



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
From	01	01	2020	To	31	12	2020

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name 3RD ASHTON-UPON-MERSEY SCOUT GROUP

Other names charity is known by 3rd Ashton Scout Group (old name)

Registered charity number (if any) 520155

Charity's principal address
 Brayton Avenue
 Sale
 Cheshire
 Postcode M33 5HF

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Simon Murray	Chair		Group Scout Leader
2	Alasdair Ferro	Secretary		Scout Group at the AGM
3	Andrea Morgan	Treasurer		Scout Group at the AGM
4	Harry Peet	Group Scout Leader		Scout Association POR
5	Sarah Goodstadt	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
6	Robert Blairs	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
7	Amanda Westhead	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
8	Sally Yarwood	Section Leader		Scout Association POR
9	Nicholas Edmondson	(Parent)		Group exec.
10	Stuart Thompson	(Parent & Assistant leader)		Group exec.
11	Adam Roberts	(Parents Committee chair)		Group exec.

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B management

Structure, governance and

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	<p>The Group's governing documents are those of the Scout Association.</p> <p>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.</p>
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	<p>The Group is a trust established under the Scout Association rules which are common to all Scouts.</p>
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	<p>The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.</p> <p>Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the Annual General Meeting.</p>

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

All our members, trustees, leaders, helpers and assistants give their time on a voluntary basis and received no remuneration or other benefits.

The Group is managed by the Group Executive Committee, 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 Group Executive Committee consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary, together with the Group Scout Leader, individual section leaders, representation of supporters and parents, and meets every 2 months.

The Group Executive Committee exists to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments and is responsible for:

- The maintenance of Group property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.

Risk and Internal Control

The Group has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include appropriate financial controls and comprehensive insurance to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objectives of the group are as a unit of the Scout Association.

The aim of the Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

The method of achieving the aim of the association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

In planning our activities for the year, we keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustees' meetings.

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.

The focus of our activities is based on the Scout Associations planned programme and award schemes, reinforced with related fun activities and camping / outdoor experiences. This benefits young people by developing their self-confidence and social skills alongside practical and life skills.

In line with the Scout Association guidelines, we welcome all young people regardless of personal background, faith, gender, personal circumstances or disability. This philosophy of openness to all, enriches our young people aged 6 to 18 and our volunteers, through the sharing of skills, aptitudes and life experiences.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

All of the income from subscriptions, donations and fund raising is spent for the benefit of the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. This includes maintaining the Scout Hut, necessary to provide a safe venue for regular meetings of all sections of the Group.

Parents and leaders have helped directly with building maintenance to keep costs down and, where specialist skills have been needed, have raised the funds to carry out essential work improving facilities and cost efficiency. Ongoing improvements are planned and financed in the same way. The funds provided by claiming Gift Aid help enormously and this has allowed the group to finance and or subsidise activities for the young members. Where some families have struggled financially the group waives or discounts subscription and camp fees depending on the need.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Total group membership dropped during the year due to restrictions imposed by covid. However many of the members continued to engage in online activities and the programmes regularly provided by the section leaders. As a result, by the end of the year, membership was still at over 80% of pre-pandemic numbers. Many of the parents continued to pay subscriptions despite being reminded four times during the year that this was not required nor expected. This helped enormously with group finances.

The group relies entirely on volunteers. Leaders, skills instructors, helpers, assistants, parents and trustees, all willingly give many hours of their time for free. Only through their tireless enthusiasm is the group able to achieve so much.

The partnership with the Explorer unit continues to work well and is now in its fifth year. The Scout group allows the Explorer unit to use its facilities and equipment for their meetings, activities and camps. In the same way the Group allows Girlguiding, Sale Scout and Guide Band, and Sale Gang Show to use the premises and equipment owned by the Group.

Summary of the main Achievements of the charity during the year

This Group Report was delivered 18/09/2021 at our AGM for 2020.

Typically held in June, this year the AGM was delayed so that it could be held face to face outdoors at Dunham campsite.

Report for 2020

2020 has been a strange year for almost everybody. It started out as usual, with many from 3rd Ashton involved in the District Gang Show, both on stage and off stage. However, normality was short lived as the COVID-19 pandemic caused the first lockdown and the cessation of all in-person Scouting activities at the end of March.

Leaders, parents and young people quickly adapted and activities and challenges were set online, using the private Facebook group. Whilst not all young people were able to engage in these activities, many did so and continued their Scouting journey, including some who took on badges based around their own interests. This also meant that parents became much more involved in the children's Scouting and we must extend thanks to all those who rose to the challenge, alongside all else that was happening.

Beavers completed the Builder, Cook, Experiment, Book Reader, Science and Photography badges.

The Cubs activities covered the Astronomer, Athletics, Communicator, Chef, Gardener, Home Help, Navigator, Photographer, Great Indoors Challenge, Great Outdoors Challenge and Skills Challenge badges.

The Scouts were able to complete Athletics, Chef, Naturalist, Street Sports, Great Indoors Challenge, Personal Challenge, Skills Challenge, Creative Challenge and the At Home Challenge.

Through the online activities a number of members have gained the top awards in their sections - 1 Bronze award in Beavers, 2 Silver award in Cubs and 3 Gold awards in Scouts.

The Friends of 3rd Ashton have also had a busy, albeit socially distanced year! Whilst it was not possible to meet at the Hut, the opportunity has been taken to do some much needed work including replacing the path, sanding and sealing the floor, fully repainting the hall and much more.

The annual plant sale was also run, with more than twice the usual order from the nursery and all the plants delivered, rather than the more usual collection day.

Thanks to all those who came to the hut to help with DIY or the plant sale and for all who gathered orders from friends and neighbours.

All in all, 2020 has been quite a year for everybody and one we will remember, but throughout all the difficulties 3rd Ashton has continued to offer some form of Scouting, for which we should all be extremely proud.

Alasdair Ferro Group Secretary

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Scout Group should income and fundraising activities fall short, or major maintenance work on the premises is required.

The Group Executive Committee considers that the Group's funds should hold a sum equivalent to 3 months basic running costs (utilities and insurance etc), which is approximately £4,500.

Additionally the Group strives to set aside sufficient funds over the year to pay the annual capitation fees paid to the Scout Association in March each year without undue difficulty, which was £6,486 this year.

In addition, during December each year, the Group Executive Committee set a budget for the following year. All major expenditure is highlighted and finances held in the bank account are ear marked to cover the costs in good time.

Any other major expenditure arising during the year is agreed at the Group Executive Committee meetings.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The main source of funds allocated for running costs is the monthly subscriptions paid by the Group members and regular fundraising which is mainly organised by the Parents Committee.

The majority of income is used to fund the running costs of the Scout hut which is the regular weekly meeting place for all the group members, and the cost of programmes, related activities and camps. All of which serve to improve the development of our members.

Other major ongoing costs are the annual capitation paid to the Scout Association which provides support and insurance for all of the members.

The Group has additional insurance for non- members.

When necessary the Group waives or discounts subscription fees / camp fees for members whose families may otherwise struggle to meet the cost due to hardship.

In 2020, due to the pandemic, the Group allowed members to suspend monthly subscriptions to ensure those families who were impacted financially by government restrictions did not feel compelled to continue to pay each month. A local government grant was secured to cover the loss of income for the Group.

We allow other local groups to use the facility on a regular weekly basis. The stated aim of all of these groups is to promote the development of young people.

When possible, they make a donation to cover additional costs, wear and tear of equipment, insurance, gas, electricity and water costs. This donation was waived during 2020.

The Group does not have sufficient funds to make long term investments. It has therefore adopted a risk adverse strategy to the

investment of its funds.

All funds are held in cash using only one mainstream UK bank.

Section F Other optional information

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Section G Declaration

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

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Alasdair Ferro	Simon Murray
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	Chair
Date		

GROUP 2019	<u>INCOME</u>	GROUP 2020
18445.00	Subscriptions	14495.08
4974.56	Camps & Trips	1248.50
1657.39	Donations	11075.00
4812.68	Gift Aid	5251.27
3007.70	Plant Sale	7757.70
1102.98	Kanderstag	116.50
132.00	Neckers/Hoodies	0.00
0.00	Development Fund	5000.00
<u>35363.56</u>		<u>44944.05</u>
	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
-1202.00	Insurance / Rent	-1292.99
-2352.88	Utilities	-2030.95
-6424.00	Capitation	-6486.00
-3286.29	Activities	-1889.61
-63.00	Training Fees	-36.00
-1746.92	Badges/Neckers	-642.65
-2837.49	General Equipment	-1462.99
-1036.70	Buildings & Maintenance	-11696.57
-7199.18	Camp & Trips Expenses	-642.18
-1733.50	Donations	-10000.00
-2650.86	Gift Aid	-125.00
-2037.23	Plant Sale	-4694.75
0.00	Kanderstag	-700.00
-15000.00	Development Fund	-5000.00
<u>-47911.55</u>		<u>-46699.69</u>
<u>-12547.99</u>	Income over Expenditure	<u>-1755.64</u>
	Development Fund P&L	10018.67
	Overall P&L for the Group	<u>8263.03</u>
£ 23,819.55	Opening Balance 01/01/2020	£ 11,271.56
£ 11,271.56	Closing Bank Balance	£ 9,515.92
-£ 12,547.99	Check	-£ 1,755.64
£ 15,006.14	Development Fund Balance	£ 25,024.81
£ 26,277.70	Overall Group Cash	£ 34,540.73

I declare these figures to true to the best of my knowledge

Prepared by: Andrea Morgan

Audited By:

Signed: A L Morgan

Signed:

Date: 01/07/2021

Date:

P&L

-11042.68
606.32
1075.00
5126.27
3062.95
-583.50
0.00
0.00

-1755.64

Subs		
<i>Income</i>	£	14,495.08
<i>Expenditure</i>	-£	25,537.76
	-£	11,042.68

P&L Category

Subs
Subs
Subs
Subs
Subs
Subs
Subs
Subs
Camps
Donations
Gift Aid
Plant Sale
Kanderstag
Development

Bev Sanders

B Sanders

02/16/2021



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

3rd Ashton-on-Mersey Scout Group

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st December 2020

**Charity no
(if any)**

520155

Set out on pages

1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2020.

**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 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: *Bev Sanders*

Date: 16/02/2020

Name: Bev Sanders

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

MAAT - Member of Association of Accounting Technicians

Address:

14 Quarndon Heights

Allestree, Derby

DE22 2XN

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.