Trustees' Annual Report

For the period:

From	01/04/2025	To	31/03/2026
	(period start date)		(period end date)

Charity Name	**3rd Squirrels Heath (Gidea Park Methodist) Scout Group**
Charity Registration Number (if registered - leave blank if excepted charity)	**303706**
HQ Registration Number	**11351**

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	We are a diverse group, with Young People from all social, ethnic backgrounds and ability. No Young Person is prevented from joining the 3rd. We provide a full and varied programme for all sections to enable them to acquire skills for life and enable them to achieve their Chief Scout Awards. As a sea scout group, the Young People are taught water skills, eg paddling an open canoe, paddle boarding, pioneering, camping, knot making, as well as, land-based activities e g cycling, cooking on a campfire, team building activities.

Statement confirming the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the	The Trustees confirm that the charity meets the Charity Commission's Public Benefit criteria under both the advancement
Charity Commission on public benefit	of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about: • *Policy on grant making*	The Trustees support Parent/Carers who have financial difficulties- no Young Person is prevented from participating in activities due to financial hardship. The Group Trustees subsidise Section activities using Group funds.

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	-All Sections have undertaken Challenge and Activity Badges -Top Scout Section Awards have been achieved- Acorn, Bronze, Silver & Gold Chief Scout Awards -The Younger Sections have joined projects in the local community e.g. Litter Picks -The Squirrels Drey opened last financial year is now full with a waiting list of Young People wishing to join. -Group Risk Register identifies risks the Trustees need to address and is a regular Agenda item, e.g. how to attract more Young People into the older Scout Sections. -The building has been future proofed: weather boarding on the outside walls, double glazing installed in the Hall, an annual fire assessment, updating the fire monitoring equipment, plus internal and external improvement works to the kitchen, disabled toilet, main water pipe leading to the building and water meter have been completed this year.

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about: • *Achievements against objectives* • *Fundraising activities* • *Contribution made by volunteers*	-**Respect & Beliefs-** Scout Parent/ Carers have joined the Troop night to show the Scouts how to make Indian food (curry and naan bread) with all sitting together to eat what they have cooked. -**Co-Operation-**Older Scouts mentor younger scouts in their Section or help with Squirrels and Beavers. -**Integrity-**Progression through the Sections: becoming Young Leaders and Leaders -Parent/Carers regularly donate cakes or items for raffle prizes -Family Days encouraging Young People and their families to join -Volunteers support the Young People with their scouting journey and achievements

Financial review

Review of the financial position	The 3rd Squirrels Heath Scout Group is in a sound financial position because of the funds received from PlayDays 6 PreSchool, a financial systems review and using a more efficient accounting system for income and expenditure.
Policy on Reserves, why they are held, and the amount of reserves	The policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the charity should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Trustee Board considers that the charity should hold a sum equivalent to 3 months of PreSchool income, and 3 months running costs plus £25,000 held in reserve for ongoing works at Scott Lodge.

	This is above the level required for operating expenses. However, this can be explained by holding money for the Hall cracking repairs (stitching), which was finally completed in August 2025 after an eight-year battle with Network Rail, and an unexpected water leak in the Drive leading to Scott Lodge in February 2026 required emergency repairs. Although this was funded as part of Hall regular maintenance costs , water pipe replacement for the whole length of the drive was identified during this repair. This will have to be funded in the next financial year. The Treasurer has made a claim with the Water Company for excess water consumption because of the leak. The external wall next to the Disabled toilet was damp causing internal damage, the tilling fell off which was a health
	& safety issue. The wall was stripped back to plaster, allowed to dry before repairs were carried out and the wall retiled. The Group Trustees have sanctioned the ongoing updating of the building fire obligations from the 2025 Fire Risk Assessment and Asbestos Survey. Weather boarding and new UPVC windows have been installed to replace the leaking wooden ones. The building is 67 years old requiring constant vigilance and repair. We are also aware the outside area behind Scott Lodge needs regular maintenance. The Group funds also subside talks and demonstrations to the younger sections, trips and camping activities (e.g visiting Chatham Docks), water sports activities for Cubs and Scout sections. Thanks to our Treasurer's diligence and ongoing modernisation of our accounting system the Group is in this healthy financial position.
Policy on Investments and investment performance	The Trustee Board regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the charity obtains maximum value and income from its banking arrangements. The Groups Income and Expenditure is very small, consequently does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The Group Trustees have adopted a low-risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only a mainstream bank.
A description of the principal risks	-The PreSchool not renewing the lease and we lose its income. -Insufficient funds because of falling Section rolls. -Scott Lodge becoming not fit for purpose due to the age of the building.

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document	The charity'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 charity is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts. The Group own the land and Robert Falcon Scott Lodge , but it is held in Trust by the Scout Association Trust Corporation (SATC). It is constituted as an educational charity.

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 charity is managed by the Group 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 8 Trustees (including 1 Ex-Officio Trustee, and 0 co-opted Trustees) and meets every 3 months. The Trustee Board is supported by a Note Taker. 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	**-** Replacement of water mains pipe in the Drive leading to Scott Lodge due to deterioration **-** Replacement of the outside garages **-** Repair to the boathouse roof -Triple Anniversary Family Day

Reference and administration details

Principal Address	**Robert Falcon Scott Lodge** **Rear of 458 Upper Brentwood Road** **Gidea Park, Romford** **Essex** **RM2 6JB**

	Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity	**Office (if any)**	**Dates acted if not for whole year**
1	Picklu Roychoudhury	Chair	
2	Neville Lamkin	Lead Volunteer	
3	Nicola Morgan	Treasurer	
4	Kim O'Brien	Squirrels Section Team Leader	
5	Corinna Raczkowiak	Beaver Section Team Leader	
6	Gail Bailey	Cub Section Team Leader	
7	Robert Spink	18-24 Representative	
8	Sasha Timmermans	Parent Representative	
9	Jennifer Twine	Parent Representative	Resigned July 2026

Name and address of advisors

Type of advisor	**Name**	**Address**
Independent Examiner / Auditor	Mr B Walsh	111 Dorset Ave Romford RM1 4JB
Fire Protection Consultant	Colin Richardson	London Fire Extinguishers The Old Toll Gate, Basin Road, Maldon Essex CM9 4RG

Declaration

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

Signature		
Full name	**Mrs Nicola Morgan**	
Position held	**Treasurer**	
Date	**15/08/2026**	

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

3rd Squirrels Heath (Gidea Park Methodist) Scout Group	303706

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01/04/2025	To	31/03/2026

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Fundraising	209	-	-	209	218
Donations	1,979	-	-	1,979	927
Rent	20,079	-	-	20,079	19,652
Membership Fees	9,451	-	-	9,451	10,015
Misc	4,910	-	-	4,910	951
Camps and events	3,660	-	-	3,660	3,859
Bank Interest	526	-	-	526	489
***Sub total** (Gross income for AR)*	40,813	-	-	40,813	36,111
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	40,813	-	-	40,813	36,111
A3 Payments					
Utilities	3,815	-	-	3,815	3,180
Cleaning	3,129	-	-	3,129	1,919
Repairs/Venue Maintenance	13,231	-	-	13,231	4,954
Insurance	3,726	-	-	3,726	3,675
Minibus running costs	1,915	-	-	1,915	2,169
Group expenditure	-	-	-	-	823
Capitation/Membership Fees	3,456	-	-	3,456	3,920
Training	-	-	-	-	640
Equipment	488	-	-	488	653
Misc	-	-	-	-	3,383
Camps and events	3,706	-	-	3,706	562
Meeting costs	1,674	-	-	1,674	
Admin/Bank fees	1,163	-	-	1,163	
Badges/uniform	1,173	-	-	1,173	
	37,475	-	-	37,475	25,878
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	37,475	-	-	37,475	25,878
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,338	-	-	3,338	10,233
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	62,042	-	-	62,042	51,809
Cash funds this year end	65,380	-	-	65,380	62,042

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B1 Cash funds

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Current Account	13,669	-	-
	Savings Account	50,555	-	-
	OSM Account	1,155	-	-
	Total cash funds	65,380	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
M Morgan	Nicola Morgan	08/09/2026

CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

3rd Squirrels Heath (Gidea Park Methodist) Scout Group

On accounts for the year ended	31 March 2026	**Charity no (if any)**	303706

Set out on pages 1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/03/2026**.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 Trust'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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting 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: [signature] **Date:** 13/9/2026

Name: BERNIE WALSH