

1st COOKHAM SCOUT GROUP

Report & Accounts
for the year ended
31 March 2024

1st Cookham Scout Group

1st Cookham Scout Group is registered as a Scout group with the Scout Association - reference number 31163. It is constituted under the terms of the Scout Association's Royal Charter and is a Registered Charity - number 300491.

Denis Boothman is the Honorary President and the Trustees are as follows:

TRUSTEES: Ex-Officio

Nigel Hague	Chair
Andy Pearce	Group Scout Leader
Mike Day	Assistant Group Scout Leader
Tim Sharples	Group Treasurer
Jeff Hurst	Cub Leader
Andrew Sutherland	Scout Leader
Dave Helmuth	Explorer Leader
Martin Delahaye	Beaver Leader

TRUSTEES: Elected

Sally Crichton	Tamsin Jones
Brenda Davison	Rebecca Danks-Burrows
Nick Powell	Emma Thornton
Charlotte Strudwicke	Susie Felix
Kate Dilley	

SECRETARY

Joelle White

PRINCIPAL BANKERS

Lloyds Bank Plc. High Street Maidenhead Berkshire SL6 1JS

Contact

Mr TN Sharples Sulby Cottage Lower Road Maidenhead SL6 9HW

Structure, governance and management

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

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

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association and make up the Group Executive Committee.

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

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

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

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 main areas of concern that have been identified are:

Damage to the building, property and equipment

The Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community centre and other Scout Groups. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with these organisations. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members

The Group through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Associations national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.

Reduced income from fund raising

The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The group 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 subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.

Reduction or loss of leaders.

The group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section, or the group as a whole, then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario, this could be the complete closure of the Group.

Reduction or loss of members

The Group provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 18. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario, this could be the complete closure of the Group."

Objectives and activities

The Purpose of Scouting

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

The Values of Scouting

As Scouts we are guided by these values:

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

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

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

Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.

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

The Scout Method

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

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

The main activities in the year, in relation to these objects, are set out in the reports of the Chairman and Group Scout Leader. 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.

Trustees Annual Report for the Year ended 31 March 2024

Chairman's Report for the last year

I am very pleased to report, once again. The group continues to prosper on all fronts as can be seen from our Group Scout Leader's report. We are blessed with an excellent and committed Leadership team which is underpinned by our strong and healthy finances.

Scouting is thriving at 1st Cookham in all our sections and our youngest section: Squirrels, is now firmly established since its inception last year.

Our finances remain strong enabling us to build up a funding surplus which we plan to utilise to purchase an outdoor activity / camp site in the local vicinity. At the time of writing, we are well advanced in the process of securing a suitable site and hope to be able to announce details of this in the coming weeks or months. This will provide us with a permanent activity centre on our doorstep that will benefit future generations of Cookham scouts which will be an enormous privilege.

The Trustee Committee is functioning well to which we have added one more member during the year. I am grateful to our Group Secretary, Joelle White for supporting me and the committee so well with meetings administration and to our Group Treasurer, Tim Sharples for managing our finances so expertly.

Finally I would also like to thank our "army" of fundraising volunteers and parents who turn out year after year to put up tents, run stalls, sell tickets, plead for donations, etc etc. Without them much of our scouting simply could not function, and we would not have the healthy funding surplus, which enables us to look at securing a permanent activity site. We are indebted to you all.

Yours in Scouting

Nigel Hague, Chairman

Group Scout Leader's report

We continue to have a strong Group, after a year our Squirrel drey is now firmly established, 1st Cookham's total membership of Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers has now increased to 196, this is all due to our Section Team Leaders and their Section Team Members continuing to produce outstanding programmes offering adventure, challenges and fun.

We currently have 56 adult volunteer Section Members helping to run our Squirrel, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and the Explorer sections, including our Trustee Board members. I would like to thank them all for their continued dedication, time and commitment to provide outstanding Scouting in Cookham.

All the sections had a camp last year, the Beavers and Cubs held their usual camp in the May Bank Holiday at White Place Farm, whilst the Scouts held their annual Scout summer camp in Monmouth and are going to the Gower this year.

After 45 years, the Groups use of Formosa sadly came to an end last May and we moved all our equipment off Formosa. The meadow now has a locked gate and fence, but many years of memories. We are very lucky to have the use of White Place Farm.

Sadly, during the year we have lost two of our former Group Presidents, Denis and Brenda Boothman. Both had a very long association with 1st Cookham, Denis as Scout Leader and Brenda as Cub Leader, both were Trustees for many years, and Brenda also organised the Scout Gang Shows in the 1980's and 90's. The Group owes them a great debt for their contribution in making 1st Cookham the success that it is today, we have dedicated a room in the Scout hut to their memory.

The Bonfire and Firework display, together with the Summer Fair remain as our main fund-raising activities. I would like to thank all the parents and leaders who helped making last year's events a success. May I remind you that all the money raised is used to heavily subsidise all our Squirrel/Beaver/Cubs/Scouts and Explorers activities and camps.

We couldn't run Cookham Scouts without our Trustee Board: my thanks go to Nigel who will be missed as he is sadly standing down as our Group Chair. I also need to thank Tim our excellent treasurer, Joelle our Group secretary who also manages all the admissions from our extensive waiting list, and the other Board members who all do a vital job.

We are totally dependent on adult volunteers. Please let us know if you would like to become a Team Member of one of our Sections, previous experience is not essential - just lots of enthusiasm. Please email: volunteering@scoutscookham.org.uk or speak to a Section Team Leader.

Andy Pearce
Group Volunteer Team Lead

Financial Highlights

	This Year £	Previous Year £
Guy Fawkes Public Firework Display	12,289	12,981
Summer Fair	5,275	4,977
Marquee hire	600	-
Catering activities	2,327	2,530
Total net fund raising for the year	<u>19,981</u>	<u>20,488</u>
HQ Rental income	20,821	18,003
Amount spent on improvements to HQ outbuildings	2,980	4,621
New tents and other equipment purchased totalled	2,709	1,704
The Group subsidised activities including section activities, minibus hire & and supporting individuals who would not otherwise have been able to attend camps. Excluding waived subscriptions.	3,372	3,674
Leader training & insurance cost	1,804	888
At the end of the year Group reserves amounted to	153,646	134,832
These reserves are allocated as follows:		
Working capital requirements	4,000	4,000
Contingency fund in case of fund-raising failures or disaster costs	66,000	66,000
Reserve for future development	83,646	64,832

Approved by the trustees on 2024 and signed on their behalf by

N Hague &

T Sharples

Receipts & Payments Account Summary for the year ended 31 March 2024

	This Year General fund £	Previous Year £
Total receipts for the year (see supporting analysis)	84,613	83,850
Total payments for the year (see supporting analysis)	<u>69,089</u>	<u>68,397</u>
Net receipts (payments) for the year	15,524	15,453
Surplus/(Loss) on revaluation of investments	3,291	(4,883)
Cash, bank and similar funds brought forward	134,832	124,262
Cash, bank and similar funds carried forward	<u>153,647</u>	<u>134,832</u>

Approved by the trustees on _____ 2024 and signed on their behalf
by

N Hague &

T Sharples

Receipts for the year ended 31 March 2024

	This Year £	Previous Year £
MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS		
Subscriptions from members	18,748	16,270
Less Paid to Scout District	(10,884)	(9,796)
	<u>7,864</u>	<u>6,473</u>
INVESTMENT INCOME RECEIVED		
Bank and building society interest	1,636	405
Dividend	-	-
	<u>1,636</u>	<u>405</u>
DONATIONS, GRANTS and CLOTHING SALES	2,322	3,967
CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED FOR ACTIVITIES	8,405	11,471
FUND RAISING INCOME (before charging fund raising expenses)	39,863	41,650
INCOME FROM HIRE OF HEADQUARTERS BUILDING	20,821	18,003
OTHER INCOME		
Income tax recovered on subscriptions	3,703	1,880
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR	<u>84,613</u>	<u>83,850</u>

Payments for the year ended 31 March 2024

	This Year £	Previous Year £
PREMISES		
Running costs	11,753	9,023
Repairs and Renewals	2,980	4,621
DONATIONS/GRANTS: Cookham Explorers		
Cookham Explorers	1,500	1,400
Others	1,316	500
ACTIVITIES	19,806	26,180
FUND RAISING EXPENSES	19,972	21,164
ADMINISTRATION & ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES		
Leader training and insurance	1,804	888
Miscellaneous	1,208	1,970
PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT	2,709	1,704
INTEREST PAID	-	-
PURCHASE OF BADGES AND UNIFORM	6,042	947
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	<u>69,089</u>	<u>68,397</u>

Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31 March 2024

	This Year £	Previous Year £
MONETARY ASSETS		
Invested funds		62,350
Interest bearing accounts at banks and building societies	147,384	51,584
Non-interest bearing accounts at banks	15,163	23,175
Cash in hand	-	-
	<u>162,547</u>	<u>137,109</u>
OTHER MONETARY ASSETS		
Tax refunds reclaimable from Inland Revenue	1,323	-
Sundry receivables	3,818	1,010
	<u>6,141</u>	<u>1,010</u>
LIABILITIES		
Expenses to be reimbursed	(1,427)	(3,287)
Capitation Fees due	(10,884)	-
2024 camp and summer fair fees reimbursable	(1,730)	-
	<u>(14,041)</u>	<u>(3,287)</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>153,647</u>	<u>134,832</u>

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the 1st Cookham Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 1st Cookham Scout Group for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 1st Cookham Scout group you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the 1st Cookham Scout Group accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the 1st Cookham Scout Group as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Peter Austen
Chartered Accountant
Pippins, Popes Lane, Cookham Dean, Berkshire SL6 9NY

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