

MAIDSTONE WEST DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Registered charity number 1022011

Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

District Lead Volunteer Report 2023

It's that AGM time of year when I must write a speech to say what we in Maidstone West have been up to for the last year. So, the first thing I do is try and find my speech from last year. After lots of clicking and huffing there is only one answer, Wendy!!! 30 seconds later it's emailed to me with comments of if you stored it where you were meant to you would be able to find it.....mentioned Google drive and District Trustee folder. Whatever that means!

So, here we go, I apologise as I nicked this bit of one of the many AGM's that both Wendy have been to, they aren't here so happy days. If you look at that must read scouting publication. No, not the new Bear Grylls book. POR.....Policy, Organisation and Rules for Scouting. My number one bedtime reading!!

It says the Purpose of Scouting is to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

The method we use is young people working in partnership with adults, by enjoying what they are doing and having fun, take part in activities indoor & outside. Learn by doing, share in spiritual reflection, take responsibility, and make choices, undertake new and challenging activities, make and live by their Promise. I'm sure that everyone in this room can think of loads of things over the year that they have done with the young people that can tick off all these objectives. So, thank you to you all for the time, energy, and enthusiasm you put into scouting and please pass my thanks onto all the adults that aren't here today.

The district has grown by 5% over the year with almost 1000 young people and adults. The County are running a recruitment scheme called Grow by 50. They are asking each district to grow by 50 members each year to help them reach their target of 25,000 members by 2025. There are large cash incentives and badges for all. Information can be found on the County website. We are working with the County Growth and Development Team to continue growing the district. In fact, we ran a Taster session at St. Michaels last night for Squirrels, Beavers & cubs and had over 20 young people turn up with their parents, from this we are running the 4-week challenge and already have adults that would like to join the leadership team, which is great. We even had the District Chair engaging with young people!!!! But she was back in her happy place after the meeting collating information on spreadsheets and contacting all the parents with confirmation of dates for the next 4 weeks.

It's been a busy year for scouting nationally, and I would especially like to thank all those adults that assisted with the Queens lying in state and showed what a great organisation scouting is.

So, over the last year. Beavers have been on a trip to Adventure Kidz, and 65 Beavers headed to Mote Park Water sports Centre for a fun water activity day, Bell Boating, Dragon Boating and Swan Pedalos.

Cubs have been busy making bird boxes to support local wildlife in the Maidstone area. In May the cubs celebrated the much-anticipated Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla. They have also enjoyed visits to wildlife parks and hikes.

In September 9 teams attended the Scout District Camping Competition completing a list of challenges to win the prize trophy. This year is the 20th year of District Camp, thanks to all the leaders and young people that have been involved over the previous 20 years!!!! During the summer 6

teams from 5 troops from across the district took part in the Scout Expedition Challenge and achieved their Challenge Award.

Explorers kicked off the year with Young Leaders in the district heading to the Kent Explorer Young Leader weekend before heading off to London for the Monopoly Run, a fantastic event that sees hundreds of teams racing across London to visit all the locations on the Monopoly Board. In May some Explorers headed to the Isle of Wight for Revolution Camp.

Network has had another active year. They have enjoyed several camps throughout the year, which has been a great opportunity to kick back and relax with friends around the campfire. They have had a laser tag evening and tried out the new Ninja Warrior Centre. They have actively helped other sections and groups in the district.

You're now thinking he hasn't mentioned anything about Squirrels. That's basically because I don't have a District Squirrel lead person to write what they have been doing over the year. Something to put on my list for next year.... that is already quite long. Find a District Squirrel Lead. Oh, and another thing for the list, open some more Squirrel Dreys. The squirrel Dreys are flourishing at both Coxheath and Tovil. With Coxheath having the 1st sleepover here at Hamlet Wood. If you have any questions about squirrels, then please contact Geoff or Kirsty and I'm sure they would be happy to help with any questions or concerns you may have.

The district helped the County Inclusion Team by hosting an Inclusion Training Day for all. We have also run Chair and Treasure sessions and Trustee information sessions on OSM. In January we ran a Transformation Information session that all groups attended, thanks to Matt Paramor for running the event.

In April Maidstone West joined East for the Annual St. Georges Day parade, thanks for all the superheroes out there for making it an enjoyable afternoon and showed that scouting is alive in Maidstone Thanks to Linda and her team in East in jointly running this event. Money was raised for the Maidstone Young Careers Charity.

So that's what we have been up to.....but what are we going to be doing in the year to come, well much the same and a few more. The Cubs will be sleeping in the Mall and supporting Maidstone Homeless Charity,

District Activity Day at Lower Grange Farm for all.

Leaders Skills Day and social at Hamlet Wood.

Gang Show 8th-13th April. Rehearsals have just started, but if you have any young people that would like to join the gang of 2024 please get them to register on the website.

And going future forward trips to Kandetsteg. And it won't be long before we have to start the hard task of selection for the next World Scout Jamboree in Poland.

Oh yes..... I knew there was something else. The World Scout Jamboree. Thank you to the 7 scouts and 6 leaders that attended the Jamboree this year. You will hear from them later and what a great adventure they had. I have had nothing but good reports about the 7 scouts that attending the Jamboree. You are a credit to West Maidstone and scouting in general. I'm sure there will be a few leaders that listen to your presentation later with a tear in their eye. As they have certainly been

involved with your personal development, that has empowered you in making a positive contribution to society.

I would like to thank the District Appointments Committee, Jim, John, Jane & Josh.....yes, your name has to start with a 'J' to be on the Appointments Committee. For their work over the last year and it's good to see that a lot of Young Leaders are turning 18 and want to become leaders.

Hamlet Wood is flourishing with more groups than ever using it and the Toilet Block is finished. Hamlet Wood has also been used by others for weddings, re-enactment weekends and Forest Yoga and bathing. The climbing tower is being refurbished, Thanks to Coxheath Group for building the Round House and St. Lukes Group for building the Target Range. My personal thanks go to Brian Fridd who stepped down as Treasure at Hamlet wood after many years. Thanks to him for explaining the finances to me over the years and thanks to Matt Paramor for taking the role on. Now he will hold his head in his hands when I start asking questions about finance. Thanks as always go to Amanda and the team of volunteers at Hamlet Wood especially for the Big Help Out during the Coronation Weekend celebrations. They have 900 trees arriving in January so will need a lot of help digging holes. They will be in contact!!!

As you are all aware there are some changes happening in scouting over the next few months that will make it easier for us all. And I only ask you to embrace the changes and keep giving the young people a great adventure.

My thanks go to Jim Martin & Ken Ridgeway my old & new county reps for all their support. My District Team for organising great events and always saying Yes, no problem! For the District Trustees for keeping us safe & legal.

It's the time, effort and can do attitude from all that makes scouting in Maidstone West great.

Thank you.

Maidstone West District Scout Council

Financial Review for the year ended 31 March 2023

The accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 have been prepared on a 'payments and receipts' basis, as in previous years, and include the income and expenditure for each of the Explorers units, and the District's 50 % share of the Hamlet Wood Scout Campsite and the Gang Show.

The District Council's main income is from members' subscriptions, net of capitation paid to Kent Scouts, and income from hiring out the District HQ. Our main expenditure is maintenance of the District HQ, support for various Scouting events within the District and contributions towards the cost of the World Scout Jamboree.

The Committee has established a formal reserves policy in accordance with guidance from the Charities Commission. The reserves take in to consideration the financial circumstances of the District, as well as its objectives and obligations, and will be subject to regular review by the District Council in the future. Details of those reserves and the balances held in each of them as at the end of the financial year are set out in the notes to the accounts. At the financial year end the balance on the General Reserve was £17,856. Despite the challenging circumstance of the past year couple of years Maidstone West District remains in a sound financial position and is well placed to support Scouting going forwards.

Robin Plane

District Treasurer

MAIDSTONE WEST DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
Registered charity number 1022011

Receipts and Payment Summary and Statement of Monetary Assets for year ended 31 March 2023

	District Council	W'derers ESU	Scylax ESU	Xavier ESU	W'bury ESU	Poseidon ESU	Paragon ESU	Hamlet Wood	Gang Show	Grand Total	
										This Year	Previous Year
										£	£
Monetary assets b/f	65,287	1,372	3,134	1,924	9,581	1,319	1,720	42,397	5,820	132,554	106,894
Total Receipts for Year	22,796	1,248	3,175	7,872	13,565	464	4,468	25,760	14,217	93,565	89,152
Total Payments for Year	29,880	2,326	4,921	8,130	20,082	649	3,950	22,709	13,155	105,802	63,492
Net Receipts for Year	-7,084	-1,078	-1,746	-258	-6,517	-185	518	3,051	1,062	-12,237	25,660
Monetary assets c/f	58,203	294	1,388	1,666	3,064	1,134	2,238	45,448	6,882	120,317	132,554

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 March 2023

	District Council	W'derers ESU	Scylax ESU	Xavier ESU	W'bury ESU	Poseidon ESU	Paragon ESU	Hamlet Wood	Gang Show	Grand Total	
										This Year	Previous Year
										£	£
Monetary assets	58,203	294	1,388	1,666	3,064	1,134	2,238	45,448	6,882	120,317	132,554
Liabilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	575	0	575	1,935
	58,203	294	1,388	1,666	3,064	1,134	2,238	44,873	6,882	119,742	130,619
Non-monetary assets	129,192	0	0	0	0	0	0	181,725	0	310,917	303,117
Total net assets	187,395	294	1,388	1,666	3,064	1,134	2,238	226,598	6,882	430,659	433,736

Following a re-organisation of the Maidstone South District at the end of March 2016 Maidstone West District Scout Council's interest in the Hamlet Wood Campsite increased from 28% to 50% and its share of the Gang Show finances increased from 33% to 50%.

Chairman..... *Woki* Treasurer *Rbz*

Date *19 SEPT 23*

Receipts and payments for the year ended 31st March 2023

RECEIPTS	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
PREMISES					
Property related grants	1	0		10,667	
Rent and other property income		<u>1,000</u>	1,000	<u>1,938</u>	12,605
MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS					
From Groups and Explorer Units		43,452		39,765	
Less paid to County Headquarters		-36,860		-33,666	
Capitation rebate		<u>362</u>	6,954	<u>315</u>	6,414
ACTIVITIES					
Camp & other activities		1,780		63	
Jamborees		<u>9,297</u>	11,077	<u>1,500</u>	1,563
OTHER INCOME					
Other grants & donations	2	566		5,260	
Badges		<u>3,199</u>	3,765	<u>2,400</u>	7,660
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR			<u><u>22,796</u></u>		<u><u>28,242</u></u>
PAYMENTS					
DISTRICT HQ					
Insurance		898		842	
Utilities		815		1,077	
Other		<u>1,248</u>	2,961	<u>103</u>	2,022
ACTIVITIES					
Camp & other activities		2,035		0	
Jamboree		18,077		2,719	
Squirrels and other expenses		<u>705</u>	20,817	<u>138</u>	2,857
OTHER EXPENSES					
AGM expenses		136		59	
Donations	3	566		3,000	
OSM & other expenses		2,731		1,527	
Badges		<u>2,669</u>	6,102	<u>2,514</u>	7,100
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR			<u><u>29,880</u></u>		<u><u>11,979</u></u>
DEFICIT/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR			<u><u>-7,084</u></u>		<u><u>16,263</u></u>

Maidstone West District Scout Council
Registered charity number 1022011

Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31st March 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
MONETARY ASSETS B/F				
Bank current account		65,287		49,024
Surplus		<u>-7,084</u>		<u>16,263</u>
MONETARY ASSETS C/F				
Bank current account		58,203		65,287
NON MONETARY ASSETS				
Badge stock	1,141		1,719	
Fixed assets -District HQ & equipment	<u>128,051</u>	<u>129,192</u>	<u>119,673</u>	<u>121,392</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		187,395		186,679
LIABILITIES (due within one year)		0		0
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>187,395</u>		<u>186,679</u>

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Property related grants - Covid recovery related grants amounting to £nil (2022 : £10,667) were received during the year which have been taken to the District HQ Reserve.

2. Other grants & donations - 2022 included a donation of £5,000 from a scout group within the District which has been used to establish a Hardship Reserve

3. Other donations - includes £566 collected during on St George's Day which was donated to local charities. 2022 included a donation of £2,500 to Hamlet Wood for improvements

4. Reserves Policy

On 24 September 2012 the Committee agreed to establish a formal reserve policy relating to the Monetary Assets that are freely available to spend.

District HQ reserve - to maintain this property for the benefit of Scouting in the District

Jamboree reserve - being money held to provide support to scouts selected to attend and represent the District at World Jamborees or other international scouting events

Hardship reserve - to provide financial support to Groups, units or members within the District whose Scouting experience may be impacted due to financial reasons.

General reserve - being other money required to support the ongoing activities of the District Council.

The following reserves have been established as at 31 March 2023.

	District HQ £	Jamboree reserve £	Hardship reserve £	General reserve £	Total £
Reserve b/f	28,685	11,403	5,000	20,199	65,287
Receipts	1,000	9,297	0	12,499	22,796
Payments	2,961	18,077	0	8,842	29,880
Reallocation of reserves	3,000	3,000	0	-6,000	0
Reserve c/f	29,724	5,623	5,000	17,856	58,203

Post year end the Trustee Board agreed a budget of £25,000 for essential repairs to the District HQ roof.

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Maidstone West District Scout Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Maidstone West District Scout Council for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Maidstone West District Scout Council 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 Maidstone West District Scout Council 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:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Maidstone West District Scout Council as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or

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.



Signed: *Jason Keeping*

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies: ACA

Address: 6 Lambourne Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4FN

Date: 19 September 2023

MAIDSTONE WEST DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Trustees' Annual Report for the period ended 31 March 2023

Reference and administration details

Registered charity number 1022011

Charity's principal address:

21 Phoenix Drive
Wateringbury
ME18 5DR

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	At AGM replaced by:
Wendy O'Kill	Chair		
Robin Francis Plane	Treasurer		
Chris Bury	Secretary		
Kevin John Jenner			
Michael Steven O'Kill			
Daniel James Everest			
Patricia Annette Hadley			
Josh Reynolds			
Nicholas Keates			

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document:

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.

How the charity is constituted:

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

Objectives, activities, achievements and performance

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.

The Aim of The Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens, and as members of

MAIDSTONE WEST DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Trustees' Annual Report for the period ended 31 March 2023

their local, national, and international communities. The method of achieving the Aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based upon the Scout Promise and Law, and guided by adult leadership.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects:

The Trustees have complied with the duty to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. A summary of the main activities undertaken by the District to further its charitable purpose for the public benefit is set out in the attached District Lead Volunteer Report for 2022/23.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year:

A summary of the District's main achievements are set out in the attached District Lead Volunteer Report for 2022/23.

Financial review:

The accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 have been prepared on a 'payments and receipts' basis, as in previous years, and include the income and expenditure for each of the Explorers units, and the District's 50 % share of the Hamlet Wood Scout Campsite and the Gang Show.

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Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees on 25 January 2024.

Full Name	Robin Francis Plane.....	Wendy O'Kill.....
Position	District Treasurer.....	Chair.....