

1ST MARKFIELD SCOUT GROUP SCOUT COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 26th June 2025 from 2-3pm at Bowmar Scout Hut, Markfield

Acting Chair and Lead Volunteer: Alan Brine

1. Introduction & welcome

The Acting Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members of the Group Scout Council and invited guests.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Duncan Watts, District Lead Volunteer, together with one Group Trustee.

3. Governance topics

3a. To approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26 June 2025

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26th June 2025 were approved as a true and accurate record.

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

In accordance with recommendations from The Scout Association, the Group Scout Council unanimously agreed to adopt the model constitution as set out in Chapter 5 of The Scout Association's Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR).

3c. To note the Group's financial year

The Group Scout Council noted that the current financial year is set as 1st March 2026 to 28th February 2027.

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 future meetings of the Group Scout Council (excluding this AGM)

The Group Scout Council unanimously agreed that the quorum for meetings of the Group Scout Council (excluding this AGM) shall be the number of serving Trustees plus one additional member.

4. Review of the previous year

4a. Review of Scouting in the Group

Reports outlining the activities of the Beaver and Cub Sections over the previous twelve months were presented by Sue Wainwright and Wezley Mawhinney.

The Group Scout Council expressed its appreciation to all Section Volunteers for their dedication and the effort made in organising activities and events.

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.

A question was raised regarding the tax treatment of funds held in reserve. The Chair confirmed that, as a registered charity with annual income below £25,000, the Group's reserves are not subject to tax provided they are applied for charitable Scouting purposes and held at an appropriate level. It was noted that, in light of current membership levels, the Trustee Board will review the level of reserves at its next meeting.

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.

The Group currently has five Trustees in post, all of whom indicated their willingness to continue in their roles for the forthcoming financial year.

A plea was made to the Scout Council to volunteer as Trustees, and this will also be communicated to the wider community.

6. Awards

Badges achieved over the last few sessions were handed out to the Beavers and Cubs in attendance.

Joss and Noah were respectively awarded the Beaver and Cub of the Year Awards in recognition of their excellent attitude to Scouting and always joining in with activities. As they were unable to attend, arrangements will be made to present their awards at a future session.

7. Closing Remarks

Sue Wainwright, Beaver Team Leader, suggested that assistance with maintenance of the Scout Hut grounds, specifically grass cutting, could be sought from parents and members of the Group Scout Council, noting that this task is currently often undertaken by the Leadership Team.

This suggestion will be considered further, including a review of relevant insurance and safety requirements.

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