

1st Willingham Scout group

Annual update for Willingham Parish Council March 2021

The activities of the scout group over the last year have been significantly impacted by measures designed to control the spread of coronavirus. With significant pressure on our volunteers due to personal and professional reasons associated with the spread of Covid-19, we have had extremely limited capacity to offer services to young people in the community.

From March 2019 we stopped all activities with immediate effect, and by the Summer term of 2020 we were only able to offer a handful of online events and challenges.

In early Autumn we had a window of a few weeks where we were allowed to meet face-to-face, outdoors, in limited numbers. As a result of the lack of outdoor space at our usual meeting venue the public hall, we were grateful for temporary access to Ploughman Hall facilities to enable us to meet outside at the recreation ground.

By late autumn we had returned to the constraints of meeting online only. However, this time we were able to establish a more regular pattern of online meetings and all sections have been meeting virtually from November through to March. As restrictions begin to be lifted in the coming Summer term, we are anticipating a gradual return to more normal face-to-face meetings.

Over the course of the year the limitations have impacted our membership, with 10-20% fewer young people expected to return to scouting than this time last year. In addition, with the establishment of a new scout group in Northstowe, our traditional catchment in Longstanton is diminishing and it is likely that our intake will gradually become more focussed on the community in Willingham and Rampton. The impact of the pandemic has been significantly felt by the wider Scout Association as well as county-wide and local district structures that provide us with crucial support to run our activities.

With the cancellations of our two biggest fundraising events in 2020, Willingham fireworks and the Fen Gallop, we lost out on significant income for the group. We have however benefited from some donations and grants that have ensured the group remains financially stable for the time being.

At this point in time, our short-term aims will be rebuilding our volunteer capacity and re-establishing our usual face-to-face activities in line with national guidance as we emerge from the latest lockdown..

Longer-term we still face that challenge associated with the lack of investment in the Public Hall building. The pandemic highlighted that hygiene and space requirements for safe management of activities were not well supported in the building. Concerns still remain about the limited accessibility of the space and the poor indoor environment as a result of limited heating and insulation in the building.

We are hopeful of a more positive outlook in the coming year that will hopefully see us return to the fantastic opportunities we provide the young people in our community.

Matt Haigh

Group Scout Leader

April 2021

1st Willingham Scout Group
Financial Year 1st April 2020 - 31st March 2021

	Income	Expenditure	P/L
Main account	£14,142.17		
Second account	£7,525.26		
Opening Balance 01/04/20 Total	£21,667.43		
Subscriptions	£5,482.50		
Gift Aid	£5,236.65		
Grants / Donations	£13,597.31		
Camps			
Beavers	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Cubs	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Scouts	£0.00	£1,136.81	(£1,136.81)
Group	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total Camp	£0.00	£1,136.81	(£1,136.81)
Outings & Activities			
Beavers	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Cubs	£350.00	£180.40	£169.60
Scouts	£0.00	£44.19	(£44.19)
Total Outings	£350.00	£224.59	£125.41
Uniform / Badges / Books			
Beavers	£0.00	£57.60	(£57.60)
Cubs	£0.00	£45.30	(£45.30)
Scouts	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Group	£0.00	£180.42	(£180.42)
	£0.00	£283.32	(£283.32)
Fundraising			
Fen Gallop	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Carwash	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Fireworks	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
0	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
0	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Expenditure			
Miscellaneous / Consumables		(£208.97)	
AGM		£0.00	
Rent		£0.00	
Admin and Membership		(£4,046.50)	
Insurance		(£349.43)	
Training		£0.00	
Equipment Repairs and Renewals		(£189.60)	
Transfers to other account			(£22,186.92)
Main Account	£24,666.46	£6,439.22	£10,182.49
Second Account			£29,715.27
Total			£39,897.76
			Closing Balance 31st Mar 2021