

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 1ST DAVENHAM SCOUT GROUP. Charity Number: 1029781

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of 1ST DAVENHAM SCOUT GROUP Charity (the Charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Charity 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 Charity's 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 Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
the accounts do not accord with those records; or
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.

Signed:

Name: Jonathan Carty

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): BA (Hons) Accountancy

Address: 593 London Road
Davenham
Northwich
CW9 8LH

Date: 27th January 2024

1st DAVENHAM (Church) Scout Group Charity Number 1029781

Registered Address: 562 London Road, Davenham, Cheshire CW9 8LR

Registered Trustees:

Andrew Berrisford - Chair

Jacqueline Turpin - Secretary

Webdy Capelle - Treasurer

David Bibby Group Scout Leader

Structure/Management of the Group

The Scout Group held an Annual General Meeting on the 17th July 2023 which consisted of the 4 Trustees, a representative from each section of the Group and a number of parents. All parents of members were invited to attend.

At the AGM each section provided a report of their activities during the previous year, the fundraising committee updated on the fundraising events which were held during the year and the Treasurer presented the annual accounts which are approved at the meeting.

At the AGM the Trustees were re-elected for the following year.

In addition to the AGM regular Leader meetings were held with the Trustees attending at which future activities were discussed.

The Group activities and objectives in the year.

The purpose of the Scout Group 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 their local, national and international communities. To achieve this the Group provides an enjoyable and interesting scheme of progressive training where the members can obtain badges as a recognition of their achievements.

The Fundraising Committee continued to deliver a fundraising plan for the year in order to generate additional income to help towards the costs involved in delivering the Scout Group activities and to build up a fund for the development of a new purpose-built building for use by the Scout Group and the wider community.

Plans had been submitted to the Local Planning Authority for a 2-storey accessible community-based building on land owned by the Scout Group. A number of studies have been undertaken in connection with the requirements of the planning application process

The Groups achievements and its performance during the financial year.

1. Chair's report

The Chair thanked everyone for their continued hard work and support for the Scout Group. Impressed, as always, by all the energy! Noted that we are a small group of adults trying to run activities for young people, alongside fundraising towards a new Scout Hall. As there are so many young people on the waiting list to join scouting, the Group have

managed to recruit and train eight new leaders who with help have start up a new Friday Beaver Section plus two new leaders in Cubs.

Scouting Sections

Scouts

Scouts' membership numbers 30 - waiting list in place,

Programme Highlights

Cheshire Hike - 21 participants across 3 age/distance groups in 2023, greatest number ever

5 Scouts achieved Chief Scout Gold Award with recipients presented with certificates and badges in 2023. This was the first time that five Scouts have achieved this Award in one year. A fantastic achievement.

Year overview.

Scouts had another fun, energetic and action-packed year - enjoying perennial favourites alongside brand-new activities for the group. An example of some of the activities were

- The Scouts held a man-hunt and saw geocaching which teased the concept of team-based navigation to those younger members not yet familiar with these skill
- A visit to Warhammer in Crewe and learned about the intricate world of table-top role-playing strategy. These visits were spread over two weeks and culminated in everyone earning their Warhammer-sponsored badge.
- The Scouts visited the North West Face climbing wall in Warrington and Altrincham ten pin bowling.
- In early 2023 we commenced with Cheshire Hike preparation, with the first couple of sessions involving night hiking and navigation challenges
- a visit to the Bentley campus.
- Cheshire Hike event was another triumph –certainly with regard to enthusiasm and participation - with twenty-one young people from the troop taking part this year. The hike is an event that brings together so many of the skills and disciplines that underpin scout training and we as leaders are always so very proud of every young person who pushes themselves through it.

Cubs

Total members 16 rising to 20 youth members by July 2023 Only one of the members from Spring 2023 is still a member now. This means that we have gained 19 new youth members since Spring 2023!

Total volunteer adult leaders 5 and 2 volunteer young leaders

Programme Highlight

We have delivered a varied and balanced programme for Cubs over the year and have taken part in District events,

Two overnight trips completed successfully: sleepover in November 2022 and camp in April 2023.

Commenced a rolling programme for one challenge award per term. This means that every Cub who completes seven consecutive terms should receive Cub Scout Silver Award. We are three terms into this plan so first silver awards likely to be awarded in December 2024.

Overall, a good year for the section with large growth of youth membership and another adult volunteering to complete section leader training.

Beavers

We have delivered a varied and balanced programme for Beavers over the year and have taken part in District events, such as an adventure day at Forest Camp in the Autumn and a belated party a few weeks ago to celebrate Beavers' 35th birthday.

The highlight for Beavers has, of course, been starting our new Friday Beavers colony! A huge thank you to the new volunteers to enable us to get the new colony up and running. This has meant that our waiting list is a much more manageable size! For now, we can have up to 24 on Mondays and 15 on Fridays.

Another huge thank you to the 2 volunteers who have joined Monday Beavers. Having those extra pairs of hands makes such a difference and 3 Young Leaders: -The 3 of them come along to help as often as they can and we really appreciate it.

Since the last AGM in September 2022, over 200 badges have been awarded, including 4 Chief Scout Bronze Awards - the highest award for Beavers.

Fundraising Update

The Group have had another successful year in organising several fundraising events increasing the profit year on year. The events have been well supported by the local community and local companies

Key Events in the year were Christmas Tree's Sales, Plant Sale and our first Beer Festival at the Cricket Cub. All these events have been very successful so have planned to hold the same events going forward.

Proposed new Scout Hall/community building

Plans have been drawn up by a local company and the application for planning has been submitted to the local Planning Authority. The planning department are awaiting on the Bio Diversity team report which they visited the site in Oct 22.

The Planning Application was granted in June 2023.

Other Group Activities

St Wilfrid's Church Hall and land is now up for sale so the Scouts were asked to remove the 2 Storage units, they have been relocated to Peckmill along with the Girls Guides storage shed. The Church Council contributed 50% towards the cost of the relocation of the sheds.

1st Davenham Scout Group Constitution has been revised and was accepted at the AGM and has been adopted,

A discussion was held around the Group being called a 'church' group. When the Scout Group was originally set up it was supported by the Church of England financially and hence, we are officially '1st Davenham (Church) Scout Group'. However, over the years this support has been stopped and the Group no longer has any direct links with the Church. The consensus was to continue the review.

Financial Review

The accounts are based on a Receipts and Payments basis. The accounting period was for the 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023.

Opening Bank Balance as at 1st April 2022 was £31088.08

Registered Charity: 1029781

Receipts for the year was £38882.95

Payments for the year was £25392.64

Closing Bank Balance as at 31st March 2023 was £44642.39 and petty cash £7.01

The Group made a profit of £13490.31 over the year, in line with the previous year.

Members subscriptions remained at the same level as 2021/22 with a full year of subscriptions received. Fundraising and donations increased with 4 events held in the year.

The members subscriptions and contributions towards scouting activities totalled £9.6k with costs of £*k which included insurance and capitation to the National Scouting Association.

Fund-raising events have been well supported by the local community with a variety of events, such as a Bedding plant sale and Christmas Tree sales.

The income from fundraising and donations was £27k with costs of £4.7k- this included grant from local councillors, local companies and general donations aswell as profit from fundraising evets

The costs of maintaining the land at Peckmill including planning application costs amounted to £9k which was offset by a contribution of £2k towards the removal of the sheds.

We also purchased equipment for £2.3k.

Accounts Verification

The accounts have been independently verified. - please refer to separate document.

Declaration

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Chair

Treasurer

1st DAVENHAM SCOUT GROUP

Year ended 31 March 2023

Previous years figures

INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

shown for comparison purposes

	31-Mar-23	31-Mar-22
Income	£	£
Subs/activities	9,678.56	8,774.74
Gocardless and Sumup Fees	(324.20)	0.00
Davenham Parish Council Grant	800.00	0.00
Other Grants	2,000.00	0.00
Nat West Account Interest	186.04	2.59
NSB Investment Account	0.00	0.00
Other trips/Events/nights out	0.00	0.00
Davenham Carnival	0.00	0.00
Swimathon	0.00	0.00
Evebts	594.40	0.00
Misc Sales	270.00	0.00
Easy Fund Raising	42.42	51.86
Fundraising Amazon Smile/Paypal	1,369.73	30.83
Fundraising Sale of Logs	6,351.90	3,026.00
Fundraising Beer Festival	6,180.00	0.00
Fundrasing Plant Sale	2,225.10	2,834.65
Fundraising Christmas Trees	4,548.00	4,684.84
Donations	2,381.00	6,753.00
Contribution to remove sheds	2,580.00	0.00
Transfer from National Savings Account	0.00	0.00
Total Income	38,882.95	26,158.51

Expenditure

Insurance	456.76	419.29
Hall Hire	644.00	601.00
Capitation	3605.74	3216.00
Donations	145.00	50.00
Beavers/Cubs/Scouts Activities	2,427.69	1,338.50
Scout Shop/Badges	728.54	781.49
Group Activities/AGM/Bonfire	0.00	0.00
Fundraising Plant Sale	1050.00	752.00
Fundraising Xmas Trees	1900.47	2187.92
Fundraising Beer Festival	1835.80	0.00
OSM/Website	185.00	165.00
Pre Planning Application costs	1,880.20	1,625.99
Utilities	101.50	0.00
Peckmill General costs	780.74	0.00
Peckmill Site Infrastructure	7,271.17	0.00
Equipment	2,380.03	147.88

Total Expenditure	<u>25,392.64</u>	<u>11,285.07</u>
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Excess/(Shortfall) for the year	13,490.31	14,873.44
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FUNDS @ 31/03/2022

31-Mar-23

31-Mar-22

£

£

Represented By:

Cash Float	7.01	6.31
Debtors/Prepayments	(64.00)	
Creditors		
Cash Book/Bank (NatWest)	44,642.39	31,088.08
National Savings Account	0.00	0.00
	<u>44,585.40</u>	<u>31,094.39</u>