



1st NORTH LEIGH SCOUT GROUP

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 30th March 2021 (by Zoom call)

Meeting Minutes



Present	Alison Kennett	Group Scout Leader/ Windmill Cubs Leader
	Jeremy Taylor	Group Chair
	Sarah Joyner	District Commissioner
	Sue Weston	Chair of District Executive Committee
	Lindsay Cloughley	Woodland Beavers Leader
	Kate Drewett	Kestrel Cubs Leader
	Megan Magrosky	Woodland Beavers Assistant Leader
	Pip Curran	Kestrel Cubs Assistant Leader
	Lucy Kennett	WODNET, Windmill Cubs Assistant Leader, Endeavour Scouts Assistant Leader
	Ruth Ives	Windmill Cubs Assistant Leader
	Phil Joynes	Windmill Cubs Assistant Leader
	Ant Curran	Endeavour Scouts Assistant Leader
	Aubrey Townsend	Endeavour Scouts Assistant Leader
	James Cookson	Endeavour Scouts Assistant Leader
	Will Kent	Endeavour Scouts Young Leader
	Jude Greer	Endeavour Scouts Young Leader
	Jill Drewett	Group Treasurer
	David Walker	Group Secretary
	Richard Talbot	Parent
	Julie Read	Parent
	Natalie Dawson	Parent
	Paula Ball	Parent
	Hannah Legge	Parent
	Andy McCulloch	Parent

Apologies	Anna Lloyd	Woodland Beavers Assistant Leader
	Fraser Stokes	Woodland Beavers Assistant Leader
	Karl Franklin	Kestrel Cubs Assistant Leader

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Group Chair opened the meeting at 7.30 pm and welcomed all leaders, parents and young members. He thanked Sarah Joyner, District Commissioner, and Sue Weston, Chair of our District Executive Committee, for joining us.

All apologies were taken and noted

2. Minutes from the 2020 AGM

Minutes from the 2020 AGM were agreed and would be signed as true and accurate record. There were no matters arising.

3. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report had been circulated in advance (see appendix), Jill Drewett presented the following highlights.

At the beginning of 2020, the Group's financial assets were £16,610.60. Fees started to be collected for the forthcoming camps and events, but as the Pandemic took its hold, these were cancelled, and fees returned. A decision was also made to reduce the Summertime member's subscriptions by half.

Income for the year saw a 37.5% drop to £12,000 and this included kindly given donations of £798 and a gift aid return for £1,655. Total expenses for the year amounted to £11,511, this includes the capitation payment to West Oxford District Scouts of £3,555.

At the close of the year the final assets for the Group were £17,098.89 giving an overall increase of £488.29 on the year.

My thanks go to all the North Leigh team in helping me to maintain the accounts, and it will be great to see you all again face to face soon.

Jill Drewett
Treasurer
1st North Leigh Scout Group

Further to the Treasurer's commentary, the Chair, Jeremy Taylor, highlighted that £17k is a good level of money. As trustees, we have a duty to ensure there is sufficient money in the General Account to keep the group ticking over, including insurances, kit purchases and group events. In addition, we choose to maintain a "rainy day" reserve of £3,000. Page 4 of the report included in the appendix, shows a breakdown of the £17k of assets as it is spread across different uses within the group.

The Chair also highlighted that there is a good chance that capitation costs are going to increase in future years because of the financial strain that UK Scouting is facing. They have not had their normal income from charity events, donations or from the Scout Shop and have had to put a number of buildings and amenities up for sale.

There were no matters arising from the Treasurer's report.

4. Chairman and Leader's Reports

The Chairman's report, as with the Section Leaders reports, had been circulated in advance and are included in appendix of this document. However, there were a number of points that the Chair, Jeremy Taylor, was keen to highlight.

The Chair thanked Lucy Kennett for pulling together a range of statistics (as shown in the appendix) related to the Group's achievements during the difficult COVID-19 period. These show that despite the restrictions caused, in the last year we have:

- awarded 746 badges
- earned 11 top awards – the bronze, silver and gold awards
- held 122 virtual meetings and 32 socially distanced face-2-face meetings
- held 7 virtual camps at home
- welcomed 2 new leaders

Considering the challenges, that is amazing and illustrates the calibre of the leaders we are privileged to have within our group. On behalf of all the Group, he thanked them all for giving so much to our group.

He also thanked Jill as Treasurer and David as Secretary. They do lots of unseen work behind the scenes and make a great team.

Lastly, he thanked all the young members and parents for their support and contributions during a difficult year. As a group, he stated that we are immensely proud of all of our young members and the way they have embraced and risen to the challenges of the last 12 months.

5. Matters arising from the Chairman and Leader's reports

The Chair formally presented the reports to the meeting and asked whether there were any matters arising from any of the reports.

There were no matters arising from the reports.

6. A word from some of our members

We heard from some of our young members, a representative from each of the sections had been asked to tell us their favourite joke and why they liked being a part of their sections.

Claudia of Woodland Beavers, Quinton of Kestrel Cubs, Tillie of Windmill Cubs and Katie of Endeavour Scouts, did so and all described the amazing activities, fun courses and good leaders that they enjoy. They all showed their love of being part of the group and making new friends. They, and their parents, thanked everyone who had helped make scouting such fun.

7. Approval of Auditor

The AGM formally approved continuing with our current Auditor, **Arlene Millar**.

8. Any Other Business

Anthony Curran pointed out that we don't currently have a formal outright leader for the Endeavour Scout section and enquired as to whether this was acceptable.

The Chair responded that the modern way that is being advocated by the scout association is that a team of leaders work together, allowing each to take some time off. He stated that the current arrangement seemed to be working well, however, if someone should wish to step up to the added responsibilities of the role, that would be warmly received.

Anthony Curran was pleased that the current arrangement was seen to be working well and indeed highlighted that the awareness of and working to the different skills of the combined assistant leader group was an asset. He also called out Lucy Kennett for helping keep them all very well organised.

The AGM agreed that it was happy to continue with current situation, notwithstanding if someone wanted to put themselves forward, whether a current Assistant or not, they would be considered on merit.

9. Resignation and Election of Officers (Chair, Treasurer & Secretary)

The current Officers, Jeremy Taylor (Chair), Jill Drewett (Treasurer) and David Walker (Secretary) all formally resigned but also stated their willingness to be re-elected if required. There were no additional volunteers or nominees and therefore all were re-elected as follows:

Officer	Name	Nominator	Second
Chairman	Jeremy Taylor	Alison Kennett	Pip Curran
Treasurer	Jill Drewett	Jeremy Taylor	Anthony Curran
Secretary	David Walker	Jeremy Taylor	Kate Drewett

10. Closure of Meeting

The Chair formally closed the AGM and gave thanks to all for attending. He concluded by asking attendees to stay online post the meeting for a formal presentation and thanks by Aubrey Townsend, on behalf of the Group, to Joff Greer and John Masters, both of whom are formally leaving their roles in the Group.

APPENDIX

**TREASURER'S REPORT
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
GROUP SCOUT LEADER'S REPORT
SECTION LEADER'S REPORT**



1st NORTH LEIGH SCOUT GROUP

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 30th March 2021 (by Zoom call)

Treasurer, Chair and Leaders Reports



Treasurer's report for financial year ending 31st December 2020

At the beginning of 2020, the Group's financial assets were £16,610.60.

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Opening Balance		16,611
Income	General	228
Income subs	Endeavour Scouts	427
	Kestrel Cubs	344
	Windmill Cubs	359
	Woodland Beavers	453
	Group	5,200
Income Camps	Narrowboat (KC)	200
	WB	100
	Win	1,669
Income Events	Activity Days (KC)	440
	KS	45
	Crocodiles (WC)	80
Income Gifts	Donations	799
	Gift Aid Claims	1,656
Total received		12,000
Expenses	General	7,208
Expenses Camps	Narrowboat (KC)	200
	WB	70
	WB Adventurama	158
	Win	1,669
Expenses events	Activity Days (KC)	400
	M4 Karting	280
	NL Hike	100
	Crocodiles (WC)	80
Expenses Insurance		478
Expenses OSM Fees		254
Expenses Rents		615
Total Money Out		11,511
Total Net Receipts		488
Closing Balance		17,099

Income and expenses - Year ending Dec 2020

Treasurer's report for financial year ending 31st December 2020 Cont'd

BREAKDOWN OF ASSETS	£
General Account	894
General Account - subscriptions	3,852
Bank Balance – Endeavour Scouts	2,081
Bank Balance – Kestrel Cubs	1,149
Bank Balance – Woodland Beavers	1,025
Bank Balance – Windmill Cubs	1,189
Reserves – Benevolent Fund	1,242
Reserves – Rainy Day	3,000
Reserves – Capitation 2020	2,667
TOTAL	17,099

Breakdown of assets as of 31st Dec 2020

**Treasurer's report for financial year ending 31st
December 2020 Cont'd**

Figures of Interest	Year End				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Headcount (end Dec)	80	77	74	79	88
Group turnover £	16,942	35,308	29,366	19,203	12,000
Cashbook balance £	15,001	23,629	25,044	16,610	17,098
Income £					
Total Subs received	8,081	7,437	8,098	7,201	6,783
Gift aid claimed	2,547	to follow	to follow	622	1,655
Duck race profit	0	3,414	2,744	709	0
Donations/ Grants	450	8,638	2,886	1,006	558
Benevolent Fund			876	308	240
Fundraising	1,252	6,132	9,033	895	0
Payments £					
Capitation	3,198	3,239	3,157	3,182	3,555
Rent	1,090	1,080	790	1,370	615
Badges	510	719	912	702	725
OSM Fees			476	395	253
Equipment	1,968	4,741	698	1,365	575
Social					
Camps	5,602	6,345	-2,601	-287	0
Events	2,418	2,465	3,069	2,474	-100

Chair's Report for 2020

- AGM 30th March 2021 Cont'd

2020 was a year like no other and presented unprecedented challenges but we got through it. I am so proud of everyone involved with the Mighty, Mighty, North Leigh!

We managed to get them to hang on for about a year longer than they wanted, but the end of 2020 finally saw the departure of two fantastic scout leaders, Joff Greer and John Masters. They have both done so much to shape the lives and give amazing experiences to our scouts over the past few years and will be greatly missed.

Post-Summer 2020, with the lack of volunteers, I was having serious worries about the ongoing viability of the scout troop; however, we are really lucky that James Cookson and Lottie Barwick have kindly volunteered to help with the troop, along with Lucy Kennett, who is going to become an assistant leader too. They are all brilliant and the future seems very bright indeed!

Now it really just falls to me to thank everyone who makes the group work so well.

We are part of the Scout's West Oxfordshire District and I would like to thank Sarah Joyner, our District Commissioner and Sue Weston, the Chair of our District Executive Committee, for their help, guidance and patience in ensuring that our group is running safely and successfully.

Within our own Group's Executive Committee, I am extremely grateful to David Walker for having taken on the role as Secretary, where he has not only lifted a lot of the admin burden from my shoulders but adds a calm, experienced head when we are looking to address issues facing the group. I think that I can speak for everyone when I say that Jill, as treasurer, does an amazing job of supporting us all in a quiet and efficient manner and of keeping us financially stable, for which we are most grateful. One of the worst things about the lockdowns for me (and probably one of the best for you!) is that I really miss being able to visit your house and drink a lovely cup of coffee whilst boring the pants off of you and Ron.



Chair's Report for 2020

- AGM 30th March 2021 Cont'd

Our leaders and assistant leaders are the best! Thank you all for investing so much of your valuable time helping to build the confidence and self-esteem of our young members, whilst teaching them so many important life skills and to become better citizens who are better prepared for their futures. You have been amazing in the way that you have adapted so brilliantly to the challenges thrown down by the pandemic and have managed to inject an element of normality into the lives of our locked down members. We could not do anything without you!

Our young members are incredible and are an absolute credit to their parents and guardians. They have remained positive and inspirational through a year that has challenged them in ways that young people should not be challenged. We are really proud of the way you have all coped so well!

Sadly, Matthew Ives, our Group Scout Leader (GSL), stepped back during 2020, though he is already slowly being dragged back into the fold to help out! We haven't given up on you Matthew and, if it is right for you, hope that you will continue to get more involved.

Lastly, I would like to express my sincere thanks to Alison Kennett. Alison kindly agreed to take on the acting GSL role, in addition to her role as the Windmill cub pack leader. The GSL role is a demanding role that provides guidance and leadership to both the section leaders and the executive committee. It seems to me that Alison knows everything about scouting, which contrasts starkly with my complete lack of scouting knowledge, especially on the uniformed side of things. There have been many times when Alison has saved my bacon and I am extremely grateful to have someone so competent guiding us! Thanks for taking on so much responsibility and for doing such a great job Alison.

Thank you everybody!

Jeremy Taylor
Chair, 1st North Leigh Scout Group
Up the Mighty, Mighty North Leigh!

Group Scout Leader's Report for 2020 –

AGM 30th March 2021

This year has been a challenging year for just about everyone, but it is a year I have been very proud to be part of 1st North Leigh Scout Group.

Yes, we have had the Covid-19 pandemic, but the Group has pulled together and carried on, adapting as rules and regulations changed around us.

At meetings ideas were swapped, assistance was offered and the attitude was continuously positive, regardless of how busy people were in their lives outside of scouting.

Thank you to the leaders for carrying on with the weekly meetings, coming up with innovative ideas and keeping each section going throughout the year, regardless of the regulations in place. Looking on the dreaded Facebook (people always seem to moan on there), there are lots of places where scouting has temporarily ceased when face to face meetings weren't possible. There has been no suggestion of this in our Group and everyone has battled on regardless – Well done!

As a Group in 2020, we have earned 624 badges, held 7 virtual camps and the young people have earned 67 nights away.

Thank you also to the Executive Committee working behind the scenes to ensure our finances are up to date, relevant paperwork is completed on time and for making decisions about the Group that is both relevant and practical.

Thank you also to the parents for supporting your young people, it really does make meetings run smoother when everyone is organised and at the right place, at the right time, with the right equipment.

With everyone working together in 2020 we have ended up with a successful Scout Group and long may it continue!

Thank you!

Alison Kennett
Group Scout Leader, 1st North Leigh Scout Group



Group Scout Leader's Report for 2020 –

AGM 30th March 2021 – Cont'd



1st North Leigh Scout Group Scouting during the COVID-19 Pandemic

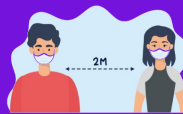
Since March 23rd 2020, when the Prime Minister announced plans for the first national lockdown, Scouting activities have been either run virtually or socially distanced when allowed.

During a time when people across the nation has had to stay at home, isolate, or distance themselves from others, leaders at 1st North Leigh Scout Group went above and beyond to continue Scouting, keeping up the spirits of our Young People.

Since March 2020, as a Group we have:



Worked on and
Awarded 746 Badges



Safely held 32 Socially
Distanced Face to
Face Meetings



Earned 11
Top Awards



Had Fun at 7 Virtual
Camps at Home



Held 122
Virtual Meetings



Welcomed Two
New Leaders

Woodland Beavers Pack Leader's Report for 2020

– AGM 30th March 2021

We started 2020 with a full colony of 24 beavers and 3 fulltime adult leaders. We also had a uniformed occasional leader and a young leader as well as our dedicated parents who volunteered regularly to help run the weekly sessions. We had a full and exciting year planned, the highlight was going to be a 2 night activity weekend at Youlbury. We hoped to build on our very successful Brownsea Island experience ... this was going to be our first multi night beaver camp away from North Leigh . However, COVID and lockdown interrupted our plans...

When face to face meetings stopped, we had to review our programme to make it more flexible and suitable for online delivery . We decided to use OSM features such as Programme at Home and Badges at Home to allow parents to upload work and activities their beavers had completed. We sent information and activities to parents via a weekly newsletter which we initially supplemented by fortnightly Zoom meetings, as we were not sure if Zoom would be a suitable medium for beavers; who are not well known for sitting still ! We made use of the Badges at Home Feature on OSM and some of our beavers completed badges using this feature. We focused on 10 badges such as Animal Friend and Book Reader that could easily be done at home and provided advice and guidance to parents.

The Zoom meetings proved popular with most beavers and we began to run them every week. We did not take any new Beavers at Easter as we expected to go back to face to face meetings and felt that would be a better introduction to scouting. Therefore, in the final summer term we had 10 beavers who attended regularly attend and 3 who completed the badges at home activities. Three beavers did not engage with our programme at all in the summer term Zoom meetings, but we did keep in touch with their parents. During the summer term we attended 2 Virtual camps and the Beavers created their own outdoor/ indoor challenge tasks. Beavers completed Disability Awareness, Communicator, Photographer and Digital Citizen

Over the summer we gave the Beavers the opportunity to complete the Great Indoors staged badge L1, ran a virtual activity event in August and encouraged the Beavers to take part in Lucy and Megan's orienteering challenge.



Woodland Beavers Pack Leader's Report for 2020

– AGM 30th March 2021 Cont'd

We managed 4 face to face meetings at the beginning of the Autumn term. Megan (Hedgehog) had returned from university and was now helping fulltime. As a result, we could run 2 socially distanced sessions in parallel. This required a lot of planning and co-ordination but it was great to be back face to face meetings . We invited 9 new beavers to join us and 1 of the beavers who had not felt comfortable on Zoom returned bringing our numbers back up to 24. The colony was divided into 2 groups of 12. During these sessions we focussed on games and social interaction. (Socially distanced of course, with the help of cones and hoops!) After October half term we returned to weekly Zoom meetings, but interestingly, this time we did not lose any beavers. Even those who had not engaged fully in Zoom during the summer kept attending and so, by the end of the year we were running regular weekly Zoom meetings with over 20 beavers.

During the Autumn term we focussed on Challenge badges., as we wanted to ensure that our older beavers achieved their Bronze Award. In addition, we completed our Navigator level 1 and our Digital Maker. For Christmas we made Yule Goats (look them up !) as part of our world challenge and went to an online Pantomime.

In 2020 10 of our beavers progressed to cubs and 9 of those achieved their Bronze Award. This is a particular achievement as we were scouting mainly online for the whole of the year.

We would like to thank all our parents for their support in 2020, we could not have delivered the Beaver programme without them. They ran virtual camps, helped with cooking, model making, painting, quizzes and solved various technical issues ..sent pictures and evidence of amazing hikes and adventures and supported everything we panned. We could not have managed the year without their help.

Lindsay Cloughley

Woodland Beavers Pack Leader, 1st North Leigh Scout Group

Kestrel Cub Pack Leader's Report for 2020 –

AGM 30th March 2021

So, 2020 started well with some interesting work on our Environmental Conservation badge in Hailey Hall followed by a pheasant plucking and then a hectic pancake evening. With the possibility of a the lock down becoming evident we quickly purchased drawstring bags for each our Cubs and packed them with the craft materials already bought for Easter crafting and a mixture of games. We only missed one session, which was the day the lockdown was announced.

Our online programme for the summer term was a actually a lot of fun with most of the Cubs attending all these online sessions:

13/04/2020	Tea light holder making
20/04/2020	Monkey Bingo
27/04/2020	Tin can band
04/05/2020	Hobbies
11/05/2020	Comedy night & forum
18/05/2020	Charades night and home help badge
25/05/2020	Pebble photo holder
01/06/2020	Online pebble crafting
08/06/2020	Seed bomb making
15/06/2020	Team drawing challenge
22/06/2020	Personal safety badge (hosted by Young Leader Jess Masters)
29/06/2020	Bake-off
06/07/2020	Personal safety badge quiz, home help badge and virtual Scarecrow tour
13/07/2020	Weather bingo and virtual investiture

It was good to get back to some face-to-face Scouting in the Autumn, although running two shorter sessions back-to-back and adhering to social distancing guidelines. We did some work on our Scientist badge and environmentalist badges – identifying fungi, learning the countryside code and making weather measures.

When we switched back to online for the November lock down, a couple of the Cubs dropped out stating they would come back when we went face to face and others became less frequent visitors online and a couple moved out the Witney / North Leigh area but the pack overall maintained a healthy size of 18 Cubs.

Kate Drewett
Kestrel Cub Pack Leader, 1st North Leigh Scout Group

Windmill Cub Pack Leader's Report for 2020 –

AGM 30th March 2021

The year started off well, with lots of activities and events planned, then in March Covid-19 hit the country.

So this ended up being the strangest year yet in my 10 years of scouting! I must thank my assistant leaders, Ruth Ives, Phill Joynes and Lucy Kennett – as a team we quickly got together (virtually) and changed our programme and plans to move everything to, what was new to me at the time, Zoom!

As time has gone on, both the leaders and cubs have got bolder on Zoom – as leaders we are trying out more challenging meetings and as cubs their technical skills and confidence on Zoom is growing. A big thank you also goes to the parents for supporting their cub on the Zoom meetings and supplying whatever equipment was needed for each meeting – it makes a big difference to the smooth running of the meetings.

We ended up have 3 virtual camps in 2020, trying out everything from pioneering projects to yoga to cooking pizzas, all on Zoom!

We have continued carrying out badge work, earning 198 badges as a pack and doing things 'just for fun' throughout the year, going back to face to face scouting when regulations allow us to.

The cubs throughout the year have been great and I'm really proud of how they have all coped and managed the changing situations. They all come along each week and get stuck in regardless of what we are doing or how we are doing it, either virtual or face to face. They are a credit to their parents!

All of this wouldn't have been possible without the support from the Windmill Pack Leader team – Ruth, Phill and Lucy, to whom I am very grateful. They have supported me throughout the year and are always willing to help wherever it is needed – so thank you Windmill Leader Team you continued support is invaluable!

I would also like to add my thanks to the Executive Committee who have carried on supporting the Group behind the scenes, ensuring our finances are always up to date and that we are following the latest guidance. Thank you, your support is really appreciated.

Alison Kennett
Windmill Cub Pack Leader, 1st North Leigh Scout Group



Endeavour Scouts Leader's Report for 2020

-AGM 30th March 2021

Firstly, I would like to thank Joff Greer and John Masters for all of their help leading fun, engaging programmes over the last few years. They will certainly be missed.

I would like to welcome James Cookson, Lucy Kennett and Lottie Barwick to the section. This now brings the number of adult leaders to 5. However, we still do not have a section leader so continued recruitment efforts are required.

A special thank you to our young leaders Will Kent and Jude Greer for their constant help and engagement.

Total scout number was 21 at the start of 2020 and 22 at year end. Three of our older scouts left at the end of 2020 having been nominated for their gold scout award (Charlie Drewett-Allen, Charlie Greer and Alex Curran).

Winter/Spring term was held indoors at North Leigh Primary School with on average, 18-20 scouts attending per session. The sessions consisted of games evenings and badge work (Fundraising, Creative, Media and Astronautics),

March 2020 saw us enter lockdown and the end of face to face meetings. As with the other sections, we moved to online sessions (a big thank you to Kate for running these) until the end of summer term. Whilst we tried very hard to make the online sessions as interesting as possible, scout attendance reduced significantly with an average of 9-10 regular attendees.

Autumn term saw a return of face to face meetings albeit with certain restrictions. Rather than having scouts attend weekly and with reduced time outdoors, we chose to have the scouts attend a full, 2-hour session every other week with the section being divided into age groups. Activities included air rifles, axe throwing, Kelly kettles and a nighttime hike. The last session of our year was the Christmas party, where the scouts enjoyed a karting session in Chippenham.

Anthony Curran

Endeavour Scouts Leader, 1st North Leigh Scout Group

