

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.