

**5th Dartford Scout Group
Annual General Meeting
19 June 2016
(For the period from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016)**

Present

Distinguished guests included John and Marion White.

Also present were Neil Young (Chair of the 5th Dartford Scout Group), Paul Boreham (Group Scout Leader), Section Leaders, members, parents and supporters of the 5th Dartford Scout Group (the Scout Council).

1 Welcome

Neil Young opened the AGM by welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending.

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from the Worshippful Mayor of Dartford, John Burell and his lady Mayoress (who had been present for the initial have-a-go session, but were unable to stay for the AGM), Gareth Johnson (our local MP), Jeremy Kite (Leader of Dartford Borough Council), Maggie and Jim Lilleycrop, Karen and Phil Hannah, Peter and Janis Humphrey, Darren Enever, Phil Wells and Debbie Prescott.

3 Adoption of Minutes of AGM (2015)

The minutes of the 2015 AGM were adopted by show of hands.

4 Chair's Report

Neil Young explained briefly the role of the Chairman and reported on the non-Scouting highlights of the year.

Neil mentioned that, as usual, by far the largest expense had been capitation, the money that we pay to the Scout Association for its support of UK Scouting.

He thanked Jeremy Kite, and Dartford Borough Council generally, for their continued support and advice, particularly where the proposed new hall is concerned. He also thanked them for a recent grant which has enabled us to replace a lot of our tentage (especially important as we are spending an ever-increasing number of nights under canvas), and for pledging money for next year as well.

Neil mentioned the launch of our new section – Medcalf Scout Troop – and reminded parents that new volunteers are always welcome, even if they can only spare an hour or two occasionally, as every little counts.

Finally, Neil thanked the leaders and helpers on behalf of the young people and parents.

5 GSL Scouting Annual Report

Paul thanked the leaders and instructors for running the AGM activities and outlined some of the Group's highlights of the last year, including:

- Jessica Boreham attending the World Jamboree in Japan; and
- Matthew Butler achieving Gold in the Long Bow at the National Archery Competition.

The following presentations were made:

- Tim Roscoe awarded the certificates from Family Camp; and
- Paul presented Edinburgh Chase medals.

Paul then recognised several leaders who were changing roles:

- Shea Gardner is leaving Edwards Beavers to start an apprenticeship;
- Tracy Gardner is leaving Phillips Cubs following promotion at work;
- Dave Monteith is leaving Earley Troop after many years as a valued helper, assistant leader and leader;
- Debbie Prescott and Maggie Lilleycrop are leaving Peacock Beavers (having run the section together for the last 15 years!),

although they will all continue to be part of the 5th Dartford family and provide assistance to the group on an *ad hoc* basis.

Special thanks were given to:

- Dave Monteith, who ran the London Marathon in support of the New Hall Fund (as well as the Multiple Sclerosis Society);
- Brian Lloyd, who helps us with our electrics;
- Peter Boyd, who recently provided tree clearance services after a chalk fall; and
- the 'Spring Chicken Club' who support the sections and activities throughout the year.

Paul mentioned that, following a recent self-review, the group reached out to the regional development team and received help on how to engage more with parents and carers to ensure that, going forward, the Group has enough helpers to provide exciting and enjoyable activities for their children.

Paul referred to a recent quote from the Chief Commissioner:

"If only I could have £1 for every time I have to explain that I'm a volunteer, doing my Scouting unpaid! Whilst it may feel odd to have to explain, it is of course a great compliment to the dedication and commitment of everybody, front of house or behind the scenes, ensuring that 460,000 young people enjoy Scouting every week so well that people assume we must be paid!"

Lastly, Paul referred to the AGM report which sets out, in detail, what activities the various sections have been involved in over the last year.

6 Centenary Badge Competition

Wendy Hurd thanked everyone who had submitted designs and John and Marion White for blind judging of the entries. Wendy was pleased to announce that the winner was Ashley Hurd (Beaver Leaders' Assistant, Philpott), with Dillon Waller (Phillips Pack Cub) coming 2nd and Jason O'Brien (Johnson Explorer Unit Leader) coming 3rd.

The badges are now in the process of being made and will be given (on a complimentary basis) to all members of 5th Dartford Scout Group at our Centenary birthday parade in December.

7 Treasurer Presentation and Approval of Accounts

The Treasurer, John Chuter, provided a financial statement and explanation of income and expenditure.

John mentioned that subscriptions will remain at £10 per month for the time being but that this may need to be reviewed by the Group in the next financial year. Any parents suffering financial hardship were invited to speak to Paul Boreham, as the Group will always try to ensure that it supports the whole 5th Dartford family.

John reiterated that the Group had managed to keep subs at the same amount as last year and that the Group are fundraising for new equipment as well as the new hall.

It was noted that Beverley Panton, the Group's Auditor, had reviewed the accounts in advance of the AGM and John thanked Beverley for her efforts.

A vote was taken and carried to adopt the accounts

Proposed: Tracy Gardner

Seconded: Wendy Hurd

8 GSL Nomination of Group Chair (Neil Young)

Proposed: Dee Davidson

Seconded: Tim Roscoe

A vote was taken and carried to re-elect Neil Young as Group Chair

9 Election of Group Secretary (Lesley Bauckham), Group Treasurer (John Chuter), Assistant Group Treasurer (Maggie Lilleycrop) and Group Auditor (Beverly Panton)

Proposed: Neil Young

Seconded: Del Hurd

10 GSL to propose Nominated Members of Group Executive and Chair to propose election

Executive: Jim Lilleycrop, Derek Hurd, Karen Hannah, Phil Hannah, Pauline Butler, Paul Jarrett, Darren Enever, Russ Ketley, Graham Davidson, Phil Wells, Dave Monteith and Avtar Sandhu

Proposed: Paul Boreham

Seconded: Dee Davidson

A vote was taken and carried to elect the new nominated members and parent representatives to the Group Executive Committee (and re-elect those members who have agreed to stay on for another year).

Neil took the opportunity to challenge at least one parent to volunteer to join the Executive Committee. He was very pleased that ??????? volunteered and was elected to the committee.

Finally, Neil also thanked Sean Hodder for his past efforts on the committee before he joined the Scouting leadership team.

11 Chair to close the meeting

In his closing remarks, Neil Young thanked Paul Boreham and all the leaders, assistant leaders and other volunteers and helpers who put so much of their own time into making 5th Dartford a success.

He remarked that “children who were Scouts make better adults” and thanked the leaders, assistant leaders and helpers on behalf of the parents present for sharing the joys of Scouting with their children.

Finally, Neil thanked everyone for attending and invited them to stay and enjoy the afternoon’s have-a-go activities and declared the AGM formally closed.