

Wetherby District Scout Council

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2024/25

Monday 8th September 2025 – Riley-Smith Hall, Tadcaster

1. Introduction and welcome

John Smallwood, District Chair, welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

2. Attendance

There were approximately 24 members of the District Scout Council in attendance

3. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from 6 members along with Simon Cocker, District Lead Volunteer and Carol Milburn, County Lead Volunteer.

4. Governance topics

4a. Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 5th September 2024

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on 5th September 2024 were approved.

4b. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR)

On behalf of the Trustee Board John Smallwood proposed the adoption of the model constitution from Chapter 5 of Policy, Organisation and Rules. This was approved.

4c. Note the District's financial year

It was noted that the financial year for Wetherby District Scout Council runs from 1st April to 31st March.

4d. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board

On behalf of the Trustee Board John Smallwood proposed that up to 12 people are appointed to the District Trustee Board, the maximum number set out in POR. This was approved.

4e. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the District Scout Council (excluding this AGM)

On behalf of the Trustee Board John Smallwood proposed that the quorum for future meetings of the District Scout Council be set at 18 people. This was approved.

5. Review of the previous year

5a. The District Lead Volunteer's review of Scouts in the Wetherby District

Kyle Mallory presented the review of 2024/25 on behalf of Simon Cocker, District Lead Volunteer, who was unable to attend.

Kyle noted the continued strength of Wetherby District Scouts, with some new sections opening, growth in others and an increase in the number of young people attaining the top awards. Across the District quality, adventurous programmes have been delivered from local camps and hikes through to District and County events. District events have continued to be well supported, especially District Camp which attracts over 1,000 participants. All these activities and events help our young people to grow in confidence, skills and teamwork. The great strides made this year in improving the volunteer experience were also highlighted.

Looking forward, Kyle outlined the District's priorities for the coming year and some of the exciting events planned, all of which provide an opportunity to build on the strong foundation already created.

Kyle concluded by expressing his sincere thanks to everyone who makes scouting in Wetherby District possible, whether wearing a uniform, helping behind the scenes, supporting fundraising or championing us in the community. All these efforts make scouting what it is in Wetherby District and keep the fire of Scouting burning bright.

5b. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Board including the annual Statement of Accounts

John Smallwood introduced the Trustees' Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.

Ann Hill, District Treasurer, summarised the accounts of Wetherby District Scouts for the 2024/25 financial year and noted the healthy financial position. Cash balances at 31st March 2025 were £72,000, sufficient to meet any unforeseen circumstances or potential costs as set out in the reserves policy. Ann thanked the District Trustees for their support during the year and John Hartley for continuing his many years' service as Independent Examiner.

John Smallwood thanked Ann for the great work she does as Treasurer.

6. Making appointments

6a. Appoint the District Chair

The Trustee Board is responsible for appointing the District Chair and have asked John Smallwood to continue in this role. John has agreed to do so.

6b. Appoint the District Treasurer

The Trustee Board proposed that Ann Hill be re-appointed as District Treasurer and this was approved.

6c. Appoint members of the District Trustee Board

Kyle Mallory was co-opted on to the Trustee Board during the year. His appointment to the Board was approved.

Adrian Smith resigned from the Trustee Board during the year due to ill health after more than 25 years' service. John Smallwood paid tribute to Adrian's invaluable contribution to the work of the Trustee Board and his support for scouting in Wetherby District, which has been greatly appreciated.

6d. Appoint the Independent Examiner

The appointment of John Hartley of Parker Hartley & Co. as the Independent Examiner was approved.

6e. Nominate representatives of the District Scout Council to represent the District on the County Scout Council

Steve Foster and Kyle Mallory were nominated as Wetherby District representatives to the County Scout Council.

The Chair then closed the Annual General Meeting and thanked everyone for attending.