

11th SPEN VALLEY SCOUT GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2020

Charity Number: 1056971

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1 TRUSTEES REPORT

The Trustees of the 11th Spen Valley Scout Group (“the Group”) present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2020.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

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 established under its own trust deed dated 12 November 1949.

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

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 one independent representative, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leader, individual section leaders (if opted to take on the responsibility) and parent's representation and meets every month.

The principal office holders are:

- Acting Group Scout Leader: David Sowden
- Chair: David Hirst
- Treasurer: Christine Pounder
- Secretary: Audrey Bentley

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; and
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.

The Group Executive Committee has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them.

The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the Group and the trustees wish to express their thanks and gratitude to all volunteers and supporters who have assisted in ensuring the efficient running of the Group during the past twelve months.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

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:

Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.

Respect - We have self-respect and respect for others.

Care - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.

Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.

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.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

CHAIR'S REPORT

Today we find ourselves in lockdown and unable to meet. Our modern HQ is locked and our tents may not see the light of day this year. However organising Scouting continues, as an exec we are still able to meet but not in person. When lockdown is lifted the exec will need to support our leaders relaunching our Group to our members. Fortunately, we are in a financially sound position and are not reliant on the income we are currently not receiving. Longer term, our leader succession is our priority as we need attract new leaders and develop our young leaders as well as support our existing leaders for the future of our Group. My thanks go to the exec members for their time and commitment on behalf of all our Group members and parents

David Hirst Group Chair

GROUP SCOUT LEADER'S REPORT

I have the pleasure of presenting the GSL's report for the past twelve months. At the time of writing the Group is unable to meet as all face to face scouting has been suspended. The immediate impact of this is that the Group has taken the decision not to collect any subscriptions from members until such time as normal scouting resumes. The three sections have been looking at ways of trying to encourage the young people to take part in scouting activities at home and hopefully they will do so.

The Group also faces a period without any rental income for similar reasons. However, because of the prudent approach to our finance taken in previous years, the Group does have reserves as at 31 March 2020 of approximately £31,000 on which we can draw to keep the building and the Group functioning and available for when normal times return.

Despite this unprecedented bad news, I am pleased to say that the Group had had an excellent year and was looking forward to attending the West Yorkshire Big Camp, an event which the Group had taken the decision to provide a substantial subsidy in order that as many young people could attend at a reasonable cost. Sadly, that too has been postponed until 2021 but we hope to attend when the camp is eventually run.

The numbers of young people on the census for 2020 was constant at 36 compared to 2019. In addition, we are regularly supported by a number of young leaders who are also active members of the District Explorer Unit, as well as by adult leaders and executive committee members.

The individual sections set out below in detail about what has been going on. May I say that all sections offer a full programme and many opportunities for the young people in their care. It is wonderful that so many of them are able to take advantage of this and hopefully they will get life long memories of fun and friendship from taking part in all that is on offer.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your support and encouragement in making this happen. May I also take this opportunity to thank the leaders of all sections for their unstinting

and selfless dedication in providing leadership to the sections, the programme they offer and the support to the Group as a whole.

May I also thank the Group Executive Committee for the work they have put in to ensuring that this Group remains financially sound and provides a high quality and safe headquarters building from which we can provide scouting to your young people.

In particular, I would like to thank Karen Lomas and Robert Jackson (Billy) for the massive support they provide to the scouting movement. As you are no doubt aware, I am continually on the lookout for new leaders as we are a small pool of adult volunteers. In fact, we are so small these days that Karen spends her whole Friday evening at the HQ running firstly the cubs and then the scouts. Billy similarly not only helps with the scouts at the 11th but has also been running the scouts at the 3rd. Without this sort of dedication scouting would simply not be able to continue.

It is for this reason that I continue to appeal to you to step forward and join our adult team either as a uniformed leader, a parent helper or one of our lay supporters on the Group's executive committee.

Please remember that this is YOUR Group. In order for it continue into the future and continue to be as successful as it has been, we do need your input. If any of you would like to become more involved in any of the sections or help in anyway as an occasional helper or as a member of the executive committee, please speak to me or any leader at any time.

David Sowden Acting Group Scout Leader

BEAVER LEADER'S REPORT

We have had another exciting 12 months at Beavers and as we face these strange times when we are unable to be together, now is an excellent time to reflect on all the things we have done.

We have made new friends, and said goodbye to old ones as they have moved on to Cubs, and spent some nights together sharing Scouting with all age groups including a fun bowling night at Christmas, a Lego night with Cubs and a joint Halloween/Bonfire party.

Individually, we have enjoyed time indoors and out, with game nights, scavenger hunts, den building and gardening. We have focussed a lot this year on how to care for our planet by completing our Global Issues badge, and using objects we can find to complete crafts such as rock painting and creating pine cone mice.

Congratulations to Daniel and Lucas who both achieved their Bronze Award in the past year. I hope that soon we will be able to celebrate that achievement with other Beavers from around the district.

Many Beavers took the opportunity to camp with the Cubs and Scouts at Fan Wood and enjoyed their first night sleeping under canvas (they definitely slept a lot more than I did!)

They also learned new skills, and campfire songs and stories, as they helped to keep camp running smoothly. I hope they made memories they will never forget.

Sadly, we said goodbye to Robin (Mandy), Katie and Lucy as their individual circumstances changed and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their support and wish them all the best with anything they do in the future.

In happier news, we welcomed Mouse to Beavers and she has grown in confidence taking on a greater role in leadership and leading nights in my absence as she completes her training.

I hope that it will not be long until we can all meet back together again. I will continue to send challenges via email and look forward to finding out all that you have been up to in our absence.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who help to keep Beavers going. I would particularly like to thank Dave and Christine, Dave B and Paul who have all stepped in when either Janet or myself were unavailable. Their support has been invaluable. I would also like to thank all the parents as without them committing to bringing their children each week, there would be no Beavers.

Stay safe, and I hope to see you all again soon.

Jo Littlewood Beaver Scout Leader (“Hedgehog”)

CUB SCOUT LEADER’S REPORT

The last year has been another successful one for the 11th Spen Valley Cubs with us partaking in lots of different activities many of which contributed towards badgework.

The Cubs have worked very hard this year, completing many activity and challenge badges with three completing their Chief Scout Silver award which is the highest award in Cubs. As part of this the Cubs have to achieve each challenge badge and six activity badges.

The Cubs have had a lot of fun working towards these badges. The activity badges we worked towards this year included the international, environmental conservation, personal safety and several more. We also held some nights covering the emergency aid staged badges attaining stages 1 and 2. These are very important badges in the leaders' eyes and can be achieved in all sections.

We held some joint activities with the other sections including a camp at Fan Woods, an activity evening also at Fan Woods, and two parties for Halloween and Christmas. Some of the older Cubs also joined the Scouts on their yearly visit to Kettlewell in November. This was a fantastic opportunity for them and they had a lot of fun and took part in some of the Scouting activities not possible in Cubs.

It has been a very busy year at Cubs with us currently having 18 regular attendees. Running the games and activities on these nights would not be possible without the continued help of

our three young leaders. They have been a great help to the section and have brought a lot of new ideas and fun to the 11th.

We look forward to Cubs reopening later this year.

Adam Lomas Cub Scout Leader (“Akela”)

SCOUT LEADER’S REPORT

In the past year, scouts have been given the opportunity to take part in several overnight experiences including troop camps at Fan Wood, District Field Day and our annual indoor winter weekend at Wharfeside House, Kettlewell.

Five scouts; Charlotte, Daniel, Evie, Katie, and Olivia completed their Expedition Challenge award, taking part in a two day hike carrying all their kit and camping overnight at Whitley Beaumont scout camp site. During the expedition, they were required to complete a number of tasks and present a verbal report to other troop members.

Our very wet 2019 summer camp was held at Fan Wood where we took part in various on site activities such as shooting, archery & pioneering. An offsite hike took us into the wilds of Gomersal & Oakwell Hall, whilst our off site activity was a visit to the Tag X game at Batley sports centre.

During the camp, the Expedition Challenge members presented their report to the troop and their parents. This enabled Charlotte, Daniel, Evie and Katie to be presented with their Chief Scouts Gold Award – The highest award in the scout section.

Charlotte and Evie went on to be presented with their certificates at the county awards evening in Bradford Cathedral.

Olivia has since qualified for her Gold award and the plan was to present her with the badge at this years’ St George’s day parade. Unfortunately, for obvious reasons that did not take place.

During the year we have made good use of our district campsite at Fan Wood, where in addition to camping, we have utilised the shooting, archery and axe throwing ranges as well as most of the other on site activities.

In order that the scouts can put something back into their site, we have undertaken a number of projects such as tree and bulb planting, building and putting up bird & bat boxes along with general site tidying.

The troop members joined with Beavers and Cubs in a successful Halloween party at the HQ, followed by a fire work display on the field outside.

Last year’s Christmas event was a very enjoyable Group visit to the ten pin bowling alley on Leeds Road at Huddersfield, followed by food & drinks at the nearby Mac Donald’s. The event being subsidised out of Group funds.

Due to the demolition of Spen Pool, there was no swimming gala in 2019. We have entered teams in all the district scout competitions but have been unable to win any trophies.

There were brave efforts, by teams in the cooking, shooting, archery and quiz competitions with a top 3 placing in all of them. The incident trail was, for the first time, held at Oakwell Hall Country Park, where the teams had to orientate themselves around the park and complete challenges along the way. We also fielded a team in the 5 a side football, suffice to say we are not footballers.

Well done to all the scouts who put themselves forward to represent the troop at whatever level, often out of their comfort zone, by doing so they complete sections of the Team work or Team Leader award.

As usual, we attended the local Remembrance Day parade at East Bierley but unfortunately, the 2020 district St George's day parade and service had to be cancelled.

The leaders offer all our scouts the opportunity to work towards achieving activity badges as well as Challenge badges, of which there are 9 in total, all of them have to be completed to enable a scout to achieve the Chief Scouts Gold Award, which is the highest award in the scout troop.

Clearly we are living through difficult times with no face to face scouting. There have been postponements of several events, not least the BIG CAMP at Harrogate that we were all looking forward to.

We have attempted to keep in touch with our scouts and present them with challenges and opportunities to take part in the 'Badges at home' scheme, with a certain amount of success.

As ever I record my thanks to all the scout section leaders, particularly Karen who due to our leader situation is assisting Adam with the cub meeting and similarly, Adam, who often stays back at scouts, after having run a cub pack meeting.

It is due to their continued support and enthusiasm that we are able to offer our young people varied and quality scouting experiences.

David Bentley Scout Leader ("Midge")

FINANCIAL REVIEW

RESERVES POLICY

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Executive Committee considers that the Group should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs.

The Group held reserves of approximately £30,000 against this at the year end. This is above the level required for operating expenses. However, this can be explained by the need to maintain the leasehold premises it occupies in Green Lane, Hunsworth, as well as providing

for the longer term maintenance and replacement of that building and the replacement of equipment.

The Group Executive regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the Group obtains maximum value and income from its banking arrangements. Occasionally this may involve using an account that requires a period of notice before funds may be withdrawn, before doing so the Group Executive considers the cash flow requirements.

2 INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE 11TH SPEN VALLEY SCOUT GROUP

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020, which are set out on pages 10 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act),
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the 2011 Act, have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



M E FERGUSON

22 May 2020

3 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	2020 £	2019 £
INCOME		
Donations, legacies and similar income		
Income from Go Cardless and sections (membership Subscriptions)	4,060	2,768
Less: Membership subscriptions paid to (National/County/Area/District)	(1,615)	(1,670)
Sums received in respect of camps etc	1,635	970
Donations	152	-
Gift Aid	674	901
Sub Total: Donations, legacies and similar income	4,906	2,969
Fundraising		
Annual Gala	984	1,025
Other fund raising	95	93
Field Day Crockery smash	56	57
Donation paid to the Fan Wood Activity Centre	(108)	-
Donation paid the SV Scout & Guide Band	(25)	(50)
Sub Total: Fundraising	1,002	1,125
Investment activities		
Bank interest	182	174
Property rent income	3,073	5,635
Sub Total: Investment activities	3,255	5,809
TOTAL GROSS INCOME	9,163	9,903
EXPENDITURE		
Youth programme and activities:		
Payments by sections	224	615
Mini bus hire and camps	2,376	1,092
Badges and neckers	599	680
	3,199	2,387
Leader training costs	-	(120)
Rent, Rates and Water	674	665
Insurance	424	622
Light and heat	1,038	1,306
Cleaning	820	920
Repairs, maintenance, computer costs and new equipment	1,089	3,583
Christmas Parties, family events, BBQs, AGM etc	388	1,100
Misc	112	308
TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE	7,744	10,771
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) IN THE YEAR	1,419	(868)

4 STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £
CASH FUNDS		
Yorkshire Bank current account	14,719	13,226
Fixed term deposit accounts	16,103	15,921
Cash with sections	285	541
	31,107	29,688
INVESTMENT ASSETS		
Leasehold premises in Green Lane, Hunsworth		
Cost	111,920	111,920
Amortisation b/fwd	(59,500)	(54,000)
Amortised in the year	(4,500)	(4,500)
Book value c/fwd	48,920	53,420
	80,027	83,108
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
Balance b/fwd 1 April	83,108	88,476
Net Income/(Expenditure) in the year	1,419	(868)
Amortisation of leasehold property - current year	(4,500)	(4,500)
Balance c/fwd 31 March	80,027	83,108

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 22 May 2020 and signed on their behalf by

Signature	Name	Position
	David Hirst	Chair
e. Pounder	Christine Pounder	Treasurer

5 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

These represent the remaining income funds of the Group that are available for spending on the general purposes of the Group, including amounts designated by the Group for fixed assets.

LEASEHOLD PROPERTY

The leasehold premises represent the cost of the leasehold building occupied by the Group in Green Lane, Hunsworth. The cost of the building is being amortised over the period of the current term of the lease.

