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Group Scout Leader's Report

The year March 2019-February 2020 has been another great year thanks to the volunteer leaders, supporters and parents of the group. Some highlights of the year:

- Canine Partners
- Visits to Pets at home
- Cubs Camping at Willesley and in the damp at Fox Covets
- Scouts camping in the New Forest and trying some crazy new activities
- Visiting the Space Centre with 700 other beavers
- A superb whole group overnight stay at Twycross Zoo
- A different St George's Day Parade in Ibstock
- Knights, Countries, Den Building, finding out about where we live
- Planting seeds, tending allotments and Bug hunting
- Picking litter, delivering Christmas cards, learning first aid
- Sailing with the County and Kayaking with the District
- Trips to Rebound, the Fire Station and Skateboard Park
- Lighting fires, making pancakes and pizza ovens
- Fixing bikes, tying knots, sports and campfires
- A new website
- An AGM at a Pizza restaurant!
- Visiting the churches, taking part in Remembrance Sunday
- Cycling at Hicks Lodge, climbing at Apex
- A drum workshop
- Beavers pitching tents and making s'mores
- Racing Go Karts, Nerf battles outside, sailing at Foremarke
- Raft building, digital citizenship and road safety
- Zip wires, large and small,
- Cubs at County Splash Activity Day
- Retro technology -and bang up-to-date games
- Healthy eating and food hygiene
- Meeting reptiles
- Enjoying the Mexican Day of the Dead!
- Making guys and joining in our great group bonfire
- Meeting friends from 1st At-Taqea Scouts and finding out about their faith
- Recognising 30 years of service
- Recycling rubbish into bricks
- Finding out about local sports clubs and trying new things
- A group takeover of Rebound at Christmas & singing carols at local care homes
- Staring in a national Scouts Youtube video!
- Star gazing, book reading and dragon making

Thank you to an amazing team.

Reference and Administration Details

Charity name:	4th Ashby Scout Group
Other names the charity is known by:	4th Ashby de la Zouch Scout Group
Registered charity number:	1125053
HQ registration number	32054
Charity's principal address:	The BP Shell Scout Centre Wilfred Gardens Ashby de la Zouch LE65 2GX

Trustee Name	Office	Dates acted if not for whole year
Philip Jonathan Bloor	Group Scout Leader	
Deborah Crumley	Treasurer	

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document:

The Group's governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the By-Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

How the charity is constituted:

The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.

Trustee Selection methods:

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

Additional governance information:

The Group is managed by the Group Executive Committee, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees, they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Committee can consist of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leaders, individual section leaders (if opted to take on the responsibility) and parent's representation and meets every three months.

Members of the Executive Committee complete 'Essential Information for Executive Committee' training within the first 5 months of joining the committee and other training such as safety, safeguarding and GDPR as mandated by The Scout Association

This Group Executive Committee exists to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments and is responsible for:

- The maintenance of Group property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub-committees that may be required;
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.

Risk and Internal Control:

The Group Executive Committee has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

Damage to the building, property and equipment. The Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community centre and other Scout Groups. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with these organisations. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The Group through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.

Reduced income from fundraising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The group is totally reliant on volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst-case scenario the complete closure of the Group.

Reduction or loss of members. The Group provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 18. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst-case scenario the complete closure of the Group.

Objectives and activities

The Purpose of Scouting

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

The Values of Scouting

As Scouts we are guided by these values:

Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.

Respect - We have self-respect and respect for others.

Care - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.

Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.

Co-operation - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

The Scout Method

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and:

- enjoy what they are doing and have fun
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors
- learn by doing
- share in spiritual reflection
- take responsibility and make choices
- undertake new and challenging activities
- make and live by their Promise.

Public benefit statement:

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

Achievements and performance

During the year the group continued to grow with an amazing 195 beavers, cubs and scouts registered as members at the end of January. This meant we were the largest group in Leicestershire.

The group delivered an amazing AGM and Awards night, a huge bonfire and fireworks and many trips and camps that were enjoyed by dozens of members.

Our Executive Committee provided support at a number of events and facilitated new polos and hoodies for leaders in line with The Scout Association's new branding. We also commissioned and provided content for a new website.

Financial Review

Reserves Policy:

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Executive Committee considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 6 months running costs, circa £7,500.

The Group held reserves of approximately £31,000 against this at year-end. This is above the level/below required for operating expenses. However, this can be explained by our long term plan to build a meeting place of our own.

Investment Policy:

The Group does not have sufficient funds to invest in long term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk-averse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only recognised UK banks or building societies.

Future Plans

The Executive Committee will continue to support the Group Scout Leader and the team of amazing volunteer leaders to deliver first-class Scouting to as many young people as possible here in Ashby. We will recruit new trustees, continue to work towards a home of our own and support as many group events and activities as possible.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signatures		
Full Names	Deborah Crumley	Philip Jonathan Bloor
Position	Treasurer	Group Scout Leader

Date: 30th November 2020

Receipts and Payments Account

		2019/2020		2018/2019
		Unrestricted funds		Unrestricted funds
		£		£
Receipts				
Donations, legacies and similar income				
Membership subscriptions		19,095.00		18,165.75
Less: Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/District)		- 8,687.25		- 6,809.80
Net membership subscriptions retained		10,407.75		11,355.95
Donations		1,026.22		191.07
Gift Aid		3,008.53		2,228.43
Match Funding		300.00		300.00
Sub total		14,742.50		14,075.45
Grants				
Other grants		400.00	1	3,555.52
Sub total		400.00		3,555.52
Fundraising (gross)				
Activities		6,412.17		1,324.50
Badges/Uniform		-		69.49
Camps		5,620.82		10,358.20
Christmas Post		883.52		894.75
Easyfundraising		26.91		84.66
Sub total		12,943.42		12,731.60
Investment income				
Bank interest		42.99		19.72
Sub total		42.99		19.72
Total Gross Income		28,128.91		30,382.29
Asset and investment sales, etc.		-		-
Total receipts		28,128.91		30,382.29

Payments

General Payments			
Activities	5,550.11	2	3,491.01
Administration/Executive Costs/Sundries	499.41		697.08
AGM	307.00		742.82
Badges/Uniform	3,242.87	3	1,691.61
Bank & Card Charges (inc go cardless)	366.02		357.51
Bonfire Night	593.42		607.82
Camps	2,474.81	4	8,951.26
Christmas Post	156.00		382.80
Equipment and Maintenance	585.82		1,210.55
Insurance/Minibus Permits	231.07		218.40
Group Development & Growth	690.88		3,589.27
Meet Costs (weekly activities)	2,306.47		1,687.22
OSM Activities, Camp & Subscription Fees	987.87		825.41
Rent	4,229.30		4,408.65
Website	294.74		180.00
Sub total	22,515.79		29,041.41
Total Gross Expenditure	22,515.79		29,041.41
Asset and investment purchases, etc.	-		-
Total payments	22,515.79		29,041.41
Net of receipts/(payments)	5,613.12		1,340.88
Cash funds last year end			
Cash funds this year end	5,613.12	5	1,340.88

Statement of Assets and Liabilities and the end of the Year

	2019/2020 Unrestricted funds £	2018/2019 Unrestricted funds £
Cash funds		
Bank current account	4,824.27	1,102.39
Bank deposit account	31,075.71	29,032.72
Pre-paid Credit Card balance	662.28	574.38
Jersey Fundraising Inc	-	161.53
Cash/Floats	103.69	177.56
Total cash funds	36,665.95	31,048.58
Non monetary assets for charity's own use		
Badge stock	150	150
Scouting equipment, furniture etc	10,000	10,000
Sub total	10,150	10,150
Liabilities		
Accounts not yet paid	-	-
Expenses incurred but not invoiced	-	-
Subscriptions not yet paid	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Total Cash Funds	36,666	31,049

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on 28th April 2020 and signed on their behalf by

Name	Job Role
Jonathan Bloor	Group Scout Leader
Deborah Crumley	Treasurer

Notes:

- 1 Sports Equipment Grant
- 2 1800 Think tank trip to go out
- 3 increase due to change of group wear
- 4 3500 to go out for Scout and Cub summer camp - unusual to have income in this early
- 5 only this high because unusual income for camps and group wide activity (see2&4) - this amounts to £5500

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 4th Ashby Scout Group Scout Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 4th Ashby Scout Group for the year ended 29th February 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of my report

As the charity trustees of the 4th Ashby Scout Group you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Group accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the [Insert Scout Group/District name] as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Sarah-Jane Statham ACMA, CTA, TEP
Address: 2 Cotswold Way, Ashby de la Zouch
Date: 27th April 2020