



20th Bolton Memorial Day Parade

20th Bolton (St Thomas Chequerbent) Scout Group

Annual General Meeting

2022-2023

24th January 2024

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
 - a. Beavers
 - b. Cubs
 - c. Scouts
 - d. Explorers
 - e. GSL
6. Financial report (proposed and seconded)
7. Governance topics
 - a. Elect a secretary (proposed and seconded)
 - b. Elect a Treasurer (proposed and seconded)
 - c. Adopt the new constitution
 - d. Decide on a Quorum for the trustee board
 - e. Establish date of the financial year
8. Subs increase
9. Any other business
10. Closing remarks
11. Date of the next AGM

Chairs Report

Currently we do not have a Chair and so this years Chair report is intentionally blank.

Beaver Leader Report

Hello and welcome to 20th Boltons AGM, first of all thank you for coming its nice to see you all, in case any of you don't know me I'm Derek and I'm currently the Beaver Leader and deputy GSL of 20th Bolton.

I'm going to start with the Beaver report, in the 22-23 year we have seen some big changes in the Beaver section at the start of the 22 year it was myself ,Conner and Gemma as the leaders, at this time we knew Gemma was going to move into cubs and so leader recruitment was high on the agenda little did we know we would gain 4 new leaders during this time.

We have welcomed Tab, Rick, Beth and Michelle into the fold and I want to say a massive thank you to them joining it's made such a difference to the group in total we now have 6 leaders in the Beaver section. We work really well as a team and since the new leaders came on board we have had a full section of 24 young people, we have also been on some fantastic adventures with our group which includes blowout the district camp and our yearly outing with 25th Bolton Beavers to sleepover in the Blackpool Tower.

In the 22-23 year we have had our 2 year program complete for the first time since we restarted the section in 2021 and we have had 10 beavers get their Chief Scout Bronze award which is the highest award a Beaver Scout can achieve and we look forward to many more of these awards being awarded over the next 12 months.

I think I big shout out is needed for Tab who since joining the group has had an fantastic impact on the program at Beavers, Tab has organized fantastic activities week in week out and also brought in a number of people from the community including Hive Bakehouse for food tasting and food safety, a Dentist and Yoga Instructor, the RNLI and many others. Tab has also organized some of our outings to Howe bridge climbing wall and forest walks with a National Trust expert.

Michelle has taken over the badges from myself during the 22-23 year this has allowed me to focus on planning of camps across the group and other activities.

In the 22-23 year we took on our first SEN young person, after conversations with both parents they advised that Aiden had not been able to stay at other clubs and activities due to the SEN not being able to be met due to the amount of people leading the clubs or groups. Aiden is a very bright and funny young person who has flourished in his time in Beavers and any adjustments needed have been made with help from his parents. I think a big thankyou is needed here to Rick who has fostered a fantastic link with Aiden and has been his 1 on 1 support on a number of outings out side of the school.

At the start of Aidens adventure into scouting he had never spent a night away from his parents due to worries and medical needs but after meetings with leaders and parents Aiden has now spent two nights away one at the Yeehaw district camp and the other a sleepover at Gulliver's world. He has also taken part in adventurous activities at Bibbys farm which includes archery and grass sledging.

Aiden has also completed 18 badges over his time at Beavers and is very close to achieving his Chief Scout Bronze Award, I look forward to seeing Aidens adventure in scouting continue and cant wait to see all of his achievements.

We also need to thank the young leaders who have been a very active part of the Beaver section we have had Alfie, James, Mia, Erin, Arwen and Freya. They have all turned up week in week out to help out with the meeting activities and also get to join in with the Beavers and for this we say thank you.

Finally my last point I promise is a thank you to John Claire, I became a leader in 20th Bolton in September 2021 and at the start I attended a few Cub meetings and asked if I could become a cub leader. John asked me for a quick zoom call John your Zoom calls are never short he went through all the information and then asked if I would consider being the Beaver Leader as the section had no leaders after COVID and needed to be restarted from scratch.

To Johns amazement I said yeah ok why not, I think John nearly fell of his chair and asked me if I could put the answer in writing. The following week I met Conner a fresh faced 18 year old who had just decided to become a leader and we restarted Beavers with 10 Beavers, well John thought it was 10 he told me to ease myself in but I may have gone for 15-20 and not told John.

Building on this John has mentored me since I started helping me to achieve my Wood Badge in little over a year, took me under his wing on camps and got me my nights away permit on the Pike hike of 2022. John attended many Beaver nights to be first aid cover when needed and has on many occasions stopped cooking tea for Anne-Marie to come watch the Blue Ninjas make a mess of the school hall with John following round with a brush and a cleaning cloth.

Over the last 9 months I have taken on a little more responsibility learning how to be a deputy GSL and completing some of the back end tasks a GSL does that not many know about to help John step back as he moves to Wales.

John I thank you for your 7 years with 20th Bolton and 21 years' service to scouting, I wouldn't be the leader I am now without the guidance and reassuring phone calls that I'm doing the right thing and I hope that your move to Wales goes well and would love to see you at events in the future and please always come back for a visit I promise you wont need to clean up after the Beavers.

Cubs Leader Report

Hi, for those of you who don't know me I'm Akela and have been a leader in our Cub section for the last 5 years. It's been a successful year in our Cub section and our numbers currently stand at 23 with a very long waiting list.

Over the past year we have awarded a lot of activity badges and challenge awards, some of these are Home safety, World Faith, Scientist, communicator and many others.

We have also achieved 3 Chief Scout silver awards which is the highest award in the Cubs Section. We have had a very busy 12 months visiting Bolton Mountain Rescue, I've taken part in the Pike Hike and on 23/04/2023 we took part in the St Georges parade in Bolton, renewing our promise and presenting awards to our leaders such as 5 year services award, wood badge and an amazing 40 year service award.

We have also taken part in the Remembrance Day parade in Westhoughton on a very wet Sunday morning. In the summer we took part in Bibbys Blow Out and attended the Yehaw Camp celebrating the 10th Birthday of Bolton South with Farnworth. We have had a lot of fun activities such as ten pin bowling, we made Christmas wreaths and decorations and my absolute favourite litter picking.

I'd like to end by giving my thanks to our leaders and parents for all their support over the last 12 months.

Scout Leader Report

Firstly, let me welcome you to the scout section. My name is Duncan, I am the scout leader for the 20th Bolton scouts.

It has been an interesting year, with a lot of new scouts coming in from outside of scouting and moving up from the Cubs. We also have some new leaders, which I will go through now.

So in no particular order we have Jane, a new female leader which is well needed in this diverse group, we have Martin and Mike, both Jane and Martin have had their own children come through the scout group, they've now moved on to explorers, and the second Mike (little Mike), both little Mike and Andy, have been here a little longer, Andy has had three children go through this group and moved on, without these great offers of unpaid help and support to the group we couldn't run the section.

In scouts we tend to do more outdoor, and hands on activities like fire lighting and camping in all sorts of weather, some have been rather wet and boggy, others have been in quite nice weather.

Some of the activities have been, night hikes, camping, shooting, bowling, and some have even stayed in hammocks, we've also done some orienteering building their map reading, all these activities are very much a learning of skills to take into the future.

On the scout members side, we have 9 female Scouts and 17 male scouts, also this year we have had scouts that have moved up to explorers even though this has happened we are still a strong number within the scout group with 26 scouts on the books at present.

Overall, this year there have been some good turn outs on events, from the yeehaw camp, right through to the night hike, some of the scouts that joined in have really improved these skills, I hope this continues.

In scouting even though we see the scouts come in from Cubs or outside, some are slightly overwhelmed with what they are getting themselves in too, however it is especially great to see them grow and mature, ready to move either into explorers or moving on to other activities.

So again I would like to thank, all the parents for giving the opportunity to your scout to be able to do these types of activities, I would also like to thank John for all his support as GSL, also for helping out on evenings, with what gear to carry when out walking and the dangers they're associated with not being prepared, we would like to wish him well on his new venture.

Looking forward we have some great activities planned, some more camps, hikes, and big hikes like the pike view hike.

Finally, I would just like to again, thanks to, Jane, Martin, Mike, Mike and Andy, and everybody who helps at scouts, it is definitely something fulfilling about being a leader, yes it has its ups and its downs but without the dedication of these guys, as I said we couldn't run the group, thank you.

Explorer Leader Report

Membership

In the census of January last year we recorded nine members. The current membership stands at nineteen. This is a huge increase that brings challenges about more importantly opens opportunities. I believe we are the largest Explorer Scout Unit in the district. I am just humbled that young people with all the attractions out there choose to come and spend time here with us.

2023

Last year we took part in the pike view hike, Escape Rammy, Manchester Monopoly run and the Malcolm Oldfield night hike. I was particularly proud that the map plotting for the Malcolm Oldfield got a shrug from the marker as it was bang on, and that Pegasus were not just the only team that completed the check points correctly, but they were in great spirits too.

We also joined a couple of the larger camps at Bibbys for the year. The explorers took part in a try dive at Howe Bridge with the Sub-C divers. The calendar year finished with a district Airsoft in Bury where half the spaces were taken by Pegasus.

2024

I have a number of things I want to look at for 2024 on top of returning to the events mentioned in 2023.

I want to make use of my T1 permit and get the explorers in the hills. As it stands I have very restricted numbers I am allowed to take out, but a little work with other leaders and we may be able to get to a point where I can supervise other groups, or even more permits .

I want to get DofE running again this year – ideally in conjunction with other ESUs – but we can run it solo (if I have enough volunteers & Participants)

I would like to get more than one team into the PVH, I would like to get a couple of lightweight camps, and ideally a wild camp or two (note that with permit restrictions to walk to a camp, numbers may be limited)

I have Dragnet on the radar, and would love to get a team in that, but I need to be confident of abilities and stamina. The more explorers can go exploring on their own, the more likely I get that confidence.

John Clare

I'd like to thank John personally for encouraging me to become a volunteer with scouts, and the support and encouragement to work towards my T1 permit.

I wouldn't be a leader, and there probably wouldn't be a Pegasus ESU without John. I'll miss him.

I'd like to wish John and Anne-Marie the very best for their future.

Group Scout Leader Report

Hello again everyone as Deputy GSL I will be filling in while we are still awaiting District conformation of who are new GSL is going to be. While I have only been helping John for a short amount of time I do get to see all sections as my young people attend the sections I'm not a leader.

When I joined 20th I didn't realise just how big we were as a group I believe we are one of the biggest groups in the district and we also have a waiting list to match, we have 10 beavers waiting to join, 30 plus cubs and a smaller number of scouts too.

We also are blessed with the amount of leaders we have and I wanted to take this opportunity to thank them for all there hard work and dedication, I'm sure when many of you joined you may have heard the phrase its only 2 hours a week but it all adds up, all the planning and meeting preps the weekends away training and not forgetting the weekend long camps. Again a big thank you for all your volunteered time its makes a massive difference to the young peoples lives.

One of the tasks of the GSL is keeping training updated and Im happy to confirm that all training is up to date and no DBS renewals are due for at least 6 months.

We also embark on the scouts transformation project which has seen us all change our titles which will be evident in the next AGM, also in this meeting we adopt the new constitution from the Scout Association.

There is lots of noise about the transformation but the big thing it's trying to achieve is making an environment where we work together and get things done as a team, in my opinion we are already doing this as a team and so we are already ahead of the curve. It is nice to see that between the sections we have many links and friendships and I believe this helps the group out a lot there is no segregation of sections and we talk to each other week in week out.

For the 22-23 year we took part in so many camps and activities and it was so nice to see such a big uptake in participation, Blowout was a washout but I'm sure the young people still had lots of fun. We then attended a nice hot summer YeeHaw District camp with again around 60 young people taking part and having a blast.

OSM has come on leaps and bounds since I started in 2021 and has helped to automate many manual tasks, the census is now automated via OSM and a big thank you to parents for filling this in as it saves many hours of work. Gift aid is also automated via OSM and will allow us to easily claim in 2024. OSM also collects all of the money we ask for subs and camps and while it can be seen as an expense it saves 100 of hours a year and you cant put a price on time.

I want to thank Emma for being the treasurer for the last few years its been a massive help and over this time we have managed to digitise into OSM all the accounts dating back to 2015-2016 which is no mean feat. The next incoming treasurer should have a nice easy job with the accounts being all in one place.

I would like to take this time to also ask for parents to consider taking up a role on the new Trustee Board we are on the lookout for a secretary and treasurer these are not jobs that require week in week out attendance and should be able to be completed in a short amount of time over the year so if any parent here wants to have a chat about it please do come say hi.

Hopefully in the next few weeks we will have a GSL in position and we can report this in the next AGM.

Going forward I look forward to seeing more Chief Scout awards being given out and more badges being completed, we will be attending Blowout and Pike again in 2024 and I will be there to cheer on the groups taking part.

Financial Report

Hello everyone for anyone who does not know me I'm Emma and I'm the treasurer and as of the latter part of 2021 Akela. I've been with the group for 5 years now and will be providing the report for the accounts for 22-23

In the 2022 financial year we had fully returned to scouting after the COVID pandemic and started to rebuild our finances after a period of uncertainty. Derek managed to file a gift aid claim that reached back a full 3 years and was submitted 11 days before the cut off of the 3 year period. This allowed the group to benefit from a payment of £3,764.26 and not miss out on any gift aid claimable donations.

This £3,764.26 was used to replace old camping equipment and we purchased a around 10 new Vango 5 person tents for the group and 5 sets of Alp kit tents for the explorers. This equipment was used almost immediately for Bibbys Blowout and then our District camp. We also purchased a gas powered fridge to allow us more flexibility of food menus while camping with no kitchen facilities.

During the 22/23 year we decided to pilot instalment plans for camps to see if this would increase the amount of young people who could attend a camp, we found this to be very successful and had 67 and 65 young people attend blowout and the district camp.

During the 22/23 year we saw an all time high of income of £22,778.31 this was due to all sections across the group being full and in the case of cubs going to 40 young people after consultation with the GSL and the amount of camps and activities we took part in in the 22/23 year. Subs brought in £8676 and events brought in £10122.

All the money for events is spent on the event themselves so the money comes in and goes straight back out. Subs are used to pay for our capitation fee which in the 22/23 year was £3915 and is the single biggest expense to the group excluding camps, we also use subs for weekly meeting activities.

Going into the 23/24 year we have £9,092.46 in the main Lloyds account and Natwest combined, we know capitation is going to see an increase of the around 10% so we need to keep motioning the accounts to account for this.

At the moment we are in an ok position and we will look to claim gift aid again in February 24 this will be lower than the previous payment as we switch to claiming this year on year instead of a 3 year gap.

Accounts

	2022-2023	2021-2022
Income		
Donation	15.00	207.84
Event Refund	200.00	33.50
Events - Beavers	3,347.00	407.50
Events - Cubs	4,271.60	1,119.00
Events - Explorers	1,175.80	221.84
Events - Scouts	1,328.40	502.00
Gift Aid	3,764.26	0.00
Membership Fees - Beavers	2,100.00	665.00
Membership Fees - Cubs	3,500.00	1,995.00
Membership Fees - Explorers	936.25	551.25
Membership Fees - Scouts	2,140.00	1,295.00
Petty Cash In	0.00	140.11
Refund Insurance	0.00	42.00
Expense		
Activity Equipment	152.12	0.00
Activity Equipment - Beavers	201.66	101.33
Activity Equipment - Cubs	699.41	352.82
Activity Equipment - Explorers	0.00	12.60
Activity Equipment - Scouts	0.00	10.99
Admin	74.36	53.99
Badges	237.97	599.70
Badges - Cubs	127.42	0.00
Capitation Fees	3,915.00	3,212.00
Donations	201.00	204.84
Event Refund	17.20	16.00
Events - Beavers	2,019.05	153.00
Events - Cubs	1,210.04	1,143.00
Events - Explorers	844.54	342.99
Events - Group	3,928.80	325.00
Events - Scouts	481.60	132.00
GC Fees	689.07	207.03
Insurance	262.75	294.75
Leaders Uniform	51.99	47.00
Meetings - Beavers	12.71	0.00
Meetings - Explorers	14.36	4.89
Neckers	0.00	327.98
OSM Addons	30.00	30.00
Rent	52.50	0.00
Venue Maintenance	36.00	0.00
Account balances		
Lloyds - 20th Bolton Group	286.80	208.28

Natwest	8,805.66	1,365.42
Summary		
Account balance brought forward	1,573.70	1,965.57
Total income	22,778.31	7,180.04
Total expenditure	15,259.55	7,571.91
Net income	7,518.76	-391.87
Account balance carried forward	9,092.46	1,573.70

Previous Minutes

20th Bolton Scout Group (St Thomas Chequerbent) AGM Minutes

18th June 2017

Bibby's Farm

Attendees:

Tony Ascroft – Beaver Leader
Kathryn Darlow – Cub Leader
Duncan Farrant – Scout Leader
Sam Farrant – Explorer Leader

Wayne Thomasson - Treasurer
Liz Mannion – Secretary

Apologies:

Margaret Dolphin – Chair
Rob Pimblett – DC – BSwF
John Clare – GSL

Liz Mannion appointed as Group Secretary

Margaret Dolphin re-appointed as Chair in her absence.

All Section Leaders agreed to being part of Group Executive Committee

Section Reports:

Explorers

Revived as Pegasus Explorers
Numbers increasing - 9
New neckers designed
Winter camp at Ashworth Valley included members of Centurion Explorers
Future events include paintballing and independently-led camp

Scouts

Membership = 21 – including 2 girls recently joined
Main programme focus – camps & back-to-basic skills
Winter camp at Ashworth Valley
2 teams entered Pike Hike – 1 came 12th / 36
Took part in Backwoods Cooking camp at Bibbys.
Visit to Bolton Mountain rescue

Cubs

Numbers increased from 15 in Jan to 30 by Autumn term
New Assistant Section Leader – Kerry / Raksha
4 Young Leaders helping out on regular basis.
Took part in Bibby's Blowout and Backwoods Cooking camps at Bibbys Farm
Established links with Rotary Club to put together Charity boxes being sent to Eastern Europe
External meetings included Spooky Halloween walk, Rivington and Welly Walk, Borsdane Woods

Farm to Fork at Tesco
Visit from Halfords
Future camps include Camping Skills (September) and Technology Camp (October)
Future events include District Legoland visit

The ages for all the Sections were questioned and clarified – including the fact GIRLS ARE ALLOWED

Beavers

4 / 5 walks up Rivington and Anglezarke
McDonalds walk at the end of summer term.
Mountain rescue visit, including viewing the emergency equipment and climbing around the range
rover.
Hobby craft.
Farm to fork at Tesco they enjoyed
2/3 Young Leaders helping
Future events include joint visit to Legoland with 25th Bolton Beavers

Main concern – ASL Catriona leaving at end of term. May have to consider parent rota.

All

Two main church events – Remembrance Sunday in Westhoughton and St George's Day Parade in
Bolton Town Centre.

OSM – fully utilized, including payments, by Cubs and Beavers. Scouts and Explorers to go fully live
Autumn.

Group Pirate Camp being held at Bibby's – all sections involved. 45 attendees.

TREASURER

2016 / 2017 Accounts – not formally approved as still awaiting sign-off.