

Stroud Valley Scout Group

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 22nd June 2022

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

Luke Inder (Chair), Anne-Marie Delrosa (Acting Treasurer), John Jones (Group Scout Leader), Aaron Young (Scout Leader)

Parents/Grandparents: Kim Strudwick, Rachael Mitchell

APOLOGIES: Essia Harding (Secretary), Sammy Peters (Beavers Leader)

1. Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2021

Minutes of the AGM for 2020 - 2021 financial year were approved.

2. Group Scout Leader's Report: John Jones

It is nice to report a full year of all sections meeting after the disruptions of Covid. Although restrictions were in force for part of the year at least we were back Face to Face.

We are grateful to all the Leaders for keeping sections going. Beavers have struggled for leaders, and it is great to report that only this month 2 Parents have Volunteered to help Sammy on a regular basis.

Cubs it is still my intention to step down as C.S.L. at the end of July although at this moment we have nobody lined up to take over and this remains a concern.

Scouts remain strong young Person and Leader wise.

We are indebted to the committee for all their efforts to keep HQ going. We have a new Treasurer ready to take over, but we desperately need a new Chairman to replace Luke. He has done a fantastic job over the years and is not leaving he just wants to concentrate on other projects within the Group

The Group is in a great place Young Person wise, but we need more Adult volunteers uniform and non uniform to keep pushing the Group forward. As we have said previously they do not need to have young people involved in the movement.

I have decided to stay on as Group Scout Leader to help the leaders until we can find a replacement, but I need to step down as C.S.L.

Scouting have started Squirrels 4 to 6 year olds which at the moment we have not considered.

In the next 12 months we also need to be looking at getting Explorers back as the we want to keep the Scouts in the movement but also in the Group.

We are not in a fantastic place, but we are still operating.

3. Chairman's Report 2021-2022: Luke Inder

Things do seem to be getting back to relative normality, with a sense of excitement that proper face to face meeting can take place. Let's hope this continues into the new term in September.

Committee Role

For those not familiar with the role of the committee, we are involved in the finance, maintenance and safe running of the centre and the scout group. This will range from keeping and presenting accounts over the year, organising insurances, repair work and maintenance to the building, its contents and the site as a whole. We work closely with the leaders and meet regularly over the year to discuss all these items.

Thanks

Thanks to all parents over the last year for your continued support, both during COVID and now as we move back to face to face meetings.

Thanks to all our leaders. They put a huge amount of time in to give our children the opportunity to be part of the scouting organisation. Your work is hugely appreciated by all the children and parents. The online contact you provided was much appreciated during the pandemic, but I know what you really enjoy is seeing children face to face.

Thanks to the committee members. There is a huge amount of work that goes on behind the scenes particularly with the maintaining of the site and the hut but also in the organisation of the regular and ad hoc hall bookings that support us financially. This enables us to keep subs to a minimum for all the cubs and scouts. Without these bookings funding would have to be found elsewhere. We have a really good team within the committee who work really well together. We are however looking for additional support from parents or carers. The committee currently stands at just 4 members. We are struggling to keep up with the workload on top of our other family/work commitments. We do need additional support.

We are to welcome a new treasurer as Katy stood down recently. Anne-Marie very kindly picked this up in the interim.

We have also welcomed Gareth on board who kindly picked up the bookings secretary role and has been doing a splendid job!

New members/ Helpers/ leaders

The areas that we would be most keen to find additional support for are:

- General assistance in support of fundraising activities. Perhaps a parent group specifically looking at helping organise and run fundraisers.
- Chairperson. I am looking to step back from this role this year.

- Developing a site maintenance role, to coordinate larger projects and undertake minor works.

Visit our website:

<https://www.stroudvalleyscouts.org.uk/>

The website is a great resource for parents and helpers. See all the most up to date information on events, fundraising and site development.

Further ambitions for the coming year

Our ambitions for the coming year will be very much focused on:

- 1) Finding an adult helper to run the cubs pack.
- 2) Pursuing funding towards the refurbishment work of the explorer's den.
- 3) Section support/ development/ expansion, particularly in finding additional adult helpers/ Leaders.
- 4) Look at potentially developing areas of the site for food growing, Habitat development, Additional fire pits and maintaining some 'wild areas'.

Group Scout leader and Cubs leader:

John Jones will be stepping back from his role as cub's leader. He has very kindly (and to our great relief) agreed to stay on and support the group. His knowledge and support are invaluable.

On behalf of all the children that have benefited from your help, support and guidance over the decades we want to say a big thank you.

It is looking like the cubs pack will cease running from the end of this year as no adult helpers have volunteered to take this on.

Thank you everyone for attending our AGM. We have a really great group of children, parents and leaders that make Stroud Valley Scouts a really exciting and special organisation to be part of. If you have any questions or queries now or over the coming year please feel free to approach any of us at your convenience.

4. Treasurer's Report and adoption of accounts for 2021/22: Anne-Marie Delrosa

During this financial year, the role of Treasurer was undertaken by Katy Baxter and Anne-Marie Delrosa.

The accounts for year ending 31 March 2022 have been independently examined by our accountant David Richardson. He has signed off on the accounts.

Section Income and Expenditure

Income for all sections has been impacted by the Coronavirus as payment of subs has been suspended for a number of terms throughout this year.

	Inc	Exp	Difference
Beavers	£ 774.88	£1,406.93	-£632.05
Cubs	£2,605.10	£2,377.85	£227.25
Scouts	£1,785.00	£2,738.19	-£953.19

Beavers and Scouts funded two lots of capitation this financial year. Cubs only funded one lot as previous year's was funded from Group accounts. During this financial year Cubs closed their separate bank account. All section accounts are within the main Group bank account. All sections now have their own debit card to facilitate payment of ad hoc expenses. All sections are also encouraged to use OSM for the payment of subs and events.

Hall Hire

Hall hire income has significantly bounced back this year, with a few additional regular hires and a number of ad hoc bookings. Total income from Hall Hire was £8,884.

Utilities, Insurance and Premises Expenditure

This includes water, electricity, gas, buildings insurance, cleaning, and waste collection. Total costs were £18,610 – the above items accounted for £7,490; the rest of the expenditure was from repairs to wall (part offset by insurance claim), installation of more energy efficient lighting, and significant tree felling work (over £6k).

Other Income and Expenditure

Other expenditure this year included web hosting and Online Scout Manager (OSM). We were lucky enough to benefit from another £10k grant from the government due to Coronavirus. We were also able to hold some events including Fireworks and Christmas raffle.

New Build Account

The new build / renovation account ended with £7,584. Transfer from the account supported the tree works.

Conclusion

The Group's total funds for all sections at the end of the year was just over £13,000. We remain in a strong position. Our aim this year is to start grant applications for the refurbishment of the Explorer Den.

Anne-Marie Delrosa, Group Treasurer, Report presented at AGM 22 June 2022

5. Report from Scouting section: Aaron Young

We've got 27 scouts at the moment and 3 leaders, one of which helps out with cubs. Also 2 young leaders. Have just been to Strategy and was a very good weekend. Section meetings have been running, but Strategy was first option to get away.

6. Report from Cubs section: John Jones

It seems strange that this will be my last Cub report, but things come to an end.

We manage to start the year back meeting as two packs but as we had lost young People during the pandemic and at the end of July some joined Scouts we were able to cut it back to 1 pack from September. We currently have 29 members of which 8 who are due to go to Scouts in September. Meaning whoever takes over will have a manageable number of Cubs to start with.

We have done various badges through the year, catching up on things we could not do online and working with restrictions until they disappeared slowly. We have several Cubs near to there Silver Award which we hope to finish at our Camp in July our first for nearly 3 years.

It has not been easy for any of use during Covid and I would like to thank the Cubs for sticking and obeying to the restrictions we have had and realising some of the Games they enjoy were not Covid friendly.

Thank also all the Parents for support and help on pack nights and activities your help is much appreciated and it may be needed more in the near future.

To Tom and all the Young Leaders I appreciate your support and help through these difficult times I could not have done it with out you all, and I hope we do not have to return to Lockdowns again.

It is disappointing we have as yet found anybody to take over Cubs, but our search goes on. George has agreed to take on the activities side.

Camp is going to be a test we have 22 Cubs going and only 2 have camped before with us and that was as Beavers.

7. Report from Beavers section: Sammy Peters

We started with 11 Beavers in April last year, 4 have moved up to cubs and another transferred to another colony. We currently have 7 Beavers, 3 joining soon and 3 joining in September. Two will moving up to cubs before summer holidays. I have 8 on the Beavers waiting list. I have been reluctant to have any more than 10 currently as I have had trouble making sure there is a parent helper each meet. Still haven't been able to get another leader.

Since coming back from doing digital beavers last year, we have been to Penn Wood, done hikes, a chef came to do cooking with Beavers, we've cooked on fires, made dens, learnt to do some Braille with lentils and had a nerf gun party.

8. Nomination and Election of Committee Members for year

a. Chairman

John Jones nominated Luke Inder, seconded by Anne-Marie Delrosa. No other candidates, re-election unopposed. However a new Chair is required before the next AGM.

b. Treasurer

Anne-Marie Delrosa nominated Kim Strudwick, seconded by Luke Inder. No other candidates, election unopposed.

c. Secretary

Luke Inder nominated Essia Harding, seconded by Anne-Marie Delrosa. No other candidates, re-election unopposed.

d. Other Leader and Committee member nominations:

Luke Inder nominated Gareth Thackeray as Bookings Secretary, seconded by Kim Strudwick.

Luke Inder nominated Anne-Marie Delrosa as a Committee member, seconded by John Jones.

John Jones, Aaron Young and Sammy Peters are to remain as committee members.

9. **AOB**
None.

10. Next meeting: TBC September