



## BRISTOL SOUTH DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2024 @ 7:30pm  
Venue: 82<sup>nd</sup> 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, Margaret Slade, Rose Nicholls, Alan Nicholls, Clive Sandry, Dave Milton, Bob Hussey, Scott Stowell, Aaron Wheatley, Charmaine Wheatley, Paul Harper, Janice Coole, Stephen Thomas, Andy Dyer, Tamra Little, Cathy Harding, Jen Cave-Ayland, Elaine Beckett, Jess Tullit, Brian Day, Anne-Louise Day, Tara People, Chris Allen, Teresa Dunsford, Angela Williams, Matt Trowbridge, Roger Whiter and Ben Wherrett.

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

### **Apologies for Non-Attendance**

Royston Griffey, Christopher Davies, Beryl Deacon, Ian Chalmers, Jemma Brown, Nick Winter, Edwin Bessant, Anne Baines, Rich Cummer, Kat Cummer, Sarah Williams, Katie Webb, Martin Webster, Jane McCarthy and Dave Willets.

### **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) for joining us this evening. The District's thanks was also extended to Angela Williams and the 82<sup>nd</sup> Scout Group for supplying the refreshments and the use of their premises. A thanks also to the SAS for catering for the additional snacks.

### **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: -  
[District AGM 2024 | Bristol South District \(bristolsouthscouts.org.uk\)](https://www.bristolsouthscouts.org.uk)

### **Minutes of AGM 2023**

The minutes of the AGM held 11th September 2023 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

### **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 Chapter 5 of POR (currently June 2024) and any further issued amendments.
- District financial year runs from 1st April to 31st March 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 appointed.  
2 elected members of the Chair and the Treasurer from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustees.  
6 further elected members from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustees.  
2 vacant positions in order to co-opt members to the DBOT should the need arise.*

- 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 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**

Paul Harper the DLV up until April 2024 addressed the meeting and highlighted some of the topics in his written District Lead Volunteers report previously posted to the District website.

He reported that the membership level had now returned to the level of pre-pandemic which was encouraging and good news for the future.

Paul made special mention to the work of the Gang show, the training carried out to bring in the next generation of GLV's and his grateful thanks to all volunteer leaders within the district.

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.

Paul concluded by thanking individuals and all the District Leaders for all their help and support during his tenure as DLV and wished everyone good luck for the future. Paul then handed over to the new DLV management team for further comment.

On behalf of the DLV team, James Blackmore thanked Paul for his service to the District and wished him our best wished for the future.

Every effort 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 executive committees and now changes to board of trustees was one such example with more changes imminent like the proposed new online computer system replacing Compass and the new proposed system of appointing leaders to name just a couple of examples. The chair read out a "camp letter" to emphasis the way scout camps had evolved over the years, reminiscing over some of the old practices that today would be unheard of.

### **Financial Report and the Accounts for 2022-23.**

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 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 to early April (the new financial year)

Tony encouraged all unit and groups to apply for the district rebates that were available 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 concluded his comments by stating that (subject to approval) the new financial year would be his final year as District Treasurer

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.

## **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.

## **Nomination of District Chair for 2022-2023**

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 nomination for the role of District chair would be Stephen Williams for which he endorsed his proposal

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

On accepting the role of District Chair Steve Williams informed the meeting that this would be his final year as District Chair and a the DBOT would be actively looking to recommend to the scout council a new chair at the 2025 DAGM.

## **Election of District Treasurer**

The newly appointed chair informed the meeting that the nomination for the role of district treasurer from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustees was Tony Rees.

This was proposed by Steve Williams and seconded by Stephen Thomas.

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

## **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. Ian Chalmers and Jessica Tullit.

The proposal was seconded by Brian Day

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

The chair concluded the election of trustees by thanking those trustee members standing down. They were Gary Turner, Nick Eccles, Roger Whiter, Stephen Thomas and Scott Stowell.

The chair thanked those individuals for their many individual and collective years of service to the District Board of Trustees.

## **Appointment of a District Independent Examiner for the forthcoming 2024-25 financial year**

The scout council was informed the appointed IE for 2023/24 would not be eligible to stand for reappointment for this coming year due to his appointment to the DBOT. The meeting was asked to approve the proposal that when a suitable 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 be in attendance at the CAGM and would be prepared to represent the District

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

**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 (County Lead volunteer) to address the meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

The evening was then handed over to James Blackmore and Ben Wherrett the recently appointed DLV team to speak as to their plans for the future and address any questions from the District Scout Council members present.

During the course of their discussions there were a number of service awards presented and the Dixie Duggan Award was presented to Jen Cave-Ayland for her hard work and dedication to the 145<sup>th</sup> Sea Scout Group during what had been a difficult year for the Scout Group.

The meeting was then invited to stay for refreshments and a chance to socialise for the remainder of the evening.