

MINUTES

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks & Welcome to Guests and Members

Fire evacuation procedure.

Welcome to:

The Worshipful the Mayor of Ealing, Councillor

Richard Kornicki CBE DL, Representative Deputy Lieutenant for the London Borough of Ealing

GLMW County Lead Volunteer – Cathy Muxlow

GLMW County Chair – Chad Lake

District Vice-Presidents - in particular Josie ad Barry Cole who have travelled up from Cornwall and Steve Girling, from Wales.

Members of the District

The Chairman introduced the top table.

2. Apologies for Absence

Mei Sim Lai OBE DL, Representative Deputy Lieutenant for the London Borough of Brent

James Murray - Member of Parliament for Ealing North

Steve Pound - VP; Tracey Minson (Administrator for Trustee Board); Hafsa Dar - 23W; Dawn Shepherd – 1G; Andy Appleby - 8G; Emma and Nick Wilson - 4G; Helen Hankins - VP; Andy Frith – 1N; Sue Brooks; Andrew Goodwin; Sophie and Liam Tebbit – 3N; Claire Muxlow - CYL; Daljit Aubby – 13S; Jackie and Becca Mitchell – 9G.

3. Approval of Minutes of the AGM held on 24th June 2024

Copies of the minutes were published via the district website, and paper copies made available for guests.

Proposed by Andrew Norman. Seconded by Mike Kiley and approved by the meeting

4. Re-confirm the adoption of the constitution of the District Scout Council

The District has previously adopted the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (P.O.R.) of The Scout Association. It is proposed that we continue to do this and adopt the Constitution as in Chapter 5 of P.O.R.

Ian proposed and show of hands unanimously agreed.

5. Note the District's financial year

The District Scout Council members were asked to please note that our charity's financial year is 1 April to 31 March.

6. Approve appointed and community members of the District Scout Council

There are no appointed or community members of the District Scout Council

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

Following good practice recommendations from the Charity Governance Code, POR states Trustee Boards should have a minimum of 5, and no more than 12, Trustees in total. This includes ex officio and co-opted Trustees.

The District Scout Council must agree the number of people that may be appointed to the Trustee Board. The outgoing Trustee Board recommends that 12 people may be appointed. I propose the District Scout Council approves that recommendation.

Seconded by Marian Melhuish

Agreed unanimously by a show of hands.

8. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the District Scout Council

The recommendation is 20 members shall constitute a quorum

Approved by the meeting by a show of hands.

9. Receive and consider the Trustees Annual Report for 2024/25

The report has been published via the district website, and paper copies made available for our guests.

Proposed by Bryan Payne. Seconded by Louise O'Leary

10. Acceptance of Independently Examined Accounts for the Year End 31st March 2025

Copies of the Accounts have been published via the district website, and paper copies made available for our guests.

Paul Melhuish gave a brief overview of the accounts, which will be submitted to the Charity Commission in the required format. Whilst the total number of young people and adult volunteers has gone down, the District continues to be very active. The District Camp at Paccar was enjoyed by all attendees, and a group of Explorers completed an expedition in the Netherlands. Southall Activity Centre continues to be well used. A new warden is needed, but thanks were given to all those who help operate and maintain the site and equipment, in particular – Rik Fox, Peter Melvin, Jane and Graham Holt, Gangaveer Hunjan, Ian Chick, and Marian Melhuish. Paul reminded Groups to take advantage of gift aid to boost funds. Thanks to Andi Brown, the district have been successful in nominating young people and volunteers for Jack Petchey awards, and congratulations were given to Marian Melhuish on her award. The shop continues to be an asset to the District and Paul thanked Louise, Tracey, Emma, Sue and Andrew, Jenna and Susan Chick, for all their help. Thanks were given to Pat McLoughlin for his help with independent examination of the accounts; and for all the Group Treasurers. Paul closed by thanking Marian for all her help and hard work with the accounts, and helping groups needing support. The comprehensive report did not raise any question for the meeting.

The Chair advised the meeting that the accounts had already been approved by the Trustee board and asked for the meeting to accept the accounts.

The Accounts were accepted, unanimously, by a show of hands

11. District Lead Volunteer's Nomination for District President

Alan Bamford resigned as our District President in November last year for personal reasons. On behalf of all Greenford District, I would like to thank Alan for his years of service and valuable expertise and advice, particularly in relation to buildings.

We are not putting forward a nomination for District President today so the honorary position will remain vacant for the moment.

12. District Lead Volunteer's Nomination for District Vice-Presidents

*Ganga explained that by tradition, the district invites former District Commissioners to become Vice-Presidents. To that end, **Cathy Muxlow** has accepted the invitation to become a Vice-President of the District.*

*Additionally, the District recognise the long and distinguished service of members by inviting them to become Vice-Presidents. Congratulations were given to **Graham Holt** on his recent award of the Silver Wolf by the Chief Scout. The Silver Wolf is the highest Good Service award granted by UK Scouts. In recognition of this achievement, Graham has been invited, and has accepted the invitation, to become a Vice-President of the District.*

Ian reminded the meeting that the tradition of the district is that our Vice-Presidents, unless otherwise stated, are 'life' Vice-Presidents and therefore all current Vice-Presidents will continue as such.

These nominations were agreed unanimously by a show of hands.

13. Appointment of the District Chair

Ganga explained that invitations to nominate the District Chair were sent out to members of the district via an open selection process. Ian Chick is the only name to have been put forward.

Ian has agreed to be appointed for two years from today.

The meeting unanimously agreed to appoint Ian Chick as the District Chair.

14. Appointment of the District Treasurer

Via the open selection process, Paul Melhuish has been nominated as District Treasurer for one year.

The meeting unanimously approved this nomination.

15. Appointment of members of the District Trustee Board

It has been agreed that the Trustee Board will comprise a maximum of 12 members. Two ex-officio members, namely the District Lead Volunteer and the District Youth Lead, plus the Chair and Treasurer, leaves up to eight places to fill.

Via the open selection process, the following seven nominations have been put forward.

Jenna Chick (18-25 year old), Rik Fox, Mike Kiley, Marian Melhuish, Andrew Norman, Bryan Payne and Jay Solanki

The meeting unanimously approved these nominations with a show of hands.

Ian thanked Steve Pound, who decided to step down as a Trustee a few months ago. Steve has contributed immensely to the Trustee Board and we thank him for his time supporting the District. Of course, Steve will continue to hold the honorary role of District Vice-President.

Ian also thanked Tracy Minson, Marian Melhuish and Sarah Appleby who have taken minutes of the District Trustee Board meetings during the year.

16. Appointment of Badge Secretary

Nomination is – Paul Melhuish

The meeting unanimously approved this nomination.

17. Election of Two Representatives to County Scout Council

Nominations are: 1: Rik Fox
 2: Andrew Norman

The meeting unanimously approved these nominations

18. Appointment of an Independent Examiner

Nomination is: Mr P McLoughlin

Proposed by Paul Melhuish and Seconded by Marian Melhuish

The meeting unanimously approved this nomination

19. District Lead Volunteer's Report

Ganga thanked all those in uniform for the work done in Groups and the District. As a youth organisation young people are at the front of scouting, but this can't happen without leaders and volunteers. In particular, Ganga expressed thanks to all those who work so hard in looking after Southall Activity Centre, and for others working to refurbish 4th Perivale scout hut, and ongoing work at 3rd Wembley. Gangaveer thanked everyone for their past and ongoing support, and looked forward to seeing everyone next year!

20. County Representative's Words

Cathy Muxlow (County Lead Volunteer) agreed that Scouting can't exist without adult volunteers and helpers. The standard of scouting in Greenford continues to be very high, young people thrive in this safe space. Continued effort is needed to ensure that volunteers recognise the importance of training to deliver excellent scouting adventures. Cathy encouraged Greenford to find a new site warden for SAC, and welcomed the badge shop at DHQ as a focus for leaders, and closed by acknowledging that great things happen in Greenford and encouraged this to continue.

21. Distinguished Guests Invited to Address the Meeting

- **The Worshipful the Mayor of Ealing, Councillor Anthony Kelly** welcomed the smooth running of the meeting. As a former Cub Scout at 7th Hanwell, he thoroughly enjoyed his time in scouting, and could now better appreciate all the hard work of the leaders and volunteers supporting young people. He was sorry to hear that the 14th Southall Group had not got off the ground, and encouraged the District to try again to support scouting on the new housing development on the former gas works site in Southall. He thanked the Chair for inviting him to the meeting, and passed on his best wishes to all members of the District.
- **Richard Kornicki CBE DL, Representative Deputy Lieutenant for Ealing** explained that this was his 10th year in his role, and whilst he had seen many changes, he was pleased to see that many good things remain, Scouting in Greenford District being a particular highlight. He had great pleasure in attending the AGM and congratulated the District for the continuing high numbers of young people and adults involved in scouting. He welcomed all the new and younger faces at the meeting, recognising that this was part of the scouting journey. He encouraged more people to get involved with scouting, and thanked all the volunteers for their hard work. He concluded by thanking everyone on behalf of His Majesty.
- **Chad Lake, GLMW County Chair** was pleased to welcome representatives from Kandersteg International Scout Centre to a meeting at Greenford DHQ at the weekend. During the course of the meeting, they asked who had quietly gone into the District Office, and were surprised and very pleased to meet Gangaveer, the Greenford District Lead Volunteer. They were amazed that someone so young had taken on such a senior role, and was delivering amazing leadership across the District, and were determined to tell everyone! Chad reminded the meeting that Trustees have a very important role ensuring good governance in Groups and across the District, particularly relating to finance, especially in current times. He was pleased to propose a vote of thanks to Ian and the District Trustees, as well as everyone who works in the background to make scouting so successful.

22. Presentations

- **Richard Kornicki CBE DL**, presented a Deputy Lieutenant Ward certificate to Explorer Scout **Dheepikha Rajkuar**.
- **Mike Kiley**, District 14 to 24 Team Leader, explained that in March the District held an Event for young people where many awards were presented. At this AGM he was pleased to present the award for the Explorer Belt Challenge Expedition to **Hitesh Shah**.
- **Gangaveer Hunjan**, District Lead Volunteer – Presented Adult Good and Long Service Awards to:
Katie Thorne – 20 years;
Marian Melhuish – 50 years.

Plus 2 Wood Badges to **Charlie Newell**

The Silver Wolf, the highest award that can be presented to a Scout volunteer for service of an exceptional nature, was presented to **Andi Brown**. Cathy Muxlow read the very impressive citation and Andi was warmly congratulated for his huge contribution to scouting in Greenford & District.

23. The Chair Closed the Meeting

Ian Chick thanked the distinguished guests for their attendance, and the District Trustee Board for all the work over the year, and thanked the District for their ongoing support.

All attendees were invited to stay and enjoy tea, coffee and biscuits with thanks to Sue, Louise and Tracey.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm