10th Harpenden (Methodist) Scout Group

Annual report - year ended 31 December 2025

Trustees' Annual Report for 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

Reference and administration details

Charity name:	10th Harpenden (Methodist) Scout Group
Registered charity number (England and Wales):	***292736***
Charity's principal address	Waldegrave Park, Harpenden, Herts AL5 5SF

Trustees

Name	Office	Changes during year	Nature of appointment
Andrew Bresler	Chairman	Appointed September 2018	Re-elected at AGM 2024
Sara Bresler	Secretary	Appointed November 2020	Re-elected at AGM 2024
Russell Husbands	Treasurer	Appointed 2019	
Mark Grant	Deputy Chairman		
Larry Neal	Trustee		
Yvette Husbands	Trustee	Appointed 29 January 2016	

Professional advisors

Independent Examiner	Bankers
Laura Brierly	CAF Bank Ltd
84a Station Road	25 Kings Hill Avenue
Harpenden	Kings Hill
AL5 4TY	West Malling
	Kent, ME19 4JQ

Structure, governance and management

The governing documents of the 10th Harpenden (Methodist) Scout Group (the "Group") 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 ("POR") 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. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Group is managed by the Executive Committee, the members of which include the 'Charity Trustees'. The Committee also consists of additional independent representatives from the constituent scout groups and major activities within the Group and meets 4 times per year. All members of the committee are Ex-officio as defined by POR.

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

- The maintenance of property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;

The Group is currently made up of 2 Beaver sections, 2 Cub sections and 2 Scout sections.

Risk and Internal Control

The 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 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 Association's national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities. The District has also purchased Personal Accident for Non-Members

and Supporters Insurance covering district activities. The Group also has personal accident insurance for non-members.

Reduced income from fund raising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from donations from active Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. The Group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income and also charges others for use of the premises owned by the Group.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the district and its constituent groups and units. If there was a reduction in the number of volunteers to an unacceptable level in a particular section or group then there would have to be appropriate contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst-case scenario the complete closure of a section might be required.

Reduction or loss of members. The Group's units and constituent groups provide activities for all young people aged 6 to 16. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section then there would have to be appropriate contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst-case scenario the complete closure of the group might be required.

The Group has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include 2 signatories for all payments and comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Objectives and activities

The objectives of the group 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 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 on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

Public benefit statement

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.

Achievements and performance

Chairman's Review

2025 was another great year for the 10th with a continuation of the full range of activities across the scouting spectrum. It still continues to be run and managed excellently, efficiently and enthusiastically by a wonderful group of leaders and supporters.

The leadership structure further evolved with a transition from the existing co-GSL's to new co-GSL's, but due to other commitments, one of the new co-GSL's had to stand down. The current GSL has continued to manage and run the unit superbly. As ever, the leadership and helpers continue to maintain a superb array of activities and do this purely for the benefit and good of the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

The committee remain fully supported by elected and non-elected members.

The Crabtree Fields site remains is in very good condition and continues be maintained, with and repairs being undertaken to ensure that the facilities remain in good condition. In addition to the day-to-day facilities, it provides for the 10th it also enables additional activities for the members for events such as the very popular comedy night, which continues to be a hugely popular event. Rental during the daytime during the week continues to being in valuable revenue for the benefit of the 10th.

Finances in good shape and the Nursery continues to support the unit well.

Highlights are:

	2025	2024
Treasurers' accounts - Group	£39,382	£39,857
Current accounts - Sections	£17,204	£19,078
Cash in hand - Sections	£167	£167
Joint hut committee	£22,548	£22,022
	£79,301	£81,123

GSL review: **10th Harpenden Scout Group**

It has been another busy year at the 10th! The academic year started with a return of our Family Camp, held once again at Paccar Scout Camp. Attendance was at a record high with around 180 Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and their parents/carers and siblings coming together for a weekend of fun.

The Group also took part in the St George's Day Parade in April, and our older sections helped mark Rememberence Day.

We also held our annual Comedy night (adults only!) in November which was a great success.

Beavers

Our Beavers have enjoyed a varied programme across both Colonies.

Highlights from Tree Colony have included hikes, a Zumba session, a visit to the Hurst Children's Theatre Company's Pantomime at the Eric Morecombe Centre, making gingerbread houses, as well as a visit to the fun rings at the dry ski slope. The year ended at Batford Springs for a picnic and sailing junk boats.

Highlights for River Colony included hikes, a visit from Mini Professors and visits to Luton Hoo Walled Garden, Oaklands College Zoo and Stanborough lakes for water sports. The year ended at Batford Springs for a picnic and sailing junk boats.

Both sections enjoyed an Activity Day at Phasels Wood in May and the eldest Beavers from both sections enjoyed a joint sleepover at the Scout Hut in March. Both Sections also led the Cubs Carol Service in December.

Cubs

Our Cub Packs have had a busy year!

Fox Pack had an Autumn camp at Lees Wood, followed by a Sixers and Seconders Camp at the Scout Hut. Sessions have included kayaking, bowling, visiting Bayfordbury Observatory, a visit to the Guru Nanak Gurdwara, a camp at Phasels Wood, and a sleepover on HMS Belfast.

Swift Pack have hiked, had a Karate session, had a Burns Night celebration, had a reptile night, played mini golf and had a bike ride, had a sleepover at the Scout Hut with activities at Paccar Scout Camp. They also had a superhero summer camp

Both Packs attended the Cubs Carol service and helped with the Cubs Christmas card collection and delivery scheme.

Scouts

Scout camps for both Troops this year were Spring Camp, Summer Camp in the Peak District, Cycle Camp in the New Forest and Green Beret.

Wessex have also enjoyed laser quest, a night hike, an international cooking evening, building catapults, playing crazy golf, a water sports evening and a bike ride.

Mercia have been busy with a glass making evening, a ghost walk, night hike, a cooking evening, a pyrotechnics evening and a climbing evening at the XC Centre.

Both sections also had a first aid night and went to watch Gang Show together.

Financial Review

The Group continues to remain well funded despite a negative movement in the Fund for the year as shown in the financial statements on pages 9-15.

Reserves Policy

The reserves policy of the Group requires that unrestricted funds are available to:

- provide General funds which can be designated to projects to enable these projects to be undertaken at short notice;
- provide sufficient funds to cover key maintenance and repairs for the Hut; and
- over administration and support costs without which the Group would not be able to provide support to the Sections.

The reserves for the Group should be sufficient to cover at least one year's general activities, transport and administration costs. Potential uses for any excess reserves are reviewed on a continual basis by the Executive.

Investment Policy

The Group holds funds in cash accounts with CAF Bank. Each section also holds small amounts of funds in a CAF Bank account in its own name.

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



30 October 2026

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of the 10th Harpenden (Methodist) Scout Group

I report on the accounts of the 10th Harpenden (Methodist) Scout Group for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on pages 8 to 16.

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 section145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report
My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as 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 provide a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and

to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Laura Brierly
Charity Independent Examiner
Address: 84a Station Road, Harpenden, AL5 4TY
Charity Independent Examiner
Date: 23 October 2026

Statement of responsibilities of Trustees and Officers

The trustees and officers are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the District Scout Council and of its income and expenditure for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees and officers are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Group will continue.

- The trustees and officers are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the 10th Harpenden (Methodist) Scout Group

- They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the 10th Harpenden (Methodist) Scout Group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Tenth Harpenden (Methodist) Scout Group

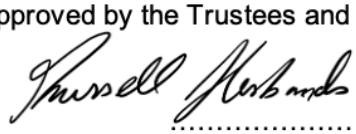
Statement of Financial Activities Summary for the year ended 31 December

	2025	2024
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	£64,659	£65,044
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	£86,864	£73,237
NET INCOMING RESOURCES	-£22,205	-£8,193
Fund set aside for water pipe replacement		
NET MOVEMENT IN FUND	-£22,205	-£8,193
Adjustment for Paccar deposit brought forward		
FUND BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD	£376,951	£385,144
FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD	£354,747	£376,951

Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31 December

	Notes		2025	2024
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible assets	2			
HQ Premises at Waldegrave Park			£247,988	£264,520
Minibuses			£17,958	£21,808
Equipment			£9,500	£9,500
Total fixed assets		£	£275,445	£295,828
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at bank and in hand	3		£79,301	£81,123
Total current assets			£79,301	£81,123
LIABILITIES				
Creditors falling due in the year			£0	£0
NET CURRENT ASSETS		£	£79,301	£81,123
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			£354,747	£376,951
NET ASSETS		£	£354,747	£376,951
Represented by				
GENERAL FUND		£	£354,747	£376,951

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by Russell Husbands



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The notes on pages 15 and 16 form part of these accounts

Tenth Harpenden (Methodist) Scout Group

Cash flow statement for 12 months ending 31 December

	2025	2024
Subscriptions (net of capitation)	£25,216	£13,407
Net income from premises	£3,110	£15,748
Net income from minibus	-£5,420	-£5,962
Family camp	-£239	-£295
Sections	-£5,713	£1,778
Equipment	-£2,083	-£4,065
Change in value of tangible assets	-£20,383	-£21,158
Comedy Night	£658	£2,262
Badges / Leaders Uniforms	-£4,222	-£3,988
Other	-£13,128	-£5,920
Net income/(loss)	**-£22,205**	**-£15,854**
Add back change in value	£20,383	£21,158
Change in debtors	£0	£0
Change in creditors	£0	£0
Other non-cash movements (equipment write-off)	£0	-£1
movement in stock		
Cash flow from operating activities	**-£1,822**	**£5,303**
Investing activities		
Monies set aside for hut rent	-£12,250	£0
Financing activities		
(Repayment)/drawdown on loan	£0	£0
Cash inflow/(outlfow) for period	**-£14,072**	**£5,303**
Opening cash position	£81,123	£75,820
Cash inflow/(outlfow) for period	-£14,072	£5,303
Closing cash position	**£67,051**	**£81,123**
	£67,051	£81,123

Tenth Harpenden (Methodist) Scout Group

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December

INCOMING RESOURCES	2025	2024
Income resources from generated funds		
Voluntary income		
Membership donations (incl. Gift Aid)	£25,127	£22,090
Less: payable to District Scouts	£0	-£8,755
	£25,127	£13,335
Donations received		
Use of premises	£35,195	£44,795
Minibus contributions	£480	£200
Equipment donations	£100	£615
Family Camp	-£239	-£295
Comedy Night	£3,577	£5,584
Activities for generating funds		
Sale of clothing	£331	£737
Investment income		
Interest received	£89	£73
Other incoming resources		
Miscellaneous	£0	£0
Total incoming resources	£64,659	£65,044

Tenth Harpenden (Methodist) Scout Group

Statement of financial Activities for the year ended 31 December

		2025	2024
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
costs of generating voluntary income/donations			
Premises			
Maintenance		£15,516	£13,648
Utilities		£14,008	£12,678
Insurance		£2,562	£2,721
		£32,085	£29,047
Change in value of tangible fixed assets		£20,383	£21,158
Minibus expenses		£5,900	£6,162
Equipment		£2,083	£4,065
Sections:	Scout troops	£2,907	-£3,885
	Fox Pack	£929	-£447
	Swift Pack	£966	£612
	Beaver Colonies	£912	£1,941
Charitable activities			
Camps			
Leaders' uniforms / training / badges		£4,222	£3,988
Comedy Night		£2,918	£3,322
Govenance costs and other		£543	£704
Other resources expended			
Liability for hut rents			£0
Contribution from Group to Hut costs		£13,017	£6,568
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		£86,864	£73,237

Tenth Harpenden (Methodist) Scout Group

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

a) These financial statements are prepared on a receipts and payments basis

b) The trustees have estimated the current value of the three minibuses to be £17,958

c) The HQ property is recorded at the cost of construction depreciating to £0 by year 30 of the lease (2040). This, along with changes to the other group assets, means the total group asset reduces from £265k in 2024 to £248k in 2025. The property is maintained in a good condition.

d) The HQ has been erected on leasehold land, the footprint of which included land and buildings also occupied by the Harpenden Explorer Scout Unit (a separate registered charity). Fundraising for the new building was carried out by both the Scout Group and the Explorer Unit. Although the legal ownership of the new HQ is solely in the name of the Scout Group, the Scout Group and the Explorer Unit have entered into a Partnership Agreement which sets out how the Scout Group and the Explorer Unit share the use of the HQ. The land itself is owned by St Albans District and City Council. The Scout Group is in the process of renewing the lease for the land, which will be in the name of The Scout Association Trust Corporation, acting as Custodian Trustee on behalf of the Scout Group. Day to day management of the premises is shared on an equal basis between the Scout Group and the Explorer Unit, as is the management of use of the Scout Group minibuses.

e) Scouting equipment (e.g. Tents, marquees etc) was revalued some years ago. All subsequent renewals and replacements have been charged to revenue at the time of acquisition representing the replacement of the equipment thus maintaining its value.

2 TANGIBLE ASSETS

		Land & buildings	Minibuses	Scouting equipment
Cost or valuation brought forward		£264,520	£21,808	£9,500
Additions				
Change in value		-£16,533	-£3,850	£0
Cost carried forward	£	£247,988	£17,958	£9,500

Tenth Harpenden (Methodist) Scout Group

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December

3 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	2025	2024
Treasurers' accounts - Group	£39,382	£39,857
Current accounts - Sections	£17,204	£19,078
Cash in hand - Sections	£167	£167
Joint hut committee	£22,548	£22,022
	£79,301	£81,123

4 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

Monies set aside in accounts for Hut back rent to date £ 12,250.00

5 EMPLOYEES' REMUNERATION

There were no employees. All leaders and helpers give their time for no financial gain.

6 TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

No Trustee received any monetary reward or expenses.

7 INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S FEES

No fee was charged for this service