

11th SPEN VALLEY SCOUT GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2019

Charity Number: 1056971

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1 TRUSTEES REPORT

The Trustees of the 11th Spen Valley Scout Group ("the Group") present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

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

The Group is established under its own trust deed dated 12 November 1949.

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

The Group is managed by the Group Executive Committee, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

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

The principal office holders are:

- Acting Group Scout Leader: David Sowden
- Chair: David Hirst
- Treasurer: Christine Pounder
- Secretary: Audrey Bentley

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

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

The Group Executive Committee has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them.

The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the Group and the trustees wish to express their thanks and gratitude to all volunteers and supporters who have assisted in ensuring the efficient running of the Group during the past twelve months.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

THE PURPOSE OF SCOUTING

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

THE VALUES OF SCOUTING

As Scouts we are guided by these values:

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

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

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

Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.

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

THE SCOUT METHOD

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

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

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

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

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

GROUP SCOUT LEADER'S REPORT

I have the pleasure of presenting the GSL's report for the past twelve months. The group as a whole continues to be in a strong position. The finances are healthy with reserves of approximately £30,000 in the bank. The numbers of young people on the census for 2019 was 2018 was constant at 36 compared to 2018 but down on the 42 recorded in 2017. In addition, we are regularly supported by a number of young leaders who are also active members of the District Explorer Unit, as well as by adult leaders and executive committee members.

The individual sections set out below in detail about what has been going on. May I say that all sections offer a full programme and many opportunities for the young people in their care. It is wonderful that so many of them are able to take advantage of this and hopefully they will get life long memories of fun and friendship from taking part in all that is on offer.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your support and encouragement in making this happen. May I also take this opportunity to thank the leaders of all sections for their unstinting and selfless dedication in providing leadership to the sections, the programme they offer and the support to the group as a whole.

May I also thank the Group Executive Committee for the work they have put in to ensuring that this group remains financially sound and provides a high quality and safe headquarters building from which we can provide scouting to your young people.

Now for an appeal. Please remember that this is YOUR group. In order for it continue into the future and continue to be as successful as it has been, we do need your input. If any of you would like to become more involved in any of the sections, or help in anyway as an occasional helper or as a member of the executive committee, please speak to me or any leader at any time.

BEAVER LEADER'S REPORT

It has been another exciting 12 months in Beavers, with many new friends joining us. We have also said goodbye to those who have swum up to Cubs.

The young people have worked hard to work towards many activity badges and challenge awards. These have included the book reader, health and fitness, international and space activity badges. Many have also earned the Teamwork Challenge badge and are working towards their personal challenge and My World challenge.

Many Beavers took the opportunity to camp with the Cubs and Scouts last year and as part of the camp learned a number of new skills while also spending their first night under canvas. This enabled them to take steps towards earning the camp craft activity badge and 2 challenge awards – outdoor challenge and adventure challenge.

In September, a number of older Beavers had moved to Cubs and we took the opportunity to welcome friends of the colony with a Bring a Friend Night. This night included lots of activities to give our visitors a taster of what Beavers is like including setting up a pop-up tent, a team challenge to build a tower from spaghetti and marshmallows and getting to know you games. We were delighted that 3 of these visitors decided to join our colony.

We have enjoyed more occasions in which we have joined together with other sections including a sledging trip at Xscape and a joint Christmas party in our own headquarters.

Over the past year, our young leaders have had many other commitments including college and part-time employment and have been unable to attend meetings. I would like to wish them well with all their future endeavours and hope they know they are always welcome to return to Beavers when they are able.

Following their departure, we have welcomed Katie who is completing her Duke of Edinburgh award with us. She has become a vital part of our team and I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her ideas, commitment and hard work with Beavers.

Mandy has continued her training and has grown in confidence, bringing new ideas and activities to the group and taking on the leadership of full evenings.

I would like to thank all those who have helped on nights when extra volunteers have been needed to cover absence and busy activities, especially Dave and Christine and Paul.

Thanks also to the parents and carers, without whose commitment to bringing their children there would be no Beavers. We look forward to many more exciting times to come over the coming months.

CUB SCOUT LEADER'S REPORT

The cub section has run smoothly over the last 12 months and I have settled into the role of Akela, with support from Karen (Chil) and Emma (Raksha), however Emma is now studying at University and therefore only available during the holidays.

The three young leaders, Jacob S (Baloo), Jacob B (Rama) and Tom (Kaa) continue to be an invaluable part of the section, running games, activities and badge work with enthusiasm. They are a great inspiration to the cubs, passing on skills they have learned whilst having fun and they have earned the respect of the cubs and the leaders. I would like to thank them for their continued help and support.

Over the last year we have had a varied programme including lots of activities and have worked towards a variety of badges, concentrating on the seven challenge awards to allow the eldest cubs to work towards completing the chief scouts silver award before moving onto scouts.

We have taken part in district events including the swimming gala and the cub Lego competition. The cubs did extremely well in both competitions, and were awarded first and third prize in the lego competition.

The cubs had an opportunity to camp over a weekend last summer alongside the beavers and scouts. We also attended St Georges day, field day and remembrance Sunday parades.

We have had a few cubs successfully move up to scout section, and have new cubs both from Beavers and some from outside of scouting. We currently have around 12 on the books.

I would like to thank the rest of the section leaders for their hard work helping the group and ensuring the Cubs and other leaders enjoy their times at the group.

SCOUT LEADER'S REPORT

In the past year, scouts have been given the opportunity to take part in several overnight experiences including troop camps at Fan Wood, District Field Day and our annual indoor winter weekend at Wharfeside House, Kettlewell.

Our 2018 summer camp was held here at Fan Wood where we took part in various on site activities such as shooting, archery & pioneering. An offsite hike took us into the wilds of Birkenshaw, East Bierley & Oakwell Hall, whilst our off site day trip was to the Maze Maze near York.

During the year we have made good use of our district campsite at Fan Wood, where in addition to camping, we have utilised the shooting and archery ranges as well as most of the other on site activities.

In order that the scouts can put something back into their site, we have undertaken a number of projects such as tree and bulb planting, building and putting up bird & bat boxes along with general site tidying.

Last year's Christmas event was a group visit to the Exscape snow slope for a sledging session, followed by food & drinks in the onsite café. The whole event being paid for out of group funds.

With the exception of the swimming gala, we have entered all the district scout competitions but after holding the quiz trophy for the last 8 years we had to give best to this year's winners, the 4th S.V.

There were brave efforts, by teams in the cooking competition with our teams coming 2nd & 3rd. Charlotte Irwin won the shooting competition for the second successive year and the Archery team came second.

Well done to all the scouts who put themselves forward to represent the troop at whatever level, by doing so they complete sections of the Team work or Team Leader award.

As usual, we attended the local Remembrance Day parade at East Bierley and the district St George's day parade and service.

The leaders offer all our scouts the opportunity to work towards achieving Challenge badges of which there are 9 in total, all of them have to be completed to enable a scout to achieve the Chief scouts Gold Award, which is the highest award in the scout troop.

As ever I record my thanks to all the scout section leaders and young leaders for their skills and continued support, which enables the 11th to offer quality scouting to our young people.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

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 12 months running costs.

The Group held reserves of approximately £30,000 against this at the year end. This is above the level required for operating expenses. However, this can be explained by the need to maintain the leasehold premises it occupies in Green Lane, Hunsworth, as well as providing for the longer term maintenance and replacement of that building and the replacement of equipment.

The Group Executive regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the group obtains maximum value and income from its banking arrangements. Occasionally this may involve using an account that requires a period of notice before funds may be withdrawn, before doing so the Group Executive considers the cash flow requirements.

2 INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE 11TH SPEN VALLEY SCOUT GROUP

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2019, which are set out on pages 8 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act),
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 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 matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the 2011 Act, have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


M E FERGUSON
1 May 2019

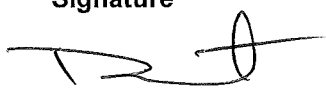

3 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	2019 £	2018 £
INCOME		
Donations, legacies and similar income		
Income from Go on Line	648	-
Income from Beavers	633	1,213
Income from Cubs	750	1,441
Income from Scouts	725	1,307
Income from Young Leaders	12	64
Less: Membership subscriptions paid to (National/County/Area/District)	(1,670)	(1,707)
Sums received in respect of camps etc	970	915
Donations	-	100
Gift Aid	901	874
Sub Total: Donations, legacies and similar income	2,969	4,207
Fundraising		
Annual Gala	1,025	976
Other fund raising	93	25
Field Day Crockery smash	57	67
Sums paid the Fan Wood Activity Centre	-	(67)
Scout collection for guide Dogs	-	79
Donations made	(50)	(142)
Sub Total: Fund raising	1,125	938
Investment activities		
Bank interest	174	89
Property rent income	5,635	7,461
Sub Total: Investment activities	5,809	7,550
TOTAL GROSS INCOME	9,903	12,695
EXPENDITURE		
Youth programme and activities:		
Payments from Beavers	189	179
Payments from Cubs	68	113
Payments from Scouts	358	157
Mini bus hire and camps	1,092	874
Badges and neckers	680	379
	2,387	1,702
Leader training costs	(120)	870
Rent, Rates and Water	665	692
Insurance	622	629
Light and heat	1,306	747
Cleaning	920	1,040
Repairs, maintenance and new equipment	3,583	157
Christmas Parties	1,100	-
Misc	308	729
TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE	10,771	6,566
NET EXPENDITURE/(INCOME) IN THE YEAR	(868)	6,129

4 STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Unrestricted Funds 2018 £
CASH FUNDS		
Yorkshire Bank current account	13,226	14,624
Fixed term deposit accounts	15,921	15,748
Cash with sections	541	184
	29,688	30,556
INVESTMENT ASSETS		
Leasehold premises in Green Lane, Hunsworth		
Cost	111,920	111,920
Amortisation b/fwd	(54,000)	(49,500)
Amortised in the year	(4,500)	(4,500)
Book value c/fwd	53,420	57,920
	83,108	88,476
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
Balance b/fwd 1 April	88,476	86,847
Net Expenditure/(Income) in the year	(868)	6,129
Amortisation of leasehold property - current year	(4,500)	(4,500)
Balance c/fwd 31 March	83,108	88,476

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 30 April 2019 and signed on their behalf by

Signature	Name	Position
	David Hirst	Chair
	Christine Pounder	Treasurer

5 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

These represent the remaining income funds of the Group that are available for spending on the general purposes of the Group, including amounts designated by the Group for fixed assets.

LEASEHOLD PROPERTY

The leasehold premises represent the cost of the leasehold building occupied by the Group in Green Lane, Hunsworth. The cost of the building is being amortised over the period of the current term of the lease.