



MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING  
OF  
WORTHING DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL  
26<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at 2<sup>nd</sup> Worthing HQ  
on Tuesday 26.09.2023 at 7.15 for 7.30pm**

**1/ Introduction and Welcome** by the District Chair, Kevin Jenkins. He thanked 2<sup>nd</sup> Worthing Group for hosting the AGM + he put out a plea for somebody to come forward to fill the District Secretary vacancy.

**Present:-** Chair Kevin Jenkins, DC Al Chartres (present via video link for most of the meeting), DDC Mike Hudgell, Treasurer Mags Williams Fuller, DYC Lily Wingrove, Rachel Hammond (County Chair), + 27 representatives from Groups, 9 other District/Team Leaders, and 28 Explorer Scouts + 3 Explorer Scout Leaders.

**2/ Apologies** were received from: - Mark Scott, Robert Tennent, Evelyn Stanford, Matt Edwards, Judy Marshallsay, Richard Young, Sally Scott, Mandy Saunders, Jonathan Eyre, Kayleigh and Paul Livermore, Sally Endersby, Ryan Baguley, David Willett, Sarah Humphries, Jason Brown and Naomi Norton.

**3/** Chair sought the **approval** of the published minutes of the 2022 AGM – seconded by Simon Payne and a show of hands. Approved

**4/ Governance Topics.** Chair reminded the District Scout Council present that this part of the meeting is a necessary part to make sure that the charity's foundations are in good order.

**4b/ Adoption of the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR to us).**

Chair- I propose that we adopt the model constitution from the Chapter 5 of POR. Seconded by Ann Hudgell and a show of hands. Approved.

**4c/ Agree the number of members that may be elected to the Trustee Board.**

Chair – Members of the District Scout Council were asked to note that our charity's financial year is 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March.

The District Scout Council agreed that 4 people can be elected. Seconded by – Simon Payne followed by a show of hands. Approved.

**4d/ Agree the quorum for each of the District Scout Council (including this AGM) meetings of the District Trustee Board, meetings of sub-committees.**

Chair – the District Scout Council agreed that the quorum should be set at 15 persons. Seconded by Keith Chapman and a show of hands. Approved.

**The District Scout Council must agree at this AGM the quorum for Trustee Board meetings and any sub-committee meetings.**



MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING  
OF  
WORTHING DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL  
26<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Chair - Quorum should be set at one third of Trustee Board members plus one and that the sub-committee quorum should be set at one third of Trustee board members plus one.

The District Scout Council was asked to approve that recommendation.  
Seconded by Ann Hudgell and a show of hands. Approved.

**5/ Review of the previous year – an opportunity to reflect on the activities of the past year.**

**Review by the District Chair – Kevin Jenkins**

The last 12 months has seen a steady growth in Scouting numbers and activities across our District, to see our young people again involved in challenging activities, fundraising and supporting community events is so encouraging for the future of Scouting here in Worthing and nationally. 12 months ago I started my new role, with it's challenges of getting to know the ropes, the language and, I haven't yet everything straight in my mind so far, but I would like to put on record my personal thanks to Al Chartres as District Commissioner for his continued support.

This year we have committed to allocate capital funding to groups to help improve their premises or equipment AND supported a contingent of Scouts to attend Kandersteg this summer in Switzerland, as well as a smaller group who attended the eventful World Jamboree in South Korea – reports about these later.

**Review from the outgoing District Commissioner – Al Chartres.**

Our inclusivity across every section in the District is broad, and also, I note that the percentage of female members across all sections in the district is now 26.6%, within the national target of 25%. This year has seen the new member enquiries increase, and many be placed – however our waiting list is starting to increase with many parents showing continued interest in the Squirrel section. It is worth considering, whilst we do successfully recruit more adults each year, we need to do more. However, the real challenge is meeting locations. Some work on locating other premises has already been done and I anticipate that, as the population growth in Worthing continues, use by groups of those premises to offer additional section nights is inevitable.

Our groups are running well, our adults are completing training, and our compliance with adult safety, safeguarding, security checks and training are all exceptional. Many adults are additionally qualifying for Activity and Nights Away permits, a



MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING  
OF  
WORTHING DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL  
26<sup>th</sup> September 2023

considerable increase on the past, this is just fantastic news and allows us to provide even more accessibility to those activities!

Providing this environment has been embraced by many of our new adults. Our adults are enjoying themselves, having fun and feeling rewarded by seeing their youth members develop and grow. Not all groups have seen their adult numbers swell as well as others, so we need to ensure there are good strategies in place to successfully recruit new adult volunteers.

We need to work on expanding our teams further and the elimination of excessive waiting lists must be one of our priorities.

Thanks to all. I continue to be proud to have the honour of leading you all.

**Presentations were made to Al Chartres by the Chair to thank him for all that he has done for Scouting in Worthing during the past 9 years – also a bouquet was presented to his wife, June, also a scouting leader, “for allowing him time to do all of that”!!**

**Review by a District Youth Commissioner – Lily Wingrove.**

I joined the District Team in January 2023 – since joining the team I’ve had the opportunity to see how the Board of Trustees operates and join them, along with another DYC in Worthing, to ensure there is a youth voice within their decisions. In May, I was privileged to represent Worthing Scouts at the coronation of His Majesty King Charles 111, where I supported the Scouts operation “Golden Orb” with duties that included stewarding and supporting members of the public. I was also lucky to be able to watch the ceremony from St. James’ Park.

During the year I’ve also been invited to different group events, where I got to see and take part in different activities.

In June, it was great to see so many young people receive their top awards at the District Awards Ceremony. This included our very first Chief Scout’s Acorn Awards to Squirrel Scouts.

Over the summer, as a newly appointed DYC, I was delighted to join the District Explorers for their quadrennial trip to Kandersteg International Scout Centre in Switzerland. Everyone had a fantastic time, and both James and I were pleased to join this event as part of the expedition leadership team.



MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING  
OF  
WORTHING DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL  
26<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Over the next year I am looking forward to ensuring our young peoples' voices continue to be heard.

**Chair – I thank you all for your reviews.**

**5b/ To receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Boards including the Statement of Accounts.**

Chair- The District Trustee Board has approved the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts and the report on the accounts has been prepared by the Treasurer and been cross checked to ensure that all is correct but not yet been examined by an independent auditor/verifier – this will be completed as soon as possible.

Chair – I call upon the District Treasurer, Mags Williams Fuller, to explain the Statement of

Accounts as published in the AGM booklet - **which she did.**

Chair – I thank the Treasurer and request any questions from the meeting.

**6/ Making Appointments**

Chair notes to the District Scout Council members present that this part of the meeting sets the charity up to be well-led during the period until the next AGM. Particularly, the District Scout Council appoints a Trustee Board to ensure good governance for the charity over the next year.

**6a/ To re-appoint District President and/or Vice-Presidents.**

Chair- The appointments as District President and/or Vice President are made by the District Scout Council. Mr Robin Strange has resigned from the post of Vice-President after his agreed term, thanks for his support during this time. I advise that **Mrs Judy Marshallsay, Mrs Angela Cooper and Mrs Sally Endersby** are proposed as Vice-Presidents. Show of hands for agreement. Approved.

Chair – there are currently no nominations for members of the District Scout Council.

(These are persons who are to be admitted as members of the District Scout Council in addition to the ex officio list in POR Rule 5.4.2.5).

**6c/ To approve the District Commissioners nomination of the District Chair.**

Chair – I now hand the chairmanship of this meeting over to the DDC Mike. Mike relayed this message from Al – “The DC nominates Kevin Jenkins as District Chair”

- Approved by show of hands



MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING  
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WORTHING DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL  
26<sup>th</sup> September 2023

- **6d/ To elect the District Secretary.**

Chair – The “District Secretary” is an elected appointment – to be formally proposed and seconded. At present there are no nominations.

**6e/ To elect the District Treasurer.**

Chair – the “District Treasurer” is an elected appointment and, as required Mags Williams Fuller has been proposed and seconded. Approved by show of hands.

**6f/ To elect persons to the District Trustee Board.**

Chair – the following have been formally proposed and seconded in writing. David Willett and Barbara Wells. Show of hands. Approved

**6g/ To approve the District Commissioner’s nominations to the District Trustee Board.**

DC (Al) - My nomination is Mike Hudgell.

Chair – I thank the Trustees for their work during the year and, in particular, Simon Payne who has stood down.

**6h/ To appoint the scrutineer/Independent Examiner /Auditor.**

Sean Western has retired this year unexpectedly, our thanks go to him for being our independent examiner for the past few years.

Currently there are no names to put forward for this appointment.

**7/ Closing remarks**

Chair – I thank you all for attending today – it is great to see so many of you.

Chair asked Rachel Hammond to say a few words.

**Rachel Hammond (County Chair)**

Firstly, I wish to give to you apologies from the County Commissioner, Robert Sawyer,

who is unable to be here. The County Team want to add to the thanks to Al Chartres for all of his 9 years – his dedication is second to none and we wish him well. Good wishes to the three Deputy District Commissioners (at present) and to Mike Hudgell in his new role.

Thank you to all the other leaders in Worthing for all that you do and thank you also to the Trustees.

After the end of the formal part of the AGM there were Awards to present:



MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING  
OF  
WORTHING DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL  
26<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**DDC Mike presented Wood Badges to: -**

10<sup>th</sup> Worthing - Cassie Marshall (ACSL)  
District - Hannah Fox (+ beads) (ASL)  
District - Louise Scott (DSL)

**DDC Mike presented Service Awards to: -**

1<sup>st</sup> Worthing – Julie Moss (GSL & CSL) – 15 years  
District - Paul Goater (Shooting Adviser) - 15 years  
District - Robin Strange (Member of the Welcome Group) – 30 years  
District - Chris Mantell (Nights Away Adviser) - 40 years  
District - Barbara Wells (Appointments Secretary) - 50 years

Following the awards, the council was treated to presentations about the Explorers Scout trip to KISC 100, the World Scout Jamboree and a presentation for a Kings Scout Award.