

Cambridgeshire County Scout Council

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 5th June 2024

Cambridge District HQ, Cambridge

In Attendance

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Chris Ward | (County Lead Volunteer) |
| Nigel Poulter | (County Treasurer) |
| Alan Sadler | (County Chair) |
| Jo McGowan | (County Secretary) |
| Ian Newbery | (Regional Lead Volunteer) |
| Very Rev. Mark Bonney | (HM Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire) |

Plus 57 other members of Cambridgeshire Scouting

1. Welcome and Introductions

Alan Sadler welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the guests, HM Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, Very Rev. Mark Bonney and County Commissioners from Girl Guiding, Cathy Caterall, Carol Dalton and Claire Adams, together with Ian Newbery, Regional Lead Volunteer. He then went through the health and safety instructions.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from 335 members, including Alex Alexander and Richard Hames, Vice Presidents.

3. Governance Topics

- a) Minutes of 2023 AGM
The minutes have been previously reviewed by the County Trustee Board at their first meeting after the previous AGM.
- b) Constitution from POR
The model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) was approved.
- c) County's financial year
The financial year of 1st January to 31st December was approved.
- d) Community members of County Scout Council



Cambridgeshire County Scout Council

County President Mrs Julie Spence OBE QPM HM Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire

County Commissioner Chris Ward

Tel 01480 301813 Email chris.ward@cambridgeshirescouts.org.uk

Joint Presidents: HRH The Princess of Wales GCVO and HRH The Duke of Kent

Founder Robert Baden-Powell OM Chief Scout Lt Cdr (Hon) Bear Grylls RN

Incorporated by Royal Charter Charity No 300725

Approval was given to Girl Guiding County Commissioners for Cambridgeshire East and West

e) Number of members appointed to Trustee Board

This was approved as 6 members plus 2 ex-officio members

f) Quorum for future meetings

This was approved as 15 members.

4. Review of the previous year

a) County Lead Volunteer's review of the year

Chris introduced himself and explained his role. The county is on target for moving Scouting forward in a safe manner. Chris is very proud of the progress. There are 6,600 young people across 8 Districts, which is an increase of 3% on 2023, and only 4% below pre-pandemic levels. Adult volunteer numbers have also increased. Currently there are 2,200 young people on the waiting lists. Squirrels are now in its 3rd year with 275, 4-6 year olds across 31 Dreys and the Chief Scout Acorn award has been introduced.

Chris explained the re-organisation structure across Scouting was about getting the right people in the right roles. He thanked the District Lead Volunteers for all they have done across their Districts.

Three Youth leads have been appointed to help make the movement more youth led. They are James Metherram, Ana Ward and Sophie Hallet. James explained that the plan is for them to share the role and meet with Youth leads in each District. This would enable the young people to have more of a say in programming etc. There are currently 300, 18-25 year olds in the County.

Chris detailed some of the events taking place in the County, including Beavers in Tents, which is usually the first camping experience for Beavers. As the Camping Permit is provided by the experienced organising team, it enables leaders without permits to attend with their Colonies. There are events for every section taking place. The Volunteering Development team provides support to induction and learning as well as recognising volunteers for their achievements and the Support Team carries out tasks such as maintenance of property, finances and general support.

Last year the World Scout Jamboree took place in Korea. Chris was involved in the selection process and supported the team in the UK. James Metherram went to the Jamboree as a member of the International Support Team. He explained it was a fantastic experience, and everyone should be encouraged to attend. Despite the adverse conditions, the participants adapted well. The change in programme meant they got to spend extra time in Seoul. 50,000 scouts from around the world gathered in South Korea, with 45 young people and 5 adults being from Cambridgeshire.

Chris then talked briefly about the Coronation in 2023, which James was also able to participate in, together with Conan Fryer and Ellie-Anne Watts. Everyone who took part was awarded the Coronation Medal, which is a National Honour and was presented to James, Conan and Ellie-Anne at the Windsor celebration day. James said he was very proud and lucky to have been selected. He was based at the VIP security checkpoint which was an incredible experience.



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Kings Scout Awards have also been presented to Russell Challis, Daniel Carlton Binmore and Sebastian Parton.

Chris presented a slide listing 92 volunteers who had achieved a Good Service Award in the past year. Ed Sowell pointed out that some of them had previously been Beavers, which shows progression of young people into volunteering roles. Chris also noted that a young person had also received the Meritorious Award during the year.

Scouting in Cambridgeshire is about giving young people fabulous experiences. Chris thanked all volunteers who have contributed to our success this year.

b) Review and consider Annual Report including the annual Statement of the Accounts

Nigel Poulter, County Treasurer gave a summary of accounts and explained the profit and loss with more details e.g. membership size and events.

Last year the accounts moved into recognising deposit interest, which includes Abington Fund, some is accrued but not yet paid. Currently, receiving 5%. The accounts are healthy. The County membership charge was not increased and will be reduced, if possible, in the future.

Alan went through the pie chart of expenditure and thanked Chris and Nigel for their reports.

5. Making Appointments

a) Following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the County Trustee Board, the meeting was asked to:-

a. Appoint the County Chair

Chris nominated Alan Sadler as County Chair, this was approved

b. Appoint the County Treasurer

Alan nominated Nigel Poulter as County Treasurer, this was approved

c. Appoint members of the County Trustee Board

Trustees appointed: Tim Burgess, Colin Daniels, Simon Keen and Rhys Davies (who is a new volunteer). Ex-officio trustees are Chris Ward and Ana Ward. Approval was given. There are 10 retiring Trustees, who Alan thanked for all their support, all have agreed to take on other roles

b) Julie Spence, His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant was re-appointed County President, together with Vice Presidents, Alex Alexander, Richard Hames and Steve Taylor.

c) Bradshaw Johnson were appointed the Independent Examiner

d) Colin Daniels and Ana Ward were elected as representatives of the County Scout Council on the Council of the Scout Association



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6. Address by the Regional Commissioner, Ian Newbery

Ian thanked everyone for all the good work they have done for Scouting in the past year. He noted that young people are still suffering with their mental health following the pandemic. It should not be underestimated the effect this has had on young people's lives.

Compliance has been focussed on this year with safety and safeguarding taking priority. It is appreciated how difficult this has been.

Ian thanked Alan and The Very Rev Mark Bonney DL for their support, and Chris for his hard work with the County.

7. Address on behalf of the County President

The Very Rev Mark Bonney, Deputy Lord Lieutenant gave a speech on behalf of the County President.

Mark said it was an honour to be representing HM Lord Lieutenant. He is currently the Dean of Ely and has only represented HM Lord Lieutenant a few times. It was 60 years since he was a Cub Scout. It is critical to provide opportunities such as Scouting for young people to develop. Mark was pleased to hear about the diversity of young people across Cambridgeshire and in particular the success of the muslim Scout Groups in Cambridge and Peterborough. On behalf of HM Lord Lieutenant he thanked everyone for their dedication.

Alan thanked The Very Rev Mark Bonney for his kind words.

8. Awards

Chris asked The Very Rev Mark Bonney to make the following presentations:-

Rachel Sugden – 15 years Length of Service

Sam Wright – 20 years Length of Service

Alan Sadler – 25 years Length of Service

David Smith – 25 years Length of Service

Ian Braybrooke – 30 years Length of Service

Ray Andrews – 40 years Length of Service

Brian Crowe – 50 years Length of Service

Chris asked Ian Newbery to present the Silver Wolf to Steve Taylor. The unrestricted gift of the Chief Scout presented to Steve, a most worthy recipient.

Chris gave a brief description of what each volunteer had achieved in their scouting career.

9. End of Formal AGM

Alan thanked everyone for attending and the meeting adjourned for tea, coffee and cake.



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