

Harborough District Scout Council

England & Wales · Charity number 521764

Details

Other names	MARKET HARBOROUGH AND DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL, MARKET HARBOROUGH BOY SCOUTS LOCAL ASSOCIATION
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1963-10-09
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	62 Weir Road Kibworth Beauchamp Leicester LE8 0LP
Phone	07778744126
Email	chairman@harboroughscouts.org.uk
Website	harboroughscouts.org.uk

Activities

Objects: MARKET HARBOROUGH BOY SCOUTS AND GUIDES

Activities: Provides administration and financial support to Scouting within a defined geographical area.

Classification

- **How:** Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** MARKET HARBOROUGH
- Leicestershire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£111,874	£78,765	-	-
2024-03-31	£127,371	£116,258	-	-
2023-03-31	£88,044	£93,617	-	-
2022-03-31	£57,920	£44,237	-	-
2021-03-31	£44,402	£34,682	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Derek Catt	Chair	2014-05-15
Alistair Helm		2021-05-18
Benjamin Reed		2024-04-01
EDDIE HARMAN		
ERIC STANLEY GAMBLE		
Georgie Dove		2024-04-01
JEAN WEBB		
PHILIP REED		2021-05-18
Paul Allenby		2024-04-01
Peter Dove		2021-05-18

Harborough District Scout Council

England & Wales - Charity number 521764

Accounts

The best bedrooms
don't always have a roof.

#SkillsForLife



#GOODFORYOU



**We're the
volunteers, the
extra-milers and
helping hands.
Our only pay is
your thanks and
respect (so please
be nice). Thanks
from us all.**



Want to muck in and play your part too?
Go for it. We'd love to have you on the team.

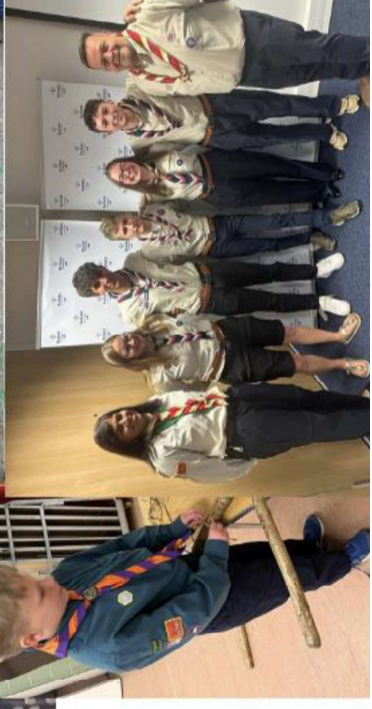
We're proud of our values: Integrity,
Respect, Care, Belief and Cooperation.

<https://www.harboroughscouts.org.uk/>

Registered Charity numbers 521764



Scouts



Harborough District Scouts Annual Report

2025




Scouts
Harborough

Adult Training

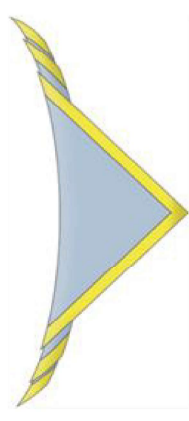
Welcome to the

Harborough Scout Council

Annual General Meeting

22nd May 2025

Robert Monk Hall Foxton



With the new training system now fully up and running, all basic training modules are available online. We encourage all volunteers to log into the updated platform and ensure they have completed both the Volunteer agreement (Declaration) and the new safety training module.

Please take a moment to carefully check the completion dates of your modules. Occasionally, the courses may still appear on your "To Do" list even after completion, so it is important to verify that everything is correctly recorded.

For anyone working towards their Wood Badge, please get in touch is Sue or Pete Dove to discuss the next steps and ensure you are on track with your personal training plan.

Thank you to all our volunteers for their continued commitment to learning and development. It plays a vital role in delivering safe, high-quality Scouting across the district.

Sue and Pete Dove

District Training Leads

Speak with groups to gather opinions and ideas directly from our youth members. Their feedback is already shaping some of our planning and will

continue to guide how we improve and adapt in the future. Youth shaping isn't a one-off event – it's something we should be constantly doing, and I'm committed to making sure that continues.

The spirit of youth leadership in our District remains strong, and we're starting to build new momentum for the years ahead. I'm looking forward to continuing to support, encourage and

empower our young people so they can take ownership of their Scouting journeys, create unforgettable memories, and help shape the future of Harborough Scouts.

Georgie Dove
District Youth Lead



Agenda

1. Introduction and Welcome by Chair

2. Apologies for absence

3. Governance topics

- a) Approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22nd May 2024
- b) Adopt the constitution
- c) Note the District's financial year (1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025)
- d) Agree on the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board
- e) Agree on the quorum for each Trustee Meeting
- f) Agree on the quorum for the District Scout Council Meeting (AGM)

4. Review of the previous year

- a) The District Lead Volunteer's Report
- b) Receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Board, including the Annual Statement of the Accounts

5. Making appointments

- a.) Appoint the District Chair for one year
- b) Appoint the District Treasurer for three years
- c) Appoint members of the District Trustee Board for three years
- d) Appoint members of the District Trustee Board for two years
- e) Appoint members of the District Trustee Board for one year
- f) Appoint a scrutineer of the District Scout Council
- g) Appoint representatives of the District Scout Council to represent the District on the County Scout Council

6. Closing remarks

YouShape

We extend a warm welcome to all of you attending this year's Annual General Meeting and especially our invited guests. During the year we have been working on the Movements transition changes which has seen us consolidate the changes to the new Trustee Board and the introduction of the new Membership system.



This year Kibworth Group have completed the acquisition of land, gifted to them. Since receiving it they have transformed the scrub land by clearing, seeding, and planting new trees. They have also built an outdoor kitchen and classroom. The area can now be enjoyed by Members, especially during the summer months. They are now working on converting an old railway carriage into a storage facility. We look forward to hearing of the Group's ongoing plans to build a new Headquarters.

Fleckney Group have completed their new Building, which was gifted to them by Shire Homes and supported by a Harborough District Council 106 grant. This grant ensured that a larger Headquarters was built, which gives the potential for the Group to expand.

To both those Groups we offer our thanks for the hard work and dedication put in by so many to help make this happen. Many Young People will enjoy these facilities, and it will also provide our

Since taking over from Fred as Youth Lead, I've been working behind the scenes to continue building on the incredible work already happening across the District. Harborough Scouts has a strong tradition of being youth-led, and I'm proud to play a part in keeping that at the heart of everything we do.



One of the key highlights is that we now have a confirmed date for a District Day event – September 2026. Planning is already underway, and I'm excited to shape this with input from our youth members to make sure it reflects what they want from a large-scale District event. It's going to be an opportunity to bring sections together and celebrate all that makes Scouting in Harborough great.

I've also started the process of reintroducing the Youth Awards. With support from the District and a dedicated budget, we're aiming to properly recognise those Young Leaders and Scouts who are making a real difference in their sections. This isn't just about awards – it's about showing our young people that their voices and efforts matter.

Following this year's St George's Day Parade, I had the chance to

Volunteer Teams with a comfortable and modern working environment.

The Explorer leadership team have traditionally supported their members with achieving their Scouting and Duke of Edinburgh awards. While there are still young people keen to experience the personalised expeditions that are unique to Scouting, many of the members are already committed to completing their D of E Awards with school before they make it to Explorers. 2025 could be the first time Harborough District have not organised any expeditions within at least the last 15 years. The leadership team are looking at ways to further publicise what we can offer however if this reduced interest in expeditions continues, it does offer a greater number of opportunities for a broader range of camping adventures.

Not that the last 12 months have been quiet, with yet another District International Camp, this time to Lake Balaton in Hungary in August 2024, an Easter weekend sailing a yacht off the East Anglian coast, with Offshore Adventures, as well as a number of local nights away.

Explorer leadership - The Best Job in Scouting ©

Toby Taylor

District Lead Volunteer - Explorers



Our Finances are in good order and thanks to higher Bank interest rates we have seen an increase in our income which has meant we were able to hold the capitation fee in the District at last year's rate.

We are supporting the Groups by paying for all the sections Membership to OSM Scout Manager.

During the year, the Trustees have been working to support the Leadership on the District trip this summer to Kandersteg. We wish them an enjoyable time and many memories to cherish.

I wish to end by thanking all those who have supported Scouting in Harborough District, in whatever capacity. Your time and efforts are appreciated by everyone.

Derek Catt - District Chair



EXPLORERS



Over the last 12 months, Explorer Scouting in the Harborough District has faced some challenges but continued to evolve. As their own children were reaching the end of their Scouting journeys as youth members, a number of the highly experienced Inclined ESU leadership team chose to step down at the start of 2025. Each of them has given many years of commitment to Scouting within the District and we massively appreciate all they have done for so many.

While this has meant a temporary closure of Inclined, a new leadership team has stepped up, enabling a new ESU opening at Medbourne. Principally serving the extensive Welland Valley area of the District, but open to all 13 ½ - 17-year-olds, the yet to be named new unit will be meeting every Tuesday with a leadership team facilitating an exciting and stimulating programme.

Launched last Easter, the Flame Keepers ESU have bounced around various meeting locations in both Fleckney and Kibworth over the last 12 months. The dedication and flexibility of both the leaders and the young people have “kept the fire burning.” Youth numbers have doubled since launch and negotiations are advanced on enabling them to meet permanently at the beautiful new Scout Hut at Fleckney which I’m confident will enable further growth. Both the Lynx Young Leader Unit and Mad Hatters ESU continue to do the wonderful things they have always done.

2024 AGM Minutes

Harborough District Scout Council

Annual General Meeting 22nd May 2024

ATTENDEES:

Derek Catt (Chair), Paul Allenby (District Lead Volunteer), Eddie Harman (Treasurer), Jo Baynes-Clarke (Secretary), Eric Gamble, Alistair Helm, Phil Humphrey, Pete Dove, Georgie Dove, Jean Webb, Ben Reed, Sue Dove, Jackie Taylor, Callum Ward, Josh Crewe, Ben Brown, Raye Foulds, Claire Jones, Phil Reed, Yvonne Catt, Stewart Harrison (RBL), Bijal Bagwhan (County Lead Volunteer), Richard Brookes (District President), James Ward, Jackie Lee, Kerry Coeshaw

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME BY CHAIR

Meeting opened at 19:37

Derek Catt welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked people for attending, he highlighted that Bijal and Richard were present and welcomed them. Derek mentioned that there are several changes this year and he will guide us through them during the AGM. We are quorate and so we are able to proceed.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

57 people sent their apologies, a list has been filed with the minutes.

3. GOVERNANCE TOPICS

Going forward, trustees are responsible solely for the governance.

a) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Minutes from the 2023 AGM held on 21st June 2023 were proposed by Sue Dove and seconded by Eric Gamble. All in favour.

b) ADOPT THE CONSTITUTION

Derek presented chapter 5.5 of POR, which details the new constitution for District and summarised for everyone present.

c) NOTE THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL YEAR

It was noted that the District's financial year was 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024.

d) AGREE THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS ON THE TRUSTEE BOARD

It was proposed that there would be 10 members of the Trustee board (Chair, Treasurer, 6 elected members and 2 co-opted members) with 2 spaces available for trustees to be co-opted if needed.

This is what the outgoing trustee board would recommend.

Proposed by Jean Webb, seconded by Sue Dove, all in favour.

e) AGREE THE QUORUM FOR EACH TRUSTEE MEETING

5 members recommended - 1/3 rd plus 1 (consisting of one Ex-officio, one appointed member, and Chair or Treasurer) The Chair must agree for the meeting to take place and is a good representation.

This is what the outgoing trustee board would recommend.

Proposed by Ben Reed, seconded by James Ward, all in favour.

represents the highest achievement in the Scout section and it's brilliant to see so many young people working hard to reach this milestone, supported by our dedicated leaders.

Scouts from across Harborough have continued to enjoy a variety of exciting and adventurous camps and events throughout the year. Whether it's learning new skills, developing friendships, or taking on new challenges, it's clear that our Scout sections are thriving.

Looking ahead, I'm currently in the early stages of planning a District Scout Activity Day, which will bring Scouts together for a day of fun, challenge, and shared experiences. I'll be sharing more details soon, and I hope as many groups as possible will get involved.

Thank you to all our fantastic Scout leaders and volunteers. Your hard work makes everything we do possible. I look forward to continuing to work with you all to support our young people and help them make the most of everything Scouting has to offer.

Sue Dove

District Lead Volunteer - Scouts



f) AGREE THE QUORUM FOR EACH AGM

The outgoing trustee board would recommend a minimum of 20 people are present at all AGM's. Proposed by Eric Gamble, seconded by Callum Ward, all in favour.

4. REVIEW OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR

a) DISTRICT LEAD VOLUNTEER'S REPORT

Paul Allenby read his report for everyone present. Derek highlighted that there are reports for all the sections within the booklet and asked everyone to find some time to read and look through all the fantastic achievements and photos that have been included.

b) DISTRICT TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT AND ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Eddie Harman highlighted various items on the report. Questions were invited, James Ward asked how much of the £30k grant had been used / returned, Eddie informed us that approximately £12k had been used on architects fees and we now own those plans. The remainder was returned to County. Derek pointed out that although it looks like we have excess funds, this is not the case as it is earmarked for specific spends, such as the upcoming Kandersteg Camp and Membership Fees. We did actually make a slight loss this year. Proposed by Paul Allenby, seconded by Eddie Harman, all in favour

5. MAKING APPOINTMENTS

All time spent on the trustee board up until now is ignored, we are all at zero and from now there is a maximum 9 years on the board. Nominations were requested from the whole scout council prior to the AGM. Appointed members are to represent the whole council. We are appointing members for various lengths of service to ensure continuity and not everyone leaves at the same time.

Items a-e

See the table below – all elections were approved unanimously by the Scout Council.

ELECTION OF DISTRICT TRUSTEES

Name	Position	Nominated by	Seconded	Length of term
Derek Catt	Chair	Jo Baynes-Clarke	Jean Webb	1 year
Eddie Harman	Treasurer	Jo Baynes-Clarke	Alistair Helm	3 years
Eric Gamble	Appointed Member	Georgie Dove	Ben Reed	1 year
Ben Reed	Appointed Member	Pete Dove	Georgie Dove	2 years
Pete Dove	Appointed Member	Ben Reed	Alistair Helm	2 years
Phil Reed	Appointed Member	Pete Dove	Eric Gamble	2 years
Alistair Helm	Appointed Member	Jo Baynes-Clarke	Jean Webb	3 years
Jean Webb	Appointed Member	Eric Gamble	Eddie Harman	3 years
Ex-Officio Positions				
Paul Allenby	District Lead Volunteer	N/A	N/A	N/A
Georgie Dove	District Youth Lead	N/A	N/A	N/A

SCOUTS



At the beginning of this year, Jackie Taylor stepped down from her role as ADC Scouts. I'd like to thank Jackie for all her hard work and dedication, particularly her commitment to visiting groups across the District and supporting both leaders and Scouts. Her efforts helped lay a strong foundation, which I am now building on.

Plans for this year's Fraser Shield competition are well underway, and I'm excited to share that we'll be hosting the event at a new site in

East Langton. It's a little closer to home and offers fresh opportunities for us to challenge and engage Scouts in new ways. As always, Fraser Shield promises to be a highlight of the District calendar, and I'm grateful to everyone involved in bringing it together.

It's also been fantastic to see a strong number of Chief Scout Gold Awards being achieved across the District this year. This award

f) Appoint scrutineer of the District Scout Council

It was proposed that we retain Graeme Reed as the District accounts auditor, he has been doing it for several years.

Proposed by Eddie Harman, seconded by Sue Dove, all in favour

g) Appoint representatives of the District Scout Council to represent the District on the County Scout Council

Pete Dove and Phil Reed have agreed to be our representatives at the County Scout Council.

6. Closing remarks

Derek informed everyone about the new sub-teams that have been set up.

Administration Team - there is no longer a Secretary on the board, instead there will be an Administration Team. Currently leading the team is Derek Catt, we need to recruit some more members, please consider who might be interested. SJ Poole has volunteered to be part of the team and is focusing on agendas and minutes for the Trustee Board. Steven Poole has volunteered to manage the website.

Finance Team - renews investments, checks group annual accounts, oversees spending and budget for District events. Leading the team is Eddie Harman.

Welcome Team - previously the Appointments Team, currently running as it has been until transition. Leading the team are Phil Humphrey and Pete Dove.

Premises Team - finding new locations for groups / premises as there is a huge demand in Market Harborough currently. Leading the team is Alistair Helm.

Traffic Management Team - need specialist training and help with road closures at official events (Scout and non-Scout) all around the District. Leading the Team is Gerrard Brooks.

GDPR Team - Leading the Team is Phil Humphrey.

Bijal was invited to speak, she commented that there are a lot of changes upcoming with transition. She is impressed at how robust the Harborough Trustee Board has been and feels they are a great example of what should be done and how groups should run their AGM. She said well done to the District, everyone has done a fantastic job and she looks forward to seeing everything we get up to in the upcoming year.

Derek invited everyone to enjoy the refreshments and thanked everyone for coming.

Meeting closed: 20:10

Enclosures: List of apologies

Minutes written by Jo Baynes-Clarke 22.05.24

and show kindness and responsibility in action.

Our team of Leaders deserves a huge shout-out. Their energy, patience, and dedication have helped guide the Cubs every step of the way. Thanks to them, our Cubs have not only grown as individuals but also started to show leadership themselves—something that's so rewarding to see.

There have been lots of proud moments this year, with many Cubs earning badges and awards for their hard work. We've had a number of Cubs achieve the Chief Scout's Silver Award too, which is a fantastic recognition of their effort and commitment throughout the year.

Looking ahead, we've got some exciting plans in the pipeline. We're aiming to grow the number of District events we offer and have already been holding Leader meetings to make this happen.



It's been a fantastic year, and I'm so proud of what we've all achieved together. I can't wait to see what the next year brings for our Cubs and our whole Scouting family.

Hannah Buswell
District Lead Volunteer – Cubs

Trustees' Report

Harborough District Scout Council

Trustees' Annual Report for the period 1 April 2024 to 31st March 2025

SECTION A REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity Name Harborough District Scout Council
 Registered Charity Number 521764
 Charity's Principal Address c/o Derek Catt, 62 Weir Road, Kibworth, Leicester LE8 0LP

List of Trustees

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Elected for a period of	Method of Appointment
Paul Allenby	District Commissioner / Lead Volunteer		Ex Officio
Derek Catt	Chair	1 year	Elected
Edward Harman	Treasurer	3 Years	Elected
Georgina Dove	Youth Commissioner		Ex Officio
Alistair Helm	Appointed member	2 Years	Appointed
Diana Webb	Badge Secretary	3 Year	Appointed
Philip Reed	Appointed Member	2 years	Appointed
Peter Dove	Appointed Member	2 years	Appointed
Eric Gamble	Appointment Member	1 year	Appointed
Ben Reed	Appointed Member	2 years	Appointed

SECTION B STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Description of the charity's trusts

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

Trustee selection methods

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

Management

The District is managed by the District Trustee Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout District 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 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Ex Officio officers, Elected, Nominated and Co-opted members. The Trustee Board meets usually 6 times each year.

This District Trustee Board exists to support the District Commissioner in meeting the responsibilities of the appointment and also to support the Trustees of each of the Scout Groups within the District and is responsible for:-

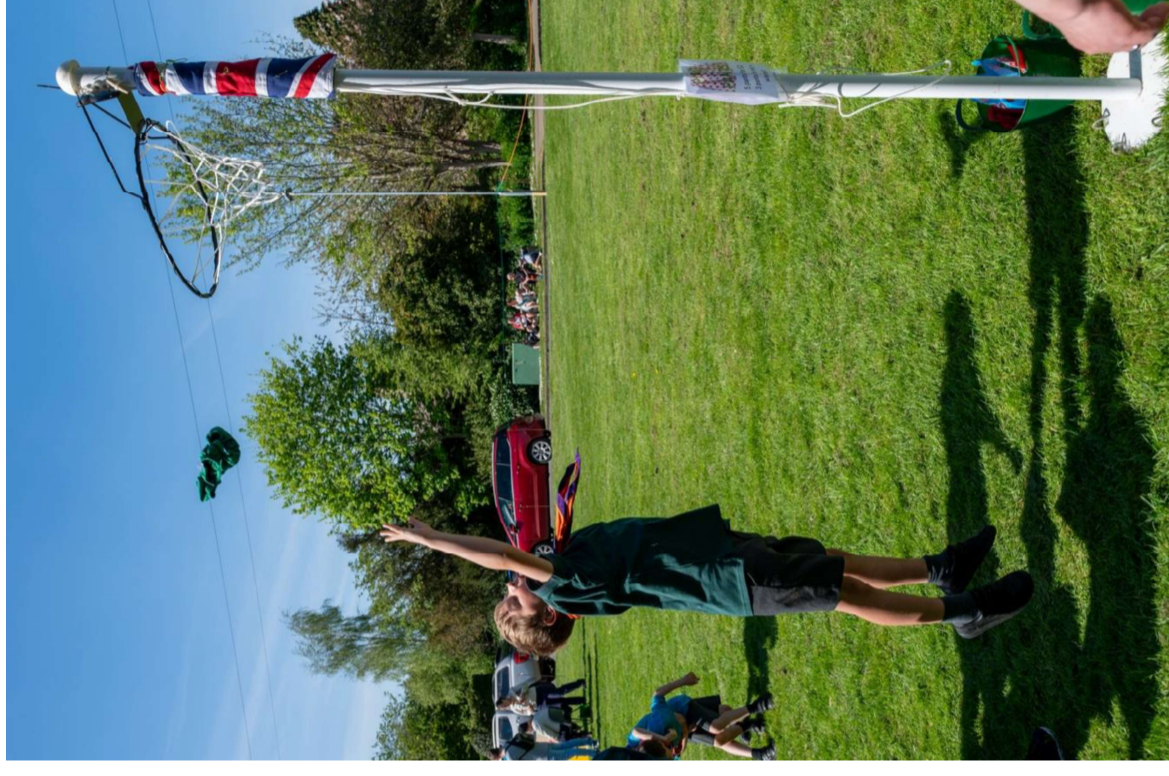
- The maintenance of District property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of District finance;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- District public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;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

Risk and Internal Control Section 1

The District Trustee Board has identified the major risks to which they believe the District is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

- Damage to buildings, property and equipment. The District would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from Scout Groups as appropriate. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with all Groups within the District and some other organisations. The District has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to

CUBS



I'm excited to share this year's Cubs Annual Report and reflect on another brilliant year for our Cubs here in Harborough District.

I couldn't be prouder of everything our young people—and our amazing team of Leaders—have achieved over the past year.

It's been a packed year, full of adventure, learning, and fun. Our Cubs threw themselves into a wide range of activities designed to help them grow in confidence, learn new skills, and build strong friendships. We've been out and about exploring nature, going on hikes, camping under the stars, and just enjoying the outdoors together. They also got stuck into

all kinds of practical skills—things like knot tying, first aid, and even cooking their own meals over an open fire. It's been fantastic to watch them challenge themselves and discover what they're capable of.

Community service has continued to be a big part of our programme.

The Cubs have participated in park clean-ups, food drives, and volunteered at local events—all great ways to give something back

My usual message at this time of year continues to say that a big Thank you for all the Volunteers, without your support Beavers would not be where it is, providing the fun and skill element to allow the Beaver section to be strong for the future.

Yan (Poppa Beaver)

District Lead Volunteer - Beavers



mitigate against permanent loss.

- Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The District through membership fees contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy and has additional cover for those not included within this. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.
- Reduced income from fundraising. The District is primarily reliant upon income from member fees and other fundraising. The District does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of member fees to increase the income to the District on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently or approach other organisations for grants or loans.
- Reduction or loss of leaders. The District is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the District. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular Group or the District as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a Group. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the District.
- Reduction or loss of members. The District provides activities for all young people aged 4 to 25. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular Group or the District as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the District.

Risk and Internal Control Section 2

The District has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss. The District also has comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

The responsibility for control of the finances falls collectively to the Trustee Board and they may be held responsible for any loss. As such we implement the following requirements:-

- A budget is set annually as soon as possible after the start of the financial year to give an indication of the level of income / expenditure and thus what fundraising may be required. This budget is set by the Finance Sub Committee and is approved by the Trustee Board.
- All sectional events are self-financing and the event organiser must keep an accurate record of income and expenditure so that a balance sheet can be produced to demonstrate compliance.
- Any expenditure not included in the budget must be approved by the Trustee Board beforehand. No individual has the right to commit the use of any funds without this approval. This does not include reasonable personal expenses and occasional items below £25 in value.
- There is no pre-signing of cheques under any circumstances.
- All online banking transactions are set up and authorised by two people independently with their own secure login details.
- Wherever possible the person authorising an online payment or countersigning the

BEAVERS

cheque should compare it to an appropriate invoice.

- Bank statements are presented at all Trustee meetings with a brief review of all major transactions from the treasurer.
- An auditor (not necessarily professional) is appointed annually from outside of the District. This is done at the AGM preceding the financial year.
- The secretary or chair (not the treasurer) should invite the auditor to attend the AGM at the year end.

SECTION C OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

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

The objectives of the District are as a unit of the Scout Association. Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

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; and
- make and live by their Promise.

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

- The District supports the Groups within its boundaries to enable them to provide activities to achieve the Scouting aims.
- The District also runs camps, competitions and activities for the various sections to achieve Scouting aims and in particular badges.
- The Group interview and arranges DBS checks on all Adults working in the District to ensure a safe environment for young people.
- The District Trustees follows the safety policies and code of practice as laid down in the Association's Policies, Organisation and Rules.

Wow, another great year for Beavers, so many activities for both indoors and outdoors, Activities ranging from crafts, games and teamwork activities, to going on a hike, a bike ride, campfires, and archery. And this is just a sample of what activities Beavers are getting up to.

The year saw Beaver colonies with some new leaders stepping forward to enable the sections to continue as well as thrive.

Bronze awards were presented in the majority of the colonies, which shows how hard the beavers have worked as well as having fun.

This year also saw Richard Nye step forward to become my assistant.

Richard's ideas and

enthusiasm will enable the district to provide district activities at weekends.

I am looking forward to next year's report showing you what the district has been up to. I know that there is a very exciting start for the plans that Richard and I have proposed for the next 2 years.



sang a few songs in a lovely clearing. We had over 100 people attend this event.

We are particularly short of leaders in some groups, but hopefully, this will be sorted soon. So, all in all, this year has been extremely busy, with lots of acorn awards given out and confident young people moving up to Beavers.

Chamaine Whitelock

District Lead Volunteer - Squirrels

SECTION D ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

- Adults Award evening celebrating the achievements of our volunteers including National Awards
- Online Scout Manager District Dashboard and Adults account with discount subscriptions for sections
- Support and advice to Groups
- Running District events such as Fraser Shield.
- Planning for an international trip to Kandersteg Switzerland 2025 for members of the District
- Continued management of joining enquiries and waiting lists across the District
- Support to 1st Fleckney Group on building of their new headquarters
- Support to other Groups who are embarking on new building projects
- Member of Harborough Lottery to support the work on the Charity
- Introduction of the new membership system and support the District
- Change our accounting system for receipts and payments to accrual accounting
- Support section events
- Planning for St George's Day in line with the wishes of the Leadership

SECTION E FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy

The District's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the District should income and fundraising activities fall short. The District Trustee Board considers that the District should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, circa £10,000.

The District held reserves of approximately £15,000 against this at year end.

Squirrels



Squirrels in the district is going from strength to strength with a lot of young people enjoying their weekly sessions.

Over the last year I have enjoyed joining in with various activities all doing exciting activities from

visiting a fire station, police station, a working farm where they supply Weetabix with wheat, a Ukrainian session with delicious food, Christmas at the Farm Park in Kibworth as well as just lovely evenings in the huts around the district with our brilliant volunteers.

We have had two district activities over the last year. June 2024, we had a very successful bring a Dad as it was Father's Day or adult

activity morning with bacon butties to start the morning, we had a lot of fun, with the Flackney tomahawks as one of the activities, we are planning a similar day this year on the 29th June.

Our second district meet was a Gruffalo hike across muddy fields and through a wood where we



This is within the limits set. Additionally a balance is held in a separate account for administration of the Explorer Scout Units. This is controlled by Harborough District Scouts but administered separately on a day to day basis for effective running of the units.

Investment Policy

The District's Income and Expenditure is very small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The District has therefore adopted a low risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

SECTION F OTHER INFORMATION

Plans for future

Continue to work on the objectives as set out in our #Skills for Life Action Plan.

Work on transition objectives

Supporting the trip to Kandersteg

Planning for a District Camp in May 2026

Planning for a District Day in September 2026

Looking for a new Bank as our current one wants to add charges

Supporting the new membership system

SECTION G DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report a

Signatures		
Full Names	Derek Catt	Paul Allenby
Positions	District Chairman	District Lead Volunteer
Date	11/5/2025	

Independent Examiner's Report



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts**

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name Harborough District Scouts	
On accounts for the year ended	31 st March 2025	Charity no (if any) 521764
Set out on pages	3 & 4 <small>(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)</small>	

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below") which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

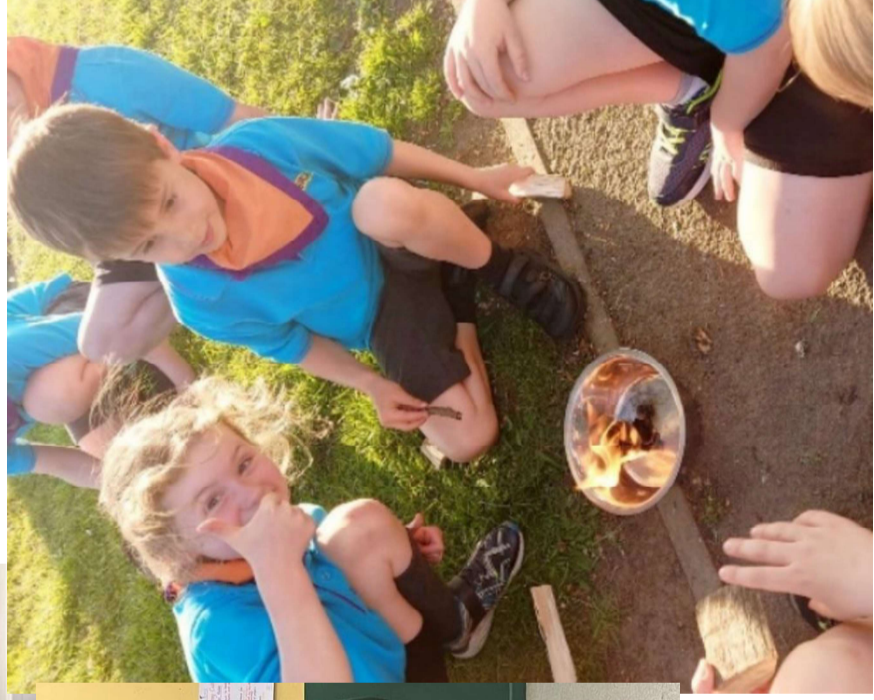
I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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

Signed:		Date:	2 nd May 2025
Name:	Graeme Reid		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	ACCA		
Address:	22 Goldsmith Road, LE3 1PT		

I would like to say a massive thank you to all of you who volunteer in Harborough District Scouts. Whether you are in direct leadership or working behind the scenes, you all play a massive role in keeping Market Harborough District Scouts a very strong Scouting District for all the young people involved.

Many thanks again
Paul Allenby
District Lead Volunteer



Section B

Disclosure

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

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

None



McDonald's.

Our District-led Scout Camp to Switzerland is now well on the way, with us having had two practice camps and some days together. This has given us all the opportunity to get to know each other and put the young people into groups.

Our annual St George's Day parade went very well once again, everyone had lots of fun. Next year has been planned.

Many congratulations to all volunteers who received awards this year at our annual awards night, it was a great pleasure to hand out the awards.

Our District Squirrels have had many joint events over the past year and have planned some over the next year.

Our District Beavers have just planned some events together, with the first one being this month.



District Lead Volunteer

There have been many changes over the last year as to how the Scouting structure is now named, for example my title is now District Lead Volunteer instead of District Commissioner also many other Leadership titles have



changed within Scouting. We have also got a new database to learn so been busy there.

Many congratulations to 1st Market Harborough Scouts for winning the annual Fraser Shield competition at Holwell Pastures, a great

weekend was had by all young people along with all the Volunteers attending. This year's competition will be closer to home, across from



Treasurer's Report

From the start of the 2024/25 accounting year, the trustee board voted to change the accounting policies of the district from cash accounting to the traditional accruals-based accounting.

This change gives the accounts a whole new look a summary of the performance is on the following pages.

Comparatively as of 31st March 2025 we held in our various bank accounts £117,315 (£70,653 in 2024), this increase in funds is wholly attributable to the International Trip to Kandersteg in August.

The following funds have been designated for the following purposes: -

Explorer Units	£12,268
District Events	£ 5,279
	Sectional Events & Gang Show*
Kandersteg	£50,600
General	£10,000
Reserves	£15,000
Total	£93,147

All other funds are unrestricted.

*£1,270 of the events account balance belongs to MH Girl Guides due to Gang Show being a 50/50 joint venture.

- Due to the district preparing accounts on the accruals basis, we recognise income and expenditure in the period it relates to.

Eddie Harman
District Treasurer



Financial Report

Harborough District Scout Council		Charity No (if any)	521764
Annual accounts for the period			
Period start date	01/04/2024	To	31/03/2025

Section A Statement of financial activities

Recommended categories by activity	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total funds £ F04	Prior year funds £ F05
Incoming resources (Note 3)					
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	6,925	-	-	6,925	34,890
Charitable activities	102,405	-	-	102,405	60,110
Other trading activities	1,615	-	-	1,615	1,833
Investments	929	-	-	929	441
Separate material item of income	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total	111,874	-	-	111,874	97,274

Resources expended (Note 6)

Expenditure on:	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total funds £ F04	Prior year funds £ F05
Raising funds	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	34,953	-	-	34,953	32,960
Separate material item of expense	43,813	-	-	43,813	67,509
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total	78,766	-	-	78,766	100,469

Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)

Net gains/(losses) on investments	33,108	-	-	33,108	3,195
Net income/(expenditure)	33,108	-	-	33,108	3,195
Extraordinary items	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):	-	-	-	-	-

Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use

Other gains/(losses)	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	33,108	-	-	33,108	3,195

Reconciliation of funds:

Total funds brought forward	51,427	-	-	51,427	54,622
Total funds carried forward	84,535	-	-	84,535	51,427

Section B Balance sheet

Guidance Notes

	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total this year £ F04	Total last year £ F05
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets (Note 15)	-	-	-	-	-
Tangible assets (Note 14)	-	-	-	-	-
Heritage assets (Note 16)	-	-	-	-	-
Investments (Note 17)	-	-	-	-	-
Total fixed assets	-	-	-	-	-
Current assets					
Stocks (Note 18)	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors (Note 19)	87,619	-	-	87,619	53,986
Investments (Note 17.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand (Note 24)	117,315	-	-	117,315	70,653
Total current assets	204,934	-	-	204,934	124,639
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 20)	19,692	-	-	19,692	53,520
Net current assets/(liabilities)	185,242	-	-	185,242	71,119
Total assets less current liabilities	185,242	-	-	185,242	71,119
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year (Note 20)	-	-	-	-	19,692
Provisions for liabilities	-	-	-	-	-
Total net assets or liabilities	185,242	-	-	185,242	51,427
Funds of the Charity					
Endowment funds (Note 27)	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted income funds (Note 27)	84,535	-	-	84,535	51,427
Unrestricted funds	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation reserve	84,535	-	-	84,535	51,427
Total funds	84,535	-	-	84,535	51,427

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy
	Derek Catt	15/05/2025
	Eddie Harman	15/05/2025

Harborough District Scout Council

England & Wales - Charity number 521764

Accounts

Harborough District Scouts

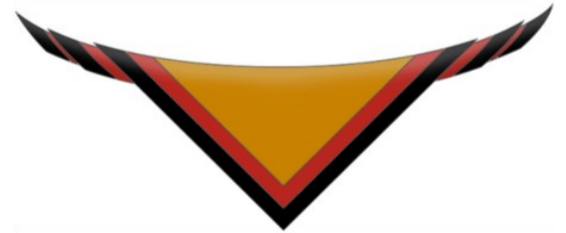
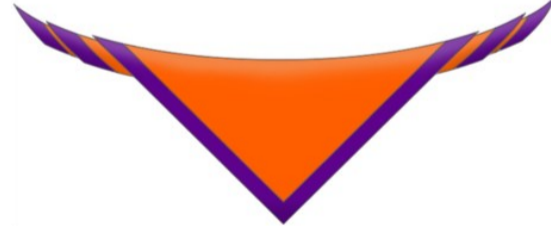
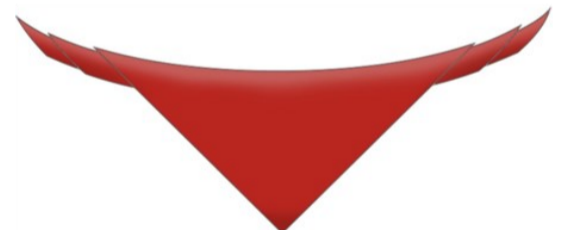
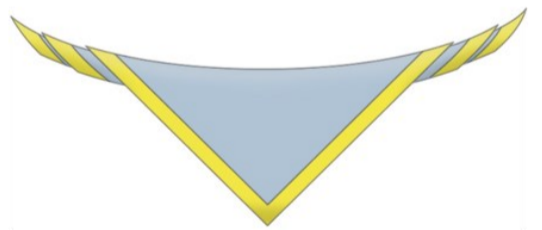
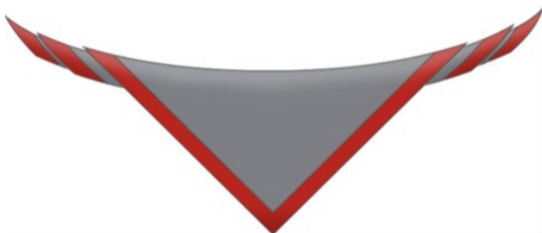
Annual Report

2024



Welcome to the
**Harborough Scout Council
Annual General Meeting**

**22nd May 2024 7.30pm
Robert Monk Hall Foxton**



Agenda

1. Introduction and Welcome by Chair

2. Apologies for absence

3. Governance topics

- a. Approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21st June 2023
- b. Adopt the constitution
- c. Note the District's financial year (1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024)
- d. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board
- e. Agree the quorum for each Trustee Meeting
- f. Agree the quorum for the District Scout Council Meeting (AGM)

4. Review of the previous year

- a. The District Lead Volunteer's Report
- b. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Board, including the Annual Statement of the Accounts

5. Making appointments

- a. Appoint the District Chair for one year
- b. Appoint the District Treasurer for three years
- c. Appoint members of the District Trustee Board for three years
- d. Appoint members of the District Trustee Board for two years
- e. Appoint members of the District Trustee Board for one year
- f. Appoint scrutineer of the District Scout Council
- g. Appoint representatives of the District Scout Council to represent the District on the County Scout Council

6. Closing remarks



Introduction and Welcome

A warm welcome to our AGM and especially to our invited Guests. During the year your Trustee Board, in line with the new Headquarters legislation, has changed its name to Harborough District Trustee Board. Tonight, we are going to complete the change by agreeing a new Constitution and a new slimmed down Trustee Board to comply with POR changes which came into effect from the 1st April 2024. Our Agenda will therefore be different to the usual one.

This time last year we welcomed our new District Commissioner Paul Allenby, to his new role, now the District Lead Volunteer. Paul has used the year to find his feet and take over the reigns of running and supporting the District.

The period of transition which we are going through has made us look at how we do things and to question if it is relevant moving forward. Could we use people's time more effectively and in different ways? There is a lot for us to think, work and complete during the year ahead. Once again Harborough District has increased its membership from 1085 Members in 2023 to 1166 in 2024. This brings the age-old challenge of finding more Leaders and additional meeting places for Sections. Our waiting lists continue to grow and with the new home building programme within the District this pressure will only increase. I would like to thank the Appointments Committee for their work during the year, meeting every month to welcome and support our new Leaders.

Financially we are in a good place and at last are seeing some return from the Banks on interest rates. We are still funding everyone's membership to OSM Scout Manager. With more Sections opening this will increase our expenditure. We supported all those who attended the World Scout Jamboree in Korea and despite the well documented reports, all those attending did enjoy their time and learnt from the experience. We are setting aside funds to support the next Jamboree in 2028.

May I thank the outgoing Trustees for their hard work during the year and all those who have supported the District in any way. Scouting happens because of your efforts which are much appreciated.

Derek Catt

District Chair



2023 AGM Minutes

HARBOROUGH DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 21 JUNE 2023

Attendees

Debbie Billington, Eric Gamble , Pete Dove, Derek Catt, John Lacey, Phil Reed, Alistair Helm, Eddie Harman, Sally Gamble, Jean Webb, Richard Brooks (District President), Elizabeth Cockbill, James Ward, Sally Gambles, Ruth Tallis, Jo Baynes-Clarke, Paul Allenby, Sue Dove, Hannah Dove, Fred Cooper, Chris Noschem, Nick Fordyce, Jackie Taylor, Serena Spearey, Ruth Gibbs, Ian Everitt and Phil King

Item 1 Welcome by Chair (meeting started 19:45)

Derek Catt welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked people for attending. Everyone was invited to take a moment to remember and appreciate the work that the late Pauline Wells, the former Deputy District President, undertook in her role. She was extremely active in the district, and it was right that we should recognise and remember her.

Item 2 Apologies

72 people sent their apologies, a list has been filed with the minutes.

Item 3 Approval of minutes for 2022 AGM

Proposed – James Ward, 2nd – Phil Reed, All in favour

Item 4 Trustees' Report

Derek summarised the report and encouraged people to read it.

Item 5 District Treasurer's Report

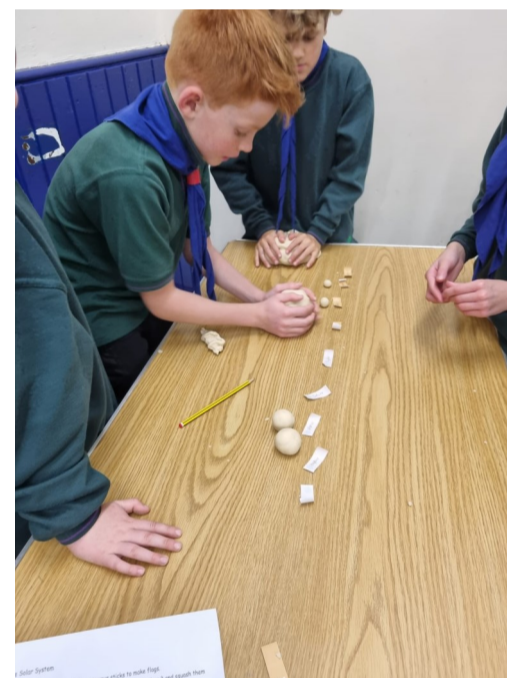
Eddie Harman – highlighted various items on the report.

Proposed – Eddie Harman, 2nd – Debbie Billington, All in favour

Item 6 Approval of Auditors

It was proposed that we retain Graham Reed as the District accounts auditor

Proposed- Eddie Harman, 2nd – Elizabeth Cockbill, All in favour



Item 7 District Commissioner Report

Debbie Billington read her report on the activities over the last year and reflected on her 10 years service as DC and welcomed Paul Allenby to the role. Full details available in the annual report.

Item 8 - 14 Nominations and Elections to the District Trustee Board

See table below – All nominations were approved by the meeting and all elections unanimously in favour

Thank you goes to John Lacey and David Mudridge who are standing down

AOB

Derek Catt introduced County Councillor/ District Councillor – Mr Phil King, who arrived late into the meeting to discuss and comment on the opportunity available to us to build a new scout hut in the Harborough Area.

Nick Fordyce, Deputy County Commissioner, thanked everyone in the District for the work they were doing to provide Scouting in Harborough District, especially the Group Leaders and those who volunteer with the young people every week.

Meeting closed 21:00

Minuted by Ruth Tallis

ELECTION OF DISTRICT TRUSTEES 2023

Position	Nominee	Nominator	Seconder
District Chair	Derek Catt		
District Secretary	Jo Baynes Clarke	Elizabeth Cockbill	Sue Dove
District Treasurer	Eddie Harman	Pete Dove	Phil Reed
Elected Trustees (up to 5)			
Elected Trustee	Jean Webb	Eric Gamble	Alistair Helm
Elected Trustee	Elizabeth Cockbill	Eddie Harman	Phil Reed
Elected Trustee	Phil Reed	Pete Dove	Debbie Billington
Elected Trustee	Phil Humphrey	Alistair Helm	Debbie Billington
Elected Trustee	Alistair Helm	Elizabeth Cockbill	Paul Allenby
DC Nomination (up to 5 or less if less Elected)			
DC Nomination	Pete Dove		
DC Nomination	Eric Gamble		
DC Nomination	Ben Reed		
Ex-Officio Trustees			
DC	Paul Allenby		
DESC	Toby Taylor		
DSNC	Vacant		
Youth Commissioner	Fred Cooper		
Nominations to the County Scout Council			
E-O DC	Paul Allenby		
Chairman	Derek Catt		
Secretary	Jo Baynes-Clarke		
Treasurer	Eddie Harman		
Youth Commissioner	Fred Cooper		
Another	Eric Gamble		
Another	Peter Dove		
Another	Phil Reed		



Trustees' Report

Harborough District Scout Council

Trustees' Annual Report for the period 1 April 2023 to 31st March 2024

SECTION A REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity Name	Harborough District Scout Council
Registered Charity Number	521764
Charity's Principal Address	c/o Derek Catt, 62 Weir Road, Kibworth, Leicester LE8 0LP

List of Trustees

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Period Acted (if not whole year)	Method of Appointment
Paul Allenby	District Commissioner / Lead Volunteer		Ex Officio
Derek Catt	Chair		Ex Officio
Edward Harman	Treasurer		Ex Officio
Jo Baynes-Clarke	Secretary		Ex Officio
Toby Taylor	District Explorer Commissioner		Ex Officio
Georgie Dove	Youth Commissioner	From 12 March 2024	Ex Officio
Fred Cooper	Youth Commissioner	To 1 February 2024	Ex Officio
Alistair Helm			Elected
Elizabeth Cockbill			Elected
Philip Humphrey			Elected
Diana Webb	Badge Secretary		Elected
John Lacey		To 21st June 2023	Elected
David Mugridge		To 21st June 2023	Elected
Philip Reed		To 1 September 2023	Elected
Peter Dove			Nominated
Eric Gamble			Nominated
Ben Reed			Nominated

SECTION B STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Description of the charity's trusts

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

Trustee selection methods

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

Management

The District is managed by the District Trustee Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout District 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 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Ex Officio officers, Elected, Nominated and Co-opted members. The Trustee Board meets usually 6 times each year.

This District Trustee Board exists to support the District Commissioner in meeting the responsibilities of the appointment and also to support the Trustees of each of the Scout Groups within the District and is responsible for:-

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

Risk and Internal Control Section 1

The District Trustee Board has identified the major risks to which they believe the District is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

- Damage to buildings, property and equipment. The District would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from Scout Groups as appropriate. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with all Groups within the District and some other organisations. The District has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.
- Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The District through membership fees contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy and has additional cover for those not included within this. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.
- Reduced income from fundraising. The District is primarily reliant upon income from member fees and other fundraising. The District does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of member fees to increase the income to the District on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently or approach other organisations for grants or loans.
- Reduction or loss of leaders. The District is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the District. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular Group or the District as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a Group. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the District.
- Reduction or loss of members. The District provides activities for all young people aged 4 to 25. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular Group or the District as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the District.

Risk and Internal Control Section 2

The District has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss. The District also has comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

The responsibility for control of the finances falls collectively to the Trustee Board and they may be held responsible for any loss. As such we implement the following requirements:-

- A budget is set annually as soon as possible after the start of the financial year to give an indication of the level of income / expenditure and thus what fundraising may be required. This budget is set by the Finance Sub Committee and is approved by the Trustee Board.
- All sectional events are self-financing and the event organiser must keep an accurate record of income and expenditure so that a balance sheet can be produced to demonstrate compliance.
- Any expenditure not included in the budget must be approved by the Trustee Board beforehand. No individual has the right to commit the use of any funds without this approval. This does not include reasonable personal expenses and occasional items below £25 in value.
- There is no pre-signing of cheques under any circumstances.
- All online banking transactions are set up and authorised by two people independently with their own secure login details.
- Wherever possible the person authorising an online payment or countersigning the cheque should compare it to an appropriate invoice.
- Bank statements are presented at all Trustee meetings with a brief review of all major transactions from the treasurer.
- An auditor (not necessarily professional) is appointed annually from outside of the District. This is done at the AGM preceding the financial year.
- The secretary or chair (not the treasurer) should invite the auditor to attend the AGM at the year end.



SECTION C OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

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

The objectives of the District are as a unit of the Scout Association. Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

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; and
- make and live by their Promise.



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

- The District supports the Groups within its boundaries to enable them to provide activities to achieve the Scouting aims.
- The District also runs camps, competitions and activities for the various sections to achieve Scouting aims and in particular badges.
- The District interviews and arranges DBS checks on all Adults working in the District to ensure a safe environment for young people.
- The District Trustees follows the safety policies and code of practice as laid down in the Association’s Policies, Organisation and Rules.



SECTION D ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

- Supporting members of the District to the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea
- Adults Award evening celebrating the achievements of our volunteers including National Awards
- Online Scout Manager District Dashboard and Adults account with discount subscriptions for sections
- Appointments Sub Committee meeting monthly with District inductions and completion of Module 2 training
- Recruitment and induction of new Youth Managers
- Support and advice to Groups
- Running District events such as Fraser Shield.
- Planning for an international trip to Kandersteg Switzerland 2025 for members of the District
- Supporting 1st Great Glen Scout Group on recruitment of new Adult Volunteers
- Training and support for our new Leaders
- Continued management of joining enquiries and waiting lists across the District
- Support to 1st Fleckney Group on building of their new headquarters
- Support to other Groups who are embarking on new building projects
- Working to secure new meeting places in the town of Market Harborough to support the long waiting lists. Mainly at Wellington Place and Clack Hill estate
- Member of Harborough Lottery to support the work on the Charity



SECTION E FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy

The District's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the District should income and fundraising activities fall short. The District Trustee Board considers that the District should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, circa £10,000.

The District held reserves of approximately £15,000 against this at year end. This is within the limits set. Additionally a balance is held in a separate account for administration of the Explorer Scout Units. This is controlled by Harborough District Scouts but administered separately on a day to day basis for effective running of the units.

Investment Policy

The District's Income and Expenditure is very small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The District has therefore adopted a low risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

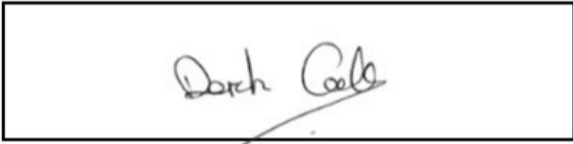
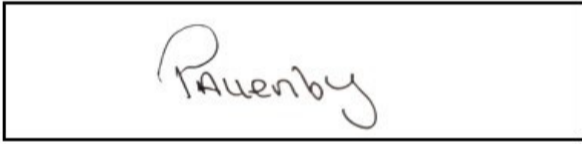
SECTION F OTHER INFORMATION

Plans for future

- Continue to work on the objectives as set out in our #Skills for Life Action Plan as well as continuing to work on finding new premises within Harborough town.
- Work on transition objectives

SECTION G DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above

Signatures		
Full Names	Derek Catt	Paul Allenby
Positions	District Chairman	Lead Volunteer / District Commissioner
Date	8/5/2024	



Independent Examiner's Report



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's
report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Harborough District Scouts

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2024

Charity no
(if any) 521764

Set out on pages

3 & 4

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent
examiner's statement

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

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

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

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

Signed:

Graeme Reid

Date:

18th April 2024

Name:

Graeme Reid

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

ACCA

Address:

22 Goldsmith Road, LE3 1PT

Treasurer's Report

During 2023/24 there was a surplus of funds amounting to £11,112 (£5,574 deficit 22/23) and the consolidated bank balance was £70,653. The majority of the surplus has arisen due to the timing of funds being received for the District Camp to Switzerland in 2025 (£8300).

The District makes a provision each year to assist the contingent attending the World Jamboree. This money is held in reserve and a contribution of £1,000 was made to them during the year.

Within the various bank accounts there are certain amounts have been designated for the following purposes:-

Camp Account	£ 5,200	money set aside from fundraising for ESU members to use against activities
Explorer Units	£15,161	includes £6,000 for Hungary
District Events	£13,968	funds relate to District Camp, Fraser Shield, Sectional Events & Gang Show*
General	£5,000	
Reserves	£15,000	
Total	£54,329	

All other funds are unrestricted.

*£1,270 of the events account balance belongs to MH Girl Guides due to Gang Show being a 50/50 joint venture.

Due to the District preparing accounts on the cash basis, we only recognise income and expenditure that appears on the bank statement in each financial year and the district income from membership fees is included in the above balances.



Financial Report

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date	
	1st April 2023		31st March 2024	31st March 2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donation	-			-	275
Badges	383			383	751
Fundraising	4,846			4,846	5,501
Membership Fees	47,520			47,520	43,452
Traffic Management	1,450			1,450	1,100
Grants	30,000			30,000	-
Interest	441			441	27
Trips & Activities	35,300			35,300	29,246
District Camp	2,540			2,540	2,648
Gang Show	-			-	-
Gift Aid	-			-	520
Subs	4,890			4,890	4,523
Sub total(Gross income for AR)	127,371	-	-	127,371	88,043
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	127,371	-	-	127,371	88,043
A3 Payments					
Donation to Poppy Appeal	25			25	-
Badge Purchases	56			56	802
St Georges Day	1,835			1,835	-
Training & Leader Packs	-			-	1,852
Equipment	-			-	-
Equipment Maintenance	-			-	-
Gifts Comemorations	-			-	-
District Expenses	316			316	702
Insurance	768			768	1,683
Award Evening	789			789	642
Membership Fees	42,601			42,601	38,198
District OSM	1,935			1,935	1,935
Printing & Stationery	112			112	-
Room Hire	273			273	106
Branding & Media	396			396	562
Storage	-			-	-
Licences	268			268	246
Traffic Management	180			180	126
Miscellaneous	29,312			29,312	-
Fundraising Expenses	-			-	-
Trips & Activities	34,559			34,559	41,209
Fraser Shield Expenses	1,834			1,834	2,223
Jamboree Payment	1,000			1,000	3,333
Sub total	116,258	-	-	116,258	93,617
A4 Asset and investment purchases					
		-	-	-	
Camping Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	116,258	-	-	116,258	93,617
Net of receipts/(payments)	11,112	-	-	11,112	- 5,575
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	59,541	-	-	59,541	65,116
Cash funds this year end	70,653	-	-	70,653	59,541

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Accounts	70,653		
		-		
	Total cash funds	70,653	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK Unrestricted funds
OK Restricted funds
OK Endowment funds

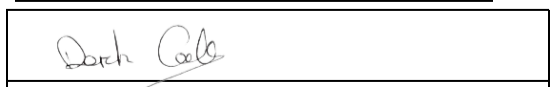

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets				

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets				

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				
	Badge Stocks	150		

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities				

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Derek Catt	1.5.24
	Eddie Harman	1.5.24

District Commissioner

Over the last year, like most recent years, Harborough District Scouts has increased the number of young people and volunteers, of course this is all due to everyone who volunteers time to help young people along with the groups delivering many activities during the year.

Our District Scout and Explorer camp to Switzerland in August 2025 is well under way now, with us doing plenty of fundraising towards the cost of the trip. The District has had some grants and had a curry night so far, with a Casino night coming up in November and much more. Groups themselves are also doing fundraising for their young people, along with the young people doing bits themselves towards the cost. We have two camps planned along with various different activity days over the next 15 months for us all to get to know each other. Many thanks to all adults for your work in making this camp possible.

I have been very touched by the amount of the highest awards handed out to the young people across all sections. Well done to all the young people for achieving the award, and volunteers for guiding them through the awards.

I would like to say a massive thankyou to Cathy Howells, Gary Duffin and Phil Reed for all their hard work they put into Scouting by being a GSL for their groups, and although they have either stepped down or will be stepping down shortly, we are very grateful that they will all still be involved in Scouting in Section Leadership or behind the scenes.

I would also like to welcome Callum Ward into his new role as GSL for Fleckney Scout Group.



It was a great pleasure to see so many volunteers receiving awards at our District Awards ceremony for their roles they do to help Scouting, Many thanks to everyone who helped organise this event that I am sure will continue for the foreseeable.

Phil Reed has been a massive role model for Scouting at Group and District level for over 30 years, Phil has been the main volunteer over the years at District events including the Fraser Shield of which he was the main organiser. Phil has decided to step down and take a break from his roles at the moment, however I am sure we will have the pleasure in welcoming him back soon. Thank you Phil.

Thank you to Sally Gambles for starting Squirrels in the District, we now have six groups with Squirrels. Sally unfortunately has stepped out of Scouting so we wish her all the best, and hope Sally returns in the future.

I would also like to say a massive thankyou to Jo Baynes-Clarke for all of the admin she has done for me as DC along with all her many tasks she has in Scouting. Jo is stepping down from her District roles to concentrate on her GSL role at Foxton Scouts.

On behalf of every young person in the District, I can not stress enough how you as a volunteer - whether in leadership or behind the scenes - are helping young people of all ages from 4 years to 18 years gain self confidence and try many new activities that they will remember for the rest of their lives, of which they will be so grateful forever.

Thank you everyone, and I am so much looking forward to the year ahead.

Paul Allenby - Lead Volunteer / District Commissioner

Squirrels

Since I took on the ADC Squirrels role in February 2024, I have had the pleasure of visiting most of the Dreys in the District to help out or present Acorn Awards. They all have a varied and exciting programme with lots of young Squirrels enthused and enjoying themselves. We currently have 6 groups out of 8 with Squirrel Dreys, and a total of 9 Dreys in the District with one more hopefully opening soon. I am delighted to have Jo Osborne join me to help as District Squirrel Leader.



Last year, Sally Gambles organised a District Squirrels Day at the Sir John Lowther Centre, this was based on a nature theme and was a great success. Last April, it was wonderful for the Squirrels to join in our St. George's Day parade and fayre for the first time, a truly memorable experience for everyone involved.

As I have only been in role for a few months, I have been focusing on visiting the Dreys and ensuring leaders know who I am and that I am available to support them if they need me. Going forwards we are planning lots of District activities, including a morning event on Fathers Day, every parent who brings a Squirrel will receive a bacon butty and the Squirrels will take part in various activities based on adventure and Scouting skills; as well as a cinema visit in December to watch a Christmas Film—we may even be joined by a special guest if he has time!

Thank you to all our wonderful Squirrel Leaders for everything you do to support our Squirrel family—we would not have been so successful, or where we are today, without you.

Chamaine Whitelock
Lead Volunteer /
ADC Squirrels



BEAVERS

Yet another challenging year for both the leaders and the Beavers themselves, as each colony continues to develop and build up their section from the previous years.

Lots of activities some old and some new have shown that Harborough District Beavers offers what the youngsters need and want to enjoy the fun.

Sleepovers were being held across a number of groups and some new leaders taking the decision to run and organise a first sleepover too.

A lot of colonies saw changes in leadership over the last 12 months. The year saw 40 Beavers achieving their Bronze award across the majority of the colonies within the district.

4 Beaver colonies attended the County 'Beaveree' event which had plenty to offer for all the youngsters. Beavers were well supported at St. Georges Day parade and had attendance at this years Remembrance Parade held in the various sites throughout the District.

I would like to thank all the leaders and helpers, without them Beavers could not happen, I would like also to welcome all the new members who have joined the Beaver community and wish them a happy role in the Beaver section.

Finally, I would like to thank both Ben and Paul for stepping in to support the Beaver section in my absence during the first half of the year.

**Yan - Lead volunteer / ADC Beavers
(Poppa Beaver)**



cubs



It is with great pleasure and pride that I present to you the Annual Report for Cubs for the year. As the Cubs Leader, I am thrilled to share the highlights and achievements of our dedicated Cubs and Leaders over the past year. Throughout the year, our Cubs engaged in a wide range of exciting and enriching activities designed to foster their personal development and instil important values such as teamwork, leadership, and community service. Some of the highlights of our programme: Cubs embarking on numerous outdoor adventures, including hiking, camping, and nature exploration. Participation in various skill-building activities, such as knot tying, first aid training, and cooking over an open fire. Giving back to the community is an integral part of the Cub Scout program. Our Cubs engaged in several community service projects, including park clean-ups, food drives, and volunteering at local events.

The dedicated team of Leaders played a crucial role in guiding and mentoring our Cubs throughout the year. Through their commitment and passion, they have helped our Cubs grow not only as individuals, but also themselves as leaders. I am extremely proud of the achievements of our Cubs this year. Many of our Cubs earned badges and awards in recognition of their hard work and dedication. With many achieving the Chief Scouts Silver award. These achievements not only celebrate their individual accomplishments but also reflect the values and principles of the Cub Scout programme.

Looking ahead to the future, we see countless opportunities to further enhance and expand our programme. We are committed to continuing to provide our Cubs with meaningful experiences that will shape them into confident, responsible, and compassionate individuals. We are planning to expand the provision of District events over the next year, we have held Leader's meetings to discuss how we can effectively implement these events. We are working to improve the communication and sharing of ideas between Cub Packs across the District, with this in mind we have set up a new Leaders group chat, which will continue to be developed over the year.

Together, we have accomplished so much, and I am excited to see what the future holds for the Cubs of Harborough District.



Hannah Dove - Lead Volunteer / ADC Cubs



SCOUTS



Since taking on the role of ADC Scouts in the summer of 2023 I have been undertaking regular group visits to get to know all sections (leaders and young people). Feedback from scouts seems they are enjoying learning skills in scouting through the varied programmes our leaders are providing. 28 gold awards have been presented within the district, some groups are working tirelessly at getting young people through this award, others may appreciate a little extra support which I am looking to offer in the coming months.

We hosted a night hike in October, which was well supported by our scouts and proved to them how challenging navigating in the dark can be! Probably not helped by the rain that didn't stop all evening either! Unfortunately several adult volunteers had to drop out at the last minute but those who did support there help was invaluable as always.



In December we held a quiz night, making use of Kibworth hut, hoping to encourage scouts from our village locations to join so not everything is held in the centre of Harborough, although a low turnout in numbers, a lot of fun was had with general knowledge and scouting questions plus mini physical challenges.

The Annual Fraser Shield competition of 2023 was held at Topstones on the weekend of 'fathers day', point noted to try and avoid this clash in future years. With 16 teams taking part plus a couple of entries who were there for the experience rather than being judged it was a fantastic weekend for all. King Provins lived up to their name and ruled the whole weekend, a great achievement from 3rds, finally knocking Bowden's off their long run of winning over the years and Welland Valley scooping the Adams Challenge for great navigation on the Hike.

Thank you to all our amazing Scout leaders for everything you do for Harborough Scouts. I will continue regular group visits to offer my support to you all and look forward to a great 2024.



Jackie Taylor – Lead Volunteer / ADC Scouts

EXPLORERS

Over the last 12 months, Explorer Scouting in the Harborough District has again continued to flourish and grow. Inclined ESU has successfully relaunched - with a number of leaders who are new to Explorers- delivering an exciting and stimulating programme. Inclined ESU and Mad Hatters ESU are thriving with their well-established teams and numerous members and Lynx ESU – the Young Leader unit - has continued to support a number of our young people in their Scouting journey.

The launch of the Fleckney/Kibworth ESU at the start of April has been integral in ensuring that Explorers is open to as many of our 14 – 17-year-olds as possible. I look forward to reporting on some of the amazing activities they undertake in 12 months' time with the support of the leadership team of Chris, Clair, Ivan and Josh.

The Explorer leadership team always support their members with achieving their Scouting and Duke of Edinburgh awards. Lynx ESU often gain new members who are keen to use Scouting as part of their volunteering element but often these young people stay on because of their experiences with our amazing scout groups and the support from Sue and Georgie.

The Explorer spirit of adventure continued in 2023 with members representing the UK at the WSJ in South Korea. Despite the reports in the press, all the adult and youth members I have spoken to had a wonderful and inspiring time. Furthermore, over 20 of us defied ridiculous Brexit inspired logistical challenges to spend a fantastic week camping in Holland. From dyke-jumping to cycling and raft building to all you can eat pancake river cruising; it was every bit as diverse and memorable as all international camps should be.

In 2024, one of our leaders, Laura, is off to Norway for the Scout Roverway and Hungary is calling for many of the rest of us as we fly to Lake Balaton for our next adventure.

Explorer leadership - The Best Job in Scouting ©

Toby Taylor - District Explorer Scout Commissioner



SAS (Scout Active Support)

This year the SAS has been engaged in covert operations! We have been quietly supporting the District Camps and St George's Day celebrations. The Traffic Management Team have been out in force for this and Armistice Day Parades around the County.

The members who are going to Kandersteg have suggested doing a Gang Show, to raise funds for their trip next year—watch this space!

The Active Support Section is for any Adult who wants to get involved with District Scouting activities with or without a Scouting Appointment. So if you want to be part of a successful team, contact me and I'll keep you informed of our next adventure!



Eric Gamble - SAS Manager

network



“In May 2023 it was the Coronation of HM The King and HM The Queen. As all the sections from all our groups organised and planned their own celebrations, for three of our District Network Volunteers operation Golden Orb was underway...

It was the Thursday before the coronation, when Jack (1st Bowdens) and Sam (1st Kibworth) quietly drove down to Gilwell Park in London. They had been given very little information and told not to share the news with anyone, but had been selected as part of a team of just 400 scouts from across the commonwealth to preform state duties for the coronation.

Just as they parked in the carpark, fellow Harborough volunteer Georgie (1st Bowdens) parked along side them, sworn to the same secrecy and attending the weekend as part of the Queens / Kings Scout Working Party.

Exactly how they would be involved soon became clear after checking in, when they were given their full roles and responsibilities. Georgie, Jack and Sam were stationed in various parts of London from Westminster, St. James Park, The Mall and Hyde Park. Having headed into Central London as early as 3am, State duties finished on Sunday and they all headed home to prepare for the Big Help out on Monday 8th before gathering once more at the county HQ where they were interviewed by BBC news.”

The above was written by Sam Arnold, and is an exciting example of some of the activities that Network members can get up to. This year three District Network members, along with two others from the County, will be embarking on their Explorer Belt Award which includes travelling to Greece for 10 days and completing a number of challenges. We look forward to hearing all about it.



If anyone is interested in helping co-ordinate Network activities, the role is still vacant so please so let us know.

#YouShape



The Scouting movement within Harborough has a fantastic track record for ensuring its many sections and groups are led by their youth members, and this has continued and been highlighted through this year with several successful events throughout the District. In terms of Young Leaders, they are growing in numbers through the whole District and their presence certainly improves our young people's experiences. As well as this, it's allowed these Young Leaders to be fantastic role models within their Squirrel, Beaver, Cub and Scout sections.

This year, I've been lucky enough to attend several District events such as the Fraser Shield. This event highlights the brilliant work within the District to ensure everything is designed for our youth members, as feedback made by our Scouts in previous years will be used to develop the competition and make it a Camp which will benefit and develop our young people even further in future years.

I was also lucky enough to attend a meeting where some of our Explorers from the UK Contingent at the World Scout Jamboree shared their experiences in South Korea. Although the stories were varied, it was incredible to see them passing these stories to our other youth members and hopefully inspiring them for future camps, trips, and opportunities throughout Scouting. Hopefully this can inspire the next generation to continue through Scouting to experience these times to make friends and memories throughout the District and internationally.

Although I have stepped down from my role of Youth Commissioner due to time constraints, I will continue to ensure the District is youth led throughout and will continue to aim for Scouts to understand that the Scouting movement is designed for them to develop, learn and enjoy their time and I'm passionate to make sure this continues through the District. This most certainly won't be the last you see of me!

Youth shape gives the Scouts the power to take the reigns and forge their sections into spaces to make friends and memories.

Fred Cooper - Youth Commissioner







Do more.

We believe young people deserve the skills to succeed and a place to belong. That's why we offer fun, adventure and skills for life to over 450,000 young people aged 6-25 across the UK.

Bear Grylls

Bear Grylls, Chief Scout



Learn more.

Scouting prepares young people for the future. We help them do more, learn more by doing and be more. Scouting is young people discovering their potential and powering their future. Scouting is where the future is born.

Be more.

Scouts have become presidents, astronauts, entrepreneurs and pop stars. They have walked on the moon and won Olympic Gold. But they are also the teachers, social workers and volunteers – the people who make society work.

Volunteer at scouts.org.uk



Harborough District Scout Council

England & Wales - Charity number 521764

Accounts



Scouts

Harborough

One Amazing Year!

Harborough District Scouts
Annual General Meeting
2023



Agenda for Annual General Meeting

21 June 2023

1. Welcome by Chair
2. Apologies
3. Approval of minutes for 2022 AGM
4. Trustees' report
5. District Treasurer's report
6. Approval of Auditor
7. District Commissioner's report
8. DC's nomination for Chair
9. Election of District Secretary
10. Election of District Treasurer
11. Election of members to the District Executive
12. DC Nominations to the District Executive
13. Co-opted members for District Executive
14. Nominations to the County Scout Council



Welcome by Chair

Can I extend a warm welcome to you all at this AGM, the first we have held in person since before lockdown. I started last years report by reporting an increase in membership and this year is no different. Our district now has 1085 members, a 9.2% increase. With this and further potential as the area housing grows, it brings us the challenge of finding more places to meet; something your Trustee Board is working on and of high priority.

After 10 years we say our thanks to Debbie Billington as she stands down from her role as District Commissioner. I am sure you will join with me in thanking her for the work and enthusiasm she has put into the role. We now welcome Paul Allenby who has accepted the challenge to be the next Harborough District Commissioner.

Our Executive Committees are being transformed into Boards of Trustees with new constitutions, but our governance role will continue.

My thanks go to all those who have served on the Executive in the past year and on the various Sub Committees. One such committee, which has been kept extremely busy this year, is the Appointment Sub Committee under the leadership of Phil Humphrey.

Due to the increase in our Youth Membership, we have been able to keep the District Capitation Fee frozen for yet another year, whilst still funding Online Scout Manager for every section. Financially, the district is in good shape and we have supported all those from the district going to the World Scout Jamboree in Korea this summer.

I would like to close by thanking all those who work within the District to make Scouting happen, for your time and expertise, you are appreciated.

Derek Catt, District Chair

2022 AGM Minutes

HARBOROUGH DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 24 May 2022 7.30pm Online via Zoom

Attendees

Debbie Billington, Eric Gamble, Pete Dove, Derek Catt, John Lacey, Sue Gardner, Phil Reed, Alistair Helm, Sue Lamont, Yan Provins, Eddie Harman, Pip & John Braint, David Mugridge, Stewart Harrison RBL, Jean Webb, Zoe Knox, Rebecca Byrne, Richard Brooks, Adrian Wray, Elizabeth Cockbill, Jo Osborne, James Ward, Sally Gambles, Ruth Tallis, Rebecca Humphrey, Jo Baynes-Clarke, Lillian Heaps.

Welcome by Chair

Derek Catt welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked people for attending via Zoom. He also extended a warm welcome to Richard Brookes, District President and Adrian Wray, County Secretary.

Apologies

Toby Taylor, Kate Helm, Ben Reed and Georgia Dove.

Approval of Minutes for 2021 AGM

Proposed: Pete Dove, 2nd: Sue Gardner, all in favour.

Trustees' Report

Derek summarised the report and encouraged people to read it.



District Treasurer's Report

Eddie Harman – highlighted various items on the report. Proposed: Eddie Harman, 2nd: Debbie Billington. All in favour.

Approval of Examiner

It was proposed that we retain Graeme Reed as the examiner for the District accounts. Proposed: Eddie Harman, 2nd: Debbie Billington. All in favour

District Commissioner's Report

Debbie Billington gave a verbal report on the activities over the last year and the challenges and focus for the coming year, full details available in the annual report.

Elections and Nominations

See table.

Position	Nominee	Nominator	Seconder
District Chair	Derek Catt	Debbie Billington	n/a
District Secretary	Ruth Tallis	Eric Gamble	Pete Dove
District Treasurer	Eddie Harman	Phil Humphrey	Alistair Helm
Elected Members (up to 5)			
Elected Member	Jean Webb	Ruth Tallis	Eddie Harman
Elected Member	Elizabeth Cockbill	Debbie Billington	Alistair Helm
Elected Member	John Lacey	Eric Gamble	Jean Webb
Elected Member	David Mugridge	Jean Webb	Eric Gamble
Elected Member	Alistair Helm	Pete Dove	Phil Humphrey
DC Nomination (up to 5 or less if less Elected)			
DC Nomination	Phil Reed	DC Nomination	Eric Gamble
DC Nomination	Sue Gardner	DC Nomination	Phil Humphrey
DC Nomination	Peter Dove		
Ex-Officio members			
DC	Debbie Billington	DSNC	vacant
DESC	Toby Taylor	Youth Commissioner	Katie Rollason
Nominations to the County Scout Council			
E-O DC	Debbie Billington	Youth Commissioner	Katie Rollason
Chairman	Derek Catt	Another	Eric Gamble
Secretary	Ruth Tallis	Another	Peter Dove
Treasurer	Eddie Harman	Another	Phil Reed



Trustees' Report

Harborough District Scout Council

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period 1 April 2022 to 31st March 2023

SECTION A REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity Name Harborough District Scout Council
 Registered Charity Number 521764
 Charity's Principal Address c/o Derek Catt, 62 Weir Road, Kibworth, Leicester LE8 0LP

List of Trustees

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Period Acted (if not whole year)	Method of Appointment
Deborah Billington	District Commissioner		Ex Officio
Derek Catt	Chair		Ex Officio
Edward Harman	Treasurer		Ex Officio
Ruth Tallis	Secretary		Ex Officio
Toby Taylor	District Explorer Commissioner		Ex Officio
Fred Cooper	Youth Commissioner	From 18 Nov 22	Ex Officio
Katie Rollason	Youth Commissioner	To 6 Nov 22	Ex Officio
Alistair Helm			Elected
Diana Webb	Badge Secretary		Elected
John Lacey	Safety Officer		Elected
David Mugridge			Elected
Elizabeth Cockbill			Elected
Eric Gamble			Nominated
Suzanne Gardner			Nominated
Peter Dove			Nominated
Philip Humphrey			Nominated
Philip Reed			Nominated



SECTION B STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Description of the charity's trusts

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

Trustee selection methods

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

Management

The District is managed by the District Executive Committee, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout District 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 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Ex Officio officers, Elected, Nominated and Co-opted members. The District Executive meets usually 6 times each year.

This District Executive Committee exists to support the District Commissioner in meeting the responsibilities of the appointment and also to support the Executives of each of the Scout Groups within the District and is responsible for:-

- ▮ The maintenance of District property;
- ▮ The raising of funds and the administration of District finance;
- ▮ The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- ▮ District public occasions;
- ▮ Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- ▮ Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- ▮ Appointing District Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.
- ▮ Overseeing the correct running of the Groups within the District and providing support where needed.



Risk and Internal Control Section 1

The District Executive Committee has identified the major risks to which they believe the District is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

- Damage to buildings, property and equipment. The District would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from Scout Groups as appropriate. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with all Groups within the District and some other organisations. The District has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.
- Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The District through membership fees contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy and has additional cover for those not included within this. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.
- Reduced income from fund raising. The District is primarily reliant upon income from member fees and other fundraising. The District does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of member fees to increase the income to the District on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently or approach other organisations for grants or loans.
- Reduction or loss of leaders. The District is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the District. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular Group or the District as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a Group. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the District.
- Reduction or loss of members. The District provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 25. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular Group or the District as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the District.

Risk and Internal Control Section 2

The District has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss. The District also has comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

The responsibility for control of the finances falls collectively to the Executive Committee and they may be held responsible for any loss. As such we implement the following requirements:-

- A budget is set annually as soon as possible after the start of the financial year to give an indication of the level of income / expenditure and thus what fundraising may be required. This budget is set by the Finance Sub Committee and is approved by the executive committee.
- All sectional events are self-financing and the event organiser must keep an accurate record of income and expenditure so that a balance sheet can be produced to demonstrate compliance.
- Any expenditure not included in the budget must be approved by the executive committee beforehand. No individual has the right to commit the use of any funds without this approval. This does not include reasonable personal expenses and occasional items below £25 in value.
- There is no pre-signing of cheques under any circumstances.
- All online banking transactions are set up and authorised by two people independently with their own secure login details.
- Wherever possible the person authorising an online payment or countersigning the cheque should compare it to an appropriate invoice.
- Bank statements are presented at all executive meetings with a brief review of all major transactions from the treasurer.
- An auditor (not necessarily professional) is appointed annually from outside of the District. This is done at the AGM preceding the financial year.
- The secretary or chair (not the treasurer) should invite the auditor to attend the AGM at the year end.

SECTION C OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

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

The objectives of the District are as a unit of the Scout Association. Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

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; and
- make and live by their Promise.



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

- The District supports the Groups within its boundaries to enable them to provide activities to achieve the Scouting aims.
- The District also runs camps, competitions and activities for the various sections to achieve Scouting aims and in particular badges.
- The District interviews and arranges DBS checks on all Adults working in the District to ensure a safe environment for young people.
- The District Executive follows the safety policies and code of practice as laid down in the Association's Policies, Organisation and Rules.

SECTION D ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

- Beau District Camp which included St George's Day celebrations with 650 participants.
- GSL support at 1st Welland Valley.
- Continued focus on TSA Skills for Life strategic plan and our corresponding action plan.
- Adult awards evening to celebrate the achievements of our volunteers including National Awards.
- Online Scout Manager District Dashboard and Adults account with discount subscription for sections.
- Appointments Sub Committee meeting monthly with District inductions and completion of Module 2 training.
- Recruitment and induction of new Youth Commissioner.
- Support and advice to Groups to open Squirrel Dreys.
- Support and advice for youth member and adult recruitment at 1st Great Glen, including opening a Squirrel section.
- Volunteer training and support sessions through Zoom.
- Continued management of joining enquiries and waiting list system across the District.
- Support and advice to 1st Fleckney for the building of their new headquarters.
- Scout and Explorer District Dodgeball Competition.
- Swimming Gala for Beavers to Explorers.
- Land at Wellington Place, Market Harborough for a new community centre, secured for Harborough Scouts ownership.
- Member of the Harborough Lotto and income generated is being used to support the District.



SECTION E FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy

The District's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the District should income and fundraising activities fall short. The District Executive Committee considers that the District should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, circa £8,000.

The District held reserves of approximately £14,000 against this at year end. This is within the limits set. Additionally a balance is held in a separate account for administration of the Explorer Scout Units. This is controlled by Harborough District Scouts but administered separately on a day to day basis for effective running of the units.

Investment Policy

The District's Income and Expenditure is very small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The District has therefore adopted a low risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

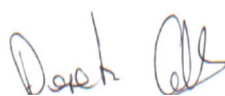
SECTION F OTHER INFORMATION

Plans for future

Continue to work on the objectives as set out in our #Skills for Life Action Plan as well as continuing to make the new Scout Centre at Wellington Place a reality.

SECTION G DECLARATION


The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above


31/03/2023

Derek Catt

District Chair

01/05/2022



Deborah Billington

District Commissioner





Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of the Harborough District Scout Council for the year ended 31/03/2023

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 120 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Name: **Graeme Reid**

Relevant professional qualification or body: **ACCA**

Address: 22 Goldsmith Road, Braunstone Frith, Leicester LE3 1PT

Date: 09/05/2023

Signed:

Treasurer's Report

Another successful year see our membership increase by a further 10.3% taking our youth membership (4 – 18 years) to 825.

During 2022/23 there was a deficit of funds amounting to £5,574 (£13,683 surplus 2021/22) and the consolidated bank balance was £59,541. The majority of the deficit has arisen due to the timing of funds being received for the district camp as the majority of the expenditure occurred in this financial period.

The district makes a provision each year to assist the contingent attending the World Jamboree. This money is held in reserve and a contribution of £3,333 was made to them during the year.

Within the various bank accounts there are certain amounts that have been designated for the following purposes:-

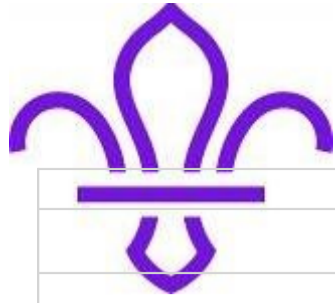
Camp Account	£ 5,200	money set aside from fundraising for ESU members to use against activities
Explorer Units	£18,164	includes £6,500 in deposits for the summer camp in France
District Events	£ 5,744	funds relate to District Camp, Fraser Shield, Sectional Events & Gang Show*
Reserves	£15,000	
Total	£44,108	

All other funds are unrestricted.

*£1,270 of the events account balance belongs to MH Girl Guides due to Gang Show being a 50/50 joint venture.

Eddie Harman
District Treasurer

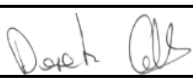





Financial Report

Receipts and payments accounts					
	For the period from	Period start date 1st April 2022	To	Period end date 31st March 2023	31st March 2022
Section A Receipts and payments					
	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donation	275			275	107
Badges	751			751	969
Fundraising	5,501			5,501	908
Membership Fees	43,452			43,452	38,948
Traffic Management	1,100			1,100	755
Miscellaneous	-			-	585
Interest	27			27	1
Trips & Activities	29,246			29,246	11,700
Fraser Shield	2,648			2,648	155
Gang Show	-			-	-
Gift Aid	520			520	581
Subs	4,524			4,524	3,184
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	88,044	-	-	88,044	57,895
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	88,044	-	-	88,044	57,895
A3 Payments					
Donation to Poppy Appeal	-			-	25
Badge Purchases	802			802	1,330
St Georges Day	-			-	133
Training & Leader Packs	1,852			1,852	720
Equipment	-			-	-
Equipment Maintenance	-			-	-
Gifts Comemorations	-			-	-
District Expenses	702			702	246
Insurance	1,683			1,683	42
Award Evening	642			642	801
Membership Fees	38,198			38,198	33,884
District OSM	1,935			1,935	1,625
Printing & Stationery	-			-	-
Room Hire	106			106	-
Branding & Media	562			562	490
Storage	-			-	100
Licences	246			246	225
Traffic Management	126			126	76
Fundraising Expenses	-			-	-
Trips & Activities	41,209			41,209	3,538
Fraser Shield Expenses	2,223			2,223	23
Jamboree Payment	3,333			3,333	1,000
Sub total	93,617	-	-	93,617	44,213
A4 Asset and investment purchases					
Camping Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	93,617	-	-	93,617	44,213
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 5,574	-	-	- 5,574	13,682
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	65,115	-	-	65,115	51,433
Cash funds this year end	59,541	-	-	59,541	65,115

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Accounts	59,541		
		-		
	Total cash funds	59,541	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets				
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities				
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name		Date of approval
		Derek Catt		25/04/2023
		Eddie Harman		25/04/2023



District Commissioner

What a fantastic year to end my ten years' service as Harborough's District Commissioner!

It began with our long awaited and biggest yet District Camp – Beau 2022 – with over 650 young people and adults at Beaudesert campsite in Cannock Chase. Having been originally planned for 2020 and delayed for two years because of the pandemic, it was great to finally go ahead. The weather was perfect and our extended planning didn't go to waste. I was particularly thrilled to get so many new adults there taking part. My thanks go to Phil Reed and Jo Baynes-Clarke who with me masterminded the whole thing and spent the week after catching up on sleep. Our young people clocked up several hours of adventurous activities and of course several nights away - that are such a vital part of scouting and missing during covid times.

Our census figures had bounced back to pre-covid levels last year so this January we steamed ahead - now with more young people and adults in the District than ever before. I take great pride in this achievement as it has been the main focus while I have been DC. In 2013 when I started, we had 496 Young People and 111 adults, total 597, and this year reached 854 YP and 231 adults, total of 1085. That's an 82% increase over the ten years! Of course, I can't really take all the credit because so much of it has been down to the GSLs getting more young people in existing sections and opening new ones but then, my other priority has been supporting the GSLs so maybe that has paid off. Much of the continued success of our District is down to our awesome team of Group Scout Leaders so I need to remind them how great they are and that they are doing the hard work!

What we've not been so good at recently is getting young people through Chief Scout Awards, especially at Explorer level. We have slightly increased the numbers of Bronze and Gold but slipped back on Silver, although we have had some Acorns for the first time. We've had no Queen's Scouts for the last three years and over the last five years only scraped a total of 6 Platinum, Diamond or Queen's Scout Awards. Whereas in the first half of my "reign", we clocked up 36. I hope this is something that gets back on track as we continue the post pandemic recovery and the Explorer programme is revised by The Association including the change to the King's Scout Award.

The numbers on waiting lists across the district continues to increase. Well done to Sam Arnold at Kibworth for increasing section sizes and reopening the second Troop to clear some of their waiters but mainly it's been 3, 4 and 5 year olds wanting to join Squirrels that have caused the increases. We have been working hard there too, with Welland Valley and 3rd Market Harborough opening Dreys in May





2022 and Glen and Bowdens set to open more at Easter 2023 and Kibworth and possibly Fleckney in September 2023.

Our Appointments Committee Welcome Meetings continued alternating between Zoom and face to face at Gartree Prison Visitors' Centre. Thanks to Phil Humphrey and Jo Baynes-Clarke for continually keeping on top of this, listening to feedback and making changes to improve the volunteer journey.

We have continued to work on our training compliance and having to close roles of those who do not update their training has become commonplace. Fortunately, most adults are very quick and conscientious, so we do not lose our top volunteers. Our Training Managers, Sue and Pete Dove have kept us on top by ensuring new volunteers and renewals complete compulsory training in a timely manner.

I recently completed several training and validation Zoom sessions for our adult volunteers and have been encouraged by their commitment to learning and development. Transformation – the changes being implemented to our movement - will shift responsibility for training from county to districts and providing we can find trainers, I am now thinking this could be a positive change.

The District Team have not been supporting sections in the way I would have liked or visualised, with the exception of Sally Gambles with Squirrels. Yan's and Sue's work commitments made it difficult for them to get to Beaver and Cub meetings. Ben has attended a few county meetings for the Scout section but couldn't make the one Zoom we arranged for district Scout Leaders. I did however spend much effort on planning and running Fraser Shield in 2022, with the help of Phil Reed, which paid off with record numbers taking part. It proved a great weekend not only for the Scouts but Leaders, enabling them to network with each other. We also arranged a District Dodgeball competition for Scouts and Explorers which was well attended and a great afternoon. Then in February, I masterminded the Swimming Gala, again with more participants than ever before and surprisingly finished earlier than ever before. Thanks in particular to the Dove family for doing all the bits (like judging) that I am truly hopeless at. I think it's OK for me to admit to such failings now as I pass the DC baton onto Paul Allenby. I have spent several hours with Paul imparting knowledge and experience. I am sure that Paul will shine through as DC as his aversion to admin won't let him get bogged down where I have been susceptible and in addition he is better at picking up the phone and sorting things here and now verbally. Sue Gardner resigned as ADC Cubs earlier this year and Paul has since recruited Hannah Dove and Jackie Freestone to the ADC Cub and Scout roles for his new District Team. This is great start and I am sure Paul will continue adding more adults to make an awesome team.

Our adult awards evening in January was a fantastic event. We recognised and thanked our Champion Scouters and awarded Commissioner's Commendations along with various National



Awards. Nominations were received from across all groups and sections, along with presentations of a Chief Scout Commendations for Laura Grist, Chris Winton, Nicola Lawtie, Aaron Shelton and Denise Firth and an Award for Merit for Chris Thompson. The citations explaining the commitment, dedication and achievements of these Champions made for awesome listening. As was the last surprise citation, for me, that Phil Reed and Jo Baynes-Clarke had managed to include without me knowing. Instead of a guest speaker, we ended the evening with tales from nine young adults who have come through Harborough Scouting explaining what it did for them – or rather what our adult volunteers did for them, with the aim of thanking them and inspiring them further. I certainly found it very emotional, not only because I had played a part in so many of their journeys but also realising what a truly amazing, capable and sincere, thankful bunch of responsible citizens we have turned out. They affirmed that here in Harborough we are fulfilling the purpose of Scouting by actively engaging and supporting young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

The most exciting project for me over the last year has been the new build Scout Centre on the Wellington Place (Airfield Farm) estate on the north side of Harborough. Curiously, this area is eligible to apply to the Youth Investment Fund for a share of their £368m available to build new premises to provide out of school provision for 11-18 year olds in levelling up areas. After convincing the County Council they should give the land allocated for a community building to Harborough Scouts for a new Scout Centre, we have set about applying for the grant. At present I am not convinced this will be forthcoming from the YIF (we are told we don't have enough time to complete the build!) but Alistair Helm, Derek Catt, Eric Gamble and I are not put off that easily and are arguing as well as looking at alternative funding sources. As we have the land, the Centre needs to, and will, become a reality, even if it takes a bit longer to achieve via other funding sources. So, while my DC role comes to an end, I am certainly going to stick with and see this project to fruition. There is something addictive and compulsive about such a legacy and I can see how similar circumstances drove Ted Mantle to build the 3rds HQ and Glen to build theirs.

So, to come to a close, not only for this annual report but my 10 years as your District Commissioner, I think maybe over this time, I have completed some of the longest scouting weeks of all our district volunteers, but it's been worth it. Worth it to know that all those young people have gained skills for life and personal development and are now the responsible empowered citizens we aimed for. It has been a privilege to serve as your DC. I have developed and improved my own skill set, gained a whole new family, had some amazing experiences, and made lasting memories and friendships. Thank you for the part you've played in our winning team. Let's keep on with these scouting successes. Over to you Paul!

Debbie Billington, District Commissioner



Squirrels

A year on from our opening the District's first Drey, Squirrels in Harborough is going from strength to strength. There are now four Dreys; Ash and Birch at Bowdens, Seaton at 3rd Market Harborough and Welland Valley. Between them they have over 60 Squirrels, 6 young leaders and around 20 adults.

Over the last year Squirrels sections have been very busy and some have made day visits to their group camps to get a taster of what is to come as they move up through the sections. In November, they all came together for the first time to have some swashbuckling fun at the District Pirate Day. Squirrels also took part in remembrance parades across the district.

The Bowdens Squirrels had an amazing trip to Gallones ice cream parlour and made their own ice cream, choosing the flavour and colour before putting it into the machine, they chose to have blue, strawberry flavoured ice cream – yummy! They were also visited by some cuddly (and some not so cuddly) creatures from Fudge and Co animal handlers. They were all very brave holding snakes, rats, tarantulas and even a skunk!

Seaton Squirrels have enjoyed getting to grips with some badges in order to move towards their Acorn awards and also celebrated Burns night with haggis, neeps and tatties. They are very much looking forward to expanding their numbers and gaining some new leaders very soon.

At Welland Valley the Squirrels enjoyed a trip to Farndon Fields Farm shop as part of their Super Chef badge. They learnt all about where their food comes from and had a tour around the shop.

In January, Squirrels across the country were given the go ahead to have nights away events. Although there are no District plans to take the Squirrels on any sleepovers, this does open up the opportunity for them to gain some nights away experience in the future,...watch this space!

Looking ahead, a new Drey will be opening at Great Glen after Easter, potentially followed by another one at Kibworth after the summer. All Dreys across the district will be involved in the St George's Day celebration and we have another District event in the pipeline for the end of June, where we plan to have a 'day camp' at the Sir John Lowther Centre.

Sally Gambles, ADC Squirrels



BEAVERS



Yet another challenging year for both the Leaders and the Beavers, as each colony continues to develop and build up their section from the previous years.

Lots of activities some old and some new have shown that our Beaver Sections offer what the youngsters need and want to enjoy the fun. Sleepovers were being held across a number of groups and some new leaders taking the decision to run a first sleepover too.

The year saw a few changes in leadership though but overall the continuation of existing leaders has helped the sections to build on the successes of last year.

We've kept up the number of Bronze awards being presented. This is despite new Beavers joining in 2021/2022 may not have had time to cover everything from lockdowns etc

Beavers across the district also attended the District camp at Beaudesert where fun galore was had by all, as well as St. George's Day celebrations and an attendance at this year's Remembrance.

In December the District organised 'Ye Olde Fayre' which was attended by 27 Beavers from 5 of the groups in the district. It was a day of fun and games, and at the end of the event the Beavers really had achieved their own motto of 'fun and friends' as they had met Beavers from other groups within the district.

I would like to thank all the Leaders and Helpers who without them Beavers could not happen. I would like also to welcome all the new members who have joined the Beaver community and wish them a happy time in the Beaver section.

We all look forward to an even better Beaver year ahead.

Yan Provins, District Assistant Commissioner (Poppa Beaver)





cubs

Having only very recently taken on this role, writing an annual report for Cubs has been somewhat of a challenge! I've definitely drawn the short straw.

What I can say is I am looking forward to getting stuck in across the District, meeting all the Cubs and amazing Cub leaders. So when you're short of an adult on a section night, are doing something exciting, or need some support with anything Cubs, drop me a line and I'll be there. I would really like to get some District Cub events off the ground so watch this space...

Hannah Dove, District Assistant Commissioner



SCOUTS

It was great to see Scouts bounce back after the trials of the pandemic, and to see how resilient all of the troops have been in some challenging times.

As all the restrictions were lifted, we saw just under 1600 Scout Nights Away, and 17 CSA Gold awards.

Also returning from one of it's rare (wars and pandemics only!) breaks of course was The Fraser Shield, with lots of teams of varying experience coming to have a go at Willesley Scout campsite, with Bowden To The Queen patrol emerging victorious.

Brilliant work by all the leaders across the District who have kept their troops engaged and prepared them to compete in the competition with very little time to practice recently. It will be great to see how they develop in the coming years.

Looking forward to an even closer competition this year and to lots of CSA Gold awards going forward.

On one final note, we are delighted that Jackie Taylor has agreed to step into the role of ADC Scouts, with Sue Dove joining her as a District Scout Leader. Both are continuing with their group roles as well, but Welcome to the District Team to both of them.

Ben Reed, Deputy DC / Acting ADC Scouts



EXPLORERS

Over the last 12 months, Explorer Scouting in the Harborough District has again continued to flourish and grow. Inclined ESU has successfully relaunched - with a number of leaders who are new to Explorers delivering an exciting and stimulating programme. Mad Hatters ESU thrives with its well-established team and numerous members and Lynx ESU – the Young Leader unit - has continued to support a number of our young people in their Scouting journey.

The rebirth of Inclined ESU at Foxton has been integral in ensuring that Explorers is open to as many of our 14 – 17-year-olds as possible and hopefully this is only the start of greater expansion. Although Explorers come from all parts of the District, there is a well-recognised need for an Explorer offering closer to Great Glen, Fleckney and Kibworth as distance can be a barrier for some potential members. Preparatory work is already starting to meet this need. Furthermore, as Market Harborough continues its expansion, it is the Explorer provision that is leading the push for a new base for Scouting on Wellington Place development.

The Explorers are always looking for new experiences and in March they finally found a location that suited them perfectly. A sleepover in the Kelvedon Secret Nuclear Bunker was educational, exceptional and eerie. However, sleeping in a bomb-proof bunker was not enough for them, they completed a gruelling assault course and mud run as their warmup activity on the Saturday afternoon.

The Explorer leadership team always support their members with achieving their Scouting and Duke of Edinburgh awards. Lynx ESU often gain new members who are keen to use Scouting as part of their volunteering element but often these young people stay on because of their experiences with our amazing scout groups and the support from Sue and Georgie.

Traditionally, the expedition section has been one of the great strengths of Explorers however changes to the age regulations (to accommodate schools) has meant that many new Explorers have already registered to complete the Bronze Expedition with their school. It is vital that as many children as possible get the opportunity to gain from the opportunities that an expedition offers, however the District Explorers are able to provide a more bespoke programme that allows a far greater level of independence with the planning and a more enriching and challenging experience. Bronze and Silver expeditions are already starting to be planned and, hopefully, as word spreads, numbers will increase.

2023 will be a big summer for the Explorers. As well as young people and adults from our District heading off to South Korea for the WSJ, there will also be over 20 of us heading to Rotterdam, The Netherlands. Explorers are always happiest when they are under canvas, and they will have plenty more opportunities over the next 12 months.

Toby Taylor, District Explorer Commissioner



network

While we've not had a Network Commissioner for the last 18 months, and the planned monthly meetings didn't seem to happen, there have been some amazing contributions from our Unit. Several Network attended Fraser Shield and helped with the judging. This is vital for succession planning as our long standing judges will not be with us forever!

Georgie Dove was chosen as part of the Association's team for the Queen's funeral arrangements, helping members of the public, especially those with disabilities, to access the Queen lying in state.

In December, as I mention earlier in my DC report, I contacted all Network and several more over 25s who have come through Harborough Scouting as youth members, to give an outline of what this has meant to them, to the Volunteers invited to our District Adult Awards evening. It was heartening to get nine of them to step forward and hear their thoughts.

Fred Cooper attended the regional iMoveIt weekend—to inspire younger adults take on more senior roles such as Youth Commissioner or even District Commissioner. More recently, two of our Network, Sam Arnold and Jack Sawford have been chosen to be part of the Gilwell team for the King's coronation in May.

Thank you Network!

Debbie Billington



Although I've only been in the Youth Commissioner role for a short time, I've already seen how well we are youth led within the District. In terms of young leaders, we had several attend a county young leader training weekend, the first since 2019. I have seen many young leaders using their experience and taking on organising and helping to run meetings. Allowing them to have an active role in section meetings and District events means our movement can continue to be designed by the young people who benefit from it. This has all been excellently supported by our Lynx Explorer Leader, Georgie Dove, who's put in a lot of time and effort to give great support to all our young leaders and ensure they all get the right training for their development.

This year thus far, I've already had the opportunity to attend Explorer meetings as well as host a Scout Forum for Scouts to voice their views on future activity and projects within the District. I'm looking to expand on this to ensure that our Young People get to have a say in what goes on and hopefully give those involved an opportunity to develop their own leadership and decision-making skills for the future.

My goal for the coming year is to really show Young People in all sections what impact they have in scouting and the opportunities that are out there for them. I'm passionate about getting our scouts to understand that the movement is made for them to enjoy and thus they have every opportunity to shape it. I'm looking to increase the number of section visits we do personally at a District level to engage with youth members to gauge what they want to see happen. I've always said, "Any idea's a good idea!" Although the Beaver that suggested to me that we play sleeping lions with real lions will probably be very disappointed when they don't see that at any District events.

These section visits will also allow our youth members to start to understand the great network of volunteers beyond their own leadership team who are all there to support them and give them the best experience in scouting as possible. With all of this, hopefully we will continue to have a youth shaped District.

Fred Cooper, Youth Commissioner



SAS (Scout Active Support)

This year the S A S. is still alive and working!

The Traffic Management Team have become a valuable asset to the District Team, supporting the Saint George's Day celebrations in the town and Armistice parades around the county. They are all up to date on their training to comply with regulations and are raring to go.

The Active Support Section is for any Adult who wants to get involved with District Scouting Activities, with or without a scouting appointment.

The last major District event was an activity camp at Beaudesert, near Cannock Chase, where some extra adult help was needed and found to be invaluable. Thanks to all you leaders, helpers and parents who made it work smoothly and by making it an exceptionally enjoyable weekend for all our young people.

So if you want to be part of a successful team contact me and I'll keep you informed about our next adventure!

Eric Gamble, SAS Manager

eric.gamble@harboroughscouts.org.uk







Do more.

We believe young people deserve the skills to succeed and a place to belong. That's why we offer fun, adventure and skills for life to over 450,000 young people aged 6-25 across the UK.

Bear

Bear Grylls, Chief Scout



Learn more.

Scouting prepares young people for the future. We help them do more, learn more by doing and be more. Scouting is young people discovering their potential and powering their future. Scouting is where the future is born.



Be more.

Scouts have become presidents, astronauts, entrepreneurs and pop stars. They have walked on the moon and won Olympic Gold. But they are also the teachers, social workers and volunteers – the people who make society work.

Volunteer at scouts.org.uk



Harborough District Scout Council

England & Wales - Charity number 521764

Accounts



Scouts

Harborough

Our Hybrid Year!

Harborough District Scouts
Annual General Meeting
2022



Agenda for Annual General Meeting

24 May 2022

1. Welcome by Chair
2. Apologies
3. Approval of minutes for 2021 AGM
4. Trustees' report
5. District Treasurer's report
6. Approval of Auditor
7. District Commissioner's report
8. DC's nomination for Chair
9. Election of District Secretary
10. Election of District Treasurer
11. Election of members to the District Executive
12. DC Nominations to the District Executive
13. Co-opted members for District Executive
14. Nominations to the County Scout Council



Welcome by Chair

Another year, an increase in youth membership and members meeting face to face once again. For many, the past two years have been difficult. Many of us have not seen family and friends as often as we would have liked, but looking back Scouting quickly adapted and the efforts have enabled us to be in a better position today. Some of those changes we will continue with as we have found new and better ways of working. Our challenge going forward is to capitalise and use this to our advantage.

Financially the District is in a good shape and continues to support Scouting within the District in many ways. We will continue to pay the sections' membership to OSM and give a further discount on the annual Capitation Fee. We have also agreed to support the District Camp at Beau this year with the biggest ever subsidy. Our strong finances have also allowed us to plan a supportive Budget for next year. Our thanks go to Eddie Harman and the Finance Sub Committee for this.

As most Groups purchase their badges from the County Shop, our District Shop was being used less and less. We took the decision to cease this facility. Our thanks go to Jean Webb, our Badge Secretary for running this for many years. Our District badge, which is being redesigned to reflect the new District name will continue to be available from her. All the Chief Scout Award badges will also be available and will be paid for and presented by the District.

The Appointment Sub Committee has continued to support new adult members with some meetings being held face to face. During the year Charlotta Hickie stood down as Chair and we welcomed Phil Humphrey into the role. Thank you to both of them.

I would like to finish by thanking your serving Executive Members, for their support and hard work throughout the year. Most of all to ALL who make Harborough District what it is and help provide active Scouting, work and grow each year. A tremendous Thank You.

Derek Catt,

District Chair

2021 AGM Minutes

**HARBOROUGH DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
18 May 2021 7.30pm
Online via Zoom**

Attendees

Debbie Billington , Derek Catt, Ruth Tallis, , Richard Brooks , Georgie Dove, Eric Gamble, Sue Gardner, Alistair Helm, Kate Helm, Phillip Humphrey, David Mugridge, Phillip Reed, James Ward, Hannah Dove, Elizabeth Cockbill, Pete Dove, Toby Taylor, Carol Black, Eddie Harman, Sue Dove, Ruth Hughes, Gary Duffin, Ruth Gibbs, Laura Grist, Isabella Anstee, Clive Wood, John Lacey, Ian Bartholomew, Rob White, Martin Pullen.

Apologies

Denise Canadine – Guides Divisional Commissioner, Graeme Reid , Jean Webb

Welcome by Chair

Derek Catt welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked people for attending a somewhat different style of AGM via Zoom video. He also extend a warm welcome to Richard Brookes - District President and Carol Black – County Commissioner

Approval of Minutes for 2020 AGM

Proposed – Phil Humphrey, 2nd – Eddie Harman – All in Favour

Trustees' Report

Derek summarised the report and encouraged people to read it.

District Treasurer's Report

Eddie Harman – highlighted various items on the report. Proposed – Eddie Harman , 2nd –Hannah Dove – All in favour

Approval of Auditor

It was proposed that we retain Graeme Reed as the examiner for the District accounts.

Proposed- Eddie Harman, 2nd – Eric Gamble – All in favour

District Commissioner's Report

Debbie Billington gave a verbal report on the activities over the last year and the challenges and focus for the coming year, full details available in the annual report.

Elections and Nominations

See table below.

County Representative

Carol Black – County Commissioner gave a big thank you to all attendees for the tremendous efforts that are being made during lockdown.

Meeting closed 20:00

Position	Nominee	Nominator	Seconder
District Chair	Derek Catt	Debbie Billington	
District Secretary	Ruth Tallis	Elizabeth Cockbill	Pete Dove
District Treasurer	Eddie Harman	Hannah Dove	Sue Gardner
Elected Members (up to 5)			
Elected Member	Jean Webb	Hannah Dove	Sam Buswell
Elected Member	Elizabeth Cockbill	Hannah Dove	Dave Mugridge
Elected Member	John Lacey	Debbie Billington	Eric Gamble
Elected Member	David Mugridge	Jean Webb	Pete Dove
Elected Member	Alistair Helm	Elizabeth Cockbill	Sue Gardner
DC Nomination (up to 5 or less if less Elected)			
DC Nomination	Sam Buswell	DC Nomination	Phil Humphrey
DC Nomination	Sue Gardner	DC Nomination	Eric Gamble
DC Nomination	Peter Dove		
Co-opted members (up to 5 or less if less Elected)			
Co-Opted Members	Phil Reed		
Ex-Officio members			
DC	Debbie Billington	DSNC	Calum Facer
DESC	Toby Taylor	Youth Commissioner	Hannah Dove
Nominations to the County Scout Council			
E-O DC	Debbie Billington	Youth Commissioner	Hannah Dove
Chairman	Derek Catt	Another	Eric Gamble
Secretary	Ruth Tallis	Another	Peter Dove
Treasurer	Eddie Harman	Another	Phil Reed



Trustees' Report

Harborough District Scout Council

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period 1 April 2021 to 31st March 2022

SECTION A REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity Name Harborough District Scout Council
Registered Charity Number 521764
Charity's Principal Address c/o Derek Catt, 62 Weir Road, Kibworth, Leicester LE8 0LP

List of Trustees

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Period Acted (if not whole year)	Method of Appointment
Deborah Billington	District Commissioner		Ex Officio
Derek Catt	Chair		Ex Officio
Edward Harman	Treasurer		Ex Officio
Ruth Tallis	Secretary		Ex Officio
Toby Taylor	District Explorer Commissioner		Ex Officio
Calum Facer	District Network Commissioner	To 31 Dec 2021	Ex Officio
Hannah Dove	Youth Commissioner	To 30 Sep 2021	Ex Officio
Alistair Helm			Elected
Diana Webb	Badge Secretary		Elected
John Lacey	Safety Officer		Elected
David Mugridge			Elected
Elizabeth Cockbill			Elected
Samuel Buswell		To 15 Nov 2021	Nominated
Eric Gamble			Nominated
Suzanne Gardner			Nominated
Peter Dove			Nominated
Philip Humphrey			Nominated
Philip Reed			Co-opted
Kyle Hewett	Youth Commissioner	From 24 Nov 2021	Ex-Officio
Katherine Rollason	Youth Commissioner	From 24 Nov 2021	Ex-Officio

SECTION B STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Description of the charity's trusts

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

Trustee selection methods

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

Management

The District is managed by the District Executive Committee, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout District 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 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Ex Officio officers, Elected, Nominated and Co-opted members. The District Executive meets usually 6 times each year.

This District Executive Committee exists to support the District Commissioner in meeting the responsibilities of the appointment and also to support the Executives of each of the Scout Groups within the District and is responsible for:-

- ▮ The maintenance of District property;
- ▮ The raising of funds and the administration of District finance;
- ▮ The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- ▮ District public occasions;
- ▮ Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- ▮ Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- ▮ Appointing District Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.
- ▮ Overseeing the correct running of the Groups within the District and providing support where needed.



Risk and Internal Control Section 1

The District Executive Committee has identified the major risks to which they believe the District is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

- Damage to buildings, property and equipment. The District would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from Scout Groups as appropriate. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with all Groups within the District and some other organisations. The District has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.
- Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The District through membership fees contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy and has additional cover for those not included within this. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.
- Reduced income from fund raising. The District is primarily reliant upon income from member fees and other fundraising. The District does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of member fees to increase the income to the District on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently or approach other organisations for grants or loans.
- Reduction or loss of leaders. The District is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the District. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular Group or the District as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a Group. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the District.
- Reduction or loss of members. The District provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 25. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular Group or the District as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the District.

Risk and Internal Control Section 2

The District has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss. The District also has comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

The responsibility for control of the finances falls collectively to the Executive Committee and they may be held responsible for any loss. As such we implement the following requirements:-

- A budget is set annually as soon as possible after the start of the financial year to give an indication of the level of income/ expenditure and thus what fundraising may be required. This budget is set by the Finance Sub Committee and is approved by the executive committee.
- All sectional events are self-financing and the event organiser must keep an accurate record of income and expenditure so that a balance sheet can be produced to demonstrate compliance.
- Any expenditure not included in the budget must be approved by the executive committee beforehand. No individual has the right to commit the use of any funds without this approval. This does not include reasonable personal expenses and occasional items below £25 in value.
- There is no pre-signing of cheques under any circumstances.
- All online banking transactions are set up and authorised by two people independently with their own secure login details.
- Wherever possible the person authorising an online payment or countersigning the cheque should compare it to an appropriate invoice.
- Bank statements are presented at all executive meetings with a brief review of all major transactions from the treasurer.
- An auditor (not necessarily professional) is appointed annually from outside of the District. This is done at the AGM preceding the financial year.
- The secretary or chair (not the treasurer) should invite the auditor to attend the AGM at the year end.

SECTION C OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

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

The objectives of the District are as a unit of the Scout Association. Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

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; and
- make and live by their Promise.



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

- The District supports the Groups within its boundaries to enable them to provide activities to achieve the Scouting aims.
- The District also runs Camps, Competitions and Activities for the various sections to achieve Scouting aims and in particular badges.
- The District interviews and arranges DBS checks on all Adults working in the District to ensure a safe environment for young people.
- The District Executive follows the safety policies and code of practice as laid down in the Association's Policies, Organisation and Rules.

SECTION D ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

- Dragon virtual camp which included St George's Day celebrations of the achievements of our youth members.
- Sectional and GSL support at 1st Welland Valley.
- Continued focus on TSA Skills for Life strategic plan and our corresponding action plan.
- Support and advice to Groups writing Covid Risk Assessments and also Session Risk Assessments.
- Adult awards evening to celebrate the achievements of our volunteers including National Awards.
- Online Scout Manager District Dashboard and Adults account with discount subscription for sections.
- Appointments Sub Committee meeting monthly with District inductions and completion of Module 2 training.
- Recruitment and induction of new Youth and Squirrel Commissioners.
- Support and advice to Groups to open Squirrel Dreys.
- Support and advice to Groups for safe return to face to face scouting.
- Volunteer training and support sessions through Zoom.
- Closure of the District Website shop and redirection of purchases to County Equipment Department.
- Member of the Harborough Lotto and income generated is being used to support the District.
- Planning of District Camp to Beaudesert 2022.

SECTION E FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy

The District's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the District should income and fundraising activities fall short. The District Executive Committee considers that the District should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, circa £5,000.

The District held reserves of approximately £7,800 against this at year end. This is within the limits set. Additionally a balance is held in a separate account for administration of the Explorer Scout Units. This is controlled by Harborough District Scouts but administered separately on a day to day basis for effective running of the units.

Investment Policy

The District's Income and Expenditure is very small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The District has therefore adopted a low risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

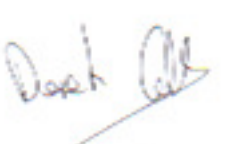
SECTION F OTHER INFORMATION

Plans for future

Continue to work on the objectives as set out in our #Skills for Life Action Plan.

SECTION G DECLARATION


The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above



Derek Catt

District Chair

01/05/2022



Deborah Billington

District Commissioner





Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of the Harborough District Scout Council for the year ended 31/03/2022

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 120 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Name: **Graeme Reid**

Relevant professional qualification or body: **ACCA**

Address: 22 Goldsmith Road, Braunstone Frith, Leicester LE3 1PT

Date: 21/04/2022

Signed:

Treasurer's Report

The year to March 2022 has been much more positive since the covid restrictions have been lifted. This has resulted in our youth membership increasing by 14.4% and brings our membership almost back to pre covid levels.

During 2021/22 there was a surplus of funds amounting to £13,683 (£9,720 surplus 2020/21) and the consolidated bank balance was £65,116. The majority of the surplus has arisen due to deposits being received for the district camp and Fraser Shield totalling £10,273 which will be spent in the next financial period. The remainder of the surplus was due to a significant proportion of the year under covid restrictions on face to face meetings.

With the surplus in the year the District are continuing to make funds available to the participants of major international events such as Eurojam and the World Jamboree and make funds available to subsidise district events if required.

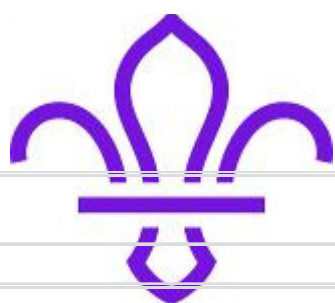
Within the various bank accounts there are certain amounts have been designated for the following purposes:-

Camp Account	£ 3,800	money set aside from fundraising for ESU members to use against activities
Explorer Units	£ 6,100	
District Events	£14,937	funds relate to District Camp, Fraser Shield & Gang Show*
Reserves	£13,000	
Jamboree	£ 1,500	
Total	£39,337	

All other funds are unrestricted.

*£1,270 of the events account balance belongs to MH Girl Guides due to Gang Show being a 50/50 joint venture.

Eddie Harman
District Treasurer

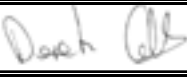



Financial Report

Receipts and payments accounts

	For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date	
		1st April 2021		31st March 2022	31st March 2021
Section A Receipts and payments					
	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donation	107			107	702
Badges	969			969	324
Fundraising	908			908	869
Membership Fees	38,948			38,948	36,738
Traffic Management	755			755	-
Miscellaneous	585			585	-
Interest	1			1	4
Trips & Activities	11,850			11,850	22
Fraser Shield	30			30	50
Gang Show	-			-	-
Gift Aid	581			581	1,164
Subs	3,184			3,184	4,629
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	57,920	-	-	57,920	44,402
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	57,920	-	-	57,920	44,402
A3 Payments					
Donations	25			25	25
Badge Purchases	1,330			1,330	506
St Georges Day	133			133	343
Training & Leader Packs	720			720	-
District Expenses	246			246	179
Insurance	42			42	903
Award Evening	801			801	350
Membership Fees	33,884			33,884	29,953
District OSM	1,625			1,625	1,548
Branding & Media	490			490	190
Storage	100			100	260
Licences	225			225	197
Traffic Management	76			76	-
Trips & Activities	3,538			3,538	227
Fraser Shield Expenses	1			1	-
Jamboree Payment	1,000			1,000	-
Sub total	44,237	-	-	44,237	34,682
A4 Asset and investment purchases					
	-	-	-	-	-
Camping Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	44,237	-	-	44,237	34,682
Net of receipts/(payments)	13,683	-	-	13,683	9,720
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	51,433	-	-	51,433	41,713
Cash funds this year end	65,116	-	-	65,116	51,433

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Accounts	65,116		
		-		
	Total cash funds	65,116	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets				
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets				
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				
	Badge Stocks	450		
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities				
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name		Date of approval
		Derek Catt		21/04/2022
		Eddie Harman		21/04/2022

District Commissioner

We started the year just as the third Lockdown to 29 March was lifted but with restrictions such as social distancing and masks still in place, most sections opted for meeting outside or via Zoom if the weather didn't play ball. It was at least a chance to get back to face to face scouting, although now a year on we are only just returning to that family feeling in sessions having spent so long telling young people to keep their distance.

While in 2020 we saw a drop of 13% (Leics 26%) in youth members and 8% (Leics 7%) in adult volunteers, we got back to almost pre-pandemic levels with corresponding 13% increase in youth members and 10% increase in adults to get to 1010 total membership for 2022. The bounce back has been across all sections with young people moving on and new beaver intakes. However, we still retain many older ones in sections who would normally have moved on where leadership issues necessitate and also to allow youth members to complete their Chief Scout Awards.

A big change this year has been the numbers on waiting lists across the District. It seems lockdowns have prompted parents to seek practical and outdoors activities for their offspring but sadly we have not had a corresponding increase in volunteers so struggle to accommodate any of the increase.

As a District we held various events through the year to support sections. Our virtual Dragon Camp was a weekend of fun activities for all sections with challenges and activities to complete at home as well as via Zoom including scheduled fencing, bingo, cook-a-long, Bangra dancing, keep fit, disco and campfire sessions. It ended with a final St George Zoom in place of our usual parade and gathering in the Welland Park Assembly Rooms. It was such a success with





over 420 individuals signed up we got to seven screens of devices on Zoom sessions and an amazing amount of interaction on Facebook with the activity challenges.

Our Appointments Committee sessions continued virtually until the start of 2022 when we selected to alternative monthly between face to face at Gartree Prison Visitors' Centre and Zoom. While Zoom makes it easier to get the panel and new volunteers to attend, I for one have not found it easy to recognise new volunteers in the flesh from first meetings on Zoom or even remember their names. We also took the opportunity to review our processes, renaming our interviews as a Welcome Meeting to better describe their intent and format. The real bonus this year has been having Jo Baynes-Clarke as our appointments Secretary. She has been a wiz at using our Gsuite functionality to keep everyone on the ball and accessing necessary documentation in a very GDPR compliant fashion. Jo is a breath, no actually more like two lung-fulls, of fresh air. Thanks so very much Jo.

We have continued to work on our training compliance and had to be fairly ruthless by closing roles for those who do not want to update their training. Our Training Managers Sue and Pete Dove have kept us on top by ensuring new members and renewals complete compulsory training in a timely manner.

I completed several training and validation Zooms for our adult volunteers and managed one Scout Leader meeting mostly to enthuse everyone about Fraser Shield. Its seems to have done the trick as we have record numbers attending later in June.

Sam Arnold continued his amazing start as GSL at 1st Kibworth and the group returned to face to face scouting in a very adequate headquarters. However, leadership shortages meant that the two scout sections were again reduced to one. Sam has secured additional leaders across the group but there has also been some significant resignations. We hope to be able to move back to six sections running in the coming year.

Sections made a come back in awarding Chief Scouts Awards, especially Golds for Scouts. Many Troops arranged Expedition Challenge opportunities which was the bit that was most impossible during lockdowns. While I wanted to prioritise getting our ADCs back out into section meetings supporting leaders to run exciting programmes and celebrating CSA achievements, the reality is that the team have not managed this due to their own personal circumstance.

With no Queen's Scouts, DofE Golds or even Chief Scout's Personal Awards over the last year I am looking forward to the year ahead and the potential for such achievements. Our community involvement should also pick up again and hopefully put us back in the public eye to positive effect.

Our adult awards evening in January was a fantastic evening. We recognised and thanked our Champion Scouters and awarded Commissioner's Commendations along with various National Awards. Nominations were received from across all

groups and sections, along with presentations of Chief Scout Commendations for Carol Bootheway, Catherine Hedgecote, John Abbott, Susan Fox, Hannah Dove, Rob Pyle and Sue Dove. The Award of Merit for Louise Diccio and Bar to the Award of Merit for Sue Gardner, Alistair Helm, Kate Helm and Toby Taylor and Bar to the Silver Acorn for Phil Reed. The citations explaining the commitment, dedication and achievements of these Champions made for awesome listening. I especially want to thank Phil Reed for his commitment to scouting in Harborough and all the support he gives to me. While the District Team has not been very active, Phil certainly has, including arranging and executing the celebrations for 1st Great Glen's centenary. We really enjoyed the social side of getting together on the evening and listening to tales from Ed Stafford of his Amazon adventure even if we did nearly freeze to death with having the windows open to maintain maximum (Covid safe) ventilation.

The Awards Evening was finally a chance for me to meet Ruth Tallis, our District Secretary. She has continued to keep us organised with meeting minutes and agendas albeit the Exec still meets via Zoom.

The District Website continues to work well as demonstrated by the number of join enquiries we receive. We took the decision earlier in the year to close our district badge shop as most groups and sections were buying stocks elsewhere (quicker and as cheap) and the additional admin headache was not justified by any noticeable income or service to the district. Its much better for us to concentrate our efforts where we can really add value.

As I look back now upon the year having just completed our Beau Camp, it seems most of it was taken up in the admin and preparation for this amazing event. Although it falls within next year for reporting purposes, it was the effort and preparation in this year mostly from Phil Reed, Jo Baynes-Clarke and myself that got us to delivering such a massive and fabulous weekend for 656. This was 45% more participants than originally estimated and possibly 45% more fun than we anticipated after an extra 2 years waiting and planning.

Much of the continued success of our district is down to our awesome team of Group Scout Leaders. I sometimes think I have the longest scouting week but quickly correct myself when I see them in action. I know that it is seeing the enjoyment and achievements of our young people that fuels their commitment. Thank you Team GSL.

I continue to be in awe of the hours, hard work and dedication of our adult volunteers. Week in, week out, locked in, locked out they are delivering sessions, activities and making scouting happen. They have again launched themselves into nights away and enjoying being back doing real scouting. It is humbling to be part of this winning team delivering more amazing scouting! Thank you.

Debbie Billington
District Commissioner



Squirrels

1st Bowdens Squirrels opened at the beginning of January and was the first Squirrel section in the district and second in the County. At first, we had 12 Squirrels (all joined from the existing Beavers waiting list) and 4 leaders (two of which were existing Beaver leaders). Within a couple of weeks, we recruited an extra leader and her Squirrel son plus a young leader. This brings the total number within the section to 13 Squirrels (3 girls & 10 boys), 5 leaders and 1 young leader.

The squirrels meet every Thursday for 45mins. Initially it was advised that meetings are approximately an hour long, but we are restricted by hut availability, work schedules of the leaders and suitable timings for the Squirrels. We have found that the meetings are jam packed but with this age group it works. As a leadership team we have learned very quickly to plan the right amount of activities for the time we have.

On the opening night we welcomed some special guests including Ed Stafford, DC Debbie and a reporter from the Harborough Mail. Since then, we have invested all 13 Squirrels, 3 new leaders and 1 young leader. The Squirrels have achieved some activity badges including: feel good; super chef; let's celebrate and have started working towards all their challenge badges meaning that those who will be leaving us at the end of the summer term are well on their way to achieving their Acorn Award. After trialing a few things at the beginning, we have now settled into a good routine with regards to the how the weekly

meetings run. We have had a very positive start with great support from the other sections within the group, our GSL Jo and DC Debbie.

Bowdens Squirrels have lots more planned for the summer term including a potential visit from the police as part of the Local Superheroes activity badge, donating food to the local foodbank as part of our community impact and a full afternoon of fun at East Carlton Park to complete the All about adventure challenge badge among other things.

As section leader I have been assigned to a 'cohort' (a group of other squirrel section leaders from across the country) and have been in touch with the 'cohort coach', who happens to live in Corby so is planning a visit to us after Easter. The idea behind the 'cohort' is that we all get together occasionally via zoom to share ideas or problems with each other and talk about how we are running our sections. As yet my cohort hasn't had a meeting, but this is arranged for April.

I have recently been appointed as the ADC for Squirrels and I am looking forward to helping other groups set up their new Squirrel sections. Chamaine from MH 3rds has already been to visit Bowdens Squirrels and Catherine from Welland Valley is due to visit before Easter. MH 3rds will be opening their squirrels after Easter followed by Welland Valley in May. Hopefully, we will see more groups opening Squirrels later in the year.

Sally Gambles, ADC Squirrels



BEAVERS



Yet another challenging year for both the leaders and the beavers themselves, as each colony started the return to normality where beavers could meet face to face allowing meetings to commence under strict guideline. Many sections chose to remain on Zoom whilst others braved meeting under the new Covid risk assessed rules. As the warmer weather came outdoor meetings became almost the new norm.

The year saw a change in many colony's leadership teams meaning even more challenges as they learn new skills themselves. The year saw a steady increase in Bronze awards being presented as leaders caught up with the programmes that were run during the previous year under Zoom meetings along with programmes created for the new year.

Beavers were seen during the District's Dragon camp via Zoom which was a challenging event in itself but equally created a lot of fun for the beavers who attended.

September saw a few groups organise Group camps which were well attended by the beaver sections and for the beavers themselves this was their first time on an overnight scouting event. November saw a 30th Celebration for 3rd Market Harborough Mallard Beavers

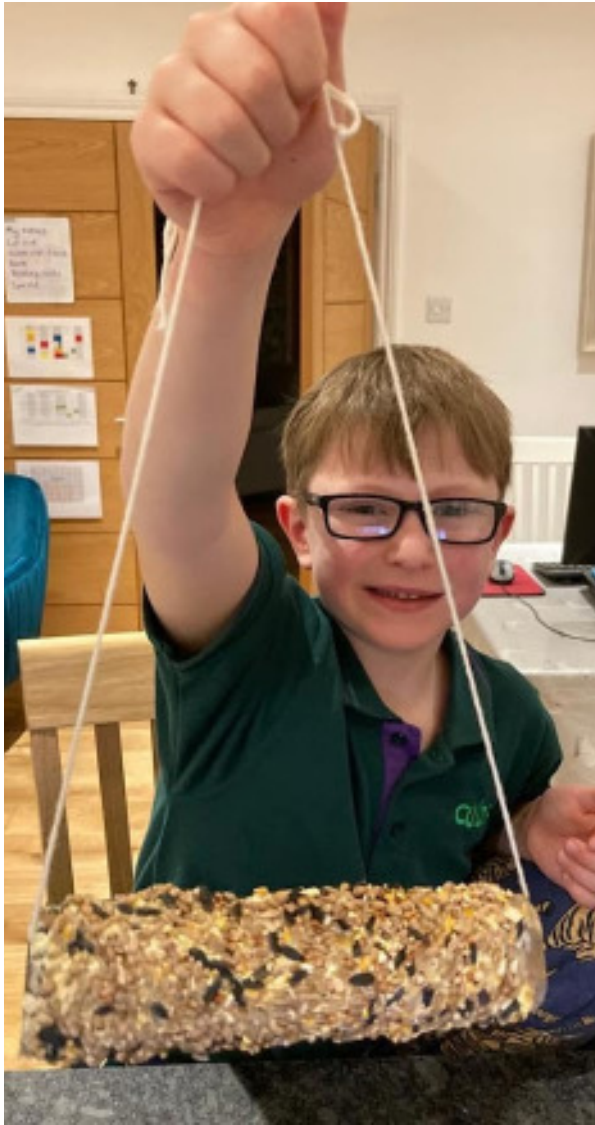
Late in the year saw Covid restrictions back in place so many colonies closed early for the Christmas break and returned via Zoom in the New Year. Eventually the Green for go button was pressed and Beavers could return to nearer normal which also resulted in more sleepovers.

During the year there were 56 Bronze awards presented which I think under the circumstances is a great achievement. Since the turn of the new year, we have had a few new nights away permits issued for beaver leaders for them to be able to organise their sleepovers.

I would like to thank all the leaders and helpers who without them Beavers could not have happened. I would like also to welcome all the new members who have joined the Beaver community and wish them a happy role in the Beaver section.

We all look forward to a much better beaver year.
Yan Provins, ADC Beavers (Poppa Beaver)





cubs

It's come around to that time of the year again when I reflect on what's happened in the world of Cubs in Harborough District.

It's great to be back to relatively normal Scouting. Packs throughout the district have been very busy doing a range of activities and working towards their Silver Chief Scout Award.

Thank you to those groups who have invited me along to present Chief Scout awards. It's amazing to see that the cubs have been working hard even through the difficulties Scouting has faced during the pandemic. Leaders, you have done a great job making Scouting fun and in supporting the cubs so they can achieve their goals in Scouting.



Great Glen had their Centenary anniversary this year and to celebrate had a Group camp weekend and invited some of the past leaders and scouts along with present leaders and Scouting friends from the District & County to join in. The weekend was a wonderful success, the weather was kind to us and the company both youth and adult was great.

Foxton cubs invited me along to a pack night where the theme for the evening was all about water, as in water pistols, water slides you know the sort of thing and a burger. At the end I presented a group of Cubs with their Silver Chief Scout Awards.

I have visited Fleckney at their camp at Foxcovert Campsite, a great time was being had by all three sections.

I've also been along to pack nights at 1st Market Harborough, 3rd Market Harborough and Bowdens as well as Glen giving out Silvers to the cubs and also meeting new leaders.

Thank you to Kibworth for inviting me along to their camp at John Lowther Camp site.

This year has seen a lot of changes in the leadership of the packs in the district. I would just like to say a very big thank you to all Cub leaders and helpers - without you putting in all your time, skill and help you give to your group and the district, our young people in Scouting couldn't do or achieve what they do.

Sue Gardner ADC Cubs



SCOUTS

One very pleasing outcome from the year has been the number of Gold Chief Scout Awards. Its actually only 11 completions where we usually have at least double that but the key point is that the reward requires at least 8 nights away and more importantly the completion of the Expedition Challenge. Leaders have gone over and above to facilitate this with adjustments to planning, routes and supervision to ensure enough of a challenge while remaining Covid safe and within the rules.

Phil Reed arranged tickets and a shake the shirt opportunity for families across the district to the Tigers vs London Irish match on 29 March but other than that there was no chance for district wide scout section activities and camps with most of the year locked into the need to keep to small groups and social distancing but we are very much focussed now on making up for it in the coming year.

Sam Buswell was caretaking the ADC role but more as hands on support at events which couldn't happen and he needed to step down in September as work commitments made it impossible to continue. I asked Ben Reed to step in but he has equally not been able to support the Section. Thank goodness for Phil Reed, who has already arranged a Dodgeball Competition for later in the year.

I arranged a Zoom for Scout Leaders mainly to discuss Fraser Shield planned for June. With not having run it for the last two years and so many changes to troop leadership teams it was an ideal opportunity to get everyone to grips with our camping competition. It looks like it did the trick as we have 86 scouts attending, the highest number since the centenary ten years ago. Its also great when Scout Leaders come together as they readily share their ideas and successes. It would be great to get one of you to step up to the ADC role and do this more often!

Debbie Billington



EXPLORERS

Over the last 12 months there has been a gradual return to normality for Explorer scouting in the Harborough District as youth members and leaders adjusted to the easing of restrictions.

The Hatters and Inclined have continued to meet jointly on a Thursday under the guidance of Tina, Laura and the rest of the leadership team. The programme has remained an eclectic mix of core scouting skills and stress busting activities. These have ranged from developing micro-navigation skills, route planning, expedition cooking and pioneering to bingo, the Easter Eggstravaganza and a mystery can cook.

The Lynx Young Leader Unit, inspirationally co-ordinated by Georgie and Sue, has continued to support a number of our young people in their Scouting journey. Our young leaders are not just the scout leaders of the future, they are already active in delivering great scouting across the district every week. As well as the leadership skills they develop while working along side the adult leaders, they are given further life skills opportunities such as the HSE compliant emergency first aid at work qualification.

The Explorers enjoyed their first (post pandemic) in-person camp in February, as the annual Winter Camp at Cold Ashby was resurrected. As is traditional, it was bitingly cold and fearsomely windy but wonderful to allow many of the younger members to camp out as an Explorer for the first time. Plans are already in place for a Summer Camp in August and a variety of Scouting and Duke of Edinburgh expedition dates are also pencilled in over the coming months.

As has become a welcome tradition, Harborough District will be well represented at the World Scout Jamboree with 4 youth participants forming part of the Leicestershire Unit who will be heading to South Korea in 2023. The fund-raising journey is underway for Christopher, Amelia, Ned and Rishan and I know they will be fantastic ambassadors for our District.

Finally, there is the exciting news that from September Inclined ESU will be re-starting to meet independently on a Monday night. In response to the burgeoning numbers of scouts who wish to progress through, a new leadership team of volunteers have willingly stepped forward and are already developing their plans. Their involvement will ensure that explorer scouting will continue to go on delivering experiences, memories and friendships that will endure a lifetime.

Toby Taylor, District Explorer Commissioner



network

Network continued but in a dormant phase throughout most of the year simply because it was difficult for these young adults to meet within the restrictions.

Calum is taking a new life direction with studies further afield and so stepped down from the Commissioner role. The year ahead is looking promising as Tina Taylor got several of the members together and they have committed to monthly meeting with various fun activities. I have also had a great response from Network to my request for help in running Fraser Shield this year. Thank you Network!

Debbie Billington



#You Shape

Many sections have started and some finished their Youth Shaped Award with extra care being taken to make sure young leaders are getting help completing theirs through the section they help out with and their explorer/young leader groups.

We are planning on getting more scouts to become young leaders by promoting the scheme and seen as a future (and fun) within scouting and not just something for DofE. The idea is to attend scout section meetings to explain about being a young leader, taking along either current young leaders or with video clips of young leaders explaining what they do and like about it. There are plans for young leader outings to laser tag for example so they get to meet each other and create links between them. This should also help to keep them long term and to become adult leaders at 18 as well as being an enticing reason for new young leaders to join.

We are working on evening meetings for young leaders to work on their awards and get further support. This will give us the chance to see if there's anything else they need as well as giving them a chance to feel more included, helped and heard. We've already established that they would like to be more involved with the planning and running of meetings which we have put to the adult leaders of their sections and we are already seeing improvements. Young leader feedback has shown that they're happier now from being able to help out more and are enjoying seeing things change for the better when they put forward a suggestion.

Katie Rollason, Youth Commissioner





SAS

(Scout Active Support)

This year the S A S. is still alive and working!

The Traffic Management Team have become a valuable asset to the District team, supporting the Saint George's Day celebrations and Remembrance in the town and around the County. They have all been retrained to comply with regulations and are raring to go now all restrictions have been raised.

The Active Support Section is for any Adult who wants to get involved with District Scouting Activities with or without a Scouting Appointment.

The last major District event was an activity Camp at Beaudesert near Cannock Chase, extra adult help was needed and found to be invaluable . Thanks to all you Leaders, helpers and parents who made it work smoothly and making it an exceptionally enjoyable weekend for all our Young people.

So if you want to be part of a successful team contact me and I'll keep you informed of our next adventure!

Eric Gamble, SAS Manager



Adult Training

Most people have managed to keep their training up to date. Please be aware if you change your roll you will need to complete/ revalidate some of your training. We have been concentrating on getting people through the start-up modules. We've even managed to sign off some Wood Badges!

The 'Getting Started' modules have been fully updated and are all easily accessible on line, members are rewarded with a PDF certificate once a module is completed.

Face to face training has begun to restart. There are already several modules that can accessed via the County website - leicestershirescouts.org.uk More are being added every week so it's worth keeping an eye on that.

We are always happy to answer any questions and help you with your training needs. Email - ltm@harboroughscouts.org.uk or call Sue on 07940 789276

Pete and Sue Dove, Local Training Managers





Scouts
Harborough

Do more.

We believe young people deserve the skills to succeed and a place to belong. That's why we offer fun, adventure and skills for life to over 450,000 young people aged 6-25 across the UK.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bear".

Bear Grylls, Chief Scout



Learn more.

Scouting prepares young people for the future. We help them do more, learn more by doing and be more. Scouting is young people discovering their potential and powering their future. Scouting is where the future is born.



Be more.

Scouts have become presidents, astronauts, entrepreneurs and pop stars. They have walked on the moon and won Olympic Gold. But they are also the teachers, social workers and volunteers – the people who make society work.

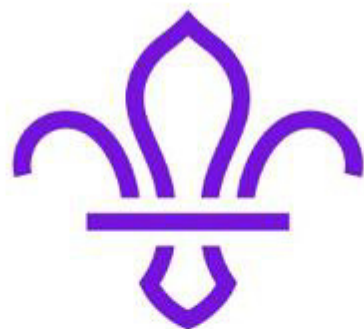
Volunteer at scouts.org.uk



Harborough District Scout Council

England & Wales - Charity number 521764

Accounts



Scouts

Harborough

Our Virtual Year!

Harborough District Scouts
Annual General Meeting
2021





Agenda for Annual General Meeting - 18 May 2021

1. Welcome by Chair
2. Apologies
3. Approval of minutes for 2020 AGM
4. Trustees' report
5. District Treasurer's report
6. Approval of Auditor
7. District Commissioner's report
8. DC's nomination for Chair
9. Election of District Secretary
10. Election of District Treasurer
11. Election of members to the District Executive
12. DC Nominations to the District Executive
13. Co-opted members for District Executive
14. Nominations to the County Scout Council



Welcome by Chair

Last year I began by saying that I was writing my report during the Covid 19 pandemic, at that time I never thought that I would be doing the same again this year. The time has been difficult for everyone and we have all learnt new skills, all be it different in type to those of the past. Zoom has become part of the 'norm', but Scouting has quickly adapted to the new normal and has continued to offer activities and contact with our Membership.

Your Executive has concentrated on ensuring that our finances are in good shape which you can see from the Treasurer's Report. We have made a trading surplus this year. We have been able to support the District by funding and by providing online activities. We have been able to continue this support by not increasing the District Capitation Fee, giving a discount from the Lottery and general funds and still provide everyone with membership to OSM (On Line Scout Manager).

Our budget going forward is conservative, in order to allow to provide support to any Group that may need it. This will be under constant review. I have to thank our Finance Sub-committee for their support and quick responses to requests.

The Appointment Sub - committee has quickly adapted to interviews conducted by Zoom and has worked throughout the year. Our thanks to Charlotta Hickie and her Team.

One of the main changes this year has been in our name, we are now known as Harborough District Scouts.

As I write this Report, Groups are planning and beginning to meet together, Face to Face with restrictions. Let us hope that this year will see us offering a near normal programme of activities for our young people.

My thanks go to all who have served on your Executive this year and for everyone who works hard to provide Scouting in Harborough District.

Thank You

Derek Catt

District Chair

2020 AGM Minutes

**HARBOROUGH DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
25 June 2020 7.30pm
Online via Zoom**

Attendees

Debbie Billington , Derek Catt, Ruth Tallis, Jo Baynes -Clark , Richard Brooks , Louise Dicicco, Georgie Dove, Eric Gamble, Sue Gardner, Alistair Helm, Kate Helm, Phillip Humphrey, Sue Lamont, Sarah Levy, David Mugridge, Milly Pinnock, Phillip Reed, Michael Thomas, James Ward, Jean Webb, Austen Mitchell, Rebecca Humphrey, Katrina Briggs, Hannah Dove, Sam Buswell, Tina Taylor, Elizabeth Cockbill, Pete Dove, Lucinda Andrews, Toby Taylor, Susan Fox, Carol Black, Sam Arnold, Iain Provins, Eddie Harman.

Apologies

Andrea Vick, Anna Mowsley, Ben Reed, Pauline Wells, Clive Wood, Vicky Richards.

Welcome by Chair

Derek Catt welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked people for attending a somewhat different style of AGM via Zoom video. He also extend a warm welcome to Richard Brookes - District President and Carol Black – County Commissioner

Approval of Minutes for 2019 AGM

Proposed by Eddie Harman, seconded by Pete Dove and All in favour.

Trustees' Report

Explained by Derek Catt from the AGM Report. Proposed by Iain Provins, seconded by James Ward, all in favour

District Treasurer's Report

Eddie Harman explained the figures in the AGM Report. Proposed by Iain Provins, seconded by James Ward, all in favour

Approval of Auditor

It was proposed that we retain Graham Reed as the District accounts auditor. Proposed by Iain Provins, seconded by James Ward, all in favour

District Commissioner's Report

Debbie Billington gave a verbal report on the activities over the last year and the challenges and focus for the coming year, full details available in the annual report.

Adoption of amended District Constitution

Derek explained the reasoning behind the proposed change to the quorum for District Exec meetings and the addition of being able to hold meetings and voting via online applications. Proposed by Eric Gamble, seconded by Phil Reed, all in favour.

Elections and Nominations

See table opposite

County Representative

Carol Black – County Commissioner gave a big thank you to all attendees for the tremendous efforts that are being made during lockdown. Carol also reported that TSA were publishing guidance with regards to face to face scouting resuming and the measure that groups will have to put in place. The responsibility will be on each group to carry out a risk assessment, submit it to district for approval before resuming face to face sessions. There will be a lot of support on TSA website which will be continually updated. Concern was raised by a leader that this was a lot of responsibility for a volunteer to undertake. Acknowledgement was given to this statement and both county and district will look to support groups



Position	Nominee	Nominator	Secunder
District Chair	Derek Catt	Debbie Billington	
District Secretary	Ruth Tallis	Elizabeth Cockbill	Pete Dove
District Treasurer	Eddie Harman	Hannah Dove	Sue Gardener
Elected Members (up to 5)			
Elected Member	Jean Webb	Hannah Dove	Sam Buswell
Elected Member	Elizabeth Cockbill	Hannah Dove	Dave Mugridge
Elected Member	John Lacey	Debbie Billington	Eric Gamble
Elected Member	David Mugridge	Jean Webb	Pete Dove
Elected Member	Alistair Helm	Elizabeth Cockbill	Sue Gardener
DC Nomination (up to 5 or less if less Elected)			
DC Nomination	Sam Buswell	DC Nomination	Matt Hughes
DC Nomination	Sue Gardner	DC Nomination	Eric Gamble
DC Nomination	Peter Dove		
Co-opted members (up to 5 or less if less Elected)			
Co-Opted Members	Phil Humphrey		
Ex-Officio members			
DC	Debbie Billington	DSNC	Calum Facer
DESC	Toby Taylor	Youth Commissioner	Hannah Dove
Nominations to the County Scout Council			
E-O DC	Debbie Billington	Youth Commissioner	Hannah Dove
Chairman	Derek Catt	Another	Eric Gamble
Secretary	Ruth Tallis	Another	Peter Dove
Treasurer	Eddie Harman	Another	Phil Reed

Risk and Internal Control Section 1

The District Executive Committee has identified the major risks to which they believe the District is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

- Damage to buildings, property and equipment. The District would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from Scout Groups as appropriate. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with all Groups within the District and some other organisations. The District has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.
- Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The District through membership fees contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy and has additional cover for those not included within this. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.
- Reduced income from fund raising. The District is primarily reliant upon income from member fees and other fundraising. The District does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of member fees to increase the income to the District on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently or approach other organisations for grants or loans.
- Reduction or loss of leaders. The District is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the District. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular Group or the District as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a Group. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the District.
- Reduction or loss of members. The District provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 25. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular Group or the District as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the District.

Risk and Internal Control Section 2

The District has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss. The District also has comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

The responsibility for control of the finances falls collectively to the Executive Committee and they may be held responsible for any loss. As such we implement the following requirements:-

- A budget is set annually as soon as possible after the start of the financial year to give an indication of the level of income/ expenditure and thus what fundraising may be required. This budget is set by the Finance Sub Committee and is approved by the executive committee.
- All sectional events are self-financing and the event organiser must keep an accurate record of income and expenditure so that a balance sheet can be produced to demonstrate compliance.
- Any expenditure not included in the budget must be approved by the executive committee beforehand. No individual has the right to commit the use of any funds without this approval. This does not include reasonable personal expenses and occasional items below £25 in value.
- There is no pre-signing of cheques under any circumstances.
- All online banking transactions are set up and authorised by two people independently with their own secure login details.
- Wherever possible the person authorising an online payment or countersigning the cheque should compare it to an appropriate invoice.
- Bank statements are presented at all executive meetings with a brief review of all major transactions from the treasurer.
- An auditor (not necessarily professional) is appointed annually from outside of the District. This is done at the AGM preceding the financial year.
- The secretary or chair (not the treasurer) should invite the auditor to attend the AGM at the year end.

SECTION C OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

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

The objectives of the District are as a unit of the Scout Association. Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

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; and
- make and live by their Promise.

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

- The District supports the Groups within its boundaries to enable them to provide activities to achieve the Scouting aims.
- The District also runs Camps, Competitions and Activities for the various sections to achieve Scouting aims and in particular badges.
- The District interviews and carries out DBS checks on all Adults working in the District to ensure a safe environment for young people.
- The District Executive follows the safety policies and code of practice as laid down in the Association's Policies, Organisation and Rules.



SECTION D ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

- Review of District GDPR policy and practices
- Application and set up of GSuite for non profits and migration of emails to gmail.
- Application and set up of Microsoft 365 for charities.
- District Virtual Campfire
- District Poppa Beaver Challenge afternoon by Zoom.
- Dragon virtual camp which included St George's Day celebrations of the achievements of our youth members.
- Sectional and GSL support at 1st Welland Valley.
- Sectional support at 1st Kibworth to reopen Polars Bears Troop and Executive support.
- Continued focus on TSA Skills for Life strategic plan and our corresponding action plan.
- Adult awards evening to celebrate the achievements of our volunteers including National Awards.
- Online Scout Manager District Dashboard and Adults account with discount subscription for sections.
- Appointments Sub Committee meeting monthly with District inductions and completion of Module 2 training.
- Recruitment and induction of new District Secretary and GSL for Kibworth.
- Adult recruitment through VAL.
- Volunteer training and support sessions through Zoom.
- Revamp of the District Website.
- Member of the Harborough Lotto and income generated is being used to support the District.
- Postponement of District Camp to Beaudesert until 2022.

SECTION E FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy

The District's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the District should income and fundraising activities fall short. The District Executive Committee considers that the District should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, circa £5,000.

The District held reserves of approximately £9,000 against this at year end. This is within the limits set. Additionally a balance of £3,000 is held in a separate account for administration of the Explorer Scout Units. This is controlled by Harborough District Scouts but administered separately on a day to day basis for effective running of the units.

Investment Policy

The District's Income and Expenditure is very small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The District has therefore adopted a low risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

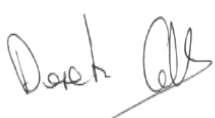
SECTION F OTHER INFORMATION

Plans for future

Continue to work on the objectives as set out in our #Skills for Life Action Plan.

SECTION G DECLARATION


The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above



Derek Catt

District Chair

01/05/2021



Deborah Billington

District Commissioner





Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of the Harborough District Scout Council for the year ended 31/03/2021

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 120 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Name: **Graeme Reid**

Relevant professional qualification or body: **ACCA**

Address: 22 Goldsmith Road, Braunstone Frith, Leicester LE3 1PT

Date: 19/04/2021

Signed: 

Treasurer's Report

The year to March 2021 has proved challenging especially with the continued restrictions on face to face meetings, which was the main factor in our youth membership reducing by around 12.5%.

During 2020/21 there was a surplus of funds amounting to £9,720 (£2,978 deficit 2019/20) and the consolidated bank balance was £51,433. The surplus has arisen due to the district funded activities not being able to take place.

Although there is a surplus in the year the District are still planning to have some funds available to the participants of Eurojam and the next World Jamboree. In the next financial year as things start to return to normal we will be looking at how we can emerge from Covid stronger and continue to have robust finances.

Within the various bank accounts there are certain amounts have been designated for the following purposes:-

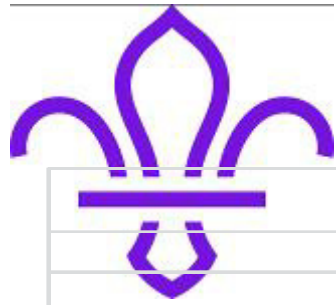
Camp Account	£ 4,092	money set aside from fundraising for ESU members to use against activities
Explorer Units	£ 6,240	
District Events	£ 4,664	funds relate to District Camp, Fraser Shield & Gang Show*
Reserves	£12,000	
Jamboree	£ 1,500	
Total	£28,496	

All other funds are unrestricted.

*£1,270 of the events account balance belongs to MH Girl Guides due to Gang Show being a 50/50 joint venture.

Eddie Harman
District Treasurer







Financial Report

Receipts and payments accounts

	For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date	
		1st April 2020		31st March 2021	31st March 2020
Section A Receipts and payments					
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donation	702			702	226
Badges	324			324	1,444
Fundraising	869			869	4,785
Membership Fees	36,738			36,738	31,706
Traffic Management	-			-	1,200
Miscellaneous	-			-	-
Interest	4			4	7
Trips & Activities	22			22	6,868
Fraser Shield	50			50	1,790
Gang Show	-			-	-
Gift Aid	1,164			1,164	925
Subs	4,629			4,629	4,989
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	44,402	-	-	44,402	53,939
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	44,402	-	-	44,402	53,939
A3 Payments					
Donations	25			25	225
Badge Purchases	506			506	1,293
St Georges Day	343			343	472
Training & Leader Packs	-			-	760
Equipment	-			-	-
Equipment Maintenance	-			-	197
Gifts Comemorations	-			-	25
District Expenses	179			179	851
Insurance	903			903	873
Award Evening	350			350	586
Membership Fees	29,953			29,953	28,648
District OSM	1,548			1,548	1,355
Printing & Stationery	-			-	43
Room Hire	-			-	268
Branding & Media	190			190	1,146
Storage	260			260	390
Licences	197			197	192
Traffic Management	-			-	-
Fundraising Expenses	-			-	133
Trips & Activities	227			227	18,068
Fraser Shield Expenses	-			-	1,392
Jamboree Payment	-			-	-
Sub total	34,682	-	-	34,682	56,917
A4 Asset and investment purchases					
	-	-	-	-	-
Camping Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	34,682	-	-	34,682	56,917
Net of receipts/(payments)	9,720	-	-	9,720	- 2,978
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	41,713	-	-	41,713	44,691
Cash funds this year end	51,433	-	-	51,433	41,713

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Accounts	51,433		
		-		
	Total cash funds	51,433	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Details			
B2 Other monetary assets				
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets				
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				
	Badge Stocks	650		
		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities				
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name		Date of approval
		Derek Catt		22/04/2021
		Eddie Harman		22/04/2021



District Commissioner

We started the year in Lockdown, which for us in Leicestershire meant no face to face scouting from 23 March 2020 through to the beginning of September. Most groups provided some sort of programme at home during that time to at least some of their members with some sections holding virtual meetings on Zoom.

Six of our eight groups and the Explorers restarted face to face (f2f) in September which generally included most of their sections but it was short lived with the second Lockdown starting in November. While sections could return to face to face in December, we took a collective decision not to and felt justified in doing so with the third Lockdown from 4 January through to 29 March 2021. Groups offered more structured programmes at home having built on their experience and skills in previous months. The range of Zoom sessions on offer was diverse and exciting with things like magicians, space workshops, escape rooms, live lambing and cook-a-longs. 1st Foxton and 1st Great Glen must be congratulated on their particularly engaging Zooms and the number of young people who participated.

The pandemic was obviously going to impact on our youth numbers for the census but overall we fared very well, better than the county and national averages, with a dip of 13% (Leics 26%) in young people and 8% (Leics 7%) in adult volunteers. The biggest loss was from beaver sections, or rather it was not so much of a loss as groups finding it impossible and inappropriate to welcome in new 6 year olds while restricted to virtual scouting or a maximum of 15 young people when face to face. Explorers and Network saw relatively big losses. In contrast 1st Foxton and 1st Kibworth both increased their cub numbers and 1st Foxton, 1st Bowdens, 1st Fleckney and 1st Welland Valley all increased their Troop numbers. In fact special mention must go to 1st Foxton who actually saw an increase in youth membership. This is a fantastic result and testament to their amazing virtual and f2f programmes which has attracted young people.

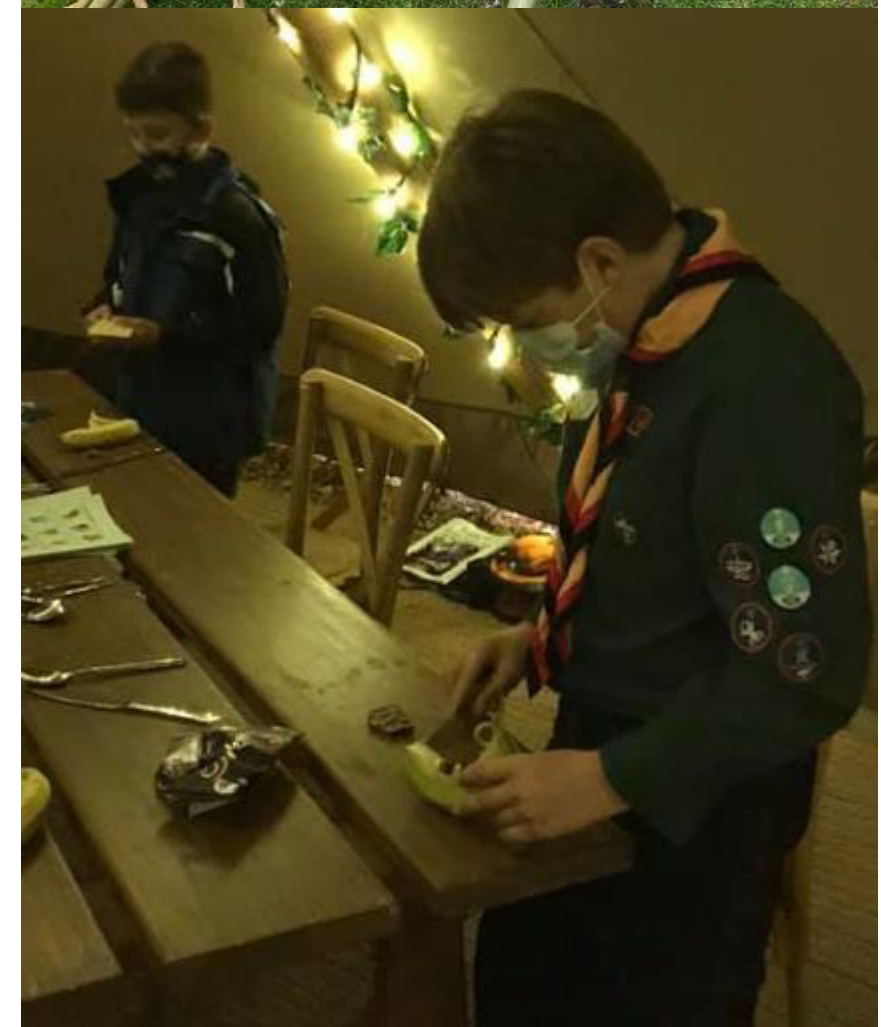
As a District we held various events through the year to support sections. Our St George's Day 2020 was a short celebration hosted by Hannah Dove and Sam Buswell and live streamed on Facebook. Despite connection and signal issues it demonstrated just what was possible in the new Lockdown world.

Our Campfire 666 at the beginning of June and hosted by Ian Mackintosh now with Cheshire Scouts, saw young people from all sections join together with a song book to sing along with solo performers.

Poppa Beaver's Challenge afternoon in October had beavers making amplit fudge, completing a world quiz and tracking Poppa through Welland Park on his bike!

The real virtual masterpiece must be Dragon Camp which included our 2021 St George celebrations so technically should feature in next year's report but it was such a success it would be amiss not to mention here. With over 420 individuals signed up we got to seven screens of devices on Zoom sessions and an amazing amount of interaction on Facebook with the activity challenges.

Our Appointments Committee sessions went virtual almost immediately with the first Lockdown. It would seem this is one positive outcome from the pandemic in that it has been easier to get the panel and new volunteers to attend via Zoom from home as there is no need for travel or even a baby sitter. Using





breakout rooms we have been able to get volunteers through the Induction, Training and Interview sessions. But I am looking forward to meeting them in real life in the coming months.

The opportunity to return to face to face scouting in September also gave an opportunity to bring our training compliance right up to scratch as Covid Risk Assessment Approval is only granted where all adults at the group are compliant. Having achieved this compliance in September, our Training Managers Sue and Pete Dove are able to keep us on top by ensuring new members and renewals complete compulsory training in a timely manner.

I arranged several Zoom training sessions for our adult volunteers to help with the ever changing skill set needed as a scouter. These included Zooming Marvellous about how to use Zoom – which all Groups were entitled to and took up the free licence available via TSA. The session on writing Risk Assessments helped adults prepare firstly for Covid safe restarts of face to face sessions but also for all session activities following the introduction of written activity risk assessments as a new requirement from Gilwell.

Despite Lockdown, the pressure of youth members needing to move on between sections meant the planned re-opening of 1st Kibworth's second scout troop Polar Bears, went ahead. It facilitated existing cubs and beavers moving on as well as 30 or so young people on the waiting list, mostly cub or scout age, could join the group. The reality was not all did and a shortage of leaders as well as the deteriorating condition of their HQ meant f2f meetings were not possible and virtual sessions a struggle. Sam Arnold the newly appointed GSL, co-ordinated the membership moves and recruiting of new leaders. On top of that, Sam spent many hours getting the HQ back up to meeting standard. He has made a stunning start as a manager and was rightly recognised for this at our Award Awards Evening.

With the decrease in youth membership but mainly the inability to meet f2f, many sections struggled to achieve as many Chief Scouts Awards. Programmes and Badges at Home through OSM helped a little but I expect there to be some catch up in the coming year, at least back to where we were. Our District priority will be getting our ADCs back out into section meetings supporting leaders to run exciting programmes and celebrating CSA achievements.

Although there were no Queen's Scouts this year we did have one Network finally achieve his DofE Gold Award. And a first for the district was a Chief Scout's Personal Award for Hugo Anderson, a cub from Welland Valley who stayed calm and followed instructions carefully when his father was set alight in their garden workshop. Hugo has also been named as one of Bear Grylls' Unsung Heroes of 2021 and awarded £500 for his actions.

Much of the community involvement which has been a staple within section programmes had to stop with Lockdowns but several groups got involved with the county Mucky March campaign which saw youth members litter picking with their families in their local communities and taking action to spread the message to keep it clean. 1st Bowdens also managed to help plant 100s of trees with a local town scheme.

Our adult awards evening in January was a way of recognising and thanking our Champion Scouters and awarding of Commissioner's Commendations. Nominations were received from across all groups and sections, along with presentations of a Chief Scout Commendation for Sharon McCarthy and Silver Acorn for Vicki Fortnum. The citations explaining the commitment, dedication and achievements of these Champions made for awesome listening. The evening was held via Zoom and ended with a truly amazing magic show from Nick Einhorn. While we missed the social nature of getting together for a meal, the fact that so many more members could be involved in the evening, especially families was a bonus.

During the first Lockdown, there was a rush nationally to volunteer to help with the crisis and we were fortunate to recruit Ruth Tallis as our new District Secretary. Ruth has been fantastic in taking minutes and sending out agendas for our Exec meetings. But more than that, she led the review of our GDPR policies and practices and managing the document library and

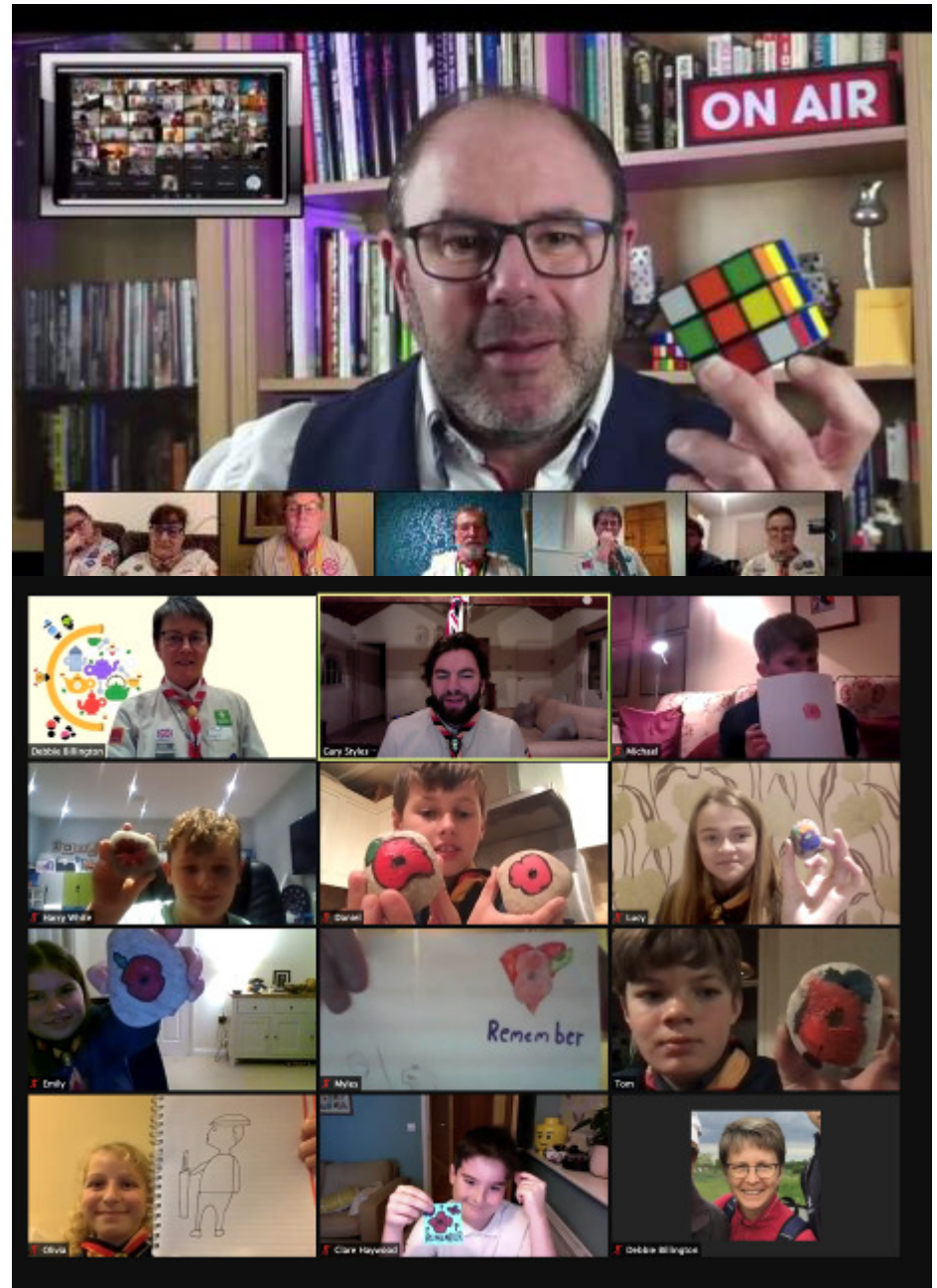
is helping to set us up on Microsoft 365 charities version. I am looking forward to meeting Ruth in person hopefully soon!

We have made strides in other tech areas too with our new District Website. It is acting as the sign post to groups that we needed and most importantly has a working Join function. In fact, in the last few weeks with the April return to f2f scouting we have seen a burst of join enquiries from all ages. We have migrated our emails to Gmail and are setting up GSuite for Non Profits to allow for (GDPR compliant) document sharing across the District Teams.

Much of the continued success of our district is down to our awesome team of Group Scout Leaders. I sometimes think I have the longest scouting week but quickly correct myself when I see them in action. I know that it is seeing the enjoyment and fulfilment of our young people that fuels their commitment.

I continue to be in awe of the hours, hard work and dedication of our adult volunteers. Week in, week out, locked in, locked out they are delivering sessions and activities. I know they can't wait to get back to nights away. We have a winning team of volunteers and it is humbling to be part of them having delivered this year of amazing, mainly virtual ,scouting! Thank you.

Debbie Billington
District Commissioner





BEAVERS

Fun and friends

A new challenge for Beavers since the Pandemic struck last year – as face to face meetings were stopped altogether a new way in keeping in contact with the beavers was needed.

First by facebook then something new for nearly all leaders including myself – Zoom. Although it was slow to take off but eventually nearly all sections started to use Zoom from May onwards – some held weekly meetings some held a meeting every other week. The program for Beavers required adapting to suit the methodology – especially as no adventurous events were allowed such as sleepovers. The use of outside sources to provide not just educational but entertainment to the beavers was used widely as the aim was to try and keep the contact going rather than to provide a full program.

April saw the district organise a virtual St.George's Day event where some beavers took part in the event. Some beavers took part in the nationally organised Camp @Home.

In September the District organised an event called Poppa Beaver challenge which provided some activities via Zoom such as scavenger hunt , armpit fudge, world landmarks, Poppa Beavers challenge by cycle – still catching my breath on this one. 17 Beavers from 8 colonies attended and all had such great fun.

During the end of 2020 face to face in limitation re-started and a few colonies started to meet, however almost immediately the colonies were back to Zoom meetings only. No section has been forced to go back to face to face and it is entirely down the leaders' decision.

During the last year I have been invited to go onto the beaver meetings whereby I presented – remotely – a few bronze awards. With the new challenges of non face to face the number of bronze awards have decreased since before the pandemic.

As we turned into the new year and further continuation of Zoom meetings, concern was raised about the loss of members. The numbers loss within the beaver sections throughout the district was much lower than expected – for this we owe a great deal of thanks to all the leaders and their assistants who rose to the new challenges and provided something for the children to keep the interest in scouting going.

As we approach the next few months and the vaccinations get well underway, beaver colonies start to look at how they can re-start meeting face to face once again.

We all look forward to the future when the restrictions can be lifted to allow the sections to start to go back on sleepovers again.

Thanks for everyone's support over this difficult year not just the leaders but the parents as well.

Yan
ADC Beavers
(Poppa Beaver)



cubs

2020 was a very different year in scouting. The pandemic saw face to face scouting being cancelled and we went on line for meetings via Zoom.

Leaders added a new skill to their other scouting skills and transferred the cub program from a regular weekly meeting down at the scout hut to Zoom.

Leaders magnificently adapted to carrying out pack meetings via Zoom. The activities have been varied covering many things that would have been done at a normal pack meeting. Quizzes on many different topics, paper plane making, cooking, guest speakers, sleepovers and group camps have all taken place via zoom.

Also I have had the honour of presenting some Silver Chief Scout Awards via Zoom.

I would like to say a very big Thank You to all Harborough District Cub leaders, helpers and parents who have supported their groups and the district during this very different scouting year.

Looking forward to going back to normal pack meetings soon.

Sue Gardner

ADC Cubs

SCOUTS

It is safe to say that this year has been a tough one for most of us in Scouting and with restrictions being the way they have, we have had to adapt our usual meetings to be online. I am happy to say that for the majority this has been a success with many Scout Sections managing to keep their young people engaged online. It has been great to see so many new ideas and ways to keep our Scouts earning their top awards through this challenging time.

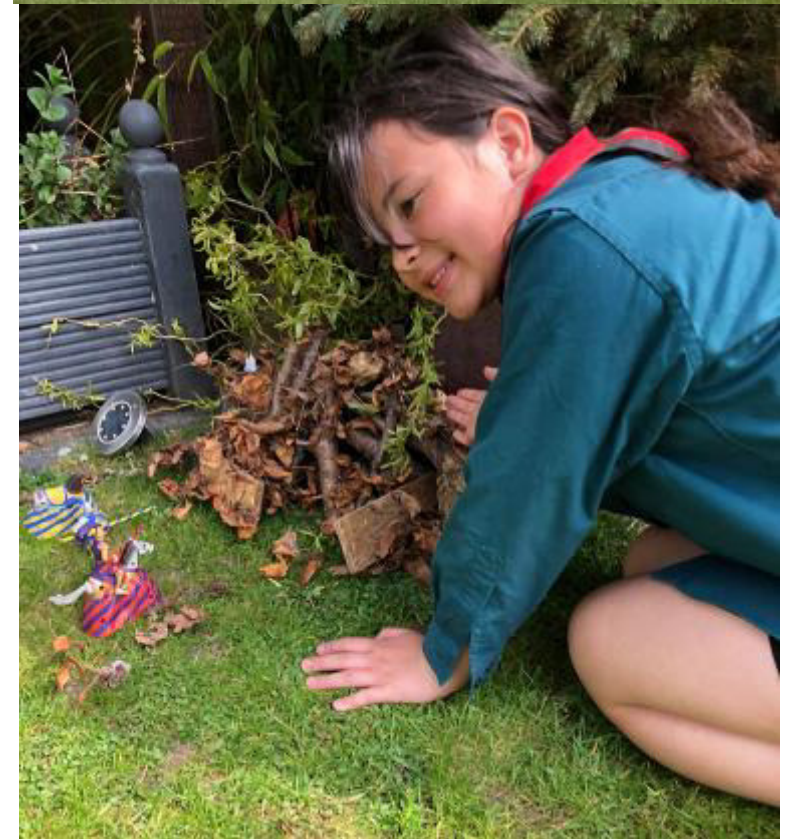
Due to work commitments through the lockdowns, we have not had a Scout Leaders meeting for a while, but worry not, I have been working on ideas in the background ready for when we can resume to carry on (as close as we can) to before.

Many groups have hosted camps at home, and it has been a great thing to see the success of these and their impact on not only helping achieve the top awards but also helping young people's mental health by giving them a space to be themselves and interact with many others.

It was great to see so many faces from across the District join in on our Dragon Camp event and we hope that all who participated enjoyed themselves and managed to tick off plenty towards their CSA Gold.

All in all, despite the uncertainty of the past twelve months, we have all managed to take up the challenge and to keep Scouting great.

Sam Buswell
ADC Scouts



EXPLORERS



Over the last 12 months, the challenge has been keeping the Explorer Scouting flame alive during the ever-changing restrictions imposed by the pandemic. Fortunately, the District leadership team have embraced the challenge and worked hard to continue to provide an engaging and entertaining experience.

The District's two main units, Mad Hatters ESU and Inclined ESU joined to deliver weekly meetings via Zoom and although numbers were lower than face to face meetings, a hard core of committed Explorers have got involved and enjoyed a range of experiences.

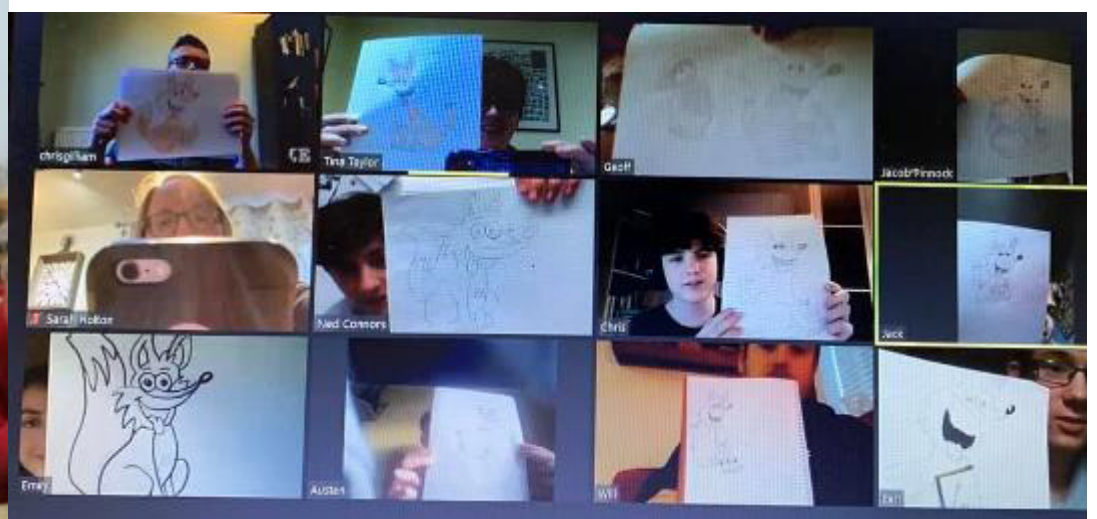
The Explorers are always regular campers and it was no surprise that being in lock-down was to prove no barrier to gaining more nights under canvas. Admittedly, Gilwell 24, twenty four hours of activity, zero hours sleep was trickier with just WhatsApp communications for company but from solving a murder mystery at midnight to 6am Zumba, the activities kept coming. Other camps included creating your own spot the difference images, often involving pets and siblings, campfires that ranged from towering bonfires to birthday candles and such creativity with cooking that camp foods may never be the same again.

It has been pleasing that it has not just been existing explorers who have been getting involved, a number of new members have joined over the last 12 months. It is to the credit of everyone involved that they have fitted in and become established despite for the majority of their time they have had to scout remotely. Conversely, one of the sadder parts of the last year has been those explorers who have hit 18 and had to move on to pastures new. Each individual makes their own special mark and while it is always with a mixture of pride and sadness that they go, it has been harder to say farewell over the last 12 months.

Now we are looking to the future with renewed hope and excitement. The resumption of joint district face to face meetings has inspired and reinvigorated explorers and leaders alike. Numbers have swelled as older members have left their hibernation to return to action and younger members have continued to join the fun. The determination of the leadership team to ensure socially distanced scouting is still socially enjoyable has been matched by the amazing attitude of the explorers themselves. The sight of over 30 teenagers line dancing to Achy Breaky Heart on a Thursday evening in Welland Park will linger long in my memory.

There will be further challenges ahead. As numbers continue to grow, we will need to split into the two units again in September, which will require new leadership support. There are still questions about when we can start to offer expeditions and a longing to camp somewhere other than our living room or garden. However, as the last 12 months have shown, explorer scouting will always go on delivering experiences, memories and friendships that will endure a life time.

Toby Taylor
District Explorer Commissioner



network

Not much has happened in network between April 2020 and April 2021. Covid has impacted significantly on any possible meetings. We've had a few members get to the age where they've left us. We've had quite a few new sign ups the last couple of months especially. Things going forward for 2021 and onward is getting a regular program set up with a planning meeting to be established in June.

Calum Facer
District Scout Network Commissioner



#YouShape



There is not much to report this year. We are still waiting for the release of the new You Shape award, national have still not confirmed when this will be. However, the steady flow of CSAs that are being achieved across the district gives me confidence that good youth shaped scouting is taking place, as this is on the teamwork badge for most sections.

Remember youth shaped scouting can be easy, when running virtual camps take note of activities that young people engage the best with. These are the activities that they enjoy and you can run again at face to face camps. If you need any inspiration for your log chews, pack forums or troop forums, let me know and I can always pay your section a visit.

Hannah Dove
Youth Commissioner

Activities

A strange year from a district activities perspective with so many cancelled and postponed events. It has been fantastic to see all the virtual events that groups have been putting on, with many that will hopefully live on as activities long after these challenges have passed. The year was finished with the fantastic Dragon Camp. Attending this as a Beaver parent myself for the first time, the event was absolutely brilliant, and huge congratulations to all of the team that coordinated activities or presented session, and I hope all of the young people around the district enjoyed it as much as my son did.

As we look into the coming year, with face to face Scouting now back, and hopefully camps possible again in the not too distant future, we will be picking up the planning for our District Camp for next year, so keep an eye out for initial details coming out before the end of the summer term.

A huge well done to all of the leaders for keeping the young people engaged during this challenging time, and here's to some more 'normal' Scouting in the year to come.

Ben Reed
Deputy District Commissioner





SAS

(Scout Active Support)

The S A S. is still alive and keeping safe!

Although Face to Face Scouting is not fully operational most SAS members have been helping with "Zoom" meetings and "online" stuff. We can't wait to get out in the fresh air Camping, Marching and doing "Real" stuff to help Scouting run smoothly!

The Active Support Section is for any Adult who wants to get involved with District Scouting Activities with or without a Scouting Appointment.

The next major District event will be an activity Camp at Beaudesert near Cannock Chase, recently cancelled in 2020, the site has been held over 'til 2022.

The Site is booked for May 1st - 3rd 2022

So if you want to be part of a successful team contact me and I'll keep you informed of our next adventure!

Eric Gamble
SAS Manager



Adult Training

We don't need to point out that it's been a difficult year! On a positive note most people have managed to keep their training up to date or caught up with it whilst on furlough. We've even managed to sign off some Wood Badges!

The 'Getting Started' modules have been fully updated and are all easily accessible on line, members are rewarded with a PDF certificate once a module is completed.

Face to face training had to stop during the pandemic but is slowly returning. There are already several modules that can accessed via the County website - leicestershirescouts.org.uk

More are being added every week so it's worth keeping an eye on that.

There have been changes to the first response module. Now it must be completed in two sections, 10A is the theory module, courses have been running throughout the pandemic. We have been waiting for 10B - the practical module to be introduced and have just been given the go ahead for that. There is a course running at the end of May, again with more dates being added. All of these courses can be booked via the County website.

We are always happy to answer any questions and help you with your training needs. Email - ltm@harboroughscouts.org.uk or call Sue on 07940 789276


Pete and Sue Dove

Local Training Managers



Do more.

We believe young people deserve the skills to succeed and a place to belong. That's why we offer fun, adventure and skills for life to over 450,000 young people aged 6-25 across the UK.



Bear Grylls, Chief Scout



Learn more.

Scouting prepares young people for the future. We help them do more, learn more by doing and be more. Scouting is young people discovering their potential and powering their future. Scouting is where the future is born.

Be more.

Scouts have become presidents, astronauts, entrepreneurs and pop stars. They have walked on the moon and won Olympic Gold. But they are also the teachers, social workers and volunteers – the people who make society work.

Volunteer at scouts.org.uk

