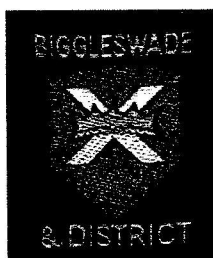




**BIGGLESWADE & DISTRICT
SCOUT COUNCIL**

**DISTRICT REPORT
AND ACCOUNTS**

**Prepared for the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
18th MAY 2017**



Biggleswade & District Scout Council AGM 2017

Agenda

- Item 1, Welcome P.Cheney
- Item 2, Apologies
- Item 3, Adoption of the Minutes of 2016 AGM
- Item 4, Admin Reports:- DC's Report J. Brooker
Chairman's Report P.Cheney
Accounts Statement C.Foskett
(DC moves motion to accept the reports)
- Item, 5, The 2016 / 2017 Executive Committee Steps down.
- Item 6, DC Nominates New Chairperson for 2017 /2018 J. Brooker
- Item 7, Chair nominates a District Secretary as an Ex-officio member.
- Item 8, Chair nominates a District Treasurer as an Ex-officio member.
- Item 9, Chair to propose Exec Members to be elected; election.
- Item 10, Chair to nominate Ex Officio Exec Members.
- Item 11, Chair to propose Mr. M. Haughton as Auditor for year 2017/18.
- Item 12, Chair to propose a representative to attend the County Scout Council, election.
- Meeting Close

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Biggleswade and District Scout Council held on 27th April 2016 at Boyd Field District Headquarters.

1. The meeting was opened by the Chairman – Mr. Peter Cheney. He welcomed all to the meeting.
2. Apologies – Bob Lovesey, Bill Mapletoft, Keith Downing, Andrew Hope, Alistair Birt MP, Gerry Pope, Ted Putwain, Catherine Wakeley, Yvonne Humberstone.
3. The Chairman asked that the minutes of the last AGM be read, as there were no amendments, the minutes were signed as a correct record. Proposed D. Bridges, Sec. D. Whiddett. These were approved and carried.
4. Presentation of the Annual Report by District Chairman Peter Cheney. He read through his report.
5. The acting District Commissioner Jan Brooker commented on the DC Report. The first part was written by Gerry Pope the retiring District Commissioner owing to ill health, Jan then carried it on for the rest of the year. Proposed by John Hilditch, sec. by Ken Brooker.
6. The Finance Report. Chris Foscett presented the accounts for the year to 31st December 2015 which covered 7 pages. We have £73,282 in the bank as shown on the 6th page of the accounts. The 4th page shows receipts for the year for Boyd Memorial Campsite, 5th Scout Shop, 6th Badge Shop. We hope to change banks in the next year.
7. Approval of the District Commissioners nomination of Peter Cheney as District Chairman.
8. Election of District Secretary – Mrs. G. Wood, Prop. J. Hilditch, Sec. M. Graves.
9. Election of District Treasurer – C. Foscett, Prop. K. Brooker, Sec. M. Panton
10. Resolution to determine the number of people to be elected to the District Executive – 6 people. All in favour.
11. Election of members (up to the limit resolved in "10") to the District Executive – M. Graves, H. Hilditch, P. Bellamy, D. Bridges.
12. Approval of the District Commissioner's nominees to the District Executive – D. Whiddett, K. Brooker, K. Bennett, S. Joyner. All approved.
13. Resolution to appoint up to two people aged 18-25 years to the District Executive. M. Panton, R. Greener. Prop. J. Brooker, Sec. D. Bridges.
14. Election of Scouter to the County Scout Council. No one came forward.
15. Election of Auditor. Mark Houghton. Thanks were expressed to John Needham who had retired. Prop. P. Cheney, Sec. J. Brooker.
16. The Chairman closes the formal meeting.

Refreshments were served then a presentation was given by two of the young people who attended last years Jamboree which was held in Japan.

Training Report

Since the last AGM, there were 11 wood badges issued for Biggleswade & District leaders. Well done to all the leaders who have completed their training.

Since Compass has now come online, the appointments committee have been clearing the backlog of leaders through the system so that at the current time we have 100 leaders in Biggleswade and District going through the training process.

We have welcomed Maggie Harris back as a training adviser and Andrew Harris has also volunteered to undertake this role.

The validation evenings continue to be supported by our training advisers and I appreciate all their efforts in supporting the leaders through their training.

Sharon Betts
Local training manager

**BIGGLESWADE AND DISTRICT AGM
District Commissioners Report 2017**

During 2016, the County Commissioner appointed me in the acting role of District Commissioner and I am delighted to say that it has been yet another good year for Biggleswade and District with numbers of young people and adults increasing overall by a tremendous 10%, this is a huge increase given that the national average is substantially lower. Congratulations to everyone for playing their part in achieving such a great success and allowing this many additional young people to experience the challenges, fun and life skills of Scouting.

I am delighted to announce that Barry Jefferd and Andrew Wood both received the Silver Acorn for their outstanding commitment to Scouting over many years. They both attended the St. George's Service at Windsor and will be formally presented with their Awards at the Group AGM.

The District had much to look forward to in 2016 with new Beaver and Cub Sections opening in Potton after a very successful recruitment day assisted by Glen Brooks, the Regional Development Officer.

Upper Caldecote opened the long awaited Beaver Colony which has gone from strength to strength.

Langford, after many months away from their Scout hut due to the need for a total refurbishment, has now returned to their new home and look forward to fully completing the renovations and continuing to thrive.

Haynes and Wilstead now have a small Explorer Unit and are looking to increase this over the coming year and incorporating the Young Leader scheme.

We must not forget the incredible success of Biggjam, which was also a celebration of 50 years of the Campsite and Activity Centre at Boyd Field. I was delighted, at the campfire, to present the wardens with the Chief Scouts Commendation for Service to Scouting. Well done to them both for this achievement outstanding achievement.

From my own perspective we have strengthened the District Team with the appointment of Tracey Gardner as the ADC Beavers and Neil Ludlow at ADC Scout, I wish them well with their District programmes in the future.

We have also appointed Matt Panton as our Network Commissioner and after a slow start he is now working well with the 18 – 25 section to support scouting throughout the District. Thanks Matt.

Phil Wood has also made tremendous inroads into the Young Leader Training Scheme and also supporting Explorer Units throughout the District, as his report will reflect. Again a valued member of the District Team.

The administration side of the District has also been extremely active with Appointments Advisory Committee, meeting roughly monthly to process the adults who have joined our team in Biggleswade. Thank you to them all for their continued support.

Sharon Betts our Local Training Manager continues to "hound" (I say this as she has 5 dogs to look after) adults through their training so thank you Sharon for your continued support and for organising the validation evenings to make it even easier for adults to complete their training.

The Badge Shop and Scout Shop continue to flourish and we thank all the team for giving up their time on a Tuesday evening to provide uniforms, certificates and badges to the Adults and Young People in the District. This is a very useful form of revenue for us so their support is very much appreciated. Thank you.

Before I say a brief word about 2017, I would like to thank absolutely every leader, assistant leader, executive member and supporter of Scouting throughout Biggleswade and District, we could not run such a successful district without your continued input in providing and supporting challenging, fun and safe scouting for all.

To finish I would just like to look briefly at 2017 and what we can look forward to.

We have a new Troop opening up at Henlow/Clifton, they will be using the Boyd Field facilities and will run on the same night as the current Troop, good luck to them.

We are hoping to plan a recruitment session to reopen the Gamlingay and Gransden Beaver Colony, we have the Regional Development Team helping us with this recruitment.

During the latter part of 2017 some of our young people will be asked to apply for a place on the World Jamboree Team for 2019 which is being held in North America.

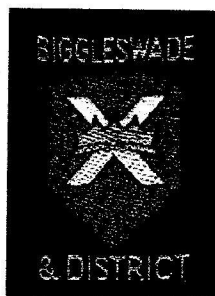
We have the District Beaver camp 1-2nd July with over 250 beavers camping at the Boyd Field, a fantastic achievement for so many young people to experience.

There is also the District Cub Camp, and loads of other District events for all sections. Please encourage all the young people and adults alike to come along and enjoy the fun.

There will no doubt be many many more exciting things to look forward to, but if I told you them all there would be no surprises.

Once again to all my sincere thanks.

Jan Brooker
District Commissioner



Biggleswade & District Scout Council Chairman's Report

As can be seen from the other accompanying reports, 2016 was another successful year for the District in Scouting terms for activities offered by the District and the constituent Scout Groups. There were the usual District wide events for the various sections ranging from a Teddy Bear Pick Nik to the grueling weekend Hike.

The District Exec's primary role is to oversee the finances of the district including the Groups that make up the district and the assets of the district itself. Financially the district is in good health which has enabled us to make donations to new sections being started in the groups and to support District events. The biggest of these by far last year was Big Jam which was fortunate to enjoy good organization, good weather (mostly) which led to everyone having a great time. Many thanks go to the organizing team and to all of the helpers over the weekend.

The largest asset that the Exec oversees is the Boyd Field Memorial Camp Site, it is also the biggest income creator and cost center as keeping this beautiful facility in pristine condition is a task akin to painting the Eiffel Tower. The small but dedicated team that look after the site do an amazing job but there are limits to what can be maintained and improved under the current way of working; so next year I will be reporting on how well a substantial change in the management of the site has settled in. Hopefully over the course of the next several years, and it will take years, everyone will see an improvement in the facilities on the site and an improved experience for the users of the site as the team running the site expands.

Not everything goes according to plan a case in point is the requirement to upload reports and a statement of accounts to the Charities Commission. Over the past few years this process has been an annual job carried out with little to note, however 2016 was to prove the exception. The accounts for the year ending 31 December 2015 were prepared and forwarded to our auditor in April 2016, nothing exceptional there. The accounts were distributed at the 2016 AGM with little of note other than the comment that although the accounts were with the auditor nothing had been heard of since delivery.

This state of affairs continued until September when with the approaching deadline for submission to the Charities Commission (31st October 2016), attempts to establish the whereabouts and status of our accounts at the auditors were made. Eventually with less than a week before the deadline, the accounts were returned to us without an auditor's report, but with the statement that the accounts were £1 out.

The explanation that the paper accounts were rounded to the nearest £ as is usual practice, and that the accompanying USB stick and spreadsheet could be examined to the penny, fell on deaf ears.

I contacted the Charities Commission in line with their advice uploaded the report and accounts then set about discussing the situation with our new auditor as confirmed at the 2016 AGM. It was agreed that the best course of action was to submit the 2015 and 2016 accounts to the auditor as soon as possible in the New Year.

There were two reminders from the Charities Commission that we were in default but both communications ended with a statement to the effect that there should be a plan in effect to regularize the situation as soon as possible.

I am pleased to report that the 2015 accounts (and Spreadsheets) were scrutinized by our new Auditor and found to be in order; a statement to this effect was signed off allowing me to re-upload the reports and accounts to the Charities Commission, so we are now compliant.

Further, the auditor has also reviewed the 2016 accounts, found them to be in order and has issued the compliance certificate, which you will find in the AGM Accounts paperwork available to you today. Presuming a successful AGM the documents will be uploaded to the Charities Commission web site within the week.

I look forward to the next year with optimism, that we will continue to thrive as a District, and that the changes recently put in place for the management of the Boyd field will start show results for the benefit of all.

Peter Cheney
Exec Chairman



BIGGLESWADE & DISTRICT
BEAVER SCOUT REPORT 2016/17

We have started having regular district leader meetings to start arranging more district events and support for the leaders.

We are holding our first district camp at Boyd on the 1st July and currently have 225 Beavers signed up and very excited. As part of this camp we are holding a competition to design the camp badge.

June will bring our teddy bears picnic as it was agreed this was a popular event previously.

We also now have a District Beavers Facebook page and Pinterest page for leaders to share ideas for meetings etc

We look forward to the year ahead and hope to organise lots more adventures.

Tracey

ADC Beavers

BIGGLESWADE & DISTRICT
CUB SCOUT REPORT 2016/17

2016 did not start well at all we had to cancel our Cub Sports twice due to bad weather.

The Cubs that attended BIG JAM GOLD had a FANTASTIC WEEKEND.
Congratulations to Pab and all of his team for organising a great event.

Cub 100 years Event was a Cub Scout Take Over Day Sat 24th Sept .

4 coaches took 250 Cubs to Whipsnade Zoo along with 2000 others from
Neighbouring Counties for a very successful day at the Zoo.

Fishing was also a good day with most Cubs catching fish. Thanks to Sue for
Letting us use the Match Canal.

Our Annual Carol Service was at Boyd Field with a Camp Fire to keep everyone
Warm during the Service once again led by Rev Richard Winslade ,Thank you
Richard for taking the Service.

Bowling always fills the Bowling Alley, this year was no exception over 100
Cubs took part in a very exciting morning. A BIG THANK TO ALL THE STAFF AT
Eat And Bowl for all there help and organising our event.

We ended the year with St Georges Day Parade through Biggleswade to
St Andrews Church and Trinity Methodist Church for Services to renew our
Promises. Huge Thanks go all who made this years Parade a Big Success.

A Huge Thanks to all District Leaders for Their help over the year.

WE ARE ALL LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR.

Bill Mapletoft

ADC Cubs



BIGGLESWADE & DISTRICT

SCOUT REPORT 2016/17

This is my first report in my current role as A. D. C. (Scouts) after taking on the role in Jan 2017.

This year has been about maintaining current District Scout Events, and working with the Scout Leaders of the District groups to add new events into our Scouting calendar for 2018.

I would like this opportunity to thank all the leaders and helpers who give up their free time to make District events so successful.

Neil Ludlow .

Biggleswade District Explorer Scouts

AGM Report 16/17

There are 93 Explorers organised in 8 Units operating within the District. Given our rural environment each unit is closely associated with a Scout Group. The Units are all well run & they function independently. It was good to see Sandy ESU reform during the year.

Activities this year included: Summer camps in N Ireland (Biggleswade Pheonix), Finland (Potton Forresters) & Somerset (Arlesey Dambusters). Weekend camps like Scarefest, Gilwell 24, Theme park camp & our own District Explorers camp. Various units were involved in offshore sailing, gliding, indoor skydiving & the (famous) monopoly run alongside regular unit meetings. There has been plenty going on.

Young Leader training has been established during year with a number of different sessions running for those who help out with other sections.

Communication between units is better through our Leader Forum on social media. It's a pleasure working with so many committed Leaders.

Phil Wood

DESC

Apr 17

BIGGLESWADE & DISTRICT

Vulcan Network 2016-17

As you know the Vulcan Scout Network hasn't been running overly long in its current iteration. Previously to this we had taken a few networkers away to the New Forest where we stayed at Beaudesert Scout campsite. Some of the activities included a trip to the beach for ice cream, and our infamous cycling pub crawl. In the latter stages of the year we settled down somewhat. After several meetings in the week at various public establishments across the district we decided to partake in the Monopoly Run 2017. The event took part in early April and we ended up winning our mini league and coming third overall in the Network category. Looking forward to the rest of the year. We plan to go back to regular weekday meetings. We currently have about 15 members in the Facebook group and about 5 of those regularly attend weekly meetings.

Matt Panton
ADC Network

Biggleswade District Scout Council

Annual Accounts

**Accounts for the Year Ended 31st
December 2016**

Biggleswade District Scout Council

Accounts for the Year Ended 31st December 2016

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	£	£
<u>Monetary Assets</u>		
Bank Current Accounts	67,162	59,244
Bank Deposit Accounts	13,576	13,570
Bank Deposit Building Accounts	0	0
Cash in Hand	465	468
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	81,203	73,282

Non Monetary Assets

Badge Secretary's Stock	4,963	4,845
District Shop Stock	8,286	8,629
Debtors	2,758	449

Deeds for the land and buildings at Boyd Memorial Campsite are held in trust by the Scout Association based upon their insurance valuation.

<u>Liabilities</u>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	0	0

Biggleswade District Scout Council

Accounts for the Year Ended 31st December 2016

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
<u>Premises</u>		
Boyd Memorial Campsite	17,699	17,924
Equipment	1,676	3,077
	<hr/> 19,375 <hr/>	<hr/> 21,000 <hr/>
 <u>Activities</u>		
District Events	18,458	773
 <u>Admin/Establishment Expenses</u>		
New Groups Start Up Grants	600	500
Leaders Training	0	0
Leaders Expenses	0	0
	<hr/> 600 <hr/>	<hr/> 500 <hr/>
 Purchase of Uniforms	7,196	7,373
 Purchase of Badges	6,484	6,313
 Sundry Payments	32	34
 Total Payments for the Year	<hr/> 52,146 <hr/>	<hr/> 35,992 <hr/>

Biggleswade District Scout Council

Receipts and Payments Account Summary

For the Year Ending 31st December 2016

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	£	£
Total Receipts for the Year	62,825	52,470
Total Payments for the Year	52,146	35,992
Net Receipts / (Payments) for the Year	<u>10,679</u>	<u>16,477</u>
Cash, Bank and Similar Funds brought forward	73,282	56,805
Cash, Bank and Similar Funds carried forward	83,961	73,282

The above account and accompanying statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf

P. Cheney

Date

District Chairman

Biggleswade District Scout Council

Accounts for the Year Ended 31st December 2016

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
	£	£
Membership Subscriptions	43,946	42,363
Less Paid	(37,493)	(38,711)
	<hr/> 6,453	<hr/> 6,482
Bank Interest Received	6	5
<u>Activities</u>		
Boyd Memorial Campsite	21,189	29,372
District Events	17,842	939
	<hr/> 39,031	<hr/> 30,310
<u>Donations</u>		
Bequest	0	0
Other	0	0
	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 0
<u>Fund Raising</u>		
Scout Shop	9,981	9,596
Sale of Badges	7,355	6,077
	<hr/> 17,336	<hr/> 15,673
Total Receipts for the Year	<hr/> 62,825	<hr/> 52,470

Biggleswade District Scout Council

Accounts for the Year Ended 31st December 2016

Badge Shop

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2015</u>
	£	£	£	£
Badge Sales		7,354.99		6,076.58
Purchase of Stock	6,484.14		6,312.50	
Stationery and Expenses	<u>19.08</u>		<u>12.73</u>	
		6,503.22		6,325.23
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		<u>851.77</u>		<u>(238.65)</u>
Transfer to District				
Closing Balance		<u>851.77</u>		<u>(238.65)</u>
<u>Represented By</u>				
Opening balance at 1st January				
Petty Cash		20.00		20.00
Current Account		2,716.09		2,964.74
Stock		<u>4,844.84</u>		<u>4,472.85</u>
		7,580.93		7,457.59
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		851.77		(238.65)
Increase/(decrease) in closing stock		<u>118.39</u>		<u>371.99</u>
		<u>8,551.09</u>		<u>7,580.93</u>
Closing Balances at 31st December				
Petty Cash		20.00		20.00
Current Account		3,567.86		2,716.09
Stock		<u>4,963.23</u>		<u>4,844.84</u>
		<u>8,551.09</u>		<u>7,580.93</u>

Biggleswade District Scout Council

Accounts for the Year Ended 31st December 2016

Scout Shop

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2015</u>
	£	£	£	£
Sale of Uniforms Etc.		9,980.79		9,596.17
Purchase of Stock	7,196.41		7,372.98	
Stationery and Expenses	<u>13.35</u>		<u>21.20</u>	
		7,209.76		7,394.18
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		<u>2,771.03</u>		<u>2,201.99</u>
Transfer to District		3,000.00		1,358.00
Closing Balance		<u>2,222.99</u>		<u>843.99</u>
<u>Represented By</u>				
Opening balance at 1st January				
Petty Cash		47.94		59.14
Current Account		11,869.08		11,013.89
Stock		<u>8,628.99</u>		<u>8,083.64</u>
		20,546.01		19,156.67
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		<u>2,222.99</u>		<u>843.99</u>
Increase/(decrease) in closing stock		<u>2,222.99</u>		<u>545.35</u>
		<u>19,974.44</u>		<u>20,546.01</u>
Closing Balances at 31st December				
Petty Cash		44.59		47.94
Current Account		11,643.46		11,869.08
Stock		<u>8,286.39</u>		<u>8,628.99</u>
		<u>19,974.44</u>		<u>20,546.01</u>

Biggleswade District Scout Council

Accounts for the Year Ended 31st December 2016

District & Boyd Memorial Campsite

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2015</u>
	£	£	£	£
<u>Income</u>				
Membership Fees		43,946.00		42,363.00
Boyd Campsite Fees		21,189.25		29,371.60
District Events		17,842.00		938.50
Bank Interest		5.67		4.97
Transfers from Badge Shop		0.00		0.00
Transfers from Scout Shop		3,000.00		1,358.00
		<u>85,982.92</u>		<u>74,036.07</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Membership Fees	37,493.26		35,881.00	
Boyd Campsite Costs	17,699.01		17,923.67	
District Events	18,458.25		772.68	
Equipment	1,676.11		3,076.69	
Leaders Expenses	0.00		0.00	
Leaders Training	0.00		0.00	
New Group Start up Grants	<u>600.00</u>		<u>500.00</u>	
		75,926.63		58,154.04
Surplus for the Year		<u>10,056.29</u>		<u>15,882.03</u>
<u>Represented by</u>				
Opening Balances at 1st January				
Petty Cash	400.00		0.00	
Current Account	44,658.75		29,630.69	
Reserve Account	13,569.87		13,564.90	
Building Fund	<u>0.18</u>		<u>0.18</u>	
	58,628.80		43,195.77	
Surplus/(Deficit) or the Year	<u>10,056.29</u>		<u>15,882.03</u>	
	<u>68,685.09</u>		<u>59,077.80</u>	
Closing Balances at 31st December				
Debtors	2,758.25		449.00	
Petty Cash	400.00		400.00	
Current Account	51,951.12		44,658.75	
Reserve Account	13,575.54		13,569.87	
Building Fund	<u>0.18</u>		<u>0.18</u>	
	<u>68,685.09</u>		<u>59,077.80</u>	

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees on the unaudited Financial Statements of Biggleswade and District Scout Council.

I report on the accounts of the Biggleswade and District Scout Council for the 12 month period ended 31st December 2016.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts, you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanation from you as Trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the Accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:-

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - a. To keeping accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the Act and
 - b. To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and
 - c. To comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met or
2. To which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
3. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the accounting rules of the District's constitution have not been met.

Name Mark Haughton ACA
Qualification Chartered Accountant



Address 11 Jacques Lane
 Clophill
 Bedfordshire
 MK45 4BS

Dated 5th April 2017