

HIGHAM WOOD SCOUT & GUIDE GROUP

(Charity Registration No. 267761)

MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Via ZOOM

5th October 2021

Attendance:

Hannah Fraser Guide District Commissioner, Reverend Sharon Lovelock sponsoring authority, Keith Reynolds (Chairman), Flora Boorman, (Treasurer), Alison Rudd (GGL & 13th Guides), Karin Grey (Secretary), Hazel Foster (GSL & Gladstone GSL), Peter Foster (Gladstone Cubs), Chris Parker (17th Air Scouts AGSL), Kevin Richardson (Scout troop Parent Rep), Martin Rapley (Bandmaster), Kathy Mahoney (Beavers), Neil MacAskill.

Apologies for Absence:

1. Apologies for Absence:

Victoria Emerton (13th Brownies), Louise Neale Girlguiding Tonbridge, Phillip Jesson Tonbridge District Scout Chairman, Jacqui Kidson 13th Guides. Natalie Rudd 12th Tonbridge Rangers Leader

Chairman's Welcome:

Keith welcomed Phillip Jesson and Hannah Fraser representing the Districts and Reverend Sharon Lovelock.

2. Approval of Minutes of 2010 AGM:

Minutes of last year's AGM circulated to group and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. Proposed by Hazel Foster and agreed Alison Rudd.

3. Chairman's Report:

Chairman's Report under separate cover.

A very big and special thank you, such a dedicated team of leaders, helpers and volunteers. It has been extremely challenging with Covid-19 and the additional measures required. The groups have gone the extra mile to provide young people with a programme of events on-line via ZOOM. It has been appreciated by the very many families involved in scouting and guiding.

2021 update – continued to be able to raise some funds. Also the garage roof has been repaired and roof replaced and new racking installed.

Thank you for following the protocols and undertaking risk assessments.

Keith thanked the District team for all their support and work to help the group.

4. Unit Reports:

Reports given by Keith as meeting held on-line. Aim is for scouting and guiding to continue to be available for all who want to stay involved and support has been provided to families.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Full report under separate cover.

Any Gray was again able to act as Independent Examiner and Flora is very grateful for his support.

The group thanked Andy for supporting this role.

Treasurer's report has been circulated by Flora.

Members' subscriptions are substantially lower than previous year.

Whilst overall income is £91,550.00 this relates to the Band's proposed trip to America. We were fortunate to receive £3,502.00 from the Big Give fund raising campaign and further donations and grants towards the garage roof and repairs amounted to £4,219.00.

Overall expenditure is £121,564.00. General Expenditure has also reduced this year in comparison to previous years. The exception again being from the Band in respect of the America trip being postponed as the decision was made to refund all payments to those who were due to attend.

Gift Aid claim was £4,551.00. We are grateful to all parents who allow us to claim back the tax on subscriptions and the units use these amounts to help fund various activities.

The amount gifted to the Church this year is only £700.00 and it is hoped that once units return a more regular pattern with subscriptions being received, we will be able to contribute more in line with our gifting formula.

There was a deficit for the year of £30,014.00; this was due to the Band's refunding of the America trip funds and a covering note has been added to the financial accounts to this effect.

The units are self-financing and manage subscriptions and payments of activities well. We continue to monitor the amount of reserve cash each unit has.

The Accounts indicate we are in a reasonable financial position as at the end of March 2021. However, until units are back up and running more regularly with members subscriptions being collected, we are likely to see a drop in the group fund reserve.

Accounts were accepted.

Keith and group thanked Flora for all her extremely hard work in organising and keeping the accounts.

6. Election of Officers: Treasurer and Secretary:

Treasurer; Flora Boorman

Group Secretary; Karin Grey

Continuing in their role.

7. Nomination of Chairman:

Hazel thanked Keith for all of his work.

Keith Reynolds was nominated to continue as Chairman and re-elected.

8. Commissioners' Reports:

Guides: Hannah Fraser on behalf of Louise Divisions Commissioner thanked everybody for their support and hard work. It has been a very difficult year and the leaders have done an amazing job and have resolved numerous operational issues to meet the needs of their young people.

Hannah also asked that Marion White be remembered, who very sadly passed away this year, Marion was dedicated to guides and her unit which has now closed

9. Sponsoring Authority:

Reverend Sharon Lovelock – the groups link with the church is important and appreciated.

Sharon thanked the group for their valuable service in supporting young people, with the church family always interested in the updates provided. It is good to see Victoria Emerton back.

Keith thanked Reverend Sharon Lovelock and the church for their support.

10. Any Other Business:

Question raised re cleansing before during and after group meetings – discussion as to best approach.

Kitchen can be used.

Church parade discussion held. Please remember if marching must give a minimum of 6 weeks' notice of parade to the local Council.

Christmas church service discussion – agreed this year will be static, Sunday afternoon carols and band in car park. Date: - 12th December at 11:30am.

Collection will be for: action for Children

Date for next meeting: 18th January 2022 at 8pm, if possible, meet in person tbc.

Meeting finished with a prayer and in memory of Marion White.