Scouts
Loddon District

REGISTERED CHARITY No 276613



96th

Annual General Meeting

June 17th, 2026

WELCOME

The President and District Officials cordially welcome you to the

96th Annual General Meeting of Loddon District Scout Council

On

Wednesday June 17th, 2026

At

3rd Woodley Scout HQ

The agenda for the meeting, the minutes of the last AGM and the various reports are set out in the following pages.

LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Annual General Meeting

June 17th, 2026, at 8.00 pm
3rd Woodley Scout HQ, Grounds of St Dominic Savio Primary School,
Western Avenue, Woodley. RG5 3BH

AGENDA

1. Introduction and welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. **Governance topics**
   a. To approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 18th June 2025
   b. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules
   c. Note the District's financial year.
   d. Approve appointed and community members of the District Scout Council
   e. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board
   f. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the District Scout Council (excluding this AGM)
4. **Review of the previous year**
   a. The District Lead Volunteer's review of Scouts in Loddon District
   b. To receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Board including the annual Statement of the Accounts
5. **Making appointments**
   a. Appoint the District Chair
   b. Appoint the District Treasurer
   c. Appoint members of the District Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustee Board
   d. To re-appoint the District President.
   e. To appoint the Scrutineer.
   f. To nominate representatives of the District Scout Council to represent the District on the County Scout Council
6. Introduce County Commissioner to say a few words.
7. **Closing remarks**

Minutes of the 95th Annual General Meeting of the Loddon District Scout Council held on Wednesday 18th June 2025 in 1st Wargrave Scout HQ & commencing at 8.00pm

1) Introduction and welcome

The District Chair opened the meeting with a few safety announcements and then handed over to the District President to say a few words.

The President, Mick Stocks, welcomed everyone to the meeting, he thanked Wargrave for hosting the meeting. He said that the past year had been challenging because of the transformation, and he commented that the digital system had not been as practical as had been expected. The transition has created a huge amount of extra work for all our lead volunteers. He expressed his thanks to Geoff and Jenny, our District Lead Volunteers, and to all the GLVs in the district. Fortunately, our section leaders have just got on with the job, so the children have been largely unaffected. The transition for our trustees has been relatively straightforward and he expressed his thanks to Donald for all that he has done to facilitate the change.

Donald replied by thanking Mick for his support and for all the work he does behind the scenes.

2) Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from, Chas Randle, Trefor Fisher, John Edmunds, Malcolm Fillingham, Tony Parker, Phil Brown and Nigel Bevan. Some 14 District members attended.

3) Governance Topics

Donald noted to the District Scout Council members present that this part of the meeting is a necessary part to make sure that the charity's foundations are in good order.

a) Approval of Minutes of AGM held on 19th June 2024

The District Chair, Donald MacDonald, then continued chairing the meeting by saying that the minutes from last year were reviewed by the District Executive Committee at their first meeting after the AGM and so he proposed that the minutes are taken as read and asked the District Scout Council to agree that they are a true record of that meeting. Robin Phillips seconded the proposal and there was a unanimous show of hands to approve.

b) To adopt the model constitution from policy, Organisation and Rules

In line with the recommendation from Scout Headquarters, Donald proposed that we adopt the model constitution from Chapter 5 of the Policy, Organisation and Rules. A copy of this was sent to everyone for review and inspection prior to this meeting and copies are also available at the meeting. Tom Toy seconded this proposal, and the show of hands was unanimous.

c) To note the District's financial year.

Members of the District Scout Council are asked to note that our charity's financial year is 1st April to 31st March.

d) To approve appointed and community members of the scout council

Donald said that the Chair noted the District Scout Council can admit other people to membership. Chair advises that no other persons are nominated as District Scout Council members. These would have been admitted as members of the District Scout Council as well as the ex officio list in POR Rule 5.5.4 There was therefore no need for a show hands to approve.

e) To agree the number of members that may be elected to the Trustee Board

The District Scout Council must agree at its AGM the number of people that can be elected to the Trustee Board. The recommendation from the outgoing Trustee Board is that 8 people can be elected. The Chair proposes that the District Scout Council approves that recommendation. Seconder was Robin Phillips, and the show of hands was unanimous.

f) To agree the quorum for each of the District Scout Council (including this AGM), meetings of the District Trustee Board, meetings of any sub-committees.

The District Scout council must agree at its AGM the quorum – the minimum number of District Scout Council members that must be present at a meeting of the District Scout Council. The recommendation from the outgoing Trustee Board is that the quorum should be set at 8 persons. The District Scout Council was asked to approve that recommendation. The seconder was Andrew Price and the show of hands unanimous.

4) **Review of the previous year**

The chair noted to the District Scout Council members present that this part of the meeting was the opportunity to reflect of the activities of the past year.

a) **The District Lead Volunteer's review of Scouting in Loddon District**

In addition to his written report Geoff said that some parts of the new system were working well, in particular suspensions for leaders who have not completed their mandatory training. The issuing of permits is also working, and new permits are being issued easily. Other parts of the system are less good, and we need it to work better. HQ is working to improve the situation.

Our squirrel dreys are expanding and we now have 5 dreys, 99th Reading and 1st Twyford have both opened squirrel sections.

One of our Explorers has been to Belgium to Menin Gate to participate in the ceremony there. We have 32 Explorer scouts planning a visit to the Netherlands in the summer with a varied programme of events to look forward to.

Both 84th Reading and Sonning are missing a GLV and it's important that these roles are filled.84th have appointed a new chair so at least some of the necessary information is filtering through to the leaders.

Lots of nights away permits are being issued so the district is in a good place at the moment.

Jenny added that we are grateful to Jane Moore who has been working tirelessly to ensure that our training records are up to date, which is a huge job.

Also thanks to Zed who has been keeping activity permits recorded and who is checking risk assessments which takes a lot of pressure off both Geoff and myself.

Alan Foord has been helping with the Nights Away team so the permit process is working well.

The Chair then thanked Geoff and Jenny for their reports and reiterated his thanks for all that they have done throughout the past year.

He then took the opportunity to explain why the County Lead Volunteer was absent and read out the following report from him: -

My apologies that I cannot be with you in person tonight, as my car has been in repairs at the garage and is now not being returned until tomorrow.

It has generally been a difficult year for Scouting nationally, so I am really grateful to all of our Leaders in Loddon District who have kept amazing programmes going for ever more young people across the District. It is a tribute to all of the leaders that Scouting has grown significantly across the District, thereby giving yet more young people the opportunities that Scouting offers. We have about 2,500 young people across the County queuing up to join Scouting in Berkshire, so we need to continue to try and meet that demand.

To put things into perspective, Loddon District grew by 5.5% (4-18yr olds) across all sections except for Cubs, with an incredible 26% increase in Explorers. This overall 5.5% increase compares with an overall County average of 1.4%, and a National average of just 0.3%.

I would particularly like to thank our District and Group Lead Volunteers who have borne the brunt of this difficult year, you have been amazing.

The year started with the fallout from the Great Orme tragedy with a number of self-moderation audits on how we do things within Districts and the County on Safety, Training, Nights Away, Activity permits, and International alongside increased vigilance on completion of mandatory training. We then, at the end of last year, had our transformation into teams-based volunteering and making us more welcoming for new volunteers. And then we had the introduction of the new digital system to replace Compass, which to put it mildly, has not gone as smoothly as we would have hoped. We now have the task of getting all leaders to complete the new safety module by mid-July.

So, thank you to all of our Lead Volunteers, and in particular to Geoff and Jenny. It has not been the easiest of years, and the fun has not always been there. Your resilience under all the difficulties and your dedication to doing everything you can to make all this work has been remarkable. Thank you.

With ALPS25 coming up for Explorers and Network this summer, WINGS26 well under way, and selection for the Jamboree in 2027 coming up later this year, we have a lot to look forward to.

b) To receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Board including the annual statement of the Accounts.

The Chairman said that the District Trustee Board had approved the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts, and the report on the accounts had been received from the Scrutineer. He then asked the District Treasurer to give his explanation of the Statement of Accounts.

The treasurer added to his report by drawing attention to the increase in our assets. We have a number of donations toward the new building at Paddicks Patch to the tune of approximately £60,000. We have received £7,000 back in Gift Aid and £2,000 from the district scout shop. We received our subscriptions in time this year and there have been some small changes in section accounts but basically, we are in rude health. It should be noted that Paddicks Patch is a continual drain on our resources of between £2000 and £3000 per year. Maybe this will improve when the new building is up and running.

The Chair then thanked Simon for all his hard work on the accounts and noted that he has decided to stand down at the next AGM or earlier if we can find a new treasurer.
In terms of succession, we plan to have a treasurer and a deputy to reduce the amount of work for each of them. We plan to advertise for a new treasurer.

5) Making Appointments

The Chair noted to the District Scout Council members present that we'll use this part of the meeting to organise the setup of the charity until the next AGM. We'll appoint a Trustee Board to oversee good governance for the charity over the next year.

a) To appoint the District Chair

The Chair then handed chairmanship of the meeting to the District Lead Volunteer who nominated Donald MacDonald as District Chair and asked for a show of hands as approval which was unanimous. He then handed chairmanship back to the Chair.

b) Election of the District Treasurer

The District Treasurer is an elected appointment and, as required, Simon Roberts has been formally proposed and seconded. Since there were no other nominations by the closing date a show of hands is required to approve Simon's election. This was unanimous. The Chair then thanked Simon for his support throughout the year.

c) Elections of members to the District Trustee Board

The chair explained the open selection proves agreed by the Trustee Board. The recommendation to the District Scout Council is that Robin Phillips, Helen Price, Stuart Johnson, Mick Stocks, Jenny Lamprell and Geoff Barnes should be appointed as members of the trustee board.
There was a unanimous show of hands to approve.
The chair then thanked the trustees for their work during the year.

d) To re-appoint the District President

The Chair noted that the District Scout Council appoints the District President. He advised that Mick Stocks had been proposed as President and asked for a show of hands to reapprove. This was unanimous.
He then thanked Mick for his support throughout the year.

e) To appoint the Scrutineer.

The Treasurer then proposed Mike Waddelove as scrutineer for the next year. The Chair then said that Mike Waddelove had been proposed and seconded and is qualified for the role. He asked for a show of hands to approve Mike Waddelove's nomination. This was unanimous.

f) To nominate representatives of the District Scout Council to represent the District on the County Scout Council

We are required to nominate at least 1 person as District Representatives to the County Scout Council. Tom Toy has been proposed and seconded. He asked for a show of hands to approve the nomination. This was unanimous. He then thanked Tom for standing once again.

6) **Awards**

One award was then presented by Geoff our District Lead Volunteer.
Ian Loring received his 15 year long-service award.

The Chair then thanked everyone for attending the AGM. He closed the meeting at 20.35 He thanked Wargrave for hosting the AGM.
The next AGM is due to take place on 17th June 2026.

District Lead Volunteer Report

Loddon District and its constituent Groups has enjoyed another good year of Scouting with all sorts of activities being organised by the various sections including adventurous activities – Water and Land based including Archery, Rifle Shooting, Canoeing, Paddle Boarding, Climbing and Abseiling as well as Hikes of various distances. There have also been a lot of Nights Away events organised for all sections including an Explorer trip to The Netherlands.

The District grew very slightly which, compared to national census data, was a success. Our Squirrel Dreys continue to bring in new young people and leaders. Explorer Scouts have expanded with an additional Wednesday base at Twyford. However, two bases are looking for new accommodation as Hurst HQ is renovated.

We have now fully transitioned to the ways of welcoming new volunteers, and the new teams based approach to working.

Zed Rogers has joined the District Leader Team as Programme Lead. Zed has been approving most of the activities and nights away on the County system for several years which has ensured good, safe planning and compliance with POR. Zed also oversees the Scout District Event programme, including the very popular Great Breakfast Chase.

The District is now regularly up to date with Safety, Safeguarding and DBS compliance. Many thanks to Jane Moore who supports the Groups with comprehensive updates and advice on recording in the membership system.

Thank you to the Awards team, led by Helen Price who are working to ensure Leaders and Trustees are suitably appreciated and recognised for their contribution to Scouting.

Finally thank you to everyone in Loddon in whatever role you hold.

Jenny Lamprell and Geoff Barnes
Joint District Lead Volunteers
Loddon District

District Chairman’s Report

Another year flashes by and Scouting in Loddon continues to deliver for our young people and adults.

Thank you to everybody who has been part of what happens in Loddon District.

I'd like to highlight some of our people who have received high accolades recently. Firstly, I'm delighted that Tom Toy has been awarded The Silver Wolf, the highest honour in Scouting. This is a momentous occasion, and Tom has rightly been recognised for a lifetime of dedication.

Jane Moore and Clive Boys have both received The Bar to The Silver Acorn and Neil Jeffery The Silver Acorn. Congratulations to all on these great achievements.

Simon Roberts stands down as Treasurer at the AGM, and I'd like to thank him for all his hard work and support these past 6 years. Emma MacDonald stands down as PP Booking Secretary after over 20 years in the role and I thank her for all her help and support.

I'm taking a break from Scouting after over 22 years as Chair, and I thank everybody who has helped and supported me during that tenure. It's good to have change in organisations, and I feel that the time is right for me to have a break and Loddon to have a change of Chair who will bring new ideas and fresh energy.

All best wishes.

Donald MacDonald
District Chair of Trustees

LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
DISTRICT TREASURER'S REPORT Y/E 31/03/2026

The district accounts for 2025/26 have been prepared as required by the Charities Act 2011.

Total Assets stood at £165,129 as at 31st March 2026 (£187,502 31/3/25). This reduction is mainly due to the repayment of a donation by Earley Charities towards the cost of a new building at Paddicks Patch. Despite the generous donation projected costs increased significantly beyond our ability to fund the project.

The bank balance includes restricted funds totalling £79,232 which are used for specific purposes. Details of individual funds can be found in the Notes to the Accounts statement.

Expenditure exceeded income by £22,374 but this included a net £25k refund to Earley Charities.

The Scout Shop generated a surplus of £1,266 (£2,153 24/25) Rising costs and reducing commission rates from TSA may impact this further. Explorers generated a small surplus of £761 (23/24 £3,881) after allowing for trip costs after the year end. The District continues to subsidise the use of Paddicks Patch for the benefit of local groups to the extent of £9,712 this year. This is significantly higher than last year (£2,200) due to costs of tree work and legal costs.

The District Executive Committee considers that the district should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs in reserve and we continue to meet this requirement.

The Paddicks Patch Project holds a balance of £73,878 whilst considering the future accommodation at Paddicks Patch..

The Receipts and Payment account and a Statement of Assets and Liabilities for Loddon District Scout Council can be viewed in the attachments to this report.

We thank all the Group Treasurers, Group Scout Leaders and Trustees for their continued support.

Simon Roberts
District Treasurer

LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Receipts and Payments Account Summary for the year ended 31st March 2026

Charity No. 276613

	2025/26 Unrestricted Funds	2025/26 Restricted Funds	2025/26 Total Funds	2024/25 *Total Funds*
	£	£	£	£
Total receipts for year	84,342	27,694	**112,036**	*122,824*
Total payments for year end	82,164	52,246	**134,410**	*63,653*
Net of receipts/(payments) for year	2,179	(24,552)	**(22,374)**	*59,171*
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
	2,179	(24,552)	**(22,374)**	*59,171*
Cash, bank & other net assets b/fwd	83,718	103,784	**187,502**	*128,331*
Cash, bank & other net assets c/fwd	**85,897**	**79,232**	**165,129**	*187,502*

Summary of Assets and Liabilities at 31st March 2026

MONETARY ASSETS	2025/26 Unrestricted Funds	2025/26 Restricted Funds	2025/26 Total Funds	2024/25 *Total Funds*
	£	£	£	£
Bank Balances	83,092	79,232	**162,324**	*206,116*
Cash In Hand	55	-	**55**	*55*
	83,147	79,232	**162,379**	*206,171*
OTHER MONETARY ASSETS				
Debts due from Group	-	-	-	-
NON-MONETARY ASSETS				
Scout Shop Stock	10,089	-	**10,089**	*11,732*
	93,236	79,232	**172,468**	*217,903*
LIABILITIES -prepaid subs & other adv pymts	7,339	-	**7,339**	*30,401*
Net Assets	85,897	79,232	**165,129**	*187,502*

The above Receipts and Payment Account and Summary of Asset and Liabilities were approved by the Trustees on and signed on their behalf

District Chair

Helen Price — **District Secretary**

Simon Roberts — **District Treasurer**

LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
Receipts and Payments Account

Receipts for the year ended 31st March 2026

	2025/26 Unrestricted funds £	2025/26 Restricted funds £	2025/26 Total funds £	2024/25 Total funds £
RECEIPTS				
Donations, legacies and similar income				
Membership subscriptions	78,360	-	**78,360**	*68,167*
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)	(71,340)	-	**(71,340)**	*(62,552)*
Net membership subscriptions retained	7,020	-	**7,020**	*5,615*
Donations	-	-	**-**	*-*
Gift Aid	-	-	**-**	*7,393*
Other similar income/Legacy	-	27,694	**27,694**	*39,259*
Sub total	7,020	27,694	**34,714**	52,267
Grants				
Paddicks Patch Project	-	-	**-**	*-*
International Fund	-	-	**-**	*1,142*
Berkshire Scouts Jamboree	-	-	**-**	*-*
Sub total	-	-	**-**	1,142
Fundraising (gross)				
Cubs/Beavers	-	-	**-**	*280*
Scouts	5,977	-	**5,977**	*6,161*
Explorer	63,225	-	**63,225**	*55,236*
Scout Active Support Unit	-	-	**-**	*-*
Paddicks Patch	1,451		**1,451**	*941*
Other District fundraising events	-	-	**-**	*-*
Sub total	70,653	-	**70,653**	62,618
Investment income				
Bank interest(COIF)	5,403	-	**5,403**	*4,644*
Scout Shop	1,266	-	**1,266**	*2,153*
		-	**-**	*-*
		-	**-**	*-*
Sub total	6,669	-	**6,669**	6,797
Total Gross Income	84,342	27,694	**112,036**	**122,824**
To COIF a/c	-	-	**-**	*-*
Total Receipts	84,342	27,694	**112,036**	*122,824*

LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
Receipts and Payments Account

Payments for the year ended 31st March 2026

	2025/26 Unrestricted funds £	2025/26 Restricted funds £	2025/26 Total funds £	2024/25 Total funds £
PAYMENTS				
Charitable Payments				
Premises - Paddicks Patch	11,163		**11,163**	*3,141*
Premises - Scout Shop	-	-	**-**	*-*
Section Expenses	-	-	**-**	*-*
International Fund	-	-	**-**	*-*
AGM and trustee expenses	1,080	-	**1,080**	*1,055*
Insurance	52	-	**52**	*52*
Independent Examiners Fees	38	-	**38**	*31*
Adult support and training	-	-	**-**	*-*
General Expenses	-	-	**-**	*-*
Grants	-	-	**-**	*200*
Fundraising Fees			**-**	*-*
Paddicks Patch Project	-	52,246	**52,246**	*1,721*
Berkshire Scouts Jamboree		-	**-**	*-*
Sub total	12,333	52,246	**64,579**	*6,200*
Section Activities				
Cubs/Beavers	-	-	**-**	*265*
Scouts	6,946	-	**6,946**	*3,157*
Explorer Scouts	62,464	-	**62,464**	*51,355*
Scout Active Support Unit	-	-	**-**	*2,284*
Other fundraising costs- District Events	421	-	**421**	*392*
Sub total	69,831	-	**69,831**	*57,453*
Total Gross Expenditure	82,164	52,246	**134,410**	*63,653*
To COIF a/c		-	**-**	*-*
Total Payments	82,164	52,246	**134,410**	*63,653*
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,179	- 24,552	**- 22,374**	*59,171*
Transfers between funds			**-**	*-*
Net assets last year end	83,718	103,784	**187,502**	*128,331*
Net assets this year end	85,897	79,232	**165,129**	*187,502*

LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Statement of assets and liabilities as at 31st March 2026

	2025/26 Unrestricted funds £	2025/26 Restricted funds £	2025/26 Total funds £	2024/25 Total funds £
Cash funds				
Bank-Loddon District Scout Council	41,042	-	**41,042**	*35,730*
Bank- COIF Deposit Fund	9,133	79,232	**88,365**	*132,961*
Bank- Scout Shop Account	3,018	-	**3,018**	*3,109*
Bank- District Scout Account	2,218	-	**2,218**	*3,187*
Bank- Explorer Scout Account	27,682		**27,682**	*31,129*
Bank-Loddon Scout Active Support	-	-	**-**	-
Cash/Floats	55	-	**55**	*55*
Total cash funds	83,147	79,232	**162,379**	*206,171*
Other monetary assets				
Tax claim	-	-	**-**	-
Debts due from the County/Area/District/Group	-	-	**-**	-
Insurance claim	-	-	**-**	-
Sub total	-	-	**-**	-
Investment assets				
Other investments - detail	-	-	**-**	-
Sub total	-	-	**-**	-
Non monetary assets for charity's own use				
Shop items & Badges stock	10,089	-	**10,089**	*11,732*
Other	-	-	**-**	-
Sub total	10,089	-	**10,089**	*11,732*
Liabilities				
Accounts not yet paid	-	-	**-**	-
Expenses incurred but not invoiced	-	-	**-**	-
Subscriptions paid in advance	1,599	-	**1,599**	*20,452*
Loan - detail	-	-	**-**	-
Other liabilities	5,740	-	**5,740**	*9,949*
Sub total	7,339	-	**7,339**	*30,401*
Net assets	85,897	79,232	**165,129**	*187,502*

NON-MONETARY ASSETS

(based on insurance values)	Explorer Scouts	Loddon District - Paddicks&Shop
Buildings	27,418	85,800
Contents&Equipment	41,453	33,530
Trailers	12,721	-

LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Notes to accompany the Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2026

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities 2005 (SORP 2005), the Charities Act 1996 and applicable accounting standards.

2. MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

The gross figure includes subscriptions due to Headquarters and County.

3. DONATIONS / GRANT / SIMILAR INCOME

Although £27,694 was received, £50,000 was repaid when it was decided that the original plans for a new building (PP Project) were not achievable.

4. INTERNATIONAL FUND

There have been no transactions on the International Fund this year.

5. FUNDS

Unrestricted funds represent the funds of this Council that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the Council are deemed as restricted funds and are summarised below. The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which this Council is responsible in law.
The total Restricted Funds for the year are £79,232.

Restricted Fund **Balances as at 31st March 2026**	**International Fund**	**Beavers a/c**	**Paddicks Patch Fund**
	£4,763	£571	£73,898

6. PADDICKS PATCH

This wooded area of land in Waingels Road was donated to Loddon District Scouts in 1982 by Sidney Paddick for use as a camp site. In September 1990, a prefabricated building was donated by Barclays Bank and erected on the site. This is now the Loddon District Headquarters. Planning permission for a new building has been granted, but the Council has decided not to proceed because of cost. Alternative arrangements are being considered.

7. SECTIONS

The District Scout Explorers and District Scouts maintain separate accounts. The District Cub and Beaver funds are included as restricted funds within the main account.

8. LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT SHOP

Scout shop items have been valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The Scout Shop maintains a separate account. The shop made a contribution of £1,266 to District funds in the year.

9. TRUSTEE EXPENSES

Trustees received expenses totalling £1,080 in the year to 31/3/26.

10. PUBLIC INTEREST

The District Council meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings. The Trustees have had regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission when deciding upon the activities for the year.

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st March 2026.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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 (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 (S)(b) 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.

to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act, or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Name: MICHAEL WADELOWE

Signed:

Address 6 SEVENOAKS DRIVE
SPENCERS WOOD
RG7 1AZ

Date: 31 MAY 2026

Growing (Pains) 2025/2026 Report

Apology / Excuse in early 😊

As I've only taken on the role of District Programme Team Leader since May, this report will be somewhat 'from memory'!

What has my past 12 months looked like?

Well, from my viewpoint it's been outstanding! I was awarded the 'Unsung Hero award' from Archery GB back last November (only a year late!), which I dedicate to all Scouts that have picked up a bow. I have never been prouder of all our archers continuing to develop their skills, and their Instructors and coaches who have helped facilitate this growth.

Around the District, we've done more, stayed out more and continued to grow.

Thanks to the fantastic work of my fellow Volunteers, Scout Troops are mostly full, Explorers are overflowing, Squirrel Dreys are multiplying and Cubs and Beavers are ever expanding.

The challenge of finding more space for the growing waiting list is purely down to the amazing programme of activities we are putting on for our young people.

So, from a purely quantity perspective, we're doing great. I don't believe that Loddon has ever been bigger, never doing more. (Citation required 😊)

We camped out over 50 times which means that over 20 Squirrel, 350 Beaver, nearly 700 Cub, over 1000 Scout and 400 Explorer nights away were gained.

From a quality perspective, we're also growing, with our younger Sections continuing to challenge their older brethren to go further and do even more.

Not being worried that 'there won't be something for them to look forward to' in the older Sections, I've seen Squirrels cooking Smores, Beavers going climbing and Cubs on week-long Jamborees.

This can only be a good thing, and besides, who doesn't like eating Smores? 😊

In the Scout section, another Murray Plate season (2025/2026) draws to a close with the Raft Race in July and congratulations to the 2024/2025 winners 1st Woodley.

I am looking to restart the District Cub programme (in their 110th year –and with a fair wind, also attempt something similar for the Beavers (in their 40th year and to try and replicate some of what the Scout section currently takes part in – wish me luck.

To finalise 'Growing (Pains)'

We're getting bigger, we need more resources, more adults, more buildings and more time, but our ever growing numbers shows we must be doing something right?

So keep up with the Adventure Golf, Air Rifle Shooting, Archery, Bonfire & Fireworks, Bouldering, Bowling, Bushcraft, Christmas Quiz (In April), Climbing, Coral Reef, Cycling, Dinosaur Mini Golf, Dragon Boating, Evening Hike, Fishing, Foot Golf, Greenpark Wind Turbine, Hiking, Ice Skating, Iftar Party, Indoor Skydiving experience, Jurassic Golf Trip, Katakanuing, Kayaking , Laser Tag, MSF Olympics, Nature Walk, Night Hike, Orienteering, Paddleboarding, Pasty Making @ Rural Pie Co, Pinewood Raceway, Pond dipping, Raft building, Raft Race, Reading miniature railway trip, Reading Rowing Regattas, Reading Society of Model Engineers visit, Reptile Encounter, Sailing Taster Session, Sonning Explore, Swan Lifeline Visit, Swimming, Theale Fire Station Visit, Three Towers, Troop Night Cycle Ride, Visit to Avon Tyrrell, Visit to Cole Museum, Visit to the Bank, Wind Turbine Visit, Wokingham Road Fire Station Visit……. it just works!

Night All

Zed

Loddon District Programme Team Leader

Safety Report

Over the past year the safety focus has been on making Paddicks Patch safe for activities. This programme has been led by Keith Boseley whose vast knowledge and experience in the biodiversity of ancient woodland has enabled potential hazards to be identified and the risks minimised. Much of this work has been associated with the removal and reduction in the ash trees suffering from Ash Dieback disease. Several trees have been felled around the fire circle and along the site border with Waingels Road. The fire circle is now able to be used provided the forecast wind speed is less than 40 mph.

A tree replanting scheme is in hand to replace the felled trees. The species being planted reflect the need for disease resistance and tolerance to drought conditions. Also being trialled is the use of microfungal root treatment to help the new trees establish well.

The existence of the old building on site continues to present challenges. Work has commenced to relocate the 3 phase electrical supply to a new box to the rear right of the building. Once this is completed demolition of the building can start.

Robin Phillips
Loddon Safety Coordinator

LODDON DISTRICT SCOUT SHOP - 2026

Total sales for the year were £31,633 of which £19,980 (63%) was for Loddon District, £10,672 (34%) was Wokingham and £981 (3%) was others. This was similar to last year.
Badge sales of £13,712 represented 43% of the turnover, of which Loddon groups purchased £8,257 Wokingham £5,275 and others £179.
We received payments of £1,320 in cash, £14,536 by bank transfer and £15,777 by card, for which we incurred £264 costs in transaction fees.
The sale of uniform continues to be steady, mostly at the start of term, but it is obvious that some parents are preferring the convenience of purchasing online direct from Scout store. Scout Store has changed some of the sizing by introducing ‘stretch’ shirts, which has caused us a lot of extra work. We have even had parents coming into the shop asking if they can change uniforms they have purchased online as it does not fit!
We were able to return £1,317 to groups in the form of a 5% rebate on uniform and badge purchases and transferred £3,000 surplus funds to the District.
As in previous years we would appreciate more help with serving at the shop, particularly on Saturday mornings. We do not allocate more than 3 sessions per term to our already busy helpers, and we are having to cover the rest.

Barbara and Ian Loring
Shop Managers