



Everyday adventure, Skills for life

1st Hensingham Scout Group
Annual report 2023-24


Scouts
1st Hensingham



Welcome to our 2023-24 annual report

Our team of Leaders continues to change and we have some new challenges coming up with changes to our role titles, training and records system.

As Group Lead Volunteer my biggest concern is ensuring we have enough adult support to continue delivering the active programme that our young people deserve and have come to expect, and my top priority at this time is ensuring that we strengthen the adult support for our Cub Packs.

We have had more new recruits to the leadership team this year with Chloe, George and Lisa but more would be good.

It is great to continue seeing former Beavers, Cubs and Scouts coming back to help their old sections as Young Leaders. Our Young Leaders do a fantastic job helping our adult volunteers run the sections and sharing their enthusiasm with the young people. However, these Young Leaders are with us to train to be leaders of the future, not as a substitute for adults now.

If you or someone you know is up for the challenge of learning new skills, inspiring our young members to achieve their best and having fun whilst you're doing it, speak to myself or your child's section leader. It doesn't have to be a weekly commitment. We are looking to increase our Active Support section which is a team to help run specific one-off activities like camps and events away from the school.

I have managed to attend Beaver and Scout camps in the last year and it has been great to see them out again and having a good time. Though I have missed quite a few events over the last year there are, of course, more in pipeline.



I would like to thank everyone (leaders, parents and young people) for helping make the last 12 months a success.

We are looking at running Family Camp next year which we hope lots of you will attend and enjoy seeing what we do and giving it a go.

I know the section leaders are already planning lots of exciting activities for the next year, both indoors and out. I look forward to having you share the fun, challenge and adventure with us.

Alf Branch
Group Lead Volunteer

BEAVERS

Beavers has seen our numbers steadily grow this year, we are almost back up to full capacity with the next cohort due to move to Cubs from September onwards.

We have issued ~239 badges this year of which 7 were the Beaver Chief Scout's Bronze award, 15 nights away ranging from one night to an accumulated four nights and 16 Joining In badges, this being 12 for being a Beaver for one year and 4 for two years. We've also had a number of the Beavers achieve or start to achieve their Community Impact badge by conducting litter picks at several locations and tree planting over two annual sessions.



Some of the activities we have taken part in this year have included cooking, deconstructed smores, dough twists, peppermint creams and chocolate fondue. Embroidered Christmas hessian stockings



We've studied space, planted vegetables, made fire and lit candles and modelled instruments from recycling.



We held a Beaver camp at Ennerdale, which for some was their first experience of being away with us and from their families and although the weather and midges weren't kind to us, they all handled it brilliantly

Next year we plan to revisit the swimming badges, visit local members of the community, try some of the newer badge offerings and of course finish off some of the badges we have already started,

We've had Chloe join the Beaver Leader team, a very welcome addition. And we've had Phoenix, Jamie and Jacob move from being Beaver Young Leaders into Cubs and Scouts. Thank you all for your support this year and enjoy your new sections going forward.

And finally, as always, we need to give a **huge thank you** to all parents, families and households that have helped us this year. We can't do this by ourselves, we need your help. If anyone would like to get more involved, be it occasionally in the weekly sessions or when we have our camps, please see one of the Beaver Leaders for more details.

Thanks again and here's to another good year at Beavers.

Lisa, Ross, David, George and Chloe
Phoenix, Jamie, Jacob, Charlie, Isaac and Alex

cubs

We've had another excellent year in Cubs, with nearly 100 challenge badges and a very impressive 9 Chief Scout's Silver awards presented. We also managed to hand out over 200 activity badges across a broad range of topics including Safety, Photography, learning about the local area, Navigation, Environmental Conservation and International cultures.

Our numbers have grown steadily over the year and whilst many have moved onto Scouts, many more have moved up from Beavers or joined directly.



This year our Cubs have tried many new things, including some badges we haven't traditionally run as a Cub section. Highlights through the year include. Completing the DIY badge where the Cubs tried their hand at building advent calendars using a range of hand tools.



Supported by our young leaders, our Cubs voted to support the community by carrying out litter picks in Whitehaven and at Walkmill woods in Moresby. With the West Cumbria Rivers Trust we also carried out tree planting where we planted more than 200 new trees.

Throughout the year our Cubs cooked outside, learning various different techniques, from marshmallows on a stick, to cooking hotdogs in a tin. Towards the end of the summer term our Cubs cooking skills were put to the test on the Cub Summer camp where they had to cook dinner for themselves and the leaders.



The Cub summer camp was a first for our section and proved to be a hugely successful camp with an attendance of 22 Cubs (75%) where for 10 of the Cubs were on their first night away with one Cub reaching achieving their 10th night away award. The camp was arranged in a similar way to a Scout patrol camp, with the Cubs being split into small groups in which they worked as a team to complete various challenges including building a Davinci bridge and cooking a 2 course meal.

It goes without saying that this camp and indeed the whole year would not have been the success it was without the tireless enthusiasm and support of the Young Leaders.



Finally; a huge thank you to all the parents, families and households and especially our Cubs. Our plan is to continue to provide a varied, adventurous programme, continuing to support our Cubs to achieving their Chief Scout Award and learn some amazing skills for life.

However; none of this just happens and takes a lot of effort by a small number of people in the with some significant challenges within the Cub leadership team, without additional support from you, the parents, there be an impact on some of our future planned activities.

John, David, Rebecca, Keith, Kenzie
Zach, Blake, Josh and Pheonix

SCOUTS

Another year has flown by with our Scouts once again accomplishing a huge amount. Collectively our two troops have completed 30 Challenge Awards, earned 156 activity badges and clocked up 334 nights away.

Throughout the year we've continued to offer a wide mix of activities through our weekly meetings and weekend activities. As always core scouting skills such as navigation, first aid, pioneering have featured strongly, as well as troop favourites such as cooking and fire lighting. This year we set the Patrols a couple of challenges to put some of their skills into practice. They successfully planned a menu for a weekend camp, and then cooked the main course; they also planned and navigated a short evening hike in the local area. In both cases they've risen to the challenge and our older Scouts have shown some excellent leadership skills, attributes that have also been much in evidence at our Golden Peg Camping Competition and D&D themed Patrol Camps during the year, and on this year's expedition challenge in the South Lakes.



As well as traditional skills, we've also embraced some new activities this year. In the Spring term we completed the Electronics activity badge, finding out about different components and

making a number of different circuits; this is probably the most complex activity badge we've undertaken as a whole Troop activity. An Easter gift in the form of a grant from Fibrus and HyperfastGB allowed us to add fencing (with swords, not posts and wire) to our activity repertoire this summer – both on our D&D themed camp and at our end of term troop meetings. We're looking forward to adding another new activity, mountain biking, to our programme next year, thanks to one of our parents who's successfully gained their Scouts Adventurous Activity Permit to lead it for us.



Throughout the year we've continued our collaboration with the West Cumbria Rivers Trust at Walkmill Woods, and we're hoping to do more with them next year.

The big finale to the last year was, once again, our summer camp. This year we joined up with over 2000 other Scouts and Explorers at the Westmorland County Showground for Lancashire Scouts' Jamboree - Red Rose. Through the week we had the chance to try a multitude of different activities, many of which we'd not normally get the chance to offer on our own. We're already looking to arrange next year's summer camp (this one will be just us), and we've got an eye on an international Jamboree in 2026.



Overall our Troop numbers remain healthy. We've welcomed 16 new Scouts and said a sad goodbye to several of our older Scouts, although it's great to see some of them return as Young Leaders in the younger sections. Looking ahead, we expect our Troop numbers to remain stable or grow slightly with a small waiting list for direct entry and a steady flow of Cubs due to move up as our older Scouts reach the end of their time with us.

We've been fortunate to have Jacob, Jamie & Ben, 3 of our former Scouts, return to join our leadership team as Young Leaders having previously been helping with Beavers.

None of our amazing programme would happen without the support of our volunteer leadership team; so on behalf of both Troops, a huge thank you to Drew, Iona, Mike, Nic, Nikita, Josh, Sam & Alex, and Jacob, Jamie & Ben for their enthusiasm, and giving up so much time to help deliver all of our activities. We'd also like to thank Dan, Stuart & Paul for their help with activities and camps through the year, plus all the parents who've stepped in to offer a hand when we've asked for support. Finally, as leaders, we're lucky to work with a great group of young people and we'd like to thank all our Scouts for always being willing to try out our wierd and wonderful new ideas and bringing their boundless energy to everything we do.

Jon, Drew, Iona, Mike, Nic, Nikita, Josh & Sam, Jamie, Jacob & Ben



Treasurer's Report

The group finances for the financial year 2023/2024 remained fairly healthy.

If anyone is suffering from any hardship please speak to your leader, any information that is discussed is confidential.

With just over 100 members and approximately 30-40 new starters/leavers each year our subscription and subsequent accounts are constantly changing.

The Online Scout Manager (OSM) system is now the main method of payment for subscriptions and various events. Could I please ask if you don't currently use this system if you would consider using it.

The major source of normal income to supplement our funds from subscriptions remains our annual

Gift Aid claim. With your help, gift aiding generated income to just over £2500 this year. If you haven't signed up but are eligible, please do so – it's very simple and won't cost you a thing. Gift Aid is essential in helping the group finances go further together subs and the money claimed from Gift Aid cover the basic running costs of the group.

As usual, the annual return and the year-end accounts for the previous year (2022/2023) and updated trustee information were submitted to the Charity Commission. A summary of our accounts is available on the Charity Commission website.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our sponsors and benefactors for their continued support during this year.

Louise Hodgson
Treasurer

Summary of Accounts

Income	2022/23	2023/24
Membership subscriptions	£ 11,172.94	£ 9,770.00
Donations	£ 990.62	£ 2,346.33
Gift aid	£ 1,731.96	£ 2,508.86
Fundraising	£ 199.89	£ 573.51
Group activities	£ 6,574.56	£ 12,327.70
Uniform	£ 1,981.65	£ 1,807.16
Other income	£ 184.85	£ 15,342.92
Total	£ 22,836.47	£ 44,676.48
Expenditure	2022/23	2023/24
Membership subscriptions	£ 4,719.00	£ 3,738.00
Programme and activities	£ 10,034.52	£ 14,883.90
Rent and rates	£ 7,372.73	£ 6,874.18
Insurance	£ 991.15	£ 1,108.58
General administration	£ 269.51	£ 252.49
Uniform	£ 2,548.84	£ 1,094.50
Fundraising expenses	£	£ 245.39
Asset and investment purchase	£ 2,604.44	£ 3,711.88
Other expenditure	£ 873.52	£ 16,339.27
Total	£ 29,413.71	£ 48,248.19
Statement of assets & liabilities	2022/23	2023/24
Unrestricted cash funds	£ 40,429.69	£ 36,857.98
Restricted cash funds	£ -	£ -
Non-monetary assets	£ 26,485.87	£ 28,096.85
Liabilities (accounts not yet paid)	£ 339.97	£ 701.10



Trustee Board

General

This is our first year where we have operated as a Trustee Board, this has been a big change as we move from an operational focus to one of governance and oversight; its taken a bit of getting used to and to be frank we are still finding our feet with the transitional arrangements.

Even with the transition, the Trustee Board continued to provide management oversight and administration to the 1st Hensingham Scout Group. The Trustees make sure the charity is well managed, finances are controlled and appropriately allocated, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and equipment is in good working order, and everyone follows both legal requirements and the Scouts Policy, Organisation and Rules.

The Trustees' support helps the section leaders run a fantastic programme that gives our young people skills for life and experiences they'll remember forever.

So the Trustees are an essential cog in the wheel of a successful scouting group, we are essentially a group of volunteers without whom the group couldn't operate, however, the new rules of the Scouts limit both the numbers of trustees and significantly the length of tenure for each Trustee, which is now set at a maximum of 9 years. So whilst historically we constantly sought new Executive Board members we now find ourselves in the position where new trustees are essential to maintain the oversight and governance of the group going forward.

Through an open selection process we have made recommendations of the trustees for 2024/25, these recommendations will be formalised at the AGM.

Sadly, our long standing Treasurer Louise Hodgson has given notice of her intention to stand down within the next 12 months; I would like to take this opportunity to thank Louise for her contribution.

As a Trustees Board we have continued to work in the background dealing with the usual financial, maintenance, rental, insurance, safety and training issues.

Equipment store

We continue to lease the equipment store at the Sneekyeat Industrial estate, with 3 years left to run on our current leasing arrangement.

This facility continues to provide invaluable storage and easy access to equipment, as well as giving us a small amount of flexible activity space, and somewhere to dry tents after camp.

Hensingham School

Last August we successfully negotiated an extended contract with Hensingham school to not only renew our contract but to extend the review period which is now on a 2 year cycle, this has provided some stability to the group and our intention is to start renewal discussions at the earliest opportunity.

Risk Management

The Trustee Board has identified the major risks to which we believe the 1st Hensingham Scout Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against each risk. A key focus on our routine meetings is the active management of these risks. As an example we consider loss of facilities as a key risk, we have mitigated this through the establishment of longer term leases as described above.

Funding

Whilst our reserves continue to maintain a healthy financial position, like most organisations we have seen significant increases in operating costs over the last 12 months which has resulted in an operational loss for the year. We anticipate further operational losses next year unless we take action to address the shortfall. As a consequence we are reluctantly increasing subs by £2.50 per term and while at face value this looks a substantial increase unfortunately after making this decision the National Scout association have increased their fees by £5.00 per year which goes a great way to nullifying the increase.

Hardship

As a Trustee Board we recognise that the cost of living crisis places a significant burden on some families, with Scouting activities one of the first casualties of a tightening family budget.

As a consequence, this year, we have maintained our hardship fund budget and continue to review any requests in each of our board meetings.

The hardship fund is available to support any member of the Group whose financial circumstances are now stretched with the cost of Scouting.

Thanks

I would like to extend my thanks to:

- The section leaders and Young Leaders, as the health of our organisation depends on the ability, availability and commitment of these volunteers.
- The Trustee Board members for their hard work.
- All parents for their support.
- Hensingham Primary School for the use of the school and grounds as our base.
- Jacobs Field Solutions for their continued support.

The group relies so heavily on these volunteers who provide their time and commitment and as ever we are seeking support from anyone who would like to get involved in the running of the group.

Dave Martin
Trustee Board Chair

Group Information 2023-24

Registered Name: 1st Hensingham Scout Group

Registered Charity No: 520612

Registered Address of HQ:

Hensingham Primary School

Main Street, Hensingham

Whitehaven, CA28 8QZ

Bankers: NatWest

Independent Examiner: N/A

Investment Advisers: Not required as the Group only holds cash

Insurance Advisers: Unity Insurance Services

Trustee Board

Mr Dave Martin (Chair)

Mrs Louise Hodgson (Treasurer)

Mr Alf Branch (Group Lead Volunteer*)

Dr Jonathan Cheesewright (Scout Leader)

Mr John Smallman (Cub Leader)

Mrs Lisa Stanaway (Beaver Leader)

Mrs Kam Massey

Mrs Clare Bethwaite

Mrs Ann Walkingshaw

* Ex-officio appointment by nature of their role.

Scrutineer's Report to the Trustees of the 1st Hensingham Scout Group Scout Council

I report on the accounts of the Group/District for the year ended 5th April 2024

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Scrutineer

As the Group's/District's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that neither the audit nor independent examination requirements of the Charities Act 2011 apply. It is my responsibility without carrying out an audit or independent examination to scrutinise the accounts and to report to you.

Basis of Scrutineer's Statement

In accordance with the directions given in the Group's/District's constitution, I have scrutinised the records and the accounts set out on pages 3 to 3

Scrutineer's Statement

In my opinion the accounts are in accordance with the records produced to me and comply with the constitution.

Name: Emma Kelly
Address: 4 Broom Bank, The Highlands,
Whitehaven, Cumbria, CA28 6SB



Date: 22nd August 2024

1 st Hensingham Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account

Year start date

Year end date

For the year from	06/04/2023	To	05/04/2024
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Receipts and payments

	2023/24			2022/23
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
Receipts				
Donations, legacies and similar income				
Membership subscriptions	9770.00	0.00	0.00	9770.00
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)	-3738.00	0.00	0.00	-3738.00
Net membership subscriptions retained	6032.00	0.00	0.00	6032.00
Donations	2346.33	0.00	0.00	2346.33
Legacies (Reserve for new built)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gift Aid	2508.86	0.00	0.00	2508.86
Uniform	1807.16	0.00	0.00	1807.16
Trips and Camps	12327.70	0.00	0.00	12327.70
Transfer between bank accounts	15000.00	0.00	0.00	15000.00
Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Refunds/Rebates	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Carried Forward Year End Apr 22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub total	40022.05	0.00	0.00	40022.05
Grants				
Maintenance grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fundraising (gross)				
Curry Night	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Christmas Towels	406.68	0.00	0.00	406.68
Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bag Packing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Easyfundraising/Amazon Smile	166.83	0.00	0.00	166.83
Sub total	573.51	0.00	0.00	573.51
Investment income				
Bank interest	342.92	0.00	0.00	342.92
Building Society interest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Rent income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other investment income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub total	342.92	0.00	0.00	342.92
Total Gross Income	40938.48	0.00	0.00	40938.48
Asset and investment sales, etc.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total receipts	40938.48	0.00	0.00	40938.48

1 st Hensingham Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Account

Year start date

Year end date

For the year from	06/04/2023	To	05/04/2024
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Receipts and payments

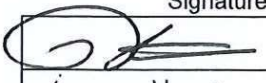
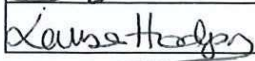
	2023/24			2022/23	
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Payments					
Charitable Payments					
Youth programme and activities	2349.50	0.00	0.00	2349.50	2849.12
Adult support and training	255.73	0.00	0.00	255.73	0.00
Rent and Rates	6793.67	0.00	0.00	6793.67	7291.60
Water and Sewerage	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Electricity and Gas	80.51	0.00	0.00	80.51	81.13
Insurance	1108.58	0.00	0.00	1108.58	991.15
Repairs and Renewals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfer between bank accounts	15000.00	0.00	0.00	15000.00	0.00
Badges	580.01	0.00	0.00	580.01	922.35
General Administration	252.49	0.00	0.00	252.49	269.51
Contribution to camp/trips costs	11356.09	0.00	0.00	11356.09	6038.10
Uniforms & Scout Shop	1094.50	0.00	0.00	1094.50	2548.84
Group Events (AGM, socials)	598.30	0.00	0.00	598.30	224.95
Miscellaneous	735.82	0.00	0.00	735.82	1116.66
Other costs detail 2 Dist/County Levy & HQ Subs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other costs detail 3 Donations/Presents	347.72	0.00	0.00	347.72	43.65
Sub total	40552.92	0.00	0.00	40552.92	22377.06
Fundraising expenses					
Curry Night	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Christmas Towels	245.39	0.00	0.00	245.39	0.00
Refunds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Banks Wilson	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub total	245.39	0.00	0.00	245.39	0.00
Total Gross Expenditure	40798.31	0.00	0.00	40798.31	22377.06
Asset and investment purchases, etc.	3711.88	0.00	0.00	3711.88	2604.44
Total payments	44510.19	0.00	0.00	44510.19	24981.50
Net of receipts/(payments)	-3571.71	0.00	0.00	-3571.71	-6577.24
Transfers between funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cash funds last year end	40429.69	0.00	0.00	40429.69	47006.93
Cash funds this year end	36857.98	0.00	0.00	36857.98	40429.69

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	2023/24			2022/23	
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Cash funds					
Bank current account	6389.09	0.00	0.00	6389.09	25303.72
Bank deposit account (+ interest)	30468.89	0.00	0.00	30468.89	15125.97
Building society account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
The Scout Association Short Term Investment Service	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cash/Floats	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total cash funds	36857.98	0.00	0.00	36857.98	40429.69
Other monetary assets					
Tax claim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Insurance claim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Investment assets					
Investment property - detail	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Quoted investments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other investments - detail	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Non monetary assets for charity's own use					
Badge stock	1649.53	0.00	0.00	1649.53	1743.35
Shop stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uniform stock	1323.00	0.00	0.00	1323.00	1054.50
Land and buildings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Trailer	3437.00	0.00	0.00	3437.00	3971.00
Scouting equipment, furniture etc	21687.32	0.00	0.00	21687.32	19717.02
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub total	28096.85	0.00	0.00	28096.85	26485.87
Liabilities					
Accounts not yet paid	701.10	0.00	0.00	701.10	339.97
Expenses incurred but not invoiced	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subscriptions not yet paid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Loan - detail	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub total	701.10	0.00	0.00	701.10	339.97

Contingent liabilities and future obligations

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 3rd September 2024 (the date of the Executive Committee meeting that approved the accounts) and signed on their behalf by

Signature	Print Name
	DAVID MARTIN
	LOUISE HODGSON
	Chair
	Treasurer

Annual General Meeting 2024

Friday 13th September 2024, 6:30pm

St John's Church, Hensingham

Present: Dave Martin (chair), Alf Branch (Group Lead Volunteer), Georgina Searle (secretary)

Trustee Board Members - Jon Cheesewright, John Smallman, Kam Massey, Louise Hodgson, Ann Walkingshaw, Clare Bethwaite

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and their families, with a total of 51 participants in attendance.

1. Introduction and Welcome

Dave introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Lisa Stanaway unable to make AGM tonight.

3. Governance Topics

- a. The minutes of the 2023 AGM were proposed by Dave Martin, Jon Cheesewright seconded the motion.
- b. Jon Cheesewright sent out a copy of the constitution to all the Trustee Board members, proposed by Dave Martin and Dave Cavaghan seconded the motion.
- c. The Hensingham Scouting group had their financial year starting in April 2023 and finishing in March 2024.
- d. It was proposed that the Trustee Board should include up to 12 members, Dave Martin proposed and Ann Walkingshaw seconded the motion.
- e. It was proposed that the Group Scout Council would comprise of a leader and a parent representative from each of the Scouting sections; Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, as well as 2 Trustee Board members. Again Dave Martin proposed and Margaret James seconded the motion.

4. Review of the previous year: Alf Branch

- a. The Group Lead Volunteer, Alf gave a review of the Scouting year at Hensingham Scout group. All sections have had a lot of fun over the past year with 15 Bronze Awards given out in Beavers and 9 Silver Awards at Cubs. All sections have managed nights away ranging from 1 night with Beavers and Cubs and Scouts staying 7 nights at Red Rose camp.

5. Presentation of Annual Statement of Accounts: Louise Hodgson

- a. Currently Hensingham Scouting group accounts are in a healthy position, with approximately 100 members.
- b. Gift aid is the group's main source of income and Louise encouraged those who don't currently use it to sign up via OSM.
- c. We have also secured further grants and funding this year, which supports the running of the group.
- d. Following scrutineering, the accounts have been sent to the Charity Commission.

6. Trustee Board review

Dave reflected on the continuing cost of living issues and reminded members that the Group do operate a Hardship fund which is now being actively managed to help members where needed.

A number of changes were noted to the way the group runs as a result of the move to a Trustee Board, one of which means we have implemented a risk management process,, which Clare Bethwaite is looking after obo the Trustee Board.

Dave highlighted the ongoing Sneckyeat Industrial Estate Equipment Store lease and the Hensingham School lease, both of which were a significant part of the group's commitments.

Dave thanked Section leaders, assistant leaders and young leaders for their hard work and commitment, the Trustee Board members and parents for their continued support and Hensingham School for the continued use of their facilities.

Dave also thanked the external support offered from both Sellafeld Ltd and Jacobs Field Services.

7 . Making Appointments

All appointments have been made using the open selection process.

- a. Alf Branch appointed Dave Martin as Chair of the Trustee Board, Jon Cheesewright seconded the motion.
- b. Louise Hodgson appointed as Treasurer, Dave Martin proposed and Margaret James seconded the motion.

- c. Approved members of the Trustee Board for 2024-2025 were Clare Bethwaite, Kam Massey, Ann Walkingshaw, Jon Cheesewright, John Smallman, Lisa Stanaway and Alf Branch.
Georgina Walsh seconded the motion.
- d. Emma Kelly agreed to be Scrutineer for next financial year, and Louise Hodgson seconded the motion.
- e. Georgina Searle was appointed as secretary.

8. Closing Remarks

It was repeated that the group couldn't work without the help of volunteers, so Dave asked parents to offer support and consider roles on the Trustee Board, especially now members can only be a part of it for 9 years.

He then wished everyone a good night of Beetle Drive and Bingo.

The AGM was closed.