

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the
District HQ, Gravel Hill Spring, Gravel Lane, Hemel Hempstead
on Thursday 24 May 2018

1. WELCOME by the CHAIRMAN

The Chairman Keith Gower welcomed the Deputy County Commissioner Dan Nathan to the meeting, noting Dan's extensive local credentials.

Keith explained that in line with recent years the Mayor had not been invited to what had really become a brief business meeting. Instead, Civic dignitaries were being invited to our showpiece occasions the Renewal of Promise in April and the Celebration of Awards in October.

Others welcomed tonight included David Thomas VP, Steve Harris, Sheila Neep, Lorna and Andy Glass, George Storrow, Geoff Angell, Jonathan Lee and Chris Roast.

2. APOLOGIES for ABSENCE

Apologies were received from :

Julie Bailey (Secretary), Colin Rivett, Frank Monnington, Pete & Sue West, Matt Cannon, Jo Haynes and about a dozen others.

3. MINUTES of the PREVIOUS AGM

The Minutes of the previous AGM (18 May 2017), already circulated by email, were taken as read and adopted on a general Aye. There were no matters arising.

4. ANNUAL REPORT for 2017-2018

The District Annual Report this year took slimness to a sublime new level, existing only online, with just the Accounts available in print at the meeting. The customary audio-visual presentation was also made available for viewing online.

The DC Russ Dyle said the Group and District activities reported were just the highlights of a very busy year, the success of which was due to the huge efforts of our many dedicated volunteer Leaders. Russ mentioned in particular the large District expedition to Kandersteg (Switzerland). On the more mundane level, he referred to the establishment of several new Sections. There are now over fifty Section meetings across the District each week. It had been a year of consolidation following a 25% growth over the previous five years.

Chairman congratulated Russ on the year, and said he was proud to thank all the District Leaders and adult helpers for their time and effort throughout the year to

make possible a full and varied programme of activities for young people. In this, he was keen to support the County Commissioner's aim of supporting, growing or amalgamating any struggling small Sections.

On being asked to approve the Report, the meeting **responded with a general Aye.**

5. TREASURER'S REPORT and ACCOUNTS

The Treasurer Dave Fleming introduced the accounts explaining that they were a brief overview of the year giving a Summary, a list of the year's Receipts and Payments, and a statement of year-end Assets. Copies of the accounts were provided at the meeting and Dave said that they presented a good financial position for the District. The Accounts had been passed by a Charity Independent Examiner, and approved by the Executive Cttee. Dave thanked the Examiner Mr Robert Salt for his work.

A question from the floor asked about the District Scout Shop: does it show a profit? Dave said that it does, although in 2017 less than expected (ie about £1400 instead of over £2000).

Chairman said that the Shop profits were important income for District, and helped to keep down the District levy on members which had thereby not been increased for several years. He recommended everyone to use the Shop as much as possible, and to make it widely known that the Scout Shop did support the District in this way.

The Accounts were **accepted on a general Aye.**

Chairman then thanked Dave for his work and the regular financial reports he had provided to the executive committee throughout the year.

6. APPOINTMENT of an INDEPENDENT EXAMINER for the current year 2018

District is looking for an examiner, but is not yet in a position to appoint.

7. NOMINATION of DISTRICT CHAIRMAN

The DC Russ Dyle thanked the current Chairman **Keith Gower** for his help and very good advice throughout the past year, and had no hesitation in nominating him for a further year. This nomination was **approved on a general Aye.** There was no nomination for vice-Chairman.

8. ELECTION of DISTRICT SECRETARY

Julie Bailey had kindly agreed to stand again and was elected unopposed for a second year.

9. ELECTION of DISTRICT TREASURER

Dave Fleming kindly agreed to stand again and was elected unopposed for a further year.

10. DC's NOMINATION OF FOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The following were nominated by Russ Dyble:

Simon Fancourt, Colin Rivett, Geoff Angell

These nominations were approved on a general Aye.

Note:- The two ex-officio places on the committee, for the DESC and DSNL, were not taken up.

11. ELECTION of FOUR FURTHER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The following were elected unopposed:

Lorna Glass, Richard Haynes, Mark Knapton, Frank Monnington

At this point Chairman thanked the outgoing committee member Kerry McKay for her valuable work over several years.

12. NOMINATION of DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES TO COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL

Chairman reminded the meeting that the power to nominate three Scouters as District Representatives to the County Scout Council was delegated by the District Scout Council to the District Executive Committee by a Resolution passed at the AGM of 17 May 2012. These nominations would therefore be made at the next Executive Cttee meeting.

13. PRESENTATIONS

Dan Nathan, Hertfordshire Scouts Deputy County Commissioner, began a brief address by thanking all Section, Group and District leaders for everything they were doing to make Hemel Hempstead Scouting the success it is. He was particularly pleased that local activity and satisfaction meant that fewer issues arose to trouble County!

Dan went on to say that County were preparing some organisational changes, in line with "*Skills for Life*", the new 5-year plan of The Scout Association.

There were no Awards for presentation at the meeting.

14. CLOSE of BUSINESS

In closing the meeting after the new record time of twenty minutes, Keith Gower thanked Dan Nathan for coming to see us; and County, for the excellent support Hemel Hempstead District always received, and everyone else for their presence.
