

SCOUTS HEREFORD & WORCESTER SCOUT COUNCIL

Annual General Meeting 2025

Thursday 17th July, 7pm
St Helen's Church, Worcester

Present: See Attendance Sheet (Appendix 1) - **Total Attendance: 39**

Apologies: See Apologies Sheet (Appendix 2)

1. Introduction and Welcome by Chair

The Annual General Meeting of Scouts Hereford & Worcester County Scout Council was opened by Jamie Sandison, Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Jamie welcomed everyone and thanked them for giving up their time for this meeting.

He covered domestic notices and health and safety.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies from 12 volunteers had been received in advance (recorded in Appendix 2). There were no further apologies from the floor.

3. Governance topics

This part of the meeting is used to make sure the charity's foundations are in good order

3a. Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 21st September 2024

The County Trustee Board had previously reviewed the Minutes of the AGM from 2024 and proposed that they be accepted as an accurate record.

The Minutes had been made available for inspection on the County website for 4 weeks prior to the 2025 AGM, giving anyone opportunity to raise any discrepancies.

Proposer: Jamie Sandison

Seconder: Peter Pearson

The motion was carried.

3b. Adopt the constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR)

In line with the recommendation from Scout Headquarters, the County Trustee Board proposes we adopt the model constitution from Chapter 5c.3 of our Policy, Organisation and Rules. A link to this has been available for review and inspection prior to this meeting via our County website.

Proposer: Jamie Sandison

Seconder Callum Walters

The motion was carried.

3c. Note the County's financial year

The Chair asked that County Scout Council members note that the financial year for the charity of Scouts Hereford & Worcester is 1st April to 31st March.

Thank you.

3d. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board

Following good practice recommendations from the Charity Governance Code, POR states Trustee Boards should have a minimum of 5 and no more than 12 Trustees (including ex officio and co-opted members).

The outgoing Trustee Board recommends that 10 people are appointed to the new Trustee Board.

Seconder: Rob Williams

The motion was carried.

3f. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the County Scout Council

The quorum is the minimum number of County Scout Council members that must be present at County Scout Council meetings in order for business to be done.

The outgoing Trustee Board recommends the quorum should remain at 13 people, the quorum set in 2023.

Seconder: Callum Walters

The motion was carried.

4. Review of the previous year

4a. The County Lead Volunteer's review of Scouts Hereford & Worcester

The County Lead Volunteer referred members to the Annual Report, which is available via the County website.

There were no questions on the report.

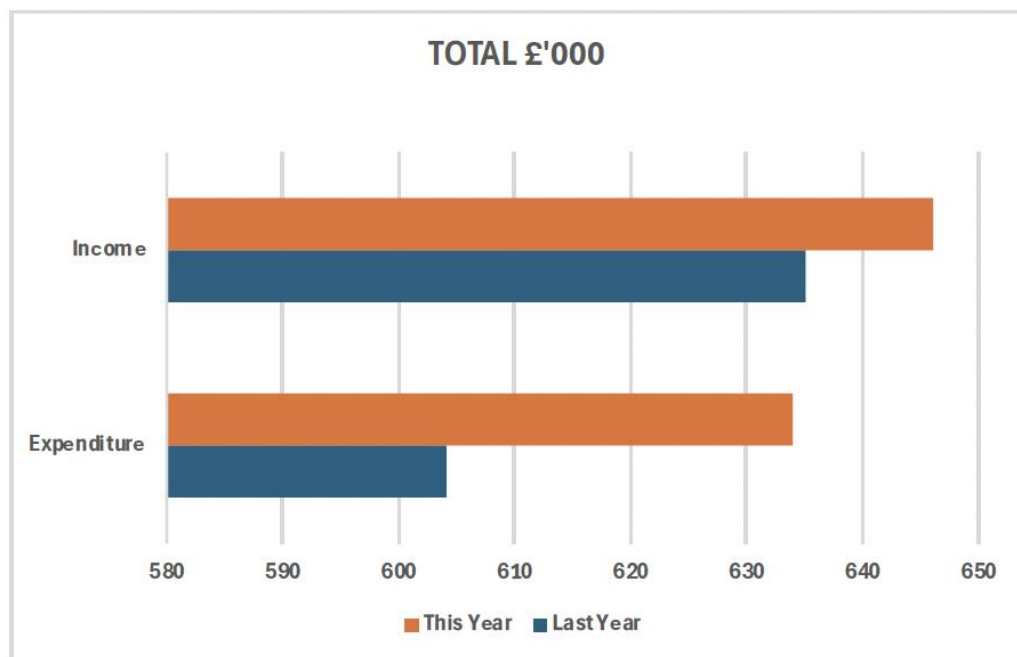
Following this, Peter Dodman (County Comms Lead) led youth representatives from last summer's KISC24 trip in a presentation. Peter and the youth members shared memories and photos of the week-long adventure at Kandersteg International Scout Camp.

There were no questions at the time, but attendees were encouraged to speak with the presenters about their experience after the AGM.

4b. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the County Trustee Board including the annual Statement of Accounts

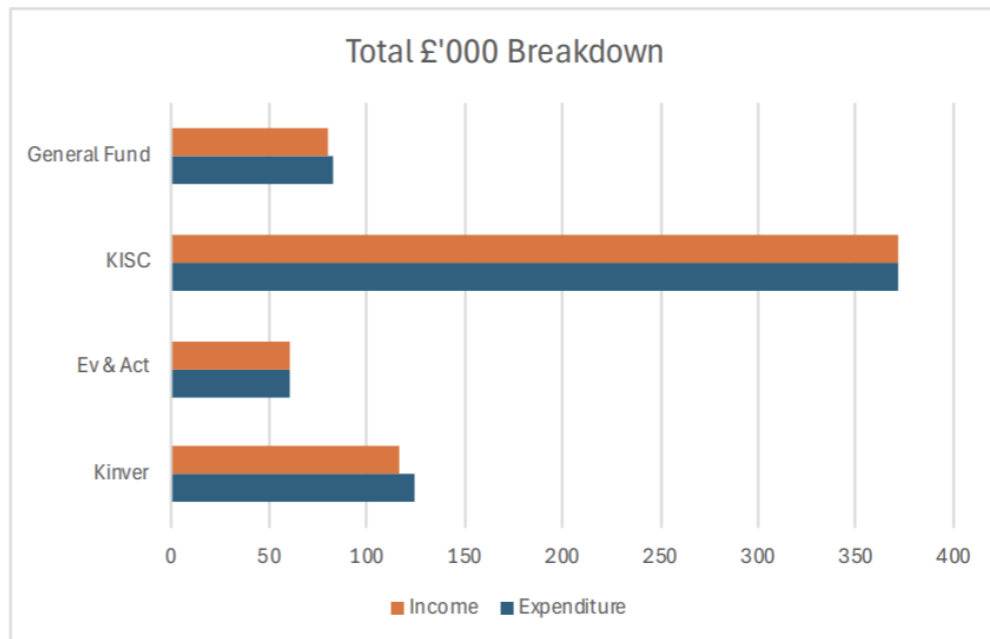
The County Treasurer was invited to summarise the position of the accounts for the year April 2024 to March 2025 and this is his report:

- The annual accounts format and descriptions within the Annual Report have to be in accordance with those set by the Charity Commission, but there is a 2-page summary in the report at the end which has detail with more familiar ScoutsHQ descriptions.
- The year was a record for the highest income and expenditure ever for the County. Figures against last year can be seen on the chart below and show income (£646K) in orange and expenditure (£634K) in blue. These high figures are attributed to the KISC24 trip (254 participants).

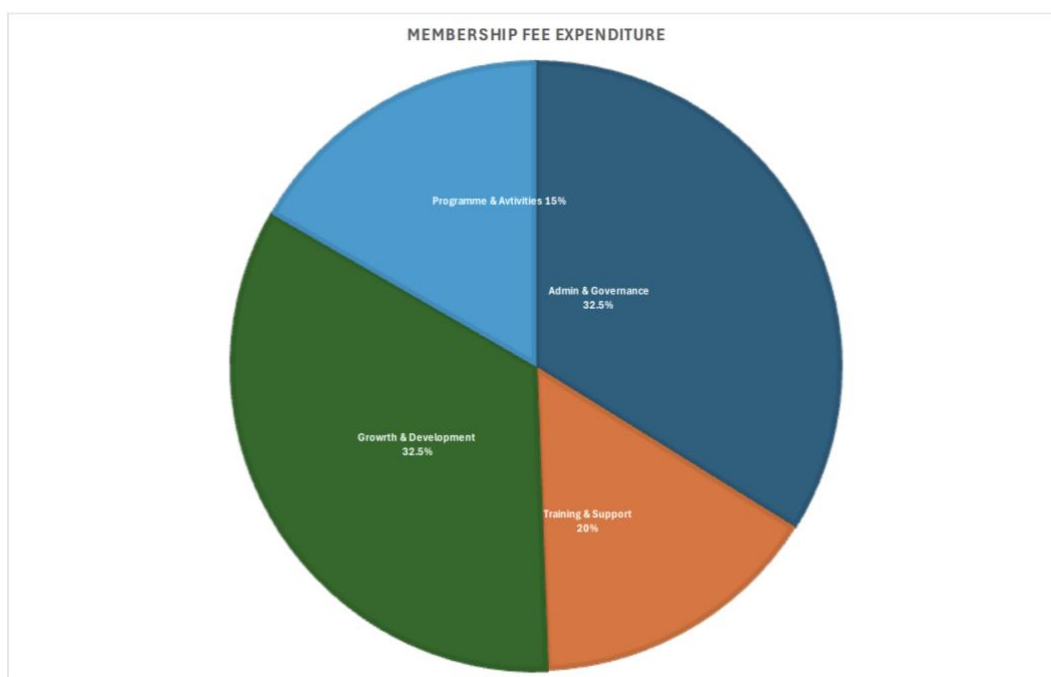


- County finances are managed in 3 categories:
 - General Fund
 - Events and Activities
 - Kinver Campsite

- The following graph shows the breakdown of expenditure for these 3 areas



- Kandersteg figures were so large they're shown separately to all other Events & Activities to give better perspective
- Income to the General Fund is mainly membership fees and expenditure is the day-to-day running of the County.
- Events & Activities are self-funding from participant fees
- Kinver's income & expenditure were both affected by Storm Darragh last December; some income was lost but far more significant was the cost of clearing the 50+ fallen trees.
- This pie chart following is a summary of the expenditure of the membership fees (ie General Fund)
 - 32.5% Admin & Governance (incl admin staO, IT, communications & professional fees)
 - 20% on training – up on last year due to increased 1st Aid training costs
 - 32.5% on Growth & Development (staO)
 - 15% on programme = Adv Act Courses Conference, Top Awards & WSJ Unit Support



The Chair asked if the meeting had any questions on the report. There were 3, as follows:

Q: With regard to Kinver, do we hope to balance out the recent losses in the future?

A: There have been many capital investments in Kinver over the last 18 months and these are reflected in the discrepancies shown in the accounts for 2024/2025.

Q: Do you know the likely increase in membership fees for 2026 and when will this figure be released?

A: This is on the Trustee agenda for September and once it has been decided the information will be released as quickly as possible.

Q: It is important for budgets and District and Group levels to get this detail as early as possible so County's early attention would be appreciated.

A: The Trustees understand this, but they also have to wait for the information to be released from HQ. We will look into the process to see if anything can be done in future.

The Chair recorded his thanks to Ian for all his work as Treasurer this year.

The County Trustee Board approved the Annual Report, the Statement of Accounts and the report on the accounts from Melissa Goodwin of The Richards Sandy Partnership, the Independent Examiner, at the meeting on 16th June 2025.

After presenting these documents at the Annual General Meeting they were confirmed as duly received and considered.

5. Making appointments

The first appointment is for the office of Chair, so for this next item the Chair handed over control of the meeting to the County Lead Volunteer.

5a. Appoint the County Chair

The CLV thanked Jamie Sandison for his support as Chair of the Trustees throughout the year.

He confirmed that Jamie was willing to continue as Chair and that the outgoing Trustee Board recommended his appointment for the period of one year to the Council.

Members unanimously approved this nomination.

The CLV handed back control of the meeting back to the re-elected Chair.

5b. Appoint members of the County Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the County Trustee Board

The Chair thanked everyone on the Board of Trustees for all their hard work and commitment.

Item 3e confirmed that the Trustee Board would comprise 10 members (including the Chair, Treasurer and the ex officio roles of CLV and CYC Team Lead). There are 4 current members of the Board still in term which leaves 2 vacancies.

Only 1 nomination has been received – Callum Walters.

The Trustees recommend that Callum be appointed Trustee for a term of 3 years.

Members unanimously approved these nominations.

The Chair thanked the volunteers for the continued commitment and looked forward to working with them again in the year to come.

5c. Appoint the Independent Examiner

This appointment is for a person or company to scrutinise the County accounts prior to their submission and consideration at the AGM. The Richards Sandy Partnership is qualified and willing to take on the role and has served the County in this role for several years.

Proposer: Jamie Sandison

Seconder: Tom Palmer

The motion was carried and The Richards Sandy Partnership is duly appointed.

5d. Elect representatives of the County Scout Council to represent the County on the Council of The Scout Association

Under rule 6.5 of Policy, Organisation and Rules the County has, representatives on the Council of The Scout Association. ScoutsHW elects one member and one 18-24 member and they serve for a period of 3 years.

In 2023, Rob Williams and Ellen Cockram were elected at the AGM and have 1 year still to serve. On behalf of the Scout Council, the Chair thanked them for undertaking this additional volunteer role.

6. Closing remarks

Prior to closing the meeting, the Chair invited the Acting Lead Volunteer for the West Midlands Region, Andrew Lloyd, to say a few words.

Andrew thanked the County for the invitation and the opportunity to visit – parking had been a nightmare!

He was interested to hear some of what had been going on over the last year and was impressed by the wide and varied programme giving so many opportunities for the young people in the County. He was confident that Governance was strong.

He commented particularly on the presentation and views of the young people on the KISC24 trip and was glad that everyone had clearly had a great time. He felt that the overriding themes that had come across on the evening were those of independence, achievement and accomplishment.

The Chair thanked St Helen's church for providing the venue and the BP Guild for helping with the refreshments. He then closed the meeting and invited everyone to stay for some refreshments.

Meeting closed at 19:45

Appendix 1

ATTENDEES: Annual General Meeting 2025

	Name	Primary/County Role
1.	Robert Sidley	County Commissioner
2.	Jamie Sandison	County Chair
3.	Lynn Lee	County Administrator
4.	Fliss Jones	County Youth Lead Volunteer Team
5.	Xander Dixon	KISC24 representative
6.	Ian Newman	Treasurer
7.	Jenny Newman	Volunteer
8.	Marc Chorley	County Youth Lead Volunteer Team
9.	Tom Palmer	Trustee
10.	Daisy Mawby	County Youth Lead Volunteer Team
11.	Chris Reynolds	Wyre Forest, Rhydd Service Team Lead
12.	Julie Turbutt	County Development Officer
13.	Tim Smeaton	District Lead Volunteer, Avon Vale
14.	Roger Davies	Trustee Chair, Avon Vale
15.	Amber Gerhardt	KISC24 representative
16.	James Hatherill	KISC24 representative
17.	Ros Hatherill	KISC24 representative
18.	Joseph Urding	KISC24 representative
19.	Peter Dodman	County Comms Lead
20.	Kev Hatherill	District Lead Volunteer, Ross
21.	Callum Walters	Trustee
22.	Emily Denton	WSJ Team
23.	Adrian Belsey	KISC24 representative
24.	Helen Bone	KISC24 representative
25.	Maurice Bottomley	KISC24 representative

26.	Matthew Kendle	KISC24 representative
27.	Ben Johnstone	District Lead Volunteer, The Malverns
28.	Mark Graham	Hillwalking Assessor
29.	Jonathan Payne	District Lead Volunteer, Redditch
30.	Allan Page	BP Guild
31.	June Etheridge	BP Guild
32.	Heather	BP Guild
33.	Rob Williams	County Programme Lead
34.	Peter Pearson	First Aid Trainer
35.	Graham Godwin	Great Bear ESU Lead
36.	Andrew Lloyd	West Midlands Lead / Team England
37.	Lauren Wheeldon	County 14-24 Lead
38.	Liz Belton	WSJ Team
39.	Bryndley Jones	County Youth Lead Volunteer Team

Appendix 2

APOLOGIES: Annual General Meeting 2025

	Name	Role/Notes
1.	John Day	Transformation Lead
2.	Derek Barnes	Transformation Lead/District Chair
3.	Richard Brocklehurst	NA Adviser
4.	Billie Bantham-Jones	County Youth Team
5.	Rob Pugh	County Adviser
6.	Julie Goodyear	District Rep to ScoutsHW (Wyre Forest)
7.	Barbara O'Mahoney	Learning Team
8.	Sylvia Summer	Learning Team
9.	Mark Strain	Learning Team
10.	Sue Page	BP Guild
11.	David Barnes	District Rep to ScoutsHW (Malverns)
12.	Abbie McFarlane	Trustee