

4th Worcester Park Scout Group
Sunday 14th May 2017
2017 Annual Review Agenda

1. Introduction & Welcome by the Chairman.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Approval of minutes of 2016 Annual Review held on 15th May 2016.
4. Matters arising from minutes.
5. Chairman's report.
6. GSL's report.
7. FRT report.
8. Acceptance of annual accounts.
Appointment of Accounts Scrutinizer for 2017 accounts.
9. Confirmation of Chairman's appointment by GSL.
10. Election of Officers.
Treasurer
Secretary
Members of the Executive
11. Questions from the floor.
12. Closing remarks by Chairman

Going Up Ceremony

BBQ

4th Worcester Park Scout Group
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Sunday 15th May 2016

Present on stage: *Chairman:* John Green (JG), *Group Scout Leader:* Valerie Street (VS) *Secretary:* Neal Oxley (NO), *Treasurer:* Sharon Davies (SD).

Also present:

Margaret Pennington, Tom Pennington, Dave Sweetland, Anne Mays, Andy Marshall, Tina O'Donnell, Peter Lawrence, Diana Worrall, Graham Worrell, Mike O'Donnell, Andy Marshall, Mark Dennis.

Apologies:

Paul Green, Steph Green, Graham Smith, Ron Kinton, Peter Kinton, Sheila Kinton & Bridget Green.

The Annual Review was preceded by a Scouts Own presented by Silver Troop on the theme of the Queens 90th Birthday.

The Chairman, John Green (JG), opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Minutes of previous AGM

The minutes of the previous AGM were read out (due to issues with the printer) having been previously circulated, were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising

No matters arising were recorded.

Chairman's report

JG read out his report (attached).

Treasurer's report

Accounts available for last year. Have been sent out via email. No issues reported. They have been scrutinised and financial position is much the same as last year.

Adopted – DS

Seconded – Mike O'Donnell

Adopted by the meeting.

No questions were forthcoming.

FRT report

DW reported on several events during the past year. We heard about the Jumble sales, the quiz night and the Summer Fair. A beaver disco had been held and we held a stall at the Worcester Park Street Fair.

We had lent our candy floss equipment and the personnel to man it at the Cheam Common Summer Fair.

Over the year £7361 had been raised in total.

The Fund Raising Team had presented £9,500 to the group.

DW was happy to announce that the FRT ad found new treasurer but was still looking for a secretary and enquired of all those present if anyone is interested? DW thanked all those who had helped during the year. The meeting was reminded of the date of the Summer fair – Saturday 2nd July and invited to take part in the poster design competition.

GSL's Report

VS read out her report (attached).

Election of Executive Committee

John confirmed that he was willing to stay on as Chairman.

Valerie proposed that JG stay on as Chairman

JG proposed as per last year except for Neal. There were no objections.

The Executive Committee will henceforth consist of:

John Green - Chairman

Valerie Street - Group Scout Leader

Sharon Davis – Treasurer

To be filled – Secretary

David Sweetland – Assistant Group Scout Leader

Tom Pennington – Assistant Group Scout Leader

Paul Green – Assistant Group Scout Leader and Scout Leader (Silver Troop)

Andy Marshall – Quarter Master

Diana Worrall – Fund Raising Team Chairman

Tina O'Donnell – Explorer Scout Leader

Mike O'Donnell – Explorer Scout Leader

Anne Mays – Beaver Scout Leader (Aspen Colony)

Mark Dennis – Cub Scout Leader (Anglia Pack)

Ben Alembick – Cub Scout Leader (Brownsea Pack)

Margaret Pennington – Cub Scout Leader (Charterhouse Pack)

Mark Wicks – Scout Leader (Purple Troop)

Peter Lawrence – Transport Manager

Graham Smith – Active Support co-ordinator

VS requested offers of HOHO (Home hospitality) for Dutch Scouts who would be visiting in the summer.

JG closed the meeting.

END OF ANNUAL REVIEW

Events were then concluded with a Going Up Ceremony presided over by Dave Sweetland.

4th. Worcester Park Scout Group Chairman's Review 2015 –16

The Group has continued to provide training and activates for our young people providing them with a good foundation for their future lives, this can only be achieved through dedicated leadership provided by the many adults both warranted and unwarranted, lead by our GSL Valerie, who give their time freely to the Group. I have also noticed this year that the increase in size of the District Explorer Unit hosted by us has in turn increased the number of young helpers and young leaders assisting with the running of our sections.

All of this Scouting activity is also supported by other parts of the group; the executive committee has continued to ensure our finances and premises are kept in good order. I would especially like to thank Sharon Davies our treasurer for the meticulous keeping of our accounts always producing the figures in a clear and concise way that we can all understand, and Jackson-Scott Associates Ltd. who have agreed to take over as our Honorary Scrutinisers, as required by the Charity Commissioners.

We also receive considerable support from others outside of our organisation; I would like to thank Grant of Dual Tools of Worcester Park and Dan of Swift Signs in Worcester Park who continue to support us. We also receive considerable support from members of Scout 4 x 4 especially with some of the more arduous tasks in the maintenance of HQ. I would also like to thank Chris Vickers for his efforts in keeping our grass mown. Grants have also been received from Sutton Council, and other organisations for which we are very grateful.

All of this activity can only be made possible if it is supported by our own funds; to this end we are very fortunate to have a fund raising team energetically led by its chairperson Diana Worrall, together they ran several successful events during the year and nearly reached their fundraising target raising £9,500 for the group, thank you all on behalf of the group but I am sorry to have to say that for 2016 we have had to reduce the fund raising team's target to £7,000 this is because the support from parents and friends in running events has decreased so the work load on a very small number of dedicated people has become too great, and therefore the number of events

in 2016 has had to be reduced, be assured our main events the Summer Fair, and Christmas Fair together with our two Jumble Sales will continue. Please help the Fund Raising Team by supporting them in any way you can.

We have continued to implement our development plan, in several ways, as you see the main hall floor has been renovated and new marking put down, the car park has been improved in places and we are in the process of updating our electrical system. We have also spent a considerable amount on the servicing and maintenance of our vehicle fleet to provide safe transport facilities for our young people and to extend the life of our fleet. Work is continuing on a new revised development plan.

Overall it takes about £48.000 per year to run and maintain the assets of the group which is a considerable amount of money but with careful stewardship we continue to keep a steady course.

Some of you will know that a local infant's school are using our premises in order to deliver part of their outdoor curriculum, we as a group are very pleased to be able to assist the local community in this way which is to our mutual benefit.

On behalf of all at the "4th" I thank most sincerely all those who have helped the group in any way during the year and hope you enjoyed participating in our "82nd" year of Scouting in Worcester Park. I look forward to seeing as many of you, friends, helpers, members and parents/guardians of our young people as possible at our review of the year after Silver Troop's Scouts Own on the 15th. May at 11.00a.m.

John Green
Chairman
May 2016

Group Scout Leaders report

We are at the beginning of 2016 and already so much has happened with much more planned for later in the year. Our members range from 5 years old to 95 years old. We have enjoyed a good year and there is much to report.

I am delighted to report that the toilet block is finished and it looks wonderful and is greatly admired by all visitors. With a small adjustment to the quality of the toilet paper, all is now functioning properly.

The hall floor has been stripped and varnished and is almost much admired. The lines will be restored soon as the lines and the centre circle are very useful for games and falling in.

The computer suite with the title of the Green Room is now fully functional and has an additional photocopier.

I am pleased to report that the Weekly news is well received within the group and is proving an excellent way to keep everyone informed. It all goes out via email and only four copies are printed each week. Another way of sharing information especially with photographs has been the groups Facebook page. This has been most successful when at camp or events so those at home can see what has been happening to those who are away.

During the last twelve months all the beaver colonies have enjoyed a sleepover at our own HQ. There were activities during the day and a campfire in the evening at both events. There is not a lot of sleep but a lot of fun and for some the first time of being away from home for one night.

The cub packs went to camp last summer in different locations. Charterhouse camped at Boiderhurst near to Box Hill, Brownsea went to the usual beautiful location last year joined by the ducks and Anglia joined in the Japan Jamboree style camp organised by the district. Some cub sections ran weekend camps as well. All went well and many badges were earned.

Purple and Silver Troop scouts have had the opportunities to take part in Caving, Mountain Camp and a Water Weekend. The Explorer unit joined in for some of these events. All these events have taken a huge amount of organising and the dedication of leaders from the fourth and also leaders with special skills have given up their time as well. Some Leaders who do not even belong to the fourth have taken time off work so our young people can participate in all these fun activities. Hopefully you will be able to admire some of the photographs taken, at the scouts own throughout the year.

When I became GSL I asked Paul Green if he could organise some of the camping and he has certainly worked very hard for what has already happened especially Mountain Camp in Snowdonia with two bases for the last two years. He is very busy organising the scout troops, the explorer unit and the leaders to go over to Holland in August this year to stay with the scout group that we are twinned with at Apeldoorn. Without Paul's extraordinary efforts, many would have not had the opportunities to participate in such well organised events. I am most grateful for the time Paul has spent on organising these camps. He even organised a recce last summer to ensure all would go well this year.

To help keep the cost down so all who wanted to could participate in these events, the scouts and the explorers have been busy fundraising this year. Internet links have been set up when you shop on the internet. We have enjoyed a quiz night and a race night . A slightly larger event was organised in the way of a sponsored climb on a mobile climbing wall. This all happened on a chilly Saturday in February at Stone Place Car park. The aim was to climb the wall 484 times which would be the equivalent of climbing Snowden, Ben Nevis and Scafell Pike. Not only did they achieve their aim they surpassed it and reached over 520 climbs. The sponsorship money has reached £2,800. Along with the other events the goal has been reached to reduce the costs of all the camps to make it affordable for all wishing to attend.

During the year the young people in the group have participated in challenge cups within the district, joined in 24hour activities and some went on night hikes or travelled further to go skiing. Visits have been made to Fire Stations, Police Stations and churches. We have had visits from the police and a guide dog and his owner came to give a talk. Many have become proficient at riding their bicycles, some have done basic car mechanics. Backwoods cooking is always good fun. We have learnt how to keep fit and eat healthily. We have learnt sign language and semaphore. The programmes for all sections have been varied, entertaining and educational and lots of fun. Basic first Aid has been taught to the young people. The beavers even had their own disco.

Leaders have also kept their first aid up to date with refresher courses. Adult leaders have also done safety and Safeguarding course. The district ran a skills day of all adults last year at our HQ and many from the 4th attended. Some leaders have finished their training and are due to be awarded their wood beads. They are Andy Marshall, Albert Short and Grahame Worrall. Ian Cawley received his last year. Well done to all of you.

Amber Stamford volunteered to become the beaver scout leader for Birch colony. Karin Schussler and Rebecca Hope joined Cedar Colony. Dave Marston and Louise Halsey took over running Brownsea Pack and Ben Alembic became ACSL so he could spend more time with his family. Many thanks to Ben for leading Brownsea these past years. I presented adult scarves to Scott Marshall who is now an ACSL with Anglia and William Eyre who is with Purple troop and often helps with Birch Colony. Edward Yelf, Greg Dibbens, Emma Bentley, Mike Dohan and Roy Carley were also appointed to sections and have begun their training. Mark Eates started with Purple troop but has had time off but we are hoping he will join us again soon. We are most fortunate to have occasional helpers who make a huge difference especially joining in camps.

A few years ago when Katy Eyre took on Birch colony she persuaded a small group of mums to help out for a few weeks on a rotation basis. They were kind enough to continue when I helped with the colony last year and did the first term with Amber. They have now retired from beavers on a regular basis and we are very grateful for their commitment. They are Jane Francis, Nikki Eates and Hilary Hunt. Also a special mention from me to Anna Rugsataya who has always stepped in when I have asked.

All the sections except one have a team of Young Leaders who are explorer scouts who help each week. YLs are essential with beaver sections!! Thank you for turning up every week and making the leaders lives easier.

We have two scout active support sections within the 4th. These are adult sections, as the grownups like to have fun as well. We have the scout 4 x 4 section that have lots of marvellous adventures and due to the vast range of skills they possess, they help out at the 4th when required. Ranging from electrics, tree cutting, drain cleaning and transport to name a few. They also give their time and energy to others when needed from providing off road experiences and helping out at Gilwell. Thank you for your help, support and humour. Also, the field has always been ready for events the past year due to Chris Vickers - who is the scout 4 x 4 manager - and the trusty lawnmower. Thank you.

The other active support unit is known as the Fellowship. They continue to meet each Wednesday morning to play table tennis and then meet monthly on a Thursday with their own programme. They have always provided assistance when required. I always appreciate your wisdom, company and coffee on a Wednesday morning.

We have introduced a group polo shirt which is purple with the fourth logo in silver. This is now the official 4th polo shirt. Many members are now wearing them and hopefully soon all members will be wearing them especially in the summer months. Please purchase them they can be worn by every member of the group.

4th Worcester Park Scout Group is quite large with 287 members of whom 187 are under 14. There are many who give their time willingly to help run the group and look after the buildings and field and are part of the Executive Committee. I am very grateful to have John Green as my Chairman of the Executive but he also does many one off jobs and answers the phone quite often to hear "dad, if you have the time, can you?". He does a lot more than just chair the exec. Thank you so much John.

Sharon Davies is the Group Treasurer and I am pleased to report she is doing a wonderful job and I am truly grateful for all she does. Please be kind to her, she has more deadlines to beat than most in the group. Neal Oxley is our Group Secretary and has done an excellent job this past year preparing minutes and agendas for not only the exec meeting but the scouters meeting as well. My grateful thanks to both of you.

The fundraising team have worked hard this past year and raised a lot of money for the group at events ranging from the summer fair to the jumbles sales. They organised the beaver disco and the Easter egg hunt too. My thanks to Diana Worrall and her team. They are so busy they even have their own QM, Jane Francis.

Without the leaders of the sections we would not have a scout group. The past year they have delivered excellent programmes for all the young people and they spend more time planning the meetings than the time it takes to hold the meetings. You are all truly wonderful and you make the 4th the amazing group that it is. Thank you so much.

Some other interesting facts from the past year are that 72 members of the group joined in the with District St Georges day parade held in Sutton. Over 200 members and families attended our annual review last year. 70 young people joined in the Easter Egg hunt. A large number of very smart young people and leaders took part in Remembrance Sunday last November at Church then marched down the high street in Worcester Park. £210 was raised because people put their green tokens in the box

at Waitrose. Some members of the group were in the Gang show this year either on stage or behind the scenes.

We said welcome and congratulations to Albert and Chanel Short and baby Elizabeth. Also to Clair and Dave Percy and baby Chloe. Also to Leigh and Rowena Wicks a son Reuben.

We had three couples in the group celebrate their diamond wedding anniversaries. We congratulated Pauline and Geoff Morris, Sheila and Peter Kinton and Joyce and Graham Smith.

Finally we said goodbye to Ian Smith. 1934 – 2015. I wrote the following in the Weekly news:

On Friday the 8th May one of our members left us and joined the Big Scout group in the sky. Ian started as a cub scout and went through all the sections at 1st Cheam. He was the President of 1st Cheam Scout Group and he enjoyed the Fellowship group here at the 4th. He was a regular visitor on a Wednesday morning to play table tennis and catch up with friends. He was a generous and kind man. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Valerie A Street
Group Scout Leader