

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### 1<sup>st</sup> Stanmore Scout Group

### 06 October 2023 Meeting Minutes

### 1<sup>st</sup> Stanmore Scout Hut, 186 Marsh Lane, Stanmore HA7 2SL

#### 1. WELCOME, OPENING REMARKS AND ACTING GROUP CHAIR'S REPORT

**Vipul Mehta**

Vipul and Shailesh welcomed everyone and introduced Trustees and Elected Members and special guest Paul Turner.

Shailesh explained that the purpose of the AGM is to formally approve and adopt the annual reports and accounts (circulated ahead of the meeting via OSM), in line with the requirements of the Charity Commission's Guidelines.

#### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

**Tyler Skerton** – Lead Volunteer Harrow District (until recently, the District Commissioner)

**Gillan Barnard** – Deputy Lead Volunteer Harrow District. (Our liaison with the District)

**Jigna Patel** - Group Secretary. In Jigna's absence, Bhurat Patel recorded minutes.

#### 3. MINUTES FROM LAST AGM 29 September 2022

Proposed by Duncan McDowall, seconded by Ramesh Dave. Attendees voted all in favour with no questions arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

#### 4. GROUP LEAD VOLUNTEER'S REPORT – Ashley Martin

Ashley reported that the group has grown significantly both YP and new leaders, as well as old faces returning post Covid. We have continued to provide opportunities for young people to go camping, experience narrow boating as well as scouting activities hosted at the hut. Ashley expressed gratitude to all who have helped make our recovery and strength in the group a success and looking forward to next year which will be just as good if not better.

#### 5. FINANCIAL REPORT - Robert Curtis

Robert presented the financial report, including total income and outgoings, reserves, and risks.

Rob reported that the year ended with surplus, difficult to compare with previous year as legacy of Covid.

Gift aid was down in 2023, due to catch up in gift aid for multiple years in 2022.

Rob explained the switch from OSM to BACS for fees as costs is high. Direct bank transfer means 100% comes to scouts

Balance has increased from 45K to 48K. May seem like a lot of money but most of it is being held for building repairs, at some point we'll need to replace the roof, so the money will be needed.

With David Miller stepping down as independent examiner Rob asked for volunteers for next year.

There were no questions from the floor.

Jackie McDowall proposed the accounts, seconded by Ashley Martin. Unanimous agreement from the floor.

## 6. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

VM explained that the role of the Trustee Board is to ensure that the group is well governed, meets compliance standards and creates and runs a fulfilling and safe programme of activities for our young people. Without Trustees, the Group would not be allowed to run.

In addition to this AGM, the Trustee Board meets 3 times a year, near the start of each term. Our function is to review and approve programmes, keep an eye on our finances and purchasing decisions and generally support the leadership team in delivering the Scouting Programme.

- **Chair(s):** GSL Ashley Martin reported that Vipul Mehta and Sailesh Vekaria who have agreed to co-chair this was unanimously approved by the floor.
- **Secretary:** Shailesh Vekaria nominated Jigna Patel to continue in this role, Jackie McDowall seconded – this was unanimously approved by the floor.
- **Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer:** Shailesh Vekaria nominated Rob Curtis as Treasurer and Ona Jomaa as Assistant Treasurer, Ramesh Dave seconded – this was unanimously approved by the floor.
- **Independent Reviewer:** Dave Miller wishes to step down and a replacement will be found. Attendees approved the Trustee Board to appoint a new examiner in due course.

### Section leaders (ex-officio members)

AM explained that Under the Scouting rules, a full Section Leader can, with their agreement, be part of the Board. Duncan McDowall as Scout Leader, Bhurat Patel as Cub Leader and Jackie McDowall as Beaver Leader have indicated they would all like to continue to serve on the Board as ex-officio members – we thank them and their families for their continued commitment.

- Jackie MacDowall – Beavers
- Bhurat Patel – Cubs
- Duncan McDowall – Scouts

### Elected members

VM explained that Parents, Leaders and other supporters can elect a number of members to serve as a Trustee. Typically we aim to have a parent representative from each section, so we can

ensure that parental feedback can be included in decision making and the Committee can help to facilitate the section's needs and wishes.

Currently we have a vacancy for a parent representative in each of our sections. Is there anyone willing to step forward as a parent representative:

(Beaver Scouts) / (Cub Scouts) / (Scouts)

No volunteers came forward on the night

### **Nominated members**

AM explained that as Group Lead Volunteer he is able to nominate up to 3 other individuals to the Board that do not require election and nominated Ramesh Dave who formally accepted.

### **7. AOB**

**Leader Awards:** Ashley Martin was presented with the Jack Petchey.

Ashley Martin thanked all for their service and support.

With no other business Shailesh Vekaria thanked everyone for attending and closed the AGM.