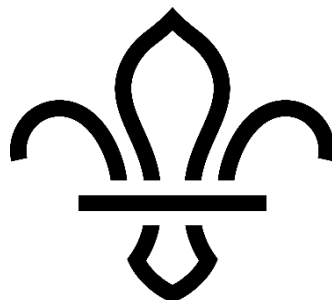


11th Spen Valley (Hunsworth) Scout Group

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR END 31ST March 2023

Registered UK Charity: 1056971



Contents

TRUSTEES REPORT 2023 - 2023	3
STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT	3
OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES	4
THE PURPOSE OF SCOUTING	4
THE VALUES OF SCOUTING	4
THE SCOUT METHOD	4
PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT	4
ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE	5
CHAIR'S REPORT	5
GROUP SCOUT LEADERS REPORT	5
SQUIRREL SECTION REPORT	6
BEAVER SECTION REPORT	6
CUB SECTION REPORT	7
SCOUT SECTION REPORT	8
FINANCIAL REVIEW	10
RESERVES POLICY	10
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES	11
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	12
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT	12
STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES	13
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	14
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	14
LEASEHOLD PROPERTY	14

TRUSTEES REPORT 2023 - 2023

The Trustees of the 11th Spen Valley Scout Group (“the Group”) present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

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 Trustee Board, 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 two independent representatives, 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:

- **Group Scout Leader:** Michael Holroyd
- **Chair:** David Hirst
- **Treasurer:** Rosie Wignall (Appointed 1st April 2023)
- **Treasurer:** Christine Pounder (Resigned 31st March 2023)
- **Secretary:** Audrey Bentley

The Trustee Board is there to support volunteer line managers, so that they can do their role of supporting leadership teams to provide a great programme for young people.

There are nine key areas that a Trustee Board is responsible for supporting local Scouting with:

1. Following the Rules of the organisation
2. Insuring people, property and equipment
3. Managing the money
4. Fundraising, recruitment and any other support needed, so that Scouting can operate
5. Providing Scouting safely
6. Connecting Scouting with the local community and supporting it to grow
7. Involving young people in decision making
8. Meeting the General Data Protection Regulation 2018 (GDPR) requirements for local Scouts
9. Making decisions about opening, closing and merging of Districts, Groups, Sections, Explorer Units, Network and Scout Active Support sections at the appropriate level

The Group is 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

The past year has seen the group continue to progress following the Covid recovery year, including the very successful introduction of Squirrels the Executive Committee continue to provide support to the leaders and sections which in turn continues to provide access for young people to one of the best groups in our district.

This is thanks to the Committee giving their time, wisdom, experience, and advice to our current needs while keeping an eye on the future and succession, while always being aware of compliance with legislation and statutory compliance.

The skills and expertise of the Committee are wide ranging from administrative roles, fundraising, scouting skills, to the sharp end of practical hands on maintenance tasks On behalf of all parents, members and leaders I thank the Committee for their commitment to the group, something that makes the 11th unique and special to those who are part of it.

David Hirst – Group Chairman

GROUP SCOUT LEADERS REPORT

This year as with all years has been another fantastic year for the 11th Since my last report in April 2022, we have seen several major milestones here at the group. May 22 was the return of the group gala following a two-year hiatus due to Covid-19 and the event was a fantastic success.

Tuesday 13th September 2022 will go down in group history as we were the very first group in Spen Valley to open a Squirrel Drey! The Squirrel section is from 4 – 6-year-olds and is still very much in its infancy even at a national level with the whole concept still only 18 months old! I would like to welcome all the new members/parents and leaders to the 11th and hopefully you will enjoy your time with us for many more years to come.

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 can take advantage of this and hopefully they will get lifelong 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 especially with being able to adapt to the change in programme. May I also thank the Group Trustee Board 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.

I continue to appeal to you to step forward and join our adult team. 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.

Michael Holroyd - Group Scout Leader

SQUIRREL SECTION REPORT

Our Squirrel Dray has been running for 6 months and what a successful 6 months it has been! We currently have 22 members and 9 on the waiting list, who will be turning 4 within the next 6 months.

In addition to our weekly meetings since starting, we have taken part in the Remembrance Walk, Fireworks Night, Lantern Walk, Joint Christmas party with the Beavers, Fanwood activity afternoon and a Pirate themed day at Fanwood's with the Beavers.

The Squirrels have enjoyed taking part in lots of activities working towards their badges. These have included; All About Me, Be Active, Exciting Experiments, Let It Grow, Hikes, Celebration Badge and Super Chef.

We have the West Yorkshire Squirrels day out coming up at Ponderosa and the St George's Day Parade.

The Squirrels have settled in amazingly and we have had great feedback from the Parents.

Amie Curley – Squirrel Section Leader (“Olive”)

BEAVER SECTION REPORT

We have had another wonderful year at 11th Beavers and although we have waved goodbye to many of our older members as they have moved to Cubs, we have soon welcomed new members, meaning we continue to have a full colony of around 21 Beavers.

Over the past year, Beavers have worked towards a number of challenge badges and it has been a privilege to be able to present Bronze awards to almost all those who have been preparing to make the move to Cubs.

Throughout the year, we have completed a whole host of activity badges through the wide range of activities we do. From international evenings where we have learned Spanish and played Spanish games while learning a little about scouting in Mexico, to planting seeds and talking about the seasons, almost all activities have led to completion of part of a badge.

Highlights of the year have included Field Day where Beavers were able to access a number of adventurous activities at Fan Wood alongside Beavers, Cubs, Brownies, Scouts and Guides and our visit from the ‘Bug Lady’ who brought her selection of animals to meet us in Hunsworth. We also enjoyed a tracking expedition, creating a trail and following it to Cleckheaton with chips at the end!

All the Beavers have made great personal strides this year, facing challenges including sleeping away from home for the first time, handling new animals, new activities at Fan Wood and learning to ride a bike. Although initially nervous on some of these occasions, they all showed great bravery and should feel incredibly proud of themselves.

Many of our memorable moments have included other sections and it has been wonderful to get to know some of our Squirrels through our joint events including our Christmas Party and more recently their visit to our pirate sleepover at Fan Wood. September also gave Beavers the opportunity to meet more of the groups from across the district during an activity day at Fan Wood.

As we look forward to the coming year, I would like to thank the parents and carers for the commitment they make to bringing their children to Beavers each week and the support they provide.

It has been an exciting and action-packed year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the whole leadership team, without whom none of it would have been possible. Thank you for all you do.

Jo Buckham - Beaver Scout Leader ("Hedgehog")

CUB SECTION REPORT

It has been a good 12 months for the Cub section. We have welcomed lots of new members from Beavers and from outside the group and we have seen several move up to scouts, most of them achieving their chief scout's silver awards.

During the summer we spent a lot of time up at Fan Woods playing games and doing activities such as fire lighting. The Cubs attended the district field day where they had opportunity to take part in crafts and some of the onsite activities. Some of the Cubs joined the Scouts for part of their summer camp at Fan Woods. They walked to Oakwell Hall where they did some orienteering. Onsite they learnt skills such as backwoods cooking and pioneering.

Later in the year we were back in the hq working mostly on badges. We also had fireworks for bonfire night, and parties for both Halloween and Christmas. In the new year we spent a weekend in the Frank Harris training centre at Fan Woods with the 14th. This was a change to our usual pack holidays and we had a lot of fun making new friends.

Currently we have a very young section. Everyone is getting on well and are working hard to earn lots of activity badges such as my faith and local knowledge. Lots of the Cubs have brought in collections and talked about their hobbies also earning them badges. Although not many have been awarded yet, all of the Cubs are well on their way with the challenge badges which are needed for the silver award.

I would like to thank Karen (Chil), Richard (Baloo), Debbie and our three young leaders Alex (Rama), Ethan (Kaa) and Robert (Rikki) who have been a great help with running games, activities and setting challenges for the Cubs.

*Adam Lomas
Cub Scout Leader*

*Karen Lomas
Assistant Cub Scout Leader*

SCOUT SECTION REPORT

Between March and May, the troop met at the HQ where a lot of time & effort was put into Skills challenge & Teamwork challenge awards.

We attended the annual weekend at Wharfeside House from the 11th – 13th March. The weather was very kind to us during the Saturday walk. On Sunday morning the cubs & scouts took part in a treasure hunt around the village, with the weekend being finished off with a visit to Skipton baths on the way home.

After a 'Covid' break the annual St George's day parade was hosted by the 7th S.V. at Gomersal church.

During May, we had a visit to the climbing wall at Bradley wood campsite, where one of our members overcame their fear of heights to complete the leaders challenge section of the Personal Challenge award.

A number of scouts helped on stalls at the Annual Gala on the 15th May.

Towards the end of May we moved our Friday meetings to Fan Wood campsite, where scouts had the opportunity to take part in most of the onsite activities, such as archery, shooting, tomahawk throwing and bouldering.

Skills activities included Fire lighting, obstacle course, cooking, tent pitching & knife safety.

Our first camp of the season was the West Yorkshire county 'Dawn to Dusk' camp at Bradley Wood campsite, where over 500 scouts and leaders camped for the weekend 10 – 12 June and had the opportunity to take part in too many activities to list.

We then went on to camp at the District Field Day camp on the weekend 1 - 3 July.

Our summer camp was held at Fan Wood, where scouts camped for 4 nights and a few cubs joined us for 2 nights. Activities included, a walk to Oakwell Hall to take part in an Orienteering exercise, on site we completed a pioneering project (building with ropes & poles) parts of both the Outdoor & Adventure challenge badge.

Our camping season came to an end on the weekend of 8 – 9 October, when we held our end of summer camp, when once again, we walked to Oakwell Hall, this time to take part in Geo caching as well as Orienteering. On site, we undertook Low ropes course, Shooting, and Backwoods cooking (the trout was excellent)

Towards the end of the year, scouts have joined with other sections to take part in the group firework display, the annual Remembrance Day parade and service at East Bierley and the torchlight walk at Oakwell Hall.

During this time we visited Cleckheaton Fire Station, resulting in several scouts achieving the Fire Safety badge, along with a number of scouts completing the astronomer badge, which was led by our young leader; David.

Two members of the District band attended one of our meetings, during which our scouts all took part in a performance, which qualified them for the performance section of the Creative Challenge Award.

Once again, the scouts & Cubs joined together for their Christmas activity, a visit to Adrenalin trampoline park and play gym.

At the beginning of the New Year, we entered a team in the district 5 a side football competition, where we were not very effective.

Running alongside each other, some scouts were able to complete either or both the scientist and fire safety badges.

During the February half term, seven scouts spent some time helping at the Cleckheaton Food Bank by packing bags, stacking shelves & decanting pasta from large sacks into meal sized portions. We were also told about the aims of the organisation and some of the challenges that the volunteers encounter.

A lot of work was undertaken as part of the craft activity badge, candle making, pyrography, glass engraving, paracord woggle making and bird box building were completed by most of the scouts.

As usual, we could not ignore Shrove Tuesday, so everyone cooked pancakes on the nearest Friday.

All our clothing and map reading instruction preparations for the Kettlewell weekend were to no avail, when on Thursday 9th march, we had the biggest dump of snow of the winter. This made driving the minibus unsafe, but we were fortunate in that the indoor accommodation at Fan Wood was available so we met there and had a very enjoyable weekend, Friday evening sledging, a local Saturday walk and snowball fights, followed by more sledging snowball fights & snowman building.

Saturday evening was a craft & quiz night.

To start off the World Challenge award, we had a visit from one of the committee members of the 'Spenborough For-get-me-not fund' (Not to be confused with the children's Hospice of the same name) This is a fund that was originally set up by local scouts at the beginning of the first world war, to raise funds for Christmas cards to be sent to the scouts & former scouts of Spen Valley, who were serving on the front line.

The fund became too large for scouts to organise, so eventually local businesspeople took it over.

The fund was reinstated at the outbreak of the Second World War, once again, to provide items for service personnel.

The fund continues to this day, providing support to ex service personnel and their families.

The last weekend of the scout year was when the District Cooking competition was held. Our team of Megan & Daniel came out top and brought the trophy back to the 11th. Well done to them.

As usual, my thanks go to Alex, Henry, Robert (Billy) & David (who was our young leader, but has now become an adult leader) as well as Karen & Adam, who often 'stay behind' after running their own cub meeting.

Their commitment to the scout troop allows us to pass on life skills to our members that will surely stand them in good stead for the future.

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 £56,000 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 Trustee Board 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 Trustee Board considers the cash flow requirements.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 12 to 14.

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 FERGUSSON

2023

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME		
Donations, legacies and similar income		
Income from Go Cardless and sections (membership Subscriptions)	6,002	4,270
Less: Membership subscriptions paid to (National/County/Area/District)	(5,950)	(1,380)
Sums received in respect of camps etc	2,399	1,346
Donations	3,075	250
Grants	500	12,763
Gift Aid	1,045	-
Sub Total: Donations, legacies and similar income	7,071	17,249
Fundraising		
Annual Gala	2,090	-
Other fund raising	102	40
Sub Total: Fundraising	2,192	40
Investment activities		
Bank interest	210	28
Property rent income	4,195	2,973
Sub Total: Investment activities	4,405	3,001
TOTAL GROSS INCOME	13,668	20,290
EXPENDITURE		
Youth programme and activities:		
Camps, crafts and section expenses	4,788	2,150
Badges and neckers	1,253	909
	6,041	3,059
Leader training costs	-	150
Rent, Rates and Water	662	644
Insurance	524	445
Light and heat	1,305	415
Cleaning	242	230
Repairs and maintenance, computer costs and new equipment	966	1,550
Computer costs	465	769
Equipment purchases (tentage etc)	568	1,098
Bank charges	52	-
Donation to Fanwoods Activities	2,000	
Misc	169	444
TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE	12,994	8,804
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) IN THE YEAR	674	11,486

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £
CASH FUNDS		
Yorkshire Bank current account	23,216	22,643
Fixed term deposit accounts	26,595	26,385
Cash with sections	612	721
	50,423	49,749
INVESTMENT ASSETS		
Leasehold premises in Green Lane, Hunsworth		
Cost	111,920	111,920
Amortisation b/fwd	(72,000)	(67,500)
Amortised in the year	(4,500)	(4,500)
Book value c/fwd	35,420	39,920
	85,843	89,669
UNRESTRICTED RESERVES		
Balance b/fwd 1 April	89,669	82,683
Net Income/(Expenditure) in the year	674	11,486
Amortisation of leasehold property - current year	(4,500)	(4,500)
Balance c/fwd 31 March	85,843	89,669

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 2023 and signed on their behalf by

Signature	Name	Position
	David Hirst	Chair
	Rosie Wignall	Treasurer

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.