

62nd Coventry Scout Group
AGM Agenda, 22nd May 2024

1. Welcome.
2. Apologies.
3. Acceptance of the Minutes from Last AGM.
4. Re-Adoption of the Scouts Constitution.
5. Financial Report by Treasurer.
6. GSL Report.
7. Section Reports.
8. Nominations for:
 - Chair
 - Treasurer
 - Trustee Board members
9. Any Other Business.
10. Date for next meeting.

Minutes of 62nd Scout Group AGM 12 May 2023

Attendees: Keith Morris – GSL and Scout Leader, Andy Smedley – Group Treasurer, Sue Smedley – Sectional assistant – Cubs (Monday), Peter Burge – Group Supporter, David Hinley – Cub Scout Leader (Wednesday), Abigail Hinley – Assistant Beaver Leader (Thursday), Neil Smith – Assistant Scout Leader, Mark Hancock – Assistant Scout Leader, Catherine Harvey - Assistant Scout Leader, Louise Harvey – Young Leader (Scouts), Andrew Bullock – GSL 31st, Elliott Slingsby – Caludon District, Huw Daily – Caludon District, Janette Daily – Caludon District.

Apologies: Amanda Yeadon – Beaver Leader (Friday), Helen Sherwood – Assistant Beaver Leader (Friday), Jill Spencer – Assistant Cub Leader (Wednesday), Lesley Hancock – Beaver Scout Leader (Thursday), Richard Fogg – Section Assistant - Cubs (Wednesday), Becky Kill – Cub Scout Leader (Monday), Andy Morgan – District Commissioner – Caludon, Michael Smith – Sectional Assistant - Cubs (Wednesday)

Acceptance of minutes from 18/05/2022 AGM:

Proposed: David Hinley, Seconded: Mark Hancock

Keith Morris formally welcomed everybody to this year's AGM.

Statement of Constitution.

Keith Morris stated that the Group has adopted the model Constitution as written in POR, Rule 5.

Financial Report 2022/2023

Activity levels during 2023 have increased significantly with the number of camps, sleepovers and trips up significantly on last year.

After 18 months of rigorous negotiation with Coventry City Council we have finally secured a new lease with acceptable terms. The 62nd Scout Group is therefore now secure on this site for a further 25 years. This has come at a cost though, as the rent has now doubled. There have been no rent increases over the past 25 years however so that is not unreasonable. The rent will also now increase each year in line with the Retail Price Index but with a minimum increase of 2% and a maximum increase of 4%. We can now to start to consider options for replacing our 50 year-old hut.

Income.

Subs payments have increased from 2022 and are nearly back to the pre-covid levels. Through the efforts of the section leaders in getting parents and carers to complete Gift Aid forms, we were able to claim our highest level of Gift Aid this year. Fund raising activities continue to be restricted and we have not been able to do any supermarket bag packs which were previously very lucrative. Sponsorship levels for the Big Walk were very strong this year, and we hope to repeat this in a few weeks time. The interest rate increases had a positive impact on the Group, and we received a healthy amount of interest on the funds we have saved up to help fund the replacement of the Hut.

Expenditure

We incurred a significant cost this year with maintaining the trees that surround the site. We are obliged to do this on a three yearly cycle as part of the terms of our lease, but the costs could have been much higher had we not shopped around for quotes.

We have so far been protected from the increases in Gas and Electricity costs as we entered into a fixed rate agreement with our suppliers in 2021. That ends in July this year though and it is inevitable that our bills will increase significantly at this point. Prudent control of the heating controls had a positive impact on our Gas bills, but as I said earlier, we know this will change significantly from July.

Summary and Recommendations

Through prudent control of our finances and budgeting controls, we have generated a modest surplus of circa £4,300, which will go towards the hut replacement fund, and the planned Gilwell trip which the Group is subsidising. This figure is down on previous years, and is reflective of the restrictions on fundraising activities. We know that costs are increasing in 2023 through higher rent charges and utility bills, so it is with much regret that I am today proposing an increase in subs payments for the first time in at least 10 years. I am proposing to increase the quarterly subs payments from £30 to £35 but retaining the subsidy of £5 for second and subsequent children.

Finally, I would like to thank Edd Crust for once again inspecting our accounts.

GSL Report

The Group has continued to do well over the past 12 months, with all sections running to capacity or very close to it.

Matt Spencer moved to a Group in Rugby, nearer to where he lives, so David Hinley has taken over the leadership team at Wednesday Pack. We also welcomed Sue Smedley and Claire Mahers to the leadership team of Monday Pack, and Candy McCann to the team of Thursday Beavers.

One Young Leader turned 18 and took up a Leader position in the Group. This was Michael Smith and he joined the team at Wednesday Cubs. We had 8 Scouts take up Young Leader positions within the Group. Most are taking part in the Duke Of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, either through School or through Young Leaders.

We held a Group Fun Day in July to mark the Queen's 75th Jubilee. This was supported by all sections, plus representation from Bulldogs ESU.

The Group had a good turn-out at the County Remembrance Service.

The Group Carol Service was well supported by all sections in the Group.

With all sections becoming more active again following the lifting of all COVID restrictions, it has become evident that a lot of our kit needs replacing. We are looking at grants and other

funding for new tents and camping/expedition equipment so that we can continue to offer the activities that the youngsters join us for.

Thanks to all of the Leaders, Young Leaders, Group Supporters, Occasional Helpers and anyone else who keeps the Group and its premises going.

Section Reports

Circulated in advance of the AGM

Approval of Nominations

Chairperson Abigail Hinley	Treasurer – Andy Smedley	Secretary – Lesley
Hancock Proposed Neil Smith	Proposed – Neil Smith	Proposed – Neil Smith
Seconded David Hinley	Seconded – David Hinley	Seconded – David Hinley
Trustee Board – Amanda Yeadon, Jill Spencer and David Hinley.		

AOB

It was proposed to increase Subs to £35 per quarter and retain the £5 sibling discount. The motion was carried and the increase would be in effect from July.

There was a proposal to have a Sectional Budget for items and equipment for section activities that are not paid for by the participants. This is to be discussed at the next meeting.

Keith formally closed the meeting thanking everyone for their attendance and help over the past 12 months.

Date for next meeting

Wednesday 14 June 2023 at 2015h

Meeting closed 1935h.

Treasurer's Report May 2024

Income.

Activity levels during 2024 have increased significantly yet again, with the number of camps, sleepovers and trips up on last year.

Subs payments have increased from 2023 due in part to the increased payments agreed at the last AGM, and Gift aid claims on subs payments have also increased.

The continued high interest rates had a positive impact on the Group, and we received a healthy amount of interest on the funds we have saved up to help fund the replacement of the Hut.

Expenditure

Through careful control of the heating thermostat, we have used less gas and electricity compared to last year. The fixed rate agreement we entered into with our suppliers in 2021 ends in July and although we have agreed new fixed rate tariffs, they are higher than previously so we know that our utility costs will now increase.

We bought 18 new tents earlier this year which, despite getting a good deal on them, cost us almost £3,000. We also subsidised the Beaver and Cub visit to Gilwell, for almost £1,000.

Summary and Recommendations

Through prudent control of our finances and budgeting controls, we have generated a modest surplus of circa £6,500, which will go towards the hut replacement fund. We are in discussions with an architect and quantity surveyor regarding plans for the net hut, both of which are very kindly providing their services free of charge. We will require a significant fund-raising effort to raise the money needed to replace the hut.

Finally, I would like to thank Edd Crust for once again carrying out an independent examination of our accounts.

Andy Smedley,

Group Treasurer.

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the 62nd Coventry Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 62nd Coventry Scout Group (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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:

Dr Edward Crust
Chartered Accountant (ICAS)
Date: 20 May 2024

Statement of financial activities

Incoming resources	Note	2023/24		2022/23	
		Unrestricted £	Restrict ed £	Total £	Total £
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
		15,65		15,65	14,
Subscriptions	3	3	-	3	532
		3,95	17,5	21,47	12,
Activities for generating funds	3	9	19	8	614
		2,2		2,	
Investment income	3	06	-	206	595
		21,81	17,5	39,33	27,
Total incoming resources		8	19	7	741
Resources expended					
		11,54		11,54	12,
Cost of generating unrestricted funds	4	2	-	2	076
			21,28	21,28	11,
Fundraising costs	4	-	9	9	351
		11,54	21,28	32,83	23,
Total resources expended		2	9	1	427
		10,2		6,50	4,
Net Movement in funds		76	(3,770)	6	314
Total funds brought forward					94,229
Total funds carried forward					100,735

Balance Sheet

	Note	2023/24			2022/23
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Current Assets					
Short term investment (Deposit account)	6	94,557	-	94,557	84,523
Cash at Bank and in hand	7	11,195	-	11,195	13,315
Debtors	8	-	-	-	-
Creditors falling due within one year	9	-	(5,017)	(5,017)	(3,609)
Net assets / (liabilities)		105,752	(5,017)	100,735	94,229
Funds of the Charity					
Unrestricted funds				95,718	90,620
Restricted funds				5,017	3,609
Total funds				100,735	94,229

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 24 May 2024 (the date of the Annual General Meeting that approved the accounts) and signed on their behalf by:

A Smedley
Treasurer

Note 1 Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown at market value) in accordance with:

- Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP FRS102);
- and with Accounting Standards
- and with the Charities Act 2006.

1.2 Changes to previous accounts

No changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

1.3 Change in basis of accounting

The accounts were previously under SORP 2005 and for the current year have transitioned to SORP FRS102 – there was no impact to the current year or prior year Balance sheet of SoFA due to this change. There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

Note 2 Accounting policies

Incoming Resources

Recognition of incoming resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Membership subscriptions

Membership subscriptions are recognised based on the period they relate to and includes any associated gift aid.

Incoming resources with related expenditure

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

Grants and donations Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Contractual income and performance related grants

This is only included in the SoFA once the related goods or services have been delivered.

Gifts in kind

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Donated services and facilities

These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material.

The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

Note 2 Accounting policies (continued)

Volunteer help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

Investment income

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

Expenditure and liabilities

Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

Governance costs

Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Note 3 Analysis of incoming resources

Subscriptions

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Subscriptions	15,653	14,532

Activities for generating funds

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Fund raising	2,917	2,771
Miscellaneous	1,046	1,042
Scouts	10,063	2,010
Monday Cubs	2,530	2,050
Wednesday Cubs	2,797	1,232
Joint Activities	-	-
Joint Cubs	-	-
Joint Beavers	1,083	1,447
Hut hire	1,042	2,062
	21,478	12,614

Fund raising includes a one-off grant payment of £10,000 from the Coronavirus support for businesses scheme. It is not subject to any further criteria or evaluation and is non-repayable.

Investment income

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Investment income	2,206	595

Note 4 Analysis of resources expended

Cost of generating unrestricted funds

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Insurances/Membership Fees	5,786	5,595
Utilities	2,100	2,044
Training and Equipment	3,320	292
Hut Maintenance	336	3,604
Miscellaneous	-	540
	11,542	12,075

Fundraising costs

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Badges and Uniform	2,076	2,014
Scouts	9,029	2,043
Monday Cubs	2,532	2,104
Wednesday Cubs	2,922	1,494
Joint Activities	2,330	970
Joint Beavers	1,541	1,980
Miscellaneous	859	745
	21,289	11,351

Note 5 Other costs and fees

No support costs, trustee out of pocket expenses, independent examiner fees, staff costs were paid during the current or prior year.

Note 6 Short term investments

Deposit account

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Deposit account	94,557	84,523

Note 7 Cash at bank and in hand

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Cash	11,195	7,476

Note 8 Debtors

	2023/24	2022/23
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	£	£
Accrued income	-	-
	-	-

Note 9 Creditors and accruals

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Deferred income	4,677	3,074
Accruals	340	535
	5,017	3,609

Note 9 Transactions with related parties

No related party transactions occurred in the current or prior year.

AGM 2024
Group and Section Reports

Scout Group Report, April 2023 to April 2024.

The Group has continued to do well over the past 12 months, with all sections running to capacity or very close to it.

The main Group activities during the year were the support of the Big Walk, the return of our Bingo evening, and the Group Carrol Service.

We have purchased 18 new Vango Tents, 6 each for Monday and Wednesday Cubs, plus 6 for the Scouts. The group also purchased 2 pop-up Gazebos as an easy alternative to the heavier Party Tents.

The Group will need to adjust to the changes in Scouting that are already starting to come through. The Executive Committee is now the Board of Trustees, responsible for Governance of the Charity. The youth sections now have a Team structure with some of the Adult roles changing slightly. The Group will now have a Leadership Team to guide the Scouting side of the Group.

We are looking at replacing the Scout Hut with a new building in the near future. We have had some provisional plans drawn up and they look like they will provide what we need. This is early days yet, as we need surveys completed before we submit the plans for planning permission.

Thanks to all of the Leaders, Young Leaders, Group Supporters, Occasional Helpers and anyone else who keeps the Group and its premises going.

Keith Morris,
Group Scout Leader/Group Lead Volunteer.

Beaver Report – Thursday Colony

We aim to give the beavers a fun experience using games, challenges, and opportunities to interact with the other beavers. We are looking to improve their confidence and they are encouraged to take part in every activity.

Our programme gives the Beavers the opportunity to earn challenge and activity badges with the highest award being the Chief Scout's Bronze Award, collectively the Beavers have gained 251 badges including five bronze awards. Well done to all of them!

The badges we have worked towards are broadening the beaver's skills in that we ask them to do some homework and then share with the other beavers. They are all different and share in different ways helping them all to learn. Some of the more notable badges this year were the Musician and Community Impact badge. The Community Impact badge is completed over three months, we worked with one of our parents who runs a charity supporting new mothers in our community with basic equipment and supplies.

We had two sleepovers one at the scout hut and one-off site at Ullesthorpe Camp Site in Leicester, which were very successful. We now have several Beavers who have earned more than one night away – with one Beaver on four nights.

The Beavers have also supported with The Big Walk (annual fundraiser for the Group), Christmas Carol Service and St George's Service at St Barts.

We have had twelve new Beavers join our colony, and nine move up to Cubs.

Running our section is not a one-person job, it is so important to have a team that works well together, and we can rely on our fellow leaders and young leaders for ideas and support. I would like to say thank you to Abbie, Jonathan, Tiah and Candy, and young leaders Niall, Rhiannon, and Zach. We also a new young leader Hannah who has joined recently.

A special thank you to Niall who turns eighteen next week and is moving to become a leader in Scouts. I have known Niall since he joined beavers and have watched him grow into the young man he is today. You will be missed as you have been a great asset to Thursday Beavers.

I also want to thank all the parents who have supported throughout the year.

We look forward to another good year with lots of new activities.

Lesley Hancock

Thursday Beaver Leader

Friday Beavers AGM Report, 2024

Friday Beavers have had another great year with us at present having 18 Beavers. We have successfully moved up a number of Beavers up in to Cubs.

We have covered a number of badges this year, enabling 12 of the older Beavers achieving their highest award (Bronze award) in Scouting, before transitioning into Cubs.

We have also been on some activities away from the hut ie, like the local Fire station, bowling etc, where the Beavers have mixed brilliantly with the age differences.

We have been fortunate to have had 2 weekend sleepovers since last year enabling to have a whole weekend of activities and the parents being able to a rest. Both of these weekends have been at our Scout camp site the other side of Coventry.

Our recent Sleepover last month we were joined with 2 of the leaders from the 62nd Monday Cubs which helped the Beavers to to get to know the Cub leaders in readiness for moving up to Cubs in the future.

I would like to day a big thank you to Cheryl and Claire the from the 62nd Monday pack and who also help us on section evenings as well.

Friday Beavers come from approximately 6 different schools, which is a privilege as the Beavers like to discuss what they have been doing different at their schools. It also helps to make even more friends.

I would like to say very big thank you to my leadership team, which is made up of Helen, Millie, Cheryl and Clare., our Young Leader William who has helped in delivering a diverse range of activities and experiences.

We would also like to thank Lou Bayliss and our other parents who came to our need when Helen's working pattern changed and we were short of helpers. You all have been very valuable to us.

We look forward to the next year watching our Beavers grow in confidence, learn more skills, ability and hopefully we will be able to welcome even more Beavers to our Colony. If there are any parents who know anyone looking for a Beaver Scout place, I'm sure we'll be able to find a space if they are old enough (5years and 9 months - 8years).

Many thanks

Amanda
Beaver Leader – Friday Colony

Monday Cub pack Report, April 2023 to April 2024.

We currently have myself, Cheryl Jones, Jake Smedley, Sue Smedley and Claire Mahers as leaders within the group. We have three young leaders George Abraham and Cameron Kill and Lucas Male.

We have steady numbers of young people within the pack of approximately 25 at present. All Cubs who have moved up in the Last year have achieved their Chief Scout Silver award and we have 4 due in the next few weeks and the rest of the pack are making steady progress. We have one Young person who has significant additional needs who enjoys attending meetings but will struggle even with adaptations to achieve his Chief scout Silver his parents have opted for him to stay within Cubs rather than move to scouts at present.

There are 4 cubs ready for transition in the next 1-2 months and 4 more by the end of the year. I Believe there are approximately 5 beavers likely to transition from Friday Beavers to Monday pack this year I am not aware of any from Thursday Beavers.

There have been a few cubs join us from the waiting list at the age of nine so we are currently attempting to 'catch them up' with their peers all three attended a recent camp and have made good steps towards this.

Since the last AGM we have had multiple camps/sleepovers including Coombe camp, Wild west, Cubs carnival which was a district ran event, Christmas, space, and a mini camp to introduce camping to new campers. In the next year we have, Spy camp ran by 'Chil' who will hopefully gain her nights away permit, District water weekend, Medieval camp (TBC) and Christmas sleepover planned.

In addition to camps we have attended last years big walk and Gilwell fundays 2023. As a group we have done litter picks and trips out for the Photography badge and arranged a kayaking and raft building day amongst other things.

Becky Kill
Akala Monday Pack.

Wednesday Cub Pack Report 22nd May 2024

The Wednesday Cub Pack Kicked off the year following the last AGM, with a camp at Rough Close, where the Cubs completed their DIY badge by making a bug hotel, and making and painting some fridge magnet note holders. The Cubs also took part in a crate climbing activity.

June saw the Pack, along with the Monday Pack and Thursday Beaver Colony, visit Scout HQ at Gilwell Park for a fun day which included various inflatable activities, a cave bus, traverse wall climb, high climb rope activities, archery, African drumming and some grass sledging. It was an enjoyable and tiring day for all.

July saw the Pack compete in and win the District Sports Day held at Wolston. Well done to all who took part. We will attempt to defend the title in six weeks' time.

September took us to Castle Mound at Fillongley for a camp which included a circular hike. The Cubs played in and on the castle ruins, lit fires and cooked their evening meal on them, and had a jolly loud sing along around the campfire.

In December, the Pack attended the Group carol service at St. Bartholomew's Church and a Pantomime at the Talisman Theatre in Kenilworth where we saw their production of Dick Whittington. We also visited the Ten Pin Bowling Centre at Cross Point for our Christmas Party.

In January, the Pack had an indoor camp at Rough Close and completed the Astronomer badge.

March saw us visit the Coventry Gang Show with the rest of the Group.

In April we visited the Coventry Air Museum at Baginton as part of the Air Activities Stage 2 badge, and we again joined with the rest of the Group for our St. George's Day Parade at St. Bartholomew's Church.

Unfortunately, this year's Big Walk at Rough Close was cancelled owing to the ground conditions following months of rain, which also meant our camp there for the same weekend was also cancelled. Having visited Rough Close again on Saturday and seeing the ground conditions, it confirmed that cancellation of the camp was the correct decision as the ground is still holding surface water and is extremely muddy.

Over the past twelve months the Pack have worked towards and completed in most cases the following activity badges: Gardener, Artist, Backwoods Cooking, Athletics, Fire Safety, DIY, Navigator Stage 2, Money Skills, Road Safety, Disability Awareness, Communicator, Pioneer, Musician Stage 1, International, Home Help, Emergency Aid Stage 2, Air Activities Stage 2.

71 Challenge Badges have been awarded to individuals, leading to 8 Chief Scout Silver Awards being gained by engaging Cubs.

As of today, Wednesday Cub Pack have twenty-three members across four Sixes, having lost two members last week owing to age constraints. This is the same number of Cubs that we had at the time of the last AGM, but numbers peaked at 31 Cubs between June and December last year. This was managed by the introduction of a fifth Six, which was removed when member numbers allowed.

I would like to place on record my thanks to all the Sections Leaders, Jill, Richard, Ana and Poonam, and to the Group's Leaders, parents and youngsters that have positively supported the Pack over the last twelve months. I also want to thank Reverend Jon at St. Bartholomew's Church for his support with the Group.

David Hinley.

Akela – Section Lead Volunteer, Wednesday Cub Pack.

Scout Section Report, April 2023 to April 2024.

In the past year, the Scout section numbers have been around 30 Scouts, with 3 Young Leaders, and 4 regular Leaders. We completed 7 Chief Scout's Golds, along with many Challenge Awards and proficiency badges.

We took part in the second Water Weekend following COVID. This was a really good camp and 13 Scouts gained the Paddle Sports badge, along with an increase of Time On The Water credits. Tolmers Summer Camp returned in 2023 and the Troop took part. Although the format was very different to what we are used to, the Scouts who had never taken part before all said they enjoyed it. We also took part in Jamboree on the Internet again, where the Scouts got to interact with other Scouts from around the world.

We have completed the Expedition Challenge again for older Scouts, a Basics Camp and a Christmas Camp, the Big Walk plus other Hikes.

Thanks to all the Leaders, Young Leaders, and parents who support the Troop throughout the year.

Keith Morris,
Scout Leader.