



Barton St David Scout Group AGM
Tuesday 16th July. Barton St David Village Hall.

1. **Introduction and Welcome.** Jonathan Beardsworth welcomed everyone to the meeting and said what a pleasure it was to be Chairman of such a successful Group. It felt like an easy job because the Group was well run. He welcomed the 26 people who were present at the meeting and said that parents were also to be congratulated in choosing the group and getting their children to get the best out of their Scouting.
2. **Apologies** –Geoff Walker and Tamara Pendleton sent apologies in advance.
3. **AGM 2018 Minutes** – The AGM minutes were sent out via email. Richard B proposed them as a correct record of that meeting, Ben A seconded. All in agreement.
Matters arising. Vega said that on the minutes last year she had offered to buy John Townson a gardening token but on reflection she didn't think that she had done so. We would correct that omission this year. There were no more matters arising.
4. **Executive Committee and Appointments**
 - Chairman – Jonathan Beardsworth. Proposed by Vega
 - Treasurer – Andy Medwell. Proposed by Ben and seconded by Vega
 - Secretary - No one offered to fill this post and so Vega will email out to everyone as it is a statutory requirement to have one
 - Independent Examiner. The meeting gave formal thanks to John Townson for his work on the accounts.
 - Executive Committee Members / Fundraising leads. No one offered to help
 - Village Hall Rep- Ben Allen offered to consider the role.
5. **Group Scout Leader's Report** – Vega said that it had been sent to all in advance for comments. She said that last year she had focused on the achievements of the youngsters and this year it focuses on looking at progress of our Scout Plan 2018-19 which in itself is aligned to the Scout Association Strategy Skills for Life. She highlighted a few points from her report and particularly drew everyone's attention to the list of those that she wanted to thank for the success of the group and reiterated that it was this supportive team work that made our Group so successful.
6. **Hall of Fame.** Jonathan highlighted that in the Hall of Fame document that had been sent out in advance that there were 647 badges awarded over the year. These ranged from Chief Scouts through joining in, teamwork, cycling, gardener, safety, emergency aid to Entertainer. An impressive list due to Leaders setting strong programmes for the children who should be congratulated along with their parents who worked with the Leaders to help their youngsters get the best out of their experience.
7. **Treasurer's report** and presentation of 2018-19 accounts. Andy presented the accounts (independently scrutinised) and said that he was delighted to state that the Group finances are in good shape. He said that spend had increased but that was good because we had bought more tents and equipment. He said that everyone had seen a summary of the accounts but if they wanted more detail then they should ask him directly.

He was pleased to report that for the last term 100% of the subs payments were online. This makes the whole accounting much more transparent, easier to administer and he thanked parents for their help in achieving this. He went on to say that we would be extending these

online payments to camps, events and activities to increase the ease of understanding who had paid etc and to reduce the use of cash.

Andy pointed out that without a grant, gift aid and easy fundraising our balance sheet would not look so healthy and so he was going to send out information shortly about the importance of signing up for gift aid and using Easy Fundraising for every online purchase. He also asked that for people to let him know if they had any ideas for sourcing grants or donations.

Vega thanked Andy for taking on the Treasurer role and being so efficient and calm in the role and giving great support and making her role so much easier.

8. **Explorer Unit.** (Partnership unit with East Somerset District). With new Explorer leaders the partnership agreement has to be amended to reflect that and new financial monitoring arrangements. A final version will be agreed shortly between Barton St David and East Somerset District and it will be posted on the website.
9. **District Update.** Jonathan welcomed Frances Fawcett, Deputy District Commissioner. She started by saying that she was delighted to hear that we were probably the first Group in the District that had achieved 100% online payments which was a real achievement. Frances went on to say that Barton St David Scouts run an amazing programme and the Leaders deliver real opportunities for the young people. She said that it was well established that Scouts were achieve more in their lives. They get their Skills for Life at Barton. One example, currently in the news, was that 10 of the 12 people that have walked on the moon were Scouts. She went on to say that in her eyes the Leaders were heros but they are not super-heros – they need more help. She encouraged people to get involved saying that we are all normal people, it is rewarding and motivating to help out. Please volunteer and help your Leaders continue to deliver top quality Scouting locally.
10. **Awards.** Vega and Frances presented Chief Scouts Silver Awards to Iona Fear, Isobelle Wills, Jessica Cowie and Katy Payne. Vega said that they had worked very hard to achieve them and that there had been other Chief Scout awards recently in Beavers and Scouts. Vega held up the Hall of Fame list and said that the badges awarded tonight were the tip of the iceberg and that they were increasingly difficult to achieve.

Jean (Explorer Leader) said that another success of the Group was getting 3 Scouts / Explorers accepted onto the EuroJam to Poland next year. One of only two Groups to do so. All agreed that this was a real achievement and will be a wonderful experience.
11. **Feedback.** Vega asked everyone to give us feedback on what we do and please say if you are willing to help us in the future. See below
12. **The meeting closed at 7.45** and everyone enjoyed a picnic in glorious evening sunshine.



- Night Hike for Scouts
- A small point but the Online Scout Manager link to say yes/no to activities now needs a password which takes long to do
- More leader perks!
- More joint sleepovers
- All the Leaders are Fab!