

# Scouts

## 3rd Heswall Our Lady & St John with Holy Family

AGM Meeting minutes: 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023

Location: Scout Hut, Marksway, Pensby, CH61 9PB

Present – Patricia Birch (Chairperson), Nicola O'Brien (Treasurer), Jean Jenkins (GSL),  
Fr Patrick (Parish Priest).

Apologies: Anna Ross (Secretary)

Also in attendance: Andrew Cain (District Chair), Andy Longstaff (West Wirral Commissioner)  
Roy – (West Wirral President) Christine

- Welcome to 72nd AGM and updates from Trish.

Opening with the colour party with all children and helpers standing to attention and saluting the flag.

Fr Patrick introduced and said an opening prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Oscar Hamilton - Beavers Section, read a prayer thanking God for their time at Beavers.

- Website introduced - QR code on wall to help people access and see past AGM minutes and information about the group.

Minutes from last year are on the website parents/carers are welcome to look and let us know amendments/corrections. There was a show of hands to show that all were happy with that.

- There have been changes in scouts - title changes

We are now a trustee board and not an exec committee, and our constitution has been updated to reflect that along with our POR. This is also available on the website for parents and carers to see.

- Our board of trustees is made up by chair etc. but also elected members to be looked as for business of AGM. Up to 5 people can be elected - all in line with POR.

### Treasurer report from Nicola

My journey in scouting -I'm a lifer!

It has been a very busy year, we have continued with the programme of maintaining the hut. Spending time and money doing improvements to make it safe and warm.

We have also continued with the programme of improving camping equipment to stay current and safe for our young people.

There is a record number of young people in the troop - they are our biggest income generator, and we are in a better position now than in previous years.

Subs allow us to put on a packed programme and a wide range of activities.

This year we have been renting our hut out to another troop, which is of benefit to us - it is used in the community and can be hired out.

Co-op and Arnold Clarke sponsorship money has been gained, along with grant for the gazebo (which can be seen tonight!) from Family Tool Box.

Our electricity bill has tripled, so the hard decision has been taken to increase subs – the new proposal is that instead of subs being paid over 10 months, it will now be over 11 months but remain at £18.

It remains excellent value for money

No one need to struggle - please talk to the team if there are issues – no one will be excluded.

Please remember to register for Gift Aid on OSM if you are tax payers – it will cost you nothing but be of great benefit to the group.

All of our financial information is available on our website.

As of 31st March, 2023, there was £15,479 in account (insurance now gone out - just over £3000 so now less!)

Fundraising ideas always welcome

### GSL Update from Jean:

We are the fastest growing group in the area with so many joining.

We have excellent retention of our members. This is due to the hard work of the leader team, who are a small, but perfectly formed team. There have been occasions where things were difficult due to people leaving due to ill health this year, but lots of parents have been helping us and getting DBS checked/completing training – thank you!

Our new website should help us to get ourselves out there more to people.

Activities for all 3 sections have been amazing! A flavour:

District events - hike/ great escape camp/ beaver camp (which gave a sense of achievement for them all).

Carol services, St George's day celebrations, district football, orienteering, paint ball, church parade on Remembrance and Mother's Day.

Beavers

Adventureland

Annual bonfire

Outside games

Butterfly park

Putting up tents

Cubs  
Around the world food tasting and cooking  
Litter picking  
Sandcastles  
Archery  
Den building  
Water sports

Scouts  
Fire skills  
Tents  
Cooking  
Scouting skills  
Libby is off to The Scouting World Jamboree this month – she led a Korean evening -  
cooking, basic phrases and info  
Foraging  
Knots  
Camp planning  
Won orienteering competition  
Scuba diving in Neston swimming pool - pics on website

Lots of games, fun and skills becoming better team players and growing in confidence and more independent. We are a youth led movement and we try to involve them in the planning of the programme

District team thanked for their support to help when Anne was ill and support was given.

Leader team thanked - without them it would not happen along with exec committee for all their support.

James - completing young leader training  
Some new volunteers but there is always room for more! DBS forms here tonight for those who wish to start the process off.

Please don't forget the workday

All section bbq and water activities on 17th July to end the year off

#### Election of officers

Trish stepped down as chair for the year and handed to Jean  
Reappointed for coming year  
Anna has stepped down as secretary and Pauline Ward (current Beaver Parent representative) appointed  
Nicola to remain in place as treasurer

New parent representatives asked for to replace Pauline (Corin and Caroline already in for

Cubs and Scouts) Beaver parent would be good - Nichola Walker appointed.

Rob and Anna to continue supporting

Meeting called to end

Awards to be given out

Beaver of the year - Florence Hatton

Cub of the year - Wilfred

Mike King Award for commitment to scouting - Max

Scout of the year - Bella Swift who also received a special award as she leaves us for pastures new, with an engraving on

Leader award - James Jones

John Roberts trophy - Nicola O'Brien

Chief scout award - bronze

5 young people

Flo Hatton

Oscar Hamilton

Josh Wilby

Cassidy Shepherd

Thomas Ward

140 badges completed and handed out

District commissioner Andy Longstaff thanked everyone as the Scouts challenged us to grow one person per section - 3rd Heswall have beaten that!

Also challenged to set up squirrels - we are looking into how to get that up and running

Adult help is vital to us - please come and help us!

Thank you to the leader team for everything

Fr Patrick closed the meeting with a prayer followed by colour parade to wrap meeting up.