

Scouts **Churchdown**



AGM Report 2021

Churchdown Scout Group AGM Agenda 2021

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Brown Lodge Management Chair's Report 2021

Sometimes I feel like we have been in a time warp. I can't believe another year has gone by, but it also feels like time has stood still! It was only this May that Brown Lodge started to see the partial return of the Scouting Sections and more recently the Guiding Units. The Coronavirus Pandemic has certainly hit everyone's ability to do activities. The money to run Brown Lodge comes from its use, so as you can imagine without it being used, financially things were going to suffer.

The Brown Lodge Management Committee did not feel they could charge rent to the Scout Group and District Guides for the use of Brown Lodge whilst they were unable to meet and were in the position of not having normal income themselves. Fortunately, the Government awarded some Covid Grants to keep places like Brown Lodge functioning.

The coronavirus outbreak and lockdown has held everything up. We are still working towards getting the toilet facilities upgraded. It is really hard to get quotations for the work so we can submit an application for a grant, but we still continue to try. Although, we have managed to get some carpark repairs done and have a height barrier installed.

This year on the 27th November 2021 it will be 50 years since Brown Lodge was opened and the Committee are currently making plans for celebrations to mark this occasion.

We now have a Carolyn Adkins who comes in and gives Brown Lodge a thorough clean every few weeks and this has been met with great approval. Thank you, Carolyn, for keeping Brown Lodge spick and span. Of course, we still need users to leave Brown Lodge in a manner they would hope to find it.

Graham James continues to cut the grass at the rear of BL and maintain other areas of the garden. He also helps Paul Gait and Chris Williams who sort a lot of Brown Lodges routine maintenance. Other thanks go to Pierre Wienzweg who looks after the adjustment and timing of the heating for lettings, this helps ensure costs are kept to a minimum.

We hire Brown Lodge out to others who are not part of the Scout and Guide movements, this helps with its upkeep. Thank you again to Paul Gait who looks after these hirings.

The Committee have, once again, given me great support and I would like to thank them for all their hard work throughout the past year.

Debbie Auld - Chair Brown Lodge Management

Gang Show AGM Report 2021

Sadly, despite consideration and efforts to pull together a short on-line Churchdown Gang Show for 2021, leader availability and uncertainty has led to us having to abandon plans.

A kick-off Gang Show meeting for 2022 will be held this side of Christmas to encourage everyone to get back on board (crew) and then the work can resume to pull the programme together, recruit a cast early and turn 2022 into a Churchdown Gang Show to remember. If my maths is right, it will be our 20th (Gang) Show and 2023 would be our 40th anniversary... so a celebration Show in lots of ways.

Please can anyone interested in helping or participating in any way drop me an email so that we can start sorting roles and get this show rolling.

All committee posts will be re-voted in at the next AGM, prior to the next Gang Show.

Jane Fraser-Hook

Chair

jefraserhook@hotmail.com

CHURCHDOWN SCOUT GROUP AGM MINUTES – 30TH SEPTEMBER 2020
(VIA ZOOM)

Present : Matt Wadley, Carolyn Adkins, Dave Adkins, Maurice Chalker, Sara Stone, Debbie Auld, Ann Bennett, Caz Finch, Graham Speare, Mel Griffiths, Jacky Hall, Roger Smith, Julie Smith, Andy Riley, Paul Barnard, Clare James, Tom Blacker, Louise Fazeli, Wendy Cox, Richard Auld, Paul Gait, Helen Gait, Jane Frazer-Hook, Tom Batchelor, Konstantino, Keren Needle, Bethany Adkins, Coral, Simon Ball, Gary James

Apologies : Brian Finch, Hazel Finch, Jessica Hannington, Dave Walesby

Welcome to the meeting by Debbie

Brown Lodge Management AGM

Annual Report and Financial Report retained in AGM booklet. On behalf of Hazel (Treasurer), Paul Gait reported on a successful financial year. A new regular income this year comes from the Inspire Dance Studio. Thanks to Paul for overseeing our regular financial arrangements.

The basement pumps were replaced following flooding, and roof repairs were also carried out.

No questions to Paul regarding accounts.

Debbie (Chairman) thanked committee for their continued work and support.

Vote to adopt report – 100% accept

Churchdown Gang Show AGM

Jane reported that there has been no Show since last AGM, and that 2020 Show has been postponed due to COVID19, potentially until October 2021.

Only change to the financial statement is a £66 donation from Chosen Photography.

All volunteers are welcome to join the team for the next Show, particularly for the Costume department please.

Adoption of last year's Churchdown Scout Group's AGM minutes

Vote to adopt minutes – 95% accept

Treasurer's Report

On behalf of Brian (Treasurer), Carolyn read a summary of the financial report which is retained in the AGM booklet. With fundraising curtailed by

COVID19, Brian is keen to ensure our parents continue to understand the importance of Gift Aid refunds to the Group as an excellent source of income. Thanks to Dave Walesby for organising this. No questions for the Treasurer.

Vote to adopt report – 100% accept

Election of Officers

Chair – Debbie Auld to continue; she would like to re-elect the committee as a whole, Treasurer – Brian Finch, Secretary – Carolyn Adkins, GSL- Debbie Auld, Committee members – Maurice Chalker, Jacky Hall, Helen Gait, Clare James, Simon Ball, Clair Auld

Vote to re-elect whole committee – 95% accept

Section Reports

Retained in AGM booklet

GSL's Report

Retained in AGM booklet. Debbie will explain the implications of COVID19 with respect to Scouting, to parents by email shortly, once full guidance is received from HQ. She thanked all Leaders and supporters for their continued assistance.

Subscriptions for 2020/2021

The Executive Committee propose keeping subs at £40 per term once face to face Scouting returns to normal. In the meantime, subs will be £20 per term from September 2020.

Vote to accept proposal – 95%

Awards

GSL Awards presented as follows: GSL Bell – Joan Trinder for many years of help and support to the Group. Lifeline Trophy – Clare and Gary James for successfully taking over the running of Scout Post. Phoenix Award – Louise Fazeli for keeping the Beavers section active and engaged with a full online programme since lock-down began in March.

AOB

Clair Auld would like to thank Tom and Andy for their and support and assistance with running the Explorer section during her maternity break; also thanks to SAS for back-up to Tom and Andy during this time.

Meeting closed.



BEAVER ANNUAL REPORT



Life is slowly coming back to before March 2020 when the world was hit by COVID19, and Beavers have continued through the pandemic via Zoom and accepted doing challenges albeit modified to comply with government restrictions. This was largely due to the support of parents who had to also accept the challenges set for Beavers that helped to Carry on Scouting and we still have Beavers working towards the Great Indoors badge but overall, we've aimed to achieve the highest award while in Beavers, the Bronze Chief Scout Challenge Award. The end result is a positive impact following a programme that continued to have flexibility and the opportunity to gain skills to prepare them for the future at all different achievement levels.

The colony averaged 21 regularly attending the Zoom meetings and we also continued inviting new Beavers who accepted life in lockdown, and we had many who did virtual investitures and swimming ups to Cubs. Overall, everyone has been eagerly awaiting to either get back to Brown Lodge or see it for the first time.

The highlight at the beginning of the year was to do a virtual sleepover themed on the Space Badge. It was exciting with several Zoom sessions during the evening and morning starting with a Zoom breakfast followed by more space themed activities supported with photos to show how their sleeping bags were set up, who were their night time companions, doing their washing up after breakfast and packing up!

Beavers had their first adventurous activity at the Climbing Warehouse in June, and we did have our first meeting in Brown Lodge which was the last one of the term, in the garden, making bread twists and learning campfire songs. At the start of the holidays, when some more restrictions were being lifted, Beavers were invited by the Scout Troup to have sleepover under canvas at their summer camp green field site – our sleepovers are usually indoors with pop up tents! Beavers had an amazing time, wide games, moth trapping, singing campfire songs, cooking bananas stuffed with chocolate and tying knots to name but a few. What a night it was although we still used the pop up tents but they were inside one of the huge marquees with en suite facilities of a toilet tent!

Throughout this time Beavers have been beavering away at gaining as many badges as lockdown and restrictions allowed including some being achieved individually:



Builder, Cook, Creative, Cyclist, Experiment, Global Issues, Photographer, Safety, Space,



Air Activities, Digital Citizen, Emergency Aid, The Great Indoors, Navigator, Nights Away



My Adventure, My Outdoors, My Skills, My World, Teamwork and Personal

This term, we returned to Brown Lodge, meeting Face2Face and now catching up with team games, challenges and problem solving together while thinking about others. Our Young Leaders have shown good scouting skills and initiative and we are really appreciative of their help.

Tic-tac / Keo
Louise Fazeli / Keren Needle
The Beaver Leadership Team
September 2021

Cub Scout Section - Grey Pack

Annual Report 2020 – 2021

The last year has been a very challenging year. Many of our older Cubs haven't been to a face-to-face meeting post covid. It was great to be able to meet face to face before Christmas even if we were having to split the pack in half and run our meetings slightly different. As the country then went back into another lockdown we enjoyed our virtual meetings on Zoom, we had some visitors who joined us virtually including Chris Auker-Howlett who spoke about the poppy and the meaning behind it and Megan, who is a Disabled cub leader who helped us with our disability badge. The Cubs enjoyed taking part in the Virtual Cotswold Marathon where we set some challenges to find some of our Local Landmark for their "Local Knowledge" badge as well as working towards their "Navigation" badge learning how to find six-digit references and they were set some places to navigate to in Churchdown. After a year's break we were able to hold our Pinewood Derby but in a slightly different form. The Cubs were given their cars to modify and design and then the leaders set the track up and filmed the race over a weekend. It was then watched over Zoom with a final goodbye to Graham who came up to help us with the race.

It was then great to be back in Brown Lodge and we had some great evenings including learning to light fires, Den Building up the hill and we ended our summer term with our annual BBQ and swimming at David Walesby's house.

We had hoped that we were able to hold our yearly Cub Camp in May but due to Covid we decided that it would not be feasible. In July this year we were able to use the site of the Scout Camp in Turley for a night's stay where the Cubs enjoyed getting out to play games, cook on open fires and build shelters. After the summer we started back with the whole pack for the first time in 18 Months it was great to be back to normal and have the Cubs back in their sixes. We had a great visit to the Churchdown Bowls Club to learn a new skill for our skills badge and last night we said farewell to Matt Wadley who has a new job with Disney working on a Cruise Ship, we had an International Evening where the Cubs learnt about the Mexican culture, tradition and food. Thank you to all those who have volunteered and helped us over this year.

Churchdown Grey Pack Leaders



Scout Section Annual Report 2020/2021

This report covers the twelve months to Easter 2021.

Like everyone else, we started the year in Lockdown. We had some Scouts take part in the "We Will Survive Camp" at home, and others contributed videos to "Give COVID The Boot" and the "Necker Flip Challenge". The promise renewal on St George's Day was online and videos were posted to Online Scout Manager by many scouts.

In July we sadly said goodbye to Keith Foord. Keith was my predecessor and was very involved with Churchdown Scouts for many years, in the latter years helping out when he felt able to.

In October, we restarted Scouts online with the Zoom account. Despite being "Zoomed out" by School, I'm pleased to say that numbers remained fairly constant throughout.

Activities included a Remembrance Talk from Chris Auken-Howlett, Mel's Art Attack, Napkin Folding, Christmas Party, Building a Bottle Boat, Djembe Drums, Pancake Night, (it was nice not to have to clear up spilt pancake etc from the floor at Brown Lodge) a Fitness Workout, Scouts made Woggles, Learned how to fold their Neckers, decorated an Easter Egg and played "Taskmaster". Each meeting would start and or finish with a game, the best by far was to see Scouts racing off to find obscure items from around their homes.

We took part in the Virtual Cotswold Marathon, (Churchdown had the biggest team and walked the furthest) and the Big Garden Bird Watch, but I think the birds knew what was going on and refused come out.

We managed to do the Meteorologist & Hobbies Badges online

Scout numbers have fallen to 32. We lost about a dozen members during Lockdown who just drifted away, but we have taken in new members both from Cubs and the waiting list.

Finally, I would like to thank all the Leaders for their help and support, without which none of this would have been possible.

Richard Auld. Scout Section Leader.

Phoenix Explorers AGM Report 2021

This year we have moved from online sessions to meeting face to face. All of autumn and most of winter was online, save for a couple of outdoor sessions in December 2020 in between lockdowns but then a few more months of online sessions. In late March, one week before the Easter holidays, we met for our first evening back and were glad to have a dozen Explorers. We planned outdoor-only sessions for the term including: kayaking on the River Severn near Tewkesbury (thanks to help of Dave Adkins and Rich Auld), cycling, axe throwing and pizza making. It became a very successful summer term including a night camping by Haw Bridge on Wednesday 28th July which was enjoyed by all.

We have had a termly planning session, scavenger hunt for A-Z of place names in Churchdown and a campfire night so far this autumn term. Attendance has remained higher than pre-lockdown levels with 12,15 and 19 in the first three weeks of the autumn term, since resuming on 6th September.

Looking ahead, 15 Explorers plus Tom from the leader team) are due to attend Beast, the County camp at Cranham Scout Centre on the weekend of 15-17th October.

We have had one Chief Scout's Platinum awardee this year so far, being Isabelle Fraser-Hook, with several more on the way and others on plan to achieve the Queen's Scout Award in 2022.

We have had Adrienne Ford join as an additional assistant leader for the Autumn Term as we have lost Andy and Jim from the team. We are coping but juggling schedules so at least three of four adult leaders can be present. We would like one or two more hands on board for any willing helpers to make the task of managing 12-19 young people at the weekly meetings.

Tom Blacker

Scout Active Support AGM Report 2021

It's been a rather stilted year with SAS helping out where they can at various requests. However, especially with the impact of Covid-19, having a few extra pairs of hands available to stand in where needed has never been more appreciated.

Our remit as SAS for Churchdown Scouts is essentially to be a helper reserve list, or a reserve party to support or organise special one off events.

So how does it work? What's the commitment to be part of SAS? It's simply a case of signing up, getting a DBS check done and doing an on-line safeguarding course. Then being added to the list. If extra help is needed, leaders contact me, and I simply email the whole reserve list and if anyone is available, they can opt to help. Simple!

I am hoping that we can sort a social soon too so we can meet for a drink somewhere 😊

Interested / willing and able to join us? Email me if you want to find out more: jefraserhook@hotmail.com

Group Scout Leader AGM Report 2021

Despite the pandemic numbers in the Sections remain strong and we still have a waiting list of young people wanting to join us. Although we started this year still in a lockdown situation with Scouting in Churchdown being delivered online, we finished it with all Sections giving some face-to-face Scouting.

The can do attitude of our dedicated leaders ended this Scouting year by having a Summer Camp like no other in the history of the Group. This involved leaders from all Sections of the Group working together and giving the young people from every Section the opportunity to experience time outdoors in a camping environment. It was great to see all the young people outdoors, laughing and having fun. I think we may be the only Group in the District to have done this. Many thanks to all leaders involved but especially to Dave Adkins and Richard Auld who were the main Camp Leaders.

Each Section over this past year will have had its own challenges I know but the restrictions placed on returning to, somewhere near normal, Scouting has made things even more challenging. Support from our Scout Active Support Section and our Occasional Helpers has been invaluable. So, I would like to take the opportunity to thank them.

On the 30th of August 2021 one of our old Cub Leaders, Alan Hopkins, passed away. Many in the Group will remember him as 'Big Al'. Alan was involved in Scouting for many years and in Gloucester District was renowned for his ability to be the best Campfire Leader. My first memory of Alan was during a Churchdown Family Camp at Youlbury, where he held the attention of everyone and made the surrounding woods echo with Campfire Songs. It was quite magical.

Finally, I wish to express my thanks to all the Leaders and the Executive Committee for their hard work and support to me as Group Scout Leader. I consider Churchdown Scouts to be incredibly lucky to have such dedicated people keeping the Group functioning and providing Scouting to such a high standard.

Debbie Auld – Group Scout Leader