

BLACKTOFT BEACON SCOUT COUNCIL

Annual General Meeting

17th July 2025

SM made Health & Safety and domestic announcements.

1. Introduction and welcome

SM Welcomed everyone and thanked those present for coming.

Scott Millard, Josh Morablanco, Wendy Macadam, Magnus Druitt, Mike Head, John Jobling, Jo Cook, Frank Cook, Liz Fraser, Chris Back, Andy Wales, Patti Pittock, Mary Tomlin, Gayle Tomlin, Carl Cooper, Rory Kershaw.

2. Apologies for absence

Colin Fitch, Philip Walker, Charlotte Rymer, Roy Haworth, Alan Hayward, Linda Thelwell, Claire Norman, Lucy Carne, Joann Warburton, Mags Carey, Ann Cooper, Joy Milestone

3. Governance topics

3a. Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 18th July 2024.

SM: asked for approval.

Gayle Tomlin Seconded, the meeting showed their hands and approved.

3b. Note the District's financial year.

SM: Asked the District Scout Council members to note our charity's financial year is 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026.

3c. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board

SM: The District Scout Council must agree the number of people to be appointed to the Trustee Board. The outgoing Trustee Board recommends that 15 people are appointed.

SM proposed the District Scout Council approves the recommendation.

The meeting showed their hands and approved.

3d. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the District Scout Council Trustee Board meetings.

SM: The District Scout Council must agree its quorum for Trustee Board Meetings. The District Scout Council commends the quorum should be set at one third of its trustee members which is a minimum of 5. SM proposed the District Scout Council approve the recommendation.

The meeting showed their hands and approved.

4. Review of the previous year

4a. The District Lead Volunteer's review of Scouts in the Blacktoft Beacon

SM asks the District Lead Volunteer Josh Morablanco to present the Annual Review.

I start my first AGM in the role of lead volunteer with a thank you. Thank you for the support and warm welcome, thank you for the guidance and thank you for the challenges too. I've really enjoyed travelling to meet groups and sections across the district and been proud to see the amazing Scouting being delivered every evening which is truly making a positive impact on ten lives of young people in our district. We have seen so much happen in the past year, with our favourite events returning - with even more young people in attendance. Our annual St George's Day celebration saw the biggest attendance we've ever seen and everyone had a great day. The feedback from young people was overwhelmingly positive and planning for 2026 is shortly going to start. The Deep sleepover welcomed over 100 Beavers in March and we also introduced a new sleepover at Jump Inc this year. 60 Cubs bounced their way into the night for a brand new sleepover experience that has definitely marked the start to what will be a regular event. All of this, plus the camps and sleepovers run by groups and sections which resulted in over 100 nights away with the district. And this comes on top of the 60

section meetings that takes place each week. Our amazing volunteers have delivered cooking skills to axe throwing skills, knot skills to archery skills and skills on the water to map reading a navigation... plus so much more.

We know what a positive impact we are having and it's also been great to see groups showing this off to the community even more too. The publication of the prevention of future deaths report by The Scouts HQ has seen us as a district take steps to ensure safe Scouting is taking place across Blacktoft Beacon. We have just finished the sprint to complete the enhanced safety learning which has helped up skill our leaders and provide new perspectives to approaching safety. I thank everyone who has taken the time to complete the learning and support others in completing too. We have also, led by Humberside Scouts, taken steps to rapid assurance of safety through a series of checklists which has given us great insight and allow us to put in place support to ensure we are delivering safe Scouting. Last year saw the roll out of The Scouts transformation programme, which is aimed at delivering a simplified and easier approach to volunteering. It is a big culture change, but we are hopeful it'll bring long term benefits to our organisation. The teams based approach to volunteering has already given us a great framework to share tasks and ensure everything doesn't fall to single volunteers. We have also changed how volunteers are welcomed into Scouts and removed appointments panels, which we know was a barrier for many volunteers. We know there's a long way to go with this culture change, but thank you to the groups who are embracing this approach.

Alongside the transformation programme, a new membership system was launched in November to underpin our new approach to volunteering. I'd like to take this time to thank each and every volunteer who has logged in and completed tasks. We are acutely aware that the digital tools are not in the position we expected them to be in and are greatly sorry for the additional time some tasks have taken. I for one have had frustrations with the tools, but have seen the progress made since its launch and benefitted from many of my tasks being made easier. We will continue to provide the support needed to leaders in sections and managers across the district over the next year and expect the system to become reliable and much easier to use as time goes on. On a positive note, in the past year we saw our district continue to grow as we expand the number of young people learning skills for life. Hessle were able to open up a second Beaver colony which is ran by parents and Snaith are the latest group to open a Squirrel drey. Well done to the people behind the opening of these sections, and to everyone else across the district who have opened up their sections to more young people and helped contribute to our growth. As we have adapted over the last twelve months, it's meant this year has been very much about the hear and now. But we will pivot to looking further ahead as The Scouts prepare to launch their national strategy for what the next ten years will look like and we'll adapt that for Blacktoft Beacon, taking on board the thoughts and opinions of volunteers and young people within the district. I'm looking forward to the next year and all of the fun and adventure that will come with this.

SM thanks District Lead Volunteer for his review.

4b. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Board including the annual Statement of Accounts

SM asked the District Scout Council to approve the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts

(received from the independent auditor Peter Sargeson.)

SM asked the District Lead Volunteer in the absence of the District Treasurer to give their explanation of the Statement of Accounts.

JM summarised the Statement of Accounts.

SM invited questions from the floor regarding the Trustee Annual Report, and the Annual Accounts. No questions raised.

SM thanked the Treasurer

The meeting showed their hands and approved.

5. Making appointments

SM advised the meeting that this part of the meeting would be used to organise the set-up of the District Trustees until the next AGM and that a Trustee Board would be appointed to oversee good governance for the charity over the next year.

5a. Appoint the District Chair, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustee Board

SM hands the chairmanship of this meeting over to the District Lead Volunteer.

JM The recommendation to the District Scout Council is that Scott Millard should be appointed as District Chair. The meeting showed their hands and approved.

JM hands the chairmanship of this meeting back to District Chair SM.

5b. Appoint the District Treasurer, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustee Board

SM The recommendation to the District Scout Council is that Claire Norman should be appointed as District Treasurer.

The meeting showed their hands and approved.

5c. Appoint members of the District Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the District Trustee Board for a 3-year term.

SM. The following roles are ex-officio

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| 1. District Lead volunteer | Josh Morablanco |
| 2. District Youth Lead | Rory Kershaw |
| 3. DTBM + Chair | Scott Millard |
| 4. DTBM + Treasurer | Claire Norman |

The following people were elected in 2024 for a three year term and wish to continue for the next year.

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| 5. DTBM | John Jobling |
| 6. DTBM | Linda Thelwell |
| 7. DTBM | Liz Fraser |
| 8. DTBM | Joy Milestone |
| 9. DTBM | Andy Wales |
| 10. DTBM | Jo Cook |
| 11. DTBM | Frank Cook |
| 12. DTBM | Wendy Macadam |
| 13. DTBM | Carl Cooper |

The following people are to be nominated for a three year term

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| 14. DTBM | Gayle Tomlin |
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Linda Thelwell to continue as minute taker for meetings including Trustee Board meetings

The meeting showed their hands and approved.

SM thanked the Trustees for their work during the past year.

5d. Re-appoint District Vice Presidents

SM asked the District Scout Council to re-appoint the District Vice Presidents.

SM advises that Andy Eavis & Christian Carver be re-appointed as Vice Presidents.

The meeting showed their hands and approved.

5e. Appoint the Independent Auditor

Treasurer proposes Peter Sargeson.

SM confirmed that Peter Sargeson has been proposed and is qualified for the role.

The meeting showed their hands and approved.

5f. Trustee Board member to represent the District on the County Scout Council

SM Nominated Rory Kershaw as District representative to the County Scout Council.

Seconder, the meeting showed their hands and approved.

6. Closing remarks

JM presented Shaun Wilson with his 30 Year service award. The Scout Council showed their appreciation for the hard work and dedication Joy has given.

SM closed the AGM, thanking everyone for attending and added his thanks to Frank and Jo Cook for providing the refreshments.