



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date					
From	01	01	2021	To	31	12	2021

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 & Parent Committee		Group exec.
10	Stuart Thompson	Section Leader		Group exec.
11	Adam Roberts	Parent Committee Member		Group exec.
12	Fay Brocklebank	Parent Committee Chair	18/09 - 31/12 2021	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)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

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

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)

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

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

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, 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.
Total group membership dropped from 80% of pre-pandemic numbers at the start of the year to around 50% by end April. Many parents had continued to pay subscriptions for a whole year despite being reminded four times this was not required or expected. This helped enormously with group finances. Immediately meetings could resume membership increased dramatically.
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. 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. Additionally the group allows the hut to be used for Young Leader and Adult training courses.

Summary of the main Achievements of the charity during the year

Reports for 2021

Difficult start to the year. Membership at end of 2020 was surprisingly still very high. By April it had dropped to somewhere nearer 50% of pre-pandemic numbers. Not until May was it possible to meet face to face once again, although with many restrictions in place. Membership immediately went back up once meetings were able to resume. Lifting of more restrictions in September allowed meetings indoors and the sections started to get back to their usual programme of events and meetings. Getting outdoors with friends and having fun had been missing for so long and that became the main focus of all activities for the year. All sections took part in as many trips and outdoor activities as they could fit in to meetings. Fundraising by the parents committee, and the grants the exec managed to secure, meant all the activities could be provided from group funds. This was helped by the parents that generously continued to pay subs when finances must have been stretched.

Beavers.

Many got involved in the tasks and activities remotely until June brought the excitement of finally being able to meet in person again. Social distancing meant we were still limited to only meeting outside due to the size of the scout hut. Fortunately the weather was good and we welcomed 15 new Beavers from the waiting list. Activities included visits to Dunham Park, Dino Golf, joining the whole group for two activity filled days at Dunham scout camp in September. We had a really good time trying out so many new activities and crafts. We had a visit from Louise and her exotic pets of all kinds for our Animal Friend badge. Meetings included inventing, investigating, making and painting. Joined the whole group who attended the District Remembrance day parade. We spent an evening shopping and learning about budgeting before donating our purchases to the local food bank. It was great to finally get back to having fun with friends.

Cubs (Sir Peter Scott Pack)

Year started with same restrictions as 2020, Returned to meeting again outdoors at the Hut in late May. So that the Cubs could catch up on activities and time with friends we continued meeting right through the summer and numbers recovered to near pre-COVID levels. After the summer restrictions were still in place for overnight camping. Instead of usual Group Camp we had the Activity days at Dunham, which was well attended. was followed up by a trip to Ice Hockey and also a Hike from Sale Water Park back to the hut, including a hot chocolate stop!

Cubs (Lord Mountbatten Pack)

After the bizarre year of 2020 and lockdown we were able to meet outside of the hut in late May. We organised an evening on the canal in canoes, scavenger hunts and wide games in Worthington Park. An evening pond dipping at Sale water Park, a litter pick in Sale town Centre and a trip to Dino Golf. After the summer holidays we were ready to get back to the hut with a "getting to know you" games night. Group organised a weekend of great activities in the sunshine. The following few weeks were taken up with fire lighting, making ghosts for the Halloween party and completing the air activities staged badge. December the pack concentrated on collecting items for different Xmas hampers for charity. Each six mad their own video asking for donations and we were inundated. Each hamper went to charity including the Salvation Army and Sale West Community. To end our year we had a fun trip out bowling.

Scouts (Peake & MacArthur Troops)

Within a few short weeks of being allowed to meet again we were back running at capacity. June and July saw a back to basics approach trying to refresh lots of the basic skills that had been forgotten such as pioneering, fire lighting, hiking plus a few fun activities which included canoeing, Total Ninja and a visit to a high ropes course which had to be abandoned due to a massive lightning storm.

Friends of 3rd Ashton (Parents Committee)

Support the Group with fund raising and as an extra pair of hands when needed. There are several established fund raisers in the calendar. Financially the spring bedding plant sale and the Halloween party are the most successful. In 2021 we supported with these events and also provided additional support for the group fun days which took the place of family camp. Our usual role as start line marshals at the Manchester Marathon and Half Marathon was declined in 2021 due to the perceived unacceptable risk to our members.

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 £6,000.

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 £6,159 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. This suspension continued during the first half of 2021. The suspension was lifted in September 2021 when Scouting resumed in full. A second local government grant was secured to cover the loss of 2021 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 both 2020 and 2021.

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)	Simon Murray	Alasdair Ferro
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Secretary
Date	15/09/2021	

3rd Ashton upon Mersey Scout Group Charity No. 520155 2021 Full Year Summary

2020		2021		
GROUP	<u>INCOME</u>	GROUP	P&L	Read from
14495.08	Subscriptions	11534.16	-5136.37	Total
1248.50	Camps & Trips	0.00	-3345.11	Income
11075.00	Donations	8000.00	8000.00	Income
5251.27	Gift Aid	3893.05	62.50	Income
7757.70	Plant Sale	7187.50	3055.95	Income
0.00	PEC	940.00	645.61	Income
116.50	Kanderstag	30.00	-194.70	Income
0.00	Neckers/Hoodies	0.00	0.00	Income
5000.00	Development Fund	0.00	-8000.00	Income
0.00	Other	0.00	0.00	Income
44944.05		31584.71	-4912.12	
	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>P&L Category</u>	
-1292.99	Insurance / Rent	-1327.93	Subs	Total
-2030.95	Utilities	-1887.77	Subs	Total
-6486.00	Capitation	-6159.50	Subs	Total
-1889.61	Activities	-1285.91	Subs	Total
-36.00	Training Fees	-250.00	Subs	Total
-642.65	Badges/Neckers	-503.31	Subs	Expense
-1462.99	General Equipment	-906.67	Subs	Total
-11696.57	Buildings & Maintenance	-4349.44	Subs	Total
-642.18	Camp & Trips Expenses	-3345.11	Camps	Expense
-10000.00	Donations	0.00	Donations	Expense
-125.00	Gift Aid	-3830.55	Gift Aid	Expense
-4694.75	Plant Sale	-4131.55	Plant Sale	Expense
0.00	PEC	-294.39	PEC	Expense
-700.00	Kanderstag	-224.70	Kanderstag	Expense
-5000.00	Development Fund	-8000.00	Development	Expense
0.00	Other	0.00	Other	Expense
-46699.69		-36496.83		
-1755.64	Income over Expenditure	-4912.12		
10018.67	Development Fund P&L	8003.01		
8263.03	Overall P&L for the Group	3090.89		
£ 11,271.56	Opening Balance 01/01/2021	£ 9,515.92		
£ 9,515.92	Closing Balance 31/12/2021	£ 4,603.80		
-£ 1,755.64	Check	-£ 4,912.12		
£ 25,024.81	Development Fund Balance	£ 33,028.05		
£ 34,540.73	Overall Balance	£ 37,631.85		

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

Prepared by: Andrea Morgan
Signed: A L Morgan
Date: 02/03/2022

Audited By: Bev Sanders
Signed: Bev Sanders
Date: 2 Mar 2022



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 2021

**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 31/12/2021.

**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: 22/03/2022

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.