

## **1<sup>st</sup> Kesgrave Group Scout Council**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021, 8.00pm,

Held online due to Covid-19 Pandemic restrictions



**Present:** 21 computers joined the meeting. Those present were: Chris Adams, Eunice Brain, Jean Bridle, Alan Brown, Carole Brown, Gary Burden, Ali Chester, Mel Clack, Paul Clack, Alan Comber, Celia Comber, Gareth Cox, Judith Francis, Carl Gloess, Nick Heppleston, Sarah Linsell, Mel Meekings, Emma Pitcher, Andy Pringle, Karen Pringle, Jo Saagi, Tony Smith, Anita Smy, Daniel Thomas, Tracey Vobe

**Apologies:** were received from: Hayley Liddell, Kev Linsell, Pet Ormston, Mervyn Scase, Tracey Scase, Henry Slim,

- 1. Chairman's Welcome:** – See Appendix 1. CG also welcomed Gary Burden, Deben District Commissioner to the meeting.
- 2. Minutes of the previous AGM:** The minutes of the 2020 AGM had been distributed by email prior to the meeting. An online poll was made available to those present. The minutes were approved by 81% of the computers connected (17 yes, 4 abstentions) and will be signed at an appropriate point in the future.
- 3. Group Scout Leader & Section Leaders' Reports:** See Appendix 2. Echo Carl's words. Been through a year of change and new experiences. New skills for young people and adult volunteers.
- 4. Treasurer's Report and Approval of Accounts:** Slides detailing a summary of the accounts were shared on the screen which CC explained in more detail. Comparison of last 4 years so full impact of Covid-19 could be seen. Full details of report are published on the group's website. A poll was held to approve the accounts. This was approved by 81% of attendees (17 yes and 4 abstentions)
- 5. Group Scout Leader's nomination for Chairman:** Gareth Cox nominated Carl Gloess, Poll – 90% in favour (1 abstention)
- 6. Election of Secretary:** Gareth Cox proposed Karen Pringle, Poll – 90% in favour (1 abstention)
- 7. Election of Treasurer:** Gareth Cox proposed Celia Comber, Poll – 100% in favour
- 8. Election of representatives of the eight sections:**

Gareth Cox proposed the following representatives who were all elected via a poll.

<i>Beavers</i>	Ali Chester
<i>Beavers</i>	Nikki Self
<i>Beavers</i>	Daniel Thomas
<i>Cubs</i>	Jon Ashley
<i>Cubs</i>	Gareth Brown
<i>Cubs</i>	Kirsty Spurgeon
<i>Scouts</i>	Mel Meekings
<i>Scouts</i>	Sarah Linsell

- 9. 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 Hepplestone
<i>Hall Bookings Secretary</i>	Judith Francis
<i>Health and Safety Advisor</i>	Alan Brown
<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

**10. Section leaders choosing to sit on the Group Executive Committee:**

<i>Beaver Leader Representative</i>	Carole Brown
<i>Cub Leader Representative</i>	Tracey Scase
<i>Scout Leader Representative</i>	Michelle Higgins

**11. Any other business:**

Gary Burden – DC, Deben District. Newly appointed. Expressed thanks to Kesgrave Scout Group volunteers for efforts during Covid. Has spoken to parents – they are really appreciative of everything that has been done. Exciting times ahead.

The meeting closed at 8.24pm

Post meeting note – Kesgrave 500 club is now active. The link to the form can be found here:  
<https://forms.office.com/r/AGBDsS4Qqb> Email address for queries is [ksg500@suffolkscouts.org.uk](mailto:ksg500@suffolkscouts.org.uk)

# Appendix 1

## Chairman's Welcome

Honoured Guests, Leaders, Supporters, parents, and young people, welcome to the Annual Group Meeting for 2021.

The past year has had the dark cloud of coronavirus enveloping us and the situation has challenged everyone in many ways. The cancellation of face-to-face scouting was the safest course of action as we followed government and headquarters edicts. However, it did not stop things from happening completely and many leaders, young people and parents embraced a new way of scouting via 'on-line' activities.

The 'Skills For Life' that we try to give to our young (and older) people has caused the Information Technologist in all of us to become more proficient and enjoy some semblance of normality but at a social distance.

Although the scouting activities were reduced somewhat, I would like to make a special mention to the team managing the building and hirers. This activity required many Risk Assessments to be created and reviewed by all concerned and we were fortunate to be quick off the mark to be a COVID secure building to allow hirers to use it between the two lockdowns. This also prepared the way to return to scouting when the call came.

The group also took advantage of this quiet time to refurbish the hall with an internal paintwork refresh and replacement of the fire doors of the High Hall to the square.

In these extraordinary and unprecedented times we have endured and continue to find ourselves in, I offer my very grateful thanks to the volunteers in all the roles they have and the responsibilities they take on – be they committee members, helpers, managers, leaders or assistants – and continue to make this group achieve what it does for the young people and local community.

Thank you ALL very much for what you do and continue to do for Scouting in Kesgrave.

July 2021

## **Appendix 2**

### **1st Kesgrave Scout Group Scout Council Group Scout Leader's Report to the Annual General Meeting**

The last year has really shown our motto of be prepared and skills for life in action! The COVID-19 pandemic has created significant barriers to the way we "do" scouting, putting in additional restrictions and preventing face-to-face meetings for most of the last year. This hasn't stopped us! Our wonderful (volunteer) leadership team has reskilled in the art of scouting via Zoom! We have had cooking, craft, treasure hunting, scouting skills and a whole host of other activities delivered remotely. Thank you for all those extra hours of planning and experimenting – the young people loved it! Also, thank you to the parents/carers who supervised their young people, and tidied up afterwards! When it has been permitted, we have been able to meet face-to-face, within the guidelines to be COVID Secure. Again, our volunteers stepped up to ensure the risk assessment was completed and reviewed. They supported each other and shared best practice, well done! Being able to meet face-to-face has enabled more activities however, with reduced capacity, young people have had fewer meetings. Our young people have also shown their best, adapting to the new way of doing things and overcoming new barriers – well done to them too! Testament to their achievement, we have continued to issue hundreds of badges to reward their achievements! We are already planning for our next steps and will jump at the opportunity when it arises!

Thank you and well done to the amazing volunteer team and the young people of 1st Kesgrave!

Gareth Cox  
Group Scout Leader  
July 2021