



Annual General Meeting 24 August 2025, 1.30pm



1st Daviot Oldmeldrum Scout Group Minutes of AGM

Agenda item	Notes
1.0 Welcome and introductions	Chair – Steve Hutchison opened AGM Video highlights of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts activities from the last year presented by GLV Martin Burnett
2.0 Apologies	Section Leaders unable to attend: Cubs - Martin Hall Beavers – Niall Morris Trustee Board members unable to attend – Jason Bird
3.0 Governance	
3.1 Acceptance of last meeting minutes	Agreed by Stephen Duncan



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3.2 Acceptance and adoption of constitution	The Constitution adopted in 2024 was discussed and remains valid. Accepted by GLV Martin Burnett.
3.3 Trustee Board meetings: quorum/ membership	<p>In accordance with constitution the Quorum for the Trustee Board must include Group Chair, Group Treasurer and Group Lead Volunteer, along with between 2 and 9 other members to form a group of between 5 and 12 Trustees.</p> <p>For 24/25 Trustee Board was:</p> <p>Chair – Steve Hutchison</p> <p>Treasurer – Stephen Duncan</p> <p>Group Lead Volunteer – Martin Burnett</p> <p>General Members:</p> <p>Adam Jones</p> <p>Jeff Burns</p> <p>Smita Dick</p> <p>Jason Bird</p> <p>Meetings were held quarterly throughout the year.</p>



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4.0 Review of the year	
4.1 Group Lead Volunteer report	<p>GLV Martin Burnett presented a review of the year for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.</p> <p>Please see attached reports prepared by Section Leads and Lead Volunteer Martin Burnett.</p> <p>Mike Scott also gave a summary of the Explorers Section activities and plans for 25/26.</p>
4.2 Trustee Chair report	<p>Steve Hutchison presented a review of the year for the Trustee Board. Please see attached report.</p>
4.3 Treasurer's report	<p>Stephen Duncan presented the group accounts that were submitted to year end 31st March 2025.</p> <p>The group has run at a deficit for the last two years due to increase costs associated with running camps (food, transport and activity price increases) and the increased levy paid to Gordon District / Scouts UK.</p> <p>Fees were held in 2024 with the aim of covering the deficit with additional fundraising activities.</p>



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5.0 Review of Annual Fees	<p>It was proposed by Steve Hutchison that annual fees be increased by £10 per annum to reduce the deficit.</p> <p>This was passed by an open vote with all attendees in favour.</p> <p>It was noted by several attendees that an annual fee of £90 still represented very good value for money per session when compared to any other paid activity for young people.</p>
6.0 Appointments to Trustee Board 2025-2026	
6.1 Appoint the Group Chair	<p>Stephen Hutchinson nominated by Jeff Burns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Agreed by Mike Scott
6.2 Appoint the Group Treasurer	<p>Stephen Duncan nominated to continue as Treasurer by Steve Hutchison</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Agreed by Martin Burnett
6.3 Appoint Group Members	<p>Smita Dick, Jeff Burns, Adam Jones agreed to continue as members of Trustee Board.</p> <p>Steve Hutchison highlighted that any new volunteers would be welcome to join the Trustee Board and if interested to e-mail the Chair (chair@1stdomscouts.org.uk)</p>
7.0 Presentation on Oldmeldrum Westbank Site Opportunity	<p>Martin Burnett presented the current status regarding the availability of the council owned site at the now closed Westbank Care Home in Inverurie.</p> <p>A note of interest has been submitted with the view to potentially taking over the site as a community hub owned by 1st Daviot Oldmeldrum Scouts.</p>



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	<p>This is at a very early stage and will require a full business case to be prepared and assessed prior to proceeding.</p> <p>It was noted a full committee would be required to project manage the purchase and build if the project was to go ahead.</p>
8.0 Closing remarks	Chair



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1st Daviot Oldmeldrum Scout Group Group Lead Volunteer Report 2025

I would like to thank all our Leaders for their hard work and dedication to Scouting over the past year. It's been another busy year with all our Sections offering a full, exciting and challenging programme as you will hear from the individual Section reports.

At last year's AGM the Group had a vacant GSL position with me in the acting role. This soon changed with the move to the new role structure within Scouting, when I agreed to take on the Group Lead Volunteer in September 2024. It's a real privilege to lead such an active Scout Group and give something back to the Group I've been involved with since joining as a Beaver 24 years ago!

The biggest change in our leadership this year is in our Beaver team – Laura, Susan and David stepped down at the end of the summer term so a big thank you to them for their enthusiasm with running Beavers. The Beavers have enjoyed some brilliant activities under their leadership and had their first Beaver Sleepover in a very long time which was a great success. Niall Morris and Vicky Wharry have kindly agreed to lead the Beaver Section this term so.

Our Cub and Scout sections continue to have consistent leadership teams with only a few changes. Anders left Cubs and Harry left Scouts at the end of last term and they will both be missed by the teams and young people. We are always looking for more adults to get involved in any of our Sections so please feel free to have a chat if you are interested. You don't need to have any previous Scouting experience as training will be provided through online courses and 'on the job'.

All our Sections are operating at or very close to full capacity with 131 youth members across Beavers (21), Cubs (46) & Scouts (64). We currently have 65 children on our waiting list though around 15 of these are below joining age for Beavers. Our 25 adult volunteers continue to provide a varied and exciting programme across all our Sections.

This year we had our first Summer Fun Day which was a resounding success and great seeing so many people enjoying the day and all the varied activities and stalls on offer. A huge thank you to the organising team – Adam, Jenna, Sam, Moira and Claire – for putting in a massive effort with planning for months before the event. Thank you also to all the Cubs, Scouts and Leaders who helped out on the day making sure everything ran smoothly.

This term we have the Gordon Gathering to look forward to in just a few weeks' time where we have 67 young people and 11 Leaders attending.

Our Scout Group remains one of the largest and most active Groups in our District with a committed leader team and healthy numbers moving through the Sections.



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Scout Section Annual Report 2025

Firstly, I would like to thank the Scout Leader team for their support in running the Section. We have an enthusiastic leader team and have had some brilliant activities and camps over the past year, and I am very grateful to all the Leaders for making this possible.

We currently have 2 Team Leaders (Martin & Matt) and 10 Team Members (Chris, Nick, Kevin S, Euain, Lewis, Lana, Andrew, Kevin L, Edd & Joe). We currently have 5 Young Leaders (Cammy, Katherine, William, Kirsty, Kate) and are aiming to encourage two additional Explorers to get involved.

Scout Leaders currently hold activity permits in Nights Away (Campsite, Greenfield and Lightweight Expedition), Hillwalking (T1 & T2), Archery, Air Rifle Target Shooting & Skiing).

We continue to operate three Troops of up to 24 Scouts each meeting on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. This continues to work well and gives the Scouts a good experience and allows more time to focus on developing skills and working on badgework. Scout numbers this term are currently 64 (Wed 21, Thu 23, Fri 20). This is similar to last year but below our maximum of 72 due to no others on the waiting list currently of Scout age. Our numbers will remain about the same over the next two years.

Parts of the Challenge Awards and Activity badges are covered during our weekly programme and weekend events with Scouts encouraged to work towards badges in their own time. We continue to make use of the OSM badges-at-home feature which allows Scouts to upload badge-work evidence online for Leader to review.

We have awarded six Chief Scouts Gold Awards in the past 12 months and there are another five Scouts on track to complete their Gold Award over the next year. Over 80 Challenge Awards and 140 Activity/Staged badges have been awarded since August 2024.

Our programme continues to be well-balanced with a good variety of activities being undertaken during Scout meetings. In the past year activities have been mainly based around traditional Scouting skills including first aid, knots/pioneering, fire-lighting, cooking, navigation, and shelter building.

We have run several camps over the past year – PL & APL Camp (Mountblairy, Oct 2024, 20 Scouts), Winter Camp (Templars Park, Nov 2024, 35 Scouts), Dawn Dash (Fyvie to Daviot, Feb 2023, 36 Scouts), Army Camp (Daviot, Mar 2025, 34 Scouts), Knockburn Loch Camp (May 2025, 35 Scouts), Summer Camp (Harris, July 2025, 16 Scouts) and a second summer camp (Deskford, Aug 2025, 16 Scouts). We also had four teams taking part in the Jambowlree 10-pin bowling competition and two teams in the District Scout Quiz.

Scouts have also been involved in the community throughout the year – Daviot litter pick (Sep 2024, 18 Scouts), Remembrance Sunday, Christmas ScoutPost, Meldrum Litter Pick with MAIG (April 2025, 25 Scouts), RunGarioch (May 2025, 16 Scouts), Meldrum Sports (Jun 2025, 43 Scouts), Classic Car Rally (Aug 2025, 20 Scouts).



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Cub Section Report – AGM 2025

There is some consistency with our leader team for the first time in a wee while. One of our leader has left and not yet been replaced, but despite this we have a core group of adult leaders who make up the weekly team that are supplemented by occasional helpers when needed.

Anders Von Black left us at the end of last term and will be missed by the team and Cubs. Martin will help out on a Tuesday until we can recruit an additional adult to fill the space left by Anders, and there are no huge concerns about the teams ability to do this, having been quite successful in recruitment in the past.

We currently have 46 Cub across our two evenings. Monday night is full (one over capacity to allow all the new Beavers to be allocated their first choice of evening) and Tuesday still has three vacancies. Monday seems to be the most popular evening as Tuesday clashes with a number of other activities in the area.

Although our weekly meetings are normally held at Daviot, we do regularly visit other local sites ensure some variety in the programme. We continue to run activities with a focus on basic scouting skills and on having fun! In the last year we have organised four camps and we will continue with this cycle as it seems to work well. Last September we ran a Crystal Maze themed camp which is always well received by the Cubs, helped by the fact we had great weather! In January we had our Fast Forward camp for the older Cubs who would be moving on to Scouts, which was a bit later than we normally have it due to leader availability in November and December. We returned to the Sir Arthur Grant Centre at Monymusk after its refurbishment for our Winter Camp in February, this is a super site and glad we are able to use it again as it is perfect for any Cubs who haven't been on a nights away with us before. Our last camp of the Cub year was an Medieval themed camp at Daviot. The weather was kind to us and the Cubs seemed to have a great time, but more importantly it was Sophie's assessment camp! Having organised and run the camp for the first time, it was great to see one of our Younger Leaders be so successful. Sophie now has a Nights Away Permit and the Section is now well covered in this regard.

Over the course of the year we have also taken part in District organised events such as the Jambowlree bowling competition and the District Quiz as well as representing our Community at Remembrance Sunday and carrying our litter picks in the local area.

Looking forward, the Cub section is in a very healthy position with a committed leader team, fantastic Cubs and great support from parents and carers. We don't foresee any significant risks in the short to medium term, with strong membership numbers both in terms of Cubs and adult volunteers. Finally, I want to say a huge thank you to the Cub Leader team, past and present, for taking an active role in running the Cub Section. Without these volunteers we would not be able to run the quality programme that we do.



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Beaver Section Report 2025

The past year has seen the Beavers engage in a variety of activities which have included a trip to the trampoline park, shelter building, basketball, science experiments and many others. The Beavers also took part in the Jambowlree district bowling competition and the Remembrance Sunday parade. Perhaps the most exciting event for our Beavers was the Beaver Sleepover at Fyvie in May with 16 Beavers attending.

The Beaver section continues to run with 24 members each term and will continue at this number for the foreseeable future given the current numbers on our waiting list.

Laura, Susan and David have put in a fantastic effort with our Beavers, planning and delivering a varied mix of activities. All three have now left the Section and will be missed by the Beavers. This term we welcome Niall and Vicky to the Beaver team and look forward to more fun and engaging activities under their leadership.



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Trustee Chair Report

Firstly, I'd like to acknowledge and thank the leaders and volunteers who run each of the sections. It's been a privilege to witness the dedication and enthusiasm of the leaders, young leaders and parent helpers.

Feedback I've received from other groups based in the North East and further afield in Scotland borders on jealousy at the programme of events and activities that our groups organise and we should be rightly proud of all they achieve.

Also, I'd like to thank the members of the Trustee board for their support through my first year as Chair. I'm glad to be involved in a small way with the group and hopefully some of the work the Trustees assist with can reduce the burden on the leaders of each of the sections.

Thoughts on purpose of trustee board – as per constitution; financial governance, safety and legal compliance, fundraising support.

- Act collectively as Charity Trustees – meet regularly, ensure we are complying with Scout governing policies.
- Produce independently examined statement of accounts and manage / monitor ongoing funds.
- Assist with fund raising activities

On that note, we have arranged two events over the last year – Halloween Pumpkin Trail and Summer Fun day. Both were very successful with fantastic feedback from everyone that attended. Not only do these events raise funds, but it gives parents and the wider community an excellent chance to witness first-hand the positive work the groups do and the confidence and experience this gives the young people involved.

Thanks to Fundraising committee:

Adam Jones

Jenna Jones

Moira Armstrong

Sam Hutchison

Claire Gallagher

Finally a word on our young people, the reason we put all this effort in. I was lucky enough to attend the Meldrum Academy end of year awards. It felt like an extended Scouts meeting! So many of the awards went to current Scouts, Explorers and Young Leaders and I believe this is a fantastic endorsement of the skills, confidence and experience that they gain by being part of the group.