

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From (start date)

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 to end date

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Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

First Emsworth Scout Group

Other names the charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

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HQ registration number

3	4	4	1				
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Charity's principal address

48 Southleigh Road

Havant

Hants

Postcode

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Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

(These will be published in the annual report of the charity and the Charity Register if reporting for a Registered Charity with a charity regulator)

	Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Dr I Wright	Chair	
2	Mr M Croucher	Group Scout Leader	
3	Mr A Wright	Secretary	
4	Mrs S Harris	Treasurer	
5	Mr J Forster		
6	Mrs K Porter		
7	Mr R Jarczyk		
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Names and addresses of advisers (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

(These will be published in the annual report of the charity)

Type of advisor	Name	Address
Independent Examiner of Accounts	Mrs W Hodgson FCA	David Bailey, Chartered Accountants, 28 Ladndport Terrace, Portsmouth. PO1 2RG

Section B**Structure, governance and management**

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document

(e.g. trust deed, constitution)

The Group's governing documents are those of the The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

How the charity is constituted

(e.g. trust, association, company)

The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.

Trustee selection methods

(e.g. appointed by, elected by)

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

Additional governance issues (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

Policies and procedures adopted for:
a) the induction and training of trustees;
b) trustee' consideration of major risks and the systems and procedures to manage them

The Group is managed by the Group Trustee Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Trustee Board consists of a maximum of 12 persons, including the Chair and Treasurer who are the appointed officers. The Chair and Group Scout Leader are Ex-Officio Trustees. The Board meets at intervals of approximately 2 months.

Members of the Trustee Board complete Being a Scouts Trustee learning within the first 6 months of joining the Board.

The Group Trustee Board exists to make sure the charity is well-managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and equipment are in good working order, and everyone follows legal requirements and the organisation's policies and rules. Their support helps other volunteers run high-quality and safe programmes that gives young people skills for life.

Section B**Structure, governance and management (continued)****Risk and Internal Control**

The Group Trustee Board has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed. These have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

i) Damage to the building, property and equipment. - The Group

would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community centre and other Scout Groups. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.

ii) Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. - The Group through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Associations national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.

iii) Reduced income from fund raising. - The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Board could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.

iv) Reduction or loss of leaders. - The group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group.

v) Reduction or loss of members. - The Group provides activities for all young people aged 4 to 18. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group.

vi) Mismanagement or loss of funds or assets - The Group has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include 2 signatories for all payments and a comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Section C	Objectives and activities
Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document	<p>The Purpose of Scouting Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.</p> <p>The Values of Scouting As Scouts we are guided by these values: Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal. Respect - We have self-respect and respect for others. Care - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.</p>

...
Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.
Co-operation - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

The Scout Method
 Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and:

- enjoy what they are doing and have fun
- take part in activities indoors and outdoors
- learn by doing
- share in spiritual reflection
- take responsibility and make choices
- undertake new and challenging activities
- make and live by their Promise.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

The Group runs a comprehensive Scouting training programme through its Squirrel Drey since September 2023, its long established Millpond and Spring Beaver Colonies, Livingstone and Drake Cub Packs, and Scout Troop. We also host the Griffin Explorer Group which is managed as a District Group. The Scouting programme aims to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, and give them skills for life which will empower them to make a positive contribution to society both now and in their future lives.

Additional details of the objectives and activities (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- contribution made by volunteers;
- policy on investments.

Public benefit statement

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The Squirrel Colony, which provides Scouting activities for 4 - 6 year olds has got off to a good start since it's formation in September 2023. More information about the activities of each section are included in the Group Scout Leaders Report.

Section E	Financial Review
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Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Reserves Policy

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Group for one year should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Trustee Board considers that the group should hold in reserve a sum of circa £12,000.00 to achieve this. At the end of the last financial year the Group only held £11,800 in the bank. This sum would be adequate to maintain the Group for a year with some prudent savings e.g. cancelling the cleaning contract and using volunteers to perform that task, but after debate the decision was taken that the subscription rate will have to be increased to ensure that the reserve policy is followed.

Quantify and explain any designations

Details of any funds materially in deficit (circumstances plus steps to eliminate)

NIL

Further financial review details (optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);

Investment Policy

The Group's Income and Expenditure is relative small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The Group has therefore adopted a low risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies or The Scout Association's Short Term Investment Service.

- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;

The Group Trustee Board regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the group obtains maximum value and income from its banking arrangements. Occasionally this may involve using an account that requires a period of notice before funds may be withdrawn, before doing so the Group Trustee Board considers the cash flow requirements.

• investment policy and objectives;

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Section F

Other Optional Information

Plans for future periods (details of any significant activities planned to achieve them)

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Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

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Full name(s)

Ian Alec Wright	
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Position (eg Secretary, Chair)

Chair	
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Date

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