

1st Owlsmoor Scout Group Annual General Meeting

29th June 2020, 19:00 Zoom Meeting

Present:

Ian Ferguson (Chair)
David Clark (Vice Chair)
Andy Lowles (Group Scout Leader)
Niki Partner (Beaver Leader)
Jenny Lowles (Cub Leader)
Sue Ferguson (Treasurer)
Laura Binstead (Child Protection)
Nick Smith (Parent Rep)
Zoe Gaskill (Parent Rep)
Cheryl Bentley (Parent Rep)
Tracey Mortimer (Group Secretary)
Pam & Clive Pearce (District)
John McNabb (District Treasurer)
Graham Thompson (District Commissioner)

+ 3 parents of the group.

Paul Grinter
Thomas and Debbie Wickes
Miranda Catlin

Apologies:

Janice Jones (Parent Rep)

Minutes of 2019 AGM:

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the 2019 AGM.
The minutes were proposed by Ian Ferguson & seconded by Jenny Lowles.
The minutes were accepted by those present by a show of hands.

Group Chairman's Report:

The Chairman's report was read to those in the meeting and will be made available for all parents on the website.

Group Scout Leader's Report:

The GSL report 2019/20 was read to those in the meeting and will be made available for all parents on the website.

Section Reports:

Beavers: The Beaver Leaders report 2019/20 was read on behalf of Nikki Partner by Andy Lowles to those in the meeting and will be made available for all parents on the website.

Cubs: The Cub Leaders report was read on behalf of Jenny Lowles to those in the meeting and will be made available for all parents on the website.

Scouts: The Scout Leaders report was read by Andy Lowles to those in the meeting and will be made available for all parents on the website.

Treasurer's Report and Statement of Accounts:

Group Statement of Accounts presented.

The full financial report will be published on the website.

Balance at 1st April 2019: £12,640.13

Balance at 31st March 2020: £10,931.52

Accounts are looking healthy, investment in hut maintenance over last year, Camp 2020 postponed to 2021 will be carried over to next year, several GiftAid claims now credited – 2 outstanding (18/19 and 19/20). Refunds to be made for Wings and District Camp.

Accounts have not been scrutinised yet due to Covid 19 and the lockdown.

Accounts received and considered.

GSL's Nomination of Chairman:

The GSL proposed that Ian Ferguson should continue as the Group's Chairman, Ian accepted the proposal.

Approved by a show of hands.

Election and Approval of Executive Committee:

All current members of the Executive Committee agreed to stand for a further year.

Treasurer: Sue Ferguson

Secretary: Tracey Mortimer

Vice Chair: David Clark

Child Protection: Laura Binstead

Parent Representatives: Nick Smith, Cheryl Bentley, Zoe Gaskill & Janice Jones.

Secretary: Tracey Mortimer

Proposed and seconded, approved by a show of hands

Treasurer: Sue Ferguson

Proposed and seconded, approved by show of hands

The remaining members of the executive committee were approved by those present by a show of hands.

Appoint the Scrutineer

Premier Foods was proposed and seconded to scrutinise the accounts. This will be organised post lockdown when possible.

Approved by a show of hands.

Comments by District Commissioner or their representative:

Graham Thompson South Berkshire District Commissioner spoke a few words to those present.

Well run AGM via Zoom, first group to hold AGM in this manner,

Great job being done by everyone, good number of badges being achieved even during lockdown,

Census return shows Berkshire Scouts doing well. South Berks is the 2nd fastest growing group.

Recognise the amount of work being done by a relatively small team, as well as the Executive Committee.

District newsletter just started – will continue over next months. Request for any updates from group to include in newsletter moving on.

Plans starting for getting back to face to face scouting for next term. Training and webinars available & recommended. Critical is the risk assessment of facility – needs approval by District.

Chief Scouts Service award for Derren Goodall.

Reminder about training, but 1st Owlsmoor a good example in this regard.

Trustees report, financial report, AGM minutes and slide deck will all be made available on the website.

The meeting closed at 19:35 hrs

Treasurer's Report:

The accounts are in a healthy state, and continue to benefit by the hiring of the hut to the brownies and guides.

	<u>£</u> <u>DR</u>	<u>£</u> <u>CR</u>	<u>£</u>
Bank Bal @ 29-Mar-19			12,640.13
Utilities	801.62		-801.62
Capitation	2,440.20		-2,440.20
Subscriptions		6,509.00	6,509.00
Donations		175.00	175.00
Brownie/Guide hut hire		1,018.00	1,018.00
Hut maintenance [1]	7,517.57		-7,517.57
Activities & badges	82.73		-82.73
Camp 2019	1,222.33		-1,222.33
Leader uniforms	60.00		-60.00
Computing	200.00		-200.00
Camp 2020		1,645.00	1,645.00
Insurance	609.52		-609.52
AGM expenses	82.79		-82.79
P&C Camp 2019		27.82	27.82
Group events		192.44	192.44
Leader training	30.00		-30.00
Wings 2020		33.00	33.00
Gift aid		1,767.89	1,767.89
District camp 2020	30.00		-30.00
	<hr/> 13,076.76	<hr/> 11,368.15	<hr/> 10,931.52
Bank Bal @ 27-Mar-20			<hr/> 10,931.52
			<hr/> 0.00

VAR

[1] Hut Maintenance included the replacing of windows/doors and ground drainage.

Unfortunately due to the current COVID-19 situation, it has not been possible to have the group's accounts inspected in accordance with the Scout Association POR Rule 3.48g.

Sue Ferguson
Treasurer 1st Owlsmoor Scout Group

Group Scout Leader's Report

As I write my twelfth report as GSL of 1st Owlsmoor Scout group I would like to thank the leaders and executive committee for continuing in making my role enjoyable. I really appreciate the time & effort everyone puts into the group to make it the successful group it is today.

Our objectives are in accordance with the objectives of the Scout Association. We are run by a group entirely of volunteers. It is our objective to make maximum available use of our facilities and appropriate off-site activities consistent with the Scouting Objectives.

In the past year the group has built on the strong foundations. Groups continue to make good use of the shack and fire pit, which helps us get closer to the great outdoors. You would have also noticed we have also replaced our windows and doors on our Scout HQ.

The individual leader's reports provide some background on our activities.

Please remember that the sections can only flourish with adult support there to help and guide the children. The 'saying' many hands make light work, is so true!

Our total group leader to child ratio is 1 adult to every 19 children.

With your continued support, I look forward to another successful year ahead with 1st Owlsmoor Scout Group.

I have a plea. We require additional adult help, this can be in many ways:

- Helping on the evenings as a parent.
- Helping the leaders on events like camping (Helping unpacking / cleaning kit etc)
- Helping on our hut maintenance days. We have only two every year!
- Support via the executive (a couple of hours every few months)

Come a long and join the adventure and support your Scout Group.

Andy Lowles
1st Owlsmoor Group Scout Leader

Beaver Leader's Report

This year has seen another busy year at Beavers. The activities at the weekly meetings have been varied from hiking to the park to craft nights along with cooking and 1st aid on the Tuesday evenings that Beavers meet to name a few activities they have experienced in the past year.

We had a Beaver sleepover at the hut in June when 11 Beavers slept over and had their first experience of putting tents up and down. We have also had themed cooking evenings which the Beaver's have experienced different foods and different cooking styles from baking to outside cooking.

I would like to thank the two Jenny's who run the evenings with me. This said we could always do with another pair of hands to help out on Colony evenings, as we now have 14 Beavers in our colony.

Our numbers have maintained throughout the year. I am also pleased to say that we have once again welcomed some new families into the Beavers colony this year.

The big event of this year was our Beaver sleepover which saw the Beavers complete badge work for their bronze Scout award. For many it was the first time they had spent time away from their families. The sleepover ended with worn out Beavers and even more worn out leaders.

This year continued focus is on area's that are important in running a successful Beavers group these areas are Behaviour at the weekly meetings and listening to the leaders.

A big thank-you, to all the parents of the Beavers that have come along and helped when needed, allowing us to do activities from Hiking, cycling, painting and cooking.

Niki Partner (Beaver Colony Leader)

Cub Leader's Report

This year has seen another busy year at Cubs. The activities at the weekly meetings have been varied from Archery, hiking, shooting, cooking, and visiting the local church on the pack nights to name a few activities.

We have also had themed cooking evenings which the Cub's have experienced different foods and different cooking styles from baking to outside cooking. I would like to thank King Louie (Jenny) and Dave Whitbread who bring their enthusiasm to scouting. This said we could always do with another pair of hands to help on pack evenings.

Our numbers have maintained throughout the year and I currently have 19 Cubs in the pack. I am also pleased to say that we have once again welcomed some new families into the Cubs pack this year. The big event of this year was again our joint camp with the Scouts over the first May bank holiday weekend, which this year was at Boardstone Warren in Sussex. 10 Cubs joined the Scouts and thoroughly enjoyed their weekend away. Of all the varied activities, their favourite was the cold swimming pool!

This year continued focus is on area's that are important in running a successful Cub pack, these areas are Behaviour at the weekly meetings, Correct Uniforms, Please ensure you support your cub by helping them arrive with the correct uniform.

A big thank-you, to all the parents of the Cubs that have come along and helped when needed, allowing us to do activities such as painting and cooking where close supervision is required.

I would also like to thank Martyn, who has helped out at cub's most weeks throughout the past year but has now left to pursue a career in the British Army.

Jenny Lowles (Cub Pack Leader)

Scout Leader's Report

This year has seen another busy year at Scouts. The activities at the weekly meetings have been varied from hiking to the Look Out, promoting scouts, local church visit, First aid, shooting and archery at Earlywood, cooking, fire lighting and knots to name a few activities over that past year.

I would like to thank Ian for his continued support and enthusiasm he brings to scouting. This has meant we have been able to increase the activities at the weekly meetings that the Scouts enjoy. Unfortunately with Derren's work commitments he has now left the group which means we do not have any scout leaders.

Our numbers have increased this year due to our older cubs moving on to Scouts. I currently have 25 Scouts in the troop. I am also pleased to say that we have once again welcomed some new families into the Scout Group this year.

The big event of this year was again our group camp over the May bank holiday weekend, which this year was at Broadstone Warren in Sussex. 17 Scouts thoroughly enjoyed their weekend away with the many activities that were laid on. I think the best one was pushing the leaders into the swimming pool on the last day.

Scouts also helped with the beaver sleepover in which they helped the beavers with some outdoor skills, the Scouts then camped overnight, then helped with the Beavers at breakfast in the morning. The past year continued to focus on areas that are important in running a successful Scout group, these areas are Behaviour at the weekly meetings, Correct Uniforms and getting involved!

A big thank-you, to all the parents of the Scouts that have come along and helped when needed, allowing us to do activities from Hiking, cooking and camping.

However we are still short of a Scout Leader and really do need some more help on Monday evenings, so why not come along and see what we get up to?

Andy Lowles (Group Scout leader)