48
Donations	In - Human Race, Sale District, One-off Out - Stockdales, Funding support for one member to attend World Jamboree	£ 900.00	-£ 1,000.00	-£ 100.00
Gift Aid	Received from HMRC - 25% of subs. Typically used for the benefit of all our members to subsidise Camps & Trips (see above)	£ 3,681.98	£ -	£ 3,681.98
PEC	Another successful Halloween event organised by the team of parents and group volunteers who make up the PEC.	£ 577.64	-£ 165.57	£ 412.07
Plant Sale	The legendary annual plant sale continues to be a successful event, raising over £1500 this year	£ 5,273.46	-£ 3,690.08	£ 1,583.38
Kanderstag	All other income/expenditure in previous years accounts	£ 50.00	£ -	£ 50.00
Adhoc	Error transaction: refunded and test transaction for SumUp of £0.98	£ 15.67	-£ 14.69	£ 0.98
Development Fund	Deposit Interest	£ 318.00	£ -	£ 318.00
Totals		£ 28,927.55	-£ 32,612.61	-£ 3,685.06



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

3rd Ashton-on-Mersey Scout Group

On accounts for the year ended

31st December 2023

Charity no (if any)

520155

Set out on pages

1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2023.

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Bev Sanders

Signed:

15/04/2024

Date:

Bev Sanders

Name:

IER

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

1

October 2018

MAAT - Member of Association of Accounting Technicians

Address:

14 Quarndon Heights

Allestree, Derby

DE22 2XN

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

3RD ASHTON-UPON-MERSEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 520155

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date					
From	01	01	2022	To	31	12	2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name **3RD ASHTON-UPON-MERSEY SCOUT GROUP**

Other names charity is known by **3rd Ashton Scout Group (old name)**

Registered charity number (if any) **520155**

Charity's principal address **Brayton Avenue**
Sale
Cheshire
Postcode **M33 5HF**

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Simon Murray	Chair		Group Scout Leader
2	Alasdair Ferro	Secretary		Scout Group at the AGM
3	Andrea Morgan	Treasurer		Scout Group at the AGM
4	Harry Peet	Group Scout Leader		Scout Association POR
5	Sarah Goodstadt	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
6	Robert Blairs	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
7	Amanda Westhead	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
8	Sally Yarwood	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
9	Nicholas Edmondson	Parent & Parent Committee		Group exec.
10	Stuart Thompson	Section Leader		Group exec.
11	Adam Roberts	Parent Committee Member		Group exec.
12	Fay Brocklebank	Parent Committee Chair		Group exec

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

The Group's governing documents are those of the Scout Association.

They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

How the charity is constituted
(eg. trust, association, company)

The Group is a trust established under the Scout Association rules which are common to all Scouts.

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the Annual General Meeting.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

All our members, trustees, leaders, helpers and assistants give their time on a voluntary basis and received no remuneration or other benefits.

The Group is managed by the Group Executive Committee, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity.

As Charity Trustees, they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities.

This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Group Executive Committee consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary, together with the Group Scout Leader, individual section leaders, and a maximum of 6 elected members representing supporters and parents. The committee meets every 2 months. The agreed Quorum for meetings is $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Board + 1, and via email - $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Board + 1.

The Group Executive Committee exists to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments and is responsible for:

- The maintenance of Group property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.

Risk and Internal Control

The Group has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include appropriate financial controls and comprehensive insurance to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objectives of the group are as a unit of the Scout Association.

The aim of the Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

The method of achieving the aim of the association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

In planning our activities for the year, we keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustees' meetings.

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

The focus of our activities is based on the Scout Associations planned programme and award schemes, reinforced with related fun activities and camping / outdoor experiences. This benefits young people by developing their self-confidence and social skills alongside practical and life skills.

In line with the Scout Association guidelines, we welcome all young people regardless of personal background, faith, gender, personal circumstances or disability. This philosophy of openness to all, enriches our young people aged 6 to 18 and our volunteers, through the sharing of skills, aptitudes and life experiences.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

All of the income from subscriptions, donations and fund raising is spent for the benefit of the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. This includes maintaining the Scout Hut, necessary to provide a safe venue for regular meetings of all sections of the Group.

Parents and leaders have helped directly with building maintenance to keep costs down and, where specialist skills have been needed, have raised the funds to carry out essential work improving facilities and cost efficiency. Ongoing improvements are planned and financed in the same way. The funds provided by claiming Gift Aid help enormously, this has allowed the group to finance and or subsidise activities for the young members. Where some families have struggled financially the group waives or discounts subscription and camp fees depending on the need.

Following the pandemic membership increased during 2022 to around 95% of pre covid years. Parents were requested to resume paying subscriptions if they could afford to and almost everyone did by the end of the year.

The group relies entirely on volunteers. Leaders, skills instructors, helpers, assistants, parents and trustees, all willingly give many hours of their time for free. Only through their tireless enthusiasm is the group able to achieve so much.

The partnership with the Explorer unit continues to work well. The Scout group allows the Explorer unit to use its facilities and equipment for their meetings, activities and camps. In the same way the Group allows Girlguiding, Sale Scout and Guide Band to use the premises and equipment owned by the Group. Additionally, the group allows the hut to be used for Young Leader and Adult training courses.

Summary of the main Achievements of the charity during the year

Reports for 2022

Finally, back to “normal” scouting. Membership increased but not to pre pandemic. Leaders continued to innovate and work hard to provide a comprehensive, diverse exciting programme both at the scout hut and through many external activities. The of the exec, the friends of 3rd Ashton and some of the parents, ensured funds and were always available so that leaders could concentrate on providing our young m with learning, excitement and fun throughout the year.

Beavers.

Year started with communicator badge, phoning and emailing each other. Internati China themed. Then Health and fitness. Building bug houses and Irish dancing! Ou have really interesting jobs so we did forensic science, plumbing and photography, developed our own photos. Lots of new Beavers joined in September, loads of fun new friends and how to care for each other. Then into the Builder badge, Scientist, Teamwork, Hobbies and Skills. Eight Beavers achieved their Bronze award (the hi available) by the end of the year.

Cubs (Sir Peter Scott Pack)

Started by making our own individual survival kits. Went caving, climbing and visite nursery to learn how the plants were grown for our annual sale. Camped at the Ab Centre. Then worked on our outdoor and world challenge badges, country code, bi pet care and the music badge. Had a joint camp with Lord Mountbatten pack in No closely followed by group camp at Dunham. After Summer we tackled the Naturalis knowledge, photographer and astronomy badges along with more challenge badge We came second in the canoe competition - missing out on the trophy by just 2 se Autumn camp in Ashworth Valley where we did some rifle shooting and hiked throu river! Last camp of the year was our Christmas hike to Urmston (crossing just one one-night sleepover, and a hike back... You'll never believe who came to visit that ho ho.

Cubs (Lord Mountbatten Pack)

Started with International activity badge, Scottish New Year, Haggis tasting. Chine Year and foods. UK Patron Saints and flags. Skills Challenge badge, handmade P with our own dough and fresh ingredients. Vicky's Street Dancing masterclass. Wh Jungle Book story really means to Cub Scouts. Archery, canoeing and a bit of pion Two weekend camps. Trips out included a hike around Manchester Airport, visit to nursery to see how seeds germinate, trip to a Bolton fishing lake and learnt how to the very patient Justin and his team. Visit from Sale Scout and Guide Band who ra successful band workshop. After the summer a hike around Chorlton Water Park, a Sharston Recycle Centre to learn what happens to our waste. Lots of badge and a work throughout the year with a number of Silver awards gained. Finished the year Christmas party at Inflatation

Scouts (Peake & MacArthur Troops)

Busy year. Activities included sports and physical recreation badges, a night hike a Manchester airport, basic scout skills, mini hikes and canoeing. Camps and sleepi shelters built by the scouts in November. Many challenge and activity badges inclu Gold awards earned. Two highlights, the first was the request for essential supplies Ukraine. Our Scouts collect so much aid that it had to be moved by a removal van collection hub. The second was we were able to assist two of our leaders and a lar number of our scouts to finally attend international camp in Kandersteg, Switzerland Highlights included hiking in the Alps above the clouds. Sleeping in a wooden mou lodge for the night, swimming in an amazing waterpark, high ropes courses in the t sledging down mountains, swimming in crystal clear lakes plus the international fri that were made. The trip had been delayed due to covid but was well worth the wa

Friends of 3rd Ashton (Parents Committee)

The FoTA support the Group with fund raising and when needed as an extra pair o There are several established fund raisers in the calendar. Financially the spring b plant sale and the Halloween party are the most successful. In 2022 we supported Group with these events and also provided additional support for the group family We re-established ourselves as the preferred start line marshals for the Manchester marathon and the half-marathon which brings in very reasonable donations to grou

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Scout Group should income and fundraising activities fall short, or major maintenance work on the premises is required.

The Group Executive Committee considers that the Group's funds should hold a sum equivalent to 3 months basic running costs (utilities and insurance etc), which is approximately £6,000.

Additionally the Group strives to set aside sufficient funds over the year to pay the annual capitation fees paid to the Scout Association in March each year without undue difficulty, which was £6,250 this year.

In addition, during December each year, the Group Executive Committee set a budget for the following year. All major expenditure is highlighted and finances held in the bank account are ear marked to cover the costs in good time.

Any other major expenditure arising during the year is agreed at the Group Executive Committee meetings.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

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The majority of income is used to fund the running costs of the Scout hut which is the regular weekly meeting place for all the group members, and the cost of programmes, related activities and camps. All of which serve to improve the development of our members.

Other major ongoing costs are the annual capitation paid to the Scout Association which provides support and insurance for all of the members.

The Group has additional insurance for non- members.

When necessary, the Group waives or discounts subscription fees / camp fees for members whose families may otherwise struggle to meet the cost due to hardship.

In 2020, due to the pandemic, the Group allowed members to suspend monthly subscriptions to ensure those families who were impacted financially by government restrictions did not feel compelled to continue to pay each month. Scouting resumed in full in 2022 as did the payment of subscriptions for those able to pay. A local government grant was secured in 2022 to cover the loss of 2021 income for the Group.

We allow other local groups to use the facility on a regular weekly basis. The stated aim of all of these groups is to promote the development of young people.

When possible, they make a donation to cover additional costs, wear and tear of equipment, insurance, gas, electricity and water costs.

The Group does not have sufficient funds to make long term investments. It has therefore adopted a risk adverse strategy to the investment of its funds.

All funds are held in cash using only one mainstream UK bank.

Section F Other optional information

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Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
---------------------	--	--

Full name(s)	Simon Murray	Alasdair Ferro
---------------------	--------------	----------------

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Secretary
--	-------	-----------

Date	01/08/2023
-------------	------------

3rd Ashton upon Mersey Scout Group**Charity No. 520155****2021****2****GROUP****INCOME****GROUP**

11534.16	Subscriptions	14686.04
0.00	Camps & Trips	4003.50
8000.00	Donations	4462.00
3893.05	Gift Aid	2886.24
7187.50	PEC - Plant Sale	6672.25
940.00	PEC - Halloween	1297.40
30.00	Kanderstag	349.63
0.00	Neckers/Hoodies	0.00
0.00	Development Fund	0.00
0.00	Other	12.69
	Deposit Interest	70.53

31584.71**34440.28****EXPENDITURE**

-1327.93	Insurance / Rent	-1506.32
-1887.77	Utilities	-2677.71
-6159.50	Capitation	-6250.00
-1285.91	Activities	-2114.90
-250.00	Training Fees	-279.80
-503.31	Badges/Neckers	-1519.81
-906.67	General Equipment	-636.68
-4349.44	Buildings & Maintenance	-1992.00
-3345.11	Camp & Trips Expenses	-8661.11
0.00	Donations	-804.70
-3830.55	Gift Aid	0.00
-4131.55	PEC - Plant Sale	-4692.05
-294.39	PEC - Halloween	-312.35
-224.70	Kanderstag	-3079.64
-8000.00	Development Fund	-1333.33
0.00	Other	-10.74

-36496.83**-35871.14****-4912.12****Income over Expenditure****-1430.86****Group Balance Sheet**

£	9,515.92	Opening Balance 01/01/2022	£	4,603.80
£	4,603.80	Current Bank Balance	£	4,435.74
£	33,028.05	Development Fund Balance	£	31,765.25
£	37,631.85	Overall Balance	£	36,200.99

I declare these figures true to the best of my knowledge

Prepared by: Andrea Morgan
Signed: A L Morgan
Date: 1/11/2023

Audited By:
Signed:
Date:

Full Year Summary

022

P&L

0.00
-4657.61
3657.30
2886.24
1980.20
985.05
-2730.01
0.00
0.00
1.95

2123.12

P&L Category

Subs
Subs
Subs
Subs
Subs
Subs
Subs
Subs
Subs
Camps
Donations
Gift Aid
Plant Sale
PEC
Kanderstag
Development
Other



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

3rd Ashton-on-Mersey Scout Group

On accounts for the year ended

31st December 2022

Charity no (if any)

520155

Set out on pages

1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2021.

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Bev Sanders

Signed:

15/01/2023

Date:

Bev Sanders

Name:

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

IER

1

October 2018

MAAT - Member of Association of Accounting Technicians

Address:

14 Quarndon Heights

Allestree, Derby

DE22 2XN

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

3RD ASHTON-UPON-MERSEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 520155

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date					
From	01	01	2021	To	31	12	2021

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name 3RD ASHTON-UPON-MERSEY SCOUT GROUP

Other names charity is known by 3rd Ashton Scout Group (old name)

Registered charity number (if any) 520155

Charity's principal address

Brayton Avenue	
Sale	
Cheshire	
Postcode	M33 5HF

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Simon Murray	Chair		Group Scout Leader
2	Alasdair Ferro	Secretary		Scout Group at the AGM
3	Andrea Morgan	Treasurer		Scout Group at the AGM
4	Harry Peet	Group Scout Leader		Scout Association POR
5	Sarah Goodstadt	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
6	Robert Blairs	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
7	Amanda Westhead	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
8	Sally Yarwood	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
9	Nicholas Edmondson	Parent & Parent Committee		Group exec.
10	Stuart Thompson	Section Leader		Group exec.
11	Adam Roberts	Parent Committee Member		Group exec.
12	Fay Brocklebank	Parent Committee Chair	18/09 - 31/12 2021	Group Exec

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	The Group's governing documents are those of the Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	The Group is a trust established under the Scout Association rules which are common to all Scouts.
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association. Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the Annual General Meeting.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

All our members, trustees, leaders, helpers and assistants give their time on a voluntary basis and received no remuneration or other benefits.

The Group is managed by the Group Executive Committee, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity.

As Charity Trustees, they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities.

This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Group Executive Committee consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary, together with the Group Scout Leader, individual section leaders, representation of supporters and parents, and meets every 2 months.

The Group Executive Committee exists to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments and is responsible for:

- The maintenance of Group property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.

Risk and Internal Control

The Group has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include appropriate financial controls and comprehensive insurance to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objectives of the group are as a unit of the Scout Association.

The aim of the Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

The method of achieving the aim of the association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

In planning our activities for the year, we keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustees' meetings.

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

The focus of our activities is based on the Scout Associations planned programme and award schemes, reinforced with related fun activities and camping / outdoor experiences. This benefits young people by developing their self-confidence and social skills alongside practical and life skills.

In line with the Scout Association guidelines, we welcome all young people regardless of personal background, faith, gender, personal circumstances or disability. This philosophy of openness to all, enriches our young people aged 6 to 18 and our volunteers, through the sharing of skills, aptitudes and life experiences.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

All of the income from subscriptions, donations and fund raising is spent for the benefit of the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. This includes maintaining the Scout Hut, necessary to provide a safe venue for regular meetings of all sections of the Group.

Parents and leaders have helped directly with building maintenance to keep costs down and, where specialist skills have been needed, have raised the funds to carry out essential work improving facilities and cost efficiency. Ongoing improvements are planned and financed in the same way. The funds provided by claiming Gift Aid help enormously, this has allowed the group to finance and or subsidise activities for the young members. Where some families have struggled financially the group waives or discounts subscription and camp fees depending on the need.

Total group membership dropped from 80% of pre-pandemic numbers at the start of the year to around 50% by end April. Many parents had continued to pay subscriptions for a whole year despite being reminded four times this was not required or expected. This helped enormously with group finances. Immediately meetings could resume membership increased dramatically.

The group relies entirely on volunteers. Leaders, skills instructors, helpers, assistants, parents and trustees, all willingly give many hours of their time for free. Only through their tireless enthusiasm is the group able to achieve so much.

The partnership with the Explorer unit continues to work well. The Scout group allows the Explorer unit to use its facilities and equipment for their meetings, activities and camps. In the same way the Group allows Girlguiding, Sale Scout and Guide Band, and Sale Gang Show to use the premises and equipment owned by the Group. Additionally the group allows the hut to be used for Young Leader and Adult training courses.

Summary of the main Achievements of the charity during the year

Reports for 2021

Difficult start to the year. Membership at end of 2020 was surprisingly still very high. By April it had dropped to somewhere nearer 50% of pre-pandemic numbers. Not until May was it possible to meet face to face once again, although with many restrictions in place. Membership immediately went back up once meetings were able to resume. Lifting of more restrictions in September allowed meetings indoors and the sections started to get back to their usual programme of events and meetings. Getting outdoors with friends and having fun had been missing for so long and that became the main focus of all activities for the year. All sections took part in as many trips and outdoor activities as they could fit in to meetings. Fundraising by the parents committee, and the grants the exec managed to secure, meant all the activities could be provided from group funds. This was helped by the parents that generously continued to pay subs when finances must have been stretched.

Beavers.

Many got involved in the tasks and activities remotely until June brought the excitement of finally being able to meet in person again. Social distancing meant we were still limited to only meeting outside due to the size of the scout hut. Fortunately the weather was good and we welcomed 15 new Beavers from the waiting list. Activities included visits to Dunham Park, Dino Golf, joining the whole group for two activity filled days at Dunham scout camp in September. We had a really good time trying out so many new activities and crafts. We had a visit from Louise and her exotic pets of all kinds for our Animal Friend badge. Meetings included inventing, investigating, making and painting. Joined the whole group who attended the District Remembrance day parade. We spent an evening shopping and learning about budgeting before donating our purchases to the local food bank. It was great to finally get back to having fun with friends.

Cubs (Sir Peter Scott Pack)

Year started with same restrictions as 2020, Returned to meeting again outdoors at the Hut in late May. So that the Cubs could catch up on activities and time with friends we continued meeting right through the summer and numbers recovered to near pre-COVID levels. After the summer restrictions were still in place for overnight camping. Instead of usual Group Camp we had the Activity days at Dunham, which was well attended. was followed up by a trip to Ice Hockey and also a Hike from Sale Water Park back to the hut, including a hot chocolate stop!

Cubs (Lord Mountbatten Pack)

After the bizarre year of 2020 and lockdown we were able to meet outside of the hut in late May. We organised an evening on the canal in canoes, scavenger hunts and wide games in Worthington Park. An evening pond dipping at Sale water Park, a litter pick in Sale town Centre and a trip to Dino Golf. After the summer holidays we were ready to get back to the hut with a "getting to know you" games night. Group organised a weekend of great activities in the sunshine. The following few weeks were taken up with fire lighting, making ghosts for the Halloween party and completing the air activities staged badge. December the pack concentrated on collecting items for different Xmas hampers for charity. Each six mad their own video asking for donations and we were inundated. Each hamper went to charity including the Salvation Army and Sale West Community. To end our year we had a fun trip out bowling.

Scouts (Peake & MacArthur Troops)

Within a few short weeks of being allowed to meet again we were back running at capacity. June and July saw a back to basics approach trying to refresh lots of the basic skills that had been forgotten such as pioneering, fire lighting, hiking plus a few fun activities which included canoeing, Total Ninja and a visit to a high ropes course which had to be abandoned due to a massive lightning storm.

Friends of 3rd Ashton (Parents Committee)

Support the Group with fund raising and as an extra pair of hands when needed. There are several established fund raisers in the calendar. Financially the spring bedding plant sale and the Halloween party are the most successful. In 2021 we supported with these events and also provided additional support for the group fun days which took the place of family camp. Our usual role as start line marshals at the Manchester Marathon and Half Marathon was declined in 2021 due to the perceived unacceptable risk to our members.

Brief statement of the charity’s policy on reserves

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Scout Group should income and fundraising activities fall short, or major maintenance work on the premises is required.

The Group Executive Committee considers that the Group's funds should hold a sum equivalent to 3 months basic running costs (utilities and insurance etc), which is approximately £6,000.

Additionally the Group strives to set aside sufficient funds over the year to pay the annual capitation fees paid to the Scout Association in March each year without undue difficulty, which was £6,159 this year.

In addition, during December each year, the Group Executive Committee set a budget for the following year. All major expenditure is highlighted and finances held in the bank account are ear marked to cover the costs in good time.

Any other major expenditure arising during the year is agreed at the Group Executive Committee meetings.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity’s principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The main source of funds allocated for running costs is the monthly subscriptions paid by the Group members and regular fundraising which is mainly organised by the Parents Committee.

The majority of income is used to fund the running costs of the Scout hut which is the regular weekly meeting place for all the group members, and the cost of programmes, related activities and camps. All of which serve to improve the development of our members.

Other major ongoing costs are the annual capitation paid to the Scout Association which provides support and insurance for all of the members.

The Group has additional insurance for non- members.

When necessary the Group waives or discounts subscription fees / camp fees for members whose families may otherwise struggle to meet the cost due to hardship.

In 2020, due to the pandemic, the Group allowed members to suspend monthly subscriptions to ensure those families who were impacted financially by government restrictions did not feel compelled to continue to pay each month. This suspension continued during the first half of 2021. The suspension was lifted in September 2021 when Scouting resumed in full. A second local government grant was secured to cover the loss of 2021 income for the Group.

We allow other local groups to use the facility on a regular weekly basis. The stated aim of all of these groups is to promote the development of young people.

When possible, they make a donation to cover additional costs, wear and tear of equipment, insurance, gas, electricity and water costs. This donation was waived during both 2020 and 2021.

The Group does not have sufficient funds to make long term investments. It has therefore adopted a risk adverse strategy to the investment of its funds.

All funds are held in cash using only one mainstream UK bank.

Section F Other optional information

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Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Simon Murray	Alasdair Ferro
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Secretary
Date	15/09/2021	

3rd Ashton upon Mersey Scout Group Charity No. 520155 2021 Full Year Summary

2020		2021		
GROUP	<u>INCOME</u>	GROUP	P&L	Read from
14495.08	Subscriptions	11534.16	-5136.37	Total
1248.50	Camps & Trips	0.00	-3345.11	Income
11075.00	Donations	8000.00	8000.00	Income
5251.27	Gift Aid	3893.05	62.50	Income
7757.70	Plant Sale	7187.50	3055.95	Income
0.00	PEC	940.00	645.61	Income
116.50	Kanderstag	30.00	-194.70	Income
0.00	Neckers/Hoodies	0.00	0.00	Income
5000.00	Development Fund	0.00	-8000.00	Income
0.00	Other	0.00	0.00	Income
44944.05		31584.71	-4912.12	
	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>P&L Category</u>	
-1292.99	Insurance / Rent	-1327.93	Subs	Total
-2030.95	Utilities	-1887.77	Subs	Total
-6486.00	Capitation	-6159.50	Subs	Total
-1889.61	Activities	-1285.91	Subs	Total
-36.00	Training Fees	-250.00	Subs	Total
-642.65	Badges/Neckers	-503.31	Subs	Expense
-1462.99	General Equipment	-906.67	Subs	Total
-11696.57	Buildings & Maintenance	-4349.44	Subs	Total
-642.18	Camp & Trips Expenses	-3345.11	Camps	Expense
-10000.00	Donations	0.00	Donations	Expense
-125.00	Gift Aid	-3830.55	Gift Aid	Expense
-4694.75	Plant Sale	-4131.55	Plant Sale	Expense
0.00	PEC	-294.39	PEC	Expense
-700.00	Kanderstag	-224.70	Kanderstag	Expense
-5000.00	Development Fund	-8000.00	Development	Expense
0.00	Other	0.00	Other	Expense
-46699.69		-36496.83		
-1755.64	Income over Expenditure	-4912.12		
10018.67	Development Fund P&L	8003.01		
8263.03	Overall P&L for the Group	3090.89		
£ 11,271.56	Opening Balance 01/01/2021	£ 9,515.92		
£ 9,515.92	Closing Balance 31/12/2021	£ 4,603.80		
-£ 1,755.64	Check	-£ 4,912.12		
£ 25,024.81	Development Fund Balance	£ 33,028.05		
£ 34,540.73	Overall Balance	£ 37,631.85		

I declare these figures to true to the best of my knowledge

Prepared by: Andrea Morgan
Signed: A L Morgan
Date: 02/03/2022

Audited By: Bev Sanders
Signed: Bev Sanders
Date: 2 Mar 2022



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

3rd Ashton-on-Mersey Scout Group

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st December 2021

**Charity no
(if any)**

520155

Set out on pages

1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2021.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

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

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: *Bev Sanders*

Date: 22/03/2022

Name: Bev Sanders

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

MAAT - Member of Association of Accounting Technicians

Address:

14 Quarndon Heights

Allestree, Derby

DE22 2XN

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

3RD ASHTON-UPON-MERSEY SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 520155

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
From	01	01	2020	To	31	12	2020

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	3RD ASHTON-UPON-MERSEY SCOUT GROUP
Other names charity is known by	3 rd Ashton Scout Group (old name)
Registered charity number (if any)	520155
Charity's principal address	Brayton Avenue
	Sale
	Cheshire
	Postcode M33 5HF

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Simon Murray	Chair		Group Scout Leader
2	Alasdair Ferro	Secretary		Scout Group at the AGM
3	Andrea Morgan	Treasurer		Scout Group at the AGM
4	Harry Peet	Group Scout Leader		Scout Association POR
5	Sarah Goodstadt	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
6	Robert Blairs	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
7	Amanda Westhead	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
8	Sally Yarwood	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
9	Nicholas Edmondson	(Parent)		Group exec.
10	Stuart Thompson	(Parent & Assistant leader)		Group exec.
11	Adam Roberts	(Parents Committee chair)		Group exec.

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B management

Structure, governance and

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	<p>The Group's governing documents are those of the Scout Association.</p> <p>They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.</p>
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	<p>The Group is a trust established under the Scout Association rules which are common to all Scouts.</p>
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	<p>The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.</p> <p>Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the Annual General Meeting.</p>

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

All our members, trustees, leaders, helpers and assistants give their time on a voluntary basis and received no remuneration or other benefits.

The Group is managed by the Group Executive Committee, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity.

As Charity Trustees, they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities.

This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Group Executive Committee consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary, together with the Group Scout Leader, individual section leaders, representation of supporters and parents, and meets every 2 months.

The Group Executive Committee exists to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments and is responsible for:

- The maintenance of Group property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.

Risk and Internal Control

The Group has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include appropriate financial controls and comprehensive insurance to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objectives of the group are as a unit of the Scout Association.

The aim of the Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

The method of achieving the aim of the association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

In planning our activities for the year, we keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustees' meetings.

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

The focus of our activities is based on the Scout Associations planned programme and award schemes, reinforced with related fun activities and camping / outdoor experiences. This benefits young people by developing their self-confidence and social skills alongside practical and life skills.

In line with the Scout Association guidelines, we welcome all young people regardless of personal background, faith, gender, personal circumstances or disability. This philosophy of openness to all, enriches our young people aged 6 to 18 and our volunteers, through the sharing of skills, aptitudes and life experiences.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

All of the income from subscriptions, donations and fund raising is spent for the benefit of the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. This includes maintaining the Scout Hut, necessary to provide a safe venue for regular meetings of all sections of the Group.

Parents and leaders have helped directly with building maintenance to keep costs down and, where specialist skills have been needed, have raised the funds to carry out essential work improving facilities and cost efficiency. Ongoing improvements are planned and financed in the same way. The funds provided by claiming Gift Aid help enormously and this has allowed the group to finance and or subsidise activities for the young members. Where some families have struggled financially the group waives or discounts subscription and camp fees depending on the need.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Total group membership dropped during the year due to restrictions imposed by covid. However many of the members continued to engage in online activities and the programmes regularly provided by the section leaders. As a result, by the end of the year, membership was still at over 80% of pre-pandemic numbers. Many of the parents continued to pay subscriptions despite being reminded four times during the year that this was not required nor expected. This helped enormously with group finances.

The group relies entirely on volunteers. Leaders, skills instructors, helpers, assistants, parents and trustees, all willingly give many hours of their time for free. Only through their tireless enthusiasm is the group able to achieve so much.

The partnership with the Explorer unit continues to work well and is now in its fifth year. The Scout group allows the Explorer unit to use its facilities and equipment for their meetings, activities and camps. In the same way the Group allows Girlguiding, Sale Scout and Guide Band, and Sale Gang Show to use the premises and equipment owned by the Group.

Summary of the main Achievements of the charity during the year

This Group Report was delivered 18/09/2021 at our AGM for 2020.

Typically held in June, this year the AGM was delayed so that it could be held face to face outdoors at Dunham campsite.

Report for 2020

2020 has been a strange year for almost everybody. It started out as usual, with many from 3rd Ashton involved in the District Gang Show, both on stage and off stage. However, normality was short lived as the COVID-19 pandemic caused the first lockdown and the cessation of all in-person Scouting activities at the end of March.

Leaders, parents and young people quickly adapted and activities and challenges were set online, using the private Facebook group. Whilst not all young people were able to engage in these activities, many did so and continued their Scouting journey, including some who took on badges based around their own interests. This also meant that parents became much more involved in the children's Scouting and we must extend thanks to all those who rose to the challenge, alongside all else that was happening.

Beavers completed the Builder, Cook, Experiment, Book Reader, Science and Photography badges.

The Cubs activities covered the Astronomer, Athletics, Communicator, Chef, Gardener, Home Help, Navigator, Photographer, Great Indoors Challenge, Great Outdoors Challenge and Skills Challenge badges.

The Scouts were able to complete Athletics, Chef, Naturalist, Street Sports, Great Indoors Challenge, Personal Challenge, Skills Challenge, Creative Challenge and the At Home Challenge.

Through the online activities a number of members have gained the top awards in their sections - 1 Bronze award in Beavers, 2 Silver award in Cubs and 3 Gold awards in Scouts.

The Friends of 3rd Ashton have also had a busy, albeit socially distanced year! Whilst it was not possible to meet at the Hut, the opportunity has been taken to do some much needed work including replacing the path, sanding and sealing the floor, fully repainting the hall and much more.

The annual plant sale was also run, with more than twice the usual order from the nursery and all the plants delivered, rather than the more usual collection day.

Thanks to all those who came to the hut to help with DIY or the plant sale and for all who gathered orders from friends and neighbours.

All in all, 2020 has been quite a year for everybody and one we will remember, but throughout all the difficulties 3rd Ashton has continued to offer some form of Scouting, for which we should all be extremely proud.

Alasdair Ferro Group Secretary

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Scout Group should income and fundraising activities fall short, or major maintenance work on the premises is required.

The Group Executive Committee considers that the Group's funds should hold a sum equivalent to 3 months basic running costs (utilities and insurance etc), which is approximately £4,500.

Additionally the Group strives to set aside sufficient funds over the year to pay the annual capitation fees paid to the Scout Association in March each year without undue difficulty, which was £6,486 this year.

In addition, during December each year, the Group Executive Committee set a budget for the following year. All major expenditure is highlighted and finances held in the bank account are ear marked to cover the costs in good time.

Any other major expenditure arising during the year is agreed at the Group Executive Committee meetings.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The main source of funds allocated for running costs is the monthly subscriptions paid by the Group members and regular fundraising which is mainly organised by the Parents Committee.

The majority of income is used to fund the running costs of the Scout hut which is the regular weekly meeting place for all the group members, and the cost of programmes, related activities and camps. All of which serve to improve the development of our members.

Other major ongoing costs are the annual capitation paid to the Scout Association which provides support and insurance for all of the members.

The Group has additional insurance for non- members.

When necessary the Group waives or discounts subscription fees / camp fees for members whose families may otherwise struggle to meet the cost due to hardship.

In 2020, due to the pandemic, the Group allowed members to suspend monthly subscriptions to ensure those families who were impacted financially by government restrictions did not feel compelled to continue to pay each month. A local government grant was secured to cover the loss of income for the Group.

We allow other local groups to use the facility on a regular weekly basis. The stated aim of all of these groups is to promote the development of young people.

When possible, they make a donation to cover additional costs, wear and tear of equipment, insurance, gas, electricity and water costs. This donation was waived during 2020.

The Group does not have sufficient funds to make long term investments. It has therefore adopted a risk adverse strategy to the

investment of its funds.

All funds are held in cash using only one mainstream UK bank.

Section F Other optional information

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Section G Declaration

**The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Alasdair Ferro	Simon Murray
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	Chair
Date		

GROUP 2019	<u>INCOME</u>	GROUP 2020
18445.00	Subscriptions	14495.08
4974.56	Camps & Trips	1248.50
1657.39	Donations	11075.00
4812.68	Gift Aid	5251.27
3007.70	Plant Sale	7757.70
1102.98	Kanderstag	116.50
132.00	Neckers/Hoodies	0.00
0.00	Development Fund	5000.00
35363.56		44944.05
	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
-1202.00	Insurance / Rent	-1292.99
-2352.88	Utilities	-2030.95
-6424.00	Capitation	-6486.00
-3286.29	Activities	-1889.61
-63.00	Training Fees	-36.00
-1746.92	Badges/Neckers	-642.65
-2837.49	General Equipment	-1462.99
-1036.70	Buildings & Maintenance	-11696.57
-7199.18	Camp & Trips Expenses	-642.18
-1733.50	Donations	-10000.00
-2650.86	Gift Aid	-125.00
-2037.23	Plant Sale	-4694.75
0.00	Kanderstag	-700.00
-15000.00	Development Fund	-5000.00
-47911.55		-46699.69
-12547.99	Income over Expenditure	-1755.64
	Development Fund P&L	10018.67
	Overall P&L for the Group	8263.03
£ 23,819.55	Opening Balance 01/01/2020	£ 11,271.56
£ 11,271.56	Closing Bank Balance	£ 9,515.92
-£ 12,547.99	Check	-£ 1,755.64
£ 15,006.14	Development Fund Balance	£ 25,024.81
£ 26,277.70	Overall Group Cash	£ 34,540.73

I declare these figures to true to the best of my knowledge

Prepared by: Andrea Morgan

Audited By:

Signed: A L Morgan

Signed:

Date: 01/07/2021

Date:

P&L

-11042.68
606.32
1075.00
5126.27
3062.95
-583.50
0.00
0.00

-1755.64

Subs		
<i>Income</i>	£	14,495.08
<i>Expenditure</i>	-£	25,537.76
	-£	11,042.68

P&L Category

Subs
Subs
Subs
Subs
Subs
Subs
Subs
Subs
Camps
Donations
Gift Aid
Plant Sale
Kanderstag
Development

Bev Sanders

B Sanders

02/16/2021



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

3rd Ashton-on-Mersey Scout Group

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st December 2020

**Charity no
(if any)**

520155

Set out on pages

1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2020.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

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

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: *Bev Sanders*

Date: 16/02/2020

Name: Bev Sanders

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

MAAT - Member of Association of Accounting Technicians

Address:

14 Quarndon Heights

Allestree, Derby

DE22 2XN

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.