



**BRADFORD NORTH
DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
12th July 2022
Eccleshill Working Mens Club**

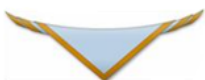


ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 12th July 2022

AGENDA

1. **Welcome and introduction**
2. **Apologies**
3. **Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 14th September 2021**
 - *To approve the minutes Executive Committee Approved:*
4. **Chairs Annual Report**
5. **The District Constitution**
6. **Blackhills Constitution**
7. **The Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2021**
 - *To receive and consider the report and accounts submitted by the District Executive for the year ended 31st March 2021*
8. **ADC Sectional Reports**
 - Beavers - DC
 - Cubs - Sarah Falkner
 - Scouts - Craig Simpson
 - Explorers - Adam Simpson
9. **The District Commissioners Appointment for District Chair**
 - To receive the District Commissioner appointment
10. **Election of Officers to the District Scout Executive**
11. **The District Commissioner - Report**
12. **Presentation of Awards**
13. **County Representatives**
 - Elaine Clough
 - Matt Turner
14. **Date of Next Meeting** : Tuesday 11th July 2023



3. Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 14th September 2021

BRADFORD NORTH DISTRICT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 14th September 2021

At 19:30 at Blackhills Scout Campsite

3. **Apologies** Steve Preston (60th GSL), Beth McGrath, Steve Rollins, Emily Hall, Stuart and Michelle Laws, Rachel Duxbury, Nick Tindall (Bfd Sth chair), All Leaders of 46th

Item	Discussion
4. Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 14 th July 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minutes reviewed and Approved – Proposed Dave Rollins, Seconded Phil Lowde
5. District Constitution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The District Constitution was reviewed• Proposed to be 4 people from committee with an officer included in that 4• Will be looked at more closely and will review policies closer in near future• Everyone happy to move it forward
6. The Blackhills Constitution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tried to meet with Bradford South counterparts to agree but pandemic and new appointment of DC in Bradford South have delayed the meeting• Meeting has been re-arranged for 21st October 2021• Will hold an extraordinary general meeting to approve Blackhills constitution once that meeting has taken place
7. The Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 st March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Treasurer Andrew Wilson gave an overview of accounts• Try to keep a reserve in district to keep for one year expenses. Most groups got support from Scout Recovery fund. Waived district levy and county halved their levy• Went from £57,000 to £21,000 income.• Money from activities halved due to none taking place. Big Camp was cancelled which gave an income from the refunds, but these went back out when reimbursing to groups. Flamingo Land also needed refunding via cheque• Some income from badges via groups that kept going• Some fundraising from Dave Rollins and Andrew Wilson• District expenses were items such as printing, wreath for cenotaph, etc.• Insurance was equipment in stores• Please encourage groups to buy badges from within district. Email ordering set up through Andrew and Cath. Currently have £4000 worth of badge stock. Encourage groups to go to Cath for uniforms. Direct through Scout Association have a 12 week back order but we have some in stock• Set some funds aside as COVID recovery. Used this for postcards to recruit new leaders. At last exec meeting, we talked about also using that support for First Aid courses. Some groups have lost leaders



	<p>altogether so want to try get some more in. If not registered for Gift Aid as a group, please speak to Andrew. Can be backdated for about 6 years and can help get some money in the pot</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No questions raised in the meeting
8. The District Commissioners Nomination for District Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wendy Flatters would like to appoint John Briggs • John Briggs accepts
9. Election of Officers to the District Scout Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No ADC Beavers so anyone willing to volunteer, please speak to Wendy Flatters • Treasurer – only nomination was Andrew Wilson and he is prepared to sit for another term of office. Everyone was happy to approve • Secretary – no nominations. Robynne Casson has been minute taker but no one seems to have capacity to do secretary. Please ask about if anyone would like to volunteer. Doesn't have to be a leader, can be a parent • Paul Stocks stopping as District Scrutineer. Everyone was happy to approve
10. District Commissioners Nominations for the District Executive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wendy Flatters nominated Craig Simpson and John Reynolds for District Exec. Everyone was happy to approve
11. Elected members of the District to the District Executive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 nominations from Phil Lowde and Dave Rollins. Everyone was happy to approve • Would encourage new people to come in as continues to be the same people
12. Elected members of the District to the Blackhills Management Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Commissioner stood down last year and no nominations for a replacement. John Briggs expressed how important these positions are and we need to fill them • Phil Lowde, Daniel Simpson and Sarah Faulkner happy to continue on BMC
13. Elected Adult representative to the West Yorkshire County Scout Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wendy Flatters asked if anyone is willing to stand for County Scout Council • John Capes volunteered and all agreed
	<p>Date of Next Annual General Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 12th July 2022



4. Chairs Annual Report

I've felt that we have had a period of consolidation in the District since our AGM last September and we have seen the true effects of the Pandemic in relation to the retention of the membership of the District, which has shown we have had a reduction in numbers.

It's been a mixed picture up and down the Country, but what it has shown, is that we as a District, need to focus our efforts on growing our numbers of both Young People and Adults.

Moving forward, this will be a real focus for the District Team and Executive Committee, and we are determined to breath new life into the Committees by encouraging the participation of Young People and for those Young People to help shape the future of the District, particularly on the Executive Committee.

There is also work to be done at Group level, to try and establish full and strong Executive Committees to support the Scouting within the Groups.

There have been changes within Scouting within the Bradford district, particularly in Bradford South and we are mindful that it is essential that we work closely together, along with the other Districts within the Metropolitan District to ensure the growth of Scouting in the area and the continued opportunities and experiences this offers the Young People, who are going to be the future of the City of Bradford and its surrounding Towns.

The long running saga of the Blackhills Lease continues, and we still have no immediate resolution to this, which is far from ideal. Although we are pretty much fully operational at the Campsite, usage is still below pre pandemic levels and so this needs to be monitored moving forward so that we have the financial resources to maintain and of course develop the site. On behalf of the District, I'd like to thank the Blackhills Management Committee for the work they have done over the last 10 months. We are so lucky to have such a resource, but we continually fall short in having the necessary help that is needed to maintain the running of the site and as with the lease, there needs to be some resolution to this situation.

We are so lucky to have a number of our Young People from the District attending the Word Jamboree in South Korea in 2023 and I'm sure they will do us proud and grow as individuals through the shared experiences they will have.

I'd like to finish by thanking the District Commissioner, District Officers, Executive Members and of course all the Adults for their continued support and hard work over the last 10 months to Scouting in Bradford North.

Yours in Scouting,

John Briggs

Chair

Bradford North District Scout Council

7. The Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2021

It has been great to see Scouting in Bradford North moving back to normal activities in 2022 following the disruption brought for Groups following the Covid-19 pandemic.

The legacy of the pandemic will remain with us for sometime to come, the impact on Groups has not been insignificant both financially and in structure for Group Executive Committees.



I have spent time this year supporting two groups as Treasurer whilst new ones are recruited, for 47th Bradford North we have a new Treasurer recruited and the handover is taking place before September.

I have also played a larger role assisting Cath Fawbert with the Scout Shop, we had some challenges with needing to change banks following the HSBC deciding to start charging for banking facilities, this is now completed and we have also introduced the option to pay by card in the Scout Shop.

The Scout Shop has had a bumper year which is great for the District as over 30 years ago it was founded by Bradford West to support Scouting in the District, this year it has supported all Groups by paying for OSM, we encourage all Groups to use it themselves and encourage their parents to use it for all uniform needs,

As we move forward, a key support for Groups is registering for Gift Aid, Gift Aid is the ability to claim the Tax Paid by parents or supporters on weekly membership fees, donations or sponsorships and enables Groups to reclaim 25p in the pound back from HMRC.

If you require support on registering please contact me: treasurer@bradfordnorthscouts.org.uk

Andrew Wilson
District Treasurer

Scrutineer's Report to the Trustees of the

BRADFORD NORTH DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

I report on the accounts of the Group/District for the year ended 31 March 2022

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Scrutineer

As the District's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that neither the audit nor independent examination requirements of the Charities Act 2011 apply. It is my responsibility without carrying out an audit or independent examination to scrutinise the accounts and to report to you

Basis of Scrutineer's Statement

In accordance with the directions given in the District's constitution, I have scrutinised the records and the accounts set out on Receipts and Payments Accounts.

Scrutineer's Statement

In my opinion the accounts are in accordance with the records produced to me and comply with the constitution.

Name: Paul Stocks

Address: 7 BLAKEHILL AVENUE
BRADFORD
BD2 3JT

Date: 26/5/2022



Bradford North District Scouts
Income & Expenditure Account 2021 / 2022

	Current Year (2022)		Previous Year (2021)		Year - 2020	
Unrestricted Income						
Scout Association Membership	15268.00		11375.00		19091.50	
Badge A/C	1296.05		212.02		1356.35	
Fundraising (Note 1)	12.50		157.77		0.00	
Training	0.00		0.00		450.00	
Activities (Note 2)	3703.00	20279.55	7305.00	19049.79	15233.72	36131.57
Restricted Income						
Groups / Development	174.95		563.00		8600.00	
4th Bradford North	1920.00		0.00		0.00	
Duke of Edinburgh	0.00		0.00		1250.00	
Stores	12.94		0.00		500.00	
Norjam / Scouts	0.00		0.00		3297.89	
Explorers International	2250.00	4357.89	0.00	563.00	2240.00	15887.89
Other Income						
Scout Shop (Note 3)	4580.20		1.57		2396.71	
WSJ 2023 (Note 6)	5167.02		0.00		0.00	
Central Explorers	1821.50		958.00		2926.80	
Bradford Gang Show	0.00	11568.72	0.00	959.57	104.60	5428.11
Total Income		36206.16		20572.36		57447.57
Unrestricted Expenditure						
District Team (Note 4)	476.11		411.16		714.57	
Insurance	626.97		678.55		673.46	
Training (Note 5)	244.84		66.00		380.40	
Scout Association Membership	10720.00		16046.00		0.00	
Donations	0.00		400.00		0.00	
Badge A/C	2340.03		116.22		535.79	
Activities (Note 2)	3862.00	18269.95	7684.13	25402.06	12887.20	15191.42
Restricted Expenditure						
Groups	2386.95		410.00		2037.50	
4th Bradford North	1259.10		0.00		0.00	
Duke of Edinburgh	30.50		0.00		569.00	
Stores (Light & Water)	207.71		341.66		613.62	
Norjam / Scouts	0.00		0.00		4980.70	
Explorers International	2250.00	6134.26	0.00	751.66	2140.00	10340.82
Other Expenditure						
Scout Shop (Note 3)	4204.76		0.00		1906.45	
WSJ 2023 (Note 6)	2600.00		0.00		0.00	
Central Explorers	1758.30		798.48		2883.96	
Bradford Gang Show	0.00	8563.06	0.00	798.48	2070.70	6861.11
Total Expenditure		32967.27		26952.20		32393.35
Surplus / (Deficit)		<u>3238.89</u>		<u>-6379.84</u>		<u>25054.22</u>



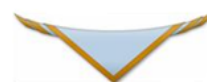
Capital Account 2020 / 2021

	Current Year 2022		Previous Year 2021		Year - 2020	
Bank Opening Balance						
Barclays Bank Account	81599.58		88140.51		58826.52	
Cash in Hand	0.00		0.00		2826.77	
Gang Show Bank	1882.98		1882.98		3849.08	
Central Explorers Bank	1152.50	84635.06	992.98	91016.47	950.14	66452.51
Bradford North Scout Shop						
HSBC Current A/C	3100.82		2825.82		2616.96	
High Interest A/C	3201.34		3199.78		3193.37	
Cash in Hand	0.00		274.99		0.00	
Petty Cash	50.00	6352.16	50.00	6350.59	50.00	5860.33
Total		90987.22		97367.06		72312.84
Surplus / Deficit for year						
District - Unrestricted	2009.60		-6352.27		20940.15	
District - Restricted	-1776.37		-188.66		5547.07	
Scout Shop (Note 4)	375.44		1.57		490.26	
WSJ 2023 (Note 3)	2567.02		0.00		0.00	
Central Explorers	63.20		159.52		42.84	
Gang Show	0.00	3238.89	0.00	-6379.84	-1966.10	25054.22
Closing Balance - 31/03/22		94226.11		90987.22		97367.06
Represented by:						
Barclays Bank Account	81832.81		81599.58		88140.51	
Cash in Hand	0.00		0.00		0.00	
WSJ 2023	2567.02		0.00		0.00	
Central Explorers	1215.70		1152.50		992.98	
Gang Show	1882.98	87498.51	1882.98	84635.06	1882.98	91016.47
Bradford North Scout Shop						
HSBC Current A/C	3475.85		3100.82		2825.82	
High Interest A/C	3201.75		3201.34		3199.78	
Cash in Hand	0.00		0.00		274.99	
Petty Cash	50.00	6727.60	50.00	6352.16	50.00	6350.59
		94226.11		90987.22		97367.06
Bradford North District Assets						
Scout Shop Stock		7531.11		8482.21		8147.22
Badge Stock		3889.66		3669.90		3785.72
Badges - Group funds in advance		158.03		172.95		194.00
50% Blackhills Scout Campsite (Note 5)		110692.50		105239.50		114789.00
District Stores Equipment		46575.00		20000.00		20000.00
Revised 01/05/21 - to insurance valuation						
Duke of Edinburgh Equipment		1500.00		1500.00		1500.00



Bank Reconciliation - Barclays Bank

	Current Year 2022	Previous Year 2021	Year - 2020
Opening Balance 01/04/21	81599.58	88140.51	58826.52
Deposits	21696.27	19202.79	49412.49
Payments	21463.04 <u>233.23</u>	25743.72 <u>-6540.93</u>	20098.50 <u>29313.99</u>
Closing Balance 31/03/22	<u>81832.81</u>	<u>81599.58</u>	<u>88140.51</u>
Statement Balance 31/03/22	81863.31	81599.58	88140.51
Uncleared Deposits None	0.00	0.00	0.00
Unpresented Cheque Chq-100607	30.50 <u>30.50</u>	0.00	0.00
Reconciliation Balance	<u>81832.81</u>	<u>81599.58</u>	<u>88140.51</u>



Bradford North District Scouts - Notes to Accounts 2022

Note 1 - Fundraising

D Rollins	12.50
	12.50

Note 2 - Activities

	Income	Expenditure
Flamingoland Bookings	3055.00	
Flamingoland - Safeway Coaches		1190.00
Flamingoland - Tickets		2024.00
OSM Support - BN Scout Shop	648.00	648.00 Support to Groups using OSM from Scout Shop
	3703.00	3862.00

Note 3 - Scout Shop

Sales	4580.20	91% growth over 2020 Sales
Expenditure	3302.96	
Gross Surplus	1277.24	
OSM Support - Bradford North Groups	648.00	160.5% growth in Gross Surplus has enabled
Invest - New Laptop & Sumup Card Machine	253.80	financial support to Groups by sponsoring
Net Surplus	375.44	OSM Subscription and to invest in a new laptop and the purchase of a Sumup Card Machine so customers can now pay by card.

Note 4 - District Team

Christmas 2021 - Leaders Social	47.13
District Kneckerchiefs	58.50
Equipment	33.96
Gifts / Flowers	24.00
Jamboree Selection Day	45.10
Meetings refreshments	11.77
Postage	20.94
Remembrance Day - Poppy Wreath	18.50
Room Hire	160.00
Stationary	56.21
	476.11

Note 5 - Training

DC Induction Day - Gilwell	155.00	DC Training, refreshments & room hire
Training Refreshments	9.84	for Training Courses.
Training Room Hire	80.00	
	244.84	

Note 6 - World Scout Jamboree (WSJ 2023)

Income	5167.02	Fundraising activities for participants of WSJ
Expenditure	2600.00	2023 - South Korea and payments to County
	2567.02	for places



Bradford North Scouts - Restricted Funds Summary 2022

4th Bradford North		Debit	Credit	Balance	
01/04/2021	Opening Balance			29944.00	
05/02/2022	Badges	97.20		29846.80	
05/02/2022	Kneckerchiefs	105.90		29740.90	
28/02/2022	Annual Membership	1056.00		28684.90	
25/03/2022	TSA Charity Grant		1920.00	30604.90	660.90
Group - Funds					
10th Bradford North					
01/04/2021	Opening Balance			2152.50	
28/02/2022	Annual Membership	1364.00		788.50	
St James Beavers Thornton					
01/04/2021	Opening Balance			413.00	
28/02/2022	Annual Membership	413.00		0.00	
Total Group Funds				788.50	
District Development Fund					
01/04/2021	Opening Balance			5569.37	
19/04/2021	Income - Bonfire 2017		50.00	5619.37	
27/07/2021	Leaflets	152.40		5466.97	
03/11/2021	First Aid Course	152.25		5314.72	
08/11/2021	First Aid Course - Bookings		124.95	5439.67	
23/11/2021	First Aid Course	155.30		5284.37	
18/01/2022	First Aid Course	150.00		5134.37	
Explorers International		Debit	Credit	Balance	
01/04/2021	Opening Balance			551.72	
	Trsf from Fundraising A/C		2250.00	2801.72	
	WYSC - First Installment	2250.00		551.72	
District Stores		Debit	Credit	Balance	
01/04/2021	Opening Balance			1993.47	
	Wrose - Elec & Water	187.80		1805.67	
	Maintenance	6.97		1798.70	
D of E		Debit	Credit	Balance	
01/04/2021	Opening Balance			2814.62	
24/03/2022	WYCSC - DofE Gold	30.50		2784.12	
Scouts - Nordjam		Debit	Credit	Balance	
01/04/2021	Opening Balance			2109.55	
				2109.55	
Funds Held in District Bank Account				43771.86	



Separate Bank Accounts

	Debit	Credit	Balance
Gang Show			
01/04/2021 Opening Balance			1882.98
			1882.98
Central Explorers			
01/04/2021 Opening Balance			1152.50
Income 2022		1821.50	2974.00
Expenditure 2022	1758.30		1215.70
Scout Shop			
01/04/2021 Opening Balance			6352.16
Income 2022		4580.20	10932.36
Expenditure 2022	4204.76		6727.60
WSJ Fundraising			
01/04/2021 Opening Balance			0.00
Income 2022		5167.02	5167.02
Expenditure 2022	2600.00		2567.02
Funds Held in Separate Bank Accounts			12393.30
Total Restricted Funds			56165.16

8. ADC Sectional Reports



A verbal report will be given on the evening by the DC



We've had a number of events happen and a number that were cancelled due to lack of attendance. This is the first time back after covid returning to face to face so hopefully this can all be built on going forward.

The first one was the football tournament joint with the scouts and this was made into a football fun day as only 3 Cub teams entered. All that attended had a great time.

Then we had the district event to Flamingo Land, this was well attended by the district and a great number of cubs. The weather was great and all that came seemed to have a great time and we look forward to doing it again next year.

It was nice to have St George's day return too and see all the cubs parading at Blackhills and enjoying the fun inflatables afterwards.

We had some of our cubs attend Blackhills Campsite Easter Egg hunt that returned for the first time! Was great to see them all taking part again.

Then finally we would have had our Cub challenge but this was cancelled as only 3 teams put names forward.

Let's get planning for the future year ahead and see what it brings!

Sarah Falkner ADC Cubs





Great to see the scout sections all back scouting, camping and doing activities! Disappointing that district events haven't been well attended but this can be improved on.

We kicked off with our scout football tournament but only 2 teams entered so we made this a fun day with the 3 Cub teams and had them all play different games. Let's hope to get this back next year now.

Then the scouts also went along to Flamingo Land with the rest of the district and had a great time!

Finally we had St. George's day at Blackhills and how great was it to have so many scouts represented across the groups!

Unfortunately due to leadership illness the scout ranges competition had to be postponed but this looked like it was going to be a great turn out!

Roll on next year and building on the stuff we've started with this year!

Craig Simpson ADC Scouts



The previous year has been a challenging one for the Explorers of Bradford North. Many groups ran a limited programme of events during lockdown, some meeting online & some meeting outside when restrictions permitted.

EXPLORERS

The year has seen the Explorers section of Bradford North increase by approximately 6%, increasing from 33 young people (as of 31/01/2021) to 35 young people (as of 31/01/2022). This is a tremendous achievement, to not only maintain the number of Explorers but to increase it. The Explorer Leaders of the district have done a tremendous job during a difficult time. I'd like to thank them all for continuing hard work and effort they put in running their units.

Even though our Explorer numbers increased, it was not without casualties. Unfortunately due to a shortness of leaders at 60th Thornton Abbott, their Explorer unit was forced to close. The Explorers affected were given the opportunity to join other units and I'm happy to report that most of the Explorers are still active in another group. With the easing of lockdown restrictions the Explorers section was able to start planning future joint events, including a cooking competition, camping competition & Monopoly Run. The hope is that these events will be ran annually, helping to bring the Explorers closer together.

The District will have 5 Explorers going to South Korea for the World Scout Jamboree in 2023. They are all currently well on their way to achieving their fundraising target, and the District will continue to support these young people in their challenge.

Adam Simpson DESC

10. Election of Officers to the District Scout Executive

- To elect the following officers to the District Scout Executive:

District Treasurer: Andrew Wilson

District Secretary: Robynne Casson

District Scrutineer: Paul Stocks

Elected and Nominated members of the Council to the District Executive

- Elected Members on committee until 2023: Dave Rollins, Zara Hamilton and Faem Lal

- Nominated Members on committee until 2023: John Reynolds and Craig Simpson

- Adam Simpson as DESC

- Oliver Rhodes as Youth Commissioner



Nominated members of the Council to the Blackhills Management Committee

- Nominated Members on committee until 2023: John Reynolds, Sarah Faulkner and Phil Stanley

Representative to the County Scout Council

- To announce the results of the election of member of District on to the County Scout Council

11. The District Commissioner – Report

Following a turbulent year of restrictions, 2021-2022 has been more settled for most Groups, although there is still a rebuild of the District and Groups with having numerous “Ups and Downs”.

A short-Term Development Plan has been developed looking at the Growth of the District both Young people and Volunteers and a “Local Head Count” has been put into practice to see where numbers are growing and where development is required to help it grow.

Another area being looked at is that the Young People are influencing their sectional programme helping them to achieve Top Awards through a high-quality programme. I am hoping to see more Awards recorded on the 2023 Census

Other areas being looked at and developing is that each Group is to have a functioning Executive with all Officers in place and a committee, remember please that Leaders are not to hold an Officer position on the committee.

As a District we have seen a significant improvement with our Adults achieving or renewing their Mandatory Training requirements, the Association continues to increase the Mandatory requirements along with its commitment to online training as a move away from “Face to Face” training

We have seen the re-launch of 4th Bradford North early in the year after Taster sessions in their new venue and catchment area of Thackley, unfortunately none of the existing members followed the Group. The Group is now growing in all sections and hopefully will be opening Squirrels in the autumn of 2022 – adult volunteers are still required in all sections – I would like to thank AJ and John Ratnik for all their help and support with the Group.

47th are another Group who have gone from strength to strength building their Leadership team and increasing their Young people with the help and guidance from Craig and Sarah and members of the District.

I was pleased to see the response and applications to attend the 25th World Scout Jamboree which is being held in South Korea in the summer of 2023 – from the selection day we have 5 Young people representing the District 3 Explorers from Central and 2 Scouts from 9th, also 2 Explorers who unfortunately missed out on a World Jamboree place have gained a place to go to Canada with the County – all participants have started their Fund Raising, please can we support them at their various events. Oliver and myself will be supporting the Jamboree in an IST (International Support Team) role.

The Scout shop has seen a significant increase in sales post Covid and is now in a position to support Groups to register with OSM or to help with renewing their licence as well as continuing to support the cost of Adult First Aid Courses (part of Mandatory Training for all sectional volunteers).

Blackhills Campsite continues to provide quality camping for our District at it's temporary reduced rate of £1 per night, it has a significant list of jobs that need filling to maintain the standard that has been achieved in past years, we continue to need volunteers for Wardening, Instructing and both Young and adult service Team – training and part costs are available for courses where applicable to National Governing Body status.

My thanks go to members of the District Team, Executive led by John Briggs (Chairperson) and Groups that continue to provide opportunities for the young people to develop their “Skills for Life” I would especially like to thank Andrew Wilson (District Treasurer) who has been keeping the District finances in order and is helping Groups to change banks, following certain banks decisions to charge charities for transactions. Additionally promoting and assisting in Groups applying for Gift Aid, this provides an opportunity for Groups to recoup funds from HMRC up to the last four years.



I look forward to us all growing the District during the next year and joining together in events for all sections and the whole District.

Anyone who would like to help to develop the District, there are opportunities available, please contact me for more details – email dc@bradfordnorthscouts.org.uk or phone 07790018713





Report for the year ended 31st March 2022 BLACKHILLS SCOUT CAMPSITE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Blackhills Management Committee (BMC) reports to the District Executives of Bradford North and Bradford South District Scout Councils. Its conduct is governed by a constitution agreed by the two Executives.

Each Executive appoints 4 representatives at their annual general meetings each year. Additional co-opted members may be appointed to the Committee to assist in the governance of the campsite in agreement with the constitution agreed by the two Executives.

During the year ending 31st March 2022 the BMC was composed of:

Chairman	Ian Lund	Bradford South
Treasurer	Trevor Kershaw	Co-opted member
Secretary	Daniel Simpson	Bradford North
Campsite Manager	John Reynolds	Bradford North
	Phil Lowde	Bradford North
	Sarah Faulkner	Bradford North
	Phil Chadwick	Bradford South

The site has operated over the last 12 months with increased controls on access and hygiene because of the regulations and advice in place during the COVID-19 pandemic. Site usage has been good with an increased use by schools, particularly for Duke of Edinburgh Award schemes during the week.

The lease has still not been signed with John Eaton, the woodland owner. Various clauses in the proposed lease agreement have been challenged by Bradford South's Executive (the lead negotiator on behalf of this campsite). These have been conveyed to the solicitors for both parties without any response. The delay appears to be with both parties' solicitors failing to engage in a timely manner.

Changes to the site Constitution was discussed at a joint Executives and Management Committee meeting in October. Several tasks were taken away from this meeting by the District Executives. Nothing further has been received from the Bradford South Executive since that meeting and the Constitution remains that signed by both District Executives in 2019.

Progress is being made in clearing the findings of various statutory health and safety related inspections.

We have received no response from Districts or anywhere else to our search for a replacement Treasurer.



1. BOOKINGS

The bookings for use of the site are recovering, but remain less than in previous years. Camping and day visits are slightly up whilst use of the Grimley Centre is down on previous years. The Rhodes Hut continues to be well used and the Eaton is now contributing to the income for the site.

We have seen a marked increase in use by schools during the week. This is putting some pressure on the few volunteers who can open and provide a warden's presence during the normal working week.

The use by the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme providers working in schools especially has increase over recent months. Whilst this is pleasing it is beginning to indicate changes needed to our facilities to deal with these less experienced users.

The recovery in use has seen our finances become more normal. The overall revenue is still down on previous years. The impact of utility cost increases has not yet been fully seen but has reduced the margin between income and expenditure by around 1 to 2% this year. We have adjusted our hiring rates to attempt to offset the foreseen rises. It is probable that we will need to further adjust charges for the 2023 season. This review will take place in September.

2. LEASE

The lease on the woodland remains a work in progress much to the frustration of the Management Committee. The lease as submitted by Mr Eaton's solicitors in 2021 contained several clauses which were not acceptable to Scouting. Our solicitors submitted requested changes but nothing of any significance appears to have been done by the other party's solicitors since that time.

Our attempts to put pressure on the solicitors has had no effect. The only positive agreement is that our solicitor has agreed to cap his charges.

Informal discussions with Mr Eaton are ongoing.

3. OWNED LAND

An enquiry was made to Bradford Council regarding the use of the owned land for Scouting purposes. There is no record of any discussions with the Council in either parties records over the use of the land of Lee Farm as a Scout Campsite.

The farm is within Bradford's declared "Green Belt" and any development for other than agricultural use would require full planning permission, including all environmental, biodiversity, drainage and similar risk assessments being satisfied before the application can be considered.

That will include what we describe as the Development Field above the track. The regulations however allow up to 28 days camping on agricultural land without any need for permission from the Council or



other bodies. That would permit us the limited use of that area and the possibility of opening the fields to one off camps by Scouting or external users with permission from our tenant.

4. STATUTORY DUTIES

The Campsite Handbook review is complete. This is available on site as a paper copy or electronically by request. The website though substantially updated has not yet reached the standard where we can make the documentation more readily available.

The risk assessments for routine tasks on site are being developed. Those for the adventurous activities will be made available on the website as soon as possible.

The Fire Risk Assessment carried out in April 2021 raised several "non-conformities" which have largely been addressed during the year. The regular routine testing of fire alarms and smoke detectors remains an issue following the decision by the volunteer who was doing this weekly to withdraw and concentrate on other Scouting activities.

The Electrical Condition Report of all the fixed electrical wiring is also complete in April 2021. Again significant numbers of non-compliance with present regulations were found. The distribution network across site was the main cause of most. Remediation work requires the use of qualified electricians and installers. Work has just been completed to upgrade the distribution system from the mains incomer as far as the Rhodes Hut. Further work is required to bring the remaining parts of the system into compliance during this next year, however there is some enabling works required in the old generator house to allow this to proceed. A definition of the work involved and the health and safety precautions needed are being worked out at this time.

GDPR compliance has continued and the site is fully compliant in its reported data handling.

CCTV whilst still not fully functional across site is now registered with the Information Commissioner and the necessary risk assessments and notifications are in place.

5. MAINTAIN

Site maintenance work has been limited by the lack of volunteers. The site is still being well presented, but there is an ever growing list of tasks to complete. The "Job List" will be published on the website soon in the hope that some of these might be attractive to Scout Groups or individuals to tackle as projects.

We were heavily impacted by wind damage to trees during the first part of 2022. This required major work by our specialist tree surgeon and his company to secure and remove damaged and fallen timber. Several substantial oaks were felled by the wind and removed during this operation. The wood looks now in particularly good order.

Two major pieces of work have been carried out using volunteers during the last year.



- a. The Rhodes Hut - a beam under the kitchen failed and needed replacement. The opportunity as taken to replace the kitchen floor covering at the same time. The same team also replaced the curtaining in the hall and is working their way through the bedrooms. Very positive comments have been received from our users.
- b. Carlton – the floor in the kitchen and one of the toilets also failed. This may have been because of the vandalism that flooded the kitchen a couple of years back. The floors are now back in place, new floor covering has been installed and the building put back into a state where it could be used again.

The Clewer – Crew Side Building work has progressed to the point that the principal areas are now complete. We are waiting for materials to complete the shower, toilet and disabled toilet/washroom. Some exterior work, decking and guard rails remains to be completed.

The old County Survival Stores, which was returned for our use in 2020, has been cleared of supplies and equipment beyond use (this was a major undertaking by two volunteers who amongst other things cleared more than a dozen bin liners of perished foodstuffs and other equally obnoxious items). It was found that the floor laid by the Survival team in the lean-to store had collapsed and some of the roof joists had failed. Plans are in place to replace this floor and carry out roof repairs. There is a substantial amount of material within the store that may be of use to others. We will try and sort this out over the next year and make it available for offers.

A sink unit is in the process of being installed to the outside of the Survival Stores for the use of overnight and lightweight campers. This might address some of the issues we are facing with cleanliness from DofE groups especially.

Scout Active Service team manager and assistant have worked to encourage Adventurous Activity leaders. The task of extending the team to maintenance and support remains a challenge. The number of volunteer wardens continues to be an issue which is not showing any sign of swift solution.

The changes requested in 2021 to the Constitution to allow the site to maintain itself more effectively were discussed in October at a joint Executive and BMC review meeting. A number of points were taken back to the Districts to work on. Nothing has been heard from Bradford South's Executive since that meeting. The Constitution remains as signed by both Districts in 2019. The BMC will endeavour to operate this within the time constraints needed to ensure a safe and well-presented site.

6. DEVELOP

Development work on site remains on hold awaiting input from the two Districts as to the future requirements of Scouting within Bradford. Labour is also limiting our ability to proceed with major work currently.



We have been donated a shelter from the legacy of Mary Bushell - a long time Scouter in the County. This will be erected by the decking where the old Tuck Shop was. It will provide a covered space for day visitors or as a wet weather shelter further down site, relieving pressure on the Cub Shelter area.

We have been successful during the past year in two grant applications. We intend to build on this experience by developing project plans so that when an opportunity is seen we have the groundwork for completion of the application for funding in place.

We will increase our efforts to advertise the site along with requests for additional volunteers to operate and maintain the estate. An initial target for this will be school based Duke of Edinburgh Award providers who have already shown interest in the site.

7. PLAN

The plan is to maintain the infrastructure of site in as good a condition as possible within the constraints of our finances and manpower availability.

We need to fill the position of Treasurer. This is a defined role within the Constitution and should be taken by a member of the elected District representatives. It has been (and currently) is filled by someone seconded by the BMC to the role. It is a key role within the BMC, not just to ensure financial accountability, but to provide control and direction in the expenditure of funds in line with the agreed budgets. As such it ideally needs someone with experience of financial control in project management. The position will be filled somehow in the coming months, but we would appeal again to District Executives for help in fulfilling our and their responsibilities in this area.

The Survival Stores will be a major focus of work to return it to a functioning building which can be used to release other areas currently being used for storage.

The Cub Adventure Playground remains an area which needs attention. We have said this for several years and the decay of the wooden structures has not stopped. The bouldering wall has deteriorated significantly in the last few months and will be removed from service shortly.

Further work will be required on the electrical infrastructure in the next year. This will need qualified electricians to complete. Enabling works are required ahead of the next round of upgrades and will be undertaken if possible within a reasonable time frame be undertaken by volunteers.

Work is planned to roll out training in Fire Safety, Warden Duties and other mundane but vital issues to enable our volunteers to continue to offer their time safely and in compliance with Health and Safety and other regulatory requirements.

