



Annual General Meeting 2022

Date: Saturday 24th September

Time: 14.30 - 15.15

Location: Maidenbower Junior School, Crawley

Agenda:

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Chairman's introductions
- 3 Apologies for absence
- 4 Approval of minutes for last year's AGM
- 5 Financial Report and questions
- 6 GSL's nomination of Group Chairman
- 7 Election of officers to the Group Executive
- 8 Nomination of members to the Group Executive Committee – parent reps
- 9 Nomination of members to the Group Executive Committee – leaders
- 10 Presentations - Awards and Spirit of 5th Crawley
- 11 Group Scout Leader's Comments
- 12 Visitors Remarks
- 13 District Commissioner's Representative Comments



Minutes for 5th Crawley Scout Group Annual General Meeting

Date: Saturday 11th September 2021
Time: 3.00-3.45pm
Location: Stanford Campsite

Minutes:

1. Welcome

Michael Gauntlett welcomed our guests The District Commissioner Wendy Keeley, the District Chairman Barry Jones and everyone present thanking them for joining us for the Group Fun day and AGM.

2. Chairman's introductions and Comments

Michael thanked the Leaders for their hard work over the last year as we all negotiated the unprecedented time of the pandemic-he also highlighted the resilience of the young people and their enthusiasm for embracing the new ways of meeting-digitally and face to face. He was pleased that the Group was in a stable financial position and thanked Karolis for his excellent financial management. He went on to also thank parents for their continued support and the Group Executive for all their hard work over the past 15 months since our last face to face AGM and to thank the GSL Eddy for all his efforts which ensured the group is in a stable position.

3. Apologies

Apologies were received from the following leaders-

Jane Pelham
Alan and Naomi Mayes
Helen Ives and Kevin Ives
Chris Hobbs

4. Approval of minutes for last year's AGM

A copy of last year's minutes had been provided to all. The meeting was asked if there were any queries, of which there were none, it was agreed they were an accurate record. Proposed by Ian Head and seconded by Alex Donald.

5. Financial report and questions

Copies of the accounts with supporting notes were provided to all. Karolis highlighted the main points of Group income and Expenditure. Our income had increased to £31000 which was up from £11600 previously due to the Covid grants received by the Group. The subscriptions income had reduced by 18% (£2500) overall -however this was better than at the start of the pandemic when they were down by approx. 30%. Due to the efforts of all the leaders to keep members and recruit new ones the Group subs were in a healthy position and back to the pre pandemic levels. Karolis said that the drive of the GSL to obtain the Covid Grants was greatly appreciated and it will ensure the Groups financial future for years to come and give the young people the best opportunities. The Group expenditure was reduced from £18.600 in the previous year to £13500 which was due to reduced outgoings in renting Maidenbower Community Centre and less activities due to the pandemic -however expenses were incurred in obtaining Zoom licences and extra cleaning and

materials for the section/group Covid kits. Karolis confirmed that the accounts had been audited and asked if there were any questions arising; there were none.

Proposed by John Gardner and Seconded by Ian Head

6. GSL's nomination of Group Chairman

GSL chooses who they want to be chairman and this does not need to be voted on. Michael Gauntlett was nominated by Eddy Hills- he has been in post for the last two years-firstly shadowing Sarah Dodwell then fully taking over last year -just in time for the pandemic! He is happy to continue in this role and Eddy thanked him for his continued support.

No vote required.

7. Election of Officers to the Group Executive – Group Secretary and Group Treasurer

Karolis Pulokas had already expressed that he was happy to continue his role as Group Treasurer for another year.

Bev Hills was prepared to continue to act as Group Secretary.

Proposed by John Gardiner Seconded by Tina Harwood

8. Nomination of members to the Group Executive Committee – Parent Representatives

The following parents have volunteered their help on the Executive and were appointed to the committee subject to a satisfactory DBS clearance being received in due course. They were nominated en mass.

Helen Maguire	TB	Cubs Three Bridges
John Gardiner	M	Scouts
Deborah Crawford	M	Maidenbower Beavers
Jeff Curnick	TB	Scouts

Proposed by Alex Donald Seconded Abbie Gauntlet

9. Nomination of members to the Group Executive Committee – Leaders

Leaders were invited to opt in to Group Executive, the following leaders have confirmed their intent to support the Executive. Again this was communicated en mass.

Ian Head	TB	Cubs
Jane Pelham	TB	Beavers
Marie Robson	TB	Beavers
Alex Donald	TB	Scouts
HaydenTiltman	TB	Scouts
Alan Mayes	M	Beavers/cubs

Proposed by John Gardiner seconded by Tina Harwood

10. Section Reports

These had been distributed prior to the meeting in the pack and highlighted some of the activities enjoyed on Zoom and face to face during the last year for each of the sections.

11. GSL's comments

Eddy referred to his report but wanted to add an explanation of the Spirit of 5th Crawley Award for each of the sections and to explain the leaders Commissioners Award nominations with the exceptional work that had prompted them during lockdown. He also expressed his thanks to the leaders, the Exec especially Michael and Karolis for their support and all the parents. He went on to explain that the Covid grants (which were progressively more difficult to obtain) would help to secure

the Groups financial position -however we are currently experiencing a rent review -which without a rebate would double the rent -so things could change going forward. He also said that some of the grant monies have been used to purchase tents and equipment for the group and a monetary award has been given to each section to go towards a specific activity or event e.g. camp or kayaking. Today's group day was also funded from the grants.

Presentation of Awards by the District Commissioner
John Simmonds -Commissioners Award
Ian Head-Commissioner Award
Bev Hills 15 years service award
CSA Bronze certificate-Bradley Harwood

Spirit of 5th Crawley Awards presented by the GSL
Trophy-Harry Gardiner
William Bundy
Eva Gauntlett
Zac Mayes
Melisa Henderson
Danielle Ikondo

12. District Commissioners comments

Wendy thanked the Group for inviting her to the AGM and congratulated the young people on their awards. She thanked the leaders for their efforts and explained that they were all volunteers who delivered Scouting in their free time-more leaders were always needed and if anyone wanted to become more involved please speak to herself the GSL or another leader for more information. Finally she mentioned the benefit of Scouting and the 'Skills for Life' aspect which equips young people as they progress through Scouting and move on to further education, apprenticeships and university. Showing that by being actively involved in Scouts, Explorers, the Young Leader and D of E programmes this demonstrates the positive characteristics which are recognised by universities and employers.

The meeting concluded at 3.45 pm.

5th Crawley Scout Group

Financial Statement for the year ended 31 March 2022

INCOME STATEMENT	Notes	2021-22	2020-21
Income			
Subscriptions	(1)	13,502	11,615
Investiture fees	(2)	754	0
Hut Hire		500	643
Fundraising		0	0
Camp Contributions		511	0
Activity Contributions	(3)	2,005	(216)
Grants	(4)	10,667	19,908
Loans received		0	0
Donations received		906	1,000
Miscellaneous income		0	0
Total income		28,844	32,950
Expenditure			
Building Expenses:			
Property, plant and equipment	(5)	3,337	1,160
Repairs & Maintenance		1,065	1,039
Rent	(6)	2,011	967
Insurance		698	648
Electricity		185	372
Water & Sewerage		295	816
Cleaning		593	629
Total building expenses		8,183	5,630
Activity Expenses:			
Activities	(7)	4,742	802
Camps		459	0
Total activity expenses		5,201	802
Administrative expenses:			
Capitation	(8)	7,049	4,680
Administration		473	561
Loan Repayments		0	0
Donations		407	490
Uniforms & Badges	(9)	3,752	1,422
Bank charges		0	0
Miscellaneous expenses		0	0
Total administrative expenses		11,680	7,153
Total expenditure		25,064	13,585
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		3,780	19,365
BALANCE SHEET as at 31st Mar			
Accumulated funds			
Balance at 1st Apr 2021		30,995	11,631
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		3,780	19,365
Balance at 31st Mar		34,776	30,995
Represented by:			
Cash in hand		582	517
Cash at bank		34,194	30,478
TOTAL ASSETS		34,776	30,995

5th Crawley Scout Group

Notes to the accounts for financial year 2021-22

- (1) +£1,887/+16% increase in subscriptions vs last year due to increase in members after opening from pandemic lockdowns.
- (2) Investiture fees are captured separately from the subscriptions as of this year.
- (3) Activity and camp contributions have increased in comparison to last year when pandemic lockdowns were in place.
- (4) £10,667 in grants vs £19,908 last year. Grants this year included:
 - £2,667 Omicron Hospitality & Leisure Grant, Jan-21
 - £8,000 Restart Grant 2 - Hospitality.Accommodation.Leisure.Personal Care.Gyms, Apr-21
- (5) £3,337 in PPE for acquisition of 1 mess tent, 5 x tents, 5 x cooking sets, knives, water urn, water containers, wind shields, gas consumables, pipe, spanners, first aid kits, etc.
- (6) Rent expense increased as we resumed activities in maidenbower.
- (7) Activity expenses are +£2.7k higher than activity contributions as the group decided to spend some of last year's grant money for activities by each section.
- (8) £7,049 capitation fee vs £4,680 as memberships increased from 72 members last year to 111.
- (9) £3,752 spent for uniforms & badges vs £1,422 last year due to increase in activities following a lockdowns last year and the group has spent £1.3k to renew leader uniforms.

**5th Crawley Scout Group
Independent Examiner's Report**

I report on the accounts of the 5th Crawley Scout Group for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The Group's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility:

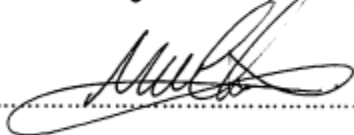
- to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charities Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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 Group 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 present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which give 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;
 - prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act has not been met; or
2. which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Name: Mitchell Clark

Address: Citycal House
12 Bridge Road Business Park
Haywards Heath
RH16 1XT

Date

20th September 2022.

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- Group Updates
- Chairman's Report
- Group Overview

Section Updates

- Beavers
- Cubs
- Scouts

Group Contact:

GSL Eddy Hills

Annual Report

Chairman's report: Michael Gauntlett

Welcome to 5th Crawley's AGM and thank you for joining us.

5th Crawley has had an incredible year across all sections with fantastic activities and experiences being undertaken by our young people. Highlights include Go Ape and the Jubilee Camp.

That parents and young people are responding to the way we are running 5th Crawley is most apparent through the continued operation of the second Cub Pack at Maidenbower and the opening of a second Scout Troop at the HQ.

I give my greatest thanks to all those involved, parents for their continued support and flexibility and to the young people who are developing their outdoor and indoor education skills, returning week after week smiling and eager to learn and have fun. However, my greatest thanks, as always, goes to our Leaders, Sectional Assistants and our GSL. Without any of these people we simply would not exist. Our team continually volunteer to provide diverse and exciting opportunities to our young people. I am constantly challenged by ideas from Leaders to provide for our sections.

With that thanks in place, we as a collective need to consider how we operate sustainably with expanding numbers and long waiting lists. Our biggest restriction is the number of Leaders and Sectional Assistants.

Without a new influx of volunteers we indirectly increase the pressure on our existing support. My plea to all that read this, is to consider supporting us with your time -whether that is an hour a month or an hour a week. We can offer varied and exciting roles and training across a broad spectrum of interests.

My focus as Chairman has always been to put the young people first by providing the best possible scouting experience. That focus, however, is challenged by our ability to safely run sessions with the correct adult support. If anyone can spare any amount of time it is greatly appreciated by us all.

Group Overview

Group Scout Leader: Eddy Hills

We held our last AGM a little over 12 months ago and as we have come to expect we have had an extraordinary year with continued growth across our sections.

It's customary to describe the formation of the Group - there are two Beaver Colonies, two Cub Packs - split between Three Bridges and Maidenbower - and now two Scout Troops both based at the HQ in Gales Drive, Three Bridges. We try and operate each section by their own team of volunteer leaders and helpers who run weekly activities. In addition, we partner with Neil Armstrong Explorer Scout Unit who meet at our HQ on Wednesday evenings. The Group is supported by a team of parents and leaders (Executive Committee). They support the running of the Group, ensuring this is done safely with the funds to do so and within the frameworks of the Charities Commission and The Scout Association.

The last month has delivered its share of sad news. With the passing of the Queen (our Patron), our programme has been adapted to ensure that we have reflected and shown our respect as members, individuals and as Scouts for her guidance and leadership. We also learnt that our former chair Sarah Dodwell had sadly died in August after a long fight with cancer. Sarah had been a shining example by helping put the Group back on track after a number of challenging years. We are thinking of her family at this difficult time.

Each section report summarises what each has done so I will avoid repeating their content. The Group has enjoyed a busy year and growth this year prompted the opening of a second Scout Troop in September in partnership with 1st Northgate, which is beneficial for both Groups. Following the reopening of normal meetings, our numbers at the last count were recorded at the last count as totaling 125 members. To the credit of our leaders, and with parent help, we are making good progress in each Section with members earning the top awards, especially amongst our younger Sections. Congratulations to everyone who has completed their Chief Scouts Awards. We are anticipating that our older members will qualify for their Bronze and Silver Chief Scouts Awards over the next few months. Each Section offers a range of activities - including nights away, which as a Group we have subsidised from funds and grants. In addition, we have given the interior of HQ a face lift and the Cubs created and maintained a colourful display of flowers throughout the spring and summer for the Group and the local community.

Our Chairman has highlighted our biggest challenge this year - recruiting adults into leadership roles - which is probably a continued consequence of not being able to meet face to face during Covid. We have made progress in a number of Sections, but it is a constant problem. Although our parent help from week to week is very good, I'd like to see if we can convert some of that help into leadership roles over the next 3 months, especially at our Maidenbower sections where the need is becoming more urgent. Please talk to me if you feel you can take that next step. We have shown that by working in teams we can support each other, share the work and have some fun too!

A big thank you to our Leaders, Section Assistants and occasional helpers, you have been magnificent. I've seen great team work across the Sections which is paying dividends. Many thanks to our Executive Committee under Michael's chairmanship for their support during the last 12 months providing the vital support and decision making that keeps the Group heading in the right direction. Scouting doesn't happen - the important ingredient are our youth members. Thank you to them for their enthusiasm and hard work.

Section Updates

Maidenbower Beavers : Helen Ives (Fox) BSL



It was so lovely to be able to meet face to face again after lockdown and we have tried to make the most of it by getting outdoors as much as possible. We have even managed to camp for a night in June with other members of the Group and then join the Platinum Jubilee Event at Stanford where we enjoyed ice cream and face painting.

We have always been oversubscribed, this year being no different and we do our best to accommodate as many from our waiting list as possible.

As well as the use of the Community Centre we are so lucky to have the use of the school's forest school area and enjoyed our end of term campfire with songs and marshmallows to toast.

Beavers have worked hard and done very well to earn their badges; the Leader team have produced a programme which gives them the opportunity to complete the Chief Scout's Bronze Award.

Our thanks go to the Beavers for their fun and enthusiasm and to the parents for their help and support, sometimes at short notice.

We look forward to the coming year with more fun and adventures.

Fox, Squirrel, Hedgehog, Rabbit, Robin, Badger and Woody

Three Bridges Beavers: Jane (Bubbles), BSL

It has been amazing this year to get back to face to face and be able to do visits, sleepovers and Group and District events.

First we had a lovely Christmas themed sleepover in December with themed crafts and a visit from Santa's elves .

Twelve of our beavers and their families took part in the District Easter event and had loads of fun at Stanford with lots of different activities including crafts, mini crossbows, campfire cooking and sing along . We all met the Easter Bunny and got an egg to take home.

In June, as well as the Platinum Jubilee event, we had amazing day at Go Beavers with 800 beavers from around West Sussex. We took part in wall climbing, archery, caving, nightlife assault course, campfire cooking, crafts, water games and bouncy castles to name just a few.

In our Monday meetings we have covered compass work, global issues, campfire cooking, visited NHS staff to take them Valentine's treats (where we made nurses cry happy tears), been to Metro Bank to complete our money skills badge, learnt basic first aid and made nature pictures with things we collected on our walk.

9 Beavers achieved their Chief Scout Bronze Award, which is the highest award that a Beaver can attain. Congratulations to them all, we are very proud of them.

Marie and myself would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents who have helped us on

Mondays and at our events. We could also like to thank Ronnie from Maidenbower for her help at Go Beavers and Helen for her help at our sleepover. A special thank you to our young leader Jess!

Three Bridges Cub Packs: Cathryn Pernstich (Kaa) ACSL



Over the last year the Cubs at 5th Crawley (Three Bridges) have earned over 300 Activity and Challenge badges with four Cubs earning their silver Chief Scout Award. The Cubs have earned badges such as Astronomy, Environmental Conservation, Global Issues, Chef, Road Safety, Money Matters, Fire Safety and a good selection of the Challenge Awards.

In earning the badges the Cubs have learnt how to plan and cook a two course meal, looked at the moon through a large telescope, embarked on a litter pick, planted trees and bulbs, played games from a different country in a different language, celebrated Chinese New Year, met with a first aider, a fireman and a speaker from Oxfam, swung like monkeys in the trees at Go-Ape and visited a bank.

To celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, the vast majority of our Cubs attended a two night camp where they took part in fire lighting, group rounders, camp fire singing, raising and striking camp, a jubilee themed party and tree planting with a big highlight being the night hike to watch the Jubilee beacon being lit - bedtime at nearly midnight is exciting!! For a good number of our Cubs this was their first time away from home and they were utterly brilliant, joining in with all activities with gusto.

The challenge to match the excitement for next year is on.

Thank you to our team of leaders, assistants and our young leaders who have made a big difference this year.

Maidenbower Cub Pack - Alan Mayes (Chill) ABSL

We are currently running with 18 members, 3 of which will be moving to scouts and we have another 8 due to come up from beavers when we start the new term.

With very few Covid restrictions we have managed to have camp at last at Stanford in June with other sections of the Group, attend the Platinum Jubilee Fun Day at Stanford (which was very popular) and we also took part in our own St George's Day Service and activities.

We have run joint events with Three Bridges Cubs as well, which included attending the Pantomime, Laser Tag, and Go Ape. It's been great to be able to get out and do activities which is what scouting is all about.

For the year ahead, we will be carrying on with our evening meetings hoping to expand those with activities such as a visit to the Hindu Temple, widening our first aid knowledge and possibly scuba diving.

Many thanks to our young leader Corey who attends every week and also to the parents who support our weekly meetings. We couldn't do it without you.



An Update from the Scout Troop: Alex Donald ASL

Demand for and retention of Scouts in the last 12 months has been excellent so much so we are happy to report that 5th Crawley has opened a second section on a Friday night. The Phoenix troop (who's flag was already in the group inventory) will share the HQ on a Friday with our good friends at 1st Northgate, a return to an arrangement that has been mutually beneficial in the past. Pooling leaders for the moment allows for our expansion and gives us the time to recruit a more stable leadership for the Friday troop. The aim is for those leaders to work with the Thursday troop and Northgate for years to come. Interested adults, parents and carers should please get in touch.

We anticipate a good flow of Cubs linking from our two Cub Packs through the next year, and hope they enjoy the next phase of their scouting. Regular attendance is climbing towards the low 20s, an improvement from last year's report and shows that the programme which is informed by the views of the young people is both in their interests and works within the framework of the Scout section. Total numbers on the Thursday section is 28, though this may rebalance with some of those moving up going into the Friday troop.

This year, we have had activities as varied as archery, pioneering, cooking, shooting, first aid, team building. We have had a number of firsts for the troop where 4 members took the opportunity to attend a Mechanics day hosted by the Army in Kent. Some of our members now shoot with the District at 4th Worth most Saturdays. Other activities have included serious off road fun with quad biking during our recent and very successful summer camp, where Stefan from Northgate also joined us on a day hike, and a visit to the heritage Spa Valley Railway in Tunbridge Wells. Our recent summer camp saw 14 Scouts enjoying fantastic weather and facilities at Adamswell Campsite. We will return there in the future, though we've had requests to look into camps with more water based activities for next year.

We have been investing in new camp equipment and innovating with the kit we use to deliver a modern scout camp, which improves camp safety and brings our set up bang up to date. We will continue to discuss with Group Executive how we can deliver activities effectively and with the kit to back it up.

We are pushing for more activities into the new year with footgolf, one that was pitched and seemed to be a popular suggestion. Scouting is youth informed, the opinions and suggestions by our members is used to build the programme we deliver. Please do not be shy in coming to leaders with suggestions, we may not have thought of it!

I'd like to thank our parents for their Thursday evening support with meetings such as the cycling. Parent help is always appreciated and is fun for you too! We look forward to seeing you with us on nights and events into 2023, your help really is essential.

Y.I.S

Alex Donald ASL 5th CRAWLEY SCOUTS

5th Crawley Scout Group

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5th Crawley Scout Group

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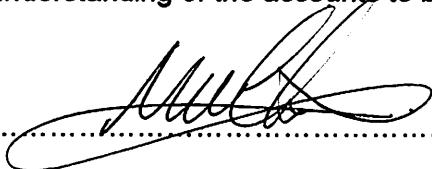
It is my responsibility:

- to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charities Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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 Group 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 present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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

Signed 

Name: Mitchell Clark

Address: Citycal House
12 Bridge Road Business Park
Haywards Heath
RH16 1XT

Date *20th September 2022.*

**5th Crawley Scout Group
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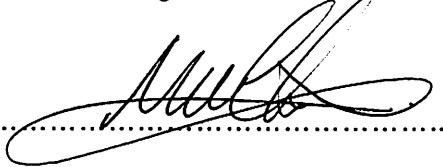
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- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charities Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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 Group 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 present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which give 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;
 - prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act has not been met; or
2. which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed 

Name: Mitchell Clark

Address: Citycal House
12 Bridge Road Business Park
Haywards Heath
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Date *20th September 2022.*