

Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name:	1 st Markfield Scout Group
Registered Charity Number:	1042586
Scouts Association Registration Number:	10012660
Charity's Principal Address:	1 st Markfield Scout HQ, 109 Main Street, Markfield, LE67 9UW

Structure, Governance and Management

How the charity is constituted

The Scout Association (Registered Charity No. 306101) is incorporated by Royal Charter to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

1st Markfield Scout is a registered unincorporated charity constituted in accordance with the rules of The Scout Association covering the area of Markfield, Leicestershire.

Type of governing document

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.

How the charity is managed

The Group is managed by the Group Trustee Board, 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 Trustee Board consists of the Chair, Treasurer and Trustees.

Members of the Trustee Board complete Being a Scouts Trustee learning within the first 6 months of joining the Board.

The Trustee Board exists to make sure the charity is well-managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and equipment are in good working order, and everyone follows legal requirements and the organisation's policies and rules. Their support helps other volunteers run high-quality and safe programmes that gives young people skills for life.

Recruitment and appointment of charity trustees

The Leaders and Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association and related Charity Commission rules and regulations.

Leaders and Trustees *(Trustees are marked with a T)*

	Name	Role	Active Dates
T	Alan Brine	Group Lead Volunteer	Active
T	Sue Wainwright	Beavers Team Leader	Active
	Lily Gibbins	Beavers Team Member	Active
		Cubs Team Member	Active
	Wezley Mawhinney	Cubs Team Leader	Active
	Jack Stanger	Cubs Team Member	Active
T	Bethan Jordan	Trustee	Active
T	Philip Jordan	Trustee	Active
T	Joe Monk	Trustee	Active

Objectives and Activities

Our Purpose

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

Our Values

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.

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.

Minutes of Last Annual General Meeting

1ST MARKFIELD SCOUT GROUP SCOUT COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 26th June 2025 from 7-8pm at Bowmar Scout Hut, Markfield

Acting Chair and Lead Volunteer: Alan Brine

1. Introduction & welcome

Opening remarks and welcome to Members of the Group Scout Council and guests.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from several parents and two trustees who had reached out on e-mail but were unable to attend the meeting.

3. Governance topics

3a. To approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 20 June 2024

The minutes of the annual general meeting held 20th June 2024 were agreed as a true record of that meeting.

3b. To adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules

In line with the recommendation from The Scout Association (TSA). The Group Scout Council unanimously agreed to adopt the model constitution from Chapter 5 of the TSA Policy, Organisation and Rules.

3c. To note the Group's financial year

The Group Scout Council noted that the current financial year is set as 1st March 2025 to 28th February 2026.

3d. Approve appointed and community members of the Group Scout Council

No nominations were received.

3e. Agree the number of members that may be elected to the Trustee Board

Following good practice recommendations from the Charity Governance Code, POR states Trustee Boards should have a minimum of 5, and no more than 12, Trustees in total. This includes ex officio and co-opted Trustees. The Group Scout Council agreed to this.

3f. Agree the quorum for each of the Group Scout Council (excluding this AGM)

The Group Scout Council unanimously agreed the quorum (minimum number) of Group Scout Council members that must be present at a meeting of the Group Scout Council to be set as a minimum of 10 members.

4. Review of the previous year

4a. Review of Scouting in the Group

Sue Wainwright and Wezley Mawhinney read their reports of what the Beaver and Cub groups have been doing over the past 12 months.

Alan Brine invited members to review the Annual Report.

4b. To receive and consider the Annual Report of the Group Trustee Board including the annual Statement of Accounts

Confirmation was given that the Group Trustee Board had approved the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts and Accounts, and the report on the accounts has been received from the Scrutineer.

The Group Scout Council was provided the opportunity to ask questions of the Trustee Annual Report, and the Annual Accounts. No questions were received.

5. Appointments

As noted above, following good practice recommendations from the Charity Governance Code, POR now states Trustee Boards should have a minimum of 5, and no more than 12, Trustees in total. This includes ex officio and co-opted Trustees.

A plea was made the Scout Council and wider community to volunteer as Trustees

A query was raised concerning the prerequisites for the role of Trustee. Duncan Watts, the District Lead Volunteer, explained that to ensure due diligence, a background check is required before an individual can be formally appointed, specifically to confirm that there is no record of fraudulent activity or criminal convictions.

Two individuals who expressed interest in becoming Trustees were unfortunately unable to attend the AGM. It was agreed that they would be contacted after the meeting and further discussions held.

The following individuals stepped forward and were agreed as Trustees (subject to further Charity/TSA declarations): Phil Jordan, Bethan Jordan, Alan Brine, Sue Wainwright and Joe Monk. It was agreed that specific roles and responsibilities will be agreed once the Trustee Board meets.

6. Awards

Sue Wainwright and Lily Gibbins, Beaver Scout Volunteers, invested Noah into the Beaver colony. Badges achieved over the last few sessions were handed out to the Beavers and Cubs in attendance.

Jacob and Luca were awarded the Beaver and Cub of the Year Awards for their excellent attitude to Scouting and always joining in with activities.

Duncan Watts, District Lead Volunteer, awarded Luca with his Chief Scout Silver Award for completing all of his challenge badges.

Lily Gibbins received her 5-year service award, and Joe Monk also received his wood beads for completion of his leader training at 1st Hugglescote Scout Group.

7. Closing Remarks

Duncan Watts addressed the Scout Council, noting that the number of young people participating in Scouting within Markfield has experienced significant fluctuations in recent years. This variability can be partly attributed to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent closure of the Cub and Scout sections in early 2024. While participation is now increasing, the re-establishment of a Scout Section is essential for the group's long-term viability. Given new housing developments in Markfield, it is important to provide these new families with the opportunity to engage in Scouting.

Thanks were given to all those who attended and have offered their support.

Achievements and performance

The group's membership numbers have continued to increase, now surpassing pre-COVID 19 numbers which is a great success; and for the first time in recent history each section now has an active waiting list.

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Beavers	12	14	22	18	16	7	11
Cubs	12	9	19	13	12	3	20
Scouts	0	0	15	12	0	0	0
Total	24	23	56	43	28	10	31

Source: End of year census figures

Leaders have continued to offer and delivery an exciting and diverse programme, with sections offering nights away experiences, adventure, development of life skills and most of all fun for our young members. Further details are included in the section updates at the end of this report.

In addition to the local programme, the group has been working to become more established within the community and with the wider scout district, which will lead to many more experiences and events for our young members and support for our leaders. Examples include: supporting local events, our annual Remembrance Parade and attendance at County and District-wide events.

Addition to Annual Report – June 2026

We are also in search of a Trustee Board Chair and a Group Treasurer. Scout Association rules mean that without this support, the group may not be able to move forward. We have to abide by both Scout and Charity Association rules. Find out more about joining our Trustee Board at <https://www.1stmarkfieldscoutgroup.org.uk/get-involved/trustee-board/>

Markfield Scouts was originally formed in 1950. For over 75 years, the Group has benefitted from the support of its parents and local community, seeing many generations of young people learn skills for life. We want to be around for many more generations to come – but we need your help. Visit www.1stmarkfieldscoutgroup.org.uk/get-involved.

Yours in Scouting,

Alan Brine
Group Scout Leader

Risk and Internal Control

Trustees have identified the significant risks to which they believe the Group is exposed. These have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate them. The main areas of concern identified are:

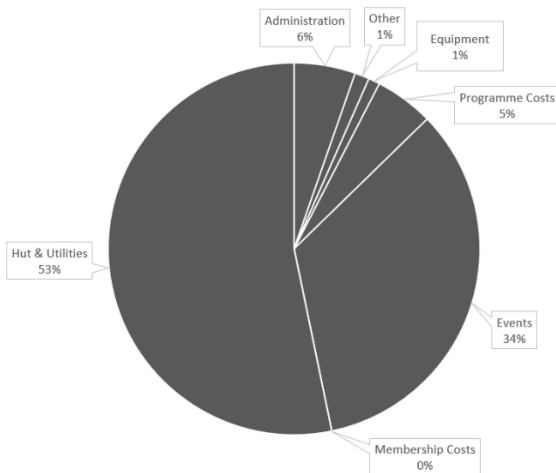
Risk	Mitigation	Rating
Damage to the building, property and equipment.	The Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.	<i>Green</i>
Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members.	Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities and all Leaders are first aid trained. Through membership fees, the Group contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy.	<i>Green</i>
Reduced income from fundraising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising.	The group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a significant reduction in income. The Group could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.	<i>Green</i>
Lack of support on Trustee Board outside of Leadership Team	The group is reliant on volunteers to support the running of the group and ensure that it is safe and compliant. Recruitment is ongoing but limited response has been received, support is urgently required as in the worst-case scenario, failure to recruit may result in complete closure of the Group.	<i>Amber</i>
Reduction or loss of leaders.	The group is reliant on volunteers to run and administer its activities, if there were a reduction in the number of leaders, parent rotas would become mandatory, consideration would need to be given to consolidation of sections and in the worst-case scenario, the complete closure of the Group.	<i>Red</i>
Reduction or loss of members.	The Group provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 18. If there were a reduction in membership 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.	<i>Amber</i>

Financial Review

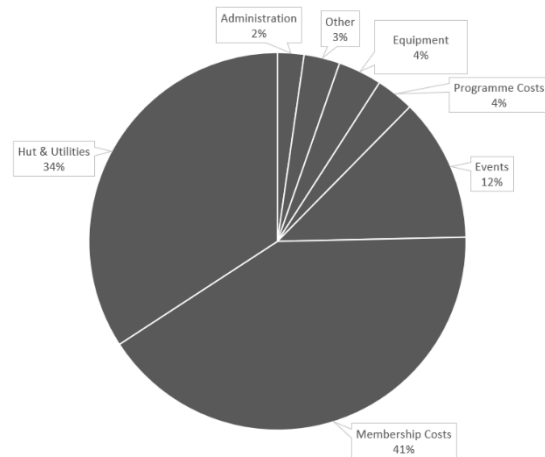
The group financial accounts show a year-end deficit of £180.57. There are sufficient funds to ensure we can continue to deliver an exciting programme, cover maintenance and operational costs and continue to provide subsidies for occasional events and to those in need.

How did we spend your money?

2025 - 2026



2024 - 2025



- **Programme Costs** – This includes the cost of activities and equipment to deliver Scouting.
- **Events** – This includes nights away, day trips and celebrations and all related costs such as attendance fees, camp fees, food and travel. The group will often subsidise event costs where possible. Note, administration fees for collecting payments are included separately below.
- **Membership Costs** – This is an annual cost paid by all Scout groups to National, County and District Scouts. It is based on the number of members per group and contributes towards growth and development, local scout campsites/buildings, keeping everyone safe and funding Scouting in the UK.
- **Hut & Utilities** – These costs relate to the running and maintenance costs of our hut.
- **Administration & Fees** – This includes costs of administrating each section & the group (such as printing, advertising and website costs). It also includes fees related to OSM & GoCardless (how we collect payments electronically).
- **Other** – This mostly includes one-off costs which do not fit into any other category, such as first aid and last years costs for our AGM.
- **Equipment** – This includes any equipment that we have purchased for the group, such as tents, replacement tent poles, and kitchenware.

Statement of Financial Accounts

1st March 2025 to 28th February 2026

	2025-2026 (£)	2024-2025 (£)
Income		
Bank Interest	£2.01	£17.39
Donation	£0.00	£0.00
Events - Beavers	£297.00	£346.01
Events - Cubs	£807.93	£396.29
Events - Scouts	£0.00	£200.00
Gift Aid	£0.00	£0.00
Membership Fees	£3,860.06	£3,862.13
Uniform	£7.80	£9.10
Expense		
Admin	£23.08	£69.53
Badges	£51.50	£359.70
Camping Equipment	£0.00	£0.00
Cleaning	£0.00	£90.00
Events - Beavers	£330.00	£545.75
Events - Cubs	£1,424.73	£638.15
Events - Scouts	£0.00	£258.00
Insurance	£802.73	£1,885.74
Meetings - Beavers	£158.06	£182.03
Meetings - Cubs	£105.21	£192.21
Meetings - Scouts	0.00	£10.98
Membership Costs	£0.00	£4,839.00
Misc.	£65.07	£362.00
OSM/GoCardless Fees	£251.70	£196.85
Uniform	£0.00	£82.00
Utilities	£1,564.12	£1,381.01
Venue Maintenance	£377.07	£661.14
Account balances		
Barclays Current Account	£2,578.16	£3,149.46
Co-operative Current Account	£6,860.27	£6,471.55
Co-operative Savings Account	£1,008.37	£1,008.37
BARCLAYS 60429058	£0.00	£0.00
BARCLAYS 50839035	£154.08	£152.07
Summary		
Account balance brought forward	£10,781.45	£17,704.62
Total income	£4,972.70	£4,830.92
Total expenditure	£5,153.27	£11,754.09
Net income	-£180.57	-£6,923.17
Account balance carried forward	£10,600.88	£10,781.45

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

1st March 2025 to 28th February 2026

	2025-2026 (£)	2024-2025 (£)
Monetary Assets (Accounts)		
Barclays Current Account	£2,578.16	£3,149.46
Co-operative Current Account	£6,860.27	£6,471.55
Co-operative Savings Account	£1,008.37	£ 1,008.37
BARCLAYS 60429058	£0.00	£0.00
BARCLAYS 50839035	£154.08	£152.07
Sub Total	£10,600.88	£10,781.45
Non-Monetary Assets		
Land and buildings	£124,880.00	£124,880.00
Motor vehicles	-	-
Furniture and fixings	£4,500.00	£4,500.00
Camp equipment	£12,500.00	£12,500.00
Appliances	£850.00	£850.00
Cooking equipment / utensils	£600.00	£600.00
Scout programme stock	£500.00	£500.00
Badge stock	£550.00	£550.00
Sports equipment	£450.00	£450.00
Scout flags	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Disco equipment	£450.00	£450.00
Garden tools	£500.00	£500.00
Other	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Sub Total	£148,780.00	£148,780.00
Liabilities		
Accounts not yet paid	-	-
Expenses incurred but not invoiced	-	-
Subscriptions not yet paid	-	-
Sub Total	-	-
Total Net Assets	£159,380.88	£159,561.45

Scrutiny of our Accounts: As our gross income remains under £25k, requirements under the Charities Act 2011 to appoint an independent examiner or registered auditor are not met. Trustees have however appointed a Scrutineer (an independent person who trustees reasonably believe to have the requisite ability and practical experience to carry out a competent examination of the accounts), who is satisfied that the accounts and information provided within this report are accurate.

Reserves Policy: 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 should at all times hold a sum equivalent to 12 months of running costs, circa £6k (this will flex depending on number of members). In addition, the group should retain additional funds for building/ground maintenance, circa £3k.

Investment Policy: The Group does not have sufficient funds to invest in long-term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk-averse strategy to invest its funds. All funds are held in cash using only recognised UK banks or building societies.

Section Reports

Beaver Scouts

Over the last twelve months we have had a full and varied programme, all interesting and challenging for the beavers. During the summer months and lighter evenings, we try and to be outside as much as possible... so far we have visited a farm to feed the lambs, the Islamic Centre, the Millennium gardens, litter picking and a muddy walk in Swithland Woods. We are finishing the term stream dipping at Bradgate Park and wide games at Alterstone

During the darker evenings in the hut we focus on badge work, activity badges... First aid; healthy eating, health and fitness, global issues, Chinese New Year and the beavers love a log chew – sharing ideas what they'd like to do at the meetings. Air Cadet Matthew came and helped the beavers complete their air activity badge. On Remembrance Sunday we attended the service at Saint Michaels and All Angels, with the Brownies and Guides.

Mums were invited to a special tea and cake for Mother's Day, which the beavers love doing. For Father's Day we asked dads and granddads to come along and have an evening of games, everyone had a great time.

Beaver Scouting celebrates its 40th birthday this year – six beavers camped over at the district campsite at Willesley last weekend and had a brilliant time. We are also looking forward to camping with the cubs in September and a sleepover at Twycross Zoo in October.

Six beavers have gained their Chief Scout Bronze awards over the past year - Congratulation's to them for completing all six challenge badges. We currently we have 16 Beavers in the colony. In September several beavers will be moving up to cubs and new ones will be joining the colony.

Thanks also to Wez for helping at beavers when Lily broke her ankle and couldn't make the weekly meetings until January. Finally, we would like to thank parents for supporting us each week by joining the parental rota, which we really appreciate.

Sue Wainwright and Lily Gibbins, Beaver Team Leaders

Cub Scouts

Over the past year, our Cub Scout section has had a really active and enjoyable programme, with a wide range of activities that have kept the Cubs engaged and having fun. In March 2025, we started off the term with a talent show, giving the Cubs a chance to show off their creativity and confidence. Over the summer, we made the most of the outdoors with visits to places like Bradgate Park and Beacon Hill, finishing with a very popular water fight evening in early July to celebrate the end of term. In September, we held our Cub Camp at Oaks in Charnwood, where the Cubs took part in activities such as tomahawk throwing, rifle shooting and enjoyed a campfire, as well as joining the district for a trip to Gulliver's Kingdom.

We also took part in several wider events across the year. These included the St George's Day Ramble at Conkers and "Cub Splash" at the Leicester Outdoors Pursuits Centre, where the Cubs enjoyed time on the water. In Winter 2025, the cubs created Christmas Crafts which we delivered around the village, followed by a Christmas party in December. Moving into this year, we started 2026 with some cooking in January, and in February we went to watch Leicester Tigers, which was a great experience for everyone.

More recently, we attended Cub Jam, a county camp with over 1,000 cubs taking part. Although I may have come away a little sunburnt, it was a brilliant weekend, and the group is especially proud to have had two of our own leaders, Jack and Lily, running a farming activity on Camp. It's been great to see the Cubs grow in confidence, teamwork and enthusiasm over the year.

Wezley Mawhinney, Cub Team Leader & Lily Gibbins and Jack Stanger, Cub Team Members