

35th Sheffield (St Oswald's) Scout Group

Trustees Annual Report

April 2021 to March 2022



1 Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name: **35th Sheffield (St Oswald's) Scout Group (The Group)**
Charity Number: **524797**
Scout registration: **10010090**
Principal Address: **Scout Centre, Edgefield Road, Sheffield S7 2BT**

1.1 Trustees

Acting Chair & GSL	Dean Maragh
Secretary	Rebecca Sowter
Treasurer	Roger Brown
Assistant Treasurer	Robert Sowter
Leader	Sarah Sheard
Leader	Nicola Gurney

The persons named above also form the Group Executive Committee.

2 Structure, Governance and Management

2.1 Governing Document

The Group's governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and the Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) of the Scout Association.

2.2 Group Scout Council

The Group Scout Council is the electoral body to which the Group Executive Committee is accountable. Membership of the Group Scout Council is open to:

- Scouters
- Group Active Support Managers and members
- Colony Pack and Troop Assistants
- Skills Instructors
- Administrators
- Advisers
- Patrol Leaders
- All Parents of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts

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- Any other supporters, including former Scouts and their parents, admitted by the Group Scout Leader, the Group Executive Committee or the Group Scout Council
- the District Commissioner and District Chair are ex-officio members of the Group Scout Council.

2.3 Constitution

The Group is a trust established under the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association.

2.4 Trustee Selection

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

2.5 Group Executive Committee

The Group is led by a Group Scout Leader and managed by a Group Executive Committee. They are accountable to the Group Scout Council for the satisfactory running of the Group.

The Executive Committee exists to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting the responsibilities of their appointment.

Members of the Executive Committee must act collectively as charity Trustees of the Scout Group, and in the best interests of its members to:

- Comply with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association
- Protect and maintain any property and equipment owned by and/or used by the Group
- Manage the Group finances.
- Provide insurance for people, property and equipment.
- Provide sufficient resources for Scouting to operate. This includes, but is not limited to, supporting recruitment, other adult support, and fund-raising activities.
- Promote and support the development of Scouting in the local area.
- Manage and implement the Safety Policy locally
- Ensure that a positive image of Scouting exists in the local community.
- Appoint and manage the operation of any sub-Committees, including appointing a Chair to lead the sub-Committees
- Ensure that Young People are meaningfully involved in decision making at all levels within the Group
- The opening, closure and amalgamation of sections as necessary.
- And all other duties as set out in Policy, Organisation and Rules.

2.6 Risk and Internal Control

The Group Executive Committee has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed which are:

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2.6.1 Injury to Leaders, Helpers, Supporters or Members

The Group supports compliance with the Safety Policy and ensures appropriate risk assessment; elimination, reduction and control measures are taken to reduce the likelihood of any injuries.

In addition, through membership fees, the Group contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy.

2.6.2 Damage to Buildings, Property or Equipment

The Group has demonstrated, through the period of COVID restrictions, that, if required it is capable of operating without the use of a physical meeting place for a protracted period of time. This experience would help it survive if the Scout Centre were to become unavailable due to damage in the future. The Group could also request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations.

2.6.3 Reduced Income from Subscriptions and Fund Raising

The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fund-raising. The Group holds adequate reserves to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The committee could also raise the value of subscriptions to increase the Group income either temporarily or permanently.

2.6.4 Reduction or Loss of Leaders

The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the Group. If there were a reduction in the number of volunteers to an unacceptable level, then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of activities or sections.

2.6.5 Reduction or Loss of Members

If there were a reduction in membership of a particular section or the Group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section.

3 Objectives and Activities

The primary objective of the Group is that of the Scout Association generally, namely:

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

The Values of Scouting

As Scouts we are guided by these values:

- Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.
- Respect - We have self-respect and respect for others.
- Care - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.
- Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.
- Co-operation - We make a positive difference; we cooperate with others and make friends.

The Scout Method

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

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

The activities of the Group are:

- The provision of the Scouting programme for 6–18 year old members

4 Achievements and Performance

Due to the continuing effects of COVID the group's activities were severely curtailed in the 21-22 year, to an extent that could have threatened the continued existence of the group. The Trustees are pleased to report that the commitment of the leaders, parents and members has enabled the Group to weather this particular storm, albeit with some difficulty, and it now looks forward to the resumption of a more normal level of activity in the coming years.

One highlight of the 21-22 year was the receipt of a substantial grant from Children in Need, for the purposes of refurbishing the Scout Hut and replacing and improving the Group's fleet of kayaks.

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4.1 Public benefit statement

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

5 Financial Review

5.1 Reserves Policy

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Executive Committee considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 6 months running costs, circa £5,000.

The Group held reserves of approximately £40,000 at year end. This is above the level required for operating expenses. However this can be explained by the receipt of a £35,000 grant from Children in Need, to support a number of specific items of planned expenditure. This grant income was fully expended in the following financial year, on the purposes for which it was claimed.

5.2 Investment Policy

The Group'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 Group 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 or The Scout Association's Short Term Investment Service.

6 Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature:

Date:

Full Name: **Dean Maragh**

Position: **Group Scout Leader**

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Signature:

Date:

Full Name: **Roger Brown**

Position: Treasurer

	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Capital balances (Starting yr balances)			
Unity (current account)	5,091	1,799	1,317
Scout Association account (savings)	1,495	1,482	3,043
Total	£6,586	£3,281	£4,360
Annual income			
Subs, camps and activities	5,049	6,720	20,319
Hut hire	0	0	321
Gift Aid	1,632	4,167	3,373
Misc income	300	11,232	2,279
Grant	35,212		
Interest (from Scout Assoc. savings)	26	13	77
Total	£42,219	£22,132	£26,370
Expenditure			
Maintenance	(474)	(11,136)	(934)
Rates	(91)	0	(352)
Utilities	(791)	(900)	(2,512)
Insurance	(2,178)	(2,110)	(3,900)
Group running costs	(2,713)	(395)	(11,697)
Misc expenditure	(498)	(405)	(442)
Cleaning	0	0	(2,774)
Membership to Scout Assoc	(2,079)	(3,880)	(4,838)
Total	£(8,824)	£(18,826)	£(27,449)
Ending yr balances			
Unity (current account)	38,459	5,091	1,799
Scout Association account (savings)	1,522	1,495	1,482
Total	£39,981	£6,586	£3,281
Net surplus (should be £0)	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of 35th Sheffield St. Oswald's Scout Group

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 35th Sheffield St. Oswald's for the year ended 5th April 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the Charity Trustees of the 35th Sheffield St. Oswald's you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("The Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the 35th Sheffield St. Oswald's accounts carried out under section 145 of Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the 35th Sheffield St. Oswald's as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. The Accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed:



David Michael Cassels

4 Lawson Road, Sheffield, S10 5BW

24th January 2023