

19th Durham Scouts

Campfire, BBQ & AGM



Accounts, Minutes and Trustee Report

4th November 2025

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19th Durham (Neville's Cross) SCOUT COUNCIL
Annual General Meeting

4th November 2025, 19:30

Moor House Adventure Centre

AGENDA

- 1. Introduction and welcome**
 - a. Appoint a Chair for this meeting of the Group Scout Council
- 2. Apologies for absence**
- 3. Governance topics**
 - a. Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 6th November 2024
 - b. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR)
 - c. Note the Group's financial year
 - d. Approve appointed and community members of the Group Scout Council
 - e. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board
 - f. 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 the 19th Durham (Neville's Cross) Scout Group
 - b. 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

Closing remarks

Trustee Annual Report

For the period	From: 01/04/2024	To: 31/03/2025
Charity Name:	19 th Durham Scout Group (Neville's Cross)	
Charity No:	516680	
Charity's Principal Address:	36 Claude Road Merrington Park Spennymoor DL16 7GR	

Trustee Name	Office	Dates Acted
Will Greeves	Chair	Whole Year
Dawn Brown	Treasurer	Whole Year
Jonathan Tones	Group Lead Volunteer (ex-officio)	Whole Year
Darren Melroy	Trustee	Whole Year
Richard Leckenby	Trustee	Whole Year
Amy Beierholm	Trustee	Whole Year
Ulrik Beierholm	Trustee	Whole Year
Nicky Hayes	Trustee	Whole Year

Structure, Governance and Management	
Type of Governing Document:	The Group's governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.
How the charity is constituted:	The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.
Trustee Selection Methods:	The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.
Additional Governance Information:	The Group is managed by the Group Trustee Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. 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 9 Trustees, including the Group Lead Volunteer in an ex-officio capacity, a Chair, Treasurer, and 6 additional Trustees. The Trustee Board meets regularly throughout the year.

Members of the Trustee Board complete Being a Scouts Trustee learning within the first 6 months of joining the Board.

This Group Trustee Board exists to make sure the charity is well-managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and equipment are in good working order, and everyone follows legal requirements and the organisation's policies and rules. Their support helps other volunteers run high-quality and safe programmes that gives young people skills for life.

Risk and Internal Control

The Trustee Board has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

Damage to the building, property and equipment. The Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community centre and other Scout Groups. The Group is similarly open to supporting these organisations with reciprocal arrangements. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The Group through the national membership fee contributes to the Scout Associations national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.

Reduced income from fund raising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Trustees could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst-case scenario this could lead to the complete closure of the Group.

Reduction or loss of members. The Group provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 18. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario this could lead to the complete closure of the Group.

Objectives and Activities	
<p>Summary of the charities objectives as outlined in our governing document:</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The Scout Method Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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. </p>
<p>Summary of the main activities:</p>	<p>Scouting activities primarily seek to develop young people through learning by doing - and typically sees weekly meetings being led for young people aged 6-8, 8-10.5, and 10.5-14. Through a Partnership Agreement with Durham City & District Scouts, the Group also supports activities for 14-18 year olds.</p>
<p>Public Benefit Statement:</p>	<p>The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.</p>

Achievements and Performance

Summary of our main achievements over the year:	<p>The Group has continued with a normal programme, with all sections running successful nights away - including many young people having their first night away from home. All sections have also participated in a rich programme consisting of both locally organised activities, external visits, and District/County events.</p> <p>Young people continue to work towards the top awards in each section, and the Group has welcomed a number of new volunteers.</p>
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Financial Review

Statement on reserves:	<p>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 12 months running costs, circa £25,000.</p> <p>The Group is actively planning for the long-term replacement of Nelson Hall, which will therefore see our cash-in-hand grow each year as we build a fund to support this.</p>
Further financial information:	<p>The Group's funds are held in cash, held with a bank that is a member of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. The Group does not hold any investments.</p> <p>Income is primarily obtained from membership subscriptions paid by the parents/guardians of young people who attend the Group.</p> <p>The Group designates funds each year in the following ways:</p> <p>Headquarters' Membership Fee ('Capitation'): £4,500 Adult training: £2,000 Hardship fund: £1,500</p>
Planning for the future:	<p>Additional work is ongoing to identify the level of maintenance and capital works required in future with regards to the group's primary asset, Nelson Hall. This is likely to require significant levels of funding and as a result, the trustees have no concerns about the current level of reserves being in excess of our annual running costs.</p>

19TH DURHAM SCOUTS NEVILLE'S CROSS

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

1st April 2024 - 31st March 2025

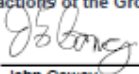
Balances B/f	1st April 2024
CAF Current	23,828.97
CAF Reserve	35,767.03
Expense cards	697.87
	<u>60,293.87</u>


Income	
Termly Subscriptions	12,273.16
Hall Hire	2,451.54
Donations	1,032.33
Events	15,988.99
Gift Aid Received	2,658.70
Grants	0.00
Fundraising	359.38
Miso/interest	861.97
First Aid Course	805.50
Income	<u>36,431.57</u>

Expenditure	
Utilities	3,164.15
Meetings	2,084.65
Camps/events	16,312.03
Training	982.20
Equipment/uniform	2,543.64
Admin, IT & Misc	394.45
Hut expenses/Capitation	8,701.93
GoCardless Charges	921.61
Bank charges	120.00
Insurance	2,375.97
Expenditure	<u>37,600.63</u>
Net Income/Exoenditure	<u>-1,169.06</u>

Closing Bank Balances	
CAF Current	13,701.60
CAF Reserve	3,382.84
CAF Gold	40,790.32
Expense cards	1,250.05
	<u>59,124.81</u>
Cash Balance Movement	<u>-1,169.06</u>

AUDITOR'S OPINION
 Having examined the books and records of 19th Durham Neville's Cross Scout Group and sought and received explanations where necessary, I am of the opinion that these accounts are a true and fair record of the affairs and transactions of the Group

Signed 
 Name John Cowey Date 30/10/25

Declaration		
The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report.		
Name:	Jonathan Tones	Darren Melroy
Position:	Group Lead Volunteer	Trustee
Signed:		
Date:	01-11-2025	

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the 19th Durham (Neville's Cross) Scout Group

Held at Moor House Adventure Centre, 1930 on 6th November 2024

1. Introduction and welcome

Jonathan Tones opened the meeting and provided an overview of the year, including events and achievements by the group.

Jonathan Tones confirmed that in the absence of the Group Chair, Darren Melroy would chair the remainder of the meeting on behalf of the Trustee Board.

Darren Melroy confirmed that the meeting was quorate through a show of hands from members of the Group Scout Council.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from William Greeves.

3. Governance topics

- a. Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 7th November 2023

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 7th November 2023 were APPROVED by a show of hands.

- b. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR)

The model constitution from POR was APPROVED by a show of hands.

- c. Note the Group's financial year

The group's financial year was NOTED as 1st April through 31st March by a show of hands.

- d. Approve appointed and community members of the Group Scout Council

No appointed or community members were proposed or approved.

- e. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board

The recommendation from the Group Trustee Board that total membership of the Group Trustee Board be 9 members was APPROVED by a show of hands.

- f. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the Group Scout Council (excluding this AGM)

The recommendation from the Group Trustee Board that quorum of the Group Scout Council be 10 members was APPROVED by a show of hands.

4. Review of the previous year

- a. The Group Lead Volunteer’s review of Scouts in the 19th Durham (Neville’s Cross) Scout Group

This point was covered under Agenda Point #1.

- b. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the Group Trustee Board, including the annual Statement of the Accounts

The Annual Report of the Group Trustee Board, including the annual Statement of the Accounts, was RECEIVED and CONSIDERED by a show of hands.

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

Items 5a, 5b and 5c were taken as one action, with the below recommendation from the Group Trustee Board APPROVED by a show of hands.

Role	Name	Duration
Chair	Will Greeves	2 yrs
Treasurer	Dawn Brown	3 yrs
Trustee	Amy Beierholm	3 yrs
Trustee	Richard Leckenby	3 yrs
Trustee	Nicky Hayes	2 yrs
Trustee	Darren Melroy	1 yr
Trustee	Ulrik Beierholm	1 yr

- d. Appoint the Independent Examiner

John Cowey was APPROVED as the Independent Examiner by a show of hands.

Closing remarks