



MALLING DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Annual General Meeting

Larkfield Scout Hut - Saturday 13th of July 2024

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Adam Ray, Andy Edwards, Ben Homewood, Bob Mallett, Bobby Thompson-O'Connor, Craig Worcester, Denis Spiller, Des Harris, Diane O'Neill, Elizabeth Wright, Freya Johns, George Edwards, Izzie Warrington, Jo Thompson, Jonno, Karen McCloy, Katherine Franklin, Kenneth Sharp, Lorna Doe, Lottie Worral, Louise Rossiter, Mark Gordon, Mark Price, Martin Willgoss, Matt Biddiss, Matt Paramor, Nathan Lee, Neil Gearing, Peter Townsend, Rob Price, Robi O'Neill, Rosie Larchet, Simon Wood, Steve Perry, Stephen Allen, Tom Llewellyn, David Silvester, Ellie Harber, Amy Childs, Stephen Shuttleworth, Deborah Hadley

Apologies: Aaron Rutherford, Adam Makewell, Adam Stew, Alan Cant, Amy Mitchell, Asako Sach, Ashley McCulloch, Becky Denny, Callum Bumstead, Chris Hardy, David Bayes, Deborah Stiff and family, Elaine Greenwood, Eleanor Shuttleworth, Emma Good, Gary Collins, Gemma Wood, Graham Pover, Helen Comber, Helen Povey, Jack Bezant, Jacqueline Smith, Jacqui Nobile, James Reid (and all from 1st Ightham who are on camp), Jonty Clark, Joshua Stew, Juliette Price, Kate Shuttleworth, Katie Goodall, Ligita Nociute, Louise Hardie, Louise Marjolin, Magda Fox, Manda Evans, Mathew Parkhouse, Matt Sharp, Matt Wood, Michelle Brennan, Penny McCulloch, Peter Nicholls, Sandra Finch, Stephanie Collins, Sue Cubitt, Vicky Syrett, Vikki Reynolds, Zak Fitzgeralda and Zoe Gascoine.

1. Introduction and Welcome

Denis welcomed attendees to the meeting. Denis thanked Larkfield for the use of their facilities today, and officially welcomed all members of the District Scout Council, and guests, parents and supporters. He also provided a special welcome to the Kent County Chair Des Harris and Acting County Lead Volunteer Neil Gearing.

2. Apologies for Absence – please see above

3. Governance

- a. **Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27 Sept 2023:** The District Trustee Board have reviewed these minutes and recommend that they are accepted.

All in favour: Minutes accepted.



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- b. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR):** The District Trustee Board proposes adoption of the model constitution.
All in favour: Constitution adopted
- c. Note the District's financial year:** The charity financial year is the 1st of April 2024 to 31st March 2025.
- d. Approve appointed and community members of the District Scout Council:** At this point we have not asked for any members to join from the community.
- e. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board:**
Agreed under the new Transformation Model as being a minimum of 5 and maximum of 12. The Trustee Board recommendation is 6 in addition to the roles of Treasurer and Chair.
All in favour: Approved
- f. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the District Scout Council (excluding this AGM):** Denis explained the outgoing Trustee Board recommendation was that the number of attendees that were previously considered as quorate for a Scout Council Meeting remains as 10 people.
All in favour: Accepted

4. Review the previous year

- a. The District Lead Volunteer's review of Scouts in Malling, 2023-24:** In the last year we grew over 20%, to be the biggest it has ever been with now over 1,100 young people now being members. Squirrels are the biggest growth area, and the 5th Squirrels Dray will open in September

As we move forwards with Transformation, we have embedded the culture change over the last year. The Programme Team have delivered a number of events, with more planned (including a silent disco later this year). The Support Team are onboard and continuing to grow, with the Volunteering Team also continuing appointment and training activities.

All Groups are continuing to grow and we are working with them to support where challenges are encountered, including where we lack volunteers. Growth included a new Explorer Group – which chose the name Phoenix.



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Craig also thanked the wider teams, support teams and District Trustee, as well as every young person involved, including giving thanks to Ken and the campsite work party who maintain the campsite for use across the District.

- b. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Board, including the annual Statement of the Accounts:** The District Trustee Board have approved the accounts, which were scrutinised by and Independent Examiner, Graham Longton. David talked through the attached slides.

Denis thanked the District Treasurer for his work over the last 13 years, and welcomed Izzie Warrington as the new incoming Treasurer as he is standing down after this long period of tenure.

Denis invited any questions from the floor regarding the Trustee Annual Report or Accounts – none asked.

David also provided his special thanks to the outgoing treasurer David Silvester, who has served the District for the last 13 years. Denis commented that David was probably the most dedicated treasurer he had worked with in a voluntary organisation, however he is now standing down following a move to Suffolk.

5. Making appointments

As per process, Denis now stood down and handed the chair of the meeting role across to Craig. Craig explained under the new Transformation approach, Trustee Board members are appointed following an open selection process. Craig and Denis ran through the following appointments:

- a. Appoint the District Chair, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustee Board: Denis Spiller, for a 2-year term.
Approved.
- b. Appoint the District Treasurer, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustee Board: Izzie Warrington for a 3-year term:
All in favour: Appointed
- c. Appoint members of the District Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustee Board: Denis explained that appointments were made for varying terms to ensure that not all members left at once. From the several applications received, Adam Ray, Matthew Paramour and Deborah Hadley were appointed for a 3 year term, along with Mark Gordon for a



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one-year term.

All in favour: Appointed

Denis provided his thanks to previous Trustee Board Members who have now stood down including Ken Sharp, Paul Gladwell, Graham Pover, Matt Wood and Mark Price.

- d. Re-appoint District President: Martin Millgoss has supported the District for a number of years, and is proposed to continue.

All in favour: Appointed

- e. **Appoint the Independent Examiner:** Ben Hibben was proposed as a suitably qualified examiner.

All in favour: Appointed by a show of hands

- f. **Nominate representatives of the District for the County Scout Council:** Adam Ray and Kathryn Franklin were proposed.

All in favour: Appointed

6. Closing remarks and County statement

Des Harris as County representative, gave a short speech starting with thanking the District for sending a representative to the previous County Commissioner's funeral.

He outlined some events that are planned, including paintballing for young people and leaders.

Des commented that over the County there was an increase of over 900 young people and recognised that Malling District was now the biggest it had ever been. He passed on his thanks on behalf of young people for the hard work that the District did, including in particular the creation of the five new Squirrel Dreys.

He wished the District attendees a really exciting time in Kandersteg, and thanked the volunteers for their hard work in taking the young people.

Denis thanked both Des and Neil for attending the meeting on behalf of County.

7. Awards

Des and Neil presented the following awards:

Growth: Williams Warriors, Blacklands East Malling, 1st Larkfield, 1st Snodland, 1st St. Mary's Platt



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Craig also presented Wood Badges to Steve Perry, to Jonno and to Izzie Warrington and Ellie Harber for their roles in Explorers

Length of Service awards were also presented to Izzie Warrington, Adam Ray (both 5 years) and 10 years to Matt Paramor.

8. Close

Denis thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

9. Next meeting date - To be proposed at a future date.

Confirmed District Trustee Board members (Trustees) 2024/2025	
Craig Worcester	District Lead Volunteer
Denis Spiller	Chair
Izzie Warrington	Treasurer
Adam Ray	Trustee Board Members
Deborah Hadley	
Matt Paramor	
Mark Gordon	
Tom Llewellyn	