

## Bexley District AGM 2024

Held on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September at 13:10 at the District Campsite – Cudham Shaws

Chaired: Luke Cashin (District Chair) & Stuart Sutherland (District Lead)

In attendance: Luke Cashin, Stuart Sutherland, Chris Russell, Lee Curtis, Tom Tribe, Emma Goodson, Alex Burton, Callum Rest, Di Sprowles, John Bruce, Karen Bruce, Ben Kennor, Joseph Shippam, Abi Waller, Geoff Amass, Gina Dilling, Tom Barton, Ian Dunn, Mark Lisney, Aaron Keeble, Julie Burns, Nick Grant, Malcolm Blowers, Jake Sykes, David Floyd, Richard Wilgoss, Jackie Hall and Daryl Baker.

1. Introduction
2. Apologies for absence
  - a. 23 apologies were received.
3. Governance topics
  - a. Approval of minutes AGM 2023
    - i. Proposed by Luke Cashin. Julie Burns seconded.
  - b. Re-adopt the model constitution from POR.
    - i. Agreed by the room in a show of hands.
  - c. Note the district's financial year
    - i. 1<sup>st</sup> April - 31<sup>st</sup> March
  - d. Approval of members of the District Council
    - i. All approved.
  - e. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board.
    - i. Should have a minimum of 5 and maximum of 12. The trustee board is recommending that 11 people are appointed. Seconded by Daryl Baker.
  - f. To agree the quorum of future meetings of the District Scout Council
    - i. A quorum of 10 was agreed. Proposed by Luke Cashin, Seconded by Tom Barton.
4. Review of the previous year
  - a. District lead volunteer's review
    - i. Lee Curtis report which was read aloud at the meeting is transcribed here.
      1. This report covers the period of 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024.
      2. As we look back on the past year it's important to remember the hundreds of thousands of volunteering hours

that has been spent by volunteers in Scouting in Bexley. I know that when speaking to young people at events, parents of our young people and other civic members (Mayor, Deputy Lieutenant, councillors, MPs) they are extremely grateful for all the wonderful weekly activities, as well as the camps and events that are put on by you.

3. 2024 saw another rise in our membership numbers a tribute to those providing an excellent programme and we are now back to pre-covid levels.
4. I would like to thank the executive for their continued hard work, to ensure the District remains financially stable as well as flexible enough to offer support to groups, units and individuals when required, and this year has been exceptionally challenging, as we have had to review risk on various strategic items. This year has been tough as we carried out urgent repairs and project works to Cudham and to several District Halls.
5. I also thank the uniformed District team for their continued hard work. Please remember the District SMT (Senior Management Team) consisting of Maura Garrod, Steve Metcalfe, Geoff Amass, Tom Tribe, Di Sprowles and Nick Grant are always there to support and if you have any ideas for events or support for sections, please let them know.
6. The District Shop including badges and help desk/ DBS checks continues to be a central resource that is well used, and I know many of you use this to engage with other leaders cross the District. Over the years I have found this a fantastic resource to sound board ideas and to bump in to other leaders.
7. The Young People and leaders from Bexley who attended the World Scout Jamboree had a fantastic experience. With the challenges they faced with the weather and poor site logistics, they took on the challenge and overcame them. The unit received numerous praises from sub-camp and central team volunteers. The Young People and Leaders are a testament to themselves, their Group and this District.
8. As we now come to final stages of transformation, it offers us a time to reflect on how we do things and how we can make changes to make our volunteering easier and to share some of the workload. In Bexley we have been using flexible volunteering for sometime, and now we have a formal

framework. Likewise the training/ learning is been updated and I am sure this will keep us to build new team members with a strong foundation.

9. This is my last report as your District Commissioner, it has been a pleasure to have carried out this role and one that I will have fond memories of. I whole heartedly give my support and congratulations to Stuart Sutherland who will be taking over as District Lead Volunteer.

10. Yours in Scouting, Lee Curtis AKA Mole (District Commissioner 2014-2024)

ii. Stuart Sutherland – Thanked Lee Curtis for his 10 years as DC. SS came into the role in a period of change – change of the county, transformation. One of the constants has been the enthusiasm and commitment of the leaders. The core reason why we do scouting hasn't changed – we keep doing things for our young people. Thanked the trustees for all their support.

b. The District Chairs review

i. Luke thanked Lee for his service to Bexley Scouting and highlighted his appreciation for the last decade of work throughout the District.

ii. I look forward to working with Stuart in supporting the District further and wish him success in the huge role he is undertaking.

iii. I thank the District Trustees who have continued to go above and beyond this year. Their commitment, time and understanding has been a great support to me as Chair.

iv. Final thanks to all those throughout the District in whatever role they do for continuing to prioritise the young people in our care and support them in skills for life and access greater opportunities.

c. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the district trustee board, including statement of the accounts

i. These were circulated ahead of the meeting for the consideration of the district members.

5. Making appointments

a. District Chair - (Luke Cashin handed over the chair of the meeting to Stuart Sutherland)

i. Luke Cashin was appointed for a period of three years.

1. Approved by the room.

2. (Stuart Sutherland handed over the chair of the meeting to Luke Cashin)

b. District Treasurer

i. Lee Curtis was appointed for a period of three years.

1. Approved by the room.
  - c. Appoint members of the District Trustee Board
    - i. The recommendation to the District Scout Council is that Alex Burton, Callum Rest, Emma Goodson, Di Sprowles, Chris Russell and Tom Tribe should be appointed as members of the District Trustee Board for a period of 2 years, and that Jackie Hall be appointed for a period of 1 year.
      1. Approved by the room.
  - d. Reappoint District President and Vice-presidents
    - i. The Mayor of Bexley was very happy to continue for another year.
      1. Approved by the room.
    - ii. Richard Wilgoss and Viv Baxter as Vice-Presidents for another year.
      1. Approved by the room.
  - e. Appoint the independent examiner
    - i. Sadler Davies and co. were approved as our continued independent examiner.
      1. Approved by the room.
  - f. Nominate representatives of the District Scout Council to represent the District on the County Scout Council.
    - i. Luke Cashin and Chris Russell have been nominated to represent the district at the county scout council meeting as well.
      1. Approved by the room.
6. Closing Remarks
  - a. 10 minutes 30 seconds for the AGM – Thanks to all attending.