



BRISTOL SOUTH DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 15th July 2025 @ 7:30pm
Venue: 82nd Scout Group HQ. Kylross Avenue
Whitchurch. Bristol. BS14 9NQ.

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

Steve Williams, Tony Rees, James Blackmore, Rose Nicholls, Alan Nicholls, Clive Sandry, Bob Symons, Arthur Milton, Bob Hussey, Aaron Wheatley, Paul Harper, Tina Symons, Cathy Harding, Jen Cave-Ayland, Jess Tullit, Ben Wherrett, Roger Whiter, Jemma Brown, Leo Kitley, Angela Williams, Tracey Stephens-Gay, Jane Evans, Jayne McCarthy, James Wall, Beth Haines, Teresa Dunsford, Dave Wall, Sue Lewis, Liz Roxburgh, Edwin Bissant and Tim Bird.

The quorum level mandated for AGM/EGM is 12 so the meeting could proceed.

Apologies for Non-Attendance

Apologies had been received for the following District members.

Royston Griffey, Christopher Davies, Ian Chalmers, Graham (Baggles) Shaddick, Brian Day, Margaret Slade, Peter Keithley, Stephen Thomas and Kayleigh Paulton.

Welcome

A warm welcome was extended to all present by the Chair to this annual general meeting. A special welcome to Clive Sandrey (County Lead Volunteer) and Bob Symons (County Chair) for joining us this evening. The district's thanks was also extended to Angela Williams for providing the refreshments and to the 82nd Scout Group for the use of their premises.

Housekeeping

The Chair mentioned a number of housekeeping, and safety announcements prior to the meeting.

The Chair also stated as a matter of procedural matters no written reports were produced for this DAGM but all relevant documents can be found online at the District website and publicised that they were available to view by all. Links to these reports can be found at: - <https://www.bristolsouthscouts.org.uk/agm25>

Minutes of AGM 2024

The minutes of the AGM held 6th September 2024 had been posted to the District website and members had been directed to refer to them prior to the meeting. The DBOT had reviewed the minutes at their meeting after the AGM and found to be a true record of the proceedings. As there had been no issues raised it was proposed by Steve Williams, seconded by Rose Nichols to accept these as a true record of the proceedings. By a show of hands these were approved and accepted

Matters Arising

As no notifications had been received prior to the meeting then the meeting proceeded.

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 would adopt The Scout Association model constitution for a Scout District as detailed in the current Chapter 5 of POR (and any further issued amendments).
- District financial year runs from 1st April to 31st March of the subsequent calendar year.

- The number of elected members to the District BOT is restricted to no more than 12* members.

**The composition of the DBOT would comprise of 2 Ex-officio members.*

These would be the District Lead Volunteers (DLV) and the District Youth Lead as and when appointed. 2 elected members, the Chair and the Treasurer from an open selection process initiated by the District Trustees.

6 further elected members from an open selection process initiated by the District Trustees.

2 vacant positions to be able to co-opt members to the DBOT should the need arise during the year.

- The number of members required to be present at a District AGM must be 12 or more members.

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

The number of members required at a District Board of Trustees meeting were now set by POR.

The number for a quorum being a third of appointed members plus one.

So, for a BOT of 12 members there would need to be 5 members present.

Update for the year and Looking Forward

James Blackmore addressed the meeting and highlighted some of the topics in his written District Lead Volunteers report previously posted to the district website.

Regrettably, the district tradition of holding a St Georges day parade could not be held this year due to the cost of providing traffic management for the event. However, an alternative type of celebration was being considered for 2026

James expressed his thanks to all the District Leaders for all their help and support during the last year Efforts was being made to get out and visit all the groups and units in the district and encouraged leaders to contact the team should they have any concerns or queries. Further comments would be added by the DMT at the conclusion of the DAGM

Chair's Report

The Chair Stephen Williams again welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Referring to his written report posted on the District website emphasized the need to accept change which not everyone ready accepted. The way that Board of Trustees was now structured together with the new online computer system replacing Compass and the new online training modules together with the replacement of appointment committees to name just a couple of examples.

The Chair concluded by confirming that effective from this meeting he would be standing down as chair for Bristol South District.

Financial Report and the Accounts for 2024-25.

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 at year end was again in a "cash rich" position due in part, to the fact that subscriptions had been collected from all groups and units but not yet forwarded to County as there were not due for payment until after the district year end.

Tony reminded all groups and units to apply for the district rebates that were applicable for any of the organised events run at Woodhouse Park.

Tony informed the meeting that together with a copy of the district accounts there was also a copy of the notarised copy of the independent examiners report.

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.

Tony concluded by informing the meeting that he was now standing down as District Treasurer but would still be taking an active role as a member of the District Management Team.

Appointments

The chair informed the meeting the confirmation of the continuation of District President and District Vice-Presidents. They are: -

President - Royston Griffey

Vice-Presidents – Beryl Deacon, Chris Davies, Peter Keithley and Margaret Slade.

Appointment of the District Chair for 2025-2026

James Blackmore informed the meeting that the role of the District Chair was no longer a DLV nominated role but the nomination was formulated by the open selection process initiated by the District Trustees. As a result, he would like to request approval for the role of District Chair to be Tina Symons for which he endorsed his proposal.

By a show of hands, the appointment was approved and accepted.

Tina was presented her District Necker and asked to speak later at the conclusion of the meeting

The meeting then reverted back to the outgoing chair to conclude the meeting.

Steve welcomed Tina to her new role and offered his ongoing support should she require it in the future.

Election of District Treasurer

As previously minuted Tony Rees has now stood down as District Treasurer and at the time of this meeting a replacement had yet to be found.

The chair proposed that if and when a replacement could be found then the DBOT were permitted to co-opt the individual to the role until it could be approved at the next subsequent DAGM

By a show of hands this was agreed by all.

Election of Members to District BOT

The chair reiterated it was the recommendation of the DBOT to elect a further 6 Trustees in addition to the Chair and Treasurer. The names of those recommended for appointment formulated by the open selection process initiated by the District Trustees and proposed by Steve Williams are as follows: -

Aaron Wheatley, Cathy Harding, Nick Winter, Paul Harper. and Jessica Tullit.

This would leave one appointment to be confirmed when a suitable candidate could be found.

The proposal was seconded by Edwin Bessant

By a show of hands, the appointments were approved and accepted.

The chair concluded the election of trustees by thanked Ian Chalmers for his brief time as a trustees and wished him success with his role as chair with the 11th Air Scouts.

Appointment of a District Independent Examiner for the forthcoming 2025-26 financial year

The Scout Council was informed the appointed IE for 2023/24 had not been confirmed for the 2024/25 annual accounts, however an IE for 2024/25 had subsequently been found and the accounts inspected with no issues arising.

The meeting was asked to approve the proposal that if the current IE was prepared to stand or when a alternative candidate(s) could be found the DBOT could approve the appointment on behalf of the Scout Council.

By a show of hands, the appointments were approved and accepted.

Appointment to the Avon Scouts County Council

The chair looked to the scout council for nominations from the District for election to the Avon County Scout Council. This would allow the district to have additional voting rights at the County AGM.

Paul Harper and Aaron Wheatly stated that they would attend the CAGM and would be prepared to represent the district.

By a show of hands, the appointments were approved and accepted.

Comments from the new District Chair

Tina addressed the meeting and gave a brief resume of her current roles in the community and welcomed the challenge of her new role. She was looking forward to working with the DBOT and hopefully learning more about the groups and units in the district.

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, and he invited Clive Sandry and Bob Symons to address the meeting.

The evening was then handed over to James Blackmore and Ben Wherrett to speak as to their plans for the future and address any questions from the District Scout Council members present. A presentation was made to Tony Rees and Steve Williams in recognition to their service to the district.

During the course of their discussions there were a number of service awards presented, and the Dixie Duggan Award was presented to the production team of the District Gang Show in recognition of all their hard work within the district. A short video was shown advertising the next Gang Show and members were asked to encourage any young person interested to sign up. The meeting was then invited to stay for refreshments and a chance to socialise for the remainder of the evening.

End of draft minutes.