



3rd HESWALL SCOUT COUNCIL

Annual General Meeting

Monday 8th July, 6.30pm

Scout Hut, Marksway, Pensby,

CH61 9PB AGENDA

1. Introduction, welcome and opening prayer

Jean invited Fr Stephen to open the meeting with a prayer as we are sponsored by the joint parishes of Our Lady and St John and Holy Family.

Fr Stephen thanked the parents, carers and young people for such a well-attended AGM and opened the meeting with a prayer. He was also joined by Benedict who led a prayer on behalf of our young people.

Jean briefly explained what the AGM was for and passed over to Tricia who updated the people gathered about the updates to the new governance and documents associated with this, but re-assured everyone that Scouting is still the same and about everyone in the young people.

Tricia welcomed our district team Roy, Christine, Jenny, Fr Stephen, Therese, Andrew and Andy and thanked them for their support and introduced the trustees and occasional helpers.

2. Apologies for absence

No apologies received for tonight's AGM

3. Governance topics

a. Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 03/07/2023

- notes from last year's meeting is on our website and available tonight for anyone to look at. As a trustee board, we feel this is a true reflection of last year's AGM and asked for them to be agreed. This was done so and carried.

b. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR)

- Tricia explained the changes in titles for people related to transformation. Our constitution has been updated to reflect these changes, and is available on our website for anyone who wishes to review this. This reflects who we are, what a trustee board does and the expectations of the leadership team.

- If parents/carers would like a printed copy, this was made available to everyone tonight.

- No-one raised any concerns, this was carried.

c. Note the Group's financial year

- This is April to March and during the course of the AGM, Nicola, Treasurer will lead on the current financial situation. Again, printed copies of the report are available at request.

d. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board

- Minimum of 5 and Maximum of 12 trustees is laid out in the new transformation documents, we would like to run with 12.

- Tricia asked for agreement that we would like 12 trustees – this was agreed and carried.

e. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the Group Scout Council (excluding this AGM)

- Quorum for meetings to be set at 5. Tricia asked for agreement of this, and this was agreed and carried.

4. Review of the previous year

a. The Group Lead Volunteer's review of Scouts in the 3rd Heswall Scout Group

- Jean led an update of Scouting in the group and introduced the helpers attached to each group. Jean re-assured that even though documentation/names are changing, Scouting will remain the same.

- There is a need for Scouting – to be away from screens and be outdoors, learning skills and having fun.

- Beavers have made new friends, learnt new skills and had lots of fun. They have been climbing, crabbing, cooking, crafting, attended movie nights and more. They have been to district events such as skills evenings, St George's Day, Carol service and they love earning badges through their activities. They have also had a recent sleepover at the hut.

- Cubs now have Wendy on board as a leader and we are delighted to have her. They have been busy hiking, creating air fix models, conservation activities, Judo evening, climbing, a visit to Gordale and to the beach. They have also been involved in district events to show that we do not work in isolation. They have also planned, and led their own evening which was fantastic. They have also had a recent sleepover at the hut.

- Scouts are a smaller group but have also had a great time hiking to Parkgate for chips, planning a Christmas escape room, litter picking (from which we received many compliments and positive comments from the local residents), sailing, pizza making, camping at Hadlow for 2 nights.

- We want to teach them skills for life – even if they don't always realise what they're learning, communication, friendship, awareness of their environment, we learn through doing. Developing resilience, confidence and to overcome their fears.

- Jean thanked the leader team and young leaders (James and Sam) who have given up their time willingly and stepped up to support Jean and one another.

- Jean thanked parents and carers for their help and support but asked for another Beaver leader as we will sadly lose Maggie this year. Jean asked for people to give us 4 weeks to see if they like it with no expectation to continue if it isn't for them. Without this, we will have to set up a rota. If you can't give time, perhaps you can help set up/tidy up etc. Jean asked for people to let her know if they were up for the 4 week challenge.

- Jean thanked the district team for all their support and guidance.

b. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the Group Trustee Board, including the annual Statement of the Accounts

Nicola led us in an update of the accounts and told us it was a massive year for us as we are now banking online and the transfer of accounts has now been completed. This has made things more streamlined, especially with cheque stubs etc. This will make things easier for us going forward.

Local businesses have been helping us fundraise such as Tesco but we have lost the local co-op as an income source. Nicola spoke of the success of the quiz night that was held and asked for any support in events, or from local businesses that may be willing to sponsor or help us out.

Our bills continue to increase and escalate, just as people's bills at home have. Improvements to the hut have been ongoing which all costs money. To offer the wonderful suite of events that our young people access, we are always updating and upgrading our equipment so this is an ongoing issue.

Nicola thanked parents and carers for their support in paying subs to enable us to keep the programme of events going.

Our target for this year is to upgrade the toileting facilities, which will cost us around £10,000 as the facilities need bringing up to standard to enable us to be more inclusive and accessible as all – if anyone has any links, this would be appreciated.

Statements will be available on our website after today's meeting.

No questions asked or posed regarding financial information. The information will be on the website for 6 months before being sent to the charity commission in case anyone wishes to raise a concern/question.

5. Making appointments

a. Appoint the Group Chair, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board

- Tricia was reappointed as chair, this was agreed by all.

b. Appoint the Group Treasurer, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board

- Nicola was reappointed as treasurer, this was agreed by all.

- Laura – a cub parent gave an expression of interest in potentially being shadow treasurer to take over the role in time.

c. Appoint members of the Group Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board

- Tricia asked for parents from each section to join the trustee board.
- Corin, a Scout parent agreed to continue
- A Cub parent was requested but no-one volunteered
- A Beaver parent was requested but no-one volunteered
- Rob, a past parent agreed to continue.
- Pauline as administrator agreed to continue.

This does leave us short of our agreed 12 but we will continue to ask.

d. Re-appoint Group President

- Therese was re-appointed as Group President – agreed by all.

6. 3rd Heswall Annual awards Closing remarks and closing blessing

Fr Stephen closed the AGM with a prayer.

Annual Awards – all awards were presented as follows:

Jean praised all our young people and said they all deserved a prize but the following prizes were given out.

Beaver of the Year: James Close

Cub of the Year: Laurie Sanderson

Scout of the Year: Luke Brandwood

Mike King Trophy: Seb Young

Maureen McCafferty Trophy: David Gillham

John Roberts Trophy: Anne O’Keeffe

Leader Challenge Award: Wendy Leake

Chief Scout Bronze Award: Oliver Leith, Luke Jones, Kaide-Lee Quarless

Chief Scout Silver Award: Seb Young, Edith Leigh, Benedict Pendleton, Oscar Leake

Chief Scout Gold Award: Luke Brandwood

Andy Longstaffe spoke to the parents/carers and praised the leadership team at 3rd Heswall for all that they do. It is fantastic to see the young people receiving their top awards.

Andrew asked for any volunteers to run/help open a Squirrels section as we have a large waiting list of young people waiting.

Transformation isn't just about changing the titles for people, it is about making it easier for everyone, and making it easier for people to volunteer too. If anyone has any time, then please do help out. This is a fantastic group, with a fantastic spirit.