

1st Kesgrave Group Scout Council

Monday 3rd July 2023, 8.00pm,



Present: Chris Adams, Jean Bridle, Carole Brown, Melanie Clack, Paul Clack, Alan Comber, Celia Comber, Julia Cooper, Gareth Cox, Lesley Creasey, Louise Fosdick, Steven Fosdick, Judith Francis, Sam Gilkes, Carl Gloess (Chair), Nick Heppleston, Michelle Higgins, Lee Hodgson, Emma Jessop, Balkees Jones, Robert Knock, Alex Leggett, Sarah Linsell, Mel Meekings, Jono Ogden, Andy Pringle, Karen Pringle, Jo Saagi, Henry Slim, Tony Smith, Jean Sones, Rick Upchurch, Andy Vobe, Tracey Vobe, Julie Whinney

Apologies: were received from: Mervyn Scase, Tracey Scase, Hayley Liddell, Hayley Woodward, Karl Saagi, Daniel Thomas, Gerald Woods

1. **Chairman's Welcome:** – See Appendix 1.
2. **Minutes of the previous AGM:** The minutes of the 2022 AGM had been circulated prior to this meeting. Karen Pringle proposed acceptance and approval was granted by a show of hands.
3. **Review of Governance Oversight** – Copy of constitution – link in Agenda sent out. GC – need a constitution as a charity. Needs to be formally agreed at AGM each year. Agreed by show of hands. Financial year – stated by CG. Quorum approval – 5 members of Scout Group Council. Proposal GSC meetings at least 5 there. Show of hands. Group Trustee board policy – need to set out some organization issues. Merged together in one document – policy. Quorum – 5. Can appoint sub-committees - 3 members to be quorate. Trustee board agrees to delegate decisions to sub committees. Financial controls policy will be approved by Trustee Board in autumn meeting. GC proposed adoption of policy which was approved by a show of hands.
4. **Review of Previous Year:** Section reports are in Annual Report and Accounts. Group Scout Leader report - see Appendix 2.
5. **Treasurer's Report and Approval of Accounts:** Printout of Annual Report & Accounts available and will be posted on website. Slide with this year's figures compared to previous years. The numbers indicate that activities are back to pre-Covid levels. Numbers in the group are slightly lower than previous. CC explained different income and expenditure streams shown in the report. There is an overall surplus of income of £5,000 but reduced as the value of investments did go down during this year meaning the overall position was almost breakeven. CC pointed out that the group also supported young people attending the Jamboree. Chose not to increase membership fees too much in view of increases in the current cost of living. Group aims to run events at as low a cost as possible to enable families to continue to participate. CG thanked CC for hard work in running the accounts. JB proposed, SL seconded. All in favour of approving accounts.
6. **Group Scout Leader's nomination for Chairman:** Gareth Cox nominated Carl Gloess. This was approved by a show of hands.
7. **Group Trustee Board – nominate – as per slide**
8. **Election of Secretary:** Carl Gloess proposed Karen Pringle. This was approved by a show of hands.
9. **Election of Treasurer:** Carl Gloess proposed Celia Comber. This was approved by a show of hands.
10. **Election of no more than 6 members:**

The following parent/carers had stood for election and were elected by a show of hands:

1. Mrs Kate Howard
2. Mrs Gina Kleinhans
3. Mr Rick Upchurch

4. Mr Daniel Thomas
5. Mrs Melanie Meekings
6. Mr Jonathan Ashley

11. Nomination of other members of the Executive Committee: Gareth Cox proposed the following representatives who were all nominated unanimously by a poll.

<i>Group Vice Chairman</i>	Nick Heppleston
<i>Hall Bookings Secretary</i>	Judith Francis
<i>Fund Raising</i>	Jean Bridle
<i>Rupert Fison Centre Director</i>	Alan Comber

At the next Group Executive meeting the following people will be co-opted to the executive committee:

<i>Outdoor Activities</i>	Jo Saagi
<i>General Purposes</i>	Tony Smith
<i>General Purposes</i>	Tracey Vobe
<i>500 Club Administrator</i>	Sarah Linsell

12. Section leaders choosing to sit on the Group Trustee Board:

<i>Beaver Leader Representative</i>	Mel Clack
<i>Cub Leader Representative</i>	Alex Leggett
<i>Scout Leader Representative</i>	Henry Slim
SAS Manager	Julia Cooper

13. Independent examiner – Christine Wade, Hastings Wade – approved.

14. Any other business: There was no other business

The meeting closed at 8.47pm

Appendix 1

Chairman's Address AGM 2023

Honoured Guests, Leaders, Supporters, parents and young people - welcome to the Annual Group Meeting for 2023 here at the Scout Hall and not the camping field at like last year at our Family Camp.

These days we are all challenged in our everyday lives in many different ways and so we each have had to look at how it is we can do what we must do and what we like to do, not just for ourselves but also for others when it comes to our volunteering activities.

Volunteering is a valuable activity to consider to not only help with running organisations or clubs/societies in numerous ways, but to also help ourselves sometimes too... when we can fit it in that is in any 'spare time' that we may have. Sometimes that 'spare time' runs out and we have to review where we are and step back, either a little or a lot.

It is on that note that I have to sadly announce that Gareth Cox is taking a step back from a main scouting role in the group. He actually came to us in 2007 as a cub leader with Bader pack and later took over the role as GSL in 2013. My very grateful thanks go to Gareth for all the support he has given to the group and also that given to me as Group Chair and making sure that the main points of POR (Policy, Organisation and Rules) are followed – Thank You Gareth!

We have a waiting list of young people wanting to join Scouting and take part in the programme of activities to build their own resilience and 'skills for life' and to meet that need, the group needs more adults to train-up and become leaders. If you would like to know more, then please come and talk to the leaders about what's involved.

We are another year closer to celebrating our centenary in 2027 and it only through our volunteers taking on the many tasks involved of running the group and its facilities over the years that this all happens; without them, it would all crumble, something I am not able to contemplate

To those volunteers currently in the group in their many guises, I say a really HUGE 'THANK YOU' as it is you who continue to make this group achieve what it does for the young people and community of Kesgrave.

Thank you ALL very much for your support!

Carl Gloess

Chair

Appendix 2

Group Scout Leader's Report to the Group Scout Council

The past year has seen many different events and activities across all the sections. Every section has had the opportunity to have nights away as well as events away from the scout hall. Leaders from 1st Kesgrave played key roles in supporting and organising the district camp at the end of May (and yes, we had a big district camp with no rain – veterans of Millennium Camp (2000) and Centenary Camp (2007) are still trying to dry out! The beaver section will finally get to go to Flixton, a visit which has been postponed since 2020.

All the many activities and experiences our young leaders have is only possible due to the dedication and commitment of the adult volunteers who give up their time to plan, check, organise and review a whole manner of different meetings, hikes, camps, visits... the list goes on. This year has seen some well-deserved retirements, as well as new faces joining the team. On behalf of the group, I would like to record a big thank you to the volunteers who have moved on (although all reluctantly) for their service to the group.

The scout group wouldn't function without the volunteers in the sections, but it also wouldn't function without the volunteers "behind the scenes" – though many of these volunteers are front of house. 1st Kesgrave is very fortunate to have a team of volunteers who help to support our fundraising, maintenance of the scout hall, and ensuring we have the facilities and equipment we need to run the programme. Their efforts are no less important than our section-based volunteers.

This year marks 16 years for me at 1st Kesgrave, over 10 of those as Group Scout Leader. It has been a pleasure and privilege to support the group over that time. There have been many laughs, smiles and fun memories. There have been points of reflection and review. I couldn't have wished for a better welcome to Kesgrave. I moved away from Kesgrave in 2016 and have continued as Group Scout Leader over the last seven years. As things change, and the group has settled down after COVID, it is now right for me to step down and hand over the reins to someone local, who can take the group forward. I will be finishing at the end of August, and my successor will start immediately.

I would like to say a massive thank you to all the volunteers who have been part of the group in that time. I have tried to count but have given up in the "around 200" figure. A special thank you to Carl, Karen and Celia for guiding me and the group during my time as GSL. I couldn't have asked for a better immediate team. Across the sections, I can't name everyone, but I can say thank you for all you do, the range of things (sometimes slightly bonkers) you do is exceptional, and the young people of Kesgrave are in your debt. It has been a privilege, and I will miss you all.

Gareth Cox

Group Scout Leader

3rd July 2023