

1st Burntwood Scout Group

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 7th May 2020 at 7pm

Agenda

Welcome to Zoom by GSL

Welcome by Chairman

Apologies

Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting approved

Chairman's Report

Treasurers Report

GSL, Scouts, Cubs and Beavers present their year of Scouting in virtual form

Appointment of Officers

Any Other Business

Present: Mrs L Burns, Richard Butcher, Callum Thorpe, , Mr R Williams, Mrs E Busby, Mrs J Nicholas, Mr S Cooper, Mr C Quick, Mr R Ellard, Mr C Harris, Mr K Wicks, Mrs G Perkins. Mr S Smith, Mr C Ecob, Mr B Micklewright, Ms S Gibbons, Mr K Perkins, Mr A Burns

Apologies: Mr R Busby, Mrs S Ingram

Welcome by Chairman:

Good evening and welcome to our Annual General Meeting which, in these unprecedented times, are being held as a virtual meeting by Zoom. We will be publishing the Treasurer's Report and will be electing officers for the forthcoming year as well as publishing reports from each section regarding their activities in the past year.

Minutes of the AGM held on 16th May 2019

As this meeting was a virtual meeting there were no minutes to be circulated. However Lorraine asked if everyone had read the minutes previously and was prepared to approve them. The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting, held on 16th May 2019, were then accepted as a true record of the proceedings. Proposed by Mrs E Busby and Seconded by

Chairman's Report AGM 2020

Well, who would have thought this time last year that we would be holding our Annual General Meeting this way.

I hope that you are all coping with the challenges that we are facing at the moment and to say that I am proud of the way that 1st. Burntwood Scout Group has embraced Lockdown is an understatement. Congratulations to all of our Leaders, supporters and young people for continuing to Scout but in a different way. Lord Baden Powell would be so impressed.

We have had a very busy year, as always, and our young people's activities will be shown in a Powerpoint presentation today. The 'behind the scenes' Executive Committee, Dads and Lads Group along with our Leaders have continued to raise money for additional equipment and to improve the Headquarters. Burntwood Town Council very kindly paid for four new folding dining tables along with new washing up trugs. I am sure you will be pleased to hear that the young people are expected to assist in washing up after their meals. Our mantra is that we teach 'Life Skills'.

Considerable work was done to improve HQ to make it compliant with new Fire Regulations for sleepovers in the building but at the moment, further improvements to HQ are on hold. Fortunately we scraped in with the delivery of our container two days after Lockdown as it was already arranged. We tiptoed around social distancing as it was very new to us, but we managed. When we are allowed to use HQ. again we have a new Quartermaster's store waiting, and part of the existing store will become teaching space.

Despite Lockdown there are still vacancies for new recruits to the Leader team, and to the Executive Committee if you prefer to support providing the building for our meetings – and yes, I still believe that going to the H.Q., affectionately known as the Scout Hut, is preferable to sitting in front of your laptop, ipad or phone. Please join us by contacting your Leader by whatever means you can. Stay safe.

Treasurer's Report

1st Burntwood Scout Group

Approval of Accounts – Year Ending 31st March 2020

Receipts and Payments Summary – Year Ended 31st March 2020

	2020	2019
Capitation	£5,331.50	£4,941.60
Rates	£393.12	£384.54
Lease	£250.00	£250.00
Water Rates	£384.07	£780.03
Electricity	£504.00	£498.00
Gas	£519.05	£560.99
Uniform Badges	£991.17	£857.52
Misc/Carol Concert	£287.80	£271.53
Maintenance/Cleaning/Gardening	£1,990.42	£2,590.37
Equipment	£551.32	£1,000.75
Insurance	£658.83	£636.09
First Aid	£210.00	£298.50
Uniform Sections	£608.66	£0.00
Salvation Army	£200.00	£0.00
Beaver Space Trip/Coach	£308.00	£0.00
Fund Raising	£675.78	£639.67
Group Camp	£3,280.88	£2,441.00
Stationery	£122.50	£293.71
Camera/Sound Equipment/Radio/Microphones/Screen/Projector	£0.00	£0.00
New Container/Base	£5,357.00	£0.00
HQ Safety Check/Plans	£434.00	£0.00
	£23,058.10	£16,444.30

Statement Of Assets And Liabilities At 31st March 2020

Monetary Assets	2020	2019
Cash At Bank	£18,179.74	£9,137.13
Cash In Hand	£20.00	£0.00

1st Burntwood Scout Group

Receipts and Payments Summary – Year Ended 31st March 2020

Receipts for the Year Ended 31st March 2020

	2020	2019
Capitation	£3,662.90	£3,437.40
Housekeeping	£4,153.70	£4,187.10
Group Camp	£3,052.76	£919.10
Donations - Grants	£15,750.57	£5,975.66
Fund Raising	£40.58	£1,999.24
Hire of HQ	£570.00	£465.00
Gift Aid	£1,992.73	£0.00
EDF Refund	£82.06	£48.16
Beer Festival	£2,124.90	£160.00
L.D. Scouts Refund	£393.51	£0.00
Salvation Army	£180.00	£0.00
Sale Poppy Badges	£97.00	£0.00
	£32,100.71	£17,191.66

NOTE:

Last quarter payments for Capitation was not banked till April 3rd - £1,002.65.

Total - £4,665.55

Housekeeping - £1,044.20 = Total £5,197.60

1st Burntwood Group Scout Leader's Report 2020 presented by Rich Williams:

I'm glad to say that 1st Burntwood is going from strength to strength even if in these most difficult of times. The creativity of leaders and engagement of carers and young people during this time has been amazing.

But let's cast our minds back to before Lockdown. Some highlights include an excellent turnout for the awards ceremony at the Cathedral this year with many young people receiving their awards including representations from each of the sections. We have had fantastic camps, sleepovers and other events which I will leave the sections to report on. We had a very full and smart turnout for the 50th Burntwood Youth Remembrance Parade and excellent turnout for the virtual St George's Day Parade

Burntwood continues to have strong numbers of young people participating and wanting to join with consistently over 120 young people involved. Our leader teams have been going from strength to strength. All sections have welcomed a number of new leaders this year which is great to see as well as long serving leaders continuing to drive the group forward. I am delighted to say that all sections now have section leaders and assistant leaders and further support from section assistants and parent helpers. However, if you want to join the team we would welcome you.

We have lots of strengths across the group and great programs are delivered for and by the young people. All sections regularly participate in youth shaped planning sessions to define what they want in the programme from Beavers through to Scouts. A key feature of Burntwood is the strength of our young leaders and the support they provide. We also get great support for events like the Christmas Carol concert. Fund raising in general has been excellent with significant contributions from various sources. This year we have had a particular focus on raising funds for our toilet refurbish and the expansion of the den.

This year we celebrated our 70th Birthday. The camp was truly excellent and weather helped. It was great to have all sections together and working to support each other. Beavers under canvas for the time also! All have done really well and made the group camp an event to be remembered and all for only £10 per young person.

There are two main groups I should like to pass on my thanks to for making the young people's time with us so fantastic.

One group is the exec team who work really hard on a range of things including funding raising, administration and building maintenance but essentially making sure that everything is in place to ensure the leaders can deliver the programs that the young people want. Although you are behind the scenes your contribution is felt by all every time we use the HQ so thanks to all of you.

The second is of course the leader team which continues to grow and amaze me every day, you are all truly inspirational and the effort, time and energy you all put in is wonderful. The creative programmes you run continue to be exciting and challenging for the young people allowing them to grow and gain new skills for life through their experiences. You really are having an impact on the youth of today and your contribution is enriching the lives of everyone in the Group and beyond, both now and for the future especially in these challenging times. Keep up the great work and thanks.

Rich Williams

GSL 1st Burntwood

Scout Section AGM 2019 -2020 presented by Emma Busby

Once again, we come together for our annual AGM and once more I'm proud to deliver the Scouts section report.

Well what a mixed bag the last twelve month has been especially in light of the pandemic we now find ourselves living in. May I just take this opportunity to offer our sincere thoughts and best wishes to all that have been directly affected by this awful disease and to all those key workers, carers, retail workers, posies, drivers etc that support the NHS at this critical time. Each and every one of you are amazing.

However, we are here to celebrate the achievements of the young people and look at what they have been up to over the last 12 months.

We have sustained a steady number of approx. 30- 35 Scouts within the troop over the past twelve months. Scouting is all about making memories and equipping the young people with skills for life

The past twelve months has seen the Scouts go to camp as a section and as a whole group last June, as part of 1st Burntwood's 70th Anniversary. This camp took some planning but the results were so worth it. It was wonderful to have all sections, including our Explorers, together. The parent support we received was very much appreciated. Thank you to you all. Camps are a great opportunity for the Scouts to put a lot of the practical skills into practice that they learn in section nights. Friendships are forged and the opportunity presents itself to try new activities and spend time outdoors.

The Scouts programme encourages them to partake in adventurous activities from Abseiling to Zorbing. The troop are always encouraged to try something new, even if this takes them outside of their comfort zone.

We have social events like bowling and games nights to name a couple.

The troop have the opportunity to enter various District events including quiz's, cooking competitions, bouldering and swimming competitions and incident hikes. Last years saw us do a clean sweep at the swimming competition and this year we had success at the Bouldering Competition. Well done to all those that were involved,

We had a really good turnout for last year's 50th Burntwood's Uniformed Youth Remembrance Parade and I should like to thank you as parents for supporting this.

All these activities form part of the Scouts programme and helps them to achieve their Chief Scouts Gold Award. This is not an easy award to achieve but these young people are working hard to get it.

This March saw us having to temporarily stop face to face scouting due to COVID-19. During this period, I am seeing the true spirit of scouting being displayed by the young people and I'm so immensely proud of each and everyone of them coping in their own ways.

The scouting programme continues and is being delivered via a virtual platform and so far, Scouts and some parents have been working towards achieving the badge work. One parent has also earned his first Nights Away Badge and his Outdoor Challenge badge. These will be awarded when we start back together. Scouts have been cooking, camping at home, being creative with set challenges like Marble Runs. They are using digital platforms more than ever at present and undertaking other activities that we set to help them achieve their Chief Scout Gold Award.

All of this scouting though wouldn't be possible without the leader team I'm privileged to lead and work alongside. They have been amazing; they all have their own issues to deal with outside of scouting with COVID-19. They have taken a calm and measured approach to this situation. They are continuing to ensure that young people and adults stay safe and we keep scouting.

Just to finish I read a Dr Seuss inspired poem the other day when I was writing the report and adopted it slightly for the scouts.

We will Scout you in a room

We will teach you now on Zoom

We will teach you in a house

We will teach you with a mouse

We will teach you here or there

We will Scout because we care.

Gagarin Cub Scout Pack AGM 2019 - 2020 presented by Chris Quick

Gargarin Pack currently has 19 cubs. It's been an interesting twelve months, we have had various activities & try to do the best we can especially under the current conditions. We've been keeping up with traditional Scouting skills, such as map reading, compass work & basic knots. We went canoeing at Manor Park, which was great fun, even when one of my Young Leaders capsized me!

Other activities and projects we've completed over the last 12 months have accumulated in 144 badges being awarded. These include Astronomer, Backwoods Cooking, Entertainer, Disability Awareness, Pioneer, Scientist and Nautical Skills, along with the Challenge Badges that ultimately lead up the Chief Scout Silver Award, of which we've awarded four in the last 12 months.

During the period where we all having to social distance, we have been having weekly Zoom meetings, where we have covered parts of the Air Activities badge, done a Scavenger Hunt and had a quiz night. These are fun & challenging at the same time, however, the 'Mute All' button is genius – if only that could be installed at The Hut for when we're back to normality

I would like to thank Charlotte, Chris and the Young Leaders for supporting me again, not forgetting parents who are always there to give a hand when needed, its vary much appreciated.

Armstrong Cub Scout Pack AGM 2019-2020 presented by Julie Nicholls

In the last 12 months we have had 10 Cubs that have completed their Silver Award, the top award in the Cub Scout section.

We have had 10 weeks away, 7 under canvass and 3 indoor, which included taking our pack to Leicestershire for 3 nights/4 days camping. We also did our first roast dinner on camp as well as linked up with 3rd Coventry Cub Pack and shared our Camp Fire and Cubs Own with them.

Our September Camp was themed around WW2 evacuation and we had everything from ration packs and boxes to labels and air raid shelters.

In addition to Scouting activities and working through the Cub Scout Programme , with camps, hikes, fires etc. Cubs have completed the following badges:

Entertainment, Environmental/Conservation badge, International badge, Cyclist badge, Local Knowledge, Digital Citizen and Digital Maker. Cubs are also encouraged to undertake badge work at home. The total number of badges awarded year to 30th April 2020 is 381.

Since Lockdown we have had to cancel a 4 night camp which all Leaders and Cubs were exceedingly upset about but, as soon as the Scout Association allows, we will be out booking more nights under canvass asap.

Every week we have run a virtual pack meeting. We were going to do these fortnightly but we started to hear about some of our young people really struggling with the current situation so we decided that we had to go to weekly and continue with our programme. Cubs are attending every week for a themed evening or badge work and being set homework. Some Cubs are doing additional badges at home and submitting their work by email. We are also encouraging the use of the Facebook page as we know Cubs like seeing what each other are doing and this works to inspire.

Our Cubs have been Clapping For Carers. We have renewed our Cub Scout Promise on St George's Day instead of at the parade.

Cubs are currently learning Sign Language. They can all finger spell their name, can sign the Rainbow song and we are all currently learning to sign the Cub Scout Promise with the intention being that, when we invest new people into the Pack, the Promise is signed as well.

Armstrong Cubs are also World Record Holders. On 30th April 2020 Cubs and Scouts across the world (over 84,000 from 67 countries) held a simultaneous virtual inside or outside sleep in which we took part. It has been submitted and agreed as a new World Record. We will continue with this every weekly format as, apart from being fun, it is necessary for the welfare of our Cub family.

Gemini Beaver Colony AGM 2019 – 2020 presented by Ryan Elland

It's been another wild year for Gemini Beavers. We have taken part in a lot of new activities and some old favourites too..

We attended Group Camp and over 20 Beavers from both sections camped out under canvas for the first time. We also had Beavers day visiting the group camp. All the Beavers and Leaders had an amazing experience.

We have done our traditional end of summer term trip to Go Ape.

We also attended the District Space Centre sleepover. This was a very well organised and something totally different for the Beavers. We all slept under a satellite and we all listened to a mystery snorer from another section in a galaxy not so far away.

We have got outdoors as much as we can this year. We have done hikes at Castle Ring and Gentleshaw and a night hike over Chasewater. Numerous visits to Beaudesert and discovered we had a Friday curse. If we plan to be outdoors on a Friday it brings heavy rain 18.00 – 19.00.

The Beavers have also taken part in community projects. We joined with Apollo and did the Lichfield Cathedral Christmas tree festival and planted bulbs with the council in our park.. This year we had a different Christmas party. The Beavers packed shoe boxes with donations from all our families. These shoe boxes went to Birmingham Homeless Shoe Box Appeal. Well done Beavers.

In the new year we ploughed on with our programme. We had a visit to the hut by 4 spring lambs. The Beavers loved learning all about life on the farm. This was our last session at the hut before all face to face scouting was stopped.

During lock down we have kept Beavers going. We have a weekly zoom meeting. We have done a campfire song night and have a day night soon.

We have kept a steady 23 beavers on the Section throughout the year and 8 Chief Scout Bronzes have been awarded. On zoom we average 16 Cubs a week.

All this would not be possible without a great team. Huge thanks to Merlin (Kev), Sarah and Damian. Special mention of thanks to Raven (Steve) who runs his own section but still helps out on a Friday. Big welcome and thanks to Red Kite (Linda) newest member of our team.

Not forgetting our young leaders Mat and Elliot and all the support from parents. Thank you.

Gemini will be back stronger once we are back face to face.

Apollo Beaver Colony AGM 2019 – 2020 presented by Steve Cooper

It has been a transitional year for Apollo. The colony leader, assistant leader and both parent helpers left last spring; we were down to two to run meetings with one occasional helper. Beaver membership had fallen to 16 and numbers at meetings were inconsistent and hovering around thirteen. It was clear that new leaders and increased membership was needed if the colony was to continue. It's not been easy, we had volunteers come and go but we are now in a very strong position with a permanent Leader, an Assistant Leader, three Sections Assistants and potentially two more Section Assistants and four Occasional Helpers in the pipeline. We have had a few come and go but membership is now stable at eighteen. There is more to do but we have a solid team to take the colony forward.

Nights Away

There is no longer a Nights Away permit holder in Beavers. This is part way to being remedied. We held a Nights Away event at Beaudesert in March as an assessment for a Permit. Unfortunately, current circumstances prevent the follow up debrief meeting to (hopefully) complete the permit, but this will be done as soon as we can meet face-to face again. The event itself was a huge success, although numbers were fewer than anticipated. We have another scheduled for 3rd & 4th October which is fully subscribed. We conducted a follow up survey and have a clear preference from all parents who replied to hold sleepovers away from the hut.

The sleepover may prove to be a turning point for us, as a direct result we have four parents willing to sign up as Occasional Helpers and have had DBS checks so that they can help us on our next sleepover.

Programme

We have developed a two year rolling programme covering the Challenge Awards needed for Bronze Chief Scouts Award. Essentially, we focus on a different challenge award and associated activity badges each term so that over 2 years all Beavers will gain their Bronze Award. The upside to this approach is that when we have our planning meetings, we know what our focus is even before we meet. This helps with detailed planning and we have brought our planning forward to allow us to book instructors/facilities early. The downside is that any children who join at the age of seven are unlikely to achieve their Bronze Award.

We have had two move on in the last year, Ben Ireson and Harrison Fisher, both who earned their Bronze Chief Scouts Award. We have four due to move on in September but as they will still be of Beavers age I have agreed with their parents and Akela to delay this until after Oct half term so that we can finish their Bronze award with them while they are still in Beavers.

Of note we have ... held a ticketed fundraising raffle, built dens, been caving (in a simulator), had an art competition, tried archery and trampolining. We have danced, learnt about recycling with Sisters Against Plastic, donated to the food bank, celebrated the Apollo moon landings, taken part in the Lichfield Cathedral Christmas Tree Festival and the District Beavers Quiz, visited RAF Museum, Cosford and been on a sleepover at Beaudesert. A few joined the Hike to the Moon and the whole colony celebrated St Georges Day and the Clap for Carers.

OSM

OSM has been invaluable to us. The move to GoCardless payments for both subscriptions and events now runs smoothly. We've also gone paperless for event sign-ups and this along with the online payments saves us hours of administration time that we no longer need to do. It is now embedded in Apollo.

Since the County conference there is a move to create a county OSM support group. The format isn't decided but I will be taking part in that group if time allows.

Badges at Home

The recent lock down has been a challenge to us to keep engaged with the Beavers as the whole teams' personal circumstances have changed. We have embraced a new feature of OSM – Badges at Home. We can record video clips and attach them to badges with our instructions, parents can upload evidence for badge work directly to OSM and once approved the badge records are automatically updated. The advantage of this over a live feed is that the Beavers (and leaders) are not tied into a specific time. Some parents have made maximum use of this and some of the feedback has been fantastic. This will eventually become a paid extra on OSM so we will need to decide if it's worthwhile ... but that decision will be driven by the parents. We've also been making extensive use of Facebook.

This has been so successful that along with badges earned at sleepover we already have 57 badges completed since March.

Final Thanks

I would like to say a big thank you to Jane for her invaluable help in all we do, Keith for being ever present, particularly during the weeks when there were only the two of us and it was particularly difficult and for representing us at District meetings and to Jo and Clare for jumping in when we desperately needed help from parents. Without your support we wouldn't have achieved half of what we have. Thank you too Lisa, Rachel, Laura and Dale for helping to feed everyone at sleepover; we couldn't have delivered sleepover without you. And thank you to all parents who have helped occasionally at our outdoors events such as Beaudesert and RAF Cosford visit.

Our two Young Leaders, Dwaine and Joe also deserve a special mention for the support that they give us every week.

Election of Officers:

A vote was taken for the election of Officers and approved unanimously.

Ex Officio members:

Group Chairman	Mrs Lorraine Burns
Group Scout Leader	Mr Richard Williams
Group Treasurer	Mrs Sylvia Ingram
Group Secretary	Mrs Gill Perkins

Plus Section Leaders:

Scout Leader	(Mercury)	Mrs E Busby
Cub Scout Leader	(Gagarin)	Mr Chris Quick
Cub Scout Leader	(Armstrong)	Mrs Julie Nicholas
Beaver Scout Leader	(Gemini)	Mr R Elland
Beaver Scout Leader	(Apollo)	Mr S Cooper
Explorer Scout Leader	(Elder Unit)	Mr R Busby

(Those Section Leaders present indicated their willingness to serve on the Group Executive Committee).

Elected Members:

Mrs Glenys Smallman
Mr Alan Burns

GSL'S Nominations:

Mr Kevin Wicks

Co-opted Members:

John Ingram and a representative from Burntwood Town Council

Any Other Business:

As there was no other business Lorraine closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

