



Central Ribbleton Scout Headquarters

**Annual Report 23rd June 2026 at 6.15pm
& Financial Statements**

**For the
Year Ended 28th February 2026**

Central Ribbleton Scout Group



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in May 2025

Central Ribbleton Scout Trustee Board

Annual General Meeting

14th May 2025, 6pm

MINUTES

Attendees: Natalie Cross, Lee Clark, Obianuju Ijeoma, Karen Houldgreaves, George Preston, Ryan Brown, Cuirnan Brown, Barbara Bates, Lesley Ann Stickley, Andrew Stickley, Julia Worden, Kevin Stickley, Malgorzata Guber, Emily Barry, Neil Darby, Lola Cross, Clare Kennedy (District Lead Volunteer)

1. Introductions and welcome by Neil Darby.
2. Apologies. None.
3. Governance topics
 - a. Previous minutes approved.
 - b. Constitution from the POR readopted. Amended due to starting the Squirrels group this year.
 - c. Noted the group's financial year. Treasurer Kevin Stickley: £2104 operating profit before capitation fee leading to £600 deficit. Further fundraising required as running at a deficit. Gift aid will be claimed and backdated. Further ideas for fundraising are welcome.
 - d. Approved the appointed and community members of the Group Trustee Board (GTB).
 - e. Agreed 10 members to be appointed to the Trustee Board. Unanimous.
 - f. Agreed the quorum of 3 for future meetings of the GTB. Unanimous.
4. Reviewed the previous year:
 - a. Lesley Ann (Group Lead Volunteer) review: New Squirrel drey opened 8 weeks ago. Recruitment of adult team members ongoing. Waiting list in place for Squirrels. Thanks to all of the volunteer team members for time and effort that goes into making the group a success. Hope to go on a group camp soon.
 - b. Annual report and statement of accounts received.
 - c. Review of each section:
 - i. Squirrels – Section opened mid-March with 13 attending. Kids are enthusiastic. A few due to move up to Beavers in September with several on waiting list old enough to join. 2 new team members.
 - ii. Beavers – please see annual report. A busy year with various trips and badges. Kindness project -visiting the Glades Care Home at Christmas. Young Leader Rainbow is a great help. Tinkerbell has had to step down – many thanks to her.
 - iii. Cubs – Julia Worden has now taken over as group leader. 3 recently gone up to Scouts so group now at 19. Due to a lack of volunteer leaders, the group hasn't been able to do as many activities. More leaders are needed.
 - iv. Scouts – please see annual report. Scout numbers have struggled since Christmas. New leader started on May 1st – there is a new buzz and excitement with a new

program in place. 3 camps since last year including Red Rose Jamboree and Winter Camp 'I'm a Scout get me out of here!'

- v. District – report from Clare Kennedy, District Lead Volunteer: Lots of groups are struggling to recruit volunteers. Encouragement for all parents to join the parent rotas – you don't have to do any training or fill in forms. Suggestion made that some college students need volunteer experience for their courses e.g. Health and Social Care, DofE. Would need to be over 18 to count in numbers. District do have a stall at the uni freshers fair and council's volunteer week. This group 'does amazing things'! Also discussed possibility of charging parents directly for badges.
- vi. Chair Neil Darby thanked all the volunteers.

5. Appointments:

- a. Group chair Neil Darby appointed. Unanimous.
- b. Group treasurer Kevin Stickley appointed. Unanimous.
- c. Retaining GTB members except Barbara Bates. Lee Clark also appointed as trustee. Unanimous.
- d. Scrutineer Brian Livingstone appointed. Unanimous.

6. Closing remarks:

- a. Gift aid. New parents to be asked if they'd like to sign up.
- b. Parent rotas. Being a Scout leader is incredibly rewarding. We also need people to help with fundraising, joining trustees – all of these roles help too.
- c. Thanks to Barbara Bates for all her hard work over a very many years serving the group. Barbara has been involved for 60 years Scouting in this area. She says that she's enjoyed everything she's done.
- d. Thanks to Lesley Ann for all of her very hard work for the group.

Constitution & Purpose

The Scout Group is constituted in the terms of the Rules of The Scout Association, which is a charitable body incorporated by the Royal Charter.

The purpose of The Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities. The methods of achieving the aim of the association are by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult volunteer teams.

Trustees

Neil Darby	Chairperson
Kevin Stickley	Treasurer
Lesley-Ann Stickley	Group Lead Volunteer
Ann-Marie Phuong	Co-opted
Lee Clark	Co-opted
Phil Elliott	Co-opted
Andrew Stickley	18-26 Representative
Julia Worden	Cub Section Team Lead
Malgorzata Guber	Squirrel Section Team Lead

Trustees are recruited and appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation & Rules (POR) of the Scout Association.

The Trustee Board Chairperson's review of Scouts during the past 12 months in the Central Ribbleton Scout Group.

Welcome and General Overview Welcome to the 2026 Annual General Meeting. Taking stock of the past year, I am pleased to report that Scouting at Central Ribbleton continues to flourish. Our overarching aim remains the same as always: to equip our young people with essential life skills, encourage lifelong friendships, and foster the resilience needed to face whatever challenges life brings. Above all, our brilliant volunteer leader team remains committed to ensuring these experiences are consistently positive and full of fun.

Section Growth and Achievements We are proud of the group's steady growth, now providing a broad range of activities to over 70 children across all sections. Our newest addition, the Squirrel Drey, has celebrated an exceptionally busy first full year. The section has expanded to 17 young people, who collectively earned an incredible 290 badges. Likewise, the Scout section has made highly positive progress, stabilising at 15 young people organised into three active patrols. Across the board, our scouts should be immensely proud of their hard work and dedication. In particular, I would like to highlight the outstanding achievements of the Chief Scout Awards: 1 Acorn Award in Squirrels, 6 Silver Awards in Cubs, and no fewer than 13 Bronze Awards in Beavers. Congratulations to all of the young people involved – the whole Group is very proud of you all.

Financial Update and Sustainability At last year's AGM, a £600 operating deficit was noted. I am pleased that this year we are noting a strong financial position for 2025–2026. Due to consistent subscription income and careful management by the treasurer, alongside dedicated fundraising efforts (including successful raffles, the Easy fundraising initiative, and community grants like the Tesco blue token scheme) we have concluded the year with a healthy operating surplus. This financial stability ensures we can maintain the HQ and keep our diverse activity programmes as affordable as possible for all families.

Community and Volunteer Appreciation None of our achievements would be possible without working in partnership as a community. I would like to personally thank our Group Lead Volunteer, Lesley-Ann Stickley, alongside the fantastic Squirrel, Beaver, Cub, and Scout leadership teams. I am also very grateful to my colleagues on the Trustee Board and our maintenance volunteers. To the parents, carers, and grandparents who provide vital unseen support, including essential transportation, thank you. Finally, we would like to thank our generous community partners, including The Blessed Sacrament RC Church, St Mary Magdalene Church, Billington Lodge, Anna Hindle (when in role as our local councillor), and the surrounding schools.

Looking Ahead (2026–2027) As we look to the future, we have full programmes of camps, outings, and competitions prepared for the coming year. However, these can only continue if we successfully recruit more adult volunteers and section team members. I cannot stress how important it is that more volunteers join our team: everything that we accomplish is only possible due to their hard work and our current numbers are unsustainable in the long term. While it can be demanding, it is the most rewarding decision leading to the pride and joy of watching young people growing into their best selves, and making lifelong friends for yourself as a volunteer. And even if you can only commit a little time, it frees up our lead volunteers to be able to do more.

We will also be focusing on youth empowerment; in the coming months, we will be looking to create a role for our young people to have direct representation on the Trustee Board, ensuring their voices help steer the future of the group.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Neil Darby

Chair, Central Ribbleton Scout Trustee Board

Treasurer's Report 28th Feb 2026

The Scout group has had a very good year financially.

Income from subscriptions has slightly increased over the year, mainly with a new section, Squirrel Scouts, being added to the group, and a £1 increase in the monthly fee.

We made an operating profit for the year of £4,290. This, of course will remain in the group to help fund the following year. This does sound a lot, however £2,222 came directly from donations and Grants. So, without this generosity the group would be struggling.

We've had some financial challenges, but we have managed to cut the gas bill from £576 to £400, due to vigilance from leaders, turning the heating down when in the hut. However, the electricity bill has nearly doubled, £158 to £305! This is due to the price of supply going up.

Badges are an important part of Scouting; we have spent £1,672 on badges. This is a £500 increase from the previous year. The price of badges has gone up again, but we have also now had 4 sections this year. Well done to all the hard work put in by Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts who've earned them, and the leaders who have also worked very hard with the young people on their badge work. We have been noticed in District as a group with armfuls of badges! They look very impressive, so keep it up.

Another big cost for the group is Membership Capitation fee, the Scout Association Insurance charge, that increased from £2,704 (March 2024) to £2,824.55 (March 2025) And we've been told next time there will be big increase to £4,222 (March 2026).

Event spending has dropped by over £2,000. We haven't had the leader numbers to organise camps, trips etc, hopefully, with some parent help, events will increase next year.

We have received over £500 of income from Easy Fundraising, Roberts recycling and Think-Inks. So please keep us in mind, these don't cost our parents anything but mean a great deal to the group.

Our parents and supporters have also raised £740 through raffles, very much appreciated, Thank-you.

Any other forms of funding or reduced cost activities will be gratefully received for the coming year.

As always, we are an open group, and the full accounts are available for anyone that wishes to look at them, just contact the treasurer to arrange a convenient time.

Central Ribbleton Scout Group Account Summary

1st March 2025 - 28th Feb 2026

<u>INCOME</u>	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	TOTAL
Squirrel Subs	£91.00	£130.00	£98.00	£218.00	£218.50	£117.50	£156.50	£173.50	£184.50	£147.00	£167.00	£168.00	£1,869.50
Beaver Subs	£281.50	£221.00	£247.00	£351.50	£312.00	£182.00	£208.00	£364.00	£286.00	£260.00	£316.00	£223.00	£3,252.00
Cub Subs	£247.00	£273.00	£221.00	£325.00	£351.00	£156.00	£208.00	£455.00	£289.00	£239.00	£275.00	£240.00	£3,279.00
Scout Subs	£91.00	£91.00	£117.00	£208.00	£182.00	£130.00	£130.00	£248.00	£196.00	£170.00	£220.00	£210.00	£1,993.00
SUBS	£710.50	£715.00	£683.00	£1,102.50	£1,063.50	£585.50	£702.50	£1,240.50	£955.50	£816.00	£978.00	£841.00	£8,524.00
ENROL	£8.00	£114.00	£8.00	£40.00	£64.00			£24.00	£8.00	£32.00	£24.00	£16.00	£338.00
EVENTS	£126.50	£158.00	£145.00	£706.00	£44.00			£271.50	£236.00	£57.50	£243.00	£40.00	£2,027.50
DONATION		£500.00	£300.00	£168.00	£150.00	£37.20			£346.50	£37.00	£64.80		£1,603.50
INK CARTS											£32.60		£32.60
CLOTHING	£37.00	£33.00					£15.00		£18.00		£5.00	£10.00	£118.00
EASYFUNDS			£45.41			£69.32			£175.65			£91.60	£381.98
RAFFLE			£202.00							£541.00			£743.00
INTEREST	£4.45	£4.79	£3.99	£3.87	£3.36	£3.70	£3.23	£2.88	£3.07	£2.79	£2.98	£2.65	£41.76
BADGES				£1.65	£1.00		£3.90						£6.55
GRANT	£169.00											£450.00	£619.00
TOTAL	£1,055.45	£1,524.79	£1,387.40	£2,022.02	£1,325.86	£695.72	£724.63	£1,538.88	£1,742.72	£1,486.29	£1,350.38	£1,451.25	£16,305.39
<u>EXPENSE</u>	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	
Water	£0.00	£22.78	£98.15	£7.63	£24.57	£29.27	£0.00	£20.62	£11.58	£107.17	£28.89	£29.27	£379.93
EDF	£48.00	£48.00	£30.50	£30.50	£30.50	£30.50	£30.50	£30.50	£30.50	£30.50	£30.50	£30.50	£401.00
Octopus	£25.18	£26.41	£24.61	£24.72	£23.76	£24.43	£24.08	£23.92	£25.44	£25.72	£28.07	£29.49	£305.83
BADGES		£121.50	£351.50		£295.05			£389.42		£223.03	£250.07	£42.30	£1,672.87
RESOURCE S	£21.99	£378.67	£101.22	£550.20	£1,141.81	£30.35	£83.69	£573.89	£28.71	£157.05	£780.08	£73.79	£3,921.45
EVENTS	£90.00	£177.50	£62.50	£115.00	£264.30			£201.50		£127.50	£124.00	£553.00	£1,715.30
INSURANCE							£445.28						£445.28
BUILDING													£0.00
CLOTHING		£58.00					£25.00	£48.00	£138.24	£79.03			£348.27
CAPITATION	£2,824.55												£2,824.55
TOTAL	£3,009.72	£832.86	£668.48	£728.05	£1,779.99	£114.55	£608.55	£1,287.85	£234.47	£750.00	£1,241.61	£758.35	£12,014.48
I-E	-£1,954.27	£691.93	£718.92	£1,293.97	-£454.13	£581.17	£116.08	£251.03	£1,508.25	£736.29	£108.77	£692.90	£4,290.91

Group Lead Volunteers Report

The Annual Report is time to take stock and reflect on our achievements and the challenges ahead. I am pleased to say Scouting in Ribbleton continues to flourish and the team members remain committed to delivering the scouting experience to young people in our charge. We are hoping to give our young people life skills and for them to make friendships that they form for life. Scouting gives young people a multitude of skills, an ability for teamwork and resilience which in later life apart from fond memories may help provide the character substance to deal with whatever life brings. Their experiences should be positive and must involve FUN.

As we move into 2026/2027, we will be looking to recruit more section team members and will be looking at a role for our young people to have representation on the trustee board in volunteer meetings. Looking at our future plans and the support, we need to make these plans a reality we are looking for other group support roles and team members. In particular we are looking for volunteers to strengthen our existing team. Our newest section the Squirrel Scour Drey need more members for their team and the Beaver Colony are looking to help their team with more adult volunteers.

I'd like to thank our young people for all of their hard work and dedication; we are all so very proud of you and all of your achievements. Thank you to the parents, carers, grandparents and even siblings for your support too! We'd also like to thank the other community organisations and groups that host us for visits, share information to support and in particular The Blessed Sacrament RC Church, St Mary Magdalene Church, Local County Councillor Anna Hindle, Preston, Community Connectivity (Wi-fi), Billington Lodge, Tesco for the blue token scheme we have recently taken part in and the surrounding schools. Thank you for your continued support. We continue to support our local community at their events as well as attending church parades.

There are full programmes prepared for this coming year covering group meetings, joint meetings, camps, outings and competitions. These can only continue with more team members, so please think of volunteering.

To achieve as much as we do, we work as part of the community in partnership. The invaluable and important support that family and friends provide enables us to carry on positively, knowing that each and every member of the group is held in high regard, promoting self-esteem and respect.

I'd like to thank Preston District for their continued support and I'd like you all to join me in thanking the Squirrel, Beaver, Cub and Scout leadership teams for all their continued hard work and dedication, also thank you to the maintenance volunteers and trustee board for all their dedication, hard work and support. I would like to thank all the young people for their regular attendance and their enthusiasm to get involved in their challenges and activities. To the parents who provide the unseen support with the transportation and support with achieving tasks.

I would like to personally thank all the adult volunteers who freely give up the time every week and their weekends to support all the young people in the group.

Lesley-Ann Stickley

Central Ribbleton Scout Troop

This year has been a year of positive progress for the scout section with Young People and Adult Volunteer numbers reaching 15 and 4 respectively. We have 3 patrols, of 5 Scouts and capacity to take them up to 8 Scouts per patrol, at which point we would then potentially outgrow the space we have. (There are worse problems)



During the past 12 months we have attended 2 camps, one as a troop in the summer term of 2025, which even though wet, proved that the scouts can battle through to the end of the weekend. In the last month we also attended West Lancs County Rally camp where we sent a patrol, who took part in a wide range of activities, with the talking points being caving and laser tag. This summer a patrol will be attending the Gurnsey camp at part of a troop sent by the district and we hope this will be a great experience for the Scouts attending.

During the troop nights we have had some fun trips including a visit to Alston Observatory to work on the space badge along with learning some local history at Harris Library and Museum. We have taken part in personal and patrol challenges to strengthen our skills and teamwork. We have also recently started work on our world challenge badge, writing letters to other scouts across the globe and also speaking to local government councillor about what the scouts can do to assist their local community as well as how the government can help to keep the troop moving forward with funding for equipment.

We haven't had any Gold Scout Awards this year, but we have a number of scouts who are close to achieving it with focus on the Expedition Challenge and the group look forward to these being achieved. We have presented 161 badges to our young people.

Overall, the year has been positive and the scouts should be rightly proud of their achievements and carry on progressing in a positive way towards 2027.

Tom Gerrard (Scout Section Volunteer)

Central Ribbleton Cub Pack



We currently have 21 young people in Cub Scouts with a mixture of skills and backgrounds.

We have had 6 Chief Scout Silver Awards presented. A number of our young people achieve the Silver award, which is the highest badge awarded in Cubs. 295 badges, a mixture of activity and challenge badges being awarded in the last year, this shows the commitment from both the young people and the leaders to make it possible through a varied programme.

The pack has attended a wide variety of events from Wood End Alpacas, Scout Group Family Carol Service, Remembrance Church Parade, District Lego Competition. During pack nights we have completed challenges, practised putting tents up/down, cooking on fires, archery, axe throwing, knots, history of Scouting, map reading.

We have welcomed a new member to the leadership team – Tom Lee (Chil) and a new young Leader – Bruce Houldgreaves, both of whom have added a new approach and ideas to the team.

We have taken part in church parades and St George's day parade with Preston and District.

In the next few weeks, we will be attending a Cubs 110th birthday party at a West Lancs County event at Gulliver's World, we are also going to be trying our hand at a new community garden project.

The Cubs work on the ethos you don't know what you can do till you try!

Within cubs we encourage the young people to learn new skills, always try if it is something new to them, to ask questions and have fun!

All the young people in the last few months have worked hard as a team, encouraging each other through all activities, working together to achieve impressive results, with many saying I did not think I could do that!

Thank you for your support and encouragement in the last twelve months and here is to the next successful year.

THANK YOU!!!!

Central Ribbleton Beaver Colony

Annual Report – June 2026



It's been another busy year for the Beaver section at Central Ribbleton, we have seen



13 Beaver Scouts awarded their Chief Scout Bronze Award. Lots of new challenges faced by the young people and they tackled them with great gusto and learnt new skills at the same time. They have made new friends along the way and gained new experiences. The Beaver section has earned 377 badges.

In between all this award winning and achievements, we've managed to squeeze in some events too. Enjoying the County Beaver trip to Bibby's Farm for the 40th Birthday Party. SQUAD day with Squirrels for the Earth Tribe event, spending time at Waddecarr, we visited St Mary Magdalene's Church for a Scavenger hunt and to learn all about the church itself. We had our own sleepover in our scout hut. Visits from The Northwest Air Ambulance, Guide Dogs with Gigi showing how clever she was to help Lorraine. Mrs Brown the local author came to visit and read her story and help the Beavers be creative.

Mr S Tierney top Paramedic for NW Ambulance came and taught the Beavers Emergency Aid to earn their level 1 staged badge.

Horus Birds of Prey came to visit 26th January and Beavers got to hold owls and a falcon.

Beavers got to learn drumming from the Worldwide Samba drummers who came to the hut and held a full session and Beavers performed to the parents at the end of the evening.

Local Councillors visited the group and taught Beavers about Parliament for the UK Parliament week and they held their own voting polling station and fun games.

This year we decided to take part in a Christmas kindness project with the local care home. We made Christmas cards, baubles for the tree, mini Christmas trees for all the residents and sang Christmas Carols. This year we have definitely been doing our best and being kind and helpful!

We are now looking forward to arranging a Beaver Scout sleepover and what we are sure will be a busy Summer/Autumn programme.

Thank you Beavers for all the fun and friendship, here's to even more fun and frolics in 2026/2027.

Thank you to Matthew (Gizmo), Andrew (Hathi) and Kevin (Baloo). To Mark (King Louie) for helping and supporting his daughter and also to the Cub team who have supported us this year when we are desperate for help at some Beaver meetings.

Lesley-Ann Stickley - Ahmeek Beaver Scout Team Leader

Central Ribbleton Squirrel Drey

Annual Report – May 2026



It's been a busy year after opening Squirrel Drey at Central Ribbleton in March last year. Lots of new challenges, learning new skills and making new friends.

The section is still growing and from 12 young people at the opening Drey the section increases to 17 young people with few on the waiting list.

5 Squirrels successful moving up to Beavers section with 1 awarded their Chief Scouts Acorn Award.

At the successful year Squirrels been awarded with total of 290 badges.

Squirrels taking the part in different outdoor and indoor activities. We also manage to visit Waddecar Scout Activity Centre, taking part in County Squad Day for Squirrels & Beavers and County 5th Squirrels Birthday Party at Bibby's Farm.

Visiting the Fire Station in Preston to learn about firefighters' job, home safety and evacuation plan.

Squirrels have visitor from Paramedic Panda and learn about first aid.

Squirrels taking part in the Central Ribbleton parades celebrating Remembrance Day, Harvest Festival and St George Day.

In between all these achievements we have manage to squeeze some parties, celebrating Christmas with Santa visit, our 1st Birthday Party with Birthday cake and even we are having our own Teddy Bear Picnic.

Successfully Squirrels visiting Billington Lodge at Grange Park with their community project. We are planting herbs for everyone visiting Billington Lodge Café to taking some for their salad, meal or lemonade.

We are now looking forward to arranging our 1st Squirrels indoor sleepover.

The upcoming months will be busy with learning new skills, new activities and lots of fun.

We would not be able to manage all these activities without help and support from other sections leaders and parents. Huge thank you we can't do it without you!!!

Malgorzata (Mags) Guber – Bagheera, Squirrel Scout Team Leader