



Wigan And District Scout Council AGM

Chairman's Annual Report 2019/2020

What a strange year we have experienced. Normally, this report would be filled with stories of various events and activities undertaken by our young people and leaders, but the effects of the Covid-19 outbreak has dictated a radical new approach as to how we have organised and run our programmes over the past six months. Some groups have gone into semi-hibernation whilst others have successfully continued to offer online based activities. Fortunately, the Association has provided plenty ideas to keep our young people involved. As the lockdown gradually eases, face to face scouting will eventually resume. The future is just beginning to look more positive and hopefully the difficult times will soon be behind us.

Going back to the earlier half of our scouting year, there was much to look forward to. The section ADCs were developing ambitious programme ideas and the District Executive Committee had agreed plans to continue with the refurbishment of our HQ building in addition to offering financial support for several group projects.

Paul Green stood down as DC and Jeff Picton took on the role with great enthusiasm and energy. However, no sooner had Jeff started, the lockdown came and lots of great ideas unfortunately had to be put on hold. But thanks to both Paul and Jeff we are still here, offering quality scouting to the young people of Wigan, albeit in a restricted way. We must also thank the rest of the District Team and the many leaders and supporters at group level who have kept our organisation alive and largely active.

One of our major worries was the potential effect of the lockdown on our finances. We lost substantial income from both our HQ renters and the shop. The cancellation of the St. George's Day Parade left us with a large stock of unsold uniform and badges. On the other side of the balance sheet, however, we were able to claim a grant from the government's emergency Retail, Hospitality & Leisure Fund and our heating and lighting bills have been negligible over the past six months. National Headquarters have been hard hit financially and have had to announce a substantial increase in the membership fee for next year. I am happy to report that our financial position is still sound and as a result the Executive Committee feels able to waive the normal district levy for twelve months to help out our groups who are facing this increased bill from HQ.

Whilst acknowledging and celebrating the positive events of the past year, there is also some sombre news to report. Several well-known figures have sadly passed away since our last report: John Webb, former DC; Laraine Reeves, former District Team and Executive member; Jean Bates, former supporter with 2nd Wigan and District Badge Secretary; Ian Woods, former Warden at Bispham Hall and one time GSL of 23rd Wigan. We remember them with gratitude for all they did for the success of the District. To all their families and friends we offer our sincere sympathies.

In conclusion, may I once again thank the Local Authority, parents, leaders, and all others who have given their time and support to Scouting in Wigan. With your continued efforts, and with measures in place to protect the health of all our members, I am confident that we will not only survive the rest of this year but come out all the stronger in 2021. Good luck and keep safe.

Gerard Davies
District Chairman

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Wigan and District Scout Council
Receipts and Payments 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020

RECEIPTS

Capitation 2020	£36,083.50
Rent	£5,355.00
Scout Shop	£8,870.26
St. George's day parade 2019	£384.85
Grants and donations	£770.00
Competitions	£988.20
Repayment of loan	£1,496.56
Damboree 2019	£315.00
Transfer from Nat West	£15,450.00
Beaver Eureka trip 23/11/19	£2,715.00

EXPENDITURE

Capitation 2020	£33,060.00
AGM 2019	£136.00
Accountancy fees	£225.00
St George's day parade 2019	£666.50
St George's day parade 2020	£50.00
Competitions	£696.80
Presents & wreath	£56.00
Damboree 2019	£315.00
Grants and donations	£410.00
Beaver Eureka trip 23/11/19	£2,138.00
District website	£421.14
Training	£160.00
MBNA (shop supplies)	£6,863.13
Other shop suppliers	£829.72
Pie Eater ESU camp fees	£21.00
Ex Pie Eaters capitation fees	£63.00
Refurbishment	£15,974.47
Maintenance	£3,224.60
Gas	£1,459.91
Electricity	£490.51
Water	£286.08
Insurance	£484.77
Ground rent	£132.00

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hands on accounting

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Our Ref: CMA/CA/WDS/008

14 May 2019

Wigan District Scout Council

Accounts – Year Ending 31 March 2020

Dear Joan,

Further to your request for CMA Accountancy Ltd to review the accounts for year ending 31 March 2020 I can confirm the following.

It is your responsibility as a council to prepare the financial statements, and the accountant's responsibility to carry out a review and form an opinion on these statements.

Basis of opinion

The review includes examination of the evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and an assessment of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the financial activities of the Council. Information and explanations have been provided which give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material error.

Accountants opinion

Subject to the caveat above, I confirm that no matter has come to my attention which would show that in any no material respect the requirements to keep accounting records have not been met. I therefore conclude that the financial statements have been properly prepared and give a true and fair view of the financial affairs of the Wigan District Scout Council as at 31 March 2020, and of the income and expenditure for the year ended on that date.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Alcock ACMA