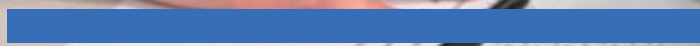




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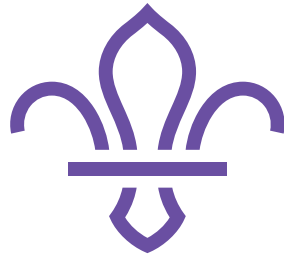


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**Annual Report
& Statement of Accounts**
For the financial year ending 31st December



Scouts
11th Folkestone



Scouts

11th Folkestone

Annual General Meeting

for the financial year 2019

Agenda

Key business

1. Welcome & Introductions from the Chair
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the previous meeting of the Group Council
4. Receive & approve the annual report for the 2019/20 year
Members of the Group Executive Committee are available to answer questions on the report.
5. Receive & approve the Financial Statement for the 2019 financial year
Members of the Group Executive Committee are available to answer questions on the financial statement

Appointments and elections

6. Approval of the Group Scout Leader's nomination Chair of the Executive Committee
7. Election of Group Officers
 - i. Group Treasurer
 - ii. Group Secretary
8. Election of members from the Group Scout Council to the Group Executive Committee
9. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2020 accounts
10. Receive & approve any recommendations to changes in governance made by the Executive Committee
11. Closing remarks from the Group Scout Leader & District Commissioner, Tony Hogben
12. Close of business

GROUP SCOUT LEADER'S WELCOME

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting, being held slightly differently this year.

While we all know why, just for posterity, I'm going to explain – this will be the first and last mention of coronavirus and lock down! So, face to face Scouting is currently not an option with The Scouts putting in place a ban before the Prime Minister announced a full lock down for the country as a measure to beat the virus. We haven't met for the last eight weeks; however, Scouting continues at 11th Folkestone with weekly online meetings, plenty of activities, make and do videos by our fabulous team of volunteers and a fantastic website as the core of our 'new' Scouting. I just wanted to say what a fab team we have at 11th, of both adults and young people, and just reinforces the great resource and support Scouting and 11th in particular is to our community. Well done all. So, this is a virtual Annual General Meeting, with different ways of working.

Enough of that. Now on to the important stuff. 2019-2020. A great year for 11th Folkestone, with increased membership (for the 9th year running), plenty of badges and awards being given out, an extremely active and clearly well received programme across all four sections.

I'll leave the sections to tell you all about their goings on in their reports, but to just draw out some of the highlights: 7 Chief Scouts Bronze Awards presented in Beavers, 475 badges awarded in Cubs, a 'supermarket sweep' in Scouts and racing around London in Monopoly Run Live for the Explorers. Do take a minute to two to read the section reports – so much has been going on.

As a Group, we continue to work towards our goals set in the 2018-2023 Skills for Life plan. I'm pleased to report that this plan is continuing to help make Scouting even better at 11th Folkestone, with more people (adults and young people) joining, more youth shaped activities, initiated and

driven by the young people, more getting out into and supporting the community and a more inclusive programme allowing more people to enjoy the benefits of Scouting.

I'd like to thank and welcome Tara to the leadership team and a personal thanks to all the parents and carers that help out at meetings now that we are getting bigger and bigger. We've had more support than ever before and it really does make a difference. A few more sets of eyes helping to keep everyone safe is invaluable.

Another thank you, but a necessary and heartfelt one, to Steve, our Group Chair, who works so hard behind the scenes keeping the centre running and managing the finances to make Scouting possible. Over the past year he has had the unenviable task of project managing the building project, which has been beyond a headache with all the issues he's had to overcome along the way and his incredible ability to get the best possible deal for the Group (or, as he always tells the people who's arm he's twisting – 'it's for the kids!'). He's also had to balance the myriad of requests (read: demands!) from me and the other leaders and still keep to the budget. Thank you Steve.

I always end my annual report thanking each and every person who makes Scouting so strong. This year is no exception and I am continually amazed and humbled by the level of support we are lucky to have from our volunteers here. Speaking from experience, most Groups really don't have this level of dedication from their volunteers. So, thank you and I really do mean it, to our great team.

We hope to see you soon in person for the annual awards night. Until then, keep safe.

Craig Ward
Group Scout Leader

Reporting on the 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2018 financial year

Meeting held on 11th June 2019 at 11th Folkestone Scout Group HQ, Shepway Close

-
1. Welcome and introductions from the chair
The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, including members, leaders and other Group volunteers as well as the trustees for the 2018/19 period. The Chair explained that after item, once a resolution has been proposed and seconded, all members of the Group Council would be asked to show their agreement by holding up the voting slip. **The AGM 2019 was quorate.**
-

2. Apologies for absence
Apologies were received and accepted from:
Maïte Last – Treasurer
Abbey Sutton – Trustee
Terry Reene – District Chair
-

3. Acceptance of the minutes from the previous meeting.
Proposed: **Mick Lewis**
Seconded: **Jenny Ingelbrecht**
The motion was carried by majority vote of the Council.
-

4. Receive & adopt the annual report
Proposed: **Peter Woodsford**
Seconded: **Mick Lewis**
The motion was carried by majority vote of the Council.
-

5. Receive & adopt the financial report
Proposed: **Karen Ingelbrecht**
Seconded: **Mick Lewis**
The motion was carried by majority vote of the Council.
-

Group Chair and all trustees retired from post at this point. GSL assumed chair.

-
6. Approval of the GSLs nomination for Group Chair: **Steve Fairfax**
Nominated: **Craig Ward** (Group Scout Leader)
Approved (show of voting slips): **Majority of meeting voted in favour. No objections raised.**
The motion was carried by majority vote of the Council.
-

Group Chair reappointed and resumed chairing of AGM.

-
- 7i. Election of Group Officers: **Maïte Last (Treasurer)**
Proposed: **Ian Marshall**
Seconded: **Peter Woodsford**
The motion was carried by majority vote of the Council.
-

- 7ii. Election of Group Officers: **Chloé Last (Secretary)**
Proposed: **Steve Fairfax**
Seconded: **Karen Ingelbrecht**
The motion was carried by majority vote of the Council.
-

- 8i. Election of Group Trustees:
Amanda Sutton
Karen Ingelbrecht
Sarah Marshall
Abbey Sutton
Peter Woodsford
Proposed: **Jenny Ingelbrecht**
Seconded: **Sofie Viaene**
The motion was carried by majority vote of the Council.
-

- 8ii. Election of Group Trustees (ex-officio):
Section Leaders who have opted in: **Ian Marshall, Catherine Ward, Owen Hardie**
-

9. Appointment of Independent Examiner (scrutineer):
Amanda Campbell Bookkeeping Services, Folkestone
Proposed: **Sofie Viaene**
Seconded: **Mick Lewis**
The motion was carried by majority vote of the Council.
-

10. Presentation of Awards.

Group Scout Leader, Craig Ward, took over at this point, introducing the section leaders in turn to present the awards and trophies to our amazing young people. New Skills for Life Awards have been introduced this year.

10i. District Commissioner, Tony Hogben, congratulated 11th Folkestone on having 'the best AGM so far' of the Folkestone and Hythe District and on our amazing turnout of 190 in attendance. He then presented the following:

The Growth Award, with Assistant Group Scout Leader Alistair Sutton accepting it on behalf of the Group

Ben Marshall received his 5 Years Service Award

Owen Hardie and Andy Sutton received their Nights Away permits

11. Close of business.

The Chair closed by thanking the Group Scout Leader, Leaders and Executive members for their continued support, hard work and dedication. He looked forward to another successful year of Scouting at 11th Folkestone and thanked all for our best turnout so far. An introduction to Lasting Memories (a community art and heritage project) was given, encouraging all the take part. The meeting was thanked and invited to enjoy the cream tea on offer.

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Group Executive Committee 2019/20

11th June 2019 – 12th May 2020

Ex-Officio Members:

Chair	- Steven Fairfax	Centre Manager	- Edward Hogben
Secretary	- Chloé Last		
Treasurer	- Maïte Last	Explorer Scout Leader	- Owen Hardie
Group Scout Leader	- Craig Ward	Scout Leader	- Catherine Ward
Assistant Group Scout Leader	- Alistair Sutton	Cub Scout Leader	- Ian Marshall

Elected Members:

Group Council	- Sarah Marshall	Group Council	- Abbey Sutton
Group Council	- Karen Ingelbrecht	Group Council	- Pete Woodsford
Group Council	- Amanda Sutton (Deputy Chair)		

Bankers: - Barclays Bank

Registered Address:

The Scouting Centre, Shepway Close, Folkestone
CT19 5SJ

Group Leadership Team as of 29th April 2020, listed alphabetically by section



Assistant Beaver Scout Leader	- Karen Goldsack
Assistant Beaver Scout Leader	- Rob Penter
Assistant Beaver Scout Leader	- Holly Taylor
Scout Active Support	- Clare Taylor
Beaver Scout Leader	- Jacqui Ward



Scout Active Support	- Russ Bell
Cub Scout Leader	- Ian Marshall
Assistant Cub Scout Leader	- Andy Sutton

SCOUTS

Assistant Scout Leader	- Beckie Ingelbrecht
Scout Active Support	- Jenny Ingelbrecht
Assistant Scout Leader	- Gregor Lewis
Assistant Scout Leader	- David Sutton
Scout Leader	- Catherine Ward
Section Assistant	- Pete Woodsford

EXPLORERS

Explorer Scout Leader	- Tara Dunleavy
Explorer Scout Leader	- Owen Hardie
Explorer Scout Leader	- Ben Marshall
Young Leaders:	
Cubs – George	Scouts – Kian
Cubs – Nicole	



Active Support Coordinator	- Peter Ingelbrecht
Active Support Manager	- Jane Lambert
Active Support Member	- Chloe Last
Active Support Member	- Mike Last



Centre Manager (AGSL)	Ted Hogben
Assistant Group Scout Leader	Alistair Sutton
Group Scout Leader	Craig Ward

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 a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts. 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 three independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leaders, individual section leaders (if opted to take on the responsibility) and members' representation and meets every 4 months.

Members of the Executive Committee complete 'Essential Information for Executive Committee' training along with regular refreshers in Safety and Safeguarding.

This Group Executive Committee exists to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting the responsibilities of their appointment 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;

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

RISK & INTERNAL CONTROL

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 main areas of concern that have been identified are:

Damage to the building, property and equipment. The Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community centre and other Scout Groups. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with these organisations. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The Group, through the membership fees payable annually, contributes to the Scout Associations national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken and approved by the Group Scout Leader on behalf of the District Commissioner before all activities.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The Group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst-case scenario the complete closure of the Group.

Reduction or loss of members. The Group provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 18. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst-case scenario the complete closure of the Group.

RISK & INTERNAL CONTROL OF FINANCES

The group has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss; these include clear budget setting, two signatories for all payments, a robust finance policy with spending authorisation schedule and well considered and scoped comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Reduced income. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from membership subscriptions. The group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently. The Committee's primary plan for meet any short fall is through the hiring of the Shepway Close Centre as one of our biggest assets.

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

FINANCIAL REVIEW

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, designating £2000 to this purpose. This was reviewed in May 2019, affecting the 2019 accountant period. The 2019 accounting period set the designated reserves fund at £3600. This was to include the reserves fund as set above with an additional 2 months' worth of loan repayments.

At the end of the 2019 financial year, the Group held £18,387.48 cash with unallocated reserves of £7541.37 held in the Group's current account against this at year end.

This is above the level required for operating expenses. However this can be explained by:

- the Committee's continued commitment towards the redevelopment of the Shepway Close Centre Project to complete the project.
- the works required to the upstairs areas of the centre after the building work along with the installation of a technology studio to further enhance the programme and centre offering.
- to fully fund the Group's ambitious 2018-2023 growth and development plan.

Investment Policy

The Group's Income and Expenditure is relatively small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The Group has therefore adopted a low risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies or The Scout Association's Short Term Investment Service.

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. The annual budget setting process takes this into consideration.

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.

Group Chair's Statement

Once again, I'm very pleased to report that the Group has had another successful and productive year. The trustees have been focused on development over the past 12 months, with the works finally nearing completion (phase 1 and 2 are now done!).

The Executive Committee have been fully committed in supporting the Group leadership team develop the Skills for Life growth and development plan to lay out the roadmap for the future of our Group and Scouting locally.

This exciting plan includes all our hopes and aspiration for our Group and one we believe will make Scouting even more fantastic.

The trustees largest and highest priority element of the plan is the continued renovations of the centre and access to high quality equipment and resources to enable our leaders to deliver great programmes to our young people – week in, week out. This year we have:

- Completed phase 2 of our redevelopment project – providing high quality toilets, a functional centre office, a large multi purpose room and improved entrance hall with a high standard of safety equipment.

- Replaced the older linked smoked detection system with a full fire detection system throughout the entire centre.

- Improved the security of the centre, with additional safety features.

- Improved the ICT infrastructure at the centre to keep up with the times – adding more ICT equipment for use in programmes, administration and for community use.

- Financed leaders' activity training.

Last year I reported our frustrations at not having delivered the phase 2 redevelopment by the AGM. This year, I have no such issue! The works are predominately done (just a few little tweaks still to finish) and I'm sure you'll agree they make a significant difference to the centre – a vast improvement. This has enabled us to open the centre up to the community while the young people aren't using it, to really capitalise on the asset and bring in much needed revenue.

As always, I'd like to thank my fellow trustees for their continued support and enthusiasm in the stewardship of the Group and of course, our thanks to Craig, Alistair and the leadership team for their hard work and dedication in giving our young people the opportunity to learn skills for life.

Steve Fairfax

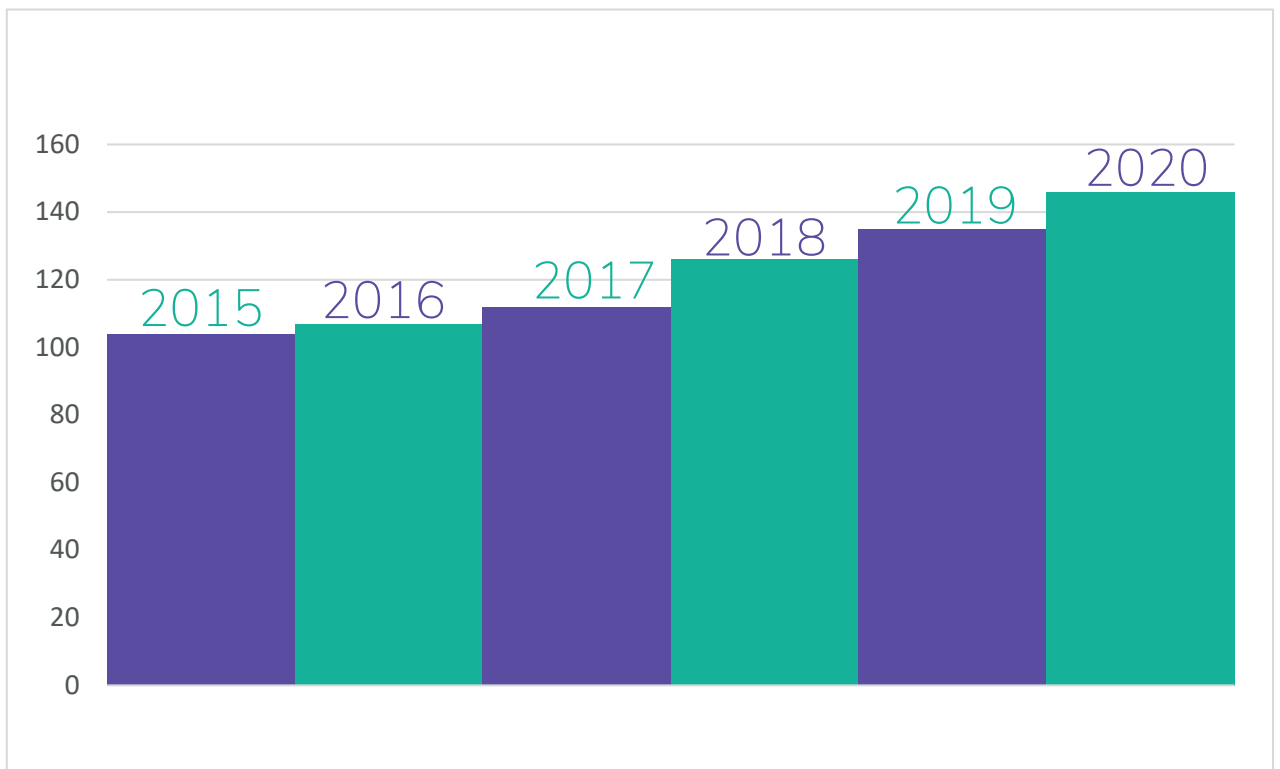
Group Executive Committee Chair

Trustee meeting attendance					2019/20
Steven Fairfax	5 (100%)	Maite Last	4 (80%)	Amanda Sutton	5 (100%)
Owen Hardie	1 (20%)	Ian Marshall	5 (100%)	Catherine Ward	3 (60%)
Edward Hogben	2 (40%)	Sarah Marshall	4 (80%)	Craig Ward	5 (100%)
Karen Ingelbrecht	3 (60%)	Abbey Sutton	4 (80%)	Pete Woodsford	2 (40%)
Chloé Last	5 (100%)	Alistair Sutton	3 (60%)		

Executive Committee Meeting Dates			2019/20
4 th July 2019	19 th September 2019		12 th December 2019
23 rd March 2020 (online)	9 th April 2020 (online)		

Membership Information 2020 Census					2019
Beavers	32 (27)	Cubs	39 (39)	Scouts	32 (29)
Explorers	9 (8)	Adults	24 (23)	Total Group	146 (138)
Active Support	10 (9)	Total Female Membership	42 (41)		= 29% (30%)

Last year's figures in brackets.



Congratulations to Steve Fairfax, Group Chair



Steve was nominated for the **Kent Scouts Trustee of the Year** award and invited to the County's Annual Awards Gala at The Corn Exchange in Rochester. We're delighted to say he won the category, against some stiff competition from around Kent. Congratulations Steve - a well deserved award and recognition for the fanstastic work you do at 11th Folkestone Scouts.

Read the full nomination on our website.

Presented by Des Harris, Kent Scouts Chairman. Photo credit Kent Scouts

Receipts and Payments Accounts for 11th Folkestone (St. John's) Scout Group

Registered Charity No. 285558

For Period: 01/01/2019 to 31/12/2019

		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Last year 2018 to nearest £	
Receipts	4000 General Sales	1,297	-	-	4000
	4010 Membership Subscriptions	11,676	-	10,595	4010
	4011 Residential Experiences Income	1,850	-	2,910	4011
	4012 Minibus Income	500	-	527	4012
	4013 Shepway Close Centre Income	14,102	-	7,195	4013
	4015 Fundraising Income	301	-	246	4015
	4017 Activities/Events Income	466	-	556	4017
	4019 Donations	1,580	-	1,399	4019
	4020 Capital Grant Income	-	-	18,750	4020
	4022 Solar Panel Feed In Tariff (Shop4Scouts)	1,606	-	2,827	4022
	4900 Bank Interest Received	64	-	21	4900
	4906 Gift Aid Claim	1,900	-	3,729	4906
	Miscellaneous Income				
	<i>Total receipts:</i>	35,342	-	48,755	
Payments	5000 General Purchases	(38)	-	-	5000
	5001 Annual Membership Fee (AMS)	(4,576)	-	(4,080)	5001
	5010 Group Development	-	-	(30)	5010
	5011 Capital Equipment	(410)	-	(3,545)	5011
	5012 Programme Expenses	(1,830)	-	(1,209)	5012
	5013 Capital Projects	(62,435)	-	(13,845)	5013
	5014 Activity/Event Expenditure	(523)	-	(1,068)	5014
	5015 Residential Experiences Expenditure	(1,705)	-	(2,279)	5015
	5017 Community Engagement	-	-	(981)	5017
	5202 Badges & Sundries	(691)	-	(654)	5202
	6200 Marketing and Sales Promotions	(340)	-	-	6200
	7102 Water Rates	(499)	-	(358)	7102
	7104 Premises Insurance	(1,103)	-	(961)	7104
	7300 Fuel and Oil (MOTOR)	(151)	-	(328)	7300
	7301 Repairs and Servicing (MOTOR)	-	-	(367)	7301
	7302 Licences	(224)	-	(334)	7302
	7303 Vehicle Insurance	(46)	-	(1,216)	7303
	7501 Postage and Carriage	-	-	(4)	7501
	7502 Telephone and Mobile Charges	-	-	(68)	7502
	7506 Hosting Fees and IT	(621)	-	(400)	7506
	7601 Audit & Accountancy Fees	(55)	-	(55)	7601
	7603 Professional Fees	-	-	-	7603
	7701 Office Machine Maintenance	(474)	-	-	7701
	7800 Repairs and Renewals	(134)	-	-	7800
	7801 Cleaning	(425)	-	-	7801
	7803 Premises Expenses	(727)	-	(405)	7803
	7907 GoCardless Processing Fee	(405)	-	(418)	7907
	8200 Donations	(500)	-	(30)	8200
	8203 Training Costs	(190)	-	(30)	8203
	8205 Refreshments/Volunteer Welfare	(96)	-	(30)	8205
	8207 AGM & Trustee Expenses	(542)	-	(251)	8207
	Loan Repayments	(3,012)	-	-	
	<i>Payments:</i>	(81,754)	-	(32,945)	
	<i>Total payments:</i>	(81,754)	-	(32,945)	

Receipts and Payments Accounts for 11th Folkestone (St. John's) Scout Group

For Period: 01/01/2019 to 31/12/2019

Group Year End Balance Sheet

Current Assets		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
1200	Current Account	12,541.37		12,541.37
1201	Reserve Account	3,502.88		3,502.88
1203	Barclays Penticost Fund	1,004.18		1,004.18
1204	Barclays Restricted/Designated	878.61		878.61
1230	Petty Cash	50.00		50.00
1232	Equals Corporate Card	410.44		410.44
Total Current Assets:				18,387.48

Current Liabilities				
1254	Co-Operative Foundation Community Loan		(13,750.00)	
1255	Folkestone & Hythe District Loan		(18,237.98)	
Total Current Liabilities:				(31,987.98)

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of year (recording purposes only)

	2018	2019
Land & buildings (estimated insurance value)	643,315	700,000
Motor vehicles	-	-
Scouting equipment, furniture, etc... (estimated insurance value)	54,600	75,000
Badge Stock	225	650
	775,650	

The above receipts and payments accounts and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by trustees at the Group Executive meeting held on 9th April 2020. Presented to the Group Council at the Annual General Meeting on 12th May 2020.

Signature	Print Name	Date
<u>Signed on filed copy</u> Group Treasurer	<u>M. Last</u>	<u>09/04/20</u>
<u>Signed on filed copy</u> Group Chair	<u>S.Fairfax</u>	<u>09/04/20</u>

Amanda Campbell Bookkeeping Services



Bookkeeping and Payroll Services

11th Folkestone Scouts
The Scouting Centre
Shepway Close
Folkestone
Kent
CT19 5SJ

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 11th Folkestone (St Johns) Scout Group.

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2019. The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees have requested an independent examination of the accounts.

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
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention 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
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act.

have not been met.

Amanda Campbell MICB PM Dip

9 Charles Crescent, Folkestone, Kent CT19 4NF

28 April 2020

Proprietor: Mrs Amanda Campbell MICB PM.Dip
9 Charles Crescent, Folkestone Kent CT19 4NF

Tele: 01303 647674
Email: amanda@acbookkeepingsvcs.co.uk
www.acbookkeepingsvcs.co.uk



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and supervised under the Money Laundering Regulations 2007

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13055



Beavers are the youngest section within Scouting and our motto is 'Fun and Friendship'. However, we are also at the beginning of the Skills for Life route into Scouting and as such we know that for many Young People we help lay the foundations for Teamwork, Problem Solving, Communication and Responsibility (Personal and Collective).

We currently have 32 Beavers which is our largest number over the past five years and shows a growth of 19% over the past year. We also have a small waiting list of young people who have asked to join us.

The Leaders enjoy introducing the Beavers to explorations of their locality and other outside activities, chances to be creative, learning new games and opportunities to make new friends. Our key approach to achieving the Beaver Activity and Challenge Awards is through our varied programme which is planned on a termly basis. Over the past year we have awarded over 200 badges covering 17 different awards. These have included photography, digital maker, air activities and cycling which we have never fully covered before. They also embraced many of our regular favourites such as Health & Fitness, Safety, Faith, Book Reader, Builder, Communicator, Skills, Adventure, and Teamwork. Most Activity and Staged badges have at least five elements to achieve whilst Challenge badges may have up to 18 elements each.

The highest award a Beaver can achieve is the Chief Scout Bronze Award and this requires a Beaver to complete 6 Challenge Awards and a minimum of 4 Activity or Staged badges. Obviously, the minimum requirement helps those Young people who come into Beavers with less than 15 months, before they move into Cubs, to achieve the Chief Scout Award. For those Beavers who are with us for a full two years and complete our two year rolling programme of activities we often see them with a whole 'armful' of badges as well as the six Challenge Badges on their chest. Currently we have four young people with more than 12 badges on their arm and two with 18+ badges. This is no mean achievement and we extend our thanks to their parents for their support and their badge sewing skills!

Over the past year we have had 7 Young People accomplish their Chief Scout Bronze Awards and the leaders have been exceedingly proud of those Young People. They showed determination, patience and great strength of character to achieve the award, all excellent character traits that we hope will stand them in

good stead for their future endeavours.

However, being a Beaver isn't just about gaining badges as we also like to have fun! Beavers also like to cook and eat so this is included on a regular basis. A Beaver with food to eat is a very happy Beaver!

Some of our outdoor activities over the past year have been a Scavenger Hunt around the harbour area; a celebration of the Gruffalo's birthday with a trail to follow; a chip shop challenge and a visit to St John's Church.

We were also involved in a District Sleepover with a Special Agent theme and enjoyed lots of different activities. This included a fish and chip supper then sleeping in a hall with sixty other Beavers, after watching a film and finally having breakfast (after a loonnnnggg night for the Leaders!!). Then we had the opportunity to watch and listen to a brass band before trying to play some instruments ourselves. Phew! That was a full-on sleepover. Then to top it all 11th Folkestone were awarded the Best Beaver Colony Award as we gained the most points for good listening, excellent participation and being the politest and most helpful! Yay 11th!!

Our indoor activities have included learning to sign (BSL) and the young people were so good a video of them performing 'Little Donkey' was shared throughout Kent Scouts as part of the Advent Calendar. We have had various visitors, including Jasper, a very friendly dog who managed to help a few young people through their fears about dogs as well as understanding the requirements of the Animal Friend badge

We would not be able to offer all these great opportunities if it wasn't for the unstinting time and effort put in by our Leaders and other adults, all volunteers with very busy lives, but who manage to turn up on a weekly basis in order to make each Beaver Meeting fun, friendly and appealing to the young people.

We appreciate the offers of parents/carers for occasional meetings when we need additional adult support but would really welcome anyone who feels they could offer more than occasional support. Talk to us about the 'four-week challenge' and see if you feel you could be someone who can make a difference. We would also love to hear from you if you have particular skills which you could share with the Beavers, whether they be circus skills, knitting or bagpipe playing! The Beavers are always up for learning new things, as are the Leaders.



It's been another good year for the Cubs. The pack has continued to go from strength to strength with an average of 35 Cubs at each pack meeting.

We've seen a total of 475 badges awarded over the last year with 3 Cubs achieving their Chief Scout Silver Award and several others being very close to completion. Of course, Cubs isn't all about badges, it's also about fun and adventure.

Our adventures this year have seen us do activities such as camping, hiking and making new friends. We had a trip for some of the Cubs to Chessington early in the year as part of a County organised trip. We held 'Baggies Adventure Camp' at Rosswood, where we had the whole site to ourselves, so the Cubs had plenty of space to have fun as well as learn some new skills.

July saw us vacate the hall whilst construction work got underway. This gave us opportunities to get outdoors and to make new friends by linking up with Sheperdswell (15th Dover) Cubs, a first for our pack. We changed nights to a Wednesday for a couple of weeks with us hosting an evening in the hills hunting for treasure and Sheperdswell hosting a games evening including slip n slide which provide some great fun.

As well as our own adventures and activities we also attended St. George's Day and Remembrance Sunday. It was great to have such a good turnout from the Cubs at both of these events.

We've been fortunate to have been joined by Nicole, one of our Explorers, as a young leader. Nicole along with George form part of our team and assist us with our activities and running pack meetings under the watchful guidance our Leaders. We also welcomed Russel (Hathi) into uniform as a member of our Active Support Team.

Finally, a big thank you from myself, the Cub leadership team and the Cubs for the help and support that parents have given us over the last year. Your support is invaluable and there have been times where we simply wouldn't have been able to safely run some of our outdoor activities without you.

Hello to all you cool cats and kittens! So, to summarise our year, where to start?!

It's been eventful, but maybe not for all the reasons we were expecting. Fortunately for our Scout group, we have some amazing and creative members who have been working hard to keep that Scouting spirit alive in recent weeks.

Early in the term, we decided to hit the ground running. Quite literally in some cases, as we found ourselves slipping and sliding around in the mud on one of the windiest and muddiest night hikes some of us have ever been on. We had a few spectacular tumbles, the only regret being that they weren't caught on camera.

On occasions where the weather was a little nicer, we were able to organise some successful wide-games, including a scavenger hunt, envelope trail and glow-stick hunt. Our rounders match was particularly enjoyable and even got a few parents hanging around at the end to join in! One of the most amusing challenges was a town walk treasure hunt, where our Scouts had to discover and decipher clues to take them round various iconic locations in Folkestone. Despite getting a few lefts and rights mixed up in the hints, we all managed to find our way back eventually!

It wouldn't be proper Scouting without learning and improving on our basic skills. To that end, we have practised our fire-lighting, tent-pitching and pioneering. Some serious skill and creativity on full display in Reinden Wood, when our Scouts set out to build bivouacs. As well as earning badges, these abilities will set us all up ready for when we can all get back together again and go camping, something which I know we are all very much looking forward to.

One of our very last meetings involved a Supermarket challenge (which seems bizarre now!). Scouts were split into groups to prepare and budget for a weekend's camping. Curveballs were thrown in to change team budgets at last-minute, and account for various religious and dietary requirements. It really got them all thinking about how much work goes into meal prep. Our massive thanks to Morrisons staff who

allowed us pretty much free reign of the store and thank you to our Scouts who were well-behaved and represented our group proudly.

Last summer we had the wonderful experience of visiting the Battle of Britain memorial in Capel and were lucky enough to see a couple of Spitfires fly overhead. The group got to spend time reflecting at the memorial wall and it was poignant for some of them to recognise soldiers with the same or similar surnames and how young some of these pilots were when they were sent to war.

Inspired by our recent trip, we took our plans for a giant Spitfire with us to the District Sandcastle competition at Sunny Sands. We once again demonstrated some fantastic teamwork in constructing the sculpture and we all had great fun doing it. Our magnificent creation certainly caught the eye of many passers-by.

Later on, in November, our Scouts created some beautiful remembrance lanterns and pyrography designs commemorating the fallen soldiers. It was also fascinating to learn about the important role the Boy Scouts played during the war.

Our Scouts have been working hard on their Astronomer Activity badge, learning about the night sky. We have learned about recognising constellations, differentiating between satellites, planes and comets and how to read a star map, to name just a few things. We planned to take some of our newfound experience with us on a night hike, but unfortunately it was such a cloudy day, we had to improvise. Luckily, within our superbly stocked resources we found some Milky Ways, Galaxies and Mars bars. An excellent demonstration was also provided of how to make a total eclipse with a Jaffa cake.

Until we meet again, keep up your Airfix-building, Bingo calling, Warhammer painting, Potato baking, Celebrity veg painting, Knot tying, Seed-planting, Necker throwing and Scout quizzing!

EXPLORERS The Explorers have once again enjoyed a great range of experiences and activities this year. We have also grown as a section which is brilliant news as it allows us to do more as a section and means we can plan even more exciting evenings and activities.

We would also like to welcome Tara Dunleavy as Explorer Scout Leader to our team! We're excited to have Tara as a member of the team and look forward to the energy and ideas that she'll bring to the unit.

The Explorers attended Gilwell 24 in July where they spent a weekend with 6,000 other Explorers from all over the country. The explorers had a great time, taking part in all sorts of activities. From Laser Clay Shooting to Segway Riding, and from Tank Driving to Raspberry Pi Workshops. Gilwell 24 was Andrew's final time with the unit before turning 18. This was made extra special by having his Chief Scout Platinum Award presented to him on stage in the Main Arena.

May last year saw the Explorers take part in a two-day expedition as part of their Chief Scout Award. This expedition was completely self-led with the Explorers carry all their own kit including food and tentage! They set their own routes which were successfully followed from Folkestone to Coldred on Day 1 and then back to Folkestone on Day 2. The leaders met up with the Explorers on Day 2 to enjoy a portion of chips on the beach in Dover before the Explorers carried on their walk.

March saw the Explorers take part in The Monopoly Run Live, racing round London competing against 800 teams from across the country! Everyone had a fantastic day with lots of walking. We ended the day with a meal at Pizza Hut before catching the train home from the Big Smoke!

The leadership team have continued to deliver an exciting, engaging and varied programme this year, which is always looking at providing our young people with #skillsforlife. We have done this through many different activities, such as Wide Games with other Explorer Units, pioneering projects, international culture and cooking, swimming and skiing, cooking a Christmas dinner and even learning Makaton!

The Explorers are constantly working towards their Chief Scout Awards, both Platinum and Diamond. All of our Explorers are well on their way to completing both of these awards!

Our commitment to the young leader's program has seen many of this section's young people continue their training in other sections of the group and we are all very thankful for those young leaders who have generously volunteered their time.

We would like to thank the Explorers for their continued effort and enthusiasm this year and here's to another great year of Scouting.