Minutes of the 1st Grundisburgh Scout Group AGM 2025

The Annual General Meeting of 1st Grundisburgh Scout Group was held at the Scout Hut on 7th September 2025 at 3.30pm. Alison Banham Group Chairperson and Stuart Ross Group Scout Leader welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Stuart Ross, Alison Banham, Patricia Ross, Christina Poguntke, Mike Walls, Caroline Warren, Daniel Turner, Steve Swain, Rebecca Hewitt, Jason Banham, Dave Dring, Alan Comber, Celia Comber, Carly Richmond, Josh Beavis, Toby Murrill, Jo Saagi, Phil Stebbings and various other members families.

APOLOGIES

Dan Catchpole, Dave Brown, Paul Boswell, Zarah Decker

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES:

Copies of the Minutes of last year's AGM were circulated for anyone to read and were also available to read via a QR code displayed and no objections or comments were made. Minutes were approved by majority vote.

GROUP LEADER'S REPORT

A summary of all the Sections' activities was presented by Stuart. All Sections have had a very successful year with old and new activities happening and a great number of nights away offered by the Leaders.

APPROVAL OF 2025 ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS:

Copies of the Annual Reports and Accounts were circulated for anyone to read. Rebecca Hewitt explained the accounts and annual report. The balance sheet for the HQ fundraising is starting to look very healthy. The Funds from the Textile Bin are reduced as the price per kilo has gone down to 8p. Due to sign in issues at HMRC there was no Gift Aid collected in 2024, this will be a double amount in 2025.

Alison Banham explained to all present that the Group will be raising Subscriptions to £39 per term from September onwards, The Group will adopt the Scout Associations Model Constitution from POR (Policy, Organisation & Rules). The Financial Year runs from 1st April to 31st March and the Group's Quorum for Meetings is one Third of the Committee plus One. No Questions or objections were raised about the Accounts, and they were approved by majority vote.

RE-ELECTION OF TRUSTEE MEMBERS

Stuart Ross proposed Alison Banham to be re-elected as Group Chair. Alison agreed to stand again for this role and was her election was approved unanimously.

The following people were also re-elected as committee members unanimously and with no abjections raised:

- Rebecca Hewitt as Group Treasurer
- Christina Poguntke as Minutes Secretary
- Caroline Warren, Carly Richmond, David Dring, Archie Adams

Mark Banthorpe was proposed to the Board as a new Parent Representative and was voted unanimously.

PRESIDENTIAL & CO-OPTED ADVISORS TO THE BOARD

The Group explained to all present that the following people have been working alongside the Board in specific roles and will continue to do so in the future.

- Paul Boswell – New HQ Advisor & Architect
- Jason Banham – New HQ Advisor
- Alan Comber – New HQ Advisor
- Jo Saagi – Guides Contact
- Phil Stebbings – continues as Group President

Patricia Ross is stepping down as former Group Secretary and Trustee to a new Role as Vice President and Village Group Contact.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR:
Mrs Celia Comber, an Accountant, and 1st Kesgrave Scout Group Treasurer was proposed to be auditor again for next year's accounts. Celia was approved by a majority show of hands with no-one against.

FUNDRAISING
Alison Banham explained forthcoming Fundraising events. More volunteers are required to make these very successful events. The Group will be asking for parents to come forward and help in the coming weeks.

- Fireworks – Tickets on Sale Mid-September, Helpers needed for 8th November
- New Event on February 28th at Village Hall – Dance/Rock n Roll with Ed Gasket and the Rockers (Explorer Leader Dave Brown's Band)
- Duck Race to return in 2026 with even more Golden Ducks!

Alison Banham asked people to keep using the Textile Bin which raises a steady income for the Group, despite the drop in paid rates. The Easy Fundraising scheme continues to grow whereby the Group can earn money from people's online shopping.

CHIEF SCOUTS AWARDS
The following Chief Scouts Awards were presented. Beavers, Cubs and Scouts had to complete all Challenge Badges in their Section, while the award for Explorers are based around the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme. Well Done to all for their hard work and commitment.

Chief Scouts Bronze Award	Chief Scouts Silver Award	Chief Scouts Gold Award	Chief Scouts Platinum Award
Arlo Turner	Jonah Banthorpe	Indigo Murrill	Beth Rogers
	Alice Richmond	Thomas Richmond	Mark Banham
	Albie Turner	Ellsa Fisk	
		Poppy Catchpole	

NEW HQ UPDATE:
Progress has been slow due to issues encountered with the Planners and Highways regarding the external footpath at Ablitts Meadow. We have now submitted additional information, and we are hoping that this matter has been resolved. Additionally, the Case Officer assigned to our application has been on long term sick leave which has stalled the progress.

Our case has now been passed on to an Officer who is based in Coventry and that hasn't improved the speed of progress. We are hoping that this person will visit the site soon. In October it would be a year since we submitted our Planning Application for Public comments. If things continue to be slow, we are hoping to involve the District Councillor to speed things along.

OPEN FORUM & QUESTIONS
An opportunity for Public to ask questions towards the Trustee Board was held. There were no questions were raised.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS
Alison Banham presented Patricia Ross with some flowers in recognition of 30 years of Service to the Scouts Association. Her Award was officially presented to Patricia at the District AGM on 6th September 2025 by the County Commissioner Gary Buden.

CLOSING:
The Annual General Meeting was officially closed at 4:00pm. This was followed by Refreshments.

Signed: Date:

Alison Banham
1st Grundisburgh Scout Group Chairperson

Scouts