



Dunning Scout Group 2020 Summary

Robert Carr

28 September 2020

26th Perthshire (Dunning) Scout Group
c/o Westwood
Dunning
PH2 0QN



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Annual Report & Financial Statements 10 March 2020

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

- Official Name: 26th Perthshire (Dunning) Scout Group
- Charity Number: N/A (to be registered on 11 March 2020)
- Principal Address: Westwood, Dunning, PH2 0QN (*Chair's home address*)
- Website Address: <https://scouts.dunning.rocks>

Current Executive Committee

- Robert Carr - Chair
- Nathan Critchlow-Watton - Group Scout Leader
- Ruth Emond - Secretary
- Valle Ruiz Diver - Treasurer
- Sally Dawson
- Alison Cameron
- Sofie Wilkie-De Hertogh
- Kevin McKechnie
- Peter Diver (BSL)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The Group is is governed by the terms detailed in the constitution of The Scout Association (incorporated by Royal Charter in 1912) and as detailed in its Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) and as amended by its Scottish Variations. It is a member of The Scout Association having accepted the aims of the Association.

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Appointment of Executive Committee

New members of the Executive Committee (the "Exec") are recruited in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR) of The Scout Association as and when required from existing and new contacts. Any newly appointed Exec members are advised of the objectives and activities of the Group, and are to act in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association. Assistance and training is provided to new Exec members by the existing members and all new Office Bearers are trained and validated in Module 1 (Executive) of The Scout Association's National Adult Training Scheme.

Organisational Structure

The Executive Committee meet 4 times a year to determine policy, review our finances and development programme, and how best to support operational matters.

Risk Assessment

The Group is dependent upon receiving sufficient funding and donations to enable it to continue to work towards achieving its objectives. The Committee has carried out an assessment of all the major risks (including those related to Health & Safety) and is satisfied that it has systems or procedures in place to manage those risks.

All Leaders, regular helpers and Office Bearers must be members of the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme and have had an enhanced Disclosure through The Scout Association from Disclosure Scotland within the past 5 years. All adult members have undertaken and been validated for GDPR to ensure that all personal data held by the Group is done so securely and in line with the current legislation.

OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES

The aim of the Group is to promote the purpose of Scouting which is that Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. The Group is organised in line with the Values of Scouting which are that as Scouts we are guided by these values:

- Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal.
- Respect - We have self-respect and respect for others.



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- Care - We support others and take care of the world in which we live.
- Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.
- Co-operation - We make a positive difference; co-operate with others, make friends

GSL's REPORT (to 10 March 2020)

As ever, it's been a busy year in the Group.

The Scout Troop started to meet independently (rather than being "Scubs"), and has grown from the founder six to twelve. All the Scouts took part in the Bushcraft day - skinning and cooking rabbits (in the torrential rain), and cooking "Cowboy beans".

Cubs continues to grow and enjoy a (very) wide range of activities. The highlight for Cubs was undoubtedly attending the Howling camp last September, along with ~300 other Cubs. The leaders have now recovered.

Beavers numbers have reduced slightly, reflecting the small P1 intake at school. Climbing was a highlight, as was the daytrip to Pitlochry dam. Unwittingly lighting a campfire directly below the "no fires" sign entertained the Beavers. Number of leaders has continue to grow, with the Group now having fourteen adults in uniform, and two very effective Young Leaders.

All leaders are continuing to progress through their training, with both Peter (BSL) and Sandy (CSL) being awarded their Wood Badge; this shows they have completed the Scout leaders' training programme. We arranged a day's training in teaching young people how to safely throw tomahawks. Which has been very well received, and raised a few eyebrows on the golf course!

Census returns are made on the 31st of January each year:

Section	2019	2020
Beavers	19	10
Cubs	24	28
Scouts	0	10
Total	43	48

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A steady growth, starting from the original eleven Beavers in September 2017!

Over the last year, we've awarded five Chief Scout Silver awards, and five Chief Scout Bronze awards - each the highest award possible in Cubs and Beavers, respectively. In total, we've awarded just under 400 badges - which explains our high badge costs!

Although this Annual Report only covers the period to the 10th of March, 2020, it would be odd not to acknowledge the impact of Covid on the Group. Lockdown started on the 17th of March, and the Group immediately took on the role of co-ordinating the community response in Dunning. I'd like to thank all the parents who stepped-in to help support and comfort those who were isolating.

The Group couldn't function without the support of parents, and the work of the Executive; I'd like to thank all those who give their time, and especially Rob for his substantial efforts over the year.

A huge thanks to the leaders - it's only due to their commitment, enthusiasm and imagination that our children can enjoy such a range of exciting activities, which set them up with skills for life. I'm very proud to lead such a great team and a great Group.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview

The accounts show a that at 10 March 2020 we had a surplus of £2360.85. The prediction for the coming financial year is that this surplus would be required to support a reduced level of activity and income, due to the impact of Covid-19 restrictions.

Reserves Policy

Our aim is to maintain a cash reserve to ensure that we could provide financial support for membership subscription and attendance at Scouting events for those families in need, plus facilitate an emergency fund. This reserve is in addition to any known outgoings, such as Scouts census fees, meetings expenses, badges, Leaders' uniforms and specific projects.

The Exec has not settled on a specific figure to hold in reserve, as the Group is young and is yet to achieve operational consistency over a prolonged period. Once we have decided upon a reserve figure, any income over this amount would be used to purchase camping,

bushcraft and activity-related equipment.

September 2019-March 2020

INCOME	
Subscriptions	£4,040.61
Fundraising	0
Donations	£2,077.00
Events	£183.84
Other	0
Total	£6,301.45

EXPENDITURE	
Badges	£430.76
Neckers	£279.35
Membership	£1,697.00
Hall rental	£336.25
Materials	£258.03
Events	£829.21
other	£110.00
TOTAL	£3,940.60

FUTURE INTENTIONS

Registering as a charity

The Group had submitted registration details to OSCR (The Scottish Charity Regulator). All



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existing members of the Executive Committee will become trustees once registration achieved.

(Post report note: 26th Perthshire (Dunning) Scout Group was registered with OSCR on 11 March 2020, registration number SC050026. This is the reason for this report ending 10 March)

Kincludie Wood Shelter

We intend to build a permanent shelter in Kincaldie Wood to support the Scouting activities that can be offered, and provide shelter to extend the use of the woods into the spring and autumn months.

The project's intention is to apply for a grant from Perth and Kinross Community Infrastructure Fund, approach local businesses for support and to utilise the local community for manpower. We intend to involve the Young People in the design and construction of the shelter. It is hoped to construct the shelter in late summer 2020.

(Post report note: We received a P&K CIF grant on 23 March 2020 for £8,087.60. However, restrictions due to Covid will delay the construction programme).

Permanent Indoor Venue and Equipment Storage Location

There is considerable uncertainty over the continued use of Dunning Village Hall as our main indoor venue October-March each year; this venue also does not provide any significant, secure storage for equipment.

The Old School at Newton of Pitcairns project ("Stepping Stones" et al) could have been a longer term option to pursue, although the intended community buyout was halted in November 2019. It now has an uncertain future.

The St Paul's Church Hall has proved useful for occasional indoor meetings, although it is a relatively small venue and is in use during the week for Guiding and church group activities.

Whilst our shelter in Kincludie will enhance our existing use of the woods, it is not suitable as an "indoor" meeting venue, and does not offer any secure storage.

We intend to keep searching for suitable indoor activity and storage locations.

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APPROVAL

This report was drafted by the Group Chairman, reviewed by the Executive Committee and approved by GSL:

Drafted: Robert Carr

Approved: Nathan Critchlow-Watton

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