



BRISTOL SOUTH DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 11th September 2023 @ 7:30pm
Venue: 229th Scout Group HQ. Raynes Road

Members Present (from list of those registered prior to the meeting)

Tim Bird, Rich Cummer, Alan Nichols, Edwin Bessant, Rose Nichols, Joel Viner, Jason Viner, Arron Wheatley, Callum Wheatley, Melissa Veil, Nick Eccles, Alex Eccles, Sarah Eccles, Tracey Stevenson-Gay, Ross Gay, Bob Hussey, Chris Davis, Stephen Thomas, Tony Rees, Stephen Williams, Royston Griffey, Angela Welsman, Brian Day, Keith Nickless, C P Allen, Iain Timmons, Elaine Beckett, Scott Stowell, Anne Baines, Nick Baines, Roger Whiter, Andy Scully, Paul Harper and Clive Sandrey.

The quorum level mandated for AGM/EGM is 12 so the meeting could proceed (see below)

Apologies for Non-Attendance

Dave Milton, Jayne Evans, Matt Trowbridge, Graham Shaddick, Jemma Brown, Angela Williams, Nick Winter, Gary Turner, Sadie Paterson, Andy Dyer, Chris Allan, Kat Cumner, Sarah Williams, Paul Duckett.

Welcome

A warm welcome was extended to all present by the Chairman to this annual general meeting. A special welcome to Clive Sandrey (County Lead Volunteer) for joining us this evening from County, A warm welcome to was also extended to Royston Griffey our District President and Chris Davies one of our District Vice Presidents. The District's thanks was also extended to Anne Baines and the 229th for supplying the refreshments and the use of their premises.

To confirm the following previous resolutions of the Board of Trustees

A number of resolutions had been previously agreed by either the present or previous Board of Trustees. These were: -

- Bristol South District has adopted The Scout Association model constitution for a Scout District as detailed in Chapter 5 of POR.
- The number of elected members to the District BOT is restricted to no more than 6 members.
- The number of members present at a District BOT meeting must be 6 or more members.
- The number of members present at a District AGM must be 12 or more members.
- District financial year runs from 1st April to 31st March.

By a show of hands these were all approved and accepted.

Minutes of AGM 2022

The minutes of the AGM held 11th July 2022 had been previously circulated and posted to the District website and members had been directed to refer to them prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Steve Williams, seconded by Rose Nichols to accept these as a true record of the proceedings. This was agreed by all.

Matters Arising from 2022 Minutes

No matters had been raised for discussion prior to the meeting (as requested).

Update for the year and Looking Forward

The DLV Paul Harper addressed the meeting and highlighted some of the topics in his written District Lead Volunteers report previously posted to the District website.

Paul made special mention to the work of the Gang show, the training carried out to bring in the next generation of GSL's (now GLV's) and his grateful thanks to all their hard work.

The policy of partnering strong scout groups with smaller groups was proving to be working well especially that with WHSG and KWSG.

Paul announce that unfortunately the district tradition of holding a St Georges day parade would no longer be viable due to the cost of providing traffic management for the event.

Paul informed the meeting that another District joint venture similar to the big Fiesta would be ran at Woodhouse Park next year and encouraged all groups and units to advertise the event in their section meetings.

Paul also confirmed to the meeting that he would be standing down as DLV together with Cathy Harding and Scott Stowell as his current DDC's. However, Scott would stay on as District Transformation Lead for the foreseeable future. No fixed date had yet been established for Paul's departure but would be no later than 31 December 2023.

Avon County would be looking to recruit and appoint a new DLV or team to take over the role being left vacant, but to date no plans had been agreed.

Chairman's Report

The chairman Stephen Williams again welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Referring to his written report posted on the District website paid tribute to all those who assisted both at Group and District level over the last 12 months. The recovery from the Pandemic was still evident in the life of some of our young members where may scouting traditions, such as summer and activity camps had firstly been missed out on and then a reluctance to return to these very activities.

Praise and gratitude for all the scout leaders in all out groups and units was given and any support that the District Board of Trustees could extend would be given.

Financial Report and the Accounts for 2021-22.

The meeting handed over to Tony Rees who identified some of the financial items from the approved annual financial reports currently posted to the District website.

The finances of the District was in a "cash rich" position due in part, unfortunately, to the closure of some scout groups where funds had been transferred to District.

There has been one capital investment made during the financial year being equipment for Gang Show.

Tony wished to extend his grateful thanks to Simon Lovell, our District Independent Examiner, for scrutineering our accounts for which a copy of his report is appended to the Annual Accounts.

Tony reminded the meeting that Groups or Units wishing to apply for financial assistance from the District should submit their ideas and claims to the district BOT for consideration.

Nomination of District Chairman for 2022-2023

Paul Harper informed the meeting that he wished to again nominate Steve Williams for the role of District Chair which was unanimously agreed by those members present.

Election of District Secretary

Steve Williams informed the meeting the role of District Secretary was currently vacant. It was proposed by Brian Day and seconded by Rose Nichols that when a suitable candidate could be found that the BOT could be given the authority of co-opting them to the position as an interim measure. This motion was agreed by all present.

Election of District Treasurer

Steve Williams proposed that Tony Rees be elected to the role of District Treasurer. This was seconded by Stephen Thomas. The motion was agreed by all.

Appointment an Independent Examiner

The current Independent Examiner (Simon Lovel) was standing down. It was proposed by Nick Winters and seconded by Nick Eccles that the BOT would be given the authority to appoint as necessary when a suitable candidate could be found. This motion was agreed by all present.

Election of Members to District BOT

Steve Williams informed the meeting that 6 exiting members of the BOT were prepared to stand for re-election. It was proposed by Steve Williams and seconded by Melissa Vail that the following persons be re-elected to the BOT.

They are - Stephen Thomas; Nick Winter; Gary Turner; Nick Eccles. Aaron Wheatley and Scott Stowell.

This motion was agreed by all present.

Approval of DLV Nomination for Members of the District Board of Trustees (BOT)

Paul Harper proposed that he would like to nominate Cathy Harding be elected to the BOT.

With a provision that other members may be co-opted when a new DLV or Management Team was appointed if they so wished.

This motion was agreed by all present.

Ex-officio members of the BOT

The Chairman reminded that by virtue of appointments held the following persons sit on the BOT.

- District Commissioner & Deputy – Paul Harper
- District Chair – Steve Williams
- District Secretary – as appointed- currently vacant.
- District Treasurer - Tony Rees.
- District Explorer Scout Commissioner – currently vacant.
- District Network Commissioner – Roger Whiter
- District Youth Commissioner – currently vacant.

Any Other Business

The chair informed the meeting that there had not been any written request of items of any further business. The official District AGM was therefore pronounced closed.

The evening was then handed over to Paul Harper to present some District recognition Awards.

The Dixie Duggan Award

Paul Harper announced that the recipient of Dixie Duggan Award was going to someone who has made an outstanding contribution within our District. This scout leader has held various roles within both his sea scout group and district and was an exemplary and outstanding member. His role as District Network Commissioner has been put on hold as he was asked to take on the role of GVL of the 145th Sea Scouts, for which his contribution is ensuring the group continues to strive and grow.

The winner of this year’s Dixie Duggan award is Roger Whiter,

Paul also presented a number of commissioner recommendation awards to members of the District.

World Scout Jamboree Presentation

District Explorer members from the WSJ contingent, Alex, Callum and Joel plus Tim Bird from the International Service Team gave a slide show presentation of their experiences from the WSJ in Korea which presented a number of well publicised challenges from extreme temperatures, flooding and evacuation from site after just three days on site. The presentation was well received by all present and the delegates were thanked for the presentation.

Avon Scout County Representative

Steve invited Clive Sandrey, recently appointed CLV to address the meeting.

Clive thanked the meeting for the invitation and also thanked all the scout leaders and volunteers in the District for all their hard work and commitment to scouting. He also touched on a number of subjects especially Transformation and the new database computer system that would be rolled out shortly (although with some delay) and asked that all members ensure that their information on compass was up to date.

District announcements

The meeting was informed of a number of financial resolutions passed by the Board of Trustees for them to take back to their groups and units.

Firstly, there would be no District levy imposed on subscriptions for the forthcoming year, 2024.

Secondly, any groups or units attending any of the currently advertised events at Woodhouse Park would receive a rebate against the cost from District on submission of their final invoice form Woodhouse showing the actual numbers attending. These rebates would vary depending on the cost and more details can be obtained from Tony Rees via contact@bristolsouthscouts.org.uk

Finally, the DBOT would be considering a number of financial grants to groups and units based on their financial position at the year end and any provisions for large capital outlay. To be considered all Groups and Units must submit their approved annual accounts for 2022/23 to the District Treasurer.

Paul Harper wished to express his and the Districts sincere thanks to Cathy Harding for her role as leader of the Avon contingent to the World Scout Jamboree. The event held its fair share of challenges and logistical problems but were met and ensured all members of the Avon contingent were cared for. Steve closed the evening by thanking everyone for their attendance tonight.