



North West Norfolk District Scout Council Annual Report 2024

Annual General Meeting: Wednesday 25th September 2024

Agenda

1. Welcome/President's remarks
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the annual general meeting held on 5th July 2023
4. Remarks and Reports
5. Presentation of the Accounts
6. Adoption of the Constitution
7. Elections and nominations to District Executive committee
 - a. District Commissioner's nomination of District Chair (based on Existing Trustees recommendation)
 - b. Election of District Treasurer
 - c. Election of members to the District Executive committee
8. Election of Honorary Auditor
9. Presentations – Percy Robinson award
10. Meeting close

Present: Edward Parsons(President), Jill Hudson, John Rospopa, Gary Clark, Kelly Bowen, Pete Farr, Kimberley Bullen, Mark Middernach, Dudley Scott, Hannah Dye, Mark Drage, Karen Saunders, Kelvin Foreman, Jamie Twell, Lucie Twell, Roz Wicks, Richard Wicks, Mark Twyman, Rachel Swinnerton, Michael Wesson, Ian Savage, Dave Andrews, Don Birdseye, Simon Wells, Phil Jordan, Karen Farr, Lesley Doherty, Amanda Evenett, Rob Shears, Moira Wesson, Roz Rospopa.

1. Welcome

Edward Parson welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting, hoping that they enjoyed the garden tour and hospitality at Sandringham. He reassured the District that the local connections with the Royal Family and the promises made at the Coronation of King Charles III will be upheld.

2. Apologies – None received

3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 7th July 2021

These had been circulated. Proposed by Michael Wesson and seconded by Ian Savage and agreed unanimously.

4. Reports

District Chair: Thanks were given to Edward Parsons and the team at Sandringham for the hospitality and Garden Tour.

Reports were circulated within the annual report and it was proposed by Dave Andrews that all reports bar the Accounts were accepted 'en-bloc', this was seconded by Don Birdseye and agreed unanimously.

Gary Clark presented the audited accounts. It was proposed by Simon Wells that these be accepted, this was seconded by Phil Jordan and agreed unanimously.

5. Elections and Nominations to District Executive Committee

- a) District Commissioner's nomination of District Chairman: John Rospopa nominated Jill Hudson – The District President then handed over to Jill Hudson to Chair the meeting.
- b) Election of District Treasurer and Secretary: Gary Clark was nominated as District Treasurer and Kelly Bowen as District Secretary – proposed by Karen Farr, seconded by Lesley Doherty and agreed unanimously.
- c) Election of members of the District Executive Committee: Don Birdseye and Doreen McNiff were nominated as members – proposed by Amanda Evenett, seconded by Rob shears and agreed unanimously.
- d) District Commissioners nominations to the District Executive Committee: John Rospopa nominated Rick Cooper and Miranda Smith.

6. Election of Honorary Auditor

Gary Clark outlined that we had a good relationship with Mike Andrews of Stephenson Smart as Auditor and would recommend this relationship continue. This was proposed by Lesley Doherty, seconded by Michael Wesson and agreed unanimously.

7. Election of members to the County Scout Council

Roz Rospopa proposed John Rospopa and Lucy Hearle to represent the District at the SCounty Scout Council, this was seconded by Moira Wesson and agreed unanimously.

8. Meeting Close

All were thanked for their attendance.

The next AGM was scheduled for: 25th September 2024.

The Meeting closed at 8.10pm.

District Leader Volunteer (DC)

Annual Report 2024

Firstly, I would like to thank all adult volunteers, whatever your role, for your continued support over the last year. Without you giving up your time and energy the youth members would not have had such an exciting and fruitful year in scouting.

We were expecting Transformation to have taken place but it has been postponed until the end of the year. However, I know many of you have made progress in preparing for this in changing Executives to Trustee Boards and ensuring all data on Compass is up to date in preparation for the new IT system.

Achievements:

We have increased the number of Squirrel Dreys to 5 with another coming on stream in September 2024. We also have a further one planned for beginning of 2025.

Explorers:

We have increased the number of Explorers and Young Leaders with Explorer meetings taking place at 3 venues being hosted by 2 different Scout Groups. Discussions are taking place for a 4th meeting place.

Growth:

The District saw growth in both youth member numbers (up 11%) and adult volunteers (up 2%). This was reflected in the 2024 Census. This is particularly pleasing when the County averages saw a slight decline in both groups.

Network:

Since the 2023 AGM we have established a Network Group. Whilst the numbers are small they have been very active, in particular with pursuing their Kings Scout Award and hopefully these will be gained in the coming year.

District Camp:

This was held in June 2024 with Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and Adults from across the District in attendance. A wide variety of activities were offered and all the youth members appear to have had a good time. The "party" evening on the Saturday evening was particularly popular with both youth members and adults alike.

District Stores:

The Archery and Shooting Equipment has been well used, Archery approximately 12 times, Shooting approximately 11 times. A variety of equipment was used for the District Camp including the pink gazebo, radios, grass sledges/helmets. The grass sledges and helmets were used on another occasion.

The Rifles have all been safety tested, 1 rifle was handed in to the Police Station that was beyond repair.

Section Reports:

Squirrels

The 12th, 13th and 21st Squirrels enjoyed a fabulous trip to Roarr, the UK's largest dinosaur adventure park, at the end of July 2023. Dinosaurs, splash park fun and the predator high ropes provided lots of 'firsts' for many of the youngest scout section.

In January 2024 we were joined by the 14th Squirrels to enjoy our first 'District Squirrels' cinema trip to the Alive Corn Exchange Cinema. We are delighted that the 9th King's Lynn Scout Group opened their Squirrel Drey last autumn and the 5th King's Lynn will have opened their new drey at the beginning of this month too.

Varied, exciting and action packed programmes have been planned and enjoyed by all groups throughout the last year. Activities including; climbing, canoeing, walking with Alpacas, camping, Gilwell Fun Day, District Camp, sleepovers at the SeaLife centre, campfires, cooking, yoga and so much more have been enjoyed by

many.

We attended our first County Trip to BeWILDerwood along with the Beavers, it was a fantastic day and amazing to see so many Squirrel Scouts from all over Norfolk having fun together.

Termly get togethers with the Squirrel leaders and helpers have enabled ideas to be shared and future plans to be made. We have dates in the diary for a further District Squirrels trip to the cinema and plans are underway for a summer trip in July. All of the North West Norfolk Squirrel Dreys currently have waiting lists. We look forward to new Dreys being opened to allow many more children to start their Scouting journeys at Squirrel.

Many thanks to all the Squirrel Leaders, helpers and young leaders for their ongoing enthusiasm, ideas and friendship enabling the Squirrels to have such varied and exciting programmes and adventures.

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Beavers

As a district, most groups have been very active doing a well planned programme which includes sleepovers and trips out.

Last December some colonies attended the Panto Dick Whittington at the Corn Exchange in King's Lynn.

In February we held a District event where we all met up at the Majestic Cinema to watch the film Migration. It was enjoyed by all the beavers, and the leaders enjoyed it too.

At the beginning of June we also attended the District camp at Sandringham, Some beavers visited for the day but there were some who even camped overnight.

We have just returned from a county event where we took over Bewilderwood for the day. In total there was approximately 1500 Beavers and Squirrels. 3 coaches from North West Norfolk attended and there were lots of activities for the children to do. Some had never been on a boat before or climbing up high before they tell you they don't like heights but carried on regardless. Many thanks to Tracey Clark (Cherry) for organising the buses and everything that went with it. I know it was a very big ask and she did a very good job.

I know some groups will be going back to this year's panto and are looking forward to another cinema trip next year.

To end I would like to thank Roz Wicks for all her help over the years and would like to thank all the leaders.

Keep up the good work that you do

Karen Farr

ADC Beavers

Cubs

It was a very quiet end to the cub year from the AGM 2023.

FEBRUARY 2024 saw the yearly trip to the Majestic cinema, King's Lynn to watch Migration, a funny film about a family of birds travelling and getting into bizarre and funny situations. The cinema was almost full, and a good time had by all.

MAY / JUNE was District Camp 2024. The cubs joined in with their groups to camp for the weekend, several activities were planned, including a disco. Unfortunately some activities were cancelled due to the strong winds, however, this did not stop the fun. On the Sunday the sections split off to have time with their own peer groups, cubs had several activities together from problem solving, making badges, circus skills, ball skills and crafts.

JULY the NWN district cubs embarked on a trip to Rotherham to the Magna Science and Adventure Centre.

Two full coaches arrived at the venue. Good shows and activities for the cubs to participate with.

Phil, Su and myself would like to thank you as leaders, mums, dads, guardians and other adult helpers. We hope you continue to support us with the activities, visits and trips we organise for the cubs to promote their adventures with us.

Lesley Doherty (ADC Cubs)

Scouts

We held our Survival Camp in October 2023 which was attended by 50 Scouts from 8 Groups. There were also 2 teams of 6 Explorers taking part in the competition. Explorers were also there to encourage Scouts to move on to Explorers by showing them the next stage of the Scouting Adventure. We also had help from several Young Leaders, Adult Leaders and members of the Fellowship. The weather was good which meant everyone enjoyed this camp. This year was the second time we made it a competition by judging the sub-camps on things such as tidiness, shelter construction, cooking and gadget building. The winners were The 2 Musketeers.

In March 2024 we held the Annual Night Hike for the Merv Becket Trophy. 12 Scout Troops took part in 8 teams alongside 2 Explorer Teams. After having their kit checked by the Fellowship they started at 6.00pm and all completed by 6.00am. They had to complete a variety of tasks at checkpoints to gain points.

July 6th & 7th saw the Expedition challenge take place. The Scouts hiked from the 1st Kings Lynn to the 1st Terrington HQ and then on day two hiked too the 3rd Marshland HQ. All Scouts did very well despite the wet weather.

Network Scouts

Network in the district was set up in August 2023, with 6 members. Currently, we have 9 members, and are always looking for new members. We have monthly sessions doing various activities, many of which have been with the District Explorers, based at South Wootton. We hope to increase this to twice monthly, to allow more flexibility for our members. In August 2024, 4 Network members took on the King's Scout Award Expedition Challenge, in the Peak District, covering just under 50 miles across 4 days. It was incredibly hard work, as we are all used to the flat lands of Norfolk! We hope to run another expedition mid next year, as well as getting more involved with our district groups.

District Youth Commissioner (Lucy Hearle)

In the last year I started doing the Youshaped award with the beavers within this district.

I got a few groups started with the first part of the badge which then the beaver colony's had to complete the rest of the badge within there groups. Which some have done, but was wishing more groups got involved.

The badge is still available to do but the leaders will have to do all of the sections then email John (DLV) for the badge allocations.

Thank you for your participation and I will see you all in January 2025

Explorers in 2023-24

This year we appointed Bob Hearle as DESC & Karon Hearle as DESA of the NWN District Griffin Explorer Scout Section.

Explorers in the district have grown significantly since last year, we currently have 76 young people registered as explorers, 52 attending Explorer units of which 20 are also part of the 44 registered Young Leaders unit. We currently have 10 adult Leaders, including the ESL (YL).

Griffin Explorers are now based over 3 separate sites & open on 2 different days
Gaywood on Tuesdays, Terrington & Wootton's on Wednesdays plus the mobile Young Leader Training Unit.

We are developing plans to open a new Unit in Downham Market early 2025 as there is an evidenced demand.

It's been a very busy year with Explorers earning 9 Chief Scout Platinum awards and 10 Young Leader Belts. The Explorer units have been doing some interesting activities which include building bird boxes for the Sandringham estate, bell ringing at the minster & an interesting night playing tennis at Lynnsport as well as lots of camps and attending Norfolk 24 again.

We have camps booked in for later in the year, a group attending NORJAM and are looking forward to the continued growth of young people in numbers, skills and opportunities as we work together over the next year.

We appreciate the support Groups offer to Explorer Scouts on Young Leader placement, in offering venues for training to take place and in promoting Explorers to their Scouts moving on.

NORTH WEST NORFOLK DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Income and Expenditure Account

Year Ended 31 March 2024

North West Norfolk District Scout Council

Income And Expenditure Account

Year Ended 31 March 2024

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Badge Secretary Income	11,486	Badge Secretary Expenditure	11,366
Squirrels Events	1,439	Squirrels Events	1,387
Beavers Events	1,299	Beavers Events	1,478
Cub Events	3,516	Cub Events	3,322
Scouts Events	946	Scouts Events	620
Explorers Income	2,335	Explorers Expenditure	1,848
Water Sports Income	1,255	Water Sports Expenditure	1,300
Membership Fees 2024	40,205	Membership Fees 2024	42,100
Equipment Hire	458	Equipment Repairs	457
Fellowship Interest	43	Network Expenditure	102
		Youshape Awards	536
		District Camp	1,868
		Equipment Insurance	768
		Helper Insurance	52
		Film Licence	621
		Appointments/Travel/AGM	312
		Donations	715
		Stationery/Website	228
Excess Expenditure over Income	6,101		
	<u>69,082</u>		<u>69,082</u>

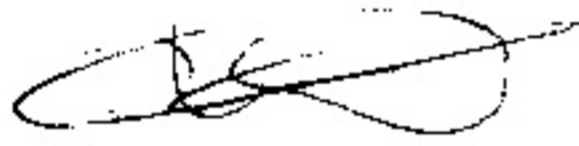
North West Norfolk District Scout Council

Income And Expenditure Account

Year Ended 31 March 2024

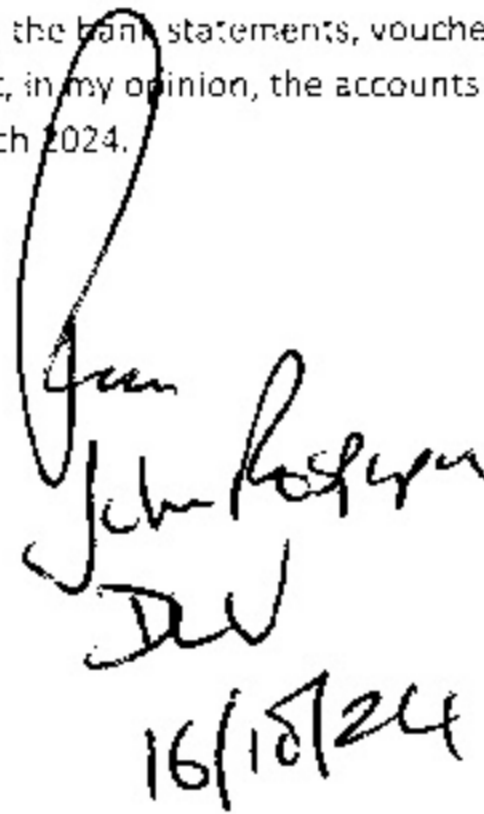
Balance At 1 April 2023	£	Balance at 31 March 2024	£
Current Account	37,282	Current: Account	31,338
Current Account (Fellowship)	2,575	Current: Account (Fellowship)	5,647
CAF Account (Fellowship)	3,229	CAF Account (Fellowship)	-
		Excess Expenditure over Income	6,101
	<u>43,086</u>		<u>43,086</u>

I have examined the foregoing income And Expenditure Account with the bank statements, vouchers and cash book. I have obtained all the information and explanations I have requested and certify that, in my opinion, the accounts show a true fair view of the North West Norfolk District Council affairs for the year ended 31 March 2024.



Mrs J Lincoln FCA

19th September 2024



John Robinson
16/10/24