

Watford North District Scout Council

Trustee's Report 2023

During 2023 so much has happened, changed, and is still developing! There are however constants that shine out – a passion for Scouting, dedication from leaders, supporters and of course those taking part at all levels and ages. Watford North has shown resilience and determination through difficult times, and we are certain that as we transform into the future there will be no lowering of standards nor lack of intention to succeed.

It has been a busy year – as ever!

Lees Wood, our amazing camp site, continues to look to the future. Plans to improve and update are underway with building plans submitted and the appointment of a dedicated fundraising team to develop ideas to fund the plans for the site. This valuable resource is cared for by a great team of volunteers committed to its future.

The District is in a good place financially managed so ably by Andrew Reeve. Whilst there has been increases in both the County and National Capitation Fees for 2023, we have managed to limit the District rate to a very modest increase. The District is led by David Collette, a lifelong member of the Scout Movement who brings vision, patience and dedication along with hours of hard work to ensure that Watford North not only thrives but is a happy place delivering Scouting at its best. A 10% increase in membership across the District speaks for itself. My thanks go to David and to Andrew from us all.

Members from Watford North were amongst the young people who attended the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea. This presented exciting & wonderful experiences for all involved. The weather unfortunately intervened! This did not stop our members adapting to make the best of a very difficult situation. All returned safely with stories and above all with smiles!

Watford North has a new Group – the 7th North Watford. This is Muslim led based in Gammons Lane. An exciting addition to the District and offering new opportunities to bring Scouting to more young people. Next year's Census will reflect the membership in this new Group.

Activities through out the District continued during the year – District Cub Camp, Beavers Construction, Night Owls Competition, Beaver's Day Trip, the North Star Challenge, Cubs London Day Out, Scouts Green Beret Competition and so much more on a weekly basis. Explorers and Network took part the County led Peak Assault and London Monopoly.

Finally, a huge thank you to the Executive Committee Members who give freely of their time to ensure that problems are swiftly solved, accounts are managed, support offered where needed & above all to ensure a united District.

Watford North is doing well & a District of which we are all very proud!

Margaret F. Howard


WATFORD NORTH DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
(CHARITY No. 1017809)

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

INCOME	
Membership Subscriptions	44,528.69
Donations/Grants	1,184.00
Activities	20,061.14
Fund Raising	761.57
Jamboree	4,612.58
Bank Interest	154.69
Sundry	11,492.70
Lochearnhead 2024	3,550.00
Total	86,345.37

EXPENDITURE	
Membership Subscriptions	31,053.50
Donations	760.00
Activities	24,466.83
Jamboree	6,434.97
Fund Raising	54.00
District Team Expenses	1,143.94
Equipment	1,817.17
Training	0.00
AGM	170.69
Subscriptions	76.25
Insurances / Licences	400.77
Sundry	3,433.87
Lochearnhead 2024	1,395.00
Transfer to Savings	10,271.00
Total	£81,477.99

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Report to the trustees/members of	Watford North District Scout Council
Charity No	1017809
On accounts for the year ended	31 st December 2023
Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner	<p>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.</p> <p>It is my responsibility to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<p>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 terms 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.</p>
Independent examiner's statement	<p>In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:</p> <p>1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; • to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or <p>2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.</p>
Signed	
Date	8 th June 2024
Name	Christine Hickey
Address	182, Devon Road Luton Beds LU2 0RL