



Scouts

1st Ince and Elton

1st Ince and Elton Scout Group

Trustees Annual Report

2020/2021

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Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name: 1st Ince and Elton Scout Group
Charity Number: 1025963
Principal Address: 23 Ryecroft, Elton, Chester, CH2 4LR

Trustees

Natalie Tudor	Group Chairperson
Linda Canham	Acting Group Secretary
Sue Butler	Group Treasurer
Linda McKay	Assistant Group Scout Leader
Sarah Price	Section Leader – Beavers
Graham Proctor	Section Leader – Cubs
Ashley Proctor	Section Leader – Scouts

Sharon Lennon
Alex Weale
Callum Linger

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Group's governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the By-Laws of the Association and the Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) of the Scout Association.

Group Scout Council

The Group Scout Council is the electoral body to which the Group Executive Committee is accountable. Membership of the Group Scout Council is open to:

- Scouters
- Colony, Pack and Troop Assistants
- Administrators
- Advisers
- Patrol Leaders
- All parents of Beavers Scouts, Cubs Scouts and Scouts
- any other supporters including former Scouts and their parents who may be admitted by the Group Scout Leader, the Group Executive Committee, or the Group Scout Council

Constitution

The Group is operated as an educational charity under the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association. It has a constitution agreed by the Group Scout Council, but which is subservient to its governing documents.

Trustee Selection

The trustees are appointed in accordance with the Group's constitution and the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association.

Group Executive Committee

The Group is led by a Group Scout Leader and managed by a Group Executive Committee. They are accountable to the Group Scout Council for the satisfactory running of the Group.

The Executive Committee exists to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting the responsibilities of their appointment.

Members of the Executive Committee must act collectively as charity Trustees of the Scout Group, and in the best interests of its members to:

- Comply with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association
- Protect and maintain any property and equipment owned by and/or used by the Group.
- Manage the Group finances.
- Provide insurance for people, property and equipment.
- Provide sufficient resources for Scouting to operate. This includes, but is not limited to, supporting recruitment, other adult support, and fundraising activities.
- Promote and support the development of Scouting in the local area.
- Manage and implement the Safety Policy locally.
- Ensure that a positive image of Scouting exists in the local community.
- Appoint and manage the operation of any sub-Committees, including appointing a Chair to lead the sub-Committees.
- Ensure that Young People are meaningfully involved in decision making at all levels within the Group.
- The opening, closure and amalgamation of Sections in the Group as necessary.
- Appoint Administrators, Advisers, and Co-opted members of the Executive Committee.
- Approve the Annual Report and Annual Accounts after their examination by an appropriate auditor, independent examiner, or scrutineer.

Chairpersons Report

Nat Tudor – Group Chairperson

I cannot quite believe we are holding another AGM on-line, but here we are.

To start, I cannot thank our leaders enough for how they have conducted the online activities and kept our group going throughout 2020 and into 2021. It has been fantastic. BUT now we are all back face-to-face which is far better, not only for the leaders, but for our Young People also.

They get to engage with practical activities, and I am sure the parents are grateful for less mess in their kitchens. I know they have achieved a massive amount of badge work, which you should all be really proud of. Our leaders also deserve far more recognition than I could ever give.

I am sure you have seen the exterior works taking place at HQ. New fencing to keep the area secure, we will have a fire pit, sensory garden, our own campground, we are getting a new refurbished 40ft container, so the Scout Hut is kept clear.

Not only that, but we are also having the hut clad so that it looks more pleasing to the eye. It is all very exciting! This is thanks to our Fundraising Committee, Veolia and of course our project manager Steve. The site so far is looking incredible and Jack who is leading the team is doing an amazing job. When the project is complete the area can be used for events for the wider community also.

We also have some exciting news! IF the Governments roadmap stays as it is currently planned and restrictions are lifted on 19th July and all is still well by November 5th, we will be holding our 10th Year Anniversary Bonfire & Fireworks Spectacular with Callum at the helm. But we obviously need to keep a close eye on what happens with the Governments restrictions and guidelines. Watch this space!!!

Unfortunately, we are losing Sue as our Treasurer, so if anyone has any book-keeping or accounting experience and would like to join our team please do get in touch. Thank you, Sue, for everything you have done, you have been treasured.

We also need members for our exec committee, and elsewhere in the group - so if anyone would like to help in any capacity please get in touch, you will be welcomed.

Ash once again thanks for your constant stream of on-line updates for 1st Ince & Elton, without you we would be goosed.

Beavers Section Report

Sarah Price – Section Leader (Beavers)

It has been an unusual and challenging year for the Beavers over the past 12 Months. We have met primarily online, and the Beavers took to this challenge very well. We as Leader team had to be very inventive and some of us had to learn how to present online – which was a challenge – for me!

The Beavers were very patient with me, and we successfully handed out 183 badges over the past 12 Months, including:

- Science
- Cyclist
- Creative
- Cooking and many more.

We have 4 Beavers who have successfully achieved their Chief Scout Bronze Award, so a very well done to them.

During lockdown, our numbers stayed consistent. Since starting back face-to-face we have increased to 24 active Beavers, which is fantastic.

We have 5 moving up to Cubs and have 2 on the waiting list to start.

We have really enjoyed returning face-to-face and it is great to see all our young people and their smiling faces.

I would like to thank all the parents for their support over lockdown, as their children would be unable to participate without them. I would especially like to thank my amazing Leadership Team, Hayley, Jaimie, and Vicky. They have put up with my terrible technological skills and made me laugh when things did not go to plan. You are the BEST!

Thank you.

Cubs Section Report

Callum Linger – Section Assistant

Well, what another whirlwind of a year for everyone, Unfortunately Akela was not too well during last year - as such Cubs was put on hold and now, he is back fighting fit. We did however manage to run some online meetings late last year and this year, which included:

- Road Safety – with 3rd Frodsham
- Scavenger Hunts
- Cooking/ Baking activities
- Christmas Zoom evening
- Origami
- Different Countries and their Scouting Uniform
- Chinese New Year
- Navigation
- Air Activities
- Hike Activity
- Building a mini weatherproof shelter and a raft for the sink
- Local Knowledge and Environment
- LOTS AND LOTS OF GAMES

We have however managed to return to face-to-face on some evenings, but the weather had other ideas which has seen us postpone 2 meetings, this being said the first night back we ran some games, and another we had some s'mores on small fires – which was nice to return home smelling of fire again!

We aim to continue to offer a programme based outside the hut – although the weather may have other ideas, we will certainly do our best to maintain some form of normality based on what has truly been a strange year.

Akela would like to extend his thanks for those who have attended the online sessions and has enjoyed welcoming most of the section back face-to-face which has been a much-needed change from the Zoom meetings.

Scouts Section Report

Ashley Proctor – Section Leader (Scouts)

To say that the last year was more of the same would be a massive lie! What an insane 12 months it has been for us all. Various impracticalities and work commitments of our volunteers made it challenging for us to meet as a section between June and October last year.

With that said though, in November we managed to get all our ducks in a row and were able to recommence our weekly meetings, albeit virtually via Zoom! Having been using similar technology for Home Schooling, our Scouts adapted well to the online meetings.

As Leaders, we might be using Microsoft Teams and Zoom on a regular basis for work – but translating that into leading a group of Scouts online is a whole different kettle of fish! Despite these challenges though, we have managed to carry on with our programme and have so far handed out 44 badges – with more on the way, including:

- Chef
- Local Knowledge
- Digital Maker
- Craft and many more.

We have 1 Scout who is very close to successfully achieving their Chief Scout Gold Award, there's just a final few hurdles to get through before we'll be able to award it later in the year.

Since the end of April, we have been very fortunate in the fact that we have been able to restart face-to-face activities. Since then, we have held meetings at Queen Charlotte's Wood, Delamere Forest, out and about around Elton as well as outdoors at our Scout HQ.

It has been fantastic finally being able to return to face-to-face activities and has certainly been a much-welcomed change from online meeting. I am sure the Scouts will agree with that as well!

Unfortunately, the various lockdowns and gap of no Scouting between June and October has had an impact on our section numbers. At one point we were running with as low as 11 young people.

The good news though is that we have recently had 5 young people move up from Cubs, and a new member has joined us since returning to face-to-face activities – which takes our current number up to 17 young people!

I would just like to end by saying a huge thank you to our Scouts and their parents for sticking with us over these last 12 months. Thanks for putting up with our last-minute change of plans and helping us facilitate the necessary changes we have had to make over the last year to keep everyone safe!

A massive thank you goes out to Steve and Sarah as well for everything they have done to support the section over the last year. It really is appreciated by all.

Stay safe.

Treasurer's Report

Sue Butler – Treasurer

2020 (All figures rounded to nearest £100)

2020 was a very quiet year for accounts. The only fundraising managed was the Quiz n Curry evening, held shortly before lockdown. The Plant Sales, that the volunteers all worked so hard towards, had to be cancelled and ultimately refunded, although some kind folks let us keep their payments as a donation. A fair amount of money paid in for camps was also refunded in 2020, with more refunds done in 2021.

Income

Total income for 2020 was £21,255, with a breakdown of income as below:

	2019	2019
	£'000	£'000
Total Income	21.3	23.2
Of which:		
Donations	13	7.3
Fundraising	1.1	6.9
Member subscriptions	4.6	5.2
Camps	1.6	2.6
Outing and hikes	0.5	1.2
Other	0.5	0.2

Fundraising

As mentioned above, our fundraising figure is made up of the Quiz n Curry night and the donations from the plant sale.

Donations

Our only donor last year was Cheshire West with their COVID grants.

Expenditure

Expenditure is also down from 2019 for obvious reasons

	2020	2019
	£'000	£'000
Total Expenditure	8.9	18.1
Of which:		
Hut Renovation	0.1	4.3
Fundraising	0.6	4.5
Camps	1.0	2.0
Census	2.9	1.8
Outings and hikes	0.5	1.6
Equipment	0.4	1.3
Badges and Uniform	0.2	0.7
Utilities (heat, light, water, maintenance)	1.6	1.0
Other	1.2	0.8

The census cost went up from last year, as did the sundry costs. Sundry and maintenance costs are up due to Risk Assessment requirements being met, and getting COVID ready for re-opening.

Subscriptions

Subscriptions were remarkably not that much lower than 2019, even though we did give breaks on 2020 subscriptions for those who needed it.

Bank Accounts

Amounts held in Bank Accounts or cash as at 31st December 2020 were £25,874

	£'000
Cash and bank balances @ 31/12/19	13.5
Net income	12.3
Cash and bank balances @ 31/12/20	25.8

A full set of the 2020 Annual Accounts are included in the appendix below.

Appendix 1 – Full Accounts 2020

1st Ince and Elton Scout Group				
Annual Accounts for Year Ended 31st December 2020				
Opening Balance as of 01/01/2020				
			Bank	£ 13,203.62
			Cash	£ 352.79
Total				£ 13,556.41
Income		Expenditure		
Subscriptions	£ 4,584.00		Hut Renovation	£ 149.29
Donation	£ 12,968.00		Census	£ 2,892.50
Fundraising	£ 1,078.39		Fundraising	£ 592.22
Camps	£ 1,575.00		Camps	£ 959.06
Outings and Hikes	£ 496.55		Uniform	£ -
Rent	£ 680.00		Badges	£ 242.32
Sundry	£ -		Equipment	£ 372.81
Stripe/Go Cardless	-£ 127.02		Outings and Hikes	£ 543.40
			Electricity	£ 703.47
			Water	£ -
			Hut Maintenance	£ 961.28
			Insurance	£ 315.00
			Sundry	£ 1,205.64
	£ 21,254.92			£ 8,936.99
Closing Balance as of 31/12/2020				
			Bank	£ 24,991.28
			Cash	£ 883.06
Total				£ 25,874.34
Split by Reserve		General	Total	
Opening Balance as of 01/01/2019		£13,556.41		£ 13,556.41
Income		£21,254.92		£ 21,254.92
Expenditure		£ 8,936.99		£ 8,936.99
Closing Balance as of 31/12/2020		£25,874.34		£ 25,874.34