

# Warwickshire Scout Council

## Trustees Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

### Objectives and Activities

Our aim is to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social, and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national, and international communities. Warwickshire Scout Council carries out this purpose across Warwickshire via 8 Districts and their local groups.

### Core Strategy

Warwickshire Scout Council supports the strategies of The Scout Association. The Scouting for All Strategy covered the period 2014-18 and set four key goals:

Growth - Scouting succeeds when we offer opportunities to as many young people as possible.

Inclusivity - Scouting continues to become more reflective of the diversity of UK society.

Youth Shaped - Scouting works better when young people shape their experiences.

Community Impact – Scouting is an active part of the community and works with the community.

For the next five years, 2018-2023, we will engage in the Skills for Life strategy which has developed from Scouting for All.

#### Our Mission

Scouting actively engages and supports young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

#### Our Values

We act with care, respect, integrity, cooperation, exploring our own and others' beliefs.

#### Our Goals

Growth

Inclusivity

Youth Shaped

Community Impact

To support the achievement of these Goals, we will focus on three pillars of work:

#### People

More, well trained, better supported, and motivated adult volunteers, and more young people from diverse backgrounds.

#### Perception

Scouting is understood, more visible, trusted, respected, and widely seen as playing a key role in society today.

#### Programme

A fun, enjoyable, high-quality programme consistently delivered and supported by simple (digital) tools.

## **Financial Review**

Activity fully returned to normal this year following the lifting of all pandemic restrictions. Income for the year increased significantly to £561.2K as our Activity Centre re-opened, adult and young leader trainer increased, the County Gang Show returned and we were able to run our quadrennial Get In camp. The camp saw our largest ever attendance and was a great success. The annual census on 31<sup>st</sup> January showed youth membership had grown by 6% to 5,412 and adult membership had also grown by 11% to 1,723. Expenditure increased to £554.0K resulting in a surplus of £7.2K.

Our reserves policy is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the County should income or fund-raising activities fall short of expectations and to enable the County to underwrite its planned programme of activities, including large scale events. The Trustee Board has reviewed the impact of recent economic, social, and financial pressures on its capability to deliver education and development opportunities to young people and has maintained the level of Designated Reserves.

The County holds the following Designated Reserves:

9 months Running Costs for events and regular activities	27,000
Potential uninsured loss on large events	22,000
County Camp Site 50% of annual Operating Revenues	25,000
County Camp Site Restoration Reserve for end of Lease	25,000
Warwickshire Gang Show 50% of annual Operating Revenues	24,000
Other specific future events	5,328
<b>Total</b>	<b>128,328</b>

The County currently holds total reserves more than this level and continues to seek to develop camp and activity centre opportunities to use the excess reserves. However, the Trustee Board considers it should also plan an annual operational deficit in its operating budget to manage the excess amount. The Trustee Board have developed budgets and strategic plans to reduce the level of excess reserves over the medium term. These plans are closely aligned to supporting the outcomes set out within the County's overall Strategic Plan.

None of the funds managed are in deficit and no assets are held by the Charity in the capacity of custodian trustee.

The County has adopted a low-risk investment strategy and all funds are held in current accounts and low risk interest bearing accounts, using only FSCS protected accounts.

With the County Treasurer, the Trustees regularly monitor levels of bank balances and interest rates to ensure the County is receiving best value and income from its banking arrangements.

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The Warwickshire Scout Council is a trust established under the rules which are common to all County Scout Councils as prescribed within the Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) of the Scout Association. Trustees are recruited and appointed in accordance with the relevant sections of the POR.

Warwickshire Scout Council is registered with the Charities Commission, number 506367.

The Trustees have in place systems and internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable reassurance against material mismanagement or loss. These include two signatories/authorisers for

all payments, comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered and regular reports and risk assessments by those seeking to /or running events or activities on behalf of the Scout County.

The Charity meets the Charity Commission public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship/community development.

The Charity has no principal office. The public address for correspondence is The Oaklands, Wainfield Lane, Gwehelog, Usk, Monmouthshire NP15 1RT.

**Trustees**

Andy Walker	Chair
Nigel Hailey	County Commissioner
Philip Revill	Treasurer
Fiona Mitchell	Secretary – Resigned September 2022
Michelle Brierley	Secretary – Appointed September 2022
Paul Wakeley	
Matt Friar	
Ruth Slaney	
Jenny Tyreman	Resigned September 2022
Katrina Collie	
Tony Guy	
Brian Friar	
David Colledge	
Paul Blackmore	
Paul Skipper	
Steven Wright	
Michael Dean	
Mark Earles	
Yvonne Paige-Stimson	Appointed in March 2022, Resigned in September 2022
Laurence Aston	Resigned in March 2022
Stephen Cross	Resigned in January 2023

All trustees served for the full year unless stated otherwise above.

**Declarations**

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustee’s report above.

Signed on behalf of the trustees.

Signature	_____	_____
Full Name	_____	_____
Position	_____	_____
Date	_____	_____