

Minutes of a meeting – Chester & District Scout Council
Annual General Meeting – Thursday 19th May 2022
All Saints Church, Hoole Road, Chester CH2 3HZ

Meeting opened at 8.15pm

1. Opening Reflection

The opening reflection was made by Daniel Skinner, Deputy Youth Commissioner.

2. Welcome & Apologies

Welcome and thanks from the District Commissioner, Alan Wilding. Alan nominated Kieran Skinner as the District Chairman for the forthcoming year, Kieran gladly accepted. Passed unanimously.

There were no additional items to be added to the agenda.

Apologies were received from

Rt Rev the Bishop of Chester (Honorary VP)
Rt Worshipful the Lord Mayor of Chester (Honorary VP)
Chris Matheson MP (Honorary VP)

David Bull OBE (VP and District Exec)
Michael Stout (District Exec)
Neil Thornton (District Exec)

Jess Booth (40th Chester)
Sian Clarke (1st Saltney)
Amy Dilworth (1st Saltney)
Dave Evans MBE
Daniel Gaskarth (1st Tarvin)
Mike Hillier (5th Blacon)
Dave Hopley (County Commissioner)
Wyatt Jones (40th Chester)
Tim McLachlan (Gang Show Chair)
Hilary Roberts (District Administrator)
Helen Shone (42nd Chester)
Emma Shortall (Under 18 Youth Rep)

3. Minutes of last Meeting

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and are to be published as the official record.

4. Election of Officers

District Secretary, one nomination for the post, elected is Liz Roberts.
District Treasurer, one nomination which was Mark Gallagher who is elected in the post.

5. Presentation of the Annual Review

The annual review was prepared and presented on projector screen by Kieran Skinner, District Chair and Megan Porter, DDC and DESC. A copy of the presentation will be published on the district website. Noted that we are considering running the AGM earlier next year.

Discussed that we may need to bring the AGM forward next year so that we are reviewing the year not long after it is finished.

6. Presentation of Annual Accounts

The annual accounts were not available for the meeting as we have only just appointed Mark Gallagher as the new District Treasurer.

We will hold an Extraordinary General Meeting to present the Accounts and Annual Report for approval. This will take place prior to October 2022 when they are due to be submitted to the Charities Commission.

Kieran, District Chair ran through the highlights of the year. A summary of the highlights can be viewed in the Annual Review.

As the accounts were not available today, there will be no vote. The vote will take place at the EGM.

7. Members to serve on District Executive Committee

Nominations had been put forward prior to the meeting, closing date was 12noon on 16th May 2022.

Minimum of four, maximum of six members nominated positions on the Executive Committee. We had five nominations, so no election is now necessary. Congratulations and welcome to the following five who have been elected:

Ashley Hynds
Calum Webster
Chris Huxley-Clowes
Michael Stout
Neil Thornton

8. District Commissioner Nominated Members for the District Executive Committee

The District Commissioner is allowed to elect the same number of people as have been elected by the membership. So, in this case Alan has up to five persons who he can nominate should he wish.

Alan had three nominations which are:

David Bull
Steve Shone
Kristy Collins

Unanimous show of hands endorsed the nominations of the DC.

Alan has reserved one place because we need to recruit someone to manage the Trafford Street exit. So, Alan has left this place for them to be nominated at a later date.

9. Election of member to serve on County Scout Council

Graham Polley was elected to serve on the County Scout Council. Passed unanimously.

10. Appointment of Auditor

Confirmation is pending from McLintocks that they are prepared to be our Independent Examiner. Subject to this confirmation McLintocks were approved by the meeting.

11. County Commissioner Address

Apologies were received from Dave Hopley, County Commissioner.

In his absence Andrew Little, Deputy County Commissioner thanked Chester and District for inviting him and giving him the opportunity to share some thoughts.

Andrew addressed the group. Andrew congratulated the new committee and said how good it was to be back face to face. Andrew gave a presentation, advising that it was all positive, with success stories across the county.

Talked through the census results and advised that there had been a substantial return to Scouts.

We have seen the introduction of a new section, Squirrels. Chester has not got any yet however demand has been huge and it is an area to look to progress.

Looking forward the Cheshire Hike was relaunched and very successful. There have been positive bookings for Chamboree and it is as strong as it's always been. Lots of attendance from county but also from international groups for example Israel.

World Scout Jamboree is progressing well. 72 going from Cheshire along with 8 leaders and 29 IST.

Explorer Belt 2023 has 80 participants attending from Cheshire.

There will be a refocus on skills in 2025 with a national strategy for training.

Andrew hopes Chester grows for the future.

12. Presentation of awards

Various awards were presented by the DC.

Firstly, awarded was a 25 year service to Rose Weaver of 1st Tilston.

Followed by a Medal of Merit to Robin Turney of 1st Tarvin. For 1st Tarvin relaunch and Fundraising for Ukraine.

Wyatt Jones and Jess Booth of 40th Chester were both awarded District Commissioner Commendations for helping with training for Cheshire Hike.

13. Address by the District's WSJ Contingent

Claire Knight the Chair of WSJ 2023 Contingents gave an update of the progress and fundraising preparations.

14. Vote of Thanks

The meeting finished with a vote of thanks from Brandon Hone, District Youth Commissioner.

Meeting closed at 21:05