

# 5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 521691

## Details

---

**Other names** 5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) BOY SCOUT GROUP

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 1965-02-15

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

---

**Address** The Lighthouse  
Eeasbrook  
Urmston  
Manchester  
M41 9JA

**Phone** 01617483215

**Email** [GLV@5thurmstonscouts.com](mailto:GLV@5thurmstonscouts.com)

**Website** [www.5thurmstonscouts.com](http://www.5thurmstonscouts.com)

## Activities

---

**Objects:** 5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) BOY SCOUT GROUP

**Activities:** As Scouts, we believe in preparing young people with skills for life. We encourage our young people to do more, learn more and be more. Each week, 5th Urmston Scout Group give young people of Urmston the opportunity to enjoy fun and adventure while developing the skills they need to succeed.

## Classification

---

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

## Geography

- Area of benefit: URMSTON
- Trafford

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£42,816	£47,789	-	-
2024-03-31	£39,361	£40,071	-	-
2023-03-31	£41,262	£45,733	-	-
2022-03-31	£34,484	£37,239	-	-
2021-03-31	£40,360	£29,088	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Daniel Easdon		2025-09-07
Gary Armstrong		2022-02-01
Jackie Wilson		2025-11-17
Luke Winstanley		2025-08-07
MARGARET MARSHALL		2016-10-01
Tom Wilcox		2025-08-07
ZOE BOND		2016-10-01

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 521691

---

# Accounts

---



# 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston (Aquilifer) Scouts Annual Report

Charity Number: 521691

<https://5thurmstonscouts.com>

#SkillsForLife



# Contents

---

<b>Trustees' Annual Report</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Structure Governance and Management</b>	<b>4</b>
Risk and Internal Control	4
<b>Objectives and Activities</b>	<b>5</b>
The Purpose of Scouting	5
The Values of Scouting	5
The Scout Method	5
Public Benefit Statement	5
<b>Achievements and Performance</b>	<b>6</b>
Group Chair's Report	6
Group Lead Volunteer's Report	7
Beavers: Aspen and Willow Colonies Report	8
Cubs: Remus and Romulus Packs Report	9
Scout Troop Report	14
Aquilifer Explorer Unit	17
Service Crew Report	18
Quarter Master's Report	21
<b>Financial Review</b>	<b>22</b>
Investment Policy	22
<b>Declaration</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Financial Statements</b>	<b>23</b>
Financial Statements Contents	24
Independent Examiners Report	25
Statement of Income and Expenditure	26
Balance Sheet	27
Notes to the Financial Statements	28

# Trustees' Annual Report

1ST APRIL 2024 TO 31ST MARCH 2025

**Charity Name:** 5th Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group

**Address:** The Lighthouse  
Easbrook  
Urmston  
MANCHESTER  
M41 9JA

**Registered Charity Number:** 521691

**HQ Registration Number:** 18054

## Names of the Trustees who manage the charity:

Trustee Name	Office	Period
Gary Armstrong	Group Lead Volunteer (GLV) – Ex Officio	
Nicholas Theodosiou	Group Chair – Appointed	From 22/09/24
Zoe Bond	Group Treasurer - Appointed	
Margaret Marshall	Trustee (Group Administrator) - Appointed	
Colin Blanchard	Group Chair	Until 22/09/24

## Names of Holding Trustees, who hold the land and property in trust:

John Irlam

John Ironmonger

David Till

Christine Winterbottom

# Structure Governance and Management

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.

The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.

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

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 Trustee Board consists of the Chair, Treasurer and 2 Trustees (including 1 Ex Officio Trustees) and meets every four months. Members of the Trustee Board complete Being a Scouts Trustee learning within the first 6 months of joining the Board. This Group Trustee Board exists to make sure the charity is well-managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and equipment are in good working order, and everyone follows legal requirements and the organisation's policies and rules. Their support helps other volunteers run high quality and safe programmes that gives young people skills for life.

## 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 2 signatories for all payments and a comprehensive set of insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

# Objectives and Activities

## The Purpose of Scouting

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

## The Values of Scouting

As Scouts we are guided by these values:

**Integrity** - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.

**Respect** - We have self-respect and respect for others.

**Care** - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.

**Belief** - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.

**Co-operation** - We make a positive difference; we cooperate with others and make friends.

## The Scout Method

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and:- enjoy what they are doing and have fun- take part in activities indoors and outdoors- learn by doing- share in spiritual reflection- take responsibility and make choices- undertake new and challenging activities- make and live by their Promise.

## Public Benefit Statement

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.

# Achievements and Performance

## Group Chair's Report

Appointed as Chair of Trustees at the AGM in September 2024, this is my first annual report statement with 5th Urmston Scout Group. I am delighted to report that it has been a truly fantastic year prior and after my time as Chair, it has been inspiring to see the energy, dedication, and enthusiasm that everyone brings to our Group, and I feel incredibly proud to be part of such a passionate and supportive Scouting community.

Throughout the year, our young people have taken part in a wide range of exciting camps, trips, and section activities that continue to deliver fun, adventure, and personal development. The commitment they show to learning, growing, and developing essential life skills is remarkable. They are truly living out the values of Scouting, helping others, being trustworthy, showing respect, and building resilience, and each young person is learning to take responsibility for their own actions, contribute to their communities, and develop into well-rounded, compassionate individuals.

These experiences help build confidence, resilience, and friendships that will last a lifetime, and they would not be possible without the hard work and commitment of our amazing volunteers and leaders. Your time, energy, and passion are what make 5th Urmston so special – thank you for all that you do.

We have also seen some brilliant community and fundraising events take place, including the lively Music on the Meadows, the ever-popular annual Bingo Night, and the Christmas Carol concert. These events not only help raise vital funds for the Group but also bring families, friends, and the wider community together in celebration of what Scouting stands for.

A huge thank you to everyone involved in making these events possible! Your time, hard work, and dedication have been essential to their success, and it is truly appreciated. It is only possible because of the incredible efforts of our volunteers, and your commitment makes all the difference.

A special thank you must go to our dedicated Service Crew, who continue to maintain our building and grounds to an exceptional standard. Their work ensures we have a safe, welcoming, and well-kept space for all our activities, and we are truly grateful for the time and care they give throughout the year.

Thank you, Gary (Group Lead Volunteer) and all the group leaders, for their leadership, hard work and dedication. I also want to take this opportunity to recognise the commitment and expertise of our Trustee Board. Thanks to both Zoe (Treasurer) and Margaret (Trustee) as well as the rest of our fantastic team of dedicated trustees. Their work behind the scenes, managing our finances, governance, and ensuring the safety and compliance of the Group, is vital to our continued success and deeply appreciated.

I am excited for what's to come and looking forward to continuing to work with our trustees and group leadership to build on the achievements of this year and to continue delivering even more opportunities, adventures, and memories for all young people involved with 5th Urmston. With such a strong foundation of leadership, volunteers, families, support, and a thriving community of

young people, the future of 5th Urmston looks incredibly bright.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support and dedication. Have a wonderful summer break!

Nick Theodosiou

Group Chair, 5th Urmston Scout Group

## Group Lead Volunteer's Report

Thank you to everyone that helped deliver a year of adventure, creativity, learning, development and fun Scouting for the young people be they Beavers, Cubs, Scouts or Explorers.

I want to say a big thank you on the Groups behalf to the section leaders who give up their time each week planning and running the meetings for the young people; with safe, fun, engaging activities, taking teams to competitions and providing personal development opportunities for all. Thank you to all the section team members and the young leaders, without whom the meetings couldn't happen.

Thank you to the Service Crew volunteers. The facilities at 5th Urmston are second to none but they take a lot of effort and time to maintain. The building, the grounds, grass cutting, tree management, thank you to all the Service Crew. And thanks to the Group Administrator for, amongst other things, making sure the building is clean, fire and burglar alarms serviced, and bins emptied. Thank you to the Quartermaster for keeping our equipment available, safely stored and serviceable. And thank you to the Trustee Board for all the work they do to keep our Group legal, safe and funded, including specifically the Treasurer for keeping our finances in order and all the work done on expenses and payments.

Thank you to all the volunteers that have helped during the year with fundraising and activity support, be that helping supervise a Beaver walk or setting up marquees for Music on the Meadows.

And talking of Music on the Meadows, this is our largest and longest running fund raising event, so thank you to Chas and all the bands that volunteer their time, and the regular 5U crew that setup stage and marquees, run the bar, the ticketing and gate. The fund raising we do is critical to the upkeep of grounds and services, and to keeping the membership subscription for the young people low. And I'm looking forward to the return of the Bingo night next year.

It takes a big team to provide the energy and success of 5th Urmston: including our young people from the ages of 6 to 18, their parents and families and the dedicated volunteers.

This is my last GLV report as due to the demands of work and other commitments it is time for me to pass on the baton. It has been an exciting few years that I have really enjoyed. I joined 5th Urmston as a Cub in 1976, so the place is very special to me, and I look forward to continuing on the Trustee Board to help the Group grow and develop.

Gary Armstrong

Group Lead Volunteer

## Beavers: Aspen and Willow Colonies Report

Our programme over the past year has, as always, been based on the Challenge award scheme and activity badges. This year the badges achieved have included Adventure, Animal Friend, Book Reader, Cook, Creative, Disability Awareness, Emergency Aid, Gardener, International, Musician, Navigator, Personal and Teamwork - some of which were chosen by the Beavers themselves. Well done Beavers!

Some of our programmes during this year included:



Our thanks to Rachel Turnbull for coming to talk to the beavers about working to help homeless people. The beavers asked some very interesting questions! Also, thanks to Jo Hardman for helping us with the emergency aid badge again.

We were proud of the Beavers at the St George's Day Parade at the beginning of the year, they all looked very smart. At the Group Carol Service in December, they were very brave standing up and reading in front of a very large congregation.

Huge thanks to those who have helped us this year: Leaders -Henry Gagan, Zoe Gilpin, Jayne Meyrick, Michelle Platt (Keeo) and Graeme Ryder; Young Leaders - Kitty and Owen Quinn; also, the various parent helpers who have come along to help out when we have needed an extra pair of hands. We couldn't do it without you all.

**Hannah Wilson (Rainbow), Aspen Colony**

**Tina Winterbottom (Rikki), Willow Colony**

## Cubs: Remus and Romulus Packs Report

Another fabulous year for 5U cubs this year.

Following the award scheme we have participated in many activities including fire lighting (and making smores of course), talking about the environment and make models out of natural materials, visiting Stretford CC for some cricket training, building shelters, lots of team building through fun games, tracking, gardening, researching about international festivals and cultures and trying some foreign food, several fun science experiments (thank you Hathi for taking the lead on this) and learning new skills (making a brew, ironing neckers, washing windows and peeling vegetables).



We've also had the pleasure of being assisted by some very keen young leaders who, as part of their training and development, ran some programs including astrology, animal care, and environment. Four of the young leaders have now taken out full adult leadership roles which is fabulous (although they are all heading off to University in September 😞). It's great to be part of their development and see them grow in confidence.





Thanks to Rebecca's contacts we had a great visit to Dino golf and Remus pack had a delightful trip to Urmston's musical society pantomime. Romulus Pack welcomed Curious Critters and spent an evening learning about and holding snakes, bugs, lizards and owls. The faces pulled were hilarious.



In September 24 we had a very successful cub camp, utilising our own wonderful grounds (thanks to the service crew who keep the grounds beautifully maintained). We took the opportunity to complete the outdoor challenge which involved pioneering, shelter building, cubs cooking their own lunch on BBQs, wide games and much more, but not a lot of sleeping!

After the summer holidays Rebecca took on the responsibility of leading Remus pack until personal life pressures meant she had to leave the group in March 25. During this time the pack had visits from a magician, did their entertainers badge, had a street dance session, looked at personal, road, home and fire safety and much more. Many thanks to Rebecca for her enthusiasm and new ideas during her time with us.



We attended our annual Carol service. Remus pack learning a song and Romulus writing poems about those less fortunate than ourselves.

Lonly Christmas By Sebastian Naylor

Cold and lonely with no food  
Homeless people face others being  
Rude and mean.

Icy ~~know~~ pavements, too slippery for sleeping bags  
Sad people crying  
Tears from frost bite.  
Make these people happier  
And ~~sp~~ spread some joy by  
Sharing a little gift for  
Christmas.

Both packs took part in our district activity day and competitions – chess, sports day and the Barbara Hughes and Aston Trophies. Due to family commitments, it gets harder to find a team to take part in these events so my thanks to all those who volunteered to be part of our team. Each event is organised and run by a district lead and leaders from all groups, who give up their time at the weekends to make these events happen. It's great that we have the opportunity to meet up with other groups and participate in joint activities and competitions, so I urge our members to take these opportunities when they come before they die out due to lack of attendance.



It is with great pleasure that we presented Silver Awards (highest award available to cub scouts) to Lizzie O'Toole-Smart, Chloe Davies and Douglas Conlon-Rattcliff. To achieve this award takes dedication and drive so a huge BRAVO to you all.



Of course, none of the above is possible without a dedicated leadership team. My thanks to Romulus Leaders: Debbie Gilpin (Hathi), Issy Brett (Baloo), Ben service (Kaa), Abi Gilpin (Rama) and young leader Edie O'Boyle and Remus Leaders: Rebecca Conlon-Rattcliff (Akela), Connor O'Neill, Victoria Armstrong (Bagheera) Charlotte Kirsten, Josh Kirsten, Freya Bradley (Dizzy), Daisy Gibbon and young leader Natalie Cooke.



And finally, thanks to all those who help make 5th Urmston a thriving, successful group. It takes a whole lot of time and effort to provide Scouting to our young people, but the rewards of volunteering are tenfold.

**Liz Armstrong (Akela)**



## Scout Troop Report

Scouts have had a remarkably busy year this year with a strong troop running at full capacity! We've had quite a lot of new faces with our older cubs moving up through the group as well as saying goodbye to some of the older ones moving up to Explorers or to pastures new.

We have also celebrated several Chief Scout Gold Awards which is the highest award given to any Scout! Congratulations all!

Throughout the year we have run a myriad of fun, exciting and challenging programmes.

There has been a lot of cooking:



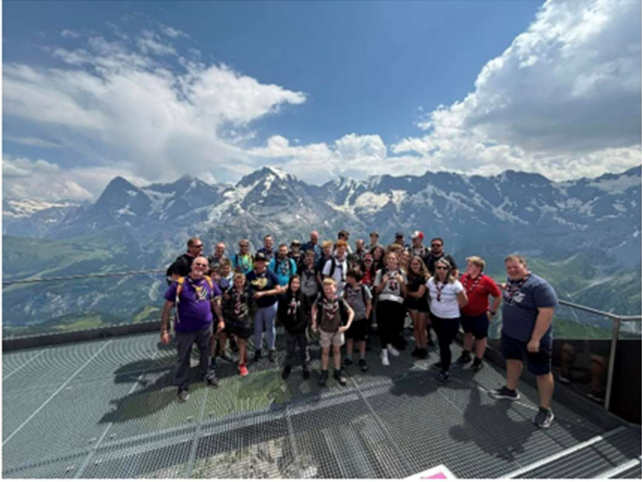
Learning about the local area whilst completing a night hike:



Competed in numerous district competitions, including bowling, football & cooking. No trophies to note but every competitor throughout the year showed grit and determination and done a phenomenal job representing the troop at a district event.



A significant amount of the troop took a Scout trip of a lifetime and visited Adelboden in Switzerland. A trip where everyone involved got to experience the beauty of Switzerland whilst flying down ziplines, trekking through caves, and eating Chef James' fantastic food!



Lastly our Artistic Leader Phil has worked hard to finish the artistic masterpiece now hung in the hall of the hut. The Troop started the painting several years ago as a post-covid activity with the scouts and Phil has worked tirelessly to finish it so it can take pride of place, BRAVO!



By no means last I would like to so say how thankful I am to the team on a Thursday night who give up their time each week to provide these opportunities for your young people, I could not do it without them they bring so much knowledge and skills to the team that they make each week what it is and the reason we are so successful as a Troop. So, thank you Dan, Phil, James, Matt, Jackie and Hannah.

If anyone is wanting to come and help our amazing team, please just ask we would love for you to join the fun!

**Mike Ellis, Scout Team Leader**

## Aquilifer Explorer Unit

*“It is the long history of humankind (and animal kind, too) that those who learned to collaborate and improvise most effectively have prevailed.”*

**Charles Darwin**

The last year has been a significant turning point, not only with the way in which we have provided our Young People with an Explorer Scout offering, but indeed with the way this provision is now made within the wider setting of Urmston District Scouts. We have been running as a ‘joint’ section alongside Explorers from both Phoenix ESU (2nd Urmston) & Maverick ESU (8th Flixton), but we have now formalised the structure of this as a new Explorer Scout Unit operating at the District level, rather than being directly tied into any single, or multiple, Scout Groups. The identity of Unit 258 was drawn from our three points of origin, with both our new name and our new logo reflecting the heritage of where we came from and chosen by the Explorers themselves. Being able to combine the experience of the leaders from the three former Units, we have been able to ensure that we provide a regular meeting schedule in which our Young People are able to make progress towards a range of both staged badges and activity badges, which ultimately help them to progress towards earning their “Top Awards”.

With this in mind, I would like to share my heartfelt thanks to the Explorers themselves. These Young People have demonstrated their ability to collaborate and improvise, meeting at 2nd Urmston Scout Hut & other locations when we participate in joint meetings with the rest of the District ESUs. They stand shoulder-to-shoulder with their fellow Unit members, irrespective of what necker they wore when they moved up from a Scout Troop and work to lift one another such that we can all rise together. We have collaborated to refresh a community garden; been out for evening walks around Stretford & Urmston meadows; engaged in an evening of cycle maintenance & safety as preparation for a ride-out to Sale Water Park & back; had many a themed evening to introduce international foods, games, lifestyles and more. And of course, the Explorers are provided with a variety of opportunities to participate in nights away, be that ‘traditional’ camping or as a residential weekend; for fun or as a competition; and at all different times of year.

I truly owe a massive debt of thanks to the Team of Leaders at Phoenix ESU & 2nd Urmston, without whom this new chapter in the annals of Aquilifer ESU would not have been able to be written. Bev, Dave, Aisling, thanks for the lifeline. And thanks as well to the other Leaders who have provided their support along the way, notably Issy & Si. I would also like to formally welcome (back) a familiar face as we have recently invested Billy Horton, an Aquilifer Alumni, who has joined the Leader Team for Unit 258. Be sure to keep a look out for us, Unit 258 is growing & getting better with every adaptation, we shall indeed prevail!

It wouldn’t be a report from me if I failed to include this, so without further ado: “To the adventures awaiting, the challenges we’ll overcome, and the memories to be made for recall as campfire tales for years into the future!” Because we will share stories over a fire, laughing about the mishaps, and wondering how close to insanity we were thinking that “that” would be a good idea! Be sure to get in touch if you think you could bring something to this amazing mix, jump in & join us on a ride like no other!

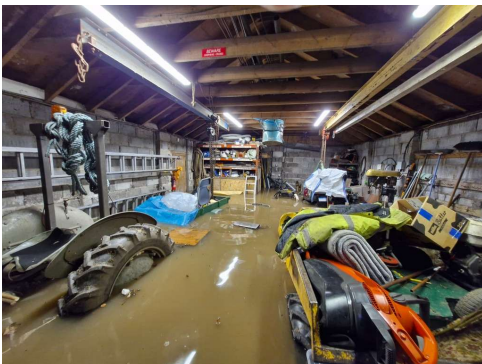
**Matt Woodams, Explorer Team Leader**

## Service Crew Report

We have had another busy year at Service Crew, but I am pleased to say that we now have a good number of regular attendees turning up on a Monday evening (and on a Thursday for those with more time on their hands).

Over the course of the last 12 months the team have continued with the 'business as usual' type jobs, such as grass cutting, managing the campsite and woodland, keeping the brambles and ivy at bay, general maintenance of the HQ and outbuildings (repairs, painting etc).

We have also, however, had to contend with some significant challenges in needing to respond to the extensive flooding seen earlier in the year. I have included a couple of pictures showing the extent of the flooding in the AMS and Archery Range, which reached 1.2 metres, and caused extensive damage to the buildings and equipment. The flooding also badly affected the Toilet Block and damaged the gas tank.



As a result of the flooding, we have needed to strip down the engines of the tractor, dumper, mowers and other machinery and overhaul these at a significant cost in time and parts. Thankfully, owing to the skills of the team, we have not needed to replace this equipment which would have come at a cost that would have exceeded £20,000. The mess and thick mud left behind when the floods receded took many weeks to clean up and we have been considering how we might limit the damage from future flooding.

Earlier this year, also because of the heavy rains, the car parking area at the front of the HQ 'sprung a leak'. The service team dug down to discover a manhole cover 0.5m under the level of the car park which was overflowing. It turned out that this was surface water run-off from Queens Road and the surrounding roads which overflows into pipes running across our land and into the stream. United Utilities arranged for the repair of the pipes that were clogged with roots and have installed a new manhole cover. Hopefully we won't see a repeat of this.



One of the jobs the team need to routinely undertake is repairs to fencing. As you might imagine we have several people who are not connected with the group but come onto the land and there is fly tipping that takes place along the lane that needs to be cleared up. It is almost impossible to stop this, but having fencing in good repair can limit the numbers of people doing this.

Over the last year we have had repeated incidents of trees on the site being cut down, or partially cut, and left in a dangerous situation. We estimate that this has happened to circa 60 trees over the course of this year and the service team needs to make the damage safe. The damage has been reported to the police, and the group is looking into the costs of CCTV on site to maintain safety.



Over the summer months, we have been working to get the camping areas back under control, with grass cutting and brambles and ivy being cut back, and we are currently waging war on the sheer volume of Himalayan balsam that are multiplying at a fast rate. This job will continue and hopefully a large number can be removed before the plants start re-seeding. In addition, the group is tackling the Japanese knot weed that is on site. There are a small number of these plants but, as responsible landowners, we are taking this issue seriously and have put measures in place to tackle the problem.

A lot of you will remember Jonathan Platt - a long-time member of the group - who sadly and unexpectedly passed away in January 2022. In memory of Jonathan, donations were made that allowed the group to install a Defibrillator. This has been in place for the last couple of years but sadly has been missing a commemorative plaque remembering Jonathan and how we were able to put the defibrillator in place. I am pleased to say that this omission has now been rectified, and the plaque has been mounted next to the defibrillator on the outside of the building.



One of the jobs that we will need to tackle in the coming year is to replace the roof of the AMS and Lean-To. These rooves are leaking quite badly due to corrosion over the many years they have been in place, and we are looking into the cost to replace these in the Spring of 2026.

Looking after a site as extensive as 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston's takes a lot of time and energy and I'm extremely grateful to the volunteers who put their time and skills to good use looking after the house and grounds. This allows the leader team to get on with the important job of running programmes for

the young people who attend the group, without having to worry about the maintenance and safety of the onsite facilities. It also ensures that visitors to the group (for weekend camps or 'Music on the Meadows' for example) can see the site at its best.

We are always looking for volunteers to come and help with general and/or specialist skills that we can call on from time to time. If you would like to offer assistance, please can you email me at [ServiceCrew@5thUrmstonScouts.com](mailto:ServiceCrew@5thUrmstonScouts.com) and I'd be happy to discuss the work we're doing (we're especially looking for a roofing contractor at the moment!).

Service Team Members:

Ian Carruthers	John Carruthers	Mark Counsell	Dan Easdon
Connor O'Neill	Eddie O'Neill	David Porter	Bill Scallon
John Thatcher	Brian Timms	Luch Visentin	Luke Winstanley

**Chris O'Neill, Service Crew Team Leader**

## Quarter Master's Report

Firstly, I would like to thank Connor for all his years of service as Quartermaster.

Since taking over the mantle of Quartermaster, a little over a year ago I have created several new shelving units and rearranged the storage hopefully providing better access to equipment.

Leaders still have free access to the stores on the premise that they inform me of use (ideally before), return used items in the same or better condition than found and report any issues.

Unfortunately, camping takes a heavy toll on equipment, I currently have a long list of repairs and maintenance that is required, e.g. over 10 lightweight tents in need of repair, some of which will be beyond repair, axes need sharpening, bow saws need new blades and guards, new stoves need crates made to store them, water bottles need sterilising, plus more.

The stores room is overcrowded; decisions and rationalisation need to be made e.g. some kit is very large and unlikely to be used again whilst others are old and newer versions are available.

As there is equipment stored at height and potentially harmful equipment within stores, young people are currently not allowed in the stores. Over the last year the stores door has been found unlocked, therefore an additional snick lock has been installed so the door will lock automatically by the door closer.

The intention for the next year is to individually number all tents and marquees – this will aid packing and repairing. Do a full audit of stores equipment, repairing / replacing / removing as necessary. Improve communication with sections and improve 'after camp' sorting of equipment.

My thanks to all persons who have helped me over the year.

**Ivan Easdon (5th Urmston Scouts Quartermaster)**

# Financial Review

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Trustee Board considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 6 months running costs, circa £20,000.

The Group held reserves of approximately £96,000 against this at year end, £100,000 of which is unrestricted. This is in line with accepted standards for operating expenses to cover unforeseen circumstances.

## Investment Policy

The Group does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk averse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

# 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):**

Nicholas Theodosiou

Gary Armstrong

**Position:**

Chair

Group Lead Volunteer

**Date:**

08/08/2025

08/08/2025

# Financial Statements

Period: 1ST APRIL 2024 TO 31ST MARCH 2025

## Financial Statements Contents

Section	Page
Independent Examiners Report	25
Statement of Income and Expenditure	25
Balance Sheet	27
Notes to the Financial Statements	28

## Unqualified report for a non-company charity preparing accruals accounts with a gross income of £250,000 or less in the relevant financial year

---

### Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 5th Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 5th Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group for the year ended 31 March 2025.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 5th Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the 5th Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

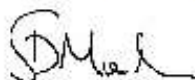
#### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the 5th Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Signed:



Name: Simon Monks

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): ACCA

Address: 23 Grangethorpe Road, Urmston, Manchester M41 9HT

Date: 24 July 2025

# Statement of Income and Expenditure

	<u>2023/2024</u>			<u>2024/2025</u>		<u>2024/2025</u>		<u>2024/2025</u>	
	<u>Total</u>			<u>Restricted Funds</u>		<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	£	£		£	£	£	£	£	£
	<b><u>GROUP INCOME</u></b>								
Rent	7,200.18		Rent			7,551.56		7,551.56	
Donations	1,924.00		Donations	1,092.00		6,201.77		7,293.77	
Interest Received	217.99		Interest Received			273.27		273.27	
Fundraising	6,347.46		Fundraising			5,031.30		5,031.30	
Gift Aid	2,869.51		Gift Aid Tax & Interest	3,255.84		-		3,255.84	
T-Shirts & Neckers	87.00		Sale of Group T-Shirts			150.00		150.00	
Subscriptions	20,715.01		Subscriptions			19,259.80		19,259.80	
		39,361.15			4,347.84		38,467.70		42,815.54
		<u>39,361.15</u>	<b>TOTAL INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>		<u>4,347.84</u>		<u>38,467.70</u>		<u>42,815.54</u>
	<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>								
Insurance	5,296.79		Insurance			6,681.06		6,681.06	
Water	890.24		Water			1,727.32		1,727.32	
Electricity	2,482.44		Electricity			1,811.42		1,811.42	
Gas	1,205.02		Gas			1,781.79		1,781.79	
Telephone/Broadband/Website	479.40		Telephone/Broadband/Computer			515.40		515.40	
Repairs & Maintenance	6,076.76		Maintenance: HQ, Land & Equipment			11,012.23		11,012.23	
Waste	1,266.06		Waste			1,269.89		1,269.89	
Fundraising Expenses	2,291.47		Fundraising Expenses			2,130.67		2,130.67	
Capitation	7,847.50		Capitation Fees			7,935.00		7,935.00	
Badges and Regalia	698.50		Badges and Regalia			1,413.60		1,413.60	
Postage, Printing and Stationery	35.18		Postage, Printing and Stationery			-		-	
Training	-		Training Fees			420.00		420.00	
Legal & Professional Fees	360.00		Legal & Professional Fees			-		-	
Bank Charges	277.80		Bank Charges			271.30		271.30	
Section Equipment	179.28		Section Equipment			55.86		55.86	
Section Activities	1,245.97		Section Activities			2,051.57		2,051.57	
T Shirts	38.32		Cost of T-Shirts Sold			85.80		85.80	
Adhoc Expenses	90.47		Adhoc Expenses			-		-	
Building Depreciation	7,439.61		Building Depreciation			7,439.61		7,439.61	
Equipment Depreciation	1,870.13		Equipment Depreciation			1,186.71		1,186.71	
		40,070.94	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR</b>		-		47,789.23		47,789.23
	£ -	<u>709.79</u>	<b>NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>	£	<u>4,347.84</u>	£ -	<u>9,321.53</u>	£ -	<u>4,973.69</u>

# Balance Sheet

2022/2023		NOTE			2024/2025		
£	£		Restricted	Unrestricted	Total		
				£	£		£
<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>							
64,500.00		LAND - at valuation	2	64,500.00			
262,429.14		BUILDINGS - at WDV	3	254,989.53			
<u>3,257.35</u>		EQUIPMENT - at WDV	4	<u>3,137.31</u>			
	330,186.49						322,626.84
<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>							
453.60		STOCK OF T-SHIRTS		-	367.80		367.80
113,795.86		CASH AT BANK	5	18,253.76	92,600.59		110,854.35
<u>11,669.61</u>		PREPAYMENTS & ACCRUED INCOME	6	-	9,135.23		9,135.23
<u>125,919.07</u>	125,919.07			<u>18,253.76</u>	<u>102,103.61</u>		<u>120,357.37</u>
<b><u>Less: CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>							
3,314.72		ACCRUALS & DEFERRED INCOME	7		5,452.08		5,452.08
<u>10,685.00</u>		CAMP FEES			400.00		400.00
<u>13,999.72</u>	13,999.72				<u>-</u>		<u>5,852.08</u>
	111,919.35	<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)</b>					114,505.28
	<u>442,105.84</u>						<u>437,132.12</u>

## REPRESENTED BY:

382,215.62		CAPITAL ACCOUNT - Balance b/fwd		381,505.83			
- 709.79		- Net Income/(Expenditure) for the Year		- 4,973.70			
	381,505.83	- Balance c/fwd					376,532.12
	60,600.00	REVALUATION RESERVE					60,600.00
	<u>442,105.83</u>						<u>437,132.12</u>

Approved by the Trustee Board on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

Signature(s)




Full Name(s):

Nicholas Theodosiou

Gary Armstrong

Position:

Chair

Group Lead Volunteer

Date:

# Notes to the Financial Statements

## 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### a) Basis of Accounting

These accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention (modified to include the revaluation of investments) in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting by Charities".

b) Provision for depreciation of fixed assets held for use by the charity is made at annual rates calculated to spread the cost (less anticipated residual disposal value) of each asset evenly over its expected useful life.

The depreciation rates currently in use are at the following rates on the straight line method:

Buildings	2% - 5%
Equipment	20%

## 2 LAND

The land was revalued as at 31st March 1997 by Peter F Cunliffe & Co, at a market value of £64500.00

The land is stated at this value in the Balance Sheet and the surplus of valuation over cost is shown in the revaluation reserve

## 3 BUILDINGS

	<u>2024/2025</u>	<u>2023/2024</u>
	£	£
Valuation/ Cost B/fwd	359,486.91	358,030.36
Additions		1,456.55
Valuation/Cost C/fwd	<u>359,486.91</u>	<u>359,486.91</u>
Accumulated Depreciation B/fwd	97,057.77	89,618.16
Charge for the Year	7,439.61	7,439.61
Accumulated Depreciation C/fwd	<u>104,497.38</u>	<u>97,057.77</u>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2025	<u>254,989.53</u>	<u>262,429.14</u>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2023	<u>262,429.14</u>	<u>268,412.20</u>

## 4 EQUIPMENT

	<u>2024/2025</u>	<u>2023/2024</u>
	£	£
Valuation/Cost B/fwd	38,772.55	40,284.55
Additions	1,066.68	0.00
WIP		(1,512.00)
Valuation/Cost C/fwd	<u>39,839.23</u>	<u>38,772.55</u>
Accumulated Depreciation B/fwd	35,515.20	33,645.07
Charge for the Year	1,186.71	1,870.13
Disposal	0.00	0.00
Accumulated Depreciation C/fwd	<u>36,701.91</u>	<u>35,515.20</u>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2025	<u>3,137.32</u>	<u>3,257.35</u>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2024	<u>3,257.35</u>	<u>6,639.48</u>

## 5 CASH AT BANK

	2024/2025		2023/2024	
	restricted £	unrestricted £	restricted £	unrestricted £
<u>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT</u>				
Group Balances	-	16,579.83	-	15,214.56
	-	16,579.83	-	15,214.56
<u>CURRENT ACCOUNT</u>				
Capital Fund	14,562.20	-	9,306.36	-
In Memory	2,823.62		2,823.62	
Scout Kit	867.94			
Group Balances		76,020.76		86,451.32
	18,253.76	76,020.76	12,129.98	86,451.32
	<b>18,253.76</b>	<b>92,600.59</b>	<b>12,129.98</b>	<b>101,665.88</b>

## 6 PREPAYMENTS & ACCRUED INCOME

Prepayments are expenses paid for up to a date later than the date of the accounts.

	2024/2025	2023/2024
Insurance	5,195.23	6,294.61
Capitation	-	-
Section Activities	85.00	35.00
Gift Aid	3,000.00	5,000.00
Rent	855.00	340.00
	<b>9,135.23</b>	<b>11,669.61</b>

## 7 ACCRUED EXPENSES & DEFERRED INCOME

Deferred income relates to income received in

	2024/2025	2023/2024
Section Activities	3,952.08	3,023.51
Waste	-	208.71
Cleaning	-	82.50
Water	-	-
District Camp 2025	1,500.00	-
Camp 2024 - Swiss Camp	400.00	10,685.00
	<b>5,852.08</b>	<b>13,999.72</b>

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 521691

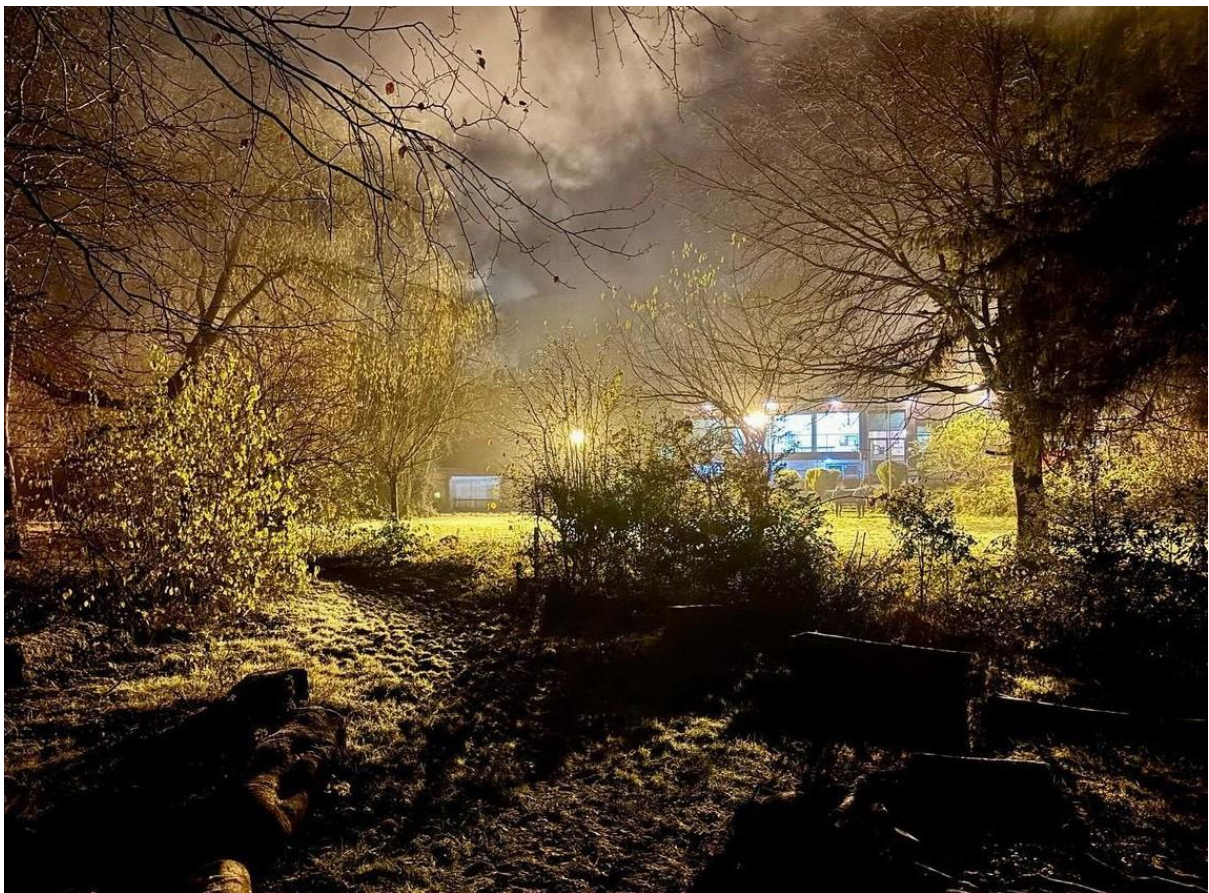
---

# Accounts

---



# ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24



**BEAVERS**\* **cubs**\* **SCOUTS**\* EXPLORERS\* **network**\*

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT - 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2023 TO 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024

Charity Name: 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group  
Address: The Lighthouse  
Easbrook  
Urmston  
Manchester  
M41 9JA

Registered Charity Number: 521691

HQ registration Number: 18054

Names of the Trustees who manage the charity

<b>Trustee Name</b>	<b>Office</b>
Gary Armstrong	Group Leader Volunteer
Colin Blanchard	Chair
Zoe Bond	Treasurer
Margaret Marshall	Group Administrator

Names of Holding Trustees, who hold the land and property in trust

John Irlam  
John Ironmonger  
David Till  
Christine Winterbottom

Cover image: with thanks to James

## **STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

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.

The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.

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

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 Committee consists of three independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leader, individual section leaders (if opted to take on the responsibility) and parent representation and meets every month.

This 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 two signatories for all payments and comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

### **Upcoming Changes**

Scout HQ has revised the way the whole organisation is structured. For us as a group it means during this next year we have implemented a Group Trustees Board who are responsible for the overarching governance, risk management and Charity Commission compliance of the Group. And a Group Leadership Team including GLV, Team Leaders, treasurer, service crew, QM, Friends of Fifth and others as needed to deliver the operational management of the group such as premises or equipment maintenance, social or fund-raising functions or media and outreach. The Team leaders (new name for Section Leaders) will continue to deliver the engaging, challenging and fun programmes of activities for the young people.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **The Purpose of Scouting**

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

### **The Values of Scouting**

As Scouts we are guided by these values:

**Integrity** - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.

**Respect** - We have self-respect and respect for others.

**Care** - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.

**Belief** - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.

**Co-operation** - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

### **The Scout Method**

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and:

- enjoy what they are doing and have fun
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors
- learn by doing
- share in spiritual reflection
- take responsibility and make choices
- undertake new and challenging activities
- make and live by their Promise.

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.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Chair's Report**

---

On behalf of myself and the Trustee Board, I would like to thank everyone involved at Scouting at 5th Urmston including all volunteers and helpers for your support during the last year it is appreciated.

It has been another successful year for 5th Urmston Scout Group with many wonderful trips, activities and events led by our leaders and young people. It was great to see friends of 5th Urmston activities taking place including curry night and work party days to help maintain the grounds of 5th Urmston. Your help and support are always valued.

I would like to thank the service crew for the continued great work they do to manage and maintain the premises and grounds at 5th Urmston. To maintain the grounds to such high standards for everyone to enjoy take's a significant amount of time and effort which is greatly appreciated.

Finally, this is my last report as Chair as I will be stepping down at the AGM and making way for a new Chair at 5th Urmston. I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the leaders for the great experiences and learning they continue to provide for our young people and to the Trustee Board (GLV) Gary, (Treasure) Zoe and Margaret who work very hard ensuring all the finances, governance and overall management at 5th Urmston is correct to keep everyone safe and secure.

I look forward to another successful year at 5th Urmston.

**Colin Blanchard, Group Chair**

## **Treasurer's Report**

---

### Treasurer's Report 2023/24

Our year end accounts show an overall loss of £709.

#### **Income**

Overall Group income for the year is lower than last year. Our regular fundraising events in 2023/24 raised welcome income: Music on the Meadows was once again a great success with approx. £3200 raised. A very successful bingo night was held which raised over £900. A great deal of work goes on behind the scenes to make these events go well. Thanks to the leaders, parents and members who help out at these events. Total income was £39k.

#### **Expenditure**

Group expenses were lower compared to last year. Our biggest spend this year was the capital expenditure to complete the new ramp to enter the building. Total expenditure was £40k.

Thank you to all that have supported the group throughout the year.

We continue to update our Gift Aid Forms. Our Gift Aid forms are now digital, please look out for a link to sign a Gift Aid form in your email via the OSM website. Gift Aid allows us to claim an extra 25% of your donations/subscriptions from the government at no extra cost to you (we can even claim back for prior years).

Thanks to all who regularly donate as part of the monthly donation scheme. These extra funds help improve and maintain our facilities. If you would like to donate (any amount is welcome), please ask myself or any of our Leaders for our deposit account details. It is easy to set up a regular standing order and we would be very grateful - remember the Gift Aid form means we receive even more.

The audited accounts are attached as an appendix to this report.

**Zoe Bond, Group Treasurer**

## **Group Leader Volunteer's Report**

---

Thank you to everyone that has helped deliver another fantastic year of Scouting for the young people be they Beavers, Cubs, Scouts or Explorers.

All the sections have had great years as you can see from their reports. The fun, engaging activities, the learning and personal development opportunities for all the young people are down to the efforts of the amazing volunteer Teams who put their time into running the meetings and the background tasks that go with it. Thank you to all the Team Leaders and their teams.

The facilities at 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston are second to none but they take a lot of effort and time to maintain. The Service Crew (again, all volunteers) work often goes unseen. Thank you to all the Service Crew. And thank you to Margaret Marshall for all the work as group admin and key holder. Thank you to Ivan Easdon who took on the role of Quartermaster and is doing a great job keeping our equipment available, safely stored and serviceable – as well as the purple dots on the main hall floor!

Thank you to Zoe for keeping our finances in order and all the work done on expenses and payments. Thank you to all the volunteers that make up the newly formed Trustee Board and Leadership Team and other sub-committees, all integral in keeping our Scout Group going, legal, and safe.

The fund raising we do is critical to the upkeep of grounds and services, so a big thank you to Sharon, James and family for organising a great bingo night during the winter. And a massive thankyou to Michelle Plat and all the team: Chas, the bands, Roy on the bar, Jane and team, Margaret and Alan teams around them that organised a really successful Music on the Meadows – and to the rain for stopping early enough for us to go ahead!

Thank you to everyone that contributes to the energy and success of 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston: including our young people from the ages of 6 to 18, their parents and families that support us and them in Scouting and the dedicated volunteers thanked above.

**Gary Armstrong,**

**Group Leader Volunteer**

## Aspen and Willow Colonies Report

---

Our programme over the past year has, as always, been based on the Challenge award scheme and activity badges. This year the badges achieved have included Adventure, Builder, Collector, Cook, Creative, Experiment, Explore, Emergency Aid, Faith, Global Issues, Health & Fitness, Hobbies, International, Money Skills, Outdoors, Personal, Skills, Teamwork, Time on the Water and World - some of which were chosen by the Beavers themselves. Well done Beavers!

Some of our programmes during this year included:

**Making models using recycled materials**



**Shelter Building**



**Making bug hotels**



**Making Smores**



**Communication**



**Balloon Games**



**Endangered Species**



**Marshmallow and Spaghetti Towers**



Our thanks to Jo Hardman for helping us with the emergency aid badge. The beavers really enjoyed learning how to use bandages and all about the recovery position. They also learnt about the importance of getting help.

Our thanks also to Dib Dob (Bob Wilson) for coming to talk to the beavers about being a police officer. They had a great time trying all the clothing on (hats, jackets and even a cape). They asked lots of very interesting questions and had some great ideas about what a police officer does!

We were proud of the Beavers at the St George's Day Parade at the beginning of the year, they all looked very smart. At the Group Carol Service in December they all sang really well, it was a lovely start to the Christmas festivities. Both colonies enjoyed the District Outing to Antz in Your Pantz in February, too.



This year we have had two members achieve the highest award a Beaver can earn – the Chief Scout's Bronze Award. Congratulations to Rosie Ellis (Aspen) and Daniel Hobbs (Willow).

Huge thanks to those who have helped us this year: Leaders - Jayne Meyrick, Michelle Platt (Keeo), Graeme Ryder and Hannah Wilson (Rainbow); Young Leaders - Kitty and Owen Quinn; also the various parent helpers who have come along to help out when we have needed an extra pair of hands. We couldn't do it without you all.

**Rachel Winterbottom (Wendy), Aspen Colony**  
**Tina Winterbottom (Rikki), Willow Colony**

## Cub Packs

---

A Late Easter meant we started the year outside resulting in lots of fun times building shelters, learning knots to do pioneering, making nature models and of course fires and marshmallows, finishing the term with the Athlete's badge, which everyone managed to complete successfully.

We managed to squeeze in 2 camps this year. June 23 saw us, and 8th Flixton, taking on the outdoor challenge with the cubs, a badge that can only be done on camp. This saw the cubs learning to put up and take down a tent, cook their own meal on a BBQ, go on a hike (how much moaning!!), learn about first aid and the country code, shelter building, bug hotels and much more. We ended this fun weekend with a huge water slide with so much washing up liquid to make it slippery they even went home clean – so much fun.

We followed this with a family camp early September. It was loads of fun, having parents around to participate in the activities and spend some quality time outdoors with their youngsters. We had activity bases including t-shirt painting, silly putty, shelter building, marshmallows and soft archery to name a few. Sunday morning was taken up with a huge "minute to win it" challenge. There was so much laughter – watching parents and cubs alike doing silly challenges like popping balloons, moving cotton balls with Vaseline on their noses, building card towers and many more. It was great to see the competitiveness between children and parents alike. What a fabulous but exhausting weekend.

After the summer holidays we managed a couple of weeks back outdoors, including a massive scavenger hunt, and then got down to a bit of badgework. The cubs stepped up to the plate and ran some very successful skills nights, where they each teach a skill to a group of other cubs. Skills included – musical instruments, drawing, solving the Rubik's cube, jigsaws and a hugely successful racing night courtesy of Harry Pimlott and his dad Matt.

We followed this up with the digital citizen badge and then learnt all about money and currencies for another badge. We also did some biscuit decorating and Halloween crafts.

The highest award badge in cubs is the Silver Award. To achieve this award takes commitment from the cub scouts. With huge pleasure I presented the silver award to Elijah Anderton and Gabriella Winstanley. Congratulations to you both.

Both packs took part in our district competitions – chess, skittle ball and the Barbara Hughes and Aston Trophies. Thanks to all those who volunteered to take parts. Each event is organised by a district lead and leaders from all groups, so thanks to those who give up their time at the weekends also to make these events happen.

That just leaves the leadership team. Our new leaders Rebecca, Charlotte and Josh have settled into their roles and bring some refreshing new ideas. Young leaders Ben, Freya, Abi, Natalie, Edie and newcomer Daisy keep us current and are a pleasure to have around. As they develop their own set of leadership skills we have seen them grow in confidence to the point that they have all run a program, planned and prepared by themselves, and completed all the necessary young leader training. Well done to you all, some very competent future leaders in the making. Huge thanks also to Debbie, Issy, Vicki and Connor for being there as my support pillars – couldn't manage without you.

So, thanks to everyone – the cubs, their parents, our leaders and all who help support us in our endeavours. It's been a great year, and we all look forward to the next.

**Liz Armstrong, Akela**

## Troop Report 2023-2024

We had another fun packed year of scouting this year and ran a scouting program whilst trying to make it as fun as possible for all scouts.

We started the year off with a back-to-basics camp, where all the scouts had to put up their own tents, prepare and cook all their meals on open fires and clean up after to high scouting standards.

We had chocolate cake, smash burgers and breakfast wraps. And a campfire to keep the neighbors up!



We attended the county Lord Derby competition which was a series of challenge bases that all needed Scouting skills, we came in first place and fun was had by all.



St Georges day was a massive turn out and the weather was kind.



We naturally practice and learn new scouting skills in our weekly meetings, where the scouts learn how to camp and tie knots to build gadgets. This all makes us able to enter a team in to the Row Flag camping competition. This year we attempted to make pizzas in a Dutch oven which turned out to be quite successful. The team put a lot of effort in and came in 2<sup>nd</sup> Place. Which meant we qualified for the county competition. I am pleased to say that with the lessons they had learnt they went on to win the County competition! Bravo!

Not only this, the team also won the county backwards competition on the same weekend!



Cardboard canoes anyone? Well for 3 of our scouts it was something they wanted to try.... Yes, it sank but it took several mins to do so!



This year we decided to cover the Expedition award by taking the older scouts on a full expedition weekend, the Scouts had to fend for themselves whilst walking and carrying all their gear all weekend. The weather was so hot even the leaders found it hard! But all succeeded and gained their award.



Two of the leaders we given awards at the AGM, Phil read was received his long service award of 10 years! And Mike Ellis was awarded the Medal of Merit for exceptional service to Scouting.

We did our first Friends of Fifth fundraiser in which 5 scouts played a massive part in organizing and running. Raising over £1000.



Juliet Cooke represented the district and county at the scout national shooting competition and won the district competition. Well done, Juliet!



Every week we do lots of fun activities which include cooking, baking, art, gaming, pioneering, seasonal events and so much more !



Here's to another year of scouting and a special thank you to the leadership team in the scout section to whom we could not achieve half of what we do without them, so thank you to Dan, Phil, James, Fran, Jackie and Dib dob!

Regards

Mike

# BRAVO!

**Mike Ellis, Scout Team Lead Volunteer**

### Aquilifer Explorer Scout Section

#### 2023-2024 Annual Report

*“Let us think the unthinkable, let us do the undoable, let us prepare to grapple with the ineffable itself, and see if we may not eff it after all.”*

*Dirk Gently’s Holistic Detective Agency, Douglas Adams*

2023-24 turned out to be a year in which Aquilifer Explorer Scout Unit has had to move in a new, and rather unforeseen, direction. After carrying on with ‘Business as usual’ through until the end of 2023, the New Year brought with it a new challenge with the departure of two thirds of our Leadership Team. Alex has had to step away from Scouting as his job now has him travelling to worksites across the UK for weeks at a time; & whilst we were all overjoyed to welcome Baby George in August, as a new parent Luke has found that the demands on his time have increased by an unprecedented degree compared to the size of the addition to his family! I wish both Alex & Luke all the very best in their current chapters of life, and hold out a hope that they may be able to return to Scouting when the time is right for them.

For the final month of the reporting year, Aquilifer ESU has been fortunate to be able to run alongside Phoenix ESU, hosted at 2nd Urmston Scout Hut. It is a move which has brought us slightly closer to the ‘official’ model for Explorer Scouting, being a shared function at the District level, and as such we are now able to utilise the combined resources of both Explorer Units, tap into the expanded skillsets of the volunteers from both groups and provide a wider range of activities & experiences to the Young People who make up our membership. I am very happy that the Explorers who have been able to transition to the meetings on a Wednesday evening have been able to integrate themselves alongside their peers and are enjoying the programme offered during these collaborative sessions.

I am sure that nearly everyone became aware of how resilient and resourceful Scouts can be when we watched the events of the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea unfold on social media and across every international news channel! Happily, our members who were present came home safely with more stories of their success and adventures, than tales of misfortune and struggle. It will certainly be a Jamboree to be remembered, and hopefully one from which lessons are taken for all future international Scouting events.

Through the last year, we have taken part in District competitions and events. Whilst we were planning to enter a team into the Cardboard Canoe Competition, our entry was scuppered at the last minute due to illness as our lovingly crafted vessel was unable to be transported to the event. Some may call this a blessing in disguise as our team did not have to chance becoming unintentional submariners! In line with changes brought about from Gilwell, and with the appointment of a new District Lead Volunteer (formerly known as District Commissioner), we are fortunate to have a new District Lead with responsibility for Explorer Scouting. Simon’s appointment has brought with it a regularly scheduled “Urmston District Joint Explorer Unit Meeting” to which all ESUs from Urmston, Flixton & Davyhulme are invited to attend. There are plans for each Unit to host everyone in turn, and programmes will vary from competitive events to more sociable and fun. As such, we have

participated in the Urmston District Explorer Bowling Competition, and whilst we had to hand over the Trophy at the end of the evening, having come in second place this year, a good time was had by all who participated and I am sure we will be able to go in to next year's competition with a fresh desire for success! We once again went to Langton Adventure Centre up in Cumbria for our annual "Not Coniston" challenge weekend with the Explorers and older Scouts, and there are plans in the pipeline for new opportunities which we can get involved with as we continue with our collaboration with Phoenix ESU.

I always make it a point to thank the Explorers themselves in these annual reports. It is their enthusiasm and engagement which give me the impetus to come back week after week, year after year. I am doubly proud of the resilience that has been shown through the first quarter of 2024, whilst we have faced unprecedented uncertainty around our ability to maintain an Explorer Scout offering through 5th Urmston Scout Group, the Young People have dived right in to the current provisions. They are the real superstars, and I am sure are as grateful as I am to our hosts at Phoenix ESU.

Wrapping up, as always, with a toast: "The adventures awaiting, the challenges we'll overcome, and the memories to be made for recall as campfire tales for years into the future!" This year more than ever I am appealing to you, my readers, to get in touch if you are able to spare any time to help with running the Explorer Unit or can offer any assistance to help with any types of programme for the Young People therein. Come along, try it out for a while and see if it would be something you want to continue volunteering with!

Yours in Scouting,

***Matt Woodhams, District Explorer Scout Lead Volunteer***

## **Service Crew**

---

### **Camping Site & Grounds**

The service crew have maintained the camp site areas, mowing grass and maintaining the trees. Plus the continuous growth in brambles, ivy and Himalayan balsam which needs to be kept under control.

Over 2023 we continued to see the vandalism of the trees on the field, with young and sometimes established trees having been cut and left on the site. The making safe of this, to prevent injury to section members, takes time from the Thursday team which prevents them from carrying out other needed jobs such as grass cutting. The service crew continued the fence reinforcement to try and slow down intruders on the field.

In previous reports we have outlined the impacts of climate change and this continues to be an issue with flooding to the grounds causing damage in the machinery stores and other outbuildings on the field. The clean-up operation in these outbuildings including the archery range and toilet block is significant when the flooding happens.

### **Headquarters**

General maintenance of the HQ continues both inside and out, but the largest piece of work the team completed this year was the replacement of the main entry ramp and steps at the front of the HQ.

### **Equipment**

And we would like to thank the volunteers who during the year have rebuilt/revamped the heavy equipment that is so essential on site, including the dumper truck – with its near miraculous recovery and the tractor.

If any parents or group members would like to be involved in the Service Crew please do get in touch with Chris, or mention it to the volunteer leading your young person's section.

**Chris O'Neill**  
**ServiceCrew@5thUrmstonScouts.com**

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Trustee Board considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 6 months running costs, circa £24,000.

The Group held reserves of approximately £95,000 against this at year end, £83,000 of which is unrestricted. This is in line with accepted standards for operating expenses to cover unforeseen circumstances.

### Investment Policy

The Group does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk averse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

## DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees,

*Colin Blanchard*

Colin Blanchard

Chair

*Gary Armstrong*

Gary Armstrong

Group Leader Volunteer

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH**

	Page
Independent Examiners Report	2
Statement of Income and Expenditure	3
Balance Sheet	4
Notes to the Financial Statements	5 - 6

# England & Wales

## Unqualified report for a non-company charity preparing receipts and payments accounts with a gross income of £250,000 or less in the relevant financial year.

---

### Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

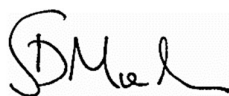
### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed:



Name: Simon David Monks

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): ACCA

Address: 23 Grangethorpe Road, Urmston, Manchester M41 9HT

Date: 27 August 2024

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP  
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

2022/2023		2023/2024		2023/2024		2023/2024	
Total		Restricted Funds		Unrestricted Funds		Total	
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>GROUP INCOME</b>							
8,092.97	Rent			7,200.18		7,200.18	
5,163.15	Donations	1,092.00		832.00		1,924.00	
41.55	Interest Received			217.99		217.99	
6,514.93	Fundraising			6,347.46		6,347.46	
2,383.70	Gift Aid Tax & Interest	2,869.51		-		2,869.51	
41.00	Sale of Group T-Shirts			87.00		87.00	
19,025.00	Subscriptions			20,715.01		20,715.01	
	41,262.30		3,961.51		35,399.64		39,361.15
<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	
41,262.30	<b>TOTAL INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>	3,961.51		35,399.64		39,361.15	
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>							
4,930.43	Insurance			5,296.79		5,296.79	
760.30	Water			890.24		890.24	
624.00	Electricity			2,482.44		2,482.44	
1,351.20	Gas			1,205.02		1,205.02	
537.20	Telephone/Broadband/Computer			479.40		479.40	
10,932.92	Maintenance: HQ, Land & Equipment			6,076.76		6,076.76	
1,166.70	Waste			1,266.06		1,266.06	
2,969.32	Fundraising Expenses			2,291.47		2,291.47	
6,477.00	Capitation Fees			7,847.50		7,847.50	
686.84	Badges and Regalia			698.50		698.50	
-	Postage, Printing and Stationery			35.18		35.18	
-	Training Fees			-		-	
-	Legal & Professional Fees			360.00		360.00	
284.10	Bank Charges			277.80		277.80	
-	Section Equipment			179.28		179.28	
2,892.23	Section Activities			1,245.97		1,245.97	
2,000.00	Jamboree			-		-	
11.44	Cost of T-Shirts Sold			38.32		38.32	
-	Adhoc Expenses			90.47		90.47	
7,401.28	Building Depreciation			7,439.61		7,439.61	
2,870.43	Equipment Depreciation			1,870.13		1,870.13	
<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	
45,733.39	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR</b>	-		40,070.94		40,070.94	
£ -	<b>4,471.09</b>	£	<b>3,961.51</b>	£ -	<b>4,671.30</b>	£ -	<b>709.79</b>

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31ST MARCH 2024**

2022/2023			NOTE	2023/2024		Total
£	£			Restricted	Unrestricted	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>						
64,500.00		LAND - at valuation	2		64,500.00	
268,412.20		BUILDINGS - at WDV	3		262,429.14	
6,639.48		EQUIPMENT - at WDV	4		3,257.35	
	339,551.68					330,186.49
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>						
491.92	491.92	STOCK OF T-SHIRTS		-	453.60	453.60
83,713.06	95,843.04	CASH AT BANK	5	12,129.98	101,665.88	113,795.86
20,267.68	20,267.68	PREPAYMENTS & ACCRUED INCOME	6	-	11,669.61	11,669.61
104,472.67	116,602.65			12,129.98	113,789.09	125,919.07
<b>Less: CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>						
13,338.69	13,338.69	ACCRUALS & DEFERRED INCOME	7		13,999.72	13,999.72
13,338.69	13,338.69			-	13,999.72	13,999.72
	103,263.95	<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)</b>				111,919.34
	<u>442,815.63</u>					<u>442,105.82</u>
<b>REPRESENTED BY:</b>						
386,686.71		CAPITAL ACCOUNT - Balance b/fwd			382,215.62	
- 4,471.09		- Net Income/(Expenditure) for the Year			709.79	
	382,215.62	- Balance c/fwd				381,505.83
	60,600.00	REVALUATION RESERVE				60,600.00
	<u>442,815.62</u>					<u>442,105.83</u>

0.01

Approved by the Trustee Board on 14/08/ 2024

*Gary Armstrong*

Group Scout Leader - G Armstrong

*Coln Blanchard*

Chairman - C Blanchard

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

a) Basis of Accounting

These accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention (modified to include the revaluation of investments) in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting by Charities".

b) Provision for depreciation of fixed assets held for use by the charity is made at annual rates calculated to spread the cost (less anticipated residual disposal value) of each asset evenly over its expected useful life.

The depreciation rates currently in use are at the following rates on the straight line method:

Buildings	2% - 5%
Equipment	20%

**2 LAND**

The land was revalued as at 31st March 1997 by Peter F Cunliffe & Co, at a market value of £64500.00

The land is stated at this value in the Balance Sheet and the surplus of valuation over cost is shown in the revaluation reserve

**3 BUILDINGS**

	<u>2023/2024</u>	<u>2022/2023</u>
	£	£
Valuation/ Cost B/fwd	358,030.36	358,030.36
Additions	1,456.55	
Valuation/Cost C/fwd	<u>359,486.91</u>	<u>358,030.36</u>
Accumulated Depreciation B/fwd	89,618.16	82,216.88
Charge for the Year	7,439.61	7,401.28
Accumulated Depreciation C/fwd	<u>97,057.77</u>	<u>89,618.16</u>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2023	<u>262,429.14</u>	<u>268,412.20</u>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2022	<u>268,412.20</u>	<u>275,813.48</u>

**4 EQUIPMENT**

	<u>2023/2024</u>	<u>2022/2023</u>
	£	£
Valuation/Cost B/fwd	40,284.55	37,609.59
Additions	0.00	1,162.96
WIP	1,512.00	1,512.00
Valuation/Cost C/fwd	<u>38,772.55</u>	<u>40,284.55</u>
Accumulated Depreciation B/fwd	33,645.07	30,774.64
Charge for the Year	1,870.13	2,870.43
Disposal	0.00	0.00
Accumulated Depreciation C/fwd	<u>35,515.20</u>	<u>33,645.07</u>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2023	<u>3,257.35</u>	<u>6,639.48</u>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2022	<u>6,639.48</u>	<u>6,834.95</u>

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS cont.**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

**5 CASH AT BANK**

	2023/2024		2022/2023	
	restricted £	unrestricted £	restricted £	unrestricted £
<b>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT</b>				
Group Balances	-	15,214.56	-	13,904.57
	-	15,214.56	-	13,904.57
<b>CURRENT ACCOUNT</b>				
Capital Fund	9,306.36	-	9,306.36	-
In Memory	2,823.62		2,823.62	
Group Balances		86,451.32		69,808.49
	12,129.98	86,451.32	12,129.98	69,808.49
	<b>12,129.98</b>	<b>101,665.88</b>	<b>12,129.98</b>	<b>83,713.06</b>

**6 PREPAYMENTS & ACCRUED INCOME**

Prepayments are expenses paid for up to a date later than the date of the accounts.

	2023/2024	2022/2023
Insurance	6,294.61	4,880.18
Capitation	-	7,847.50
Section Activities	35.00	85.00
Gift Aid	5,000.00	6,186.00
Rent	340.00	1,269.00
Maintenance	-	-
	<b>11,669.61</b>	<b>20,267.68</b>

**7 ACCRUED EXPENSES & DEFERRED INCOME**

Deferred income relates to income received in advance.

	2023/2024	2022/2023
Section Activities	3,023.51	2,652.68
Waste	208.71	134.27
Cleaning	82.50	-
Water	-	47.32
Completion costs of building	-	9,371.18
Camp 2024 - Swiss Camp	10,685.00	1,133.24
	<b>13,999.72</b>	<b>13,338.69</b>

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 521691

---

# Accounts

---



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23



**BEAVERS** <sup>\*</sup> **cubs** <sup>\*</sup> **SCOUTS** <sup>\*</sup> EXPLORERS <sup>\*</sup> **network** <sup>\*</sup>

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT - 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2022 TO 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023

Charity Name: 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group  
Address: The Lighthouse  
Easbrook  
Urmston  
Manchester  
M41 9JA

Registered Charity Number: 521691

HQ registration Number: 18054

Names of the Trustees who manage the charity

<b>Trustee Name</b>	<b>Office</b>
Gary Armstrong	Group Scout Leader
Colin Blanchard	Chair
Rachel Ellis	Secretary
Zoe Bond	Treasurer
Margaret Marshall	Group Administrator
Christine Winterbottom	Member
Jane Wilson	Member
Chris O'Neill	Member
Dan Easden	Member

Names of Holding Trustees, who hold the land and property in trust

John Irlam  
John Ironmonger  
David Till  
Christine Winterbottom

## **STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

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.

The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.

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

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 Committee consists of three independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leader, individual section leaders (if opted to take on the responsibility) and parent representation and meets every month.

This 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 two signatories for all payments and comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

### **Upcoming Changes**

Scout HQ has revised the way the whole organisation is structured. For us as a group it means during this next year we will transition the core of the Group Executive Committee to a Group Trustees Board who will be responsible for the overarching governance, risk management and Charity Commission compliance of the Group. A new Group Leadership Team will be convened from some of the Group Executive Committee, Section Leaders and others to deliver the operational management of the group such as premises or equipment maintenance, social or fund-raising functions or media and outreach. The Team leaders will continue to deliver the engaging, challenging and fun programmes of activities for the young people.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **The Purpose of Scouting**

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

### **The Values of Scouting**

As Scouts we are guided by these values:

**Integrity** - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.

**Respect** - We have self-respect and respect for others.

**Care** - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.

**Belief** - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.

**Co-operation** - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

### **The Scout Method**

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and:

- enjoy what they are doing and have fun
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors
- learn by doing
- share in spiritual reflection
- take responsibility and make choices
- undertake new and challenging activities
- make and live by their Promise.

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.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Chair's Report**

---

On behalf of myself and the Executive Committee (The Exec) I would like to begin by saying thank you to everyone involved in Scouting at 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston including the volunteers and helpers for your support during the past year it is very much appreciated, I would also like to pass my thanks on to previous Chair Tom Pickles for his guidance.

It has been a busy year for 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston with the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers and many visiting Scouting Groups enjoying the wonderful grounds at 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston and many successful events to be proud of including music on the meadows which has been a joy to see and be part of!

During 2023 you will have observed there has been various building and repair works taking place across the grounds lead by the amazing 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston service crew volunteers and this will continue across 2024. As I am sure you can appreciate managing and maintaining the significant grounds to a high standard for everyone's enjoyment is a challenge both financially and takes considerable amount of time. In 2024 we will be looking for support from parents and corporate businesses to undertake volunteering days and for 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston to be a potential business charity partner. I know there are many companies which offer such partnerships and if you feel your company could offer support, please don't hesitate to contact me to discuss.

Once again, thank you for your support.

**Colin Blanchard, Group Chair**

## **Treasurer's Report**

---

Our year end accounts show an overall loss of £4.471.

In previous years we have presented Group and Section accounts. As the Group and Sections are now cashless, Section accounts are no longer needed. As a result Group no longer needs to charge Sections a membership fee.

### **Income**

Overall Group income for the year is higher than last year, this is due to a return of our annual Music on the Meadows event, this is always a very successful fundraising event for the Group and it was good to see it return this year generating approx £2,700 profit. Total income was £41k.

### **Expenditure**

Group expenses have increased this year compared to last year. This was driven by the increase in maintenance cost. Covid meant maintenance costs were reduced in previous years. This year the group have seen increased maintenance costs in relation to Tree Cutting, Gas Tank Repairs and repairs to pathways. Total expenditure was £46k.

Thank you to all that have supported the group despite the challenges of the past few years.

We will continue to review our Gift Aid documents this year. Our Gift Aid forms are now digital, please look out for a link to sign a Gift Aid form in your email. Gift Aid allows us to claim an extra 25% of your donations/subscriptions from the government at no extra cost to you (we can even claim back for prior years).

Thanks to all who regularly donate as part of the monthly donation scheme. These extra funds help improve and maintain our facilities. If you would like to donate (any amount is welcome), please ask myself or any of our Leaders for our deposit account details. It is easy to set up a regular standing order and we would be very grateful - remember the Gift Aid form means we receive even more.

The audited accounts are attached as an appendix to this report.

**Zoe Bond, Group Treasurer**

## **Group Scout Leader's Report**

---

It is a bit strange writing a report that references a period of time that ended 5 months ago but .....

This was my first year as Group Scout Leader, taking on the role from Tina, and technically my last as we transition to the new structures and the role becomes known as Group Lead Volunteer 😊.

Tina Winterbottom had been the GSL for upwards of 11 years, and I know all of us at the Group are very grateful for all that she did during that time; and continues to do now. During the year Tina has been Beaver Leader, archivist and member of the Exec. And on a personal level Tina has been very kind with her time and sharing her experience as I transition into the role. Thank you Tina.

All the sections have had great years as you can see from their reports. The fun, engaging activities, the learning and personal development opportunities for all the young people are down to the efforts of the amazing volunteer section leaders and assistants (going to be called Volunteer Teams under the new systems) who put their time into running the meetings and the background tasks that go with it. Thank you to all the Section Leaders and their teams.

The facilities at 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston are second to none but they take a lot of effort and time to maintain. The Service Crew work often goes unseen – grass is the right length, paths clear, building up, but you will all have seen the work on the ramp. Having spent several months unsuccessfully trying to get this work even quoted for, Service Crew stepped in and are making a great job of it. (on this one led by Dan Easdon). Thank you to all the Service Crew.

And connected to that, thank you to Margaret Marshall in particular for leading with the key holder duties letting in the other groups that use our facilities, the cleaner and many others. And to Connor O'Neil for his work as Quartermaster.

The finances, the insurances, the overall governance and management of the Group has been ably led by the Executive Committee, again integral in keeping our Scout Group going, legal, and safe. Thank you to the Exec and other sub-committees.

Thank you to everyone that contributes to the energy and success of 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston: including our young people from the ages of 6 to 18, their parents and families that support us and them in Scouting and the dedicated volunteers thanked above.

I look back on a great 2022/23 and forward to a successful 2023/24!

**Gary Armstrong,**

**Group Scout Leader**

## Beaver Colonies

---

This has been another good year for the Beaver Colonies. We have awarded 40 challenge badges and 168 activity badges this year.

Our programme has been varied and great fun. We worked on Road Safety and the Green Cross Code, Kite Making, Orienteering, Trails, Den Building, Nature Walks and cooking Smores in the Summer Term – making the most of being out in the grounds and learning whilst enjoying our wonderful facilities. Thanks must be given to the Service Crew for keeping the grounds looking so good and ready for us to use.

Back inside for the Autumn and Spring terms the Beavers continued to enjoy doing badgework. Once again we were pleased by their sensible approach to cooking, taking great care around the cooking stoves, hot pans and using the sharp knives very carefully. The food was delicious too! On the menu were pancakes, mac n cheese (with lots of extra vegetables to make it more healthy) and Eton mess (with the Beavers choice of strawberries or raspberries).



We were very proud of the Beavers on St George's Day parade. They looked very smart in their uniforms and they walked the whole route without complaining.

We joined in with the rest of the Group at the Carol Service too. The Beavers were brilliant standing up in front of the congregation and performing their parts, they were so brave (even though some of them were very nervous).

Our thanks to Rev Brian of St Clement's Church – both colonies visited the Church and learned some very interesting facts. He told us that the church only took a matter of months to build back in the 1860s (although the tower was added later) – we couldn't believe it could be done that quickly! The church clock was added so that the people working in the fields nearby would know when it was lunchtime – and of course when it was time to go home. At that time many people didn't even have a clock at home – never mind watches and mobile phones!

We'd like to thank all of our leaders and young leaders for their help, time and enthusiasm. We really wouldn't be able to do this without you. We'd also like to thank all of the parents for their support, especially those who volunteer to help with meetings. Our biggest thank you goes to our amazing beaver scouts who make it all so worthwhile. We are looking forward to doing it all again next year!

**Rachel Winterbottom**  
**(Wendy)**  
**Aspen Colony**

**Tina Winterbottom**  
**(Rikki)**  
**Willow Colony**

## Cub Packs

---

What an action-packed year we've had, settling back into a "new normal" routine of scouting post Covid, and for the leadership team, settling into a new rhythm following the loss of our dear friends and colleagues.

The year started with us planting sunflowers and a competition to see who's grew the tallest. It was fabulous to follow each cub's progress via photos on our Facebook page - one of the upsides of social media. Of course, as the nights lightened, we headed outdoors, and that meant SMORES 😊 – nothing, not even a bit of rain, can come between cubs and toasted marshmallows.

Early summer took us to Linnet Clough in Marple and our first camp since pre pandemic. I think we only had one cub on camp who had ever been on a cub camp before – this made me very nervous, together with many of the cubs, BUT it was brilliant. For most, it was a weekend of firsts: first night away from home, first night in a tent, first time cooking for themselves, first time on a climbing tower, first time seeing a badger (or running away from them eh Baloo?) and first time in charge, as Bagheera took the lead to earn her camping permit. BRAVO. Well deserved – we're very proud of her achievements. The camp was hugely successful highlighted by the exhausted but happy (and filthy) cubs at the end of it.

The rest of the summer was filled with the usual outdoor activities: fires, backwoods cooking, chocolate wraps, scavenger hunts, wide games, fun, friends, and a water fight during the heatwave.

After the holidays we headed back indoors and got down to a bit of badgework. The cubs stepped up to the plate and ran some very successful skills nights, where they each teach a skill to a group of other cubs. Skills included – musical instruments, skateboarding, magic, chess, cooking, drawing, dancing – to name a few. I personally take great pleasure in watching them, filled with confidence, talking about something they love and seeing the joy in their faces as they teach someone else and see the rewards of their efforts. I love these evenings.

Other things we did included:

- learning about our local area and drawing maps of Urmston centre – not sure I'd rely on these maps to actually get me anywhere though!
- Learning about the dress, customs and cultures of other countries
- Understanding the meaning behind our Promise Badge
- Taking part in a "try judo" session.
- Safety – at home, in the car, around fire
- Halloween crafts
- Team games and team building
- Chess competition
- A delayed Christmas party with an "old fashioned fair" theme

All these activities go towards the cub's badges, with the aim of them achieving the highest award in cubs - the Chief Scouts Silver Award. This year I've had the very great pleasure of presenting this award to Teddy Harkness. Teddy worked ridiculously hard to earn this award, many times very self-driven and completing tasks at home. I don't think we have ever been asked so many times "Have I done it yet? What else do I need to do?". We are all very proud of you Teddy – you are a shining example to everyone.

That just leaves the leadership team. We welcomed some new leaders into the team this year, in both packs – Jack Howard, Charlotte Gee, Josh Kirsten and young leaders Abi Gilpin and Edie O'Boyle. Welcome aboard. It's lovely to have you and fabulous to have new direction and ideas. Thanks also

to Debbie Gilpin (Hathi), Connor O'Neill (ConCon), Issy Brett (Baloo), Vicki Armstrong (Bagheera) and young leaders Ben Service and Freya Bradley.

None of this is possible without the leaders who volunteer their time to run the sections. I've had a very different year, with a change in job meaning many trips to the US and the team have pulled together brilliantly, together with support from other group leaders, and kept things running perfectly in my absences. It's great to know I have a very reliable gang behind me. Running both packs for over 3 years has been hard but made so much easier with this group of people I'm very happy to call friends. So, thank you all – your enthusiasm, skills, ideas etc are such a strength and support to me personally.

Here's to another fabulous year ahead!

**Liz Armstrong, Akela**

## Scout Troop

---

Another year goes by and we are still going strong, we have a Troop that grew back to max capacity which can be challenging at times but we manage to create and achieve a fantastic Scouting program which shows with the amount of awards we have given out this year. Including Six Chiefs Scouts Gold Awards these are the highest awards you can gain in Scouts.

We started the year off by entering the County Lord Derby Competition where the team had to master several different challenges by using all the skills, they had gained by being in Scouts. The team did fantastically well with a 1st Place! We also came 1st Place in the District Football, County Camping Competition, and the District Scoutcraft competition! Through these achievements we can be sure we are providing a good balanced program for our young people.



Now to our Program, what have we been up to? Well with our combined knowledge and skills as leadership team we did LOADS!!!

We try to make each week different whilst having fun and covering off the badge work needed.

To name a few things we Cook, Bake, Build, play games, community activities, build fires and shelters, we tie knots and most of all have Fun!



This year our annual summer camp was held at Kibblestone campsite in Shropshire. We took 22 Scouts for the week camping, we had a blast the days went quick with all the activities we did for example Shooting, Abseiling, cave maze, High ropes course, water world in Stoke and not forgetting Alton Towers!



A proud moment this year was when Juliet Cooke was presented with the District Commissioners Commendation for Scouting. Juliet put her skills she had learnt to use when Juliet and her Mum came across a lady lying on the floor on the way to Urmston, the lady had collapsed, and Juliet knew exactly what to do and stayed very calm and reassuring throughout the time she helped the lady whilst waiting on an Ambulance to arrive. BRAVO Juliet!



By no means last I would like to so say how Thankful I am to the team on a Friday night who give up their time each week to provide these opportunities for your young people, I could not do it without them they bring so much knowledge and skills to the team that they make each week what it is and the reason we are so successful as a Troop. So, thank you Dan, Phil, James, Matt, Dib Dob and Jackie.

If anyone is wanting to come and help our amazing team, please just ask we would love for you to join the fun!

**Mike Ellis, Scout Leader**

## Explorer Unit

---

*“All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us.”*

### *The Fellowship of the Ring, J.R.R. Tolkien*

2022-23 was certainly the year we got back to “business as usual” after the tumultuous times of Covid restrictions and distancing; albeit with a raft of new attitudes and the application of new practices. But back to business we got, and happily so! My wish for the last year was to provide the members of the Unit with an abundance of opportunities to gain new skills; knowledge; experience; and an amazing set of values, which will stand our charges in good stead for their future, whatever they choose to do.

Of course it is not just myself, but also my highly valued Leader Team, which keep the Explorer Unit running smoothly. So massive thanks as always to Alex and Luke for your continued support and assistance this last year, I truly would not be able to manage the Unit without you both.

The time has come around, that we have once again been fortunate to see one of our Unit Members be selected as part of the Greater Manchester West Unit, heading to South Korea to participate in the 2023 World Scout Jamboree. We all hope that Will, and the rest of the participants, Leaders and International Service Team, make new friends spanning the globe, alongside memories that will last a lifetime. Safe Travels to you all.



Focussing closer to home, we strive to offer as wide a variety of activities and events here at 5th Urmston as possible, trying as best we can to utilise the incredible facilities on our doorstep and further afield. We have continued taking part in District competitions as they come along. Notably the return of the Urmston District Bowling Competition, which our team of Rory, Will, Euan and Harry went ahead to win (by a significant margin), thereby retaining the trophy for the Unit. We can now (cheekily) claim ourselves to be winners from 2020-2023 inclusive! A significant achievement for us collectively was the successful completion of our 1,200 mile “Lands End to John o’Groats Cycling Challenge” which we completed in a time of 28 Hours and 15 Minutes on an array of exercise bikes, here in the HQ. This endeavour raised over £1,000 which went towards the purchase of the AED now located on the exterior of our building, along with a donation to Bone Cancer Research Trust under Jude’s Fund. October saw us make a successful return to Langton Adventure Centre up in Cumbria, for our annual “Not Coniston” challenge weekend with the Explorers and a handful of the older Scouts. An unexpected memento of the weekend is undoubtedly the transformation of a certain Scout Leader to a quasi-religious icon! #BobBlessYou!

Kudos is of course due to the Explorers themselves: Despite the inevitable teenage angst and tribulations of life, the enthusiasm and engagement which the Explorers bring week-in, week-out, is unendingly amazing. They drive the programme, whilst Luke, Alex and I work to support their ideas, provide the necessary resources, and facilitate (often with an extra element of challenge as well) the opportunity for the Explorers to achieve their goals.

**LEJOG** TARGET = 1,200 MILES

SCOUTS	KM	Miles	Time	Start	KA	Miles	Time
1	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
2	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
3	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
4	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
5	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
6	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
7	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
8	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
9	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
10	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
11	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
12	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
13	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
14	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
15	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
16	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
17	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
18	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
19	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
20	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
21	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
22	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
23	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
24	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12
25	20.44	12.69	1:12	10	10	10	1:12

10km = 6.2m

TIME ELAPSED: 28:00:45  
Time 28:00:45

FOR JUDE

Wrapping up, as always, with a toast: “The adventures awaiting, the challenges we’ll overcome, and the memories to be made for recall as campfire tales for years into the future!” If you too, dear reader, happen to have a couple of hours spare (not necessarily every single week) and would care to offer any assistance to help keep the Unit running well, be sure to get in touch, try it out for a while and see if it would be something you want to continue volunteering with!



Yours in Scouting,

**Matt Woodhams, District Explorer Scout Leader**  
**Alex Marsden, District Assistant Explorer Scout Leader**  
**Luke Monaghan, District Assistant Explorer Scout Leader**

## **Service Crew**

---

### **Coronavirus**

Over the last 12 months, and now that COVID-19 seems to be causing less of an issue, the Service Crew are pleased to say that we're now getting back to something more like 'business as usual' from a building and site maintenance point of view. Monday evenings are now quite busy and our Thursday crew is meeting again regularly. We continue to maintain a good number in the team with regular attendance of 7-8 members on a Monday and 3-4 members on a Thursday.

We are, however, always on the lookout for additional help from parent members who have skills such as electricians, plumbing, building and plastering (for example). There are several larger jobs that will need to be completed in the coming 12 months where the help would be very useful. If you feel you might be able to help, please contact us on the email below and I'll get in touch with you.

### **Camping Site & Grounds**

From a site perspective the warm and wet weather we have seen over the summer has meant that the grass has been growing quickly and so this needs to be kept on top of. This has also seen a massive growth in brambles, ivy and Himalayan balsam ('woggies') which also need to be kept under control. In addition, tree management has continued, sometimes requiring the skills of outside tree surgeons to support us. Over several months during 2023 we have seen vandalism of the trees on the field, which is continuing, with dozens of younger trees having been cut and left partially fallen on the site. The making safe of this, to prevent injury to section members, takes time from the Thursday team which prevents them from carrying out other needed jobs such as grass cutting. The service crew have embarked on fence reinforcement to try and slow down intruders on the field, but this is an on-going battle.

In previous reports we have outlined the impacts of climate change and this continues to be an issue with flooding to the grounds causing damage in the machinery stores and other outbuildings on the field. The clean-up operation in these outbuildings including the archery range and toilet block is significant when the flooding happens. Another effect of climate change is the significant cold snaps that we saw over last winter with temperatures of -15 degrees being recorded. This caused significant damage to the plumbing in the toilet block which has cost the group circa £2000 of unexpected expenditure along with a significant investment in volunteer time to rectify the damage. Resurfacing of paths was carried out prior to the St. Georges day parade in April with the team and several other parent volunteers shovelling and spreading nearly 40 tonnes of stone around the site. We are extremely grateful for the additional help that was offered by parents to help us do this.

### **Headquarters**

General maintenance of the HQ continues both inside and out, but the largest piece of on-going work the team have been undertaking this year is the replacement of the main entry ramp and steps at the front of the HQ. Over the early part of 2023 the team have cut away all the steel sub frame which had corroded since the HQ was opened and have worked during the year to replace this with a more substantial concrete and brick structure, which is now being surfaced with timber and anti-slip decking (of the type used at water parks and national trust properties).

It is expected that this task will still take some time to complete as wet weather over the summer has been against us, but the job is expected to be complete by the end of the year. Whilst this has been an expensive task this year, it is nowhere near the circa £40,000 that was quoted by several firms to replace the ramp and it is down to the hard work of the team that this has progressed as well as it has.

### **Equipment**

Our working equipment is now showing signs of its age with ongoing and continual maintenance needed. The dumper truck (a real workhorse for the group) is currently out of action and we are struggling to replace this economically. If any parents reading this have contacts with firms that would consider supporting the group with either repairs or replacement of the machinery, I would be grateful if you could get in touch.

### **Service Team Members**

Mark Council	Dan Easdon	John Milligan
Connor O'Neill	David Porter	Jack Rimmer
John Thatcher	Brian Timms	Luch Visentin

**Chris O'Neill**

**ServiceCrew@5thUrmstonScouts.com**

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Executive Committee considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 6 months running costs, circa £24,000.

The Group held reserves of approximately £90,000 against this at year end, £80,000 of which is unrestricted. This is in line with accepted standards for operating expenses to cover unforeseen circumstances.

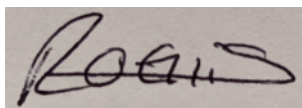
## Investment Policy

The Group does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk averse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

## DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees,



Rachel Ellis  
Secretary



Gary Armstrong  
Group Scout Leader

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH**

	Page
Independent Examiners Report	2
Statement of Income and Expenditure	3
Balance Sheet	4
Notes to the Financial Statements	5 - 6

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Signed:



Name:

**SIMON DAVID MONKS**

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): **ACCA**

Address:

**23 GRANGETHORPE ROAD, URMSTON, MANCHESTER M41 9HT**

Date:

**4 SEPTEMBER 2023**

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**  
**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

<u>2021/2022</u>			<u>2022/2023</u>		<u>2022/2023</u>		<u>2022/2023</u>	
Total			Restricted Funds		Unrestricted Funds		Total	
£	£		£	£	£	£	£	£
<b><u>GROUP INCOME</u></b>								
7,933.29		Rent			8,093.0		8,092.97	
2,224.91		Donations	1,292.00		3,871.2		5,163.15	
6,350.00		Membership Fees			-		-	
1.28		Interest Received			41.6		41.55	
200.00		Fundraising			6,514.9		6,514.93	
2,000.00		Gift Aid Tax & Interest	2,383.70		-		2,383.70	
205.00		Sale of Group T-Shirts			41.0		41.00	
3,000.00		Sale of Tractor			-		-	
10,076.50		Subscriptions			19,025.00		19,025.00	
52.50		Fundraising			-		-	
2,440.06		Section Activities			-		-	
	12,569.06			3,675.70		37,586.60		41,262.30
	<u>34,483.54</u>	<b>TOTAL INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>		<u>3,675.70</u>		<u>37,586.60</u>		<u>41,262.30</u>
<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>								
4,705.65		Insurance			4,930.43		4,930.43	
703.46		Water			760.30		760.30	
46.84		Electricity			624.00		624.00	
1,113.44		Gas			1,351.20		1,351.20	
557.24		Telephone/Broadband/Computer			537.20		537.20	
5,765.07		Maintenance: HQ, Land & Equipment			10,932.92		10,932.92	
-		Waste			1,166.70		1,166.70	
-		Fundraising Expenses			2,969.32		2,969.32	
7,001.25		Capitation Fees			6,477.00		6,477.00	
390.35		Badges and Regalia			686.84		686.84	
72.01		Postage, Printing and Stationery			-		-	
430.00		Training Fees		-	162.00		162.00	
263.85		Bank Charges			284.10		284.10	
125.17		Section Equipment			-		-	
4,368.93		Section Activities			2,892.23		2,892.23	
-		Jamboree			2,000.00		2,000.00	
134.42		Cost of T-Shirts Sold			11.44		11.44	
1,300.00		Defibrillator			-		-	
136.98		Jude's Tree			-		-	
7,401.28		Building Depreciation			7,401.28		7,401.28	
2,723.26		Equipment Depreciation			2,870.43		2,870.43	
	37,239.21	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR</b>		-		45,733.39		45,733.39
£ -	<u>2,755.67</u>	<b>NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>	£	<u>3,675.70</u>	£ -	<u>8,146.79</u>	£ -	<u>4,471.09</u>

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31ST MARCH 2023**

2021/2022			NOTE	2022/2023		Total
£	£			Restricted	Unrestricted	£
				£		£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>						
64,500.00		LAND - at valuation	2		64,500.00	
275,813.48		BUILDINGS - at WDV	3		268,412.20	
6,834.95		EQUIPMENT - at WDV	4		6,639.48	
	347,148.43					339,551.68
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>						
503.36	503.36	STOCK OF T-SHIRTS		-	491.92	491.92
80,637.19	90,353.55	CASH AT BANK	5	12,129.98	83,713.06	95,843.04
11.14	11.14	CASH IN HAND		-	0.00	0.00
20,840.69	20,840.69	PREPAYMENTS & ACCRUED INCOME	6	-	20,267.68	20,267.68
101,992.38	111,708.74			12,129.98	104,472.67	116,602.65
<b>Less: CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>						
11,570.44	11,570.44	ACCRUALS & DEFERRED INCOME	7		13,338.69	13,338.69
11,570.44	11,570.44			-	13,338.69	13,338.69
	100,138.28	<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)</b>				103,263.94
	<u>447,286.71</u>					<u>442,815.62</u>

**REPRESENTED BY:**

389,442.38		CAPITAL ACCOUNT - Balance b/fwd		386,686.71		
-2,755.67		- Net Income/(Expenditure) for the Year		- 4,471.09		
	386,686.71	- Balance c/fwd				382,215.62
	60,600.00	REVALUATION RESERVE				60,600.00
	<u>447,286.71</u>					<u>442,815.62</u>

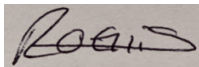
0.00

Approved by the executive committee on

2023



Group Scout Leader - G Armstrong



Group Secretary - R Ellis

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

a) Basis of Accounting

These accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention (modified to include the revaluation of investments) in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting by Charities".

b) Provision for depreciation of fixed assets held for use by the charity is made at annual rates calculated to spread the cost (less anticipated residual disposal value) of each asset evenly over its expected useful life.

The depreciation rates currently in use are at the following rates on the straight line method:

Buildings	2% - 5%
Equipment	20%

**2 LAND**

The land was revalued as at 31st March 1997 by Peter F Cunliffe & Co, at a market value of £64500.00

The land is stated at this value in the Balance Sheet and the surplus of valuation over cost is shown in the revaluation reserve

**3 BUILDINGS**

	<u>2022/2023</u>	<u>2021/2022</u>
	£	£
Valuation/ Cost B/fwd	358,030.36	358,030.36
Additions		
Valuation/Cost C/fwd	<u><b>358,030.36</b></u>	<u><b>358,030.36</b></u>
Accumulated Depreciation B/fwd	82,216.88	74,815.60
Charge for the Year	7,401.28	7,401.28
Accumulated Depreciation C/fwd	<u><b>89,618.16</b></u>	<u><b>82,216.88</b></u>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2023	<u><b>268,412.20</b></u>	<u><b>275,813.48</b></u>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2022	<u><b>275,813.48</b></u>	<u><b>283,214.76</b></u>

**4 EQUIPMENT**

	<u>2022/2023</u>	<u>2021/2022</u>
	£	£
Valuation/Cost B/fwd	37,609.59	33,119.19
Additions	1,162.96	4,490.40
WIP	1,512.00	
Valuation/Cost C/fwd	<u><b>40,284.55</b></u>	<u><b>37,609.59</b></u>
Accumulated Depreciation B/fwd	30,774.64	28,051.37
Charge for the Year	2,870.43	2,723.26
Disposal	0.00	0.00
Accumulated Depreciation C/fwd	<u><b>33,645.07</b></u>	<u><b>30,774.64</b></u>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2023	<u><b>6,639.48</b></u>	<u><b>6,834.95</b></u>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2022	<u><b>6,834.95</b></u>	<u><b>5,067.82</b></u>

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS cont.**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

**5 CASH AT BANK**

	2022/2023		2021/2022	
	restricted £	unrestricted £	restricted £	unrestricted £
<b>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT</b>				
Group Balances	-	13,904.57	-	12,771.02
	-	13,904.57	-	12,771.02
<b>CURRENT ACCOUNT</b>				
Capital Fund	9,306.36	-	9,306.36	-
In Memory	2,823.62		410.00	
Group Balances		69,808.49		48,339.36
	12,129.98	69,808.49	9,716.36	67,866.17
	<b>12,129.98</b>	<b>83,713.06</b>	<b>9,716.36</b>	<b>80,637.19</b>

**6 PREPAYMENTS & ACCRUED INCOME**

Prepayments are expenses paid for up to a date later than the date of the accounts.

	2022/2023	2021/2022
Insurance	4,880.18	4,499.69
Capitation	7,847.50	-
Section Activities	85.00	194.94
Gift Aid	6,186.00	14,000.00
Rent	1,269.00	2,256.00
Maintenance	-	-
	<b>20,267.68</b>	<b>20,950.63</b>

**7 ACCRUED EXPENSES & DEFERRED INCOME**

Deferred income relates to income received in advance.

	2022/2023	2021/2022
Section Activities	2,652.68	1,433.04
Waste	134.27	-
Water	47.32	-
Completion costs of building	9,371.18	9,371.18
Camp 2024	1,133.24	
	<b>13,338.69</b>	<b>10,804.22</b>

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 521691

---

# Accounts

---



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22



**BEAVERS**\* **cubs**\* **SCOUTS**\* EXPLORERS\* **network**\*

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT - 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2021 TO 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2022

Charity Name: 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group  
Address: The Lighthouse  
Easbrook  
Urmston  
Manchester  
M41 9JA

Registered Charity Number: 521691

HQ registration Number: 18054

Names of the Trustees who manage the charity

<b>Trustee Name</b>	<b>Office</b>
Christine Winterbottom	Group Scout Leader
Tom Pickles	Chair
Rachel Ellis	Secretary
Zoe Bond	Treasurer
Margaret Marshall	Group Administrator
Jane Wilson	Member
Chris O'Neill	Member
Bob Wilson	Member

Names of Holding Trustees, who hold the land and property in trust

John Irlam  
John Ironmonger  
David Till  
Christine Winterbottom

## **STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

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.

The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.

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

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 Committee consists of three independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leader, individual section leaders (if opted to take on the responsibility) and parent representation and meets every month.

This 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 two signatories for all payments and comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **The Purpose of Scouting**

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

### **The Values of Scouting**

As Scouts we are guided by these values:

**Integrity** - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.

**Respect** - We have self-respect and respect for others.

**Care** - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.

**Belief** - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.

**Co-operation** - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

### **The Scout Method**

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and:

- enjoy what they are doing and have fun
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors
- learn by doing
- share in spiritual reflection
- take responsibility and make choices
- undertake new and challenging activities
- make and live by their Promise.

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.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Chair's Report**

---

I would like to begin by sending everybody involved in Scouting at 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston all of our very best wishes - as well as extending, on behalf of the Executive Committee (The Exec), our thanks for ALL of you who have been involved Scouting at 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston during the past year.

It's wonderful to see us being back to 'business as usual', with Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers all enjoying their time down at 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston. Of course, COVID hasn't gone away so it's important to continue to follow whatever rules apply at the time. Nonetheless, it's a relief to be as close to our pre-pandemic world as possible.

As this is my final Chair's Report, I'd like to pass on my heartfelt thanks to EVERYONE who contributes, to the ongoing success of 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston; leaders, children, parents, helpers, the list really is endless...

It really is important for everyone to know that, whilst sometimes unseen, all help is hugely appreciated and definitely never taken for granted.

Whilst I'm stepping down as Chair, I won't be far away and look forward to catching up with you around Urmston every now and then.

Once again, thank you for your continued support.

**Tom Pickles, Group Chair**

## **Treasurer's Report**

---

Our year end accounts show an overall loss of £2.755.

### Income

Overall Group income for the year is lower than last year, however last year included a £10k Covid 19 grant received from Trafford Council. Section income has increased this year as the Group opened up after restrictions. Total income for the year was £34k.

### Expenditure

Group expenses have increased this year compared to last year. This was driven by the increase in maintenance cost and section activities. However, maintenance/activities were reduced due to Covid 19 restrictions last year. Total expenditure was £37k

Thank you to all that have supported the group despite the challenges of the past couple of years.

We will continue to review our Gift Aid documents this year. If you have not already signed a Gift Aid form, or if your form is out of date, we may request that you sign a new one. Gift Aid allows us to claim an extra 25% of your donations/subscriptions from the government at no extra cost to you (we can even claim back for prior years).

Thanks to all who regularly donate as part of the monthly donation scheme. These extra funds help improve and maintain our facilities. If you would like to donate (any amount is welcome), please ask myself or any of our Leaders for our deposit account details. It is easy to set up a regular standing order and we would be very grateful - remember the Gift Aid form means we receive even more.

The audited accounts are attached as an appendix to this report.

**Zoe Bond, Group Treasurer**

## **Group Scout Leader's Report**

---

This will be my last report as Group Scout Leader as I am standing down from this role at the end of September. I am very pleased to report that Gary Armstrong has agreed to take it on, I know he will do a great job! He has been associated with the group ever since he joined as cub scout. He moved through all the sections and was my assistant at Remus Cubs for many years. The group will also benefit from his experience as an Assistant District Commissioner and his involvement in a local Cricket Club.

I am delighted that we have managed to get all the sections meetings up and running again this year after the COVID restrictions were lifted. You will see from the individual section reports that they have been very busy indeed, it has been fantastic to have everyone back together - enjoying the wonderful facilities that we are so lucky to have. I have really enjoyed seeing, and hearing about, everything that all the section members have been doing.

This year we welcomed Rachel Ellis to our Executive Committee as Group Secretary, she is a superb addition to the team and is doing a great job keeping us organised.

During the year we lost Carroll O'Neill from the committee. She has been involved in the Group for many years. A big thank you to Carroll for all the service she has given to the group.

I am also sad to report that Tom Pickles – our Group Chair – has told us that he will be stepping down before the AGM. Tom has been a fantastic Chair and we will miss him at our meetings. I am pleased that he is not cutting his ties with the group completely – we will still have his help in the background.

The members of the Service Crew, as always, have done a fantastic job at keeping the grounds looking beautiful all year. Thank you all, for all your hard work. My thanks to Connor O'Neill, who - despite his many other roles within scouting - has continued with his commitment to the Crew and has been very good at keeping me up to speed with the many things that have happened in the last 12 months.

I have to say a particular thank you to Liz Armstrong. I am so grateful to her for taking on Remus Pack as well as continuing to run Romulus. I don't know how she has coped - she is amazing! But this was only ever intended to be temporary. We really need to find someone to take on the leader role for Remus, if anyone would like to know more about what this involves please contact Gary or myself. In the meantime, we would be grateful for any extra help for her – if you can help, even in a small way, please let us know.

I must also give my thanks to Margaret Marshall, she has been a constant on the committee since I took on the role of GSL and has helped me enormously. She has been (amongst many other things) our go to person for ensuring that all the regular servicing gets done (fire extinguishers, lift, central heating, tree surveys to name but a few). She also oversaw the emptying of the cess pit – not a pleasant job and one which I'm sure we can spare her from next time!

Lastly I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the leaders, committee and members of the service crew for all that they do for the group. I wish I had the space to thank them all individually. They truly are an exceptional team. I am proud to have worked alongside them. We are very lucky to have such dedicated volunteers.

**Tina Winterbottom, Group Scout Leader**



It is with great sadness that we record the deaths of four of our Group during 2021-22:

### **Roy Martin**

'Uncle Roy' has an impressive scouting record having been awarded his 50 years' service award on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019. He began his scouting life as a member of 1<sup>st</sup> Davyhulme Scout Group in around 1943. He took on his first leadership role at 1<sup>st</sup> Davyhulme in 1954, later moving to 2<sup>nd</sup> Davyhulme as scout leader. Throughout the rest of his life he remained a supporter of both groups and always attended their AGM's to ensure he kept up with their progress.

He was never one to shy away from taking on responsibility and became part of the District Team. He took on the role of Assistant District Commissioner for Scouts on 29<sup>th</sup> July 1979. He excelled in this role and later took on the role of Assistant District Commissioner for Training, helping to shape the district's future. Along with this District role he became part of the County Training Team. He took the role of Group Scout Leader at 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston in 1992 and steered us through some difficult times. Following this he joined our Service Crew.

Roy had the ability to talk to anyone and engage with them. He was not shy in telling you what he thought but had that knack of saying it in such a way that you didn't take offence. Many of us will have felt his vice like arm grip that preceded such encounters!

He was awarded his Silver Acorn on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2017, presented to him at the St. George's Day Parade. In the citation for that award, written by our District Commissioner, Roy was described as the best District Commissioner Urmston had never had.

We will miss him.

### **John Rees (Taff)**

Taff became involved in 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston when his son Michael joined the Group as a Cub back in 1966. (His grandchildren William, Elizabeth and Thomas were also all members of the Group.) During his long association with us he held many roles including Group Scout Leader, Treasurer and Secretary. Following these roles he became a member of the service crew – which he continued for as long as he could. Even when his mobility prevented his regular attendance at crew he still attended as many group occasions as he could – arriving on his mobility scooter.

Taff had a love of camping and the great outdoors which he shared with us at many of our camps. At one of our Kids and Keepers Camps, in 2004, he joined in with the climbing activity at the age of 72 - despite having his best shoes on! He was in demand on raft building activities due to his knowledge of knots. He was also popular with the catering teams – he always arrived with his knife sharpening tools and made sure that all the blades were as sharp as they could be.

Taff was often found behind the scenes cooking barbecues and lamb roasts at many events. He invented a bicycle pedal powered spit roaster to ensure the even roasting of the lambs and would sit for hours pedalling to keep the spit turning. (This was later modified to use an electric motor).

He was awarded the Medal of Merit, the Bar to the Medal of Merit and The Chief Scout's 40 Years' Service Award in recognition of his outstanding service to Scouting – all well-deserved awards.

We will miss him.

### **Jonathan Platt**

Jonathan was a lifelong member of 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston having joined as a Cub Scout at 8 years old. Not only did he move up through every section of the Group – but he also went on to be leader in every section and a member of the Executive Committee during his Scouting career.

Along with the positions he held in our Group, he has been a District Training Advisor, Assistant District Commissioner for Scouts, a member of the County Scout Council Executive and a member of the Scout Active Support. He became District Commissioner for Urmston in 2009 and following this term he took on the role of District Chair. Even during his time in these District and County roles, he was always a part of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston family - we relied on him for advice and were proud to have his friendship.

His dedication to the movement has been outstanding and so it was fitting and well-deserved that he was awarded the Silver Acorn in 2017 – one of the highest awards in Scouting.

He helped lead the Greater Manchester West Scout County Expedition to Malawi in 2018. The aim of the expedition was to provide a water supply to a local village and to plant an orchard for them. The expedition was a great success and helped to provide a sustainable future for the village. The elders of the village have named the Orchard in honour of Jonathan which will now forever be called “Platt’s Field”.

We will miss him.

### **Susan Owen**

Sue joined us as an assistant leader at Willow Beavers in 2008 and very quickly became part of our 5U family. In 2010 she moved to Remus Cub Pack where she was known very appropriately as Raksha (Mother Wolf) until she became Akela in 2017.

She also joined the group Executive Committee and, as if she hadn’t taken on enough, she was soon involved in helping the District Cubs with organising competitions – becoming a District Cub Scout Leader, alongside her role in our Group, in 2017.

Sue always went the extra mile to make sure that all her cubs got the most of scouting. Many of the parents have told me how grateful they were to her for all that she did to make sure that their child was included in everything, how well she knew them, and how good she was at praising them when they had achieved something that was difficult for them.

In everything that Sue took part in she was always involved from start to finish, from planning to cleaning up. At all our events, before we had chance to even think about it, Sue would be in the kitchen getting on with the washing up. We could never beat her to it and once she was installed at the sink it was very difficult to stop her!

She was awarded the Medal of Merit at our AGM in 2021 for her outstanding service to Scouting – this was much deserved.

We will miss her.

## Beaver Colonies

---

After a long break due to COVID we were all very excited to start running beavers again. we took over from Alison (Shanto) who'd been doing the amazing job of running both colonies for many years.

We have worked on a range of challenge badges this year focussing on the World badge for the first term. Each colony spoke with someone who served our community. Thank you to Bethan Evans and Karen Greatrex, the kids really enjoyed talking to you about your roles as a doctor and nurse. Thanks for answering all of their questions! The beavers then focussed on their own emergency aid learning how to make 999 calls and which emergency services might be needed as well as how to bandage and put someone in the recovery position (we remember how to do this using: I need some help, I have tooth ache and I need a wee!).

It was a shame that the carol service was cancelled this year due to the pandemic. Both colonies had worked hard to prepare their performances, choosing the poems as colonies. However, we had a lot of fun with our Christmas activities of biscuit decorating and mini Christmas tree making.

In January, we started to focus on our Cook badge as we'd normally have had a cooking competition to attend. Although this was again cancelled due to COVID, the beavers did a fantastic job making Eton mess, macaroni cheese and peppermint creams. Everyone was very sensible with the gas stoves and sharp kitchen knives using the kitchen safety that we'd practiced at the start of the year. We've also tested their teamworking and problem-solving skills with puzzles, games and a lighthouse building competition.

The beavers chose their own activity badges ready for the summer term. Willow voted for the Experiment badge and Aspen, the Air Activity badge. They've also voted to name the cuddly toy beavers (made by Alison) that are taken home by someone each week: Brownie (Mondays) and Bobby (Thursdays).

We'd like to thank all of our leaders and young leaders for their help, time and enthusiasm. We really wouldn't be able to do this without you. Special thanks also go to Alison Evans for all of your help and guidance. Your amazing meeting plans and resources have been wonderful and really helped us to get into the swing of things.

We'd also like to thank all of the parents for their support, especially those who volunteer to help with meetings, and our amazing beaver scouts who make all of this effort so worthwhile. We are really looking forward to doing it all next year.

**Rachel Winterbottom (Wendy), Aspen Colony**

**Tina Winterbottom (Rikki), Willow Colony**

## Cub Packs

---

2021-2022, a year of very mixed emotions for sure.

Outside face-to-face meetings started again in April 2021 – such fantastic news for all. Some old faces, lots of new faces and bundles of energy to get back into things properly. While the weather was still cool, we met around the campfire – it made for a cosy, intimate setting and it was just perfect being together again in our beautiful grounds.

So much to catch up on and for some, only a year to complete their badgework so the leaders met to make a plan.

Highlights of our programme included:

**Disability awareness:** the cubs spent a few weeks looking at how different disabilities affect people and what they can do to help. They learned a song in Makaton. They had a go at reading braille. They painted pictures with their toes and they followed a blind trail. Certainly, very eye opening.

**Naturalist badge:** 4 walks down Urmston meadows over a period of 3 months to learn about the country code and how to identify trees and flowers and to look at how the surroundings change with time.

**Knotting and catapults:** Lessons on how to tie knots and lashings and then, in teams, building a catapult to see how far we can launch a bean bag. Let's just say the cub scouts could probably jump further than their catapults can launch 😊

**Skills Nights:** We've had a few of these, where the cubs step up to the plate and lead a meeting, teaching other cubs a skill that they have. I love these sessions – it's brilliant to hear them explain so enthusiastically to others about something they can do and are passionate about. We had some fantastic topics including bicycle maintenance, cooking, skateboarding, computer game programming, cartoon drawing, sports skills and many more.,

**DIY badge:** Possibly never to be repeated. 😊 We learned about different tools: how to use them and safety. With our skills we made 2 items – a key storage frame and a bird feeding house. Huge thanks to Phil who organised 50 kits for the bird houses and to Skip and Woody for helping out at cubs the weeks we were cutting picture frames. Although it was hard work, I believe there was a huge amount of satisfaction with the outcome.

**Communicator badge:** Over a few weeks we looked at sending messages via email, text message, WhatsApp etc. We took down phone messages, learning about the importance of detail and we tested ability to remember a simple phrase after 10 minutes. Based on the messages I read it's amazing how many parties I go to dressed as a banana!??

**Scientist Badge:** We built electrical circuits, investigated how to prove that hot air rises, grew cress and looked at the effects on our plants if they went without water and / or light and made balloon rockets and investigated the impact of different materials on them. Great fun.

**Other activities** included fire lighting, backwoods cooking, nature models, bug hotels, shelter building, healthy eating, printing book covers, Christmas decorations, religious festivals, planting sunflowers

Then came the bitter blows – the sudden lives lost of 2 of our cub leaders – Jonathan (Chil) Platt and Susan (Akela) Owen. Me personally, I lost 2 very special friends who I've shared scouting with since I started in the group as a venture scout at 16. This was, and still is, a massive blow to the group and especially the cub section. I thank everyone from the bottom of my heart for all the kind messages and offers of support shown during a truly awful time.

Jonathan and Susan were both very dedicated scouters and positively touched many lives during their service. I will be forever grateful for the support they both offered me over the years and I do, and will continue to, miss them both terribly.

My thanks go to all the other cub leaders (Connor, Debbie and Issy), student leaders (Victoria and Maegan) and young leaders (Freya, Sadie and Ben) for their help and support each week, and to other leaders in the group for helping out when we have been short handed.

**Liz Armstrong, Akela**

## Scout Troop

---

We had another strange year that made Scouting a bit more challenging than usual but easier than the year before!

Masks was the theme at the start of the year, but we got through it! We still managed to do lots of Scouting activities and progress through the program to push all our Scouts to gain their Chief Scouts gold awards.

We entered the first competition for 2 years which was the County Camping and Backwoods Cooking competition, which was an enormous success with a 1<sup>st</sup> place finish!



Remembrance parade was back, and we had an exceptionally good turnout. We also got to personally meet the local Police and Ambulance service as two of our Scouts felt a little ill at the service.

We also entered the County Football Competition and again a 1<sup>st</sup> place finish!

We did a local area litter pick and collected over 20 bin bags of rubbish, unsurprisingly masks being the most common item found discarded.



We had our Christmas party at Lazer Quest which was enjoyed by all. Even the leaders got a bit competitive!

The New Year came around and we decided a few nights away were in order, so we booked Ashworth Valleys indoor accommodation and did a Winter camp with some fun activities and Scouting skills mixed in.

The Lord Derby Competition returned in the Spring, and this is a test of Teamwork, Team Spirit, Leadership and Scouting Knowledge gaining 1<sup>st</sup> place again! This helped show that as a leadership team we have the right scouting program in place within our Troop.



We have gained two new leaders this year, Dan Easdon, after a few years away returned to 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston to become Assistant Scout leader. I am so grateful to have Dan back as he brings new energy and ideas to the leadership team. Also, James Cooke, who after both his girls joined Scouts decided he wanted to join too as a leader!

As ever, I am always proud and grateful of the troop leadership team which includes Fran, Dib Dob, Phil, Jackie, and Ivan. Thank you, you are amazing! Without these people volunteering their time we could not give young people the experiences which Scouting has to offer.

**If anyone wishes to give volunteering a go, please contact us at [Scouts@5thurmstonscouts.com](mailto:Scouts@5thurmstonscouts.com)**

On a final note, two of our Scouts, Emma Counsel and Owen Hodgett, after interviews and selection days, were selected to go to the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea in 2023!

# BRAVO!

WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!

**Mike Ellis, Scout Leader**

## Explorer Unit

---

*“Advise him to a caution, to hold what distance his wisdom can provide.”*

***William Shakespeare: Macbeth, Act 3, Scene 6***

Words, 400 years old, which held an uncomfortable resonance for so many over the period in which I now consider as I write this report. The report for the year 2020-2021 can simply be summarised in an ominous way with the phrase “Nothing to report” as we were prevented from meeting by the pandemic and lockdowns. Looking to 2021-2022, when restrictions were lifted, to varying degrees, we returned to a new system of keeping distance; wearing masks; routine hand sanitisation and a far greater awareness of the fragility of our ability to deliver a programme to engage and inspire our Young People. A significant positive for the Unit came about during our restricted return as we gained a strong addition to the Leadership Team: Luke Monaghan. From his own experience through Scouting as a youth member, to his enthusiasm and experience with an array of sporting activities, Luke has brought in a new dynamic energy which has helped to keep us motivated and looking for new ways to provide the Explorer Scout Experience each week.



Axe Throwing

Even with restrictions on how we were able to operate, and a seemingly endless list of requirements for documented processes, it is a testament to the skills on hand across the whole Group’s Leader cadre that we were able to provide so much of a “Scouting Programme” for the Explorers and the other sections. Notably, after operating a ‘Lateral Flow Processing Line’, we were able to return to Langton in the Lake District for our “Not Coniston” activity weekend with a number of the Explorers alongside a selected few older Scout Troop members. We have also had Unit members applying to,

and being selected for, the Greater Manchester West contingent who will be heading to South Korea for the World Scout Jamboree in 2023.

Amongst this though is one of the proudest moments I have experienced with Aquilifer Explorer Scout Unit; when we collectively cycled (on exercise bikes) the length of the Sustrans Lands' End to John O'Groats cycle route **1,200 miles**, in a staggeringly impressive **28 hours and 15 minutes!** Having had to postpone the challenge attempt (%-you Covid!), and overcoming the challenge of finding a sufficient quantity of suitable bikes (huge thanks to all the parents and supporters across the Group who helped us with this!); the Explorers really came out in force and found a common purpose in obliterating our targets on this fundraising challenge.



Ultimately my biggest debt of gratitude is to the Explorers themselves. The Explorer Scout Unit is made by what you desire, and the programme driven through your imagination. Thank you all for bringing your enthusiasm and energy to the meetings, attending regularly throughout the year is no mean feat when so many demands are placed upon your time between home, school, work and other extra-curriculars.

As always, I'll close with a toast and plea: "The adventures awaiting, the challenges we'll overcome, and the memories to be made for recall as campfire tales for years into the future!" Because we will share stories over a fire, laughing about the mishaps, and wondering how close to insanity we were thinking that "that" would be a good idea! If you too, dear reader, happen to have a couple of hours spare (not necessarily every single week) and would care to offer any assistance to help keep the Unit running well, either actively or on an administrative level, please do feel free to get in touch, try it out for a while and see if it would be something you want to continue volunteering with!

**Matt Woodhams, District Explorer Scout Leader**  
**Alex Marsden, District Assistant Explorer Scout Leader**  
**Luke Monaghan, District Assistant Explorer Scout Leader**

## Service Crew

---



Since our last report, the Service Crew are pleased to say that despite COVID-19 still being ever present (in fact, at the time of wiring, one of our members is self-isolating) we have managed to resume maintenance activities on Monday evenings and Thursday daytimes to the point where we can almost say it's business as usual!

We are now regularly seeing 7 or 8 service crew members on a Monday evening and are pleased to report for the second year running that we have swelled our numbers with a further 2 crew members who are regularly putting time in on a Monday evening. We have also seen a new member joining the ranks of the retired crew who meet on a Thursday. This puts the total number of service crew members at 10 for the first time in several years and has brought the average age of service crew members down even further than last year! We are, however, always on the lookout for additional help and it would be useful to be able to call on willing parents from time to time for specific jobs. If you feel you might be able to help, please email [chris-oneill@outlook.com](mailto:chris-oneill@outlook.com) to get in touch.

During the year we were sad to see the death of Roy Martin who has been involved with the group and the service crew particularly in recent years. and we will miss his helpful advice telling us "You don't want to be doing it like that!". We were also saddened to see the death of John Rees who was also a long-time member of the group and service crew for many years. Both Roy and John will be sadly missed by all of us.

### **Camping Site**

We reported the effects of climate change in last year's report and have seen further issues in the last 12 months with significant rainfall again causing flooding on the fields and water damage to buildings and equipment on the grounds (toilet block, range and outside workshops and stores). The service crew have worked hard to repair and restore the damage caused and to clear the mud and slurry that the floods brought into the buildings. The service crew are currently looking at flood defence options to prevent re-occurrence of flood waters getting into buildings. Routine grass cutting and tree management has continued this year and we have seen several trees on site that have needed additional expert skills of a local team of tree surgeons to support us in managing.

### **Headquarters**

Since the last report, the group has needed to spend a significant amount of money on the security shutters the cover the building. The shutters have needed on-going repairs almost since the building was opened and the large shutters in the main room have seen extensive re-building and repair works which will now hopefully stand the test of time but have come at a cost. Over the latter part of the

winter (February 2022) we have needed to replace the decking at the far end of the HQ; an exercise that was completed over several weeks, as the wooden planking that was originally in place had become rotten and dangerous. There are several handrails that need to be attended to but this is work that will take place towards the end of 2022 along with the replacement of the fence running down the side of the path outside the HQ. Work has now started to repair the main entry ramp and steps to the HQ as there is significant corrosion in the sub frame. It is expected that this task will take some months to complete and will also be an expensive job.

### **Equipment**

Our working equipment has continued to receive tender loving care, which has included maintenance of mowers and repairs following use and the flood damage referred to above. The mowers, tractors and dumper are all regarded by the crew as 'workhorses' and are key to the work that takes place on the site, so it is important to keep these in good working order.

### **Members**

Connor O'Neill

Chris O'Neill

Brian Timms

David Porter

John Thatcher

James Cooke

Luch Visentin

Jack Rimmer\*

Mark Counsell\*

John Milligan\*

\*Our new members

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Executive Committee considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 6 months running costs, circa £24,000.

The Group held reserves of approximately £90,000 against this at year end, £80,000 of which is unrestricted. This is in line with accepted standards for operating expenses to cover unforeseen circumstances.

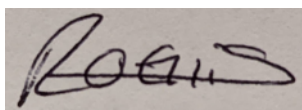
## Investment Policy

The Group does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk averse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

## DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees,



Rachel Ellis

Secretary



Christine Winterbottom

Group Scout Leader

# **5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

	Page
Independent Examiners Report	2
Statement of Income and Expenditure	3
Balance Sheet	4
Notes to the Financial Statements	5 - 6

## Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Signed: 

Name: S. D. MONKS

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): FCCA, JIES

Address: 23 GRANGETHOLDS RD., URMSTON, MANCHESTER M41 9HT

Date: 06/09/2022

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**  
**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

<u>2020/2021</u>			<u>2021/2022</u>		<u>2021/2022</u>		<u>2021/2022</u>	
<u>Total</u>			<u>Restricted Funds</u>		<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		<u>Total</u>	
£	£		£	£	£	£	£	£
<b><u>GROUP INCOME</u></b>								
8,006.68		Rent			7,933.3		7,933.29	
1,469.10		Donations & Grants	1,292.00		932.9		2,224.91	
6,700.00		Membership Fees			6,350.0		6,350.00	
2.50		Interest Received			1.3		1.28	
-		Fundraising			200.0		200.00	
3,000.00		Gift Aid Tax & Interest	2,000.00		-		2,000.00	
-		Sale of Group T-Shirts			205.0		205.00	
-					3,000.0		3,000.00	
10,000.00		Trafford MBC Covid Grant			-			
	29,178.28			3,292.00		18,622.48		21,914.48
<b><u>SECTION INCOME</u></b>								
11,182.00		Subscriptions (after Membership Fees)			10,076.50		10,076.50	
-		Fundraising			52.50		52.50	
0.00		Section Activities			2,440.06		2,440.06	
	11,182.00			-		12,569.06		12,569.06
	40,360.28	<b>TOTAL INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>		3,292.00		31,191.54		34,483.54
<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>								
4,801.99		Insurance			4,705.65		4,705.65	
527.12		Water			703.46		703.46	
1,023.90		Electricity			46.84		46.84	
542.68		Gas			1,113.44		1,113.44	
496.78		Telephone/Broadband/Computer			557.24		557.24	
2,779.23		Maintenance: HQ, Land & Equipment			5,765.07		5,765.07	
7,518.00		Capitation Fees			7,001.25		7,001.25	
122.00		Badges and Regalia			390.35		390.35	
-		Postage, Printing and Stationery			72.01		72.01	
-		Training Fees			430.00		430.00	
390.80		Legal & Professional Fees			-		-	
362.85		Bank Charges			263.85		263.85	
348.88		Section Equipment			125.17		125.17	
275.44		Section Activities			4,368.93		4,368.93	
68.00		Sundries			-		-	
55.66		Cost of T-Shirts Sold			134.42		134.42	
-		Defibrillator			1,300.00		1,300.00	
-		Memorial			136.98		136.98	
7,401.28		Building Depreciation			7,401.28		7,401.28	
2,373.58		Equipment Depreciation			2,723.26		2,723.26	
	29,088.19	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR</b>		-		37,239.21		37,239.21
£	<u>11,272.09</u>	<b>NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>	£	<u>3,292.00</u>	£	<u>- 6,047.67</u>	£	<u>- 2,755.67</u>

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP  
BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2021**

2020/2021		NOTE	2021/2022		
£	£		Restricted	Unrestricted £	Total £
<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>					
64,500.00		2		64,500.00	
283,214.76		3		275,813.48	
5,067.81		4		6,834.95	
	352,782.57				347,148.43
<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>					
637.78			-	503.36	503.36
88,971.90		5	9,716.36	80,637.19	90,353.55
1,062.06			-	11.14	11.14
17,392.30		6	-	20,840.69	20,840.69
108,064.04			9,716.36	101,992.38	111,708.74
<b><u>Less: CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>					
10,804.22		7		11,570.44	11,570.44
10,804.22			-	11,570.44	11,570.44
	97,259.81				100,138.28
	<u>450,042.38</u>				<u>447,286.71</u>

**REPRESENTED BY:**

378,170.30		CAPITAL ACCOUNT - Balance b/fwd		389,442.38	
11,272.09		- Net Income/(Expenditure) for the Year	-	2,755.67	
	389,442.38	- Balance c/fwd			386,686.71
	60,600.00	REVALUATION RESERVE			60,600.00
	<u>450,042.38</u>				<u>447,286.71</u>

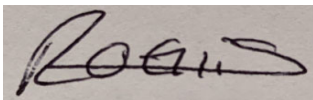
0.00

Approved by the executive committee on

2022



Group Scout Leader - C Winterbottom



Secretary - R Ellis

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

a) Basis of Accounting

These accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention (modified to include the revaluation of investments) in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting by Charities".

b) Provision for depreciation of fixed assets held for use by the charity is made at annual rates calculated to spread the cost (less anticipated residual disposal value) of each asset evenly over its expected useful life.

The depreciation rates currently in use are at the following rates on the straight line method:

Buildings	2% - 5%
Equipment	20%

**2 LAND**

The land was revalued as at 31st March 1997 by Peter F Cunliffe & Co, at a market value of £64500.00

The land is stated at this value in the Balance Sheet and the surplus of valuation over cost is shown in the revaluation reserve

**3 BUILDINGS**

	<b>2021/2022</b>	<b>2020/2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Valuation/ Cost B/fwd	358,030.36	358,030.36
Additions		
Valuation/Cost C/fwd	<b>358,030.36</b>	<b>358,030.36</b>
Accumulated Depreciation B/fwd	74,815.60	67,414.32
Charge for the Year	7,401.28	7,401.28
Accumulated Depreciation C/fwd	<b>82,216.88</b>	<b>74,815.60</b>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2022	<b>275,813.48</b>	<b>283,214.76</b>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2021	<b>283,214.76</b>	<b>290,616.04</b>

**4 EQUIPMENT**

	<b>2021/2022</b>	<b>2020/2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Valuation/Cost B/fwd	33,119.19	33,119.19
Additions	4,490.40	0.00
Disposal		
Valuation/Cost C/fwd	<b>37,609.59</b>	<b>33,119.19</b>
Accumulated Depreciation B/fwd	28,051.37	25,677.79
Charge for the Year	2,723.26	2,373.58
Disposal	0.00	0.00
Accumulated Depreciation C/fwd	<b>30,774.64</b>	<b>28,051.37</b>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2022	<b>6,834.95</b>	<b>5,067.82</b>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2021	<b>5,067.82</b>	<b>7,441.40</b>

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS cont.**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

**5 CASH AT BANK**

	2021/2022		2020/2021	
	restricted £	unrestricted £	restricted £	unrestricted £
<u>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT</u>				
Group Balances	-	12,771.02	-	11,477.74
	-	12,771.02	-	11,477.74
<u>CURRENT ACCOUNT</u>				
Capital Fund	9,306.36	-	9,306.36	-
Totem Pole	-	-	580.82	-
Climbing Wall	-	-	8,000.00	-
In Memory	410.00	-	-	-
Section Balances	-	19,526.81	-	49,826.62
Group Balances	-	48,339.36	-	9,780.36
	9,716.36	67,866.17	17,887.18	59,606.98
	<b>9,716.36</b>	<b>80,637.19</b>	<b>17,887.18</b>	<b>71,084.72</b>

**6 PREPAYMENTS & ACCRUED INCOME**

Prepayments are expenses paid for up to a date later than the date of the accounts.

	2021/2022	2020/2021
Insurance	4,499.69	4,398.68
Section Activities	194.94	194.94
Gift Aid	14,000.00	12,000.00
Rent	2,256.00	798.68
Maintenance	-	-
	<b>20,950.63</b>	<b>17,392.30</b>

**7 ACCRUED EXPENSES & DEFERRED INCOME**

Deferred income relates to income received in advance.

	2021/2022	2020/2021
Monies owed to section leaders at year end		
Section Activities	1,433.04	1,433.04
Completion costs of building	9,371.18	9,371.18
	<b>10,804.22</b>	<b>10,804.22</b>

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**

England & Wales - Charity number 521691

---

# Accounts

---

## ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21



## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT - 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2020 TO 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2021

Charity Name: 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group

Address: The Lighthouse  
Easbrook  
Urmston  
Manchester  
M41 9JA

Registered Charity Number: 521691

HQ registration Number: 18054

Names of the Trustees who manage the charity

<b>Trustee Name</b>	<b>Office</b>
Christine Winterbottom	Group Scout Leader
Tom Pickles	Chair
Zoe Bond	Treasurer
Margaret Marshall	Group Administrator
Jonathan Platt	Booking Secretary
Susan Owen	Cub Scout Leader
Carroll O'Neill	Member

Names of Holding Trustees, who hold the land and property in trust

John Irlam

John Ironmonger

David Till

Christine Winterbottom

## **STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

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.

The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.

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

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 Committee consists of three independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leader, individual section leaders (if opted to take on the responsibility) and parent representation and meets every month.

This 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 two signatories for all payments and comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **The Purpose of Scouting**

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

### **The Values of Scouting**

As Scouts we are guided by these values:

**Integrity** - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.

**Respect** - We have self-respect and respect for others.

**Care** - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.

**Belief** - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.

**Co-operation** - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

### **The Scout Method**

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and:

- enjoy what they are doing and have fun
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors
- learn by doing
- share in spiritual reflection
- take responsibility and make choices
- undertake new and challenging activities
- make and live by their Promise.

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.

## ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

### Chair's Report

---

As we begin to see light at the end of the tunnel, as restrictions increasingly ease, I would like to wish everybody involved in Scouting at 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston all of our very best wishes - as well as extending, on behalf of the Executive Committee (The Exec), our thanks for ALL of you who have been involved Scouting at 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston during such challenging times.

Reflecting on the acute phase of the pandemic, when lockdowns and restrictions severely impacted life as we know it – including Scouting, I'm happy to say that the resilience at 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston shone through. There were unique opportunities for our Scouting community to 'do our bit' to help one another and the wider community. It is the values that we instil that saw so many of our members support initiatives such as Clap for Carers, which seems an age ago now, and honouring the fallen on Remembrance Day – not with our usual parade, which was sadly missed, but donning our uniforms to pay our respects & show our support from our own doorsteps.

The theme of adaptability, also shone through in some of the work that was done to facilitate remote engagement; from the quizzing & cooking at Mike's Friday evening Zoom Meeting with Scouts to our very own monthly Executive Committee Meetings – where we became used, technological glitches aside, to seeing one another to 'virtually' look after matters.

Whilst so many of our usual activities were curtailed, the Service Crew continued (restrictions and social distancing permitting) to tend to the site, ensuring that we will be 'good to go' just as soon as circumstances permit. I'd like to extend our thanks for all the often-unseen work that they do for 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston.



It's also important to acknowledge that so many of our annual fixed costs continued as usual, such as buildings & contents insurance; it is with this in mind that we must extend our gratitude for the continued payment of subs – in the absence of face to face meetings being permitted.

Once again, thank you for your support and resilience during the most challenging of times – I hope that we can all meet in person once again at the AGM in September.

**Tom Pickles, Group Chair**

## **Treasurer's Report**

---

Our year end accounts show an overall profit of £11,272.

### Income

Despite Covid-19 the Group income for the year is slightly higher than last year. This is despite Section income being down by £8k. This has been offset by a grant from Trafford Borough Council of £10k.

### Expenditure

As you know Covid-19 has meant little or no meetings for some sections of the group resulting in almost no spend on section activities. The Group have however had to continue to pay the fixed costs. Maintenance spend was kept to essential works only. Total expenditure was £29k

Thank you to all that have supported the group despite the challenges of the past year.

We will be reviewing our Gift Aid documents this year. If you have not already signed a Gift Aid form or if your form is out of date we may request that you sign a new one. Gift Aid allows us to claim an extra 25% of your donations/subscriptions from the government at no extra cost to you (we can even claim back for prior years).

Thanks to all who regularly donate as part of the monthly donation scheme. These extra funds help improve and maintain our facilities. If you would like to donate (any amount is welcome), please ask myself or any of our Leaders for our deposit account details. It is easy to set up a regular standing order and we would be very grateful - remember the Gift Aid form means we receive even more.

**Zoe Bond, Group Treasurer**





## **Group Scout Leader's Report**

---

What a year that was, let's hope we never have another like that one!

During the year we said goodbye to some of our team. We lost Lynn Caddy our Group Secretary, Steve Greatex (Hawkeye) Assistant Beaver Leader at Aspen Colony and Claire Harris Section Assistant at Willow colony. They will all be missed. My thanks to all of them for all they did for the group – in Steve's case for more than 15 years.

Alison Evans (Shanto) decided to stand down as Beaver Leader. She will be a hard act to follow. She took on both colonies in 2016 and has done a fantastic job leading them for the last 5 years. I am pleased that she has agreed to stay on as an assistant leader, so we won't lose her expertise entirely.

Thank you to Rachel Winterbottom (Wendy) for agreeing to step up to Beaver Leader at Aspen. We still need someone to take on this responsibility at Willow – please let me know if you would like to give it a try. The Beavers really are a lot of fun to be around!

A huge thank you to the Cub and Scout leaders for all the Zoom meetings throughout the year. I know that it wasn't easy coming up with things to do remotely week after week – well done for all your efforts. A special thank you to Mike Ellis who hosted every one of these meetings and some group leaders' meetings, too! I don't know how we'd have managed without him.

Thanks also to Service Crew for keeping the grounds looking beautiful throughout and for all their hard work clearing up after the flood in January.



My thanks as always to our wonderful Executive Committee who work so hard behind the scenes - with special thanks to Tom our Group Chair and Zoe our Treasurer who have been kept very busy over the last 12 months.

Most of all thank you to all our members (and their parents) for sticking with us through this challenging year.

**Tina Winterbottom, Group Scout Leader**

You will notice that there are no Beaver or Explorer Scout Reports this year. This is due to them not being able to meet during the restrictions.

## **Remus Pack**

---

It's certainly been a year to remember – Zoom sessions are extremely different to face-to-face meetings.

We had a regular core of a dozen or so Cubs attending weekly Zoom meetings, plus another 6 or so members who joined when possible. We had a couple of siblings who regularly joined in, together with lots of parents – fun for the whole family.

One thing I noticed on our Zoom calls was how supportive you all were of each other – a fantastic attribute to have, well done all.

I need to say thank you to Bagheera (Victoria) for her support with these weekly meetings.

Many thanks to everyone who joined these sessions – it was lovely to be able to continue scouting, albeit being different to what we were used to.

We undertook a huge amount of work – we cooked cookies, pancakes, cheese tarts, we designed, built and even slept in indoor dens, we ran around our houses and gardens taking part in scavenger hunts, we planted seeds and made crystals, we had a fire safety presentation and enjoyed lots of other fun activities.

In addition, we 'Clapped our Carers', 'Walked to the Moon' (well, we did a mile each!) and took part in the Big Weekender.

In September, we were joined by Romulus Pack due to reduced numbers zooming in each week – it worked well and we all made new friends.

Everyone has done their very best during the last 12 months – I am extremely proud of each and every one of you.

I have to end this report with a massive Scouting BRAVO to Akela Liz for stepping forward and running our Pack meetings whilst I've been unavailable on Tuesdays.

**Susan Owen, Akela**

## **Romulus Pack**

---

Well, what a year!

Zoom sessions are just not the same 😞

They started well, reasonably attended and with enthusiasm from both cubs and leaders.

We had a great time doing the science badge and some cookery, lots of artwork and several round the house scavenger hunts.

But as the situation dragged on and online lessons continued at schools, number for cubs dropped even lower so we took the decision to combine the zoom sessions with Tuesday pack.

Everyone did their best (great example of our scouting motto) but there is no doubt membership suffered on both young person and leadership levels however, we will come back stronger.

Many thanks to all those cubs who did attend the zoom sessions. For me personally it was lovely to see your faces each week 😊

Thanks also to the leadership team for finding the motivation to join the sessions and stay positive.

I'm glad we're getting back to face-to-face meetings and I'm looking forward even more to getting back to more normal sessions and offering a full service.

Keep on scouting everyone!

**Liz Armstrong, Akela**

## Scout Troop

---

Extraordinary times means extraordinary Scouting!

As you know last year started in Lockdown so no face to face scouting allowed!

As a leadership team we decided we had to continue to provide scouting during these unprecedented times.

So online meetings using Zoom began....

And we did everything we could think of to keep 30+ scouts engaged

We collected for the elderly

We wrote letters to the elderly

We did the toilet roll challenge

We made boats

We built

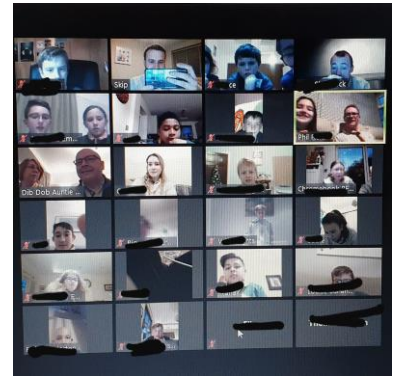
We quizzed

We gamed

We baked

We camped (in the garden)

And then we thought we were free again.... But unfortunately, we only lasted 3 weeks until a new lockdown. So off we set again on Zoom





I must say well done to all the Scouts - you did it and should be so proud to have continued throughout the lockdown.

Something else that makes me proud is my team who without question stepped up and helped provide Scouting online. They gave up their time every week even with their lives being a bit upside-down. A massive thank you to Phil, Bob (Dib dob), Auntie Jackie, Ivan, Fran and special mention to Alicia who even though she had to do home learning in her GCSE year attended all the zoom meetings and led a few of the programs too!

Only one thing to say

# B R A V O !

**Mike Ellis, Scout Leader**

## Service Crew

---

### Coronavirus

As was included in last year's annual report, Coronavirus has continued to hit the service crew as badly as the sections, with members of the service crew being unable to meet on the regular Monday evening and Thursday daytime slots for most of the year. This has been especially true indoors where the 2-metre separation rule could not be observed.

Some of our members are now in their 80s, putting them in the 'at risk' group for Coronavirus, but these members have continued to meet, as best they can, on Thursdays where grass cutting and outside work has continued. With the gradual lifting of restrictions, the service crew will begin meeting regularly again. We are also pleased to announce the addition of 2 new members of the crew that have joined recently, whose children are in the group. This has been a welcome development and has brought the average age of service crew members down significantly!

### Camping Site

The effects of climate change in the local area continue to cause difficulties for us. In previous years this has restricted the amount of outside work that can be done, as the ground becomes saturated over the winter periods from rainfall. The last 12 months has been no exception to this, despite us being unable to meet, as emergency action was needed following the significant rainfall we saw which flooded the entire site and the outbuildings (toilet block, range and outside workshops and stores). This caused extensive water damage and the service team have worked hard to repair damaged equipment and clear the mud and slurry that the floods brought into the buildings.

### Headquarters

One of the jobs that was halted during COVID-19 was the overhaul of the ceiling soundproofing panels in the main hall. We are pleased to say that this work has now been completed and the panels fixed in such a way that they will hopefully remain in place. Repairs are still needed to the security shutters in the main hall as these are very large and cause on-going issues. The work that started last year on the re-arrangement of the downstairs storage space is also nearing completion and it is hoped that this will help keep activity rooms from being blocked with piles of equipment. Last year we reported that the main entry ramp and steps to the HQ need overhauling due to corrosion in the sub frame. During COVID-19 discussions have continued on the best way to approach the repairs that are needed, and it is expected that this work will commence over the coming months. Similarly, the decking at the opposite end of the HQ is also showing sign of deterioration and this work will need to be scheduled for the coming 12 months.

### Equipment

Our working equipment has also been subject to some tender loving care during COVID-19, which has included routine maintenance of mowers and repairs. In particular, the floods referred to above required us to undertake some extensive work stripping down and repairing the machinery which also got full of water. This includes repairs to the clutch of the 'Fergie' tractor (which is also now in its 70's, but not as susceptible to COVID-19!). The mowers, tractors and dumper are all regarded by the crew as 'workhorses' and are key to the work that takes place on the site.

### Members

Connor O'Neill  
Brian Timms  
John Thatcher

Chris O'Neill  
David Porter  
James Cooke\*

Morgan O'Neill  
Matt Gibb-Shacklock  
Luch Visentin\*

Eddie O'Neill  
Roy Martin

\*Our new members

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Executive Committee considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 6 months running costs, circa £24,000.

The Group held reserves of approximately £90,000 against this at year end, £42,000 of which is unrestricted. This is in line with accepted standards for operating expenses to cover unforeseen circumstances.

### Investment Policy

The Group does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk averse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

## DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees,



Tom Pickles

Chair



Christine Winterbottom

Group Scout Leader

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

	Page
Independent Examiners Report	2
Statement of Income and Expenditure	3
Balance Sheet	4
Notes to the Financial Statements	5 - 6

## Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').


I report in respect of my examination of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Signed: 

Name: Adele Lane

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): FCA

Address: 81 Broad Road, Sale, Cheshire, M33 2EU

Date: 6 September 2021

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP  
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

<u>2019/2020</u>		<u>2020/2021</u>		<u>2020/2021</u>		<u>2020/2021</u>	
Total		Restricted Funds		Unrestricted Funds		Total	
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b><u>GROUP INCOME</u></b>							
3,918.68				8,006.68		8,006.68	
3,804.47				257.10		1,469.10	
8,400.00		1,212.00		6,700.00		6,700.00	
19.94				2.50		2.50	
458.42				-		-	
4,200.00		3,000.00		-		3,000.00	
40.00				-		-	
-				10,000.00		10,000.00	
	20,841.51		4,212.00		24,966.28		29,178.28
<b><u>SECTION INCOME</u></b>							
13,508.48				11,182.00		11,182.00	
-				-		-	
-				-		-	
8,944.90				0.00		0.00	
	22,453.38		-		11,182.00		11,182.00
	43,294.89		4,212.00		36,148.28		40,360.28
<b>TOTAL INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>							
<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>							
4,752.96				4,801.99		4,801.99	
664.63				527.12		527.12	
1,155.85				1,023.90		1,023.90	
1,338.94				542.68		542.68	
388.79				496.78		496.78	
4,834.51				2,779.23		2,779.23	
-				-		-	
6,865.25				7,518.00		7,518.00	
724.78				122.00		122.00	
-				-		-	
225.00				-		-	
711.60				390.80		390.80	
-				-		-	
264.75				362.85		362.85	
696.22				348.88		348.88	
7,970.82				275.44		275.44	
76.58				68.00		68.00	
22.88				55.66		55.66	
7,401.28				7,401.28		7,401.28	
2,353.10				2,373.58		2,373.58	
	40,447.94		-		29,088.19		29,088.19
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR</b>						
£	<b><u>2,846.95</u></b>	£	<b><u>4,212.00</u></b>	£	<b><u>7,060.09</u></b>	£	<b><u>11,272.09</u></b>
<b>NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>							

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31ST MARCH 2021**

<u>2019/2020</u>			<u>NOTE</u>	<u>2020/2021</u>		
£	£			Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
				£	£	£
<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>						
64,500.00		LAND - at valuation	2		64,500.00	
290,616.04		BUILDINGS - at WDV	3		283,214.76	
7,441.40		EQUIPMENT - at WDV	4		<u>5,067.81</u>	
	362,557.44					352,782.57
<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>						
413.56		STOCK OF T-SHIRTS		-	637.78	637.78
67,391.31		CASH AT BANK	5	17,887.18	71,084.72	88,971.90
289.55		CASH IN HAND		-	1,062.06	1,062.06
17,572.87		PREPAYMENTS & ACCRUED INCOME	6	-	17,392.30	17,392.30
85,667.29				<u>17,887.18</u>	<u>90,176.86</u>	<u>108,064.04</u>
<b><u>Less: CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>						
9,454.42		ACCRUALS & DEFERRED INCOME	7		10,804.22	10,804.22
9,454.42				-	<u>10,804.22</u>	<u>10,804.22</u>
	76,212.87	NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)				97,259.81
	<u>438,770.30</u>					<u>450,042.38</u>

**REPRESENTED BY:**

375,323.36		CAPITAL ACCOUNT - Balance b/fwd			378,170.30	
2,846.95		- Net Income/(Expenditure) for the Year			<u>11,272.09</u>	
	378,170.30	- Balance c/fwd				389,442.38
	60,600.00	REVALUATION RESERVE				60,600.00
	<u>438,770.30</u>					<u>450,042.38</u>

0.00

Approved by the executive committee on 6th September, 2021



Group Scout Leader - C Winterbottom



Chairman - T Pickles

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

a) Basis of Accounting

These accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention (modified to include the revaluation of investments) in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting by Charities".

b) Provision for depreciation of fixed assets held for use by the charity is made at annual rates calculated to spread the cost (less anticipated residual disposal value) of each asset evenly over its expected useful life.

The depreciation rates currently in use are at the following rates on the straight line method:

Buildings	2% - 5%
Equipment	20%

**2 LAND**

The land was revalued as at 31st March 1997 by Peter F Cunliffe & Co, at a market value of £64500.00

The land is stated at this value in the Balance Sheet and the surplus of valuation over cost is shown in the revaluation reserve

**3 BUILDINGS**

	<u>2020/2021</u>	<u>2019/2020</u>
	£	£
Valuation/ Cost B/fwd	358,030.36	358,030.36
Additions		
Valuation/Cost C/fwd	<u>358,030.36</u>	<u>358,030.36</u>
Accumulated Depreciation B/fwd	67,414.32	60,013.04
Charge for the Year	7,401.28	7,401.28
Accumulated Depreciation C/fwd	<u>74,815.60</u>	<u>67,414.32</u>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2021	<u>283,214.76</u>	<u>290,616.04</u>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2020	<u>290,616.04</u>	<u>298,017.32</u>

**4 EQUIPMENT**

	<u>2020/2021</u>	<u>2019/2020</u>
	£	£
Valuation/Cost B/fwd	33,119.19	31,601.24
Additions	0.00	1,517.95
Disposal		
Valuation/Cost C/fwd	<u>33,119.19</u>	<u>33,119.19</u>
Accumulated Depreciation B/fwd	25,677.79	23,324.69
Charge for the Year	2,373.58	2,353.10
Disposal	0.00	0.00
Accumulated Depreciation C/fwd	<u>28,051.37</u>	<u>25,677.79</u>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2021	<u>5,067.82</u>	<u>7,441.40</u>
Net Book Value at 31st March 2020	<u>7,441.40</u>	<u>8,276.55</u>

**5TH URMSTON (AQUILIFER) SCOUT GROUP**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS cont.**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

**5 CASH AT BANK**

	2020/2021		2019/2020	
	restricted £	unrestricted £	restricted £	unrestricted £
<b>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT</b>				
Group Balances	-	11,477.74	-	10,263.24
	-	11,477.74	-	10,263.24
<b>CURRENT ACCOUNT</b>				
Capital Fund	9,306.36	-	9,306.36	-
Totem Pole	580.82	-	580.82	-
Coniston	-	-	-	-
Climbing Wall	8,000.00	-	8,000.00	-
Section Balances	-	49,826.62	-	35,745.96
Group Balances		9,780.36		3,494.93
	<b>17,887.18</b>	<b>59,606.98</b>	<b>17,887.18</b>	<b>39,240.89</b>
	<b>17,887.18</b>	<b>71,084.72</b>	<b>17,887.18</b>	<b>49,504.13</b>

**6 PREPAYMENTS & ACCRUED INCOME**

Prepayments are expenses paid for up to a date later than the date of the accounts.

	2020/2021	2019/2020
Insurance	4,398.68	4,402.31
Capitation	-	-
Section Activities	194.94	4,170.56
Gift Aid	12,000.00	9,000.00
Rent	798.68	-
Maintenance	-	-
	<b>17,392.30</b>	<b>17,572.87</b>

**7 ACCRUED EXPENSES & DEFERRED INCOME**

Deferred income relates to income received in advance.

	2020/2021	2019/2020
Section Activities	1,433.04	83.24
Donations	-	-
Insurance	-	-
Water	-	-
Completion costs of building	9,371.18	9,371.18
	<b>10,804.22</b>	<b>9,454.42</b>

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston (Aquilifer) Scout Group**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the 5<sup>th</sup> Urmston Scout Group as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Signed: 

Name: Adele Lane

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): FCA

Address: 81 Broad Road, Sale, Cheshire, M33 2EU

Date: 6 September 2021