



Doncaster Danum Scout Council
Annual General Meeting
21st September 2026

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3. Approve minutes of 2025 AGM

Doncaster District Scout Council
Minutes of the annual general meeting
Monday 3rd November 2025

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was opened by Neil McKay and Ailsa Johnson, who welcomed all attendees and outlined the agenda for the evening.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:

Glynis Robinson, Paige Werrett, Susan Lloyd, Jane McDermott

3. Approval of Minutes from the Previous AGM

The minutes of the previous AGM were approved by James Hagyard (JH) and David Holland (DH).

4. Approval of Accounts

The accounts were presented and unanimously approved by those in attendance. JG commented that the accounts for Doncaster Danum Scout Band, have been wrongly labelled as Doncaster Scouts Marching Brass Band – CS notes this will be rectified for next

year. CS notes in his report that as a District we don't need an accountant, NMc confirms that we would require an independent examiner.

5. Constitution

The new Constitution was formally adopted to align with the Policy, Organisation and Rules

(POR) of The Scouts, without amendment with any future updates of that constitution will

be adopted on the date of publication. Unanimously approved.

Quorum is agreed to be at least 12 members for District Scout Council

For Trustee Board meetings, there must be 1/3rd including appointed and ex-officio members, for any financial spend the treasurer must be present.

6. Board Membership

In line with the POR and Trustee Board agreements, the following appointments were

confirmed – to a maximum of 12 people.

- Chairperson: Ailsa Johnson (AJ)
- Treasurer: Clive Scott (CS)
- Trustees: All other current board members confirmed in post.
- NMc's comments that it's important that the trustee board reflects the district ia, in addition to the DYL, we also bring in a Youth Trustee under the age of 25, which is commendable. AJ and CS committed until AGM 2027.

8. Election of County Scout Council Members

Louise Caldwell was elected as a member of the County Scout Council.

9. District Chair

AJ thanks the trustee board for the body of work they undertake, with a big thanks to CS for managing so many accounts throughout the District. AJ also thanks NMc for his support across the District. NMc thanks the attendees, and group leaders, because we couldn't deliver the quality Scouting without the adults.

10. District Lead Volunteer

NMc highlighted that the past year has seen significant progress within the trustee board, focusing on strengthening our foundations by resolving outstanding matters, reducing liabilities, and supporting the closure of groups where needed. These efforts have helped create a stable platform for future growth across the district. A new school-sponsored closed group has successfully opened at Hill House School, marking a positive step forward. Whilst there remains great potential to expand Scouting across Doncaster, sincere thanks go to all our leaders, volunteers and trustees for their continued commitment and hard work.

11. Date of next AGM

AGM for 2026 will be announced in due course.

12. AOB

JG notes a huge thank you to AJ for running Scout Shop and Trustee Board. CG notes that we have received donations of AEDs from a partner 'Morgan Sindall' – with opportunity to get more for groups (please contact CG to express an interest).

Meeting closed.

Appendix - Attendees

The following members were present:

Andy McAteer, Megan McAteer, James Hagyard, Ailsa Johnson, Martin Johnson, Clive Scott,

Samuel Finn, David Holland, Neil McKay, Dirk Gilbert, Liz Howitt, Rob Parkes, Chris Green ,

Louise Caldwell, Trevor Polson, David Plant, Angela Perkins, Joey Perkins, Colin Tidmarsh,

Joanne Cooper, John Green, Eric Hepworth, Michelle Norton

4. To re-adopt the District Constitution

Doncaster Danum District Scout Council formally re-adopts the constitution set out in Rule 5.c.3 (previously section 5.6) of The Scout Association's Policy, Organisation and Rules without amendment other than set out below in respect of the quorum. Future updates to the constitution set out in POR shall be automatically adopted on the date of publication

5. Agree quorum for future meetings of the Doncaster Danum District Scout Council and the Trustee Board

The quorum for meetings will be:

For meetings of the District Scout Council:

- At least 20 members;

For meetings of the District Trustee Board:

- From rule 5c.3.8.4, one third of the Trustees (ex officio & appointed & co-opted) plus one[round down if necessary]; subject to
- Where either the annual budget or non-budgeted spend is being voted upon, one of members present must be the Treasurer;

For sub-committees of the County Trustee Board:

- From rule 5.c.3.8.5, the quorum is determined by the Trustee Board, but in the absence of any determination, at least 50% of members

6. To note the dates of the charity's financial year

The dates of the Charity's financial year are the 1st February to 31st January

7. Agree maximum number of trustees to the Trustee Board

The maximum number of members of the Trustee Board is proposed as 12
(maximum permitted by POR)

8. Receive the report of the District Lead Volunteer

This report covers a year in which I was only District Lead Volunteer for the final month, having taken on the role on 1 January 2026 following a period when the position had been vacant.

My first real taste of the District team came before my appointment, when I hosted the District Top Awards event in November 2025. It was a fantastic celebration, recognising more than 300 award recipients from across Doncaster Danum. The event demonstrated the incredible achievements of our young people and the commitment of the volunteers who support them. It was a privilege to play a part in such a successful evening, and it gave me a real sense of the potential we have as a District.

During my first month as District Lead Volunteer, I made it a priority to get out and meet as many volunteers as possible. I visited more than 20 Groups and five Explorer Units, listening to teams, learning about their successes and understanding the challenges they face.

Those visits reinforced just how much excellent Scouting is already taking place across Doncaster. They also highlighted the importance of the District being visible, accessible and focused on supporting Groups and Units to succeed.

One of the challenges I identified early was the need to develop the Scout brand across Doncaster and raise the profile of Scouting locally. We provide thousands of hours of activities, opportunities and community support every year, but we do not always tell that story as effectively as we could. Improving our public profile will help us celebrate our young people, recognise our volunteers and reach more families and potential volunteers.

Looking ahead, my ambition is for Doncaster Danum to support 1,500 young people by 2029. Achieving that will require sustainable growth, strong volunteer teams and better support for Groups. It will also mean improving the journey between sections so that more young people continue their Scouting adventure.

A particular priority will be strengthening our provision for young people aged 14 to 24. This will include relaunching and improving the District Explorer programme, working on retention from Scouts into Explorers and looking to establish a District Scout Network. We also want to increase the number of young people achieving Top Awards and make sure they have access to the support and opportunities needed to complete them.

We will continue to build a stronger programme of District events. This includes another Top Awards celebration in November, giving us the opportunity to recognise

even more young people, followed by Frostie's Winter Wonderland for Squirrels, Beavers and Cubs in December. These events will help bring the District together and give young people experiences that complement the excellent programmes delivered within their own Groups and Units.

I would like to thank Neil McKay, our County Lead Volunteer, for his advice, encouragement and support as I stepped into the role.

I would also like to thank my District team, Andy McAteer, James "Jimmy" Hagyard and Chris Green, for joining me on this journey and for the work they have already put into developing our plans.

Thank you to our Trustees, Group Lead Volunteers, Explorer teams, section volunteers, Squirrel Wood volunteers and everyone else who gives their time to Scouting across Doncaster Danum. Everything we achieve is built upon your commitment.

I continue to serve as a Joint Group Lead Volunteer alongside my District role, so I must also thank Robert Simmonds for his support. Without Robert's commitment and leadership within our Group, it would not be possible for me to give the District role the time and attention it deserves.

Finally, I would like to thank my wife for supporting me and allowing me the time to take on this responsibility. With Scout meetings now taking up three or four evenings most weeks, as well as many Saturdays, I am very grateful for her patience and understanding. Fortunately, she is just as enthusiastic—or perhaps just as easily persuaded—as I am, and has recently decided to open a second Beaver Colony. This means she now has two evenings a week dedicated to Scouting as well. Between us, we are gradually turning our home into a Scout headquarters, although the tea and biscuit budget remains firmly under review.

We do still get to see each other occasionally, as she also has the privilege of working for me three days a week. I am assured this is a completely separate arrangement from Scouting, although I am not entirely convinced.

It has been a busy start, but I am excited by what lies ahead. Doncaster Danum has strong foundations, dedicated volunteers and enormous potential. By working together, supporting our Groups and raising the profile of Scouting across Doncaster, I believe we can give even more young people the opportunity to gain skills for life.

David Plant

District Lead Volunteer

Doncaster Danum District

9. Receive and consider the Trustee Board Annual Report and Accounts

Doncaster Danum Scouts						
Income and Expenditure Account						
For the year to 31 January 2026						
Doncaster Danum Scout Shop						
			(12 months)		(12 months)	
			31/01/2026		31-Jan-25	
			Revenue		Revenue	
INCOME			£	£	£	£
Shop Income				39,385.35		0.00
Bank Interest/fees				81.03		0.00
Other				0.00		0.00
Donations				0.00		0.00
				39,466.38		0.00
Less:						
EXPENDITURE						
Shop Stock			32,842.23		0.00	
Insurance			1,067.12		0.00	
Utilities			3,124.55		0.00	
Council Rates			179.64		0.00	
VAT repayment			1,035.18		0.00	
Building Maintenance			321.18		0.00	
Postage			113.79		0.00	
Bank / Card Machine Charges			899.92		0.00	
Others / Sundries			253.19		0.00	
Equipment			30.44		0.00	
				39,867.24		0.00
NET SURPLUS / DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR				-400.86		0.00
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD				65,615.21		0.00
BALANCE SHEET						
As at January 31st 2026						
			(12 months)		(12 months)	
			31/01/2026		31-Jan-25	
			£		£	
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS						
Equipment (See Note)						
CURRENT ASSETS						
Co-op Bank current account (unrestricted funds)				33,370.80		42,898.67
Stock Balance				22,960.33		21,973.96
Debtors						
Loan to Squirrel Wood				30,000.00		
				956.4		1143.44
				87,287.53		66,016.07
CURRENT LIABILITIES				0.00		0.00
Loan from Central Funds				21000.00		
				672.32		
Net income in advance:						
				0.00		0.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS				65,615.21		66,016.07
Financed by:						
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD				65,615.21		66,016.07

Doncaster Danum Scouts						
Income and Expenditure Account						
For the year to 31 January 2026						
Al-Buraq Explorers Scout Group						
			(12 months)			(12 months)
			31/01/2026			31-Jan-25
			Revenue			Revenue
INCOME			£	£		£
Subscriptions				934.00		0.00
Events				310.00		0.00
Bank Interest/fees						0.00
Other				0.00		0.00
Donations / Fundraising				268.16		0.00
				0.00		0.00
				0.00		0.00
				1,512.16		0.00
Less:						
EXPENDITURE						
Membership						0.00
Camp Fees			704.32			0.00
Activity based payments			863.84			0.00
Capitation			0.00			0.00
Hoodies			0.00			0.00
Rent			0.00			0.00
Scout Shop			0.00			0.00
Bank Fees			0.00			0.00
Training			0.00			0.00
Equipment purchases						0.00
Donations			0.00			0.00
Sundry Expenses			0.00			0.00
				1,568.16		0.00
NET SURPLUS / DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR				-56.00		0.00
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD				1,006.17		1,062.17
BALANCE SHEET						
As at 31st January 2026						
			(12 months)			(12 months)
			31/03/2026			31-Mar-25
			£			£
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS						
Equipment (See Note)						
CURRENT ASSETS						
Co-op Bank current account (unrestricted funds)				1,006.17		1,062.17
				1,006.17		1,062.17
CURRENT LIABILITIES				0.00		0.00
Net income in advance:				0.00		0.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS				0.00		0.00
Financed by:						
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD				1,006.17		1,062.17

Doncaster Danum Scouts

Income and Expenditure Account

For the year to 31 January 2026

Atlas Explorer Scout Group

	(12 months)		(12 months)	
	31/01/2026		31-Jan-25	
	Revenue		Revenue	
INCOME	£	£	£	£
Subs		1,974.00		0.00
Activities / Camps		4,997.50		0.00
Bank Interest/fees		0.00		0.00
Fundraising / Donations		807.05		0.00
Equipment Purchases		64		0.00
Misc		790		0.00
		8,632.55		0.00
Less:				
EXPENDITURE				
Activities / Camps	2,654.46		0.00	
Capitation	750.00		0.00	
Utilities			0.00	
Equipment	218.50		0.00	
Donations / Grants	497.08		0.00	
Digital Systems	24.00		0.00	
Others / Sundries	950.00		0.00	
			0.00	
		5,094.04		0.00
NET SURPLUS / DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR		3,538.51		0.00
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD		5,089.15		1,550.64
BALANCE SHEET				
As at January 31st 2026				
	(12 months)		(12 months)	
	31/01/2026		31-Jan-25	
	£		£	
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS				
Equipment (See Note)		0		
CURRENT ASSETS				
Current Account		4,921.53		1,247.09
Cash		167.62		303.55
Camp deposits in advance		0.00		0.00
CURRENT LIABILITIES		0.00		0.00
Net income in advance:		0.00		0.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS		0.00		0.00
Financed by:				
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD		5,089.15		1,550.64

Doncaster Danum Scouts							
Income and Expenditure Account							
For the year to 31 January 2026							
Doncaster Danum Scout Group -							
			(12 months)			(12 months)	
			31/01/2026			31-Jan-25	
			Revenue			Revenue	
INCOME			£	£		£	£
Membership				83,126.30			0.00
Events				6,610.11			0.00
Bank Interest/fees				21.20			0.00
Other				0.00			0.00
Donations				1,813.00			0.00
				91,570.61			0.00
Less:							
EXPENDITURE							
Membership			76,734.00			0.00	
Utilities			115.18			0.00	
Exec Expenses			1,707.21			0.00	
Events			3,642.66			0.00	
Lottery License			40.00			0.00	
Bank Fees			55.00			0.00	
Awards nights			803.52			0.00	
Young Leaders			1,409.64			0.00	
Donations			0.00			0.00	
Sundry Expenses			13,161.54			0.00	
				97,668.75			0.00
NET SURPLUS / DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR				-6,098.14			0.00
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD				31,648.69			0.00
BALANCE SHEET							
As At January 31st 2026							
			(12 months)			(12 months)	
			31/01/2026			31-Jan-25	
			£			£	
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS							
Equipment (See Note)							
CURRENT ASSETS							
CAF Bank current account (unrestricted funds)				10,648.69			37,746.83
Loan to Shop				21,000.00			
				31,648.69			37,746.83
CURRENT LIABILITIES				0.00			0.00
Net income in advance:							
		0.00		0.00			0.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS				0.00			0.00
Financed by:							
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD				31,648.69			37,746.83

Doncaster Danum Scouts							
Income and Expenditure Account							
For the year to 31 January 2026							
Ravens Explorer Scout Group							
(12 months)				(12 months)			
31/01/2026				31-Jan-25			
Revenue				Revenue			
INCOME	£	£		£	£		
Subs / Camps / Activities			3632.74			0.00	
Activities / Camps			12,738.80			0.00	
Bank Interest/fees			96.71			0.00	
Fundraising / Donations			1,489.50			0.00	
Equipment Purchases			400.81				
			18,358.56			0.00	
Less:							
EXPENDITURE							
Activities / Camps		25,035.15			0.00		
Capitation		1,000.00			0.00		
OSM		41.00			0.00		
Equipment		663.90			0.00		
Refund					0.00		
Rent		437.82			0.00		
Others / Sundries					0.00		
					0.00		
			27,177.87			0.00	
NET SURPLUS / DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR			-8,819.31			0.00	
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			4,020.46			12,839.77	
BALANCE SHEET							
As at January 31st 2026							
(12 months)				(12 months)			
31/01/2026				31-Jan-25			
£				£			
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS							
Equipment (See Note)							
CURRENT ASSETS							
Current Account			3,986.75			4,087.70	
Savings Account			33.71			8752.07	
Camp deposits in advance			0.00			0.00	
Camp	0.00						
			4,020.46			12,839.77	
CURRENT LIABILITIES			0.00			0.00	
Net income in advance:			0.00			0.00	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			0.00			0.00	
Financed by:							
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			4,020.46			12,839.77	

	Doncaster Danum Scouts					
	Income and Expenditure Account					
	For the year to 31 March 2026					
	Scout Band Scout Group					
			(12 months)			(12 months)
			31/01/2026			31-Jan-25
			Revenue			Revenue
			£	£		£
	INCOME					
	Subs / Camps / Activities			475.00		0.00
	Activities / Camps			0.00		0.00
	Fund Raising / Donation			731.98		0.00
	Grant			973.00		0.00
	Other			199		
				2,378.98		0.00
	Less:					
	EXPENDITURE					
	Activities / Camps			102.66		0.00
	Vehicles			221.13		0.00
	Utilities			0.00		0.00
	Musical Equipment			1,023.34		0.00
	Other Equipment			249.99		0.00
	Rent			0.00		0.00
	Others / Sundries			1,040.30		0.00
						0.00
				2,637.42		0.00
	NET SURPLUS / DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR			-258.44		0.00
	FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			2,298.42		2,556.86
	BALANCE SHEET					
	For the part year to 13/03/26					
			(12 months)			(12 months)
			31/03/2026			31-Mar-25
			£			£
	TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS					
	Equipment (See Note)					
	CURRENT ASSETS					
	Current Account			1,686.64		2,457.88
	Cash			112.78		98.98
	Camp deposits in advance			499.00		0.00
	61st Airbourne	499.00				
				2,298.42		2,556.86
	CURRENT LIABILITIES			0.00		0.00
	Net income in advance:			0.00		0.00
	NET CURRENT ASSETS			0.00		0.00
	Financed by:					
	FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			2,298.42		2,556.86

Doncaster Danum Scouts						
Income and Expenditure Account						
For the year to 31 March 2026						
Squirrel Wood Camp						
		(12 months)			(12 months)	
		31/01/2026			31-Jan-25	
		Revenue			Revenue	
INCOME		£	£		£	£
Lodge Hire/Camps			30882.8			0.00
Activities			6,129.50			0.00
Donations & Grants			4,317.74			0.00
Shop Takings			2,706.20			0.00
Other			463.67			
			44,499.91			0.00
Less:						
EXPENDITURE						
Site Expenses		24,186.81			0.00	
Utilities		8,158.68			0.00	
Cost of Activities		7,631.18			0.00	
Insurance		3,580.94			0.00	
Shop Purchases		713.95			0.00	
Others / Sundries		250.00			0.00	
					0.00	
					0.00	
			44,521.56			0.00
NET SURPLUS / DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR			-21.65			0.00
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			34,384.24			
BALANCE SHEET						
For the part year to 13/03/26						
		(12 months)			(12 months)	
		31/01/2026			31-Mar-25	
		£			£	
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS						
Equipment (See Note)			54646.8			
CURRENT ASSETS						
Current Account			10,137.44			
Camp deposits in advance			0.00			0.00
Camp						
			10,137.44			0.00
CURRENT LIABILITIES						0.00
Net income in advance:		400				
Loan from Shop		30000	30400			0.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS			-20,262.56			0.00
Financed by:						
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			34,384.24			0.00

Doncaster Danum Scouts							
Income and Expenditure Account							
For the year to 31 January 2026							
UEXB Explorer Scout Group							
(12 months)				(12 months)			
31/01/2026				31-Jan-25			
Revenue				Revenue			
INCOME	£	£		£	£		
Subs / Camps / Activities			3,188.30				0.00
Loan Repayment							0.00
Bank Interest/fees							0.00
Donations			0.00				0.00
			3,188.30				0.00
Less:							
EXPENDITURE							
Activities		401.61			0.00		
Capitation		875.00			0.00		
Camps		1,062.03			0.00		
Activities		576.38			0.00		
Equipment		444.50			0.00		
Refund		80.00			0.00		
NT Membership		63.00			0.00		
Others / Sundries		0.00			0.00		
					0.00		
			3,502.52				0.00
NET SURPLUS / DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR			-314.22				0.00
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			5,280.68				5,594.90
BALANCE SHEET							
As at 31/1/26							
(12 months)				(12 months)			
31/01/2026				31-Jan-25			
£				£			
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS							
Equipment (See Note)							
CURRENT ASSETS							
Lloyds Bank current account (unrestricted funds)			5,208.68				5,594.90
Camp deposits in advance			0.00				0.00
Camp	0.00						
			5,208.68				5,594.90
CURRENT LIABILITIES			0.00				0.00
Net income in advance:			0.00				0.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS			0.00				0.00
Financed by:							
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			5,208.68				5,594.90

Doncaster Danum Scouts							
Income and Expenditure Account							
For the year to 31 January 2026							
UEXB Explorer Scout Group							
(12 months)				(12 months)			
31/01/2026				31-Jan-25			
Revenue				Revenue			
INCOME	£	£		£	£		
Subs / Camps / Activities			3,188.30				0.00
Loan Repayment							0.00
Bank Interest/fees							0.00
Donations			0.00				0.00
			3,188.30				0.00
Less:							
EXPENDITURE							
Activities		401.61			0.00		
Capitation		875.00			0.00		
Camps		1,062.03			0.00		
Activities		576.38			0.00		
Equipment		444.50			0.00		
Refund		80.00			0.00		
NT Membership		63.00			0.00		
Others / Sundries		0.00			0.00		
					0.00		
			3,502.52				0.00
NET SURPLUS / DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR			-314.22				0.00
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			5,280.68				5,594.90
BALANCE SHEET							
As at 31/1/26							
(12 months)				(12 months)			
31/01/2026				31-Jan-25			
£				£			
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS							
Equipment (See Note)							
CURRENT ASSETS							
Lloyds Bank current account (unrestricted funds)			5,208.68				5,594.90
Camp deposits in advance			0.00				0.00
Camp	0.00						
			5,208.68				5,594.90
CURRENT LIABILITIES			0.00				0.00
Net income in advance:			0.00				0.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS			0.00				0.00
Financed by:							
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			5,208.68				5,594.90

Doncaster Danum Scouts

Income and Expenditure Account

For the year to 31 January 2026

Vikings Explorers Scout Group

	(12 months)		(12 months)	
	31/01/2026		31-Jan-25	
	Revenue		Revenue	
INCOME	£	£	£	£
Membership		4,757.42		0.00
Events		3,273.70		0.00
Bank Interest/fees		0.00		0.00
Other		0.00		0.00
Donations		165.92		0.00
		8,197.04		0.00
Less:				
EXPENDITURE				
Membership	1,625.00		0.00	
Meetings	301.92		0.00	
Camping Equipment	360.00		0.00	
Rent	2,494.50		0.00	
Scout Shop	371.10		0.00	
Bank Fees	374.52		0.00	
Events	2,857.14		0.00	
Activity Equipment	412.63		0.00	
Donations	0.00		0.00	
Sundry Expenses	0.00		0.00	
		8,796.81		0.00
NET SURPLUS / DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR		-599.77		0.00
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD		3,184.63		3,784.40

BALANCE SHEET

As at January 31st 2026

	(12 months)		(12 months)	
	31/01/2026		31-Jan-25	
	£	£	£	£
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS				
Equipment (See Note)		0		0
CURRENT ASSETS				
		0.00		0.00
Lloyds Bank deposit account (unrestricted funds)		3,099.36		3,784.40
Cash in hand (Petty Cash)		85.27		0.00
Camp deposits in advance		0.00		0.00
		3,184.63		3,784.40
CURRENT LIABILITIES		0.00		0.00
Net income in advance:				
Other		0.00		0.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS		0.00		0.00
Financed by:				
FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD		3,184.63		3,784.40

Independent Examiner and Scrutineer Reports

Doncaster Scouts

Report from the Scrutineer

Overview

Following my appointment as scrutineer to Danum Scouts for the year ending January 31st, 2026, I carried out my review of the various entities under its umbrella.

Overall, I found that the accounts given to me show a true and fair view of the underlying records provided to me although I feel that the process could be improved as will be detailed in the rest of this report.

General Overview –

Bank Statements

The basic premise for assessing the validity of any of the entities whether that is the smallest Explorer group to more complex entities such as the Scout Shop and Squirrel Wood is the bank statement. Therefore, in all cases each set of accounts should come with a full 12-month worth of bank statements and if there are any transactions crossing the financial year then a copy of the first bank statement of the new financial year.

This will then enable the cross-checking of transactions to confirm the accuracy of the accounts to the underlying accounting records

Petty Cash

Several of the Groups have a petty cash float which is used for the purchase of incidentals. I was able to verify in all instances the income and expenditure, however Internal Control would be improved by the petty cash holder making a signed declaration at the Year End.

However, Internal Control would be further improved by removing the need for Petty Cash and instead reimbursing Group members via a BACS transfer.

Recording Transactions

Upon reviewing the various sets of accounts, it was noticeable that there were a variety of methods that have been employed to record individual entries. In some of the smaller Explorer groups, this is understandable, but nevertheless a move to standardise the method of recording accounting transactions would be hugely beneficial.

In addition to scrutinising these accounts I have also carried out the same role for the Hatfield, Edenthorpe and Armthorpe groups for several years. The system of recording used is an Excel

workbook with a series of interlinked individual spreadsheets which produce the details sufficient to produce a detailed Income & Expenditure statement and Balance Sheet for the period under review.

The process is centred around recording all Bank transactions which are input into the spreadsheet which is then coded to the appropriate Income, Expenditure and Balance Sheet codes.

This populates the accounts and then allows the preparation of the Accounts statement at a touch of a button.

The inputting of Bank Statements allows the scrutineer to corroborate the accuracy of the accounts by ensuring all entries are recorded and that the coding of those entries has been done appropriately and more importantly consistently.

This system is currently in use for both the Pegasus Explorer Group and the Water Sports Group and as such it would be very helpful if it was to be rolled out across the remaining entities with the potential exception of the Shop and Squirrel Wood.

Squirrel Wood

I am comfortable that the underlying accounts reflect the underlying position of Squirrel Wood, although it was necessary to make the following presentational changes to the accounts

- The loan of £30,000 was removed from income and moved into the Balance Sheet as a liability as it was still owed at the end of the Financial Year
- Equally, the purchase of the Polaris vehicle and Log splitter were removed from the Wood's expenditure and listed as a Fixed Asset as it is something that the Wood's operations will benefit from for several years. It will need to be depreciated in future years to reflect its usage over that period.

I understand that the Wood has obtained a Grant towards the purchase of these assets which will need to be reflected in the Balance Sheet and released in accordance with the depreciation of these assets.

Finally, due to the nature of the way in which Squirrel Wood charges the various Scouts group for the use of its facilities, which is to invoice the Groups at the end of the month and then await payment in the following weeks.

As a result of this, the Wood needs to run its accounts on an Accruals and Prepayments basis, so that it recognises both income and expenditure in the month and therefore the year it relates to. This will therefore mean that the accounts are more reflective of Squirrel Wood's operations

Scout Shop

As with Squirrel Wood, I am comfortable that the underlying accounts reflect the operating position of the Shop's operating position, although again I have felt it necessary to make the following adjustments;

- It was necessary to move from Income and Expenditure the various Loan entries and reflecting them in the Balance Sheet as appropriate. This is because they will be repaid in

the 2026/2027 and would therefore for a second year distort the operating position of the Shop

- In addition, as the 31st of January 2026 was on a Saturday and a majority of the takings are electronic, I have made an adjustment to take care of these payments which were not recorded in the bank account until several days later

Whilst carrying out this review I have made the following observations which I feel will improve the presentation of the Accounts as well as improving Internal Controls.

On Internal Controls, the end of year Stock Sheet should be certified by the Shop Manager as being correct.

The Shop should record all purchases in the month that they are received not the month that they are paid. This will mean that the Shop will have a creditor balance at the year end.

At the same time, the Shop which operates a monthly account service for individual Scout groups, should record these sales in the month that are made. Thus the Shop will have a Debtor Balance at the Financial Year end, along with those electronic payments which straddle the Year End.

Danum Central Accounts

The major entry in these accounts is the membership fees from local Scout Groups, which amount to over £83,000 in the year in question, unfortunately there is no summary provided by which the individual payments could be easily checked against.

If the Excel workbook highlighted above is used then this would be made possible, by making a small addition to the coding analysis on the Bank Statements tab to identify the individual Scout Group.

This additional code would then be linked to an additional spreadsheet with columns for the expected and actual contributions. This will enable the easier monitoring of outstanding payments.

Inter Group Balances

Due to several circumstances, there have been several intergroup movements of monies between the various entities. These have been recorded in the individual entries as Income or Expenditure as appropriate but this overstates the position of both. Equally the repayment of such entries would also distort the trading position in the year of repayment, as such they have been reclassified into the Balance Sheet as a Debtor or Creditor as appropriate.

Alternative Option for Year End Accounting on the Scout Shop

As of 31st January, each year make the following adjustments

- **Any Goods received by the shop but not yet paid for should be accounted for by increasing purchases and creating a creditor balance**

- **Any sales made by the shop on a credit basis should be accounted for by increasing sales and creating a debtor balance**
- **As the Shop takes electronic payments, it will always be a probability that payments taken close to the end of January will not be cleared through the bank until early February at the earliest, thus there needs to be an adjustment to the bank account**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Vikings Explorer Group**

I report on the accounts of the group for the year ended **31 January 2026**

Which comprise the statement of financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Group's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Charities Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Group and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiners statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, ant material respect, the requirements
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act ; and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: **Ian Harmer**

Address: **3 Pinfold Court Barnby Dun**
Doncaster, DN3 1RQ

Date: **02/07/2026**

Signed:

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
UEXB Explorer Group**

I report on the accounts of the group for the year ended **31 January 2026**

Which comprise the statement of financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity trustees for my examination work.

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2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: **Ian Harmer**

Address: **3 Pinfold Court Barnby Dun**
Doncaster, DN3 1RQ

Date: **02/07/2026**

Signed:

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Doncaster Danum Scout Group**

I report on the accounts of the group for the year ended **31 January 2026**

Which comprise the statement of financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Group's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

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2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: **Ian Harmer**

Address: **3 Pinfold Court Barnby Dun**
Doncaster, DN3 1RQ

Date: **11/07/2026**

Signed:

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Doncaster Danum Scout Shop**

I report on the accounts of the group for the year ended **31 January 2026**

Which comprise the statement of financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Group's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

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2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: **Ian Harmer**

Address: **3 Pinfold Court Barnby Dun**
Doncaster, DN3 1RQ

Date: **11/07/2026**

Signed:

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Scout Band Scout Group**

I report on the accounts of the group for the year ended **31 January 2026**

Which comprise the statement of financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Group's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

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Basis of Independent Examiners report

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2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: **Ian Harmer**

Address: **3 Pinfold Court Barnby Dun**
Doncaster, DN3 1RQ

Date: **02/07/2026**

Signed:

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Ravens Explorer Group**

I report on the accounts of the group for the year ended **31 January 2026**

Which comprise the statement of financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Group's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Charities Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
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Basis of Independent Examiners report

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2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: **Ian Harmer**

Address: **3 Pinfold Court Barnby Dun**
Doncaster, DN3 1RQ

Date: **02/07/2026**

Signed:

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Squirrel Wood Camp**

I report on the accounts of the group for the year ended **31 January 2026**

Which comprise the statement of financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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Basis of Independent Examiners report

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2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: **Ian Harmer**

Address: **3 Pinfold Court Barnby Dun**
Doncaster, DN3 1RQ

Date: **02/07/2026**

Signed:

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Squirrel Wood Camp**

I report on the accounts of the group for the year ended **31 January 2026**

Which comprise the statement of financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity trustees for my examination work.

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Basis of Independent Examiners report

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2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: **Ian Harmer**

Address: **3 Pinfold Court Barnby Dun**
Doncaster, DN3 1RQ

Date: **02/07/2026**

Signed:

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Water Activities Explorer Group**

I report on the accounts of the group for the year ended **31 January 2026**

Which comprise the statement of financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Group's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

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Basis of Independent Examiners report

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2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: **Ian Harmer**

Address: **3 Pinfold Court Barnby Dun**
Doncaster, DN3 1RQ

Date: **02/07/2026**

Signed:

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Atlas Explorer Group**

I report on the accounts of the group for the year ended **31 January 2026**

Which comprise the statement of financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Group's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

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1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, ant material respect, the requirements
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act ; and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: **Ian Harmer**

Address: **3 Pinfold Court Barnby Dun**
Doncaster, DN3 1RQ

Date: **02/07/2026**

Signed:

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Pegasus Explorer Group**

I report on the accounts of the group for the year ended **31 January 2026**

Which comprise the statement of financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Group's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Charities Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Group and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiners statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, ant material respect, the requirements
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act ; and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: **Ian Harmer**

Address: **3 Pinfold Court Barnby Dun**
Doncaster, DN3 1RQ

Date: **02/07/2026**

Signed:

10. Appoint an Independent Examiner for the accounts

The Board proposed Doncaster Danum Scout Council re-appoints Harmer Associates as the Independent Examiner for the accounts

11. Appoint the members of the District Trustee Board

The Board of Trustees consists of between five and twelve Trustees.

- District Lead Volunteer (ex-officio)
- District Youth Lead (ex-officio)
- Up to Ten appointed or co-opted Trustees with specific skills sets as identified by the Board.
- Two separate Trustees must hold the appointments of Chair and Treasurer

District Trustee Board 2025-2026

The Trustee Board for 2025-26 is given below along with the date members were appointed for.

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. David Plant | (ex-officio) District Lead Volunteer |
| 2. Sam Fin | (ex-officio) District Youth Lead |
| 3. Ailsa Johnson | (2024-2027) – Chair |
| 4. Clive Sott | (2024-2027) – Treasurer |
| 5. James Hagyard | (2024-2027) |
| 6. Megan McAteer | (2024-2027) |
| 7. Rob Parkes | (2024-2027) |
| 8. John Green | (2024-2027) |
| 9. Glynis Robinson | (2024-2027) |
| 10. Liz Howitt | (2024-2027) |
| 11. Joanne Cooper | (2024-2027) |
| 12. Heather Johnson | (2025-2028) – young member |

Andy McAteer - District Trustee Board Administrator

Appointment to the Trustee Board 2026-27

The Trustee Board members above with the exception of Heather Johnson were all appointed for three years in 2024.

The Trustee Board has determined that the current Board covers the range of skills and experience the Board needs to deliver its objectives, using the matrix set out in Appendix 1.

Open Selection Process

Board to identify which Trustees are: a. Coming to the end of their term and their wish to continue or stand down b. Wishing to stand down before the end of their term c. To be asked to stand down due to performance and/or attendance issues 2. Board to review the skills/experience matrix (appendix 1) and identify: a. Any changes in the skills base required by the Board's priorities b. The gaps required to be filled as part of the recruitment and selection process 3. Board to produce a recruitment pack to be circulated around the District and to other organisations as relevant. Expressions of interest to be made via an online expression of interest/application form. 4. Board to review expressions of interest/applications and agree suitable Trustees for appointment meeting the needs matrix. Where multiple expressions of interest with the same skills/experience are received a further selection process may be carried out by the Board. 5. Where there is no suitable candidate, the vacancy will not be filled (as long as at least five Trustees are on the Board) and attempts will be made to fill the gap during the year via co-option. 6. The outcome of the process will be confirmed at the 2027 AGM.

12. To Note: representative to the Scout County Council

13. District Chair thanks

14. Date and venue of next District Scout Council

The next meeting of the District Scout Council will be advised

15. Close of business

APPENDIX 1

Appendix 1: Skills/Experience Matrix (reviewed 2026)

The Trustee Board has determined the following matrix to cover the range of skills and experience the Board needs to deliver its objectives.

1. Governance

- a. Chairing meetings
- b. Experience in a leadership role
- c. Legal duties of trustees and best practice in governance
- d. Charity law and compliance
- e. Strategic planning
- f. Monitoring and evaluating organisational performance
- g. Measuring outcomes and impact
- h. Conflict resolution/mediation
- i. Risk management
- j. Change management
- k. Safety
- l. Safeguarding
- m. Data protection
- n. Project management
- o. Negotiation and contract management
- p. Policy development
- q. Equity, diversity and inclusion
- r. Health and safety
- s. Facilities/property management
- t. Regulatory and/or policy issues in
- u. Experience in the voluntary youth sector
- v. Digital strategy and leadership including cyber security and data management

2. People

- a. HR management (Employees)
- b. Volunteer management

3. Finance

- a. Business acumen
- b. Accountancy
- c. Financial planning/budgeting/processing and systems
- d. Auditing
- e. Understanding accounts and scrutiny of financial information

4. Marketing

- a. Branding and brand development
- b. Marketing strategy and communications
- c. Public relations
- d. Digital marketing
- e. Social media

5. Fundraising

- a. Fundraising strategy and management