

**WARE AND DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Held at Great Amwell Scouts HQ, 142 London Road, Ware, SG12 9NH**  
**on Monday 25 June 2018**

**1. Welcome**

Noel Sanders as Chairman welcomed all those present especially our County representative- Mike Surety, Steff Campbell Ware District Guides, and members of the Scout Council.

**2. Apologies for Absence**

Received from Liz Walker, County Commissioner, Karen White, Ian Hooper, Anna Page Commissioner for Buntingford Guides, Mayor of Buntingford and Mayor of Ware.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the 2017 AGM.**

Correction to the Minutes was made regarding the chairman's vote, is so much as the vote was carried but not unanimously as there were some abstentions. The minutes were then approved, proposed by Wendy Smith and seconded by Peter Raymen.

**4. Trustees Report and Accounts 2017.**

In his report Noel highlighted – that the numbers of young people enjoying the benefits of Scouting had again increased with some fantastic achievements and activities highlighted in the AGM Report. He took the opportunity to thank David Horner for his many years of hard work as District Secretary, David has stood down from that role. He also informed the meeting that we are about to sign a new lease for the DHQ, 5 years with a 40 years option subject to planning permission being granted for a new building. He left the question open as to do we need a DHQ?

The Accounts have been independently audited would go to the Executive committee for approval.

**5. District Commissioner's nomination for District Chairman**

For this item Pat Horridge, the District Commissioner took over the chair and after thanking Noel for his Chairmanship over the last year, went on to re nominate Noel Sanders to be the District Chairman.

Mr Sanders confirmed he was willing to accept this role and this was approved by the Meeting, proposed by Pat Horridge and seconded by Peter Raymen.  
Mr Sanders then took over the chair.

**6. Election of the District Secretary and District Treasurer**

The role of District Secretary remains vacant and no nominations were received.  
Geoff Addy was nominated for the role of District Treasurer, proposed by Noel Sanders and seconded by Colin McIntyre.  
There being no other nominations Geoff was elected unopposed.

## **7. Election of the District Executive Committee**

There were no new nominations to the Exec as all current members are within their elected terms and willing to continue.

The following will serve until 2020:

Phil Clayden	District Scout Network
Gavin Miles	Group Chairman Stanstead Abbots
Gail Stretch	Assistant Group Scout Leader Great Amwell

Peter Raymen (ADC Development), Jim Smith, Bob Cooper and Daniel O'Neill will continue until 2019.

It was noted the following Ex-officio members remain on the committee

Keith Jennings	District Explorer Commissioner
Harry Bonfield	District Youth Commissioner

The Chairman thanked Tony Hinson for his continued help handling the DHQ bookings amongst other things

## **8. Election of scouters to serve on the County Scout Council**

Pat Horridge explained that up to three scouters could be elected to serve on the County Scout Council, together with the District Commissioner, the District Chairman, the District Secretary and the District Treasurer.

There were no nominations.

## **9. Appointment of Independent Examiner to the District Accounts**

The Chairman thanked Geoff Addy for his important work on the Accounts and informed the meeting that the Exec had appointed Karl Gravenor as Independent Examiner.

## **10. District Commissioner – Pat Horridge.**

Pat detailed some of the adult recruitment events that have been actioned in an effort to increase awareness locally and encourage more adults into scouting.

The Ware & District website has been rebranded and redesigned and is now live. Pat has also rolled out office 365 email accounts to key District people to help encourage clearer communication paths.

As part of the Scout rebrand we've taken the opportunity to purchase 2 feather flags and a new District banner as well as new DHQ signage. We also had a number of 3 fold flyers printed for handing out at the adult recruitment events. Pat was able to do some fund raising to help offset the costs involved in the recruitment events (approx. £1100 raised)

Pat has also presented to the Exec an examination of the costs and advantages of electronic payment options and more work is needed if we are to maximise the opportunities for income the shop represents. Over 100 awards have been made in the last year helping clear the backlog that had developed.

Thanks were made to the Exec, GSLs, District Team and all leaders for their work in delivering scouting.

## **11. Presentations**

There were several presentations that the DC has yet to hand out but unfortunately none of the recipients were present at the meeting, Pat said he would follow this up at other opportunities.

## **12. County Representative – Mike Surety.**

Mike Surety took the opportunity of thanking the District for the opportunity to address the meeting on such a fine day, as the last time he was attending a District event was a wet and windy St Georges Day.

He highlighted the increased numbers in scouting within the District with such a diverse and exciting programme of activities. He commended the efforts that have been taken to increase Adult involvement in scouting, as ultimately this should reduce waiting lists. He was keen to note that we were bang up to date on our branding.

He was especially pleased to see the District pulling together and looking to the future especially after a very difficult period. He also noted that we have some difficult issues to grapple with over the next couple of years. He ended thanking the DC and his team for taking the District forward in a very positive manner.

Before the Meeting concluded for refreshments Emma Blowers gave a brief talk on the history of Scouting in Ware and District

The meeting concluded at 20:17

**Approved by Noel Sanders 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019**