5th North Watford Scout Group
Trustees' Annual Report

For the period:

From	1 January 2025	To	31 December 2025

Charity Name	**5th North Watford Scout Group**
Charity Registration Number (if registered - leave blank if excepted charity)	**302514**
HQ Registration Number	

Objectives and activities

Summary of the purpose and objects of the charity as set out in its governing document	The objectives of the charity are as a part of The Scout Association. **The Purpose of Scouting** Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. **The Values of Scouting** As Scouts we are guided by these values **Integrity** – We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal **Respect** – We have self-respect and respect for others **Care** – We support others and take care of the world in which we live **Belief -** We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes **Co-operation** – We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends **The Scout Method** Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of scouting and: - enjoy what they are doing and have fun - take part in activities indoors and outdoors - learn by doing - share in spiritual reflection - take responsibility and make choices - undertake new and challenging activities - make and live by their promise
Summary of the main activities in relation to the purpose and objects	Weekly meetings at the Scout Hut for each section during term time, supported by outside activities, including camps and nights away throughout the year for Scouts section and during the summer months for Beaver and Cubs.
Statement confirming the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	The Trustees confirm that the charity 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

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year identifying the difference and impact the charity's work has made, including on sustainability	2025 saw a complete and comprehensive programme for all sections, The group is oversubscribed and has a waiting list for all section. There have been several Scout camps during the year including the Pedal Car olympics, Strategy Scout in Cirencester, Jail break amongst others. The Cub and Beaver sections enjoyed outside nights away and camping during the summer months. Towards the end of the year an additional Beaver and Cub group were opened. Recruiting adult helpers and section leaders is a challenge. We have a number of parents willing to help but some do shift work which makes regular commitment difficult but with help of a number of Young Leaders we are able to provide the right level of adult supervision for each section.

Financial review

Review of the financial position	Income for the year £54k of which 25% is from subscriptions, 40% is from hiring the hall during the day and at weekends. Interest earned from short term cash deposits. During the year the Group invested in new tents. Capitation of £6.6k 14%, Majority of costs 33% relate to activities and camps.
Policy on Reserves, why they are held, and the amount of reserves.	The main aim of the Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Executive Committee considers that the Group should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs circa £10.6k, the group has reserves of £155k at year end which are held for property upkeep roof repair and replacement flooring hall flooring. The Trustee Board regularly monitors the levels of bank balances, and the interest rates received to ensure the group obtains maximum value and income from its banking arrangements. Occasionally this may involve using an account that requires a period of notice before funds may be withdrawn, before doing so the Trustee Board considers the cash flow requirements.
Policy on Investments and investment performance	The Group has adopted a low-risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies. The Group prefers to keep funds in accessible accounts so that money can be used to support Scouting activities should the need arise.
A description of the principal risks	The Trustee Board 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 would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community centre and other Scout Groups. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with these organisations. 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 Associations national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.

	Reduced income from fund raising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently. Reduction or loss of leaders. The group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario, the complete closure of the Group. Reduction or loss of members. The Group provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 18. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario, the complete closure of the Group.

Structure, governance and management.

Type of governing document	The Group'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 (POR) of The Scout Association.
How the charity is constituted	The Group 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.
Policies and procedures for the induction and training of trustees	All Trustees complete The Scout Association trustee and mandatory learning within the first six months of joining the Trustee Board, they also complete other Scout Association mandatory learning periodically as required.
Additional governance arrangements	The Group is managed by the Trustee Board, the members of which are the "Charity Trustees". 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 Trustee Board consists of the Chair, Treasurer and Secretary and 7 Trustees and meets 6 times a year. The Trustee Board exists to support the Leadership Teams in meeting the responsibilities of their appointments and in supporting them to run high-quality and safe programs that give young people skills for life. The Trustee Board maintain appropriate governance policies and oversight. The Trustee Board is responsible for carrying out its purposes for the public benefit, complying with the charity's governing document and the law, and managing the charity's resources responsibly. The Trustee Board is responsible for ensuring the charity is well managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and

	equipment are in good order, and everyone follows legal requirements and Scout Association Policy, Organisation & Rules. This includes responsibility for: • Promoting a positive image of Scouting in the community, as well as its development; • Developing, maintaining and regularly a risk register, including putting in place appropriate mitigations; • Ensuring that the finances are properly managed, and there are sufficient resources (and reserves) to deliver high quality Scouting; • Ensuring a system of internal controls is in place that is designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss; • Ensuring that property is appropriately managed; • Maintaining appropriate insurance of persons, property and equipment; • Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support; • Having an open and transparent selection process for the recruitment of Trustees; • Appointing Advisors as required; • Ensuring effective administration is in place to support the Trustee Board; • Ensuring compliance with applicable governance and charity regulations, including in respect to safety and safeguarding; • Ensuring incidents are appropriately reported in line with regulation and policy; • Ensuring applicable policies and regulations are regularly reviewed and changes implemented as appropriate; • Ensuring transparency of operations, including in the preparation of accounts and holding and AGM; • Ensuring compliance with Data Protection legislation; • Acting as a responsible employer for any employees, who are effectively managed.

Plans for future periods

Plans for future Periods	

Reference and administration details

Principal Address	**Corner of Upper Highway** **Hamilton road** **Hunton Bridge** **Abbots Langley** **WD4 8PP**

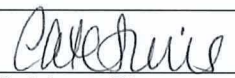
	Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Catriona Sims	Chair	
2	Deborah Sherring	Secretary	
3	Tania Giles	Treasurer	
4	Robert Green	Lead Volunteer	
5	Julie Green	Lead Volunteer	
6	Jacqui Sexstone		
7	Sally Suiters		
8	Roxana Buckley		
9	Geoffrey Brown		
10	Nikhil Vora		

Name and address of advisors

Type of advisor	Name	Address
Independent Examiner / Auditor	Amber Walker	Halyards Boughton Hall Avenue Woking GU23 7DeE

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees by:

Signature		
Full name	**Catriona Sims**	
Position held	**Chair**	
Date	20 MAY 2026	

5th North Watford Scout Group

Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2025

	YTD 31 December 2025	YTD 31 December 2024
Receipts		
Subs	13,200.00	12,847.50
Grant funding	-	1,000.00
Donations and Fund raising	319.85	130.00
Gift aid	2,310.80	2,295.28
Community Lottery	13.52	13.52
Hall income - Other	6,074.00	3,777.50
Hall income - Nursery	15,644.92	7,409.00
Camps and Trips	7,791.05	7,154.16
Bank Interest	1,280.46	2,638.93
STI Interest	3,320.00	-
Miscellaneous – Panto tickets	2,484.00	2,024.00
T-shirts/Uniform	446.42	149.44
Hoody	870.00	1,048.00
Total	**53,755.02**	**40,487.33**
Payments		
Insurance	2,470.89	2,631.06
Electricity & Gas	3,077.86	2,671.48
Cleaning	1,030.41	1,713.00
Equipment & hire	8,747.08	5,365.86
Property Expenses	957.97	2,793.06
Property Rates	428.09	189.62
Capitations	6,597.50	5,969.00
Camps	4,294.86	2,092.49
Events/Trips/Activities	11,434.02	10,670.23
Internet	807.60	693.51
Uniform/Badges	1,531.46	2,138.68
Hoody	1,062.44	956.90
Online scout manager fees	1,068.14	997.86
Miscellaneous	710.53	927.57
HQ running expenses	922.46	785.05
Training costs	480	113.04
Panto tickets	2,692.80	1,849.00
Bank charges	67.98	73.11
Bouldering wall costs	-	10,190.26
Total	**43,382.09**	**52,810.78**
Excess Receipts over Payments	**5,372.93**	**(12,323.45)**
Balance brought forward	150,055.18	162378.63
RESERVES as at 31.12.2025	**155,428.11**	**150,055.18**
Represented by		
OSM Payment card	1,813.59	670.64
CAFbank current account	12,576.90	6,659.51
CAFbank gold account	16,037.62	17,725.03
United Trust Bank	80,000	80,000
Shawbrook Bank	45,000	45,000
RESERVES as t 31.12.2025	**155,428.11**	**150,055.18**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 5th North Watford Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 5th North Watford Scout Group for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 5th North Watford Scout Group 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 5th North Watford Scout Group 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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the 5th North Watford Scout Group 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.

Signed: A. Walker

Name: Amber Walker

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

Address: Halyards Boughton Hall Avenue Send Woking Surry GU23 7DE

Date: 10 April 2026