

## **1<sup>st</sup> Dromore Scout Group**

Registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland – NIC 103922

### **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT for year-end 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

Charity's Principal Address:

**Scout Hall**

**Mossvale Road**

**Dromore**

**Co Down**

**BT25 1DG**

### **TRUSTEES AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024:**

|                   |                               |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Robbie Masters    | Chairperson                   |
| Joanne Graham     | Treasurer                     |
| John Bradshaw     | Group Scout Leader            |
| Glenda Galloway   | Beaver Scout Leader           |
| Paul Graham       | Assistant Cub Scout Leader    |
| Angus McComb      | Scout Leader                  |
| Rhonda Beck       | Assistant Beaver Scout Leader |
| Jonathan Crawford | Assistant Scout Leader        |
|                   |                               |

The Trustees have studied the N.I Charity Commission's statutory guidance on the Public benefit requirement and consider that they have complied with it in full.

Independent Examiner appointed – Mr Jeff Glass, 115 Dromara Road, Dromore.

### **Structure and Management**

1<sup>st</sup> Dromore Scout Group is an organisation for youth in the wider Dromore area consisting of Squirrel Scouts, Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts, and Adult Leaders. They are a feeder group for Crozier Unit District Explorer Scouts.

1<sup>st</sup> Dromore Squirrels meet on a Wednesday, Beavers meet on a Tuesday evening and the Cubs meet on a Monday with Scouts meeting on a Thursday evening between the months September and June. With some activities over the Summer months.

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. The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts. The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scout Organisation. 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 Committee consists of three independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leader, individual section leaders and parent's representatives and meets at least twice a year.

Members of the Executive Committee complete 'Essential Information for Executive Committee' training within five months of joining the committee. This 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.

### **Risks 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 two signatories for all payments and a comprehensive insurance policy to ensure that risks are covered. Also, an independent Examiner checks accounts.

## Summary of the objects of the charity as set out in its governing document:

### **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:

1. **Integrity** – We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.
2. **Respect** - We have self-respect, and respect for others.
3. **Care** - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.
4. **Belief** – We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.
5. **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.

### Scout Group Main Activities

During the year 1<sup>st</sup> Dromore Scout Group enjoyed a varied programme of events – investing new members to all sections and making or renewing promises, we had evenings of different sports/games, cooking/baking, compass and map reading, Scouting skills such as knots/lashings and fire lighting, cultural evenings, guest visitors from outside organisations and environmental projects. All sections had outings to educational and entertainment venues and participated in District, County and NI events where applicable. Both Cub and Scout sections also had a weekend Camp in Tollymore Forest Youth campsite in Newcastle taking part in mountain biking and high ropes at the Tollymore Mountain Centre. Also throughout the weekend they enjoyed hiking, backwoods cooking and wide games including a mystery maze.

They increased their awareness of being active/healthy eating, of thinking of the environment and having a greater awareness of caring for and helping others.

Charitable donations were made at the annual Remembrance Sunday parade collection. Also ongoing fundraising to help subsidise all sections.

## **Sections**

### **Squirrel Scouts**

#### **Leaders**

Squirrel Leader – Sarah Pollock

Assistant Leader – Jayne Lutton and Lynsey Foster

Young Leader (Explorer Scouts) – Toby Cooper

Training: All Scouting mandatory training up to date.

#### **Membership**

As per census 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024

|        | Age 4 | Age 5 | Age 6 | Total |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Male   | 4     | 6     | 5     | 15    |
| Female | 1     | 0     | 0     | 1     |
| Total  | 5     | 6     | 5     | 15    |

**Badges:** Let it grow, story time, be active, feel good, get creative, let's celebrate, explore outdoors.

### **Beaver Scouts**

#### **Leaders**

Beaver Leader – Glenda Galloway

Assistant Leader – Rhonda Beck

Sectional Assistants – Julie Scott

Training: All Scouting mandatory training up to date.

### **Membership**

As per census 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024

|        | Age 6 | Age 7 | Age 8 | Total |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Male   | 3     | 5     | 0     | 8     |
| Female | 3     | 0     | 0     | 3     |
| Total  | 6     | 5     | 0     | 11    |

**Badges:** Activity Badges – Pet, Faith, Creative, Sports and Computer.

### **Cub Scouts**

#### **Leaders**

Cub Scout Leader – John Bradshaw

Assistant Leader – Paul Graham

Assistant Leader – Nicky Galloway

Young Leaders (Explorer Scouts) – Elliot Bradshaw, Sam Graham, Max Boyd and Adam Martin.

Training: All Scouting mandatory training up to date.

### **Membership**

As per census 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024

|        | Age 8 | Age 9 | Age 10 | Total |
|--------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| Male   | 3     | 9     | 4      | 16    |
| Female | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0     |
| Total  | 3     | 9     | 4      | 16    |

**Badges:** Challenge badges – Personal, Skills and Teamwork, Outdoor and Adventure.

Activity badges – Hobbies, Collector and World Faith

Staged badges – Emergency stage 1, Nights away and Hiking.

## Scouts

### Leaders

Scout Leader – Angus McComb

Assistant Scout Leader – Jonathan Crawford

Assistant Scout Leader – Luca Crawford

Karl Wilson left September 2023.

Training: All Scouting mandatory training up to date.

### Membership

As per census 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024

|        | Age 10 | Age 11 | Age 12 | Age 13 | Age14 | Total |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| Male   | 0      | 6      | 2      | 3      | 1     | 12    |
| Female | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0     | 0     |
| Total  | 0      | 6      | 2      | 3      | 1     | 12    |

**Badges:** Challenge badges – Personal.

Activity badges – Local Knowledge, Mechanic and DIY.

Staged badges – Emergency stage 2.

**Group Finance:** The Charitable activities are funded by member subscriptions, fundraising and an Education Grant. The current policy is to keep reserves to one year's activities and upkeep of our hall to the value of £3000. Funds are retained in a bank account. Scout account balance reviewed annually and where necessary subscriptions raised.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

|                     |                         |               |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Signature(s)</b> | John Brad               | J Graham      |
| <b>Full Name(s)</b> | JOHN BRADSHAW           | JOANNE GRAHAM |
| <b>Position</b>     | GROUP LEAD<br>VOLUNTEER | Treasurer     |

|             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| <b>Date</b> | 28/1/25 |
|-------------|---------|