

# **1<sup>st</sup> Stoke Gifford Scouts – AGM - 2021**

## **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March, 8.30pm By Zoom**



The meeting started at 20:35

### **In Attendance**

Attendees: Ian Butcher (Chairman), Paul Smith (GSL), Adam Hampshire (Exec Cttee), Jenny Webb (Treasurer), Mike Webb, Andy Phelps (SL), Jane Bridgeman, Clive Mason (Brunel District Commissioner), Emily Mulligan, Chris Smith, Elaine (Karl's Mum), Sue Baker (BL), Chris Grattidge, Greg King, Alison Emsley, Carl Shaw (CL), Richard Moorhead, Chris Evans (CL), Chris Smith, Kathie Vickery, Marcus Booth (SL), Jane Bridgeman, James Hallett, Kathryn Gibbs, Julie Wilson (Secretary), Chris Evans (CL), Janet Porteous (BL), Gemma Carey

### **Apologies**

There were no apologies

### **Minutes of last year's AGM**

The minutes of last year's AGM were informally approved shortly after the meeting and have been available online for most of the year. The meeting formally accepted the minutes as accurate.

### **Group Annual Report**

A full report was provided, but brief comments were made during the meeting.

#### Chairman's Comments

Ian thanked everyone for their hard work during a very challenging year. He formally announced that he was standing down as Chair after just over 19 years on the Executive Committee. He'd enjoyed his association with Scouting, and the friendships he had got through it, but he was stepping down so he can concentrate on planning for retirement Spring 2022 and a move away from Bristol at that time.

#### Financial Comments

As noted in the report, it has been a strange year financially, but the financial impacts have been cushioned by the strong reserves which the Group has built up over many years. Looking ahead, the reserves remain under pressure and we need to think about fundraising when circumstances permit to safeguard the Group's long term viability. A copy of the audited accounts will be provided to District via Paul – **Action**

#### GSL Comments

Paul formally expressed his gratitude to the whole leadership team for the hard work they have put in over the past year to keep scouting activities going in what has been an extraordinary year. He will meet with Leaders later this month to discuss plans for return to scouting. Whilst resuming face-to-face scouting when circumstances permit needs to be the priority, we will then need to bolster the leadership team, especially for Beavers.

#### Marcus Booth - School Scouts

Little to add to the report. The School has said that the earliest we'd be welcome back would be Term 6 (and it wouldn't be surprising if this ends up as September. The section will be making some use of the Poplar Rooms/Trust Halls as an alternative venue, but will be meeting outdoors as much as possible.

#### Andrew Phelps - OSR Scouts

Plans for the coming months are well advanced, with a focus on outdoor activities. The crowd funding for The Julian Trust is now complete, with around £600 raised.

#### Carl Shaw – OSR Cubs

Nothing to add to the report.

### Chris Evans – School Cubs

Nothing to add to the report.

### Sue Baker – Beavers

Nothing to add to the report

### Janet Porteous

Janet said she is standing down as a Leader after around 18 years service. The two Beaver colonies will combine until the Leadership team has been rebuilt (others have also moved on). Katherine Gibbs offered to help out on a regular basis.

### **GSL's nomination of Exec Chair**

Paul Smith (GSL) formally nominated Jenny Webb to serve as Chair. Her nomination was welcomed by all.

### **Other Exec Positions**

Julie Wilson was nominated to remain Secretary

Gemma Carey was nominated to take up the Treasurer position.

Adam Hampshire was nominated to remain on the Executive Committee. He will support Gemma in her Treasurer role and will look after the Camp Account.

### **Input from District Commissioner (Clive Mason)**

Clive noted that 1<sup>st</sup> Stoke Gifford remains one of his 'Green' Groups, given the strength of its leadership team and Governance. He thanked all for their involvement whether in the front line or in supporting roles. The Group's strength has meant that it has coped well with the many challenges presented by COVID.

He noted that we move to 'Amber' status on 29<sup>th</sup> March, at which point face-to-face scouting activities are allowed to resume. He said that lots of resources and advice are available to support a return to face-to-face scouting, but he emphasised that there is no pressure on Leaders to rush to do so.

Noting that availability of suitable venues may constrain return to face-to-face scouting activities, he said that Network Rail has offered use of its training facility at Parkway Station, and that Little Stoke are prioritising hire of their hut to other Groups. He provided a brief update on Woodhouse Park activity centre, which will be available for outdoor activities (but with no residential scouting until at least the Autumn).

Clive presented a '5 year' award to James Hallett, and Chief Scouts Commendation to Michael Webb in recognition of the significant impact he has made to Cubs and Scouts despite his relatively short time as a Leader. He said he was sad to see Janet Porteous leaving, and expressed his thanks for all of her contributions over the years

### **AOB**

After brief discussion, it was agreed that the sections won't take any children off the waiting list at this time. Beavers in particular need to take stock after merging the colonies, and elsewhere stability is important as we emerge from COVID and see just how many children return to active scouting.

Chris advised that the church is keen to welcome groups back to the OSR as soon as possible.

### **End of meeting**

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 21:10.