Annual General Meeting
2016/2017

Thursday 21st September 2017
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**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
held on the 21st September 2016 at The Cruck Barn, Bradwell Abbey at 7.30 pm

**PRESENT:** There were 71 persons present – list available on request

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<td>1. Welcome and Opening remarks</td>
<td>Bernard Hancox welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Bev Delaney Acting District Explorer Scout Commissioner was asked to do a reflection.</td>
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| 3. Presentation of Annual Report | a) Minutes of the AGM held on the 23rd July 2015. Approved by Madeleine Munn and seconded by Rosie Worrall  
b) Financial Report – Ashley Pankhurst reported that the accounts had been accepted by the District Executive Committee. Those presented were consolidated accounts, made up of the main District account, Scout Resource Centre, Quarries, Explorer Scouts and the Gang Show and shows all the income and expenses and cross charges. He thanked Ian Boden – Quarries, Paul Munro and Claire Blomfield – Explorer Scouts, Iona Plain – Milton Keynes Gang Show and Alex Piercy – Scout Network for their work over the year.  
c) District Commissioner’s Report – Mark Blomfield reported that the annual report contained reports from his ADCs. This was his last report after 5 years as DC for Milton Keynes. He gave a heartfelt thanks to leaders and supporters who have helped to run the sections over the year. Thanks to the District Executive, the District cannot function without them supporting the District team. Mark stated that he would be staying in Scouting in Milton Keynes. |
| 4. Approval of District Commissioner’s nomination for District Chairman | Mark Blomfield nominated Bernard Hancox to stand again and this was agreed by all. |
| 5. Election of District Secretary | There was one nomination Pat Pankhurst. Proposed by Stuart Black and seconded by Kit Sharpe. Agreed by all present. |
| 6. Election of District Treasurer | Nomination received for Ashley Pankhurst who is willing to continue as Treasurer. Proposed by Stuart Black and seconded by Kit Sharpe. Agreed by all present. |
| 7. a) Election of members to the District Executive Committee | Helen Armfield – proposed by Danni Smith and seconded by Bev Delaney  
Mary Williams – proposed by Pat Pankhurst and seconded by Ashley Pankhurst  
Madeleine Munn – proposed by Bernard Hancox and seconded by Pat Pankhurst  
Steffi Place – proposed by Sharon Place and seconded by Heather Rowe |
|   | b) Under 25 representative to the District Executive Committee | Danni Smith – proposed by Sarah Davey and seconded by Bev Delaney Agreed by all. |
8. **Approval of District Commissioner’s nominations for members to the District Executive Committee**
   Mark Blomfield’s nominations were Shirley Dewar and Elisa McCarthy.
   MB stated that he was leaving two places on the Executive Committee to allow the new DC to co-opt two new people in due course.
   Agreed by all

9. **Election of representatives to the Quarries Executive Committee**
   Nomination of Graham Boyer
   Agreed by all

10. **Election of Under 25 representative to the Quarries Management Committee**
    Nomination of Charlie Pritchard
    Agreed by all

11. **Election of District representative to Bucks Scout Council**
    Pat and Ashley Pankhurst had represented the District at the AGM.

12. **Appointment of Auditors**
    Ashley Pankhurst stated that he would like to express a huge thanks to Simon Gill of Kay Shay Keens for all that he does for the District. It takes hours to consolidate all the District accounts.
    Ashley Pankhurst asked that the appointment of Keen Shay Keens again as auditors subject to the District Executive approving this later on.

13. **Address from County Representative**
    Due to a late attendance by the County Commissioner due to an urgent meeting no address was given.
    County YouShaped Team Christopher and Jay talked about the appointment of an 18-25 Youth Commissioner for the County.
    YouShape is being brought in across the County and is already seeing changes to what young people want in Scouting.

14. **Guest Speaker**
    Hannah Kentish – UK Youth Commissioner gave a talk about her journey through Scouting and thanked everyone who helped in the journey of the young people.
    Scouting is special, from those starting as a Beaver Scout to those coming to the end of their time as a young person. Scouting helped her to become confident and able to do things she never thought possible.
    Hannah gave an example of someone called Patrick, he never interacted as he was autistic, he became an Explorer Scout, did his Duke of Edinburgh award, and this gave him new horizons.
    YouShape is allowing young people take the lead, to join the District team and to shape their Scouting programme.
    Scouts in Essex were driving their Scout Leader mad when he was planning an event, they wanted to have a helicopter, but he could not get them to think how.
    So he asked them how they would pay for it, they came up with suggestions and realised it was not going to be possible.
    Leaders are crucial in changing the lives of young people on a daily basis.
    Pat Pankhurst thanked Hannah for attending the AGM and seeing so many of the District young people there was proof that we were getting something right.

15. **Awards and Presentations**
    Reece as a new Explorer Scout
    Long Service Award of 60 years presented to Eric Swain

16. **Refreshments**

The meeting closed at 8.07 pm
District Treasurer’s Report

I am pleased to advise that the District’s accounts have been audited in accordance with The Scout Association’s rules, and that no areas of concern were found.

The main District account produced a small surplus for the year. This was primarily as a result of the increase in numbers of Young People within the District. We were able to again make a transfer to our designated fund to assist with International experiences, together with the investment in the District’s website. As part of our continued support to the Groups, we have invested in OSM so that all Groups are able to benefit from an enhanced service at no direct charge.

Explorer Scouts had a challenging financial year-end, with a number of unexpected expense claims being made.

Milton Keynes Scout Resource Centre continues to perform well in spite of the continued downturn in retail spending.

The Quarries campsite showed a good surplus for the year. Increased usage by Milton Keynes District, other Scouts, together with other youth users is reflected both in camping fees and in the increased income for the various activities on offer. This was combined with a strict control on costs.

Scout Active Support and Scout Network showed little change in their funds during the year, with income more or less matching expenses.

Milton Keynes Gang Show was unfortunate not to be awarded a grant from Bucks Scout Council towards their running costs. However, the District Executive was able to pay for some storage fees and also offer a loan to cover some expenses should it be needed. This loan was not drawn during the financial year 2016-17.

Whilst I look after the main District account, together with the books for the Resource Centre, I am indebted to Ian Boden, Iona Plain, Paul Monro & the team who look after the accounts for the various Explorer Scout Units. I must especially mention Claire Blomfield who has valiantly continued to keep the District Explorer Scout accounts whilst living in Scotland. Claire has decided that it’s really too much to do this sort of work “long-distance”, and it is hoped to appoint a successor in the near future. I must also thank Stuart Ball for a great deal of work with the financial implications of the new Webstore.

Thanks are also due to Simon Gill of Keen, Shay, Keens MK LLP for his work in producing the Summary of Accounts at no charge.

Moving forward, the District Executive has agreed that there needs to be simplification and clarity for the accounts. There are currently a number of differing formats in which the finance team present our accounts. This is both complicated and potentially costly. Additionally, the increased use of the Webstore for Quarries site bookings, Gang Show tickets, Badge & Scout Shop purchases etc presents it’s own challenges. I will be looking hard at how we can work together to be more effective in this area.

Ashley Pankhurst

District Treasurer
District Commissioners Report

“We are a Movement not an organisation. We move with the times but we continue to inculcate the spirit and the daily practice of helping others, unselfish good will and cooperation.” – Baden-Powell.

It doesn’t seem a year ago we were patting Mark on the back, saying well done for wrangling Milton Keynes into one District and looking for our second District Commissioner. That honour went to me and I feel privileged to be managing this amazing District.

It’s only been a few months since I took the reigns but so much has happened.

MK finished 2016 with a massive party! The last event of the year was celebrating Cubs 100, a party has to have a massive cake. Our Cubs also went to the County Cubs 100 camp, it was the size of a small jamboree. Not to be outdone it was also the Beavers 30th birthday, just as loud with just as much cake.

District camp was a “knockout” and for the first time we asked the Explorers to run St. Georges day, turns out George was a superhero and we have a rock band.

Of course with another year, another spectacular Gang Show, bring on this year’s show.

The crew at the Quarries have worked miracles and the new campfire circle is second only to Crossrail as a piece of civil engineering.

We also have a new web site, Facebook pages and a media team to drive them. The content is growing and they are becoming a valuable tool and great window. Every section now has access to Online Scout Manager, our leaders all have free use of Office 365 and the Scout shop will soon be open 24/7.

If a Districts success was measured only by growth we are winning the premier league, new sections are springing up all over MK and our Explorers have gone from 4 to 7 units. This is only half the story. The District waiting list, has over 800 names and the Group lists over 300, 180 new leaders would clear the lists. I am making my way around the District and the commitment to growth in the sections is heartening, there just aren’t enough spaces.

My email box knew nothing before I became DC, however it’s my old-fashioned post box that I keep an eye on, my door mat has taken a pounding from the certificates delivered for training and service awards, then two boxes of commendations and medals. I am humbled by the dedication, the hours and the hard graft our leaders give week after week year after year. This prompted us to hold our own awards evening and to organise regular adult social events, a chance to let off steam.

I am looking forward to the next year with both excitement and trepidation, it seems as soon as one fire is put out another two spring up. We should rethink teaching fire lighting.

There will be ten Scouts / Explorers representing MK at the 2019 North America World Scout Jamboree that’s more than we have ever sent.

MK is changing and growing as a town and so are we, there is lots of work to be done. But we are Scouts, we like a challenge.
We are all a small part of an extremely large organisation, each giving free time to make the adventure and challenge of Scouting. With a large organisation comes the responsibility of making sure there is a minimum standard of safety, care and training. This can be a major challenge when dealing with individuals who are not pay driven but only wish to share their knowledge, skills, fun of the outside and nature with children. We all wish our children to have the sense of freedom and adventure that we read in books. For many Children Scouting is one of those places it can be achieved. For others they will only see this life on a screen.

For Beavers, that first night away, can be frightening. But usually it is the parent that is more frightened of letting their child have that life experience that will make them stronger in the long run. That first step to the Enid Blyton childhood, that they want their child to have.

The Challenge of packing a bag and putting away the sleeping bag into a crush bag, it is the last part of closing the bag that requires the most effort. For a Beaver this is a big challenge. By the time they are a Scout, carrying that bag and kit over many miles is a challenge for them. By this time, they should be able to have that element of freedom to have that Enid Blyton childhood.

So Last Summer, along with celebrating 30 years of Beaver Scouting, we all learnt practical skills at Summer Camp. The Beavers learnt things from making beds to putting someone in the recovery position. Ironing, to changing a light bulb, putting up a tent to making a catapult. Trusting a friend to lead them on a blind trail, to tying a knot, lighting a fire to washing up. All are life skills that many an adult can’t do now days.

I also learnt that not everything works but you have to make the best of what you can do at the time. Making choices is hard.

In the Autumn, we returned to MK Museum for the sequel, “Night in a Museum 2”. A bi-annual event of sleeping in the local museum over the JOTA/JOTI weekend. So the Beavers can get their communications badge, using old and new ways to communicate. From Morse code, to the phonic alphabet, Braille to sign language, hieroglyphics to chalk boards, Semaphore to the telephone.

Learning to interact with others is a sort after job skill nowadays. With our children communicating by electronics, the art of talking to and talking in front of others is being lost. Having your own personality and not acting like everyone else. Being able to speak out for your beliefs and listen to others beliefs.

One of the other annual events is our Spring Hike. This time in the North of MK, using the old rail line for part of the route and looking at both new and old parts of the area, walking through town and parkland within the city. Walking is a not only good for our physical health but also our mental health too. Even walking in the rain makes you appreciate our homes more and how to dress appropriately too.
Again having listened to the Leaders in the District, I looked into some of their requests, a camp on the Water. I have had to say No, as a District as we could not all be accommodated. But gave several places that would take small groups or older Beavers, I did manage to organise the other event they asked for which was a sleepover at MK Safar, an indoor activity play area. After talking with the management it was all arranged and apart from the lack of sleep it was one of the easiest events I have done. The event listened to us and we helped them too, so everyone went away happy, if tired.

A few groups attended the County Beaveree, which clashed with Gilwell Funday and several local fete’s. However just under 50 Beaveree’s joined in the fun with many other Colonies from Bucks and over 800 Beavers took apart. Bases were all on a badge theme this time.

We are all volunteers and giving our time is a valuable item that should not be looked at lightly. So although we are inside a big organisation and safety, care and training is a must. Scouting does give you time to spread learning these skills. We do need them to make Scouting work.

I was lucky enough to have had a sort of Enid Blyton childhood, going off on a bike into the country side, but my parents also taught me the skills needed to repair my bike on the road as we had no phones back then. We all have a time to move on from childhood to teenager to adult and then parent. So it is with Scouting, some Leaders are trying to have the childhood they wanted.

Please keep talking and listening to each other, for without you volunteer leaders Scouting can’t go on. Thanks to all my Leaders/Parents that I have shared my time with.

The adventure is everyone’s,

Tracy Emerson - ADC (Beaver Scouts)
Cubs Centenary Celebrations

In 2016, we commemorated one hundred years of the Cub Scout Section with an unforgettable celebration. Cubs 100 local and national events were staged across the UK showcasing the fun, excitement and adventure of this special year.

In 1916, the section we know as Cub Scouts was formed (it was originally called Wolf Cubs). Within twelve months, 30,000 young people had joined. Today, Cub Scouts has grown to over 150,000 members who enjoy fun and adventure, activities and nights away, making friends and trying new things. The official birthday was on 16 December but Cubs 100 was celebrated throughout 2016 and here is a report of some of the wonderful events our district got involved in.

We commenced our celebrations with a trip to watch the new Jungle Book film at the Odeon Cinema. Whilst the film was of course open to any member of the public, the start of the film saw Steve Backshall appear on the big screen paying tribute to Cub Scouting throughout the UK and wishing them a ‘Happy 100th Birthday’.

In April, during our annual St Georges Day parade held in Central Milton Keynes, we allowed the Cub Packs in each group to head up the parade and a specially designed flag made by 1st Walton Cub Pack led the procession from Christ the Cornerstone Church through CMK to Campbell Park. We marched along to the sounds of ‘The Bare Necessities’.

At the end of April, we were part of a fantastic County Cub camp, with over 1,000 Cub Scouts across Buckinghamshire descending on Phasals Wood Campsite and camping out within their own districts for the weekend and be treated to a host of activities. To mark the entrance to each districts camping area, gateways were designed and constructed and during the weekend we were visited by many local dignitaries to judge each of these constructions. Milton Keynes District had a truly collaborative effort with pre-prepared flags made out of old pillowcases designed by each group. This meant that even if a Cub was unable to attend the camp itself, their artwork would be displayed upon the district gateway making them feel like they were a little part of the event. We used the specially designed flag by 1st Walton (the same one used at the St Georges Day Parade) to be our centrepiece for the gateway and this same flag went on to be used at many different events throughout the year. Each district took part in a gateway competition, and at the end of the camp itself the overall winner of the gateway competition was announced. We were delighted to have been the chosen district, and won a beautifully crafted model trophy in the shape of a wooden
gate; this is now on show at The Quarries – great teamwork all round! We were on a winning streak over the weekend, as one of the Cub leaders from 1st Walton also won the best artwork for the dedicated cloth badge designed for this special event.

Special Cubs Centenary events were held at tourist attractions up and down the UK. Locally Cubs could join in a specially discounted day trip to Gullivers Land, which some of our Cubs enjoyed with their packs. In October, 5th Newport Pagnell and 1st Middleton joined forces to take a coach full of excited cubs to Warwick Castle for the day. Warwick Castle had organized a dedicated day trip specifically for Cub Packs to celebrate their special year and even handed out goody bags on the day with a uniquely commissioned cloth badge for their camp blankets to mark this event.

In September, our district hosted a local event in Willen Lake where we encouraged everyone who had ever been a Cub Scout to meet up and share their memories and reminisce about the old times. Activity bases were set up for the young people to enjoy and there was even a place to show off old Cub badges of the past!

Bringing the district together was a key theme of this celebratory year and this certainly continued into the Autumn when Cubs from across the district gathered together to share their favourite games during a wonderful games evening, entitled ‘Cubs 100 Snakes and Ladders’! With over 100 Cubs in the dining hall at Oakgrove School (where 1st Middleton Cubs meet) all playing a variety of games from Chess to Twister meant that the noise levels were deafening! It was wonderful to see so many Cubs together having fun.

The centenary celebrations culminated in a fantastic ‘promise party’ held on 16th December, which is the date that Cubs began in 1916. Yet again Cubs from across the district joined together and shared a special birthday celebration, this time at Shenley Brook End School. At 19:16 (to represent the exact year that Cub scouts started), everyone stood up and renewed their cubs scout promise. This was replicated across the country. Four lucky Cub Scouts were randomly selected to stand in front of their fellow Cubs and lead them in the promise. After this we sang ‘Happy Birthday’ together and then the surprise of the evening happened - we released over 20 giant inflatable beach balls all various sizes into the Cubs sat in the auditorium. Cubs were not aware this was going to happen and the shock and surprise on their faces was priceless. The next 20 minutes invoked a mad frenzy of beach balls flying around the auditorium – great fun was had by everyone young and old! All birthday celebrations would not be complete without a birthday cake, and to round up this special year, all cubs who attended this event were sent home with a slice of cake and a party bag a great end to a memorable evening.
In September 2016 the District held a camping competition, 3 patrols took part and there was a tie for 1st place. This was between Giffard Park and 5th Newport Pagnell.

In November with the appointment of a new District Commissioner, my role changed from District Scout Leader to Assistant District Commissioner (Scouts). Eric Swain and Graham Boyer became part of the management team and are both District Scout Leaders.

Ian Walker is also a District Scout Leader, Ian forms part of the support team that fills in when troops are short of leaders or need help with any skills.

Dave Eveling (Scout Leader at Loughton) is the Scout project leader and Dave is currently running the District Patrol Leader Council.

The District has held three District Scout Leaders meetings. I have attended one County ADC meeting and between us we have visited 14 troops.

In February 2017 Mitch Wheeler, Chairman of Two Mile Ash ran the District Scout Quiz which was well attended. The quiz was won by a joint team of Scouts from 3rd Newport Pagnell and Great Linford.

The District Night Hike was run on the 4th March. With a broken bridge, the route had to be changed. 7 teams took part with the 5th Newport Pagnell winning the event.

10th May saw the Ready Steady Cook competition at the Quarries, 8 teams took part and the food was to a very high standard with the Deputy County Commissioner, Mark Rutland being part of the judging team. The event was won by Stony Stratford.

I have presented one Chief Scouts Gold Award to a scout at Wolverton.

Thanks go to Eric and Graham for their help with the District, to Ian in his Scout support role and to Dave for running the District Patrol Leader Council.

Finally to all the Scout Leaders and helpers in the District a big thank you for the time you give up to Scouting.

Mick Nimmo

ADC (Scouts)
Explorers Report

After taking the post of District Explorer Scout Commissioner (DESC) as caretaker in July 2016 and being asked to continue by the District Commissioner (DC) on his appointment in November, I have worked to ensure that leaders and explorers are supported and have a good selection of activities and camps. We wanted to build us as a District Explorer team, and to expand but in a way that did not increase the burden on leaders.

The past year has seen three new Explorer Scout Unit’s (ESU’s), Dragon’s, Vulcan’s and Phantom Young Leader Unit. This gives us a totally of 7 units across Milton Keynes. Some have partnership with groups allowing more support from the groups and some are district units.

Phantom is a Young Leader Unit that pulls together all the fabulous Young Leaders we have working in groups that do not wish to actively attend an ESU. The Groups ensure they are registered with Phantom and they are all positively encouraged to add training and offered the opportunity for Duke of Edinburgh’s scheme and any event camps that are taking place. The Young Leader training scheme has built on over the last 2 years and we have more than 60 currently working towards this award. We are awarding the Young Leader belt buckles at the AGM and are thrilled that we have more than every completing – this award is 2/3’s of adult leadership training and is recognised by the Institute of Leadership and management. We ran our 2nd Young leader training weekend and lots of learning and fun was had. A super District Cub camp was run by the Young Leaders with background support from the YL Leaders. This was well received and the Cubs leaders were very impressed by the organisation and the level of team work displayed. Thanks to Joe Litchfield for leading the team.

Across the year, we have been working together as leaders, to expand the number of activities and camps available to the Explorers and Young Leaders. We continued the annual competitions of Bowling – won by Phantom YLU, Shooting – won by Vulcan’s and Archery - won by Excalibur.

Lots of events attended last year – Gilwell24, Roverway – International Community Camp to France (organised but the Viper explorers themselves, Scarefest at Gilwell, Tolmers Fire and Ice – January camp, You Shape month, Excalibur at Brumjam, Gangshow 2016 etc. alongside normal weekly meetings and local camps.
We started off our more combined events with a District Explorer camp in March with 6 units represented. There was a wish from the explorers that more joint unit/district activities happen and we now have something at a district level at least once a month including each ESU taking a lead on running joint activities for everyone each term.

It has been great to have Chris Leroux and Joe Litchfield on the County YouShape team and we will be building on this with our own District Explorer forum this year. It has been great to work with the County Youth Commissioner and to meet Hannah Kentish at the Milton Keynes AGM last year. The explorers did a great job of looking after her and we were immensely proud of Eric’s 60 Year service award.

We have been thrilled to welcome Amy Whitney, Phillip Monk, Chris Malliband, Eliott Paterson and Steve Powell to the Explorer leader Team and many thanks to Sara Whitney and Jennifer Evans for their roles as District Explorer Scout Administrators for Young Leaders and D of E and the constant support I receive from Eric Swain our District Explorer Scout Administrator. Thank you to all the leaders, everyone, you have been amazing this year.

Bev Delaney - District Explorer Scout Commissioner (DESC)
Milton Keynes District Scout Network

This year marked the 2nd full year of network being integrated at a district level and across Buckinghamshire this has so far been largely successful with only a few districts without active networks. Milton Keynes Network has continued to grow over the last year and maintains its position in the county as the network with the most active members (Active members are classified as those that attending regular network only events, as a general rule all members of the district aged between 18-25 are enrolled into Network automatically, but not all are active outside of their primary role in scouting).

During the year we have welcomed several new members from a mixture of backgrounds. But we have also had to say goodbye to a few members who turned 25 this year. The good news is that 2 of the members who turned 25 this year achieved their Queen Scout Award during the year, this is a great place to be and is much better than last year where the network had no Queen Scout Award completions. On top of this 2 other members are now actively involved in completing their Queens Scout Award and 1 further member has agreed to meet with me to discuss the options and set a plan for achievement over the coming years.

Milton Keynes Network members are some of the most active in the County and have attended several camps this year these have included Fun in Beds in February, Bucks Network May Camp as well as holding their own small camp at The Quarries, with another one planned for Mid May 2017. The programme this year has been focused on transitioning to one that is truly YouShaped and I’m pleased to note that the Network members have managed their own programmes over the last 2 terms completely independently of me. This is a huge achievement and one many Networks/DSNC’s across the UK are working towards.

Network members have been present at various district events over the year, we have been found at the Gang Show, District Camp, St Georges Day Parade, The Quarries and other events. Members are predominantly there in the capacity as a leader for a group, and again the level of members that are active both in network and as an adult leader in the district continues to outperform other networks in the county and the UK.

This year marks the 15th Anniversary of Network Scouting in the UK, and I have personally been involved in all of those 15 years as a member, county leader and now district leader. It is great to see Network continuing and we look forward to celebrating our anniversary this year and continuing to grow network in Milton Keynes.

Alex Piercey - District Scout Network Commissioner
**Media and Communications**

Well, here we are another year on since the last AGM and what a success it has been. I am writing this report from a different role this year.

When Stuart Bailey took over as DC I decided that I would like to take on a different role and look more at the Media and Publicity of the District and it was agreed that I would take on the role of ADC Media and Communications.

My role is to manage all the Media channels to make sure that information is being shared and that our profile with the general public is strong and being seen. I was given a brief from Stuart and I was asked to be the shop window for scouting in MK and I feel that we are now in a much better position with our Media that we were before however there is still a way to go.

I have a Team of people that work with me as part of the Media Team Gary Staff, Chris Leroux and up until recently Joe Litchfield. Joe has decided to take a break from Scouting and we hope that he returns soon.

We now have a fully visible district website where we have the opportunity for the public to see what we have been doing and also what is coming up, a huge amount of time and effort has been put in to make sure the website would do what we wanted it to. Hours were spent sending emails to scout websites to give them the content. You can visit our website at www.mkscouts.org and we ask that you engage with us to keep the content current. If you have had a successful event then share it with us and let's show off what we do and how successful Scouting is in MK. Our website is getting more and more hits every day so it is vital that we shout about it and get more people logging in.

Earlier this year after very careful consideration we launched into the world of Facebook and I decided to setup a Closed Facebook Group which is only visible by members of the movement here in MK and County Team. The decision to set this up was made to allow our leaders to talk and share ideas but also again share our successes with each other. This is still a development project as I would like to see more groups engaging in this and uploading photos and write ups from events, please help and support us on this one.

We have since launched a Public Facing Page also and I feel that this was also a move in the right direction as social media is huge in the modern day and plays a vital part in people's lives. This has become a great way to share County and National News as we are able to share straight from their pages onto ours.

If you would like to join our Facebook Group and Page please search Milton Keynes Scout District and you will see a Group and a Page. Please feel free to join both.

Our Twitter profile is also strong and we are getting more follows every day. Follow us today @MKscouting on twitter.

We also have been providing a regular newsletter which we are in the process of rebranding and making it more sectionalized which will make easy reading for all that receive it.

A decision was made after very careful consideration to remove MAP from our network of resources as a migration to Office 365 which would incorporate this and make everything more centralized. Stuart Ball (ADC Projects) has spent a lot of time looking at how we can make our channels more central and have everything talking to each other, with the use of Microsoft teams and groups there was no further need for MAP. We are aware that the
teams and groups are very new to a lot of people and when time allows training will be provided on these.

MK Scout Radio is another media source in MK and a lot of you have probably noticed that it has gone a little quiet. Due to Secklow Sounds going FM this has caused a restructure on their side and they have decided to run Drive time session 1 hr later on a daily basis which means that on a Monday we lost our slot. We are still working to re gain our slot and also plans are being made to move into a studio at the Quarries. MK Scout Radio is still here and we are more than happy to come out to your group to discuss radio and let your young people plan and record a show. If this is something that you would like to discuss please contact Jason Raggett or Gary Staff.

We as a media team are here to support the District and make sure that we have a public profile as well as a strong internal communication system. I am in the process of building strong relationships with the MK Citizen and hopefully you have seen the 2 articles that were published recently.

We are always open to new ideas so please don't hesitate to contact me and let me know.

Finally, it leaves me to say a huge thank you to my team for their hard work this year and also thank you to you all for making MK District as successful as it is today.

If you would like to know more about the Media Team or would like us to visit your event then please let me know.

Jason Raggett - ADC Media and Communications
Awards & Achievements

AWARD OF MERIT
Stuart Bailey – GSL, Great Linford

Carol Blomfield – Assistant Group Scout Leader, Langland, District Training Adviser

Rachael Edwards – Assistant Cub Scout Leader, 1st Hanslope

Tracy Emerson – Assistant District Commissioner (Beaver Scouts)

Rex Exon – Assistant District Explorer Scout Leader (Excalibur)

Paul Holloway – GSL 3rd Newport Pagnell

Christopher John Margetson - Scout Leader, 5th Newport Pagnell,

Rosie Worrall – Scout Active Support Manager

John Worrall – Scout Active Support Member

CHIEF SCOUT’S COMMENDATION FOR GOOD SERVICE

Jennifer Anne Evans - Assistant Group Scout Leader, Great Linford (St Andrew's),

Mark Edwards - Cub Scout Leader, 1st Hanslope

Denise Jardine - District Explorer Scout Administrator

Rod Lester - Group Chair, 1st Wolverton

David Allen Long - Group Chair, 1st Bletchley

Hazel Long - Group Secretary, 1st Bletchley

Kim Monro - Group Secretary, Great Linford (St Andrews)

Paul Monro - Group Treasurer, Great Linford (St Andrews)

Wendy Robinson – Beaver Leader, Great Linford (St Andrews)

Barbara Smith - Beaver Scout Leader, 1st Wolverton and District Training Adviser

Jennifer Anne Smith - Cub Scout Leader, 1st Wolverton
QUEEN’S SCOUT AWARD
Kimberley Clarke – Milton Keynes Scout Network, Assistant Scout Leader, 1st Olney

YOUNG LEADER’S BUCKLE
Chris Leroux
Joe Litchfield
TRUSTEES’ ANNUAL REPORT

Structure, Governance and Management

The District is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Districts. The governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the bye laws of the Association and the policy, organisation and rules of The Scout Association.

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the policy, organisation and rules of The Scout Association.

The Milton Keynes District Scout Council includes the following groups:
1. Milton Keynes District Explorer Scouts
2. Milton Keynes Scout Resource Centre
3. The Quarries Scout Camp Site
4. Milton Keynes Gang Show
5. Milton Keynes District Active Support
6. Milton Keynes Scout Network

The trustees have identified the major risks to which they believe the charity is exposed. They have established systems to mitigate these, hold regular liaison meetings and are continually monitoring the individual finances of each group.

Objectives and Activities

To promote and support successful scouting throughout the Milton Keynes District. In planning activities for the year, the trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission with regard to public benefit. There are five different groups covering ages 6 to 25 and all young people are welcome to join regardless of personal background, faith or personal circumstances. Members benefit greatly in developing their self-confidence and social skills as well as learning new practical and life skills.

Achievements and performance

The charity continues to collect and administer subscriptions from the Scout Groups within its District. There have been a number of successful events, camps and activities throughout the year. Support has been provided to both the uniformed and executive teams within the Scout Groups.

Financial review

At the end of the year total funds amounted to £120,590.

Reserves policy

The District’s policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the District should income fall short.

The District Executive Committee considers that the District should hold a sum equivalent to 10 months running costs, circa £80,000.

In addition, the District Executive Committee continues to build a fund for the future replacement of buildings at The Quarries Scout Campsite.

Investment policy

The District has adopted a low risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies or The Scout Association’s Short Term Investment Service.
Public benefit
The District meets the Charity Commission’s public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

Plans for future periods
Milton Keynes Scout District intends to continue developing opportunities for young people to experience scouting. It also intends, by adopting the Scout Association’s ‘Vision Towards 2018’, to promote the participation of young people in decision-making at all levels.
It is intended that there will be additional support for Trustees of Scout Groups.
The buildings at The Quarries Scout Campsite will be refurbished / replaced as necessary.

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees’ Report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees

[Signature]

6 Sept 2017
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER’S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2017, which are set out on pages 4-7.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner.
The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:
- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
  o To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) of the Charities Act and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of examiner's report.
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a ‘true and fair view’ and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner’s statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act;
   - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total receipts for the year</td>
<td>201,663</td>
<td>18,063</td>
<td>219,726</td>
<td>166,465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total payments for the year</td>
<td>157,767</td>
<td>17,203</td>
<td>174,970</td>
<td>167,828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>43,896</td>
<td>860</td>
<td>44,756</td>
<td>(1,363)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cash, bank and funds**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B/Fwd</td>
<td>56,151</td>
<td>19,683</td>
<td>75,834</td>
<td>77,197</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C/Fwd</td>
<td>100,047</td>
<td>20,543</td>
<td>120,590</td>
<td>75,834</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unrestricted funds are those which the Trustees are free to spend in accordance with the constitution.

Restricted funds are those where the Trustees are bound by conditions which have been imposed by the donor or by the terms of an appeal and therefore can only be spent on specific areas.
### RECEIPTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>General Funds £</th>
<th>Restricted Funds £</th>
<th>Total Funds £</th>
<th>2016 £</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership subscriptions</td>
<td>96,368</td>
<td>96,368</td>
<td>73,371</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Site fees: The Quarries</td>
<td>29,975</td>
<td>29,975</td>
<td>22,849</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sale of clothing and badges</td>
<td>28,539</td>
<td>16,457</td>
<td>44,996</td>
<td>35,590</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camps and activities</td>
<td>31,271</td>
<td>31,271</td>
<td>16,787</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>6,922</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>8,522</td>
<td>8,396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other receipts</td>
<td>1,105</td>
<td>1,105</td>
<td>1,398</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>1,892</td>
<td>1,892</td>
<td>1,859</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank interest</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Levies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2,400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gang Show</td>
<td>5,580</td>
<td>5,580</td>
<td>3,798</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total receipts for the year</strong></td>
<td><strong>201,663</strong></td>
<td><strong>18,063</strong></td>
<td><strong>219,726</strong></td>
<td><strong>166,465</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Payments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>General Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds</th>
<th>2016 Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership subscriptions paid to HQ</td>
<td>62,010</td>
<td>62,010</td>
<td>62,659</td>
<td>62,659</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stock purchases</td>
<td>24,672</td>
<td>15,603</td>
<td>40,275</td>
<td>32,434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camps, activities and jamboree</td>
<td>25,669</td>
<td>25,669</td>
<td>11,033</td>
<td>11,033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gang show production expenses</td>
<td>5,204</td>
<td>5,204</td>
<td>6,194</td>
<td>6,194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of equipment</td>
<td>2,864</td>
<td>2,864</td>
<td>431</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>6,598</td>
<td>6,598</td>
<td>7,182</td>
<td>7,182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>2,117</td>
<td>2,117</td>
<td>10,132</td>
<td>10,132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration expenses</td>
<td>9,206</td>
<td>9,206</td>
<td>7,819</td>
<td>7,819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of premises</td>
<td>2,985</td>
<td>2,985</td>
<td>2,388</td>
<td>2,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing and stationery</td>
<td>667</td>
<td>667</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry expenses</td>
<td>4,944</td>
<td>4,944</td>
<td>1,263</td>
<td>1,263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building maintenance</td>
<td>2,989</td>
<td>2,989</td>
<td>11,955</td>
<td>11,955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site maintenance</td>
<td>5,630</td>
<td>5,630</td>
<td>6,231</td>
<td>6,231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee and leader expenses</td>
<td>1,826</td>
<td>1,826</td>
<td>1,516</td>
<td>1,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>3,200</td>
<td>3,200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Jamboree

Total payments for the year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank current accounts</td>
<td>58,515</td>
<td>959</td>
<td>59,474</td>
<td>37,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank deposit accounts</td>
<td>40,754</td>
<td>19,584</td>
<td>60,338</td>
<td>38,434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in hand</td>
<td>778</td>
<td>778</td>
<td>(443)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100,047</strong></td>
<td><strong>20,543</strong></td>
<td><strong>120,590</strong></td>
<td><strong>75,834</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other monetary assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Insurance prepayment</td>
<td>917</td>
<td>917</td>
<td>15,320</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Badge stock</td>
<td>6,414</td>
<td>6,414</td>
<td>4,689</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scout shop stock and fixtures</td>
<td>10,254</td>
<td>10,254</td>
<td>10,300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarries tuck shop stock</td>
<td>978</td>
<td>978</td>
<td>891</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarries activity equipment and machinery</td>
<td>15,721</td>
<td>15,721</td>
<td>13,248</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarries land and buildings</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td>420,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>554,331</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>574,874</strong></td>
<td><strong>540,282</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Registration Number: 1150177

Trustees:  
- Bernard Hancox (District Chair)
- Mark Blomfield (District Commissioner (to 31st October 2016))
- Stuart Bailey (District Commissioner (from 1st November 2016))
- Pat Pankhurst (Secretary)
- Ashley Pankhurst (Treasurer)
- Christopher Harrison (District Explorer Scout Commissioner (to 28th July 2016))
- Beverley Delaney (District Explorer Scout Commissioner (from 4th February 2017))
- Alex Piercey (District Scout Network Commissioner)
- Shirley Dewar (to 9th March 2017)
- Mary Williams (to 9th March 2017)
- Madeleine Munn (to 21st September 2016)
- Elisa McCarthy
- Rosemary Worral
- Helen Armfield
- Danielle Smith (from 21st September 2016)
- Stephanie Place (from 21st September 2016)

Principal Address: 51 Carey Way
Olney
Bucks.
MK46 4DR

Bankers

Milton Keynes District Scout Council
Milton Keynes Gang Show
Nat West Bank PLC

Milton Keynes District Explorer Scouts
Milton Keynes Scout Network
Lloyds Bank PLC

Milton Keynes Scout Resource Centre
Barclays Bank PLC

The Quarries Scout Campsite
Royal Bank of Scotland