



# 1<sup>st</sup> Winterbourne Down and Buryside Scout Group

Annual General Meeting  
6<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Scout Hut, Bradstone Road



## Agenda

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|--|-----------------------|
| 1. Welcome and Introductions           | Chair                 |
| 2. Apologies for Absence               | Chair                 |
| 3. Approval of 2016 AGM minutes        | Chair                 |
| 4. Section Reports                     | GSL & Section Leaders |
| 5. Treasurers Report                   | Treasurer             |
| 6. Nomination and Election of Officers | Chair                 |
| 7. Election of Executive members       | Chair                 |
| 8. AOB                                 |                       |

## Chairperson Report

Welcome everyone to the 2017 AGM and Annual Report. For any new parents to the Scout Group, the Co-Chairs and the Executive Committee seek to develop the long-term future of the Scout Group. We do this by ensuring that we maximise group membership, maintain and where possible, enhance the Scout Hut facility and ensure we are financially solvent. We meet quarterly to review the forthcoming events, financial summary and reports from the Group Scout Leader (GSL) and Section Leaders on the plans for the next quarter and longer-term development of the Scout Group.

Our Scout Group numbers are very healthy at the end of the 2017 scout year; our overall numbers across all three sections are 68 active members, the same as 2016, with others on the waiting lists. We have had some changes in our Executive Committee. At the 2015 AGM Michelle Stevens stood down as co-chair of the Exec and sadly this will be my final AGM as a chairman of the Exec. I'd like to thank Mel Rowles for her three years support as Treasurer for the Scout Group. Julie and Jon Trott will be taking from Mel from in August before the start of the next 2017 term. Steve Fowler has also requested that he wishes to focus on supporting the Cubs Steve's passion for Scouts is a major contribution to the success of our Scout Group and we are pleased that he is remaining as a Cub Scout Leader and supporting Giles Ogram with the transition to GSL

Financially our accounts remain healthy and the funding from various grants and other hall income has allowed us to purchase new camping equipment, most notably new tents. I'd like to thank Mel Rowles for her three years as Treasurer for the Group. Julie and Jon Trott will be taking from Mel from in August ready for the start of the next 2017 term. Thanks again to Giles for his organisation of the successful Christmas Tree sale.

Finally, my sincere gratitude to the group leaders and assistants whose voluntary effort in organising and managing the weekly sessions are essential to the enjoyment and development of the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and the ongoing success of our Scout Group.

<b>2016 – 2017 Scout Leaders</b>		
<b>Group Scout Leader: Steve Fowler</b>		
<b>Beavers</b>	<b>Cubs</b>	<b>Scouts</b>
Clive Marston (BSL)	Giles Ogram (CSL)	Greg Grace (SL)
Linzi Wiseman (ABSL)	Kath McConnachie (ACSL)	John Dight (ASL)
Laura Townsend (ABSL)	Jon Watson (ACSL)	Megan O'Regan (ASL)
Rachel Devlin (Helper)	Steve Fowler (ACSL)	Nick Jones (Helper)
Isabel Gooding (Young Leader)		

**Ben Long: Chairperson of Executive Committee**

## **Group Scout Leader Report**

Hello, this will be my last report as GSL, as from September I will be handing over to Giles Ogram and taking on the roles of, CSL a post I will be sharing with Kath MacConnachie, and Assistant GSL to help Giles with the transition. Over the last 10 years I have seen our group go from strength to strength, we now have more members than we have ever had, we are a strong group with good ties to the community and we have a very healthy waiting list. I am very proud to see how many of the young people who have been members of our group over the years, grow up and move on to take up important roles in our society, and I like to think that I, and the other leaders, have in some small way, have played a part in giving those young people skills that give them the self-confidence to go out and get what they want from life.

I would also like to thank all the leaders, from all the sections, for their hard work and dedication. They work tirelessly to give our young people great opportunities that they may not have otherwise experienced.

As always, I would like to appeal for more leaders, the more of us there are the easier it becomes.

**Steve Fowler**

## **Beaver Section Report**

My first report as the new Beaver Section Leader starts with the numbers:

Beaver numbers have increased this year, we now have 19 names on the register, 6 starters since January and no drop outs this year.

We are encouraging more girls to join Beavers with 4 girls in the Section now.

We only have 2 names on the waiting list at Beaver age as we are not taking any more on until further notice.

The next Beaver to swim up to Cubs will not happen till November, and the next one after the New Year.

We have had a great programme this year, including climbing at Woodhouse Park and a great weekend sleepover in the Scout Hut with 11 attendees. We also went to the Beavers Funday at Woodhouse Park which included doing stuff like Zorbing, Climbing and Abseiling for the first time for 13 Beavers and also 2 of our beavers going on the local Scout radio station.

In November, the Beavers are attending a joint sleepover at the @Bristol science museum with up to 180 Beavers from all over the county.

A thank you to our wonderful Leaders and parent helpers with Linzi, Laura and Rachel.

Clive

## Cub Section Report

We have a very strong Cubs section with numbers at capacity (28 Cubs) with 1 on the waiting list.

At Easter, we saw 5 leave. All except one moved to the Scouts section.

September sees another 6 leaving us to go to Scouts.

We are seeing a good number of Beavers wanting to move into Cubs as well a few members on the waiting list.

We wish all the best to Sophie Wadley, who will be leaving Cubs at the end of this term, and will be moving to Dubai over the summer. We hope we can find her a Scout section over there!

We have had a good year with numerous activities:

- Portishead Lifeboat station visit
- Colditz games (numerous times!)
- Tesco Farm to Fork
- Apple Store Techie visit
- Archery sessions
- Apple Juice Pressing (the adults enjoyed the fermented version at Family Camp!)
- Map Reading

We have a great PGL camp earlier this year with 36 Cubs and Scouts and 6 Leaders attending. This was the largest group we have ever taken. Thanks to all the leaders for helping out over this weekend. We are working on the date for next year's camp.

We weren't able to run a dedicated Cubs camp this year but are looking to arrange one in September 2017.

I will be stepping down as Cub Scout Leader in September and Steve Fowler will be taking this role on. I will move to an ACSL role alongside the GSL role. I would like to personally thank Steve, Kath & Jon for all their help and support over the past 2+ years in my role as CSL. I hope that we have been able to provide all the Cubs with an enjoyable and enlightening experience that they will take away with them in the years to come.

Giles

## **Scout Section Report**

### **Numbers**

The Scout section numbers are healthy, with 21 Scouts currently. Although this is fewer than this time last year, the lull is only expected to be temporary. We said goodbye to 8 of our oldest Scouts at Easter and welcomed 4 new members who moved up from Cubs. In September, we are expecting a further Cubs to move up, which will take us to 26 Scouts in total. Looking further ahead to 2018 our numbers are expected to increase further still as more Cubs move up to Scouts. Whilst this is great news, it does mean we can't accept new members from outside of the Group, to avoid the troop size becoming unmanageable.

### **Leaders**

As ever, I'm extremely grateful to my Assistant Leaders John and Megan for all their hard work helping to run the section. As many of you know, Megan left us at Easter as she's expecting her first child in June. Good Luck, and we hope to meet the new arrival very soon!

I'd also like to thank Nick Jones in particular for his contribution as a parent helper, going over and above the call of duty on many occasions, including planning entire meetings and coming along to PGL to help out when we were short of leaders! If any other parents are interested in helping out occasionally, please let us know so that we can get you DBS cleared – the more the merrier and it makes a huge difference to us having extra pairs of hands available.

### **Programme**

We're always trying to maximise the quality and variety of the programme we offer to the Scouts and from my perspective the last 12 months has been really successful. Megan and Nick brought lots of fresh ideas and we tried a few things that the Scouts hadn't experienced before.

Apart from the typical things you'd expect from a Scout Troop, like navigation, first aid, night hikes and survival skills, we tried to add a few more unusual activities into the mix too. We built and flew kites and hot air balloons, built our own cooking stoves and even went SCUBA diving. The Group now owns its very own archery range complete with fully qualified instructor (Giles!), so we also took full advantage of that and had a couple of archery evenings. We also regularly do team-building activities with the Scouts and it's been a real pleasure to watch them develop over time and start to learn what it means to be part of a team and the importance of helping each other out.

PGL was another huge success this year, and we're planning to take the Scouts camping in July to a site near Tintern in the Wye Valley. In September, I'm also thinking about running a Patrol Leaders' and Assistant Patrol Leaders' Camp – watch this space!

Greg

## Treasurers Report

1st April 2016 to 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2017  
1st Winterbourne Down & Bury-side Scout Group

- **Current Balance** Current balance for both accounts of 1st July

Treasurers Account	£4196.65	against 1st April 2016	£1688.37
Saving Account	£1608.50	against 1st April 2016	£1597.12

- Total Income/Spend from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 1 Feb 2017

Subs                      £5870.86

Fundraising            £1986.62

Section Items          (£1572.54)

Running costs          (£825.63)

Trips                     £1629.02

Fundraising – mainly due to excellent Xmas tree sales and one Tesco bag pack

Section Items – Archery, new tents with camping equipment and badges

Running Costs - Slight Increase on last year as we now have broadband/phone

Trips included this year PGL, Kayaking and Scuba Diving.

## Minutes of 2016 AGM

### Present

- Ben Long Michelle Stephens– Co-Chairs
- Mel Rowles– Treasurer
- James Gooding – Secretary
- Steve Fowler GSL
- Leaders team for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts

Apologies – None

### Welcome and Introduction.

Ben welcomed all to the evening. The purpose of the Executive was highlighted along with significant events for the group over the year including fundraising and the purchasing of new equipment for the Scout Group. All the leaders supporting the group were thanked.

### Minutes of Last AGM

Minutes of the 2015 AGM were agreed

### Section Reports

**GSL:** Strong retention from Beavers through Scouts. Thanks for new leaders joining the groups (Beavers could have been suspended). Successful Family Camp

**Beavers:** New Leaders, Clive Marston and Linzi Wiseman. Increase to 18 beavers but only one girl

**Cubs:** Numbers returned to 21 after 11 graduated to Scouts. New Assistant CSL John Watson. Varied programme of events

**Scouts:** 30 members, new helpers to assist Greg when travelling with work. Varied and interesting outdoor activity program

### Treasurers Report

Full Report in AGM Booklet. Current Account £1623 cr and Savings Account £1597 cr (31/03/16)

### Election of Committee

Michelle Stevens confirmed that she would not be seeking re-election as co-chair. James Gooding also confirmed that after nine years he would be resigning as Secretary

### Closure of AGM

All parents and leaders were thanked for attending and the AGM closed.

### Committee Contact details

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>exec@winterbournedownscouts.co.uk</b> Ben LONG (until Sept 2017)	b.long119@btinternet.com
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>exec@winterbournedownscouts.co.uk</b> Vacant	
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>accounts@winterbournedownscouts.co.uk</b> Mel ROWLES (until 2017)	

### Leaders Contact details

<b>Group Scout Leader</b>	<b>gsl@winterbournedownscouts.co.uk</b> Steve FOWLER	stevefowler66@aol.com
<b>Beavers Leaders</b>	<b>beavers@winterbournedownscouts.co.uk</b> Clive MARSTON (BSL) Linzi WISEMAN Laura TOWNSEND Rachel DEVLIN	clivemarston@rocketmail.com
<b>Cubs Leaders</b>	<b>cubs@winterbournedownscouts.co.uk</b> Giles OGRAM (CSL) Kath MACCONNACHIE (ACSL) Jon WATSON (ACSL)	giles@ogram.com
<b>Scouts Leaders</b>	<b>scouts@winterbournedownscouts.co.uk</b> Greg GRACE (SL) John DIGHT (ASL) Nick JONES	greg.grace87@googlemail.com
<b>Website</b>	<b>www.winterbournedownscouts.co.uk</b>	
<b>FaceBook (closed grp)</b>	<b><a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/winterbournedownscouts/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/winterbournedownscouts/</a></b>	

### Hut Hire

Please remember that the Scout hut is available to hire at very competitive rates. Visit the website for details.