

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SEVENOAKS DISTRICT SCOUTS COUNCIL
HELD AT 4th SEVENOAKS SCOUT HQ, SEVENOAKS
On SUNDAY 21st SEPTEMBER 2025**

1. Chair's welcome and apologies for absence

Anthony Hitchings welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that we were quorate for the meeting of the District Scouts Council.

List of attendees: see appendix 2

Apologies received from Laura Trott

2. Minutes of the previous AGM

These were made available on the District website and members of the Sevenoaks District Scout Council were so notified in advance of the meeting. Approval proposed by Anthony Hitchings, Seconded by Nigel Rainey. All approved by show of hands.

3. Governance Amendments

Adoption of model constitution from chapter 5.4 Scout Policy, Organisation and Rules – proposed by Anthony Hitchings, Seconded by Michael Schwarz, approved by show of hands

Recommendation that the Trustee Board comprise 5-12 members – proposed by Anthony Hitchings, Seconded by Nick Roberts, approved by show of hands

Recommendation that quorum for Trustee board and all sub committees should be 1/3 present plus 1 – proposed by Anthony Hitchings, Seconded by Nigel Rainey, approved by show of hands

District Scout Council meetings proposed quorum 15 people – proposed Anthony Hitchings, seconded by Chris Barrow, approved by show of hands

4. District Lead Volunteer's Report and Acknowledgements

On behalf of the DLVTeam Jo Brookbank addressed the meeting expressing thanks to Anthony for his invaluable support to the DC Team and District Executive. All volunteers involved in Scouting were also thanked and in particular those involved in Transformation and the new website. Numbers remain stable at approximately 1000 young people. Mag 7 is due to take place in May 2026 at Downe Campsite. Exciting times with planning of future new district barn – see appendix for full report.

5. Treasurer's Report and Approval of the Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2023

Jo Brookbank presented the Accounts to the meeting and thanked those who assisted. The biggest change was the sale of the Seal site. Income has increased due to increase in subscription charges from HQ and County, together with interest gained from the Seal sale. Expenses have remained stable. See full report in appendix.

No questions received.

7. Appointments to the Trustee Board

- a. Chair: On behalf of the DLV-Team JB thanked Anthony for a brilliant job done in the role of District Chair and Anthony agreed to volunteer for another year. The District Leadership Team nominated Anthony Hitchings as District Chair and his re-appointment was unanimously approved by the meeting.
- b. Treasurer: Jo Brookbank proposed Martin Cox as Treasurer and this was approved by a show of hands.

Anthony addressed the meeting for the following elections –

As detailed on the presentation slide the following names were approved last year and have 2 years remaining.

Michael Schwarz
Erik Barrow
Nick Roberts
Nigel Rainey
Jennifer Baker-Hirst
Mike Randall

Richard Williams was proposed and accepted by a show of hands.

Nicky Crawford was thanked for her help with administration of the DTB meetings and will continue in a non-trustee role.

Appointment of District President – John Talbot. Approved by show of hands.
Volunteer Development Team will make changes as above officially

9. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Anthony confirmed that Alan Copleston has agreed to be our Independent Examiner for the forthcoming year's accounts; proposed by Anthony Hitchings, Seconded by P'Nut Holden

10. Nomination of District Representatives on County Scout Council

Chris Barrow and Jo Brookbank were nominated

11. Address by invited guests

Anthony invited Nick Roberts and Ella Williams to give a presentation on the Sevenoaks Scouts Community Barn, a new district headquarters, home for Seal Scouts and community activity centre. The planning application has been submitted by TARMAC on our behalf and is awaiting outcome. The expectation is that we will be onsite in 2026. Flyers were offered to all attendees and the request for volunteers in project management, fundraising and community engagement made.

Councillor Harrison thanked all and shared that she was looking forward to visiting the site in future. She wished the team all the best for the Seal site development.

Anthony Clayton congratulated all on the progress of the barn. He expressed how he was encouraged to see the barn as a community project and offered to help in any way he could, possibly through the mayor cadets in raising the profile for fundraising.

Des Harris, County rep thanked the team on behalf of young people in the district and for providing the opportunity for young people to attend events such as the World Scout Jamboree, MAG 7, Duke of Edinburgh scheme etc. He described how these opportunities help to build confidence and life skills to become better citizens for our community.

12. Any Other Business

No AOB questions had been raised in advance or on the day.

- 13.** A number of thank-yous and service awards were presented to those present – see appendix. Jeanette Schwarz presented the World Scout Award to Nigel Burgin.

14. Close

With no other items of business appropriate to the AGM received Anthony Hitchings thanked everyone for attending the meeting before closing the business part of the AGM.

Scanned attendees list below

JAT Albist

Jan Padgett

Nigel Burgin

Sheila Burgin

Ella Williams

Erik Barrow

Audy Muller

Barry Macen

Dean Brett 3RD

Tony Gill Clifton

Lynnda Harrison

DES HARRIS

Jeanette Schwarz

Miki Schwarz

Maury + A Maury

NICKY CRAWFORD

CHRIS BARROW

Sarah Clubley

Nick Roberts

Anna Gieniusz

Jo. Boddy

Arthur Wichey