



Annual Report 2024/2025

15th Sevenoaks (Otford) Scout Group

Meet the Team

Trustee Board 2024/25

The Scout Group is run and managed on behalf of the Trustees by the Trustee Board. This consists of the following people:

Ex Officio Members:-

- Florian Pixner (Group Chairman)
- Graham Westwood (Group Treasurer)
- Becky Hill (Group Secretary)
- Jan Padgett (Group Lead Volunteer)

The Trustee Board also included all Section Leaders willing to join the Trustee Board as Group Trustee's:

- Jo Toogood (Cubs Section Leader)
- Rik Snook (Scouts Section Leader)

Elected Members:-

- Sarah Yates (standing down at July 2025 AGM)
- Robert Simmons (parent)

Appointed of Independent Examiner:

- Wendy Everett, unanimously approved

Meet the Team 2024/25

Group Lead Volunteer - Jan Padgett

Beavers

Beaver Team Leader - Jan Padgett

Beaver Team Members - Nicola Blain, Anthony Holmes

Waingunga Cub Pack

Cub Team Leader - Jo Toogood

Cub Team Member - Glen Nunes

Regular helper - Jon Barrett

Scouts

Scout Team Leader - Richard Snook

Scout Team Members - Richard Ellis, Mirisa Du Toit, Nathan Holmes

Group Team Members - Jonathan Booth, Mark Whittock, Richard Bell

15th (Otford) Sevenoaks Scout Group – July 2025. Chairman's Report

Hello everyone!

What a fantastic year we've had together, again! Looking back, it's clear that our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have packed in more adventures, new experiences and badge-earning moments than ever before. From first-time sleepouts and axe throwing to climbing walls, scarecrow building and walking on the walls like astronauts - there's never a dull moment at Otford Scouts Group!

One big highlight ahead is our Scouts and Cubs heading off to the Kent International Jamboree this summer - joining thousands of Scouts and Guides from all over the world. These kinds of adventures truly sum up what Scouting is all about: having fun together, trying something new, making memories and picking up real skills for life along the way.

We're lucky to have fantastic young leaders helping out too - many of whom have grown up through our group and now give back their time as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award. It's brilliant to see that circle of Scouting continue!

Of course, none of this happens without our amazing team of volunteers, leaders, trustees and parent helpers - you all make such a difference by giving your time, your skills and your energy. Whether you're helping run a camp, cooking up sausages at a BBQ or planning another adventure - you keep the spirit of Scouting alive in Otford.

Like every year, we've had a few challenges to navigate. The Seeonee Cub Pack closing was a big change for us, but seeing how our leaders and helpers made sure every young person still had a place reminds me why this community is so special. I know Jo, Glen and the whole Cubs team are working hard to grow again - and I'm confident we'll see a second pack up and running in the future.

I'd also like to thank everyone who's helped keep our Scout Hut safe and our finances healthy this year - from our Treasurer Graham's watchful eye, to parents who supported our fundraising events and the wider Otford village for backing us when we needed it most.

As ever, we'd love to see more parents join in - whether it's lending a hand at a meeting, helping out behind the scenes or even becoming a leader. It really does make all the difference - and I promise, it's great fun too!

Here's to another year of adventures, laughter and muddy boots. I can't wait to see what our young people and leaders get up to next.

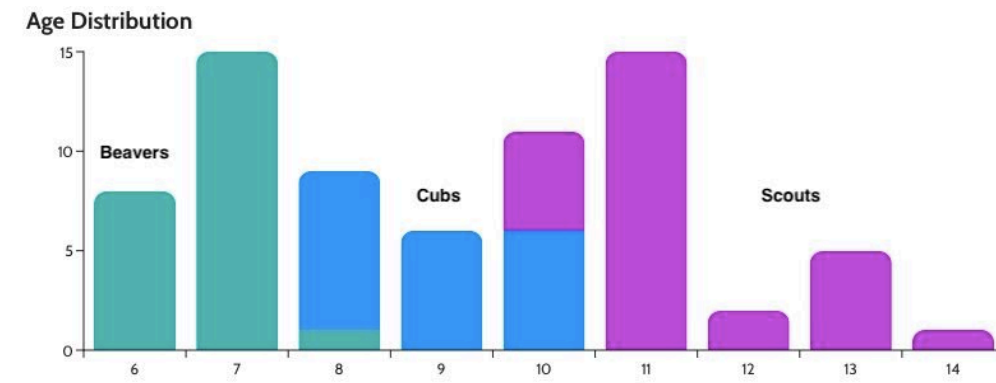
Thank you all for your amazing support - and see you soon around the campfire!

Florian Pixner (Chairman)
15th Sevenoaks (Otford) Scout Group

Group Lead Volunteer's Report

Joining Otford Scouts is in high demand and currently all three of our sections are full with waiting lists for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. Unfortunately, following the closure of the Seeonee Cub Pack in 2024, we are down to only one pack of cubs so places are likely to be limited to only those young people who are moving up from being members of beaver colony.

The graph below shows the ages of our members by age.



This year has seen an increase in the activities and nights away across our sections and we couldn't run these events without the extra commitment from our leadership teams and the support of parent helpers - we thank you all as many of these experiences are unique to Scouts and I provide our young people with real skills for life.

We are currently in the privileged position to have the services of six young leaders who are currently Explorer Scouts in Sevenoaks and have been volunteering with our beavers and cubs section for their Duke of Edinburgh volunteering and the several have stayed on beyond what is required as they are enjoying helping out. This is extremely pleasing as all of these young people have graduated up through younger sections and are now giving back to the next generation.

Adults are always needed to help support the group. We have great teams in place and it makes a real difference if we can share the load. We welcome anyone who would like to join the leadership teams of beavers, cubs or scouts - this could be as a programme or activity planner, admin, adhoc helper or full-time leader!

This summer we are joining with the Kemsing group to take 30+ scouts to the Kent International Jamboree. This is a fantastic opportunity for our young people to spend a week at a camp packed with activities with 8,000 other members of scouts and guides from around the world.

If you feel you have any skills or opportunities that you can share for the benefit of our young people we would love to hear from you.

Please enjoy your summer, don't forget to upload your achievements via 'Badges at Home' on OSM and we look forward to seeing you in September.

Jan Padgett (Group Lead Volunteer)
15th Sevenoaks (Otford) Scout Group

Beaver Scout Report

This past year has seen Beavers engaging in a variety of activities, earning more than 170 badges, and achieving remarkable milestones. They have had both big and small achievements, for some it is just getting through the door to meet new people, trying different foods, having a go at something new or staying away from home for the first time.

Among the significant achievements, eight Chief Scout Bronze Awards were earned, showcasing the dedication and hard work of our young Scouts.

We started the year with a campout which for many of the beavers was their first experience sleeping outside in tents.

During regular meetings we have enjoyed many different activities that included team-building exercises, modelling clay faces, cooking sessions, money skills, building hedgehog homes and junk modelling machines.

The beavers have pushed themselves with adventurous activities like fire-lighting, hiking, archery, axe-throwing and climbing.

We have also learnt about the world through the International badge and looking at Australia Day and closer to home by visiting the village churches, meeting our new vicar, the librarian and even had a visit from a paramedic to learn about emergency aid.

A special thank you goes out to our leaders and young leaders, particularly Nicki, who has been doing this with me for around 7 years and I without her support I would certainly drink a lot more wine! When back from university Anthony has been great support and the young leaders who have been doing the D of E volunteering but have stuck around for fun have done a fabulous job of creating an environment where children can learn and enjoy themselves.

Lastly, I'd like to extend my gratitude to the young people for their enthusiasm and the many funny stories I hear - I only wish I could remember them all.

Jan Padgett (Skylark)

Beaver Scout Leader

Nicola Blain (Robin)

Waingunga Cub Scout Report

BASICS

Waingunga meets on Thursday during term time. Since the last report and up until September this year we have been running with an average of 20 Cubs. We have 6 over 10s, 6 over 9s and a further 8 over 8yrs. Since the last report we have issued 121 badges. Including Challenge badges, Hikes, Athletics, Chef, Night's Away.

LEADERSHIP

We have lost Sahi this year to the Scout Troop. We still have Glen Nunes, our Shere Khan. I also have Jon Barret as a regular parent helper with completed training. Ideally I would like to recruit 2 more uniformed leaders and handover some programme responsibility to allow me more time for organising camps and away days.

PROGRAMME

We enjoyed a very successful overnight stay on HMS Cavalier, with museum visit the next day, down at Chatham Historic Docks. The Cubs had a brilliant tour of the ship and learned about life aboard a destroyer on the Atlantic convoys during WW2 as well as some tales of life in the Georgian Navy. We continue to enjoy our usual varied program which includes all the Scouting basics of maps, knots, hikes, fires, cooking, international festivals, national and holy days such as St George and Burns Night. We just celebrated Swedish Midsummer with flower crowns, a decorated maypole and a picnic of smoked salmon and strawberries.

Other notable meetings included, a moon walk where we rigged a harness to allow Cubs to walk on the walls of the hut to simulate reduced gravity; Scarecrow night where we joined in the local tradition of making and displaying several scarecrows by the hut gates; Sahi's Christmas charity night where we helped the local food bank put together orders for their clients; we got in an evening on the climbing wall at Lower Grange Farm; borrowed the district fencing kit for a night of dueling and centred ourselves with some Tai Chi on another.

We also went to the town Christmas Pantomime together as a group. Another rip roaring production from Silly Billy and the gang! Snow White this year.

CAMPS

This year we will not be undertaking a group Summer Camp as the Kent International Jamboree will be taking place at Detling. We will attend with Scouts and some Cubs who are over 10yrs of age in collaboration with the Kemsing Scout Group.

With regard for aims for next year. These would be to hold a Winter Camp in February at the Wilberforce Scout Centre near Keston, recruit 1 to 2 new uniformed leaders for Cubs, hold a group Summer Camp and an early May mini camp either at our grounds or at another local group's HQ. Be better at offering our group the County organised away days when they are advertised in IScout.

Jo Toogood – (Hathi)

Glen Nunes – Shere Khan

15th Otford Scout Group – Waingunga Cub Pack

Scout Leader Report

Throughout this year the troop has had a full compliment of 24 scouts.

We have had a varied programme of activities this year including climbing at Grange Farm, hikes (including the popular chip hike!) and competing in the District Plender hike and overnight camps at the hut. We celebrated Australia Day in February by completing an eating bushtucker trial (including crickets) and creating aboriginal art. The artistic theme continued with the Scouts creating posters and decorating the games for the village fete.

In April the Scouts were invited by Bromley Scouts to participate in the game of Pirates which they thoroughly enjoyed.

More recently the Scouts had great fun building catapults and having a water fight in the hot weather as well as baking bread on the campfire. Other food based activities included a pancake cooking feast in March for Pancake Day.

Also in March five of the Scouts completed their Expedition badge which included a night hike and covering 26km from Hildenborough back to Otford. A great achievement.

Scouts have also been out helping in the community at St Michaels summer celebrations and at the Hope Church food bank, and building bat boxes for the local wildlife.

The Scouts also thoroughly enjoyed the Group night out at the Pantomime, particularly trying to beat Tonbridge Scouts as the noisiest Scout pack and egging Skylark on in the Strictly Come Dancing competition when she got pulled up on stage!

Continuing the upward trend over the last few years we are extremely proud to have awarded 5 Chief Scout Gold Awards this year - this is notable achievement of scouts to commit both inside and outside weekly meetings.

Thanks to Richard and Mirisa for their support at the meetings.

Rik Snook (15th Otford Scout Leaders)
Mirisa Du Toit - Sahi

15th Sevenoaks (Otford) Group Scout Council
Annual General Meeting
11th July 2025
Otford Scout Hut, 7pm
AGENDA

1. Introduction and welcome

2. Apologies for absence

3. Governance topics

- a. Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 13/09/2024
- b. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR)
- c. Note the Group's financial year
- d. Approve appointed and community members of the Group Scout Council
- e. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board
- f. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the Group Scout Council (excluding this AGM)

4. Review of the previous year

- a. The Group Lead Volunteer's review of Scouts in Otford
- b. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the Group Trustee Board, including the annual Statement of the Accounts

5. Making appointments

- a. [If required] Appoint the Group Chair, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board
- b. [If required] Appoint the Group Treasurer, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board
- c. [If required] Appoint members of the Group Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board
- d. [If required] (Re-)appoint Group President and/or Vice Presidents
- e. Appoint the Independent Examiner

6. Closing remarks

15th Sevenoaks (Otford) Scout Group
Receipts and Payments Account
For The Period 01/04/2024 to 31/03/2025

Receipts and payments

		2024/25	2023/24
		Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
Receipts			
	See Note No.	£	£
<u>Donations, legacies and similar income</u>			
Membership subscriptions		7,657.00	7,962.50
Gift Tax refund		1,903.72	1,703.11
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (to National/County/Area/District)			
Net membership subscriptions retained		9,560.72	9,665.61
Donations	2	3750.00	795.00
Sub total		13,310.72	10,460.61
<u>Utilities</u>			
Electricity		0.00	0.00
Water		357.29	0.00
Sub total		357.29	0.00
<u>Grants</u>			
Other grants		0.00	0.00
Sub total		0.00	0.00
<u>Fundraising (gross)</u>			
Camp and activity receipts	3	9,445.00	4,434.00
Proceeds from village fete bbq, bonfire events & sponsorship donations	4	5,065.75	3,693.45
Sub total		14,510.75	8,127.45
<u>Investment income</u>			
Bank interest			
Property Rent income		1,960.00	5,590.00
Sundries		0.00	0.00
Other investment income		0.00	0.00
Sub total		1,960.00	5,590.00
Total Gross Income		30,138.76	24,178.06
Asset and investment sales, etc.	7	0.00	260.00
Total receipts		30,138.76	24,438.06

15th Sevenoaks (Otford) Scout Group
Receipts and Payments Account
For The Period 01/04/2024 to 31/03/2025

Receipts and payments

		2024/25	2023/24
		Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
Payments			
	See Note No.	£	£
Payments			
Annual Membership subscription fee		4,950.00	5,015.00
Youth activities including camps	3	12,292.71	6,532.24
Village fete expenses, bonfire & sponsorship donations	4	3,566.30	1,965.56
Donations		0.00	0.00
Rent		1.00	1.00
Water and Sewerage		44.65	675.94
Electricity and Gas		2,256.00	2,256.00
Insurance		1,997.20	1,771.11
Maintenance and Repairs	5	231.22	363.90
Sundries	6	1,355.21	1,624.37
Uniforms/badges/scarves/publications		1,088.78	968.28
Postage and stationery			
Bank Fees		621.01	426.30
Grants		0.00	0.00
Total Gross Expenses		28,404.08	21,599.70
Asset and investment purchases, etc.	7	588.00	1,452.37
Total payments		28,992.08	23,052.07
Net receipts/(payments) for the period		1,146.68	1,385.99
Cash funds last year end		32,780.13	31,394.14
Cash funds at end of year		33,926.81	32,780.13

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Cash funds

	See Note No.	£
Group bank current accounts		33,926.81
Total cash funds		33,926.81

The receipts and payments account, the statement of assets and liabilities, and the notes thereon were approved by the Trustees on _____ and signed on their behalf by:

F Pixner	Chair
G Westwood	Treasurer

15th Sevenoaks (Otford) Scout Group **Receipts and Payments Account** **For The Period 01/04/2024 to 31/03/2025**

Notes on accounts

	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
<u>1. Preparation of the Accounts</u>		
These accounts have been prepared on a cash receipts and payments basis and do not include accruals for income and expenses not paid at the year-end. This basis has been used consistently by the Group over the years.		
<u>2. Grants</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<u>3. Camps and other Scouting activities</u>		
The cost of the camps and the many other activities undertaken are largely self-financing but some activities are funded centrally:		
Gross receipts	9,445.00	4,434.00
Gross payments	(12,292.71)	(6,532.24)
Net receipts / (payments)	<u>(2,847.71)</u>	<u>(2,098.24)</u>
<u>4. Fundraising Events: Village BBQ / Bonfire / Sponsorship Donations</u>		
Otford scouts and their supporters have run the barbecue at the annual Otford Village Summer Fete for many years. 20% of the profits are paid to the Fete Committee.		
Gross receipts	5,065.75	3,693.45
Gross payments (including payment to Fete Committee)	(3,566.30)	(1,965.56)
Net profit	<u>1,499.45</u>	<u>1,727.89</u>
<u>5. Repairs, Renewals, Cleaning - Equipment :</u>		
Fire extinguisher - kitchen		8.39
Rechargeable lights		51.96
Catering knives		90.79
Gas sundries & regulators		159.13
Pulleys		20.00
Tent repairs		33.63
Folding tables	79.97	
Archery equipment	<u>151.25</u>	
	<u>231.22</u>	<u>363.90</u>
<u>6. Sundries</u>		
Fire extinguisher maintenance	90.00	136.80
Ratchet straps for marquee		30.00
Hut maintenance	384.94	816.68
Leaving gifts	100.00	100.00
AGM food	12.45	167.68
AGM prizes and gifts	51.00	
Poppy/Xmas Wreath	42.96	
Cake racks		37.00
Paper rolls		10.50
First Aid		32.00
Telescope part	3.65	41.36
Archery supplies		12.32
Pans/spatulas/pot handle covers		98.69
OSM subscription	20.00	131.91
Trustee/leaders dinner Hlal	545.71	9.43
Land Registry copy plans	6.00	
Cleaning supplies etc.	7.45	
Plastic storage boxes	13.00	
Portable DVD/Bluray player + soundbar	<u>78.05</u>	
	<u>1,355.21</u>	<u>1,624.37</u>
<u>7. Assets and investment purchases</u>		
Gala tents		1,143.92
3 x 3 man tents		308.45
Projector	379.00	
Chest freezer	<u>209.00</u>	
	<u>588.00</u>	<u>1,452.37</u>
<u>8. Donations</u>		
Match Giving		500.00
Sponsorship money to be paid back out		295.00
Assured Guaranty	3000.00	
Kindred Hirts	<u>750.00</u>	
	<u>3,750.00</u>	<u>795.00</u>

15th Sevenoaks (Otford) Scout Group **Receipts and Payments Account** **For The Period 01/04/2024 to 31/03/2025**

	Note No.	2024/25 (01/04/24 to 31/03/2025)			2023/24 (01/04/23 to 31/03/2024)			Change in Net Receipts / (Payments)
		Receipts	Payments	Net Total	Receipts	Payments	Net Total	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Membership subscriptions		7,657	(4,950)	2,707	7,963	(5,015)	2,948	(241)
Gift Aid Tax refund		1,904	-	1,904	1,703	-	1,703	201
Membership subscriptions retained		9,561	(4,950)	4,611	9,666	(5,015)	4,651	(40)
Donations	8	3,750	-	3,750	795	-	795	2,955
Grants	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank interest and bank fees		-	(621)	(621)	-	(426)	(426)	(195)
Property Rental		1,960	(1)	1,959	5,590	(1)	5,589	(3,630)
Camps and activities	3	9,445	(12,293)	(2,848)	4,434	(6,532)	(2,098)	(749)
Fundraising event: fete bbq / Spons donations / bonfire	4	5,066	(3,566)	1,499	3,693	(1,966)	1,728	(228)
Water and Sewerage		357	(45)	313	-	(676)	(676)	989
Electricity and Gas		-	(2,256)	(2,256)	-	(2,256)	(2,256)	-
Insurance		-	(1,997)	(1,997)	-	(1,771)	(1,771)	(226)
Repairs, Renewals, Cleaning - Equipment	5	-	(231)	(231)	-	(364)	(364)	133
Sundries	6	-	(1,355)	(1,355)	-	(1,624)	(1,624)	269
Badges / scarves / uniforms		-	(1,089)	(1,089)	-	(968)	(968)	(121)
Sub-Total		30,139	(28,404)	1,735	24,178	(21,600)	2,578	(844)
Asset purchases, etc.	7	-	(588)	(588)	260	(1,452)	(1,192)	604
Net Receipts/(payments) for the period		30,139	(28,992)	1,147	24,438	(23,052)	1,386	(239)
Cash funds at start of period				32,780			31,394	1,386
Cash funds at end of period				£ 33,927			£ 32,780	£ 1,147

Comparing Accounts

Accounts as at March 2022

£39,783

Accounts as at March 2023

£31,394

Accounts as at March 2024

£32,780

Annual General Meeting 15th (Otford) Sevenoaks Scout Group

13th September 2024

Location: Otford Scout Hut, 7.00pm

1. Introduction and welcome

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting, with members of the 15th Otford Scout Council, Chris Barrow (Sevenoaks District Representative) and approximately 50 parents and children.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Jonathan Booth (Seeonee Leader) and Jo Brookbank (Sevenoaks District Lead Volunteer).

3. Governance Topics

a) Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 23 June 2023

Florian Pixner (FP, Chair) reported that the minutes had been previously reviewed by the Trustee Board after the previous AGM on 23 June 2023 and asked the Group Scout Council to agree that they are a true record of that meeting.

Seconded: Neil Hambley; Approved with a show of hands

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

FP proposed the adoption of the model constitution as per Chapter 5 of the POR.

Seconded: Neil Hambley; Approved with a show of hands

c) Note the Group's Financial Year

FP noted that the Group's financial year ran from 1 April to 31 March.

d) Approve appointed and community members of the Group Scout Council

Not applicable

e) Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board

FP noted that the number of members was a minimum of five and a maximum of 12 and there were currently eight members.

Seconded: Shirley Warren, Approved with a show of hands

f) *Agree the quorum for future meetings of the Group Scout Council (excluding this AGM)*

FP noted that the outgoing Trustee Board recommended four Trustee's to be present at the Trustee Board to be quorate.

Seconded: Shirley Warren, Approved with a show of hands

4. Review of the previous year

FP reported that he had been the Chairperson from the beginning of June 2024 and had been promised fun meetings and a BBQ. Instead, unfortunately there had been safety concerns raised by Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) relating to the Chalkpit. SDC had advised to close the Scout Hut. FP stated that whilst it wasn't a legally enforced closure as the Trustee Board we wanted to prioritise the health and safety of the children and make evidence based decisions.

Jan Padgett, in particular, and the rest of the Trustees worked on maintaining a positive relationship with SDC and Otford Parish Council. In June, the risk was revised and mitigations were put in place such as leaders conducting a walk around of the grounds prior to meetings to check for subsidence.

During the closure leaders continued meetings outside of the Hut and designed a programme of activities.

A ground radar survey was conducted and found no evidence of sinkholes or water streams within the Scout Hut grounds and this was the final evidence to reopen fully. FP thanked all the parents and the wider village community for their support during the closure.

a) The Group Lead Volunteer's review of Scouts in Otford

Jan Padgett introduced herself as the Group Lead Volunteer and Beavers leader aka Skylark. JP noted that in the AGM annual report there were updates from all the leaders but that she had been surprised and reminded when compiling her updates how many activities had been completed during the year: MAG7, hikes, camps, campfires, Monopoly run and more.

The culmination of activities was the camp and visit to Brownsea Island which was a very special trip to the birthplace of scouting.

The enforced closure brought out the best of everyone and made the leaders do things differently and design activities. Special thanks to Neil Hambley and his friend for rebuilding part of the garage which was one of the conditions of reopening the Scout Hut.

JP reported that it was with great sadness that Akela and Baloo had decided at the beginning of the year to retire during 2024 and in the meantime it has meant Seeonee pack has closed. During the Group's history there has been a history of sections opening and closing. JP hoped that in the future to be able to get two Cub packs opening again. Jo Toogood has

taken the remainder of the Cubs into Wainguga Thursday night pack and the remainder of Cubs from Seeonee have moved up to Scouts.

JP added that Akela was feeling shy about attending tonight's AGM and having a long goodbye but that anyone who has been in his and Baloo's cub pack knows the positive impact they have had. JP estimated that approximately 500 Cubs had passed through their pack during their leadership.

JP presented Baloo (Mark Whittock, MW) with a leaving card and presents which was greeted with a strong round of applause. MW thanked everyone for their wishes and added that Akela's mark could be clearly seen as when Baloo had joined as a volunteer twelve years ago the site had been vandalised and there was no fence and Akela had been instrumental in getting this erected and securing the site. Akela had had a big impact during his leadership. MW added that himself and Akela would still be coming back on occasion to help with archery, axe throwing etc.

JP stated that the Kent International Jamboree was scheduled for next year and the Group would be attending again with a number of Cubs excited to attend. This year had seen some Bronze and Silver Scout awards awarded to Beavers and Cubs and three Gold Chief Scout Awards which is the highest award for a Scout. The Gold award is a culmination of a lot of hard work and dedication both inside meetings and outside.

FP added a huge thanks to Akela and Baloo for their volunteering as a parent and agreed with the impact they have had. FP stated that it wouldn't be possible to run Scouts without volunteers and issued a plea to encourage parents to get involved.

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

FP noted that the Group Trustee Board had approved the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts.

Graham Westwood (GW), Treasurer, updated the meeting stating that the accounts were available to view on the website and he is always happy to discuss the contents.

The Group started the year with just over £31k in the accounts. £10k of this is ring fenced for any subsidence issues and £7k remains of the Otford Players donations. The year had seen £24k of income of which approx £9.5k of subs and Gift Aid. The Group had received £4k from Network Rail which was a payment for access to the Hut grounds to enable building of the footbridge.

Payments amounted to £23k which included purchases of new tents and £5k for District subs. General overheads had increased over the year, such as insurance and utilities.

Fundraising from the Christmas Fayre and summer village fete had contributed. This had left a surplus of £1k and the Group ended the year with circa £32k cash balance.

5. Making appointments

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

JP stated that [Sean Forrest](#) had stepped down during the year after a decade of being Chair and thanked SF for all his years of service to the Group. An email had gone out to all parents and FP was in a queue of one! FP had been co-opted in May 2024 and JP stated she would like to appoint Florian Pixner as Chairperson.

Seconded: All by a show of hands

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

FP nominated [Graham Westwood](#) as Group Treasurer.

Seconded: All by a show of hands

- c) *Appoint members of the Group Trustee Board, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the Group Trustee Board*

FP proposed the following members of the Group Trustee Board:

Secretary: Becky Hill; Trustees: Sarah Yates, Rik Snook, Joanne Toogood, Robert Simmons

Seconded: All by a show of hands

- d) *left blank as not required*

- e) *Appoint the Scrutineer*

GW proposed Wendy Everett.

Seconded: Shirley Warren

6. Closing Remarks

Chris Barrow (CB), representative from Sevenoaks District thanked the Trustees for their efforts in a difficult year with the Scout Hut closure and the leaders for their efforts in keeping meetings running. CB commented on what a vibrant group it was. CB reported that he was very pleased to be able to award two Chief Scout recommendations for good service to Jo Toogood and Richard Bell and both were present to collect their awards.

FP thanked everyone for coming to the AGM and drew the meeting to a close.

BH

20.09.24