

Minutes of Northumberland Scouts Annual General Meeting

Saturday 13th September 2025

1. Chair's Welcome

Dr Helen Paterson welcomed all to the meeting after a long day of celebrating the achievements of our young people. She spoke of her visit with members to the National Scout Conference in Birmingham in January 2025 which involved reflecting on the Skills for Life vision and shaping the future of Scouting; Helen remembered Camp Northumbria, organised a great team and being a huge success involving all of our sections; she spoke of the successful procurement of Nunnykirk campsite for the County and how it is such a great asset to be enjoyed by Groups inside and outside the County and she thanked the trustees of the County for their support and guidance on all matters of governance.

2. Explorer Belt 2025

A team of Explorers delivered an entertaining presentation of their continental Explorer Belt trip during the summer of 2025.

3. Moot Presentation

Scarlet Wallis entertained the meeting with details of her trip to the World Scout Moot 2025 in Portugal.

4. Apologies for absence

Apologies are held at Scout House and any messages of apologies today should be passed to Pamela Iley.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting: 14th September 2024

The minutes were agreed as being a true copy of the AGM held on 14th September 2024.

6. Governance Topics

6.1 In line with Scout Assn guidelines, to adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules

The council acknowledged the adoption of the model constitution.

6.2 Note that the County's Financial year runs from 1st April to 31st March.

The council acknowledged the details of the financial year.

6.3 Agree the quorum for each of the County Scout Council (including the AGM), meeting of the County Trustee Board, meeting any sub committees, should be half the members plus one.

The council acknowledged the quorum of 20 for the AGM and half plus one for other meetings.

7. Review of the previous year

7.1 To receive and consider the Annual Report of the County Trustees including the annual Statement of Accounts

Mark spoke of the robust financial position of the County, the exciting opportunity of the campsite and the development of new asset which is a big step forward. He spoke about the growing membership and therefore growth in income and at this point Mark thanked Emma – the examiner of the accounts and the County trustees.

7.2 County Lead Volunteer

A synopsis of Peter's comments: this was his 4th AGM in role; he had had a busy day with four award presentations and he thanked Kathryn Fuller and her team and congratulation to all the young people who received awards throughout the day; the increase in numbers of the County members was slightly less than anticipated but still growth; Ellie Barwick was recruited into the DLV role in the City of Newcastle after Kath Tyson stood down after 20 years of holding a District Commissioner role – Peter thanked her for huge contribution to Scouting in Newcastle; the County was represented at Windsor by our King Scout Awards recipients which was brilliant; he spoke of Nunnykirk and thanked the team involved in moving the project forward; Camp Northumbria was enjoyed by all despite the weather challenges thanks to the whole team; he expressed thanks to the Explorer belt and the MOOT team for all of their hard work; Peter thanked the adult members for their patience with the membership system since transformation fixes are happening regularly; Peter remembered those who passed on during the last year Margaret Cox, Mildred Robson & Ann Parker; finally he thanked his team mentioning Paul Willis & his wife Bev and thanks to Pamela, Laura, Scott, Logan, Vicky and Darren and to Helen for her support

as Chair and for fitting in well with the Scouting team. He also thanked Suzie & Sophie for their patience and support.

Presentations were given for long service to:

10 Years	Tim Rodaway
40 Years	Heather Henderson
40 Years	Pamela Iley
50 Years	Sue Kirsopp

8. Making Appointments

8.1 Appoint Scrutineer/Independent Examiner/Auditor

It was proposed that Bell Tindle Williamson LLP Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors carry out the examination for next year and this was approved by the council.

8.2 Nominate representatives of the County Scout Council to represent the County on the National Scout Council.

The meeting was advised that the nominations for the reps on the National Scout Council are:

Adult Representative: John Arkley

Young Person Representative: Alex Ridley

The meeting approved the nominations.

9. Regional Lead Volunteer

Ian Hammond addressed the meeting speaking of the focus of Scouting for the next 10 years.

10. Deputy UK Chief Volunteer

Craig Turpie addressed the meeting and spoke of how Scouting was more relevant than ever as young people need to be equipped with the skills to lead.

Both Ian & Craig joined Peter & Helen in the question-and-answer session.

11. Closing thanks from the Chair

Helen thanked our guests, and everyone who joined the meeting for all they do for Scouting in Northumberland.

12. Date of next AGM (TBC)