

1st Kesgrave Group Scout Council

Saturday 16th July 2022, 7.30pm,



Present: Leaders, Executive Members, Parents and Young People attending Family Camp.

Apologies: were received from: Nick Hepplestone

The AGM began with a minute's round of applause in memory of Mark Wade and Alan Brown who had sadly died during recent months. Both men had played important roles in the group and their contributions will be greatly missed.

1. **Chairman's Welcome:** – See Appendix 1.
2. **Minutes of the previous AGM:** The minutes of the 2021 AGM had been displayed throughout the camp and had been published on the group's website prior to this meeting. Karen Pringle proposed acceptance and approval was granted by a show of hands.
3. **Group Scout Leader & Section Leaders' Reports:** See Appendix 2.
4. **Treasurer's Report and Approval of Accounts:** The annual report had been available at camp for viewing. CC summarised the accounts. Activities continue to be restricted by Covid. Fees were lowered in response and used money from council grants to support the group's running. Christmas Post and Fair resumed. \$ members WSJ 2023 raised £4K each. Target nearly reached. £14K surplus at the end of the year. Helped to subsidise camp activities. CC proposed approval of the account and these were approved by a show of hands.
5. **Group Scout Leader's nomination for Chairman:** Gareth Cox nominated Carl Gloess. This was approved by a show of hands.
6. **Election of Secretary:** Carl Gloess proposed Karen Pringle. This was approved by a show of hands.
7. **Election of Treasurer:** Carl Gloess proposed Celia Comber. This was approved by a show of hands.
8. **Election of no more than eight parent/carers of young people members of the group:**

The following parent/carers had stood for election and were elected by a show of hands

- 1 Daniel Thomas
- 2 Jon Ashley
- 3 Gareth Brown
- 4 Mel Meekings
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

9. Nomination of other members of the Executive Committee: Gareth Cox proposed the following representatives who were all nominated unanimously by a poll.

<i>Group Vice Chairman</i>	Nick Hepplestone
<i>Hall Bookings Secretary</i>	Judith Francis
<i>Fund Raising</i>	Jean Bridle
<i>Rupert Fison Centre Director</i>	Alan Comber

At the next Group Executive meeting the following people will be co-opted to the executive committee:

<i>Outdoor Activities</i>	Jo Saagi
<i>General Purposes</i>	Tony Smith
<i>General Purposes</i>	Tracey Vobe
<i>500 Club Administrator</i>	Sarah Linsell

10. Section leaders choosing to sit on the Group Executive Committee:

<i>Beaver Leader Representative</i>	Mel Clack
<i>Cub Leader Representative</i>	Alex Leggett
<i>Scout Leader Representative</i>	Henry Slim

11. Any other business: There was no other business

The meeting closed at 8.17pm

Appendix 1

Chairman's Address AGM 2022

Honoured Guests, Leaders, Supporters, parents and young people - Scouting is back – although we all know, it never really went away! Welcome to the Annual Group Meeting for 2022 here at our much-delayed Family Camp.

The coronavirus situation continues to challenge everyone in many different ways and it has led to a few changes on the way to a new 'normal' so we have to look at things differently now and how things are managed and implemented... and frequently this has a cost of some sort associated with it.

The group is now 95 years old so what the future brings to keep us from celebrating our centenary in 2027 remains to be seen, but there is one constant – our volunteers and without them taking on the many tasks involved of running the group and its facilities, it would all crumble.

The GSL report will have all the details of scouting members but I am happy to report that we are still the largest group in the county in terms of young people and leaders. BUT we have a waiting list of young people wanting to join scouting to take part in the activities you will have been enjoying and that needs more adults to train-up and become leaders. If you would like to know more, then please come and talk to the leaders about what's involved.

So, especially this year, in these extraordinary and unprecedented times we found ourselves enduring, I would like to say a really HUGE 'THANK YOU' to our volunteers in all the different roles they have taken on from committee members to helpers to leaders and assistants who continue to make this group achieve what it does for the young people and community of Kesgrave.

Thank you ALL very much for what you have done and continue to do with building up a bank of 'skills for life' in our futures.

Carl Gloess
Chairman

Appendix 2

Report from the Group Scout Leader

I want to start my report this evening with a celebration. A celebration of three people who are, sadly, no longer with us.

Mark Wade, who quite possibly was Kesgrave's longest serving member, who many of the adults may remember as their Cub Leader. Mark was a Wolf Cub, Scout, Senior Scout, Rover Scout, Cub Leader, Venture Scout Leader and Beaver leader in the group. He also found the time to be Assistant County Commissioner responsible for launching Beaver Scouts in Suffolk during the 1980s. Mark had a wealth of knowledge, an unlimited supply of games, activities and equipment. He had endless enthusiasm and nothing was too much trouble. He was a scout through and through.

Paul Martin, who, on our last family camp made quite an entrance, by dropping in (in a controlled fashion) as he flew from Kesgrave on his paraglider. Many of you may have seen him over head (or heard the "lawnmower engine on a parachute"). Paul volunteered supporting the Scout Section, he was a member of the County Climbing and Hillwalking team, enabling us to take the Scouts to many places.

Alan Brown, who was one of Mark Wade's cubs, was, in many ways, co-opted into volunteering on two fronts. As a parent and as the husband of a leader, many of you will know Carole Brown from Gipping Beavers. Alan has helped at camps and activities, taking a key role in the Scout Cycle camp. His real forte was as our Buildings and Health & Safety advisor, utilising his "day job" to ensure we are safe as well as managing the contracts to refurbish and improve the building.

These three individuals, as with all our volunteers, embody our values as members of 1st Kesgrave and wider scouting family. The fun, the laughter and the support we offer each other. It is great to see that Carole and Adam are here today.

We could fall silent in remembrance, but instead, we want to celebrate these three individuals. Can we all join together in one minute of applause.

[Pause]

In my last two AGM reports, COVID-19 was the key theme. For the 2021-22 year, COVID-19 has continued to bumble along in the background, however, as we are here today, it is testament to how far we have moved on. This weekend is in effect our booking for 2020! Over the past year we have seen more and more activities return, we have seen fun and adventure – the photographs and reports that have been available in the server demonstrate the range of things that have gone on!

The things that happen in our group, don't happen by magic, well they do, through the magic of our wonderful volunteers. They have had two years of learning new ways of doing scouting, to now be remembering how to 'do' scouting in person; so far, we seem to have remembered what to do! The last two years have very much been about "getting through", now we need to look at building on what we have and growing our group back again to where we were. We currently have some sections "mothballed" ready to open up so we can expand again. We have a number of young people who could join beavers now, the only thing stopping them joining is having enough adult volunteers to run the meetings. We can offer flexible volunteering if you can't commit every week, the support of experienced leaders to mentor you through and appropriate training for the role. We also have a lot of fun too! As I said earlier, we can accommodate volunteers "behind the scenes" as well as in front. Please speak to me or another member of the team if you are interested.

I hope as we move into the next year we will continue to see the fun and adventure continue at 1st Kesgrave.

Gareth Cox, Group Scout Leader

16th July 2022