Scouts

17th Sale

Annual Report 2026

AGM 10th June 2026
HQ Registration No 10014164
Registered Charity No 509583
Web – https://17thsale.co.uk/

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Annual General Meeting Agenda

17th SALE SCOUT COUNCIL

Annual General Meeting

10 June 2026 at 8:30pm -17TH Sale Scout Hut

1. **Introduction and welcome**
2. **Apologies for absence**
3. **Governance topics**
   a. Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 20 June 2025
   b. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR)
   c. The Group's financial year – the Trustee Board proposes to move the financial year to 1 January to 31 December
   d. Agree the maximum number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board
   e. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the Group Scout Council (excluding this AGM)
4. **Review of the previous year**
   a. The Group Lead Volunteer's review of Scouts during the past 12 months.
   b. District Representative's remarks
   c. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the Group Trustee Board, including the annual Statement of the Accounts
5. **Making appointments**
   a. Appoint the Group Chair, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board
   b. Appoint the Group Treasurer, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board
   c. Appoint members of the Group Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board
   d. Appoint the Independent Examiner
6. **Presentations**
7. **Closing remarks**

Remembering John Hardern



Many involved with the Group will have heard the very sad news of John Hardern's passing earlier this year. 17th Sale was founded by John's father-in-law David Stockwell in 1964. John became one of the first Scout Leaders and held that position for over 30 years. He is the reason so many young people in Sale have enjoyed Scouting for over 60 years, and why we are here at the AGM tonight. Despite having to hand back his Leader's Warrant when he turned 65, John continued serving our Group as a much valued President until 2024.

Everyone connected with 17th Sale thanks you, John, for everything you did to create the Group, and help it grow to what it is today. We promise that we will do our best to keep it in good hands.

Chairman's Report

What a difference a year makes! A little over a year ago, the Group was seriously considering the unpalatable, but possible, prospect of telling many of our Young People that their Scouting journey with 17th Sale would end in Summer 2025. In last year's AGM I shared my optimism that this wouldn't come to pass and this wasn't misplaced. Beth Powney from the North-West Growth Team put together an imaginative recruitment campaign and secured some additional funding, and our fantastic parents stepped up to the plate so we could get our much-needed second Scout Troop up and running. Scout places are available to all our Cubs and some of the pressure on our waiting lists has been alleviated. With Scorpio Troop settling in well, we are already looking at other opportunities to develop the Group.

At risk of repeating what I've written every year since accepting the privilege of becoming Group Trustee Chair, the commitment to Scouting of all our volunteers never ceases to amaze me. This year, I'd like to extend particular thanks to our Trustees. A Scout Group is like a complex small business. It has to be kept financially sound, compliant with all applicable laws and, of course, safe for all its Young People and volunteers. This is what the Trustees do. Some of us combine their Trustee work with other leadership roles, but it is parents who bring in the fresh external perspectives and insights we need to be most effective. So, if you'd like to become more involved in the Group, but don't feel able to commit the time to lead Young People at their meetings, we'd love to hear from you!

No Chair's Report would be complete without singling out some of our volunteers for special thanks. In particular: our Secretary, Georgie McCarthy, without whom the Group may not completely fall apart, but would be considerably more rickety; our Treasurer, Paul Harris, for looking after our money so well, and Andy Atherall, for balancing his work as our Lead Volunteer with his District Lead Volunteer work. My thanks to all of our Section Team Leaders, without whom there would be no Scouting. And last, but not least, thanks to all parents for their support throughout the year. We couldn't run the Group without you.

Here's to another great year!

Yours in Scouting

Andrew Slim
Trustee Board Chair

Group Lead Volunteer's Report

My third year as Group Lead Volunteer and again it's been a very good year for 17th Sale. I am still impressed by how good our section teams are and by how much they support each other when needed. We are lucky to have such a good team of trustees supporting the leader teams and taking an active role in the governance of the group.

I am delighted to say that all of the hard work by leaders and trustees paid off and we opened a second Scout Troop, removing a bottleneck preventing Cubs from moving up to Scouts when ready. Overall, the numbers of young people in the group remained stable, sections are doing well and we have waiting lists. Our Beaver and Cub numbers have reduced slightly to more manageable numbers in each section, and with the second Scout Troop we now have 43 Scouts.

This year we've said goodbye to some leaders, and welcomed some new leaders, and so far we have at least two leaders per section. We still need additional leaders to strengthen our section teams, particularly in the Beaver and Cub sections. Leader training compliance is excellent, it's rare that HQ have to remind me about overdue mandatory training in the group. I would still like to see nights away permits in each section, so we have more flexibility for taking our sections camping.

Our section programmes continue to be strong, and I have visited sections a lot this year, sometimes as an additional leader, sometimes to present awards. I've seen some excellent activities, such as DIY, paracord woggles, science experiments and firelighting, all of which were enjoyed by the young people. As a group we have presented 12 Chief Scout's Bronze awards, 26 Chief Scout's Silver awards and 2 Chief Scout's Gold awards, and my congratulations to those young people on a fantastic achievement.

This year a good number of our leaders were recognised for their long service, outstanding service or completion of their Wood badge, and I am delighted that their hard work and dedication has been recognised. I've not listed awards – they are a surprise at the AGM this year!

I'm also delighted that we have young leaders in almost every section in our group this year and that our HQ is often used on a weekend for young leader training and first response courses, which supports the wider District initiatives. We also hosted the return of the Annual Cubs Cooking Competition, which was a great success and enjoyed by every team who took part. Sadly 17th Sale did not win again, but our Cubs cooked an excellent meal.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our leaders and trustees for all of the hard work they put in over the year to keep 17th Sale running and delivering such a wide range of opportunities for our young people. Our Trustees handle a lot of behind-the-scenes work, governance, finance and maintenance, without whom we would not have an HQ or processes that were up to the required standards.

I have every confidence that 2027 will be another good year for 17th Sale.

Andy Atherall
Group Lead Volunteer

Section Reports

Beaver Section

Aquila and Hercules Colonies

Aquila and Hercules Beaver Colonies have been working on a range of badges including all the Challenge badges, Builder, Disability Awareness, Experiment, International and Safety badges and the Air Activities and Navigator staged badges.

The Beavers took part in a sponsored silence in aid of Trafford South Food Bank and between the two colonies we raised £342.

There are currently 11 children on Aquila and 2 on Hercules waiting lists, and 10 on the general list, ranging from 5 to 6 years old.

Aquila awarded twelve Chief Scout's Bronze Awards and Hercules awarded four. A number of Beavers have moved up to Cubs this year.

Aquila Beavers have two DofE volunteers and Hercules have a Young Leader (Explorer)

Both Colonies have a successful parent rota, for which we are grateful, since without parent helper support we would not be able to run our meetings.

Joanne Gray
Aquila Beavers Team Leader

Dave Roberts (Zippy)
Hercules Beavers Team Leader

Cub Section

Orion and Polaris Packs

At the moment both Cub packs have 23 Cubs attending. This has been a very busy year concentrating mainly on badge work.

The badges have included Physical Recreation, Chef, Disability Awareness, Entertainer and the Challenge awards.

We have presented 11 Chief Scout's Silver awards (6 to Orion and 5 to Polaris). In total we have given out 510 badges - 260 to Orion and 250 to Polaris.

We had lots of Cubs take part in the Remembrance Day and St Georges Day parades.

At Family Camp at Dunham Park in June we had 110 people attending including parents, siblings (the youngest was 3 years old), Leaders. Scouts, Cubs and Beavers. There were plenty of activities for everyone to enjoy. This year we have 125 going to Family Camp.

In November we had 30 Cubs attending our popular Christmas Camp at Linnet Clough Scout Camp. A big thank you to Dave who did all the cooking for 45 of us and to the Leader and parent for helping out.

We had a visit from the Guide Dogs and raised £158 for them.

I would like to thank Basia, James. Rita, and John for helping me run the Cubs meetings, and the parents who helped on the rota each week. Without you we would not be able to run Cubs or give the Cubs exciting activities. Also to all the Cubs who keep coming back each week.

Carol Gilbert (Akela)
Orion Cub Team Leader

Chris McCarthy-Stott
Polaris Cub Team Leader

Scout Section

SCOUTS

Phoenix Scout Troop

Greetings one and all. We are finally back after a year of fun and anticipation! We know you have been eagerly waiting to read our next instalment, so hopefully we won't disappoint (unlike some of the other AGM section reports, this is the one will shall all remember).

The year started off in May again, which always seems confusing. So instead of a traditional New Years celebration, we decided the next best thing would be a camp! How right we were, although small in numbers due to conflicting events, it turned out to be one of the most rewarding we have done in a while, due to everyone getting involved and working together.

Alas, all camps must come to an end, which means back to reporting on Thursday evenings. As usual, Scouts enjoyed the remainder of the summer term with a number of traditional activities which involved fire, axes, knives and tomahawks! All gained skills that I'm sure parents would question, when they worked on their homework of firefighting. But at least, they would always have someone who could start the BBQ for them.

We tried to keep them active and a little worn out by taking them canoeing and cycling, but only the adults seem to be worn out for some reason!

Just like every year, summer arrived and all we could do was to count down the weeks until we returned in September. Leaders used this time to plan the next term and refresh things at the Hut ready for September.

September finally arrived and what better way to kick things off than turning the Scouts into directors, by making stop motion films and animated stories. Sadly none of them produced a Hollywood hit but all had fun nonetheless.

With October upon us, we had another camp. This time it was the rebirth of Omega Survival camp, where multiple groups come together and compete over the weekend

testing their survival skills, whilst learning new skills and sleeping out under the cloudy skies (the stars must have been away that weekend).

The darker nights tend to bring us inside again, but when we could we still made it out and about, playing some navigational games and treasure hunts around the area. When it was too cold to venture out, we put our DIY skills to the test and made some bird boxes along with completing some other small tasks to get the DIY badge. It seemed wise to also throw in a little bit of first aid skills, shortly followed by some shooting practice.

To finish the year, but not the Scouting year, we made some edible creations (I would say what, but we have since forgotten). Lastly a festive game of Scout Master, 99.99% the same as Task Master but with Scouts, thus we ended the year.

Kicking of a frosty January, we jumped straight into the Photography badge which seemed to go down well. Scouts seemed to develop a different personality when in front of the camera, I would say their photogenic side came out, but one group did pick a horror theme! Improving on the skills they learnt whilst behind the camera, we even managed to get some short sketches in.

You've made it this far, so let's make sure you're still with us, the first person to quote "Scouts100%" to me at the AGM will receive a free drink.

We also seem to have a team of budding entrepreneurs and apprentices. Teams being led by their patrol leader had to come up with a new product that would help Scouts out whilst camping. They needed to design, pitch and sell their products to the board (aka the Leaders). Ideas included self-inflating tents, the auto fire wood finder and chopper and the magic self-cooking and cleaning BBQ.

Scouts tend to look forward to pancake day, so with this in mind we skipped the pancakes and decided to celebrate Chinese New Year instead. Patrols had to plan and cook their own sweet and sour dish, all whilst being judged. I would like to say we mastered it, but I don't think any takeaways in the area need to worry just yet!

Another great evening is trading posts where Scouts need to try and make as much money as they can by buying materials from us and turning them into items they can sell back to us. This ranges from ingredients which could be turned into something tasty for the Leaders, or rope they could make knots and pioneering creations with.

Keeping with the pioneering theme, we also made some miniature trebuchets which were able to launch tennis balls across the room. Hopefully on our next camp we can build upon these and make something a little larger.

Who doesn't like pizza? Us if it turns out it's burnt and dropped in the fire! Luckily, we had enough to make some extra so everyone managed to take part in some backwoods cooking one evening.

It's clear Scouting is still an important item in many people's lives. As our numbers have increased over the past 12 months, we now have two Scout groups at 17th Sale. None of this could happen without the dedication of our volunteers who turn up each week, along with giving us several weekends a year to run camps and other activities for the young people.

Sadly, all good things have to come to an end, but not to worry, this AGM report may be over, but Scouting will continue well into the future.

We will see you all again next year, when our next instalment is due out. But for those who can't wait that long, please get in touch as you could join our fabulous Leadership team and shape the course of the next year with us!

Martin Odenrode
Phoenix Scout Team Leader

Scorpio Scout Troop

Due to the increased number of young people wishing to take advantage of Scouting, and particularly the Scouts section, during the Summer of 2025 we began investigating the challenges faced in opening a new Scout Troop to accommodate the growing number of boys and girls in our community who could not otherwise join or maintain their membership of Scouting.

As early as 13th May we held an open evening, with the support of Beth Powney from the Regional Development Team. We not only wanted to learn of the interest from young people, but we needed to also recruit new volunteers to help run the new Troop. The open evening did not disappoint; we had great interest from both young and old with sufficient commitment to aim for a September opening of our new Troop.

On 9th September, we held our opening night with a modest 11 new Scouts in attendance, mostly from Cubs but also some who were new to Scouting. Also joining Lewis Sinclair and myself were our brave new volunteers Chris Leak, Garth Haley and Russ Higgins.

Our programme consisted of many traditional Scouting activities; ‘Fire starting’, ‘Pioneering’, ‘Ropes and Pulleys’, ‘Tarpology©’, ‘Knife skills’, ‘Navigation’, ‘Night Canoeing’ often commencing each evening with ‘Knot of the Week’.

Before the end of our first ‘Half-Term’ our new Scouts had joined several other Troops from around the District on a trial survival camp at Hollinwood Scout camp site which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part.

As 2025 drew to a close, Scorpio Scouts continued to thrive with many new people joining along the way. We were also joined by a new volunteer in Chris Kenny who joined after his daughter had moved from another group … “as we did Scouting the right way”.

On 31st March 2026 we completed our second full term as a Troop with a badge presentation after Scouts earnt 103 badges since our launch. Our Troop now consists of 24 young people made up of 5 female and 19 males along with a healthy team of 6 volunteers.

We have our second camp planned for May ’26 and the take-up for that camp stands at a massive 19 Scorpio Scouts.
The young people who make up the Scorpio Troop are amongst the best, most polite, enthusiastic and cheerful Scouts that I have met over my past 11 years in Scouting. They are a credit to their families, to Scouting and most importantly … to themselves.
B.R.A.V.O.

Dave Hannigan
Scorpio Scout Team Leader

Charity Commission Information

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period:

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

Charity Name	**17th Sale Scout Group**
Charity Registration Number (if registered - leave blank if excepted charity)	**509583**
HQ Registration Number	**10014164**

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	
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.

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about: • *Policy on grant making*	

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	The Group has awarded 40 Chief Scout Awards across all Sections. There have been many visits by organisations to the Scout Hut and also trips out for the Young People. The Group continues to be involved in District activities and parades. The Group had 119 Young People at the time of the census January 2026 (116 in January 2025).

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about: • *Achievements against objectives* • *Fundraising activities* • *Contribution made by volunteers*	

Financial review

Review of the financial position	
Policy on Reserves, why they are held, and the amount of reserves	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 Trustee Board considers that the Group should hold a sum equivalent to 24 months' running costs, circa £10,000. The Trustee Board also considers that the Group should hold a sum of £5,000 to cover the end of Lease negotiations with Trafford MBC. The Group held reserves of approximately £84,312 against this at year end. This is above the level required for operating expenses.
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. 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.
A description of the principal risks	The principal risks identified by the Group are - 1. The ongoing challenge of attracting sufficient volunteers to run all the sections we need to offer young people in the community a complete journey through Scouting. In 2025, we undertook a focussed recruitment campaign which meant we could start a new Scout Troop, and we will be looking at new expansion opportunities going forward. 2. In the longer term, the risk that the Group may not reach a satisfactory agreement with Trafford Council for the renewal of our lease, which would mean we can no longer use the land for our HQ. Although we currently consider this a low risk, we continue to monitor the situation and will be actively developing mitigation strategies in 2027.

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. 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 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 9 Trustees (including 1 Ex-Officio Trustee, and 0 co-opted Trustees) and meets 4 times a year. The Trustee Board is supported by a Board Administrator. 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 updating 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	9 Staines Close Appleton Warrington Cheshire WA4 5NP

	Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Andrew Slim	Group Chair	
2	Andrew Atherall	Group Lead Volunteer	
3	Paul Harris	Group Treasurer	
4	Joanne Gray	Beaver Team Leader	
5	Dave Roberts	Beaver Team Leader	
6	Carol Gilbert	Cub Team Leader	
7	Martin Odenrode	Scout Team Leader	
8	Ewelina Niziolek-Wilson		
9	Ffion Hughes		
10	Stacey Plews		
11	Rebecca Haley		Since 20/05/2025
12			

Name and address of advisors

Type of advisor	Name	Address
Independent Examiner	Martin Stephen Lupton	19 Meadway Sale Cheshire M33 4PX
Detail others		

Declaration

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

Signature	Andrew K.	A Atherall
Full name	**Andrew Slim**	**Andrew Charles Atherall**
Position held	**Group Chair**	**Group Lead Volunteer**
Date	21st MAY 2026	22nd May 2026

Annual Financial Report for the Year Ended 31st March 2026

17th Sale Scout Group

Receipts and Payments for the Period ended 31st March 2026

Receipts	Gross	Cost	Net
Family Ca	5,255.00		5,255.00
	5,255.00	-	5,255.00
Received in respect of:-			
Phoenix Scouts			575.00
Orion Cubs			795.45
Polaris Cubs			1,669.70
Aquila Beavers			-
Hercules Beavers			-
Scorpio Scouts			840.00
Subscriptions			14,496.00
Tax Refund			3,542.55
Int/Investment Income			4,005.40
HQ Grant			2,000.00
Miscellaneous			2,698.51
			£35,877.61

Payments	
On Behalf Of: -	
Phoenix Scouts	852.10
Orion Cubs	2,129.82
Polaris Cubs	233.03
Aquila Beavers	128.11
Hercules Beavers	33.86
Scorpio Scouts	822.55
Family Camp	4,648.04
Capitation Fee	7,620.00
Equipment	3,493.83
Uniforms & Badges	2,882.76
Miscellaneous	2,196.60
HQ Grant Expenditure	2,002.56
HQ Running Expenses	
Insurance	891.09
Water	324.96
Gas, Electricity, WiFi	2,499.39
Cleaning	-
Gardening	-
Ground Rent	325.00
Fire Extinguishers	-
Repairs & Maintenance	689.64
Receipts over Payment	**4,104.27**
	£35,877.61

Group Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2026

Assets	
Cash in hand	113.70
Bank Accounts:-	
Current	1,592.41
Reserve	4,651.38
Investments	77,954.41
H Q Building @ Cost	43,569.44
	£127,881.34

Liabilities	
Balance b/f 1/4/25	123,777.07
Receipts over Payments	**4,104.27**
	£127,881.34

n.b. Entries are no longer processed through the Units - ALL Transactions handled via Group A/c's

P Atherton
Group Treasurer

M. S. Lyon
Auditor

LT700006 - Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees (January 2024)

England & Wales

Template 1: Unqualified report for a non-company charity preparing receipts and payments accounts with a gross income of £250,000 or less in the relevant financial year

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Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 17th Sale Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 17th Sale Scout Group for the year ended 31st March 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 17th Sale 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 17th Sale 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 17th Sale 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: 

Name: Martin Stephen Lupton

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

Address: 19 Meadway, Sale, Cheshire, M33 4PX

Date: 1st May 2026

Minutes of the Previous AGM

Minutes of the 49th Annual General Meeting of the Group Scout Council of the 17th Sale Scout Group held on Friday 20 June 2025 at The Boathouse, Sale Water Park at 7:15pm

Present: Andy Slim (Group Chair), Georgie McCarthy (Group Secretary), Joanne Gray (Beaver Team Leader), Dave Roberts (Beaver Team Leader), Jason Garner (Beaver Team Leader), Ngozi Ekwunife (Beaver Team Member), Carol Gilbert (Cub Team Leader), Chris McCarthy-Stott (Cub Team Member), John Versfeld (Cub Team Member), Martin Odenrode (Scout Team Leader), Dave Hannigan (Scout Team Member), Nick Gladden (Scout Team Member), Lewis Sinclair (Scout Team Member & 14-24 Team Lead), Ian Moore (Team Member), Richard Taylor (Group Administrator), Chris Gleaves(Deputy District Lead Volunteer), Ewelina Niziolek-Wilson (Trustee), Ffion Rees Hughes (Trustee), Stacey Plews (Trustee), Rebecca Haley (Trustee), John Hardern (Supporter), Rhona Hardern (Supporter)

Apologies: Andy Atherall (Group Lead Volunteer & District Lead Volunteer), Paul Harris (Group Treasurer), Stuart Bateman (Cub Team Member), Brett Bailey (Cub Team Member), Michelle Turner (Cub Team Member), Rita Mark (Cub Team Member), Bob Cole (Disclosure Volunteer Support), Martin Lupton (Accounts' Examiner)

1	**Introduction and Welcome** Andy Slim (AS) welcomed everyone to the AGM. In particular, he introduced everyone to John and Rhona Hardern and explained their long-standing history with 17th Sale Scout Group.	**Action**
2	**Apologies for Absence** GM read out the apologies for absence that are minuted above.	
3	**Governance Topics** AS stated that the next part of the meeting was to make sure the charity's foundations were in good order **a) Approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 18/05/2024** AS stated that the Group Trustee Board had reviewed the minutes of the previous AGM at their meeting held on 09/07/2024. AS put forward these minutes were taken as read and asked the Group Scout Council to agree they were a true record of that meeting. Joanne Gray seconded and there was a show of hands to approve.	

	b) Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) In line with the recommendation from Scout Headquarters, the Group Trustee Board proposed we adopt the model constitution from Chapter 5 of Policy, Organisation and Rules. Dave Hannigan seconded and there was a show of hands to approve. **c) Note the Group's financial year** AS asked the Group Scout Council members to note our charity's financial year was 1 April to 31 March. **d) Approve appointed and community members of the Group Scout Council** This agenda item was not applicable and therefore not discussed. **e) Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board** AS stated that following good practice recommendations from the Charity Governance Code, POR states Trustee Boards should have a minimum of 5, and no more than 12, Trustees in total. This includes ex officio and co-opted Trustees. The Group Scout Council must agree the number of people to be appointed to the Trustee Board. The outgoing Trustee Board recommended that a maximum of 12 people are appointed. AS proposed the Group Scout Council approved that recommendation. Carol Gilbert seconded and there was a show of hands to approve. **f) Agree the quorum for future meetings of the Group Scout Council (excluding this AGM)** AS stated the Group Scout Council must agree its quorum – the minimum number of Group Scout Council members that must be present at Group Scout Council meetings. The outgoing Trustee Board recommended the quorum should be set at 5 people. Dave Roberts seconded and there was a show of hands to approve.	
4	**Review of the Previous Year** **g) The Group Lead Volunteer's review of Scouts in the 17th Sale Scout Group** In the absence of Andy Atherall (AA), AS handed the floor to Carol Gilbert (CG) as his stand-in to give a review of the year. CG referred the audience to the Annual Report where AA had made a detailed summary of the Group's achievements. CG highlighted the fact it was	

a fantastic accomplishment that Young People across all Sections had been awarded the Chief Scout's Awards this year.

h) District Lead Volunteer's Remarks

AS handed the floor to Chris Gleaves (CGl) who introduced herself as the Deputy District Lead Volunteer and who had previously held the role of District Commissioner. CGl stated that she has always enjoyed attending 17th Sale camps. She thanked all the Young Leaders, Helpers and Trustees who support the Group. She noted how many new Lead Volunteers there were in the Group which was so positive. CGl congratulated all the Young People who had achieved the highest awards possible. Finally, she thanked the Group Leadership Team and recognised everyone's patience in the move over to the new membership system.

i) Receive and consider the Annual Report of the Group Trustee Board, including the annual Statement of the Accounts

AS noted the Group Trustee Board had approved the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts, and had received the report on the accounts from Martin Lupton the Independent Examiner.

In the absence of Paul Harris (PH), AS mentioned a few highlights of the accounts, as prepared by PH. Subscription payments averaged £1,231 per month. This was similar to previous years, despite the fact that the Trustee Board agreed to waiver subscriptions for children of uniformed leaders. This was a conscious decision by the Trustee Board to try to make 17th Sale a great place to volunteer. Leaders are now also offered free uniforms and have been invited to a meal after the AGM too to thank them for their hard work over the year.

AS noted that the Group's balance was just over £80,000 but reminded that it costs around £28,000 a year to run the Group. The remaining balance is invested bank accounts.

There was minor income from The Gang Show who have used the Scout Hut for rehearsals, but this will be the last year since The Gang Show will run next year. The Group received almost £4,000 from Gift Aid this year and AS thanked Richard Taylor for his tireless effort in managing the claim.

	The Group undertook an extensive Premises Safety review and as a result invested in building an accessibility ramp and upgraded the security CCTV and burglar alarm following a suspected attempted break-in. AS expressed his gratitude to Martin Odenrode for the continuous maintenance that he performs on the hut. This keeps the hut in an excellent condition and substantially reduces costs to the Group. AS thanked PH and ML for their work keeping and examining the accounts and urged families to consider adding Gift Aid to the subscription payments if they don't already. AS invited questions from the floor regarding the Trustee Annual Report and the Annual Accounts but none were received.	
5	**Making Appointments** AS stated that this part of the meeting was used to organise the set-up of the charity until the next AGM by appointing a Trustee Board to oversee good governance for the charity. **j) Appoint the Group Chair, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board** CG explained the open selection process agreed by the Trustee Board. The recommendation to the Group Scout Council was that Andy Slim should be appointed as Group Chair and John Versfeld seconded. There was a show of hands to approve. **k) Appoint the Group Treasurer, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board.** AS explained the open selection process agreed by the Trustee Board. The recommendation to the Group Scout Council was that Paul Harris should be appointed as Group Treasurer and Martin Odenrode seconded. There was a show of hands to approve. **l) Appoint members of the Group Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board** AS explained that Andy Slim, Andy Atherall and Paul Harris were already ex-officio trustees by dint of their roles. He explained the open selection process agreed by the Trustee Board for the selection	

	of further trustees. The recommendation to the Group Scout Council was that Dave Roberts, Martin Odenrode, Carol Gilbert, Joanne Gray, Ewelina Niziolek-Wilson, Stacey Plews and Ffion Hughes should be re-appointed as members of the Group Trustee Board. It was further recommended that Rebecca Haley become a Trustee having been co-opted on 20/05/2025. John Versfeld seconded. There was a show of hands to approve. **m) Reappoint Group President and/or Vice Presidents** AS stated that there were no candidates for the role of Group President so the position would remain vacant. **n) Appoint Independent Examiner** AS proposed Martin Lupton as Independent Examiner and confirmed he was qualified for the role. Joanne Gray seconded. There was a show of hands to approve.	
6	**District Lead Volunteer - Presentations** Chris Gleaves presented the following awards • Award for Merit – Martin Odenrode • Wood Badge – Jason Garner • 30 Years' Service - Richard Taylor • 20 Years' Service – Ian Moore • 10 Years' Service – Georgie McCarthy Stuart Bateman was not present to receive his Wood Badge and 5 Years' Service awards.	
7	**Close** AS thanked all the Trustees, parents and Young People for their roles in the Group. He also thanked Georgie McCarthy for managing the Group in her role as Secretary. He also mentioned Beth Powney, Local Growth Officer, who has helped in the recruitment process for new Leaders which will facilitate the opening of a new Scout Troop in September 2025. AS thanked everyone for attending and called the meeting to a close.	