

Scouts



Wansdyke

WANSDYKE DISTRICT SCOUT
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

06.09.2023



Chair's Welcome

Nigel Wright opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. He offered a special welcome to Andy Hobbs – the County Commissioner's representative. He thanked James Swallow for his IT organisation in arranging this AGM. The Chair invited everyone to stand to take a minute of silence to show our respect to Paul Robins, Terry Jones and any other member of the Scout Council called to higher service during the year.

Apologies for absence

Ian Carter, Tim Miles , and a number of other Scouters and Lay Officials who had apologised online.

To confirm minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in Marksbury Village Hall on 7th September 2022 at 7.30 pm (pages 5-6 of Annual Report)

Proposed by John Mander.
Seconded by Simon Walker.
Agreed by the meeting.

Matters Arising

None

To approve the new District Constitution (pages 9 to 12 of Annual Report)

Proposed by Stuart Whale.
Seconded by David Moore.
Agreed by the meeting.

To approve the Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st March 2023 (page 7 of Annual Report)

Proposed by Simon Walker.
Seconded by Stuart Whale.
Agreed by the meeting.

To approve the Trustees' Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023

Proposed by Mike Walker.
Seconded by Simon Walker.
Agreed by the meeting.

To receive the Chair's Report (page 8 of Annual Report)

Nigel Wright added:

As the Executive Committee finishes, I'd like to recognise and thank all of those involved across committees and the district executive.

It is impossible to quantify how much time and effort you have all put in to Scouting. I feel that this is an appropriate time to thank you and others who give up their time alongside balancing your own families, work and general life. It is truly remarkable that we are surrounded by people who do this for Scouting.

I would also like to use this evening's meeting notes as an opportunity to make a plea for more volunteers to continue the exceptional work of our district.

To support this plea, I think it is prudent to highlight the impact you and Scouting has had on people. From the 12 people that have been to the moon, 11 of them have been involved in Scouting in some form. I feel this statistic represents the global influence of Scouting.



To approve the District Commissioner's nomination for District Chair

The DC proposed that Nigel Wright be re-appointed, which was warmly approved by the meeting.

To elect a District Secretary

Maddie Difazio-Wright was the only nomination for the post, and it was warmly approved by the meeting.

To elect a District Treasurer

Tim Miles has indicated he will stand down at the next AGM but is prepared to continue as Treasurer until a replacement has been found. His was the only nomination for the post, and was warmly approved by the meeting.

To elect up to six persons to the District Trustee Board Nominations for two candidates had been received:

James Swallow to monitor Data Protection and Media.
John Mander to act as Charity Commission advisor.
Proposed by Stuart Whale.
Seconded by Stuart Ballard.
Agreed by the meeting.

To receive and confirm the District Commissioner's nominations to the District Trustee Board (no greater than the number elected under item 12)

Tina Curtis proposed Stuart Ballard as lead volunteer; this was agreed by the meeting.

To elect two leaders to represent the District on the Avon County Scout Council.

Nominations had been received for David Moore and Simon Walker
Proposed by Karl Kilburn.
Seconded by Will Summerill.
Agreed by the meeting.

To appoint an Independent Financial Examiner for 2023 –2024

In absentia the District Treasurer proposed – Tony Dicker Associates.
Seconded by Stuart Whale.
Agreed by the meeting.

The District Commissioner's Address

Tina Curtis said:

Thank you for coming along tonight and giving up your time to attend.

This is my last AGM as DC before I step down to hand over to a younger team who will take the district forward. I'm sure you'll all join me in wishing them every success.

At the GSL meeting on 20th September, the new team will be announced. I would like to ask that we have at least one from every leadership team to attend. How can they not be great under the guidance of Stuart and Graham – they've helped me with the good things and the tricky things. 9 groups are doing well. – some we need more adult volunteers and none of them are short of young people which shows how brilliant the leadership team are doing.

I feel so proud to have seen all of the activities that we have put together – 2 Jamborees – these events change their lives for the best. Thank you to you all and please pass on my thanks to everyone not here tonight We need to spread the word that Scouting is fun for all – everyone here in this room is here because we love Scouting. That shines through with your attendance and support.

I look forward to handing over the reins to the new team on 1st October and look forward to working with them in a new role.



PRESENTATIONS

Ian Tucker
20 year's service



Hilary Mander
20 year's service



Ian Delbridge
Wood Badge

The Chair remarked that he was humbled by the amount of years that people have given to Scouting where it has become part of Scouting and he was of admiration for people that have dedicated their lives to Scouting.



The County Commissioner's Address – Andy Hobbs (DCC)

Apologies from County Commissioner Clive Sandrey who is on holiday.

Thank you to you all for being here and on behalf of my county colleagues, I can't thank you enough. In particular I would like to thank outgoing Tina for everything she has done. It is a tough job.

I wish the incoming team the best of luck – there are some wise heads behind the scenes to guide them.

Congratulations to Ian Carter for his Silver Wolf award – it is an honour for him and the district.

We are going through a transformation – it is change and is unlikely to please everyone. Please do everything you can to keep our young people thriving and moving forward during this period of change.

Any Other Business:-

The Chair raised two items of business:-

1. A vote of personal thanks to John Sharp who has given more than 50 years of his life to Scouting. He thanked him for his roles on the Executive Committee as well as the leadership roles he has performed during his long service.

2. He also thanked Tina Curtis and recalled:

When we declared my interest to become involved in Scouting the first people I spoke to were Tina and John Mander. Tina has been hugely helpful in guiding me through Scouting.

Additionally Tina has been involved in Scouting for 11 years and having stepped up to take on the DC role she has been very committed to keeping Scouting active across the District stepping into several groups to fulfil roles that would otherwise have been left vacant.

The fact that she is being replaced by 5 people shows how big her role and contribution has been.



SCOUT JAMBOREE
SOUTH KOREA, 2023



JAMES SWALLOW'S ACCOUNT OF THE WORLD SCOUTING JAMBOREE, SOUTH KOREA

James Swallow was invited to give the meeting a short briefing on his experiences at the World Jamboree in South Korea.

He outlined the difficulties experienced by more than 50,000 scouts living on reclaimed land in Seoul, South Korea. Unfortunately, it was clear that the organisers weren't quite ready. 24 hours before the young people arrived the site was still not complete.

The medical centre was full after the second day and the teams were overwhelmed with the heat wave – 90-95% humidity followed by heavy rain. Covid and diphtheria was present on the site.

UK young people were on site for 2 days and they had the chance to go offsite to beaches, badge swapping and climbing but it was a challenge as young people were getting ill but there wasn't the support for them.

Within 2 days, £4m from Scout reserve was mobilised to make the young people safe in school halls, army bases and the Jamboree finished early.

In Seoul, a local church arranged a culture day, the Olympic Park was offered as a space to run events and many companies offered free tours and rides to anyone in a Scout scarf. A big part of Korea is hospitality, and it was seen as a national failure and the country tried to help by offering free food and activities as much as possible.

The jamboree closing concert was in the football stadium with a K-pop concert. The young people all have very different and unique stories – from making new friends in the UK and outside of the UK to mentally and physically finding it very challenging. But it showed the support from UK Scout HQ that in 48 hours, 5,000 young people were mobilised to safety.

World Scouting and UK Scouting have launched an investigation to avoid this from happening again.

James reported that Poland are hosting the next world jamboree and this experience hadn't put him off – instead it showed him the power of Scouting and that safety is a priority.

The Chair thanked James and closed the meeting at 8.47 pm and thanked everyone for their attendance.





Scouts 
Wansdyke

THANK YOU
