

**20<sup>th</sup> Bolton (St Thomas Chequerbent) Scout Group**

**Annual General Meeting**

**2024-2025**

**17<sup>th</sup> September 2025**



[www.20thbolton.org](http://www.20thbolton.org)

**BEAVERS**

**cubs**

**SCOUTS**

**EXPLORERS**

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## AGM Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions (Chairman)
2. Apologies for absence
3. Approve the minutes of the last AGM
4. Appointment of the Chairperson
5. Annual Reports
  - Beavers
  - Cubs
  - Scouts
  - GSL
6. Financial report (proposed and seconded)
7. Governance topics
  - Elect a secretary (proposed and seconded)
  - Elect a Treasurer (proposed and seconded)
  - Re-Adopt the constitution
  - Establish date of the financial year
8. Any other business
9. Closing remarks
10. Date of the next AGM proposed

## Beaver Leader Report

This year has been a fantastic one for our Beaver Colony. We have been consistently full, with 18 enthusiastic young members attending throughout the year. Their energy, curiosity, and teamwork have made each meeting a joy.

During this time, Tabitha has truly taken the reins, leading the section brilliantly while I have been working away. She has done an outstanding job keeping the programme exciting, adventurous, and fun. A huge thank you goes to her for stepping up and ensuring the Beavers have continued to thrive.

We have also managed as a team despite one of our leaders being away for an extended period, and the rest of the leadership team have pulled together wonderfully to keep the section running smoothly.

It has been an incredible year of achievements for our Beavers. Nearly all of those who moved on to Cubs have earned their Chief Scout's Bronze Award, which is the highest award Beavers can achieve. This is a huge accomplishment and a testament to the commitment of both the Beavers and the leaders who support them.

We've packed in plenty of adventures beyond our regular meetings too. There have been bat walks, local nature activities, and visits to interesting places in the community, giving the Beavers a chance to explore and learn outside of the usual meeting place. We also held a Beaver camp, which was a big milestone and while only a small number attended, it gave those who did an unforgettable experience and a real taste of the outdoors.

Overall, it has been a year full of fun, growth, and achievement. The Beavers have had a wonderful time, and we are proud of everything they have accomplished together.

## Cubs Leader Report

This year has been another fantastic one for the 20th Cubs, filled with adventure, achievement, and plenty of fun.

We currently have **28 Cubs** in the Pack, and it has been brilliant to see them all challenge themselves, try new things, and grow in confidence. A real highlight has been celebrating the success of **10 Cubs achieving their Chief Scout Silver Award** – the highest award in Cubs, and a true reflection of their hard work and dedication.

We were also delighted to **welcome 6 brand new Cubs** into the Pack, who have already thrown themselves into Cub life with great enthusiasm. We have also had another volunteer join; David we are very pleased you have joined our group.

Our Cubs have been busy both indoors and outdoors, taking part in a wide variety of activities. We've enjoyed **trips out, including a visit to the Apple Store**, where the Cubs got hands-on with technology. We had a brilliant time at **Bibby's Blowout** and were proud to see **two teams take part in the Pike Hike**, showing teamwork and determination throughout.

One of our new ventures this year was our **first ever Plant Sale**, which was a huge success – raising **£160** to support the group. A big thank you to everyone who took part, purchased anything to help make it happen.

In total, we've awarded an amazing **231 badges** this year – a real testament to the Cubs' hard work and the variety of activities they've taken part in, also thank you to all parents/carers that have kept submitting evidence.

None of this would be possible without our dedicated **volunteer leaders and helpers**, who give up their time and energy each week to ensure the Cubs have fun, stay safe, and get the most out of their Scouting journey. We're incredibly grateful for all that they do.

It has truly been a year to remember, and we look forward to even more adventures ahead in 2025/26.

## Scout Leader Report

Hello everyone,

I'd like to take a moment to introduce myself to our new Scout parents. My name is Duncan, and I've been involved in Scouting for around 22–23 years. In today's terms, I'm the Scout Leader (or Lead Volunteer).

It's been a very busy year for us. Our Scouts have been helping out at Bibby's Farm, supporting the team there in keeping the site maintained and up to date. We also completed the Pike Hike and enjoyed a number of walks up at Rivington – something the Scouts always look forward to.

Looking ahead, we have several exciting events and activities in the pipeline, which I'll share with you as plans are confirmed.

I'd like to give a special congratulations to Caitlin and Grace on achieving their Chief Scout's Gold Award. This is a huge accomplishment, and I'm incredibly proud of their commitment and everything they've achieved with us. Sadly, it's also time for them to move on to their next Scouting adventure. They've been fantastic Scouts, and we'll certainly miss them – but we wish them every success going forward.

I also want to thank the brilliant team who've supported me and made everything possible this year: Jane, Martin, Andy, Mike, and Big Mike. Without their dedication, we simply couldn't run Scouts. A particular thank you goes to Martin, who will now be moving up as an Explorer Leader – we'll miss him in the troop but are grateful for all his help.

As we say goodbye, we also extend a very warm welcome to some new leaders joining us: Conor (with a background at the Atherton Centre), Connor (already a helper with Cubs), Sam (a former Beaver, Cub, Scout, and Explorer with the 20th), and Alec. We're excited about the experience and energy they bring and look forward to a busy year ahead.

Finally, thank you to all of you – our parents – for the time, encouragement, and support you give to the group and your Scouts. It makes a real difference.

## Group Scout Leader Report

This year has been an incredible one for the Group. All of our sections are full, and we are proud to say we are currently the largest Scout Group in the district not just in terms of young people, but also in the number of leaders supporting them. We have even welcomed several new leaders this year, and although I won't name them all here (as I'd almost certainly get a name wrong!), I want to warmly welcome each of them and thank them for joining our growing team.

It has been a busy year for me personally, with work often taking me away, and I have not been able to spend as much time at Beavers or carrying out all the usual duties of a GSL as I would have liked. During this time, Tabitha has done an outstanding job running the Beaver section I can't thank her enough for stepping up and keeping things running so well.

I also want to say a massive and heartfelt thank you to Sally. She really is amazing she has supported me throughout the year and has taken on many of the GSL tasks while I've been away. Her dedication, organisation, and care for the whole Group have been invaluable, and I'm incredibly grateful for everything she has done.

We have seen so many fantastic achievements across the Group this year. Many of our Beavers have completed their Chief Scout's Bronze Award, and many of our Cubs have gone on to earn their Chief Scout's Silver Award.

And this year marked a real milestone for us our very first Chief Scout's Gold Award recipients: Grace and Kaitlin. I am so proud of these girls. They joined directly into Scouts, and I'll never forget seeing them head off on a night hike just days after joining. Since then, they've taken on everything from Pike View Hike to countless challenges both inside and outside of Scouts. They've shown such determination, commitment, and spirit, and I know they will go far. Paul you're lucky to have them joining you in Explorers!

Looking ahead to the coming year, one of my key priorities as GSL will be to recruit more Beaver leaders. We are currently running a little short in that section, and adding to the team will help ensure we can continue to provide an amazing experience for our youngest members.

I'm incredibly proud of everyone in the Group our young people, our leaders, and our volunteers and I can't wait to see what we achieve together next.

## Financial Report

### Financial Year: 2024–2025

#### Overview

At the start of the 2024–2025 financial year, the Group held an account balance of £4,032.97. Over the year, total income amounted to £17,398.65, while total expenditure was £15,215.05.

This resulted in a net income surplus of £2,183.60 for the year, bringing the closing balance to £6,216.57.

This represents a healthy improvement compared to the previous financial year (2023–2024), which ended with a net deficit of £5,059.49 and a closing balance of £4,032.97.

#### Income

The Group's income streams remained diverse, with strong contributions from membership fees, events, and Gift Aid.

Key income sources were:

##### *Membership Fees*

Beavers: £2,520.00 (↑ from £2,235.00)

Cubs: £3,120.00 (↑ from £2,685.00)

Explorers: £2,040.00 (↑ from £1,795.00)

Scouts: £2,520.00 (↓ from £2,854.40)

##### *Events Income*

Beavers: £1,504.00

Cubs: £1,395.50

Explorers: £750.00

Scouts: £888.00

#### **Gift Aid:**

£2,621.99 (none claimed in the previous year)

Total income rose from £15,600.19 in 2023–2024 to £17,398.65 in 2024–2025, driven mainly by Gift Aid recovery and increased membership numbers.

## Expenditure

The Group's total expenditure was £15,215.05, a reduction from £20,659.68 the previous year, reflecting tighter spending controls and fewer large equipment purchases.

Significant cost areas included:

Capitation Fees: £5,130.00 (↑ from £4,515.00)

Events: £5,713.99 combined across all sections and group events

Badges and Awards: £730.69 (down from £979.62)

Camping Equipment: £550.89 (down significantly from £2,990.37)

Neckers: £793.00 (↑ from £519.00)

Notably, there was also a reduction in one-off costs such as venue maintenance and training.

## Bank Balances

As of year-end, the Group's funds were held across three accounts:

Account	2024–2025	2023–2024
Lloyds 20th Bolton Group	£478.26	£261.49
NatWest	£5,508.88	£3,385.20
Expense Account	£229.43	£386.28
Total	£6,216.57	£4,032.97

The Group's financial position has strengthened over the year, moving from a deficit to a surplus. The successful Gift Aid claim and strong membership income have been pivotal in this turnaround.

Looking ahead, the Group is now in a more stable position to invest in programme delivery, equipment renewal, and support for events, while maintaining prudent financial oversight.

## Accounts

	2024-2025	2023-2024
<b>Income</b>		
Admin	40.00	0.00
Event Refund	-0.84	0.00
Events - Beavers	1,504.00	1,913.99
Events - Cubs	1,395.50	1,932.20
Events - Explorers	750.00	1,186.60
Events - Scouts	888.00	994.40
Gift Aid	2,621.99	0.00
Membership Fees - Beavers	2,520.00	2,235.00
Membership Fees - Cubs	3,120.00	2,685.00
Membership Fees - Explorers	2,040.00	1,795.00
Membership Fees - Scouts	2,520.00	2,854.40
Refund Bank	0.00	3.60

## Expense

Activity Equipment	109.05	245.80
Activity Equipment - Beavers	261.93	254.97
Activity Equipment - Cubs	180.00	869.18
Activity Equipment - Scouts	98.74	55.70
Admin	340.15	52.45
Badges	703.10	979.62
Badges - Beavers	27.59	0.00
Camping Equipment	550.89	2,990.37
Capitation Fees	5,130.00	4,515.00
Donations	248.58	27.50
Event Refund	0.00	305.40
Events - Beavers	1,838.94	1,216.00

Events - Cubs	659.40	701.87
Events - Explorers	324.58	1,109.40
Events - Group	2,624.48	5,689.37
Events - Scouts	266.59	202.21
GC Fees	461.15	553.13
Insurance	272.40	278.72
Leaders Uniform	33.27	28.99
Meetings - Cubs	195.23	0.00
Neckers	793.00	519.00
OSM Addons	60.00	50.00
Training	0.00	15.00
Venue Maintenance	35.98	0.00

#### Account balances

Lloyds - 20th Bolton Group	478.26	261.49
Natwest	5,508.88	3,385.20
Expense Account	229.43	386.28

#### Summary

Account balance brought forward	4,032.97	9,092.46
Total income	17,398.65	15,600.19
Total expenditure	15,215.05	20,659.68
Net income	2,183.60	-5,059.49
Account balance carried forward	6,216.57	4,032.97

## Previous Minutes

### **20th Bolton St. Thomas (Chequerbent) Scout Group**

#### **Group Scout Council AGM**

**11th November 2024 at St. Thomas School**

In attendance – As per attached Attendance Register.

#### 1. Welcome:-

The Chairman Norman Theaker welcomed everyone present and introduced Derek Pryce as the Group Scout Leader.

#### 2. Apologies:-

No Apologies.

#### 3. Minutes:-

The chairman directed that the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting on 24th July 2024, copies of which are available at the meeting, be accepted as a true record.

#### 4. Appointment of Chairman:-

Derek Pryce (Group Scout Leader) proposed that Norman Theaker be appointed Group Chairman for the next year. Paul Matthews (Pegasus ESL) proposed acceptance and Derek Pryce seconded, and all were in favour.

#### 5. Annual Reports:-

Group Section Leaders then presented their reports, copies are attached to the minutes folder:-

- a. Cub Pack report by Sally McDavid
- b. Scout Troop report by Duncan Farrant
- c. Explorer Unit report by Paul Matthews
- d. Group report by Derek Pryce

#### 6. Finance Report:-

Derek Pryce, as acting Treasurer, presented the Annual Finance Report and gave explanations where required. Duncan Farrant proposed the acceptance of the Financial Report, Andrew Short seconded, and all were in favour.

## 7. Governance Topics:-

- a) Derek proposed that the role of Treasurer to be continued by Angela Walsh, Paul Matthews seconded, and all were in favour.
- b) Similarly, the role of secretary to be continued by Kerry Heaton. Derek proposed acceptance, Paul Matthews seconded.
- c) After a short explanation by the Chairman, Norman proposed the adoption of the Scout Association model constitution as defined in POR Rule 5.4. Josephine Theaker proposed the acceptance, and Jane Steele seconded.
- d) After a short discussion Derek Pryce proposed the re-appointment of the new Group Scout Scrutineer to be taken by Fatima Ahmed. Angela Walsh proposed the acceptance, a Kerry Heaton seconded.
- e) It was agreed for the financial year will run from 1st April – 31st March.
- f) It was also agreed there will be no increase in subs.

## 8. Other Business:-

- a) The Chairman, Norman suggested Quarterly meetings of Trustee Board.
- b) Angela proposed more notice for the meetings to encourage more attendees.
- c) The Chairman gave his thanks to the parents in attendance and to the Church and school for providing facilities. He also gave thanks to Leaders, Assistants and Helpers who keep things going by their hard work and dedication.
- d) The date of the next Annual General Meeting will be on the 10th May 2025.