

Minutes of the 4th Stafford Scout Group AGM

held at Sherratts Wood Scout Campsite

on the 8th July 2023 @ 12.30pm

Present: Sue Hewitt (District Commissioner), Karl Hilton (Chairman), Cathy Hordern (GSL/BSL), Alex Windows (SL), Lydia Hilton (CSL), Helena Hordern (SSL), Darren Hordern (ASL/Treasurer), Gemma Phillips (ABSL/Secretary), Jake Scriven (ASL), Sam Scriven (ASL), Hannah Ward (ACSL), Andrew Bennett (ACSL), Lucy Sharp (SA), Fay Jones plus Group Helpers & Young Leaders

Apologies: None

Chairman's Actions:

No actions were taken by the Chairman since our last meeting dated 20th April 2023

Group Position:

Our current membership is:

Squirrels: 13

Beavers: 27

Cubs: 23

Scouts: 27

Chairman's Report - Karl Hilton

Our Chairman gave huge thanks to the leaders and volunteers who have helped to keep the 4th Stafford Scout Group running and continuing into its 30th anniversary year. Mr Hilton gave wishes to everyone to have fun with all the activities on offer and to enjoy the BBQ later in the day.

Treasurer's Report - Given by Lydia Hilton

Gift Aid reminders will be sent out shortly to the taxpayers of the household. This is very important to help fund the group, their activities and equipment and last year alone contributed to £2500 of income.

Attendance subs are being cross referenced and checked. All income is important due to the fundraising struggles the group is facing since Covid lockdown and the cost of living crisis. We welcome any ideas and support with the group's continued fundraising needs.

Section Reports:

Squirrels - Helena Hordern

We want to thank Fay Jones in helping to get our Squirrels section off to a flying start but due to work commitments she is having to take a step back.

On our group day the Squirrels had a wonderful time with one of the best bits being the inflatables! Over the past term our 4-6 year old section have done grass heads, fruit animals, statues, colortastic fun and even a hike - and lots to come from September. Badges were awarded to Evan, Lucas and Josh.

Beavers - Cathy Hordern

Once again beavers have been out and about lots over the summer term with the main highlight being the return of the infamous 'Beaver Sleepover!'. 10 Children attended the sleepover and activities ranged from fencing, axe throwing, pedal karting, grass sledging alongside other scouting based activities. The letter of doom was given to Zoe (an invitation to move on to cubs!)

Chief Scout Bronze Award, achieved by: Evelyn Riley

Cubs - Lydia Hilton

Huge thanks given to Bagherra, Mang, Chil, Bob, Rama and all the Young Leaders who give so much time and effort week in and week out.

This term the attendance has been brilliant and huge thanks to all the children and the effort they put into everything they do in cubs, we are very proud!

Lots of badges were given to the cubs including Challenge badges, Kayaking, Hiking, Scientist, Athletics and Collectors.

Chief Scout Silver Award, achieved by: Sebby Cooper

Scouts - Alex Windows

Scouts have been on 6 x camps, 5 x hill walks, 3 x rock climbs, 4 x kayaking trips, plus caving, gliding, a night hike and much more in the last year leading to a total of over 150 badges being awarded - Well done scouts!. Huge thanks to all the scout leaders and helpers whom without them this would not have been possible to deliver.

The Lord Stafford Trophy was on display for all to see and there is hope that the 4th Stafford will once again win this in the coming months.

Chief Scout Gold Award, achieved by: Benjamin Phillips

Special Guest: Sue Hewitt, District Commissioner

Huge thanks again to all the leaders for giving up their time for scouting. It's great to see such an attendance and even with the intermittent weather it looks like everyone's having a good time. Scouting is always looking for volunteers so if anyone fancies it please sign up or speak to one of the leaders for more information. Thank you.

Appointment of Executive Members: (Not discussed at meeting)

The membership of the Elected Trustee Board members carries on as follows:

- Karl Hilton: Group Chairman
- Darren Hordern: Group Treasurer
- Gemma Phillips: Group Secretary

Note: Since April 2023, Executive Committees are known as Trustee Boards, more information regarding this can be found here:

<https://www.scouts.org.uk/about-us/volunteer-experience/volunteering-together/what-this-means-for-you/moving-to-trustee-boards/>

Date of Next Meeting: To be confirmed, details to follow

Meeting closed at 1pm

Minutes produced by G Phillips

Appendice:

Here is a copy of the Group AGM report as given to the Stafford District AGM on 5th June 2023

4th Stafford Scout Group

This year we were excited to introduce a new Squirrel section. They are now meeting every week with 12 fully invested children, 2 adult leaders and 1 young leader. They are enjoying a full programme of exploration and games.

Our Beavers are also enjoying a varied programme with lots of getting out and about. The leadership team remains settled with 3 adult leaders. We are currently planning our first annual sleepover since before lockdown.

Cubs have built previous year's success, growing the youth membership and leadership team. Work has continued on the allotment after a fantastic growing season last year. They have had several successful sleepovers with more in the planning stage.

Scouts have been on many and varied camps this year including their inaugural paddle camp. Plenty of trips out into the hills to improve their hill walking and navigation skills. The scouts have benefited from alternative sessions including parliament week and social media takeover. Planning is under way for the Summer camp spectacular in the Lake District.

We're pleased to be able to offer so many and such a range of different activities, and fantastic opportunities for all our youth members, who get so much out of and always pushing the limits of Scouting.

We are also honoured to have been asked by St Mary's to contribute towards their Great Rainbow project in July.

Our youth members have achieved in excess of 650 activity and staged badges.

My thanks as always to the leaders

Cathy Hordern (Group Scout Leader)