**AGM – 2018 The Chair’s Report**

I would like initially just to recognise the help of the many people who helped us reopen 1st Hampton in Arden Scout Group in April 2017. Especially the support we have received from the District and County Commissioners Shirley and Liz. It has been a fantastic year for everyone involved.

The Group Executive Committee plays a vital role in the running of a Scout Group, making decisions and carrying out administrative tasks to ensure that the best quality Scouting can be delivered to the young people in the Group. Members of the Executive Committee must act collectively as charity trustees of the Scout Group, and in the best interests of its members.

The current 1st Hampton in Arden Scout Group Executive Committee is made up of the following members:

Rhona Cloke (Group Chairman); Natalie Thornton (Group Secretary); Melanie Sanders (Group Treasurer); Alistair Jarratt (elected member – Cub parent); Mark Cloke (Beaver Scout Leader); Katie Shinner (Assistant Cub Scout Leader); Lisa Swann (Scout Leader); Vicky Woodall (Group Scout Leader)

The Executive Committee has met formally on 7 occasions in the year, with much work undertaken in between. I would like to express my warm thanks to all members of the Executive for their efforts over the course of 2017-18. In addition, I would like to thank all the parents for their support at our fundraising events.

I would like to thank the Hampton Scout and Guide Hut Supporters Association for the Group’s use of the Hut and accommodating our needs this year. This physical space has enabled the Group’s scouting activities to flourish. We will continue to support their fund raising events as best we can for this amazing facility to continue in the future.

The Group has been an active and visible presence in the local community. Beavers and Cubs turned out smartly and in great numbers at the Remembrance Day Parade and Service in November, laying wreathes on behalf the Group. We supported the Hampton Festival: running the BBQ and other stalls, and attending the outdoor service. We have supported the village tidy up and Christmas Post. Scouting in the local community is and will continue to be an important part of what we do.

During on first year our numbers have grown:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **Beavers** | **Cubs** | **Scouts** | **Adults** | **TOTAL** |
| **Start 2017** | 21 | 8 | 0 | 4 | 36 |
| **2018** | 23 | 28 | 0 | 7 | 58 |

The Group continues to grow with a Scout group planned for September, and this is without doubt due to the active and fun programme of Scouting delivered across Beaver and Cub sections of the Group, under the leadership of Vicky Woodall, our Group Scout Leader. All of our Leaders and Supporters put in a huge amount of time and effort to ensure that our young people have best possible Scouting experience. I am pleased that we have the opportunity to acknowledge their contributions and to thank them at this year’s AGM.