

Greater London South County Scout Council

Meeting: Annual General Meeting No 56
Held online via Zoom
Wednesday 14th July 2021

Officers: County President - Bill Stern
County Commissioner - Darren Lodge
County Chai - Martyn Bain

1. Welcome to the Meeting and Distinguished Guests.

Martyn Bain welcomed all to the meeting and requested users mute themselves to avoid hearing background noise.

Reflection-

Martyn Bain asked the members of the meeting to have a minute's silence for all members of the County that have gone home in the last 12 months.

County Chairman asked for a list of the Apologies for absence which were read and noted.

2. Apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received from...

Gordon Carr	Barbara Raggett
James Manley	Victoria Wilcox
Howard Strong	Eileen and David Fricker
Simon Emmett	Tina Lodge
Linda Moore	Ross Whittome

Any further apologies wishing to be noted to be sent to Martyn or Debbie Jeacock.

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting.

Chair explained that the minutes of the previous Meeting of the Greater London South County Scouts Council, held at The South London Scout Centre, Grange Lane, Dulwich, London SE21 7LH on Tuesday 22nd September 2020, have been circulated to the County Executive committee and were available on the website prior to the meeting.

These have been approved by the county executive committee as a true record of the meeting. Show of hands was requested by all in attendance via online poll, no objections raised, all in agreement with the minutes.

4. To receive and consider the Annual Report of the County Executive Committee including the Annual Statement of Accounts.

Chair explained that the Annual Report and accounts have been approved by the County Executive Committee and has been on the website for review.

In the absence of a county treasurer which seems to be a very hard role to find someone to take on. Chari will again give a short break down of the past year. But first Chair noted again thanks to Gordon Carr for his support in the role of looking after the county's money and is very grateful it would be a much harder role to cover without his support.

As most will understand there have been concerns on how we could keep everything going and covering costs especially any groups or districts who have their own property to maintain as well as still running scouting activities. As a county we were lucky that we did not have to worry about staffing costs for the center Gordon is a volunteer so we managed to cover running costs with the support of the grant from Southwark council at the start of the year, we did not have to use to much of the county reserves to keep the Fort running with general running costs and it is pleasing to see that since we have been able to open the center up again bookings have picked up already. The yearly costs of insurance and facilities have been covered through the grant and the income from membership. And of course costs were down as not being able to run face to face activities there were no expenses for this area.

The executive agreed that we did not wish to furlough Matt as our development officer as it was felt he would be needed to help support the county and I think we can all agree he did sterling work not only with the home adventure scheme but the many other things he has done over the year to support districts and groups. And again my thanks to the Don Broome for their continued help with funding the post. We are very lucky as a county to have this type of support. I would also say we cover this commitment to members of the county throughout the year on a very limited budget and Matt does work wonders within the limited budget given. I also believe a large number of scouts also benefit across the UK as they do seem to request if they can use his work he has done on various projects as well as work done on the website.

We did have a large expense relating to the renewal of the fort lease which I am pleased to say finally happened, but we had budgeted for this as we knew this cost was forthcoming.

As people will know we did have the upsetting news that the international event Euro jam did not take place and the hope it was going to take place this year unfortunately won't happen, we do have some funds still against this event and the leadership team are working on getting refunds and claiming on insurance for this event and we will then be making refunds to the participants.

The end of year accounting has been checked by our nominated accountant Latham Lambourne Ltd.

I am pleased to say the county is still in a good position financially and looking forward we have a good foundation to build on.

I would like to thank those that have given reports on the events that have taken place all be it a few on behalf of the county during the year.

I would like to thank Matt for his time as a scouting volunteer in processing the report this year and making it look a professional account of our county structure and events.

Show of agreement of annual report being received.

Martyn Bain then handed the meeting over to Darren Lodge for the announcement of the County Chairman.

5. Approval of the County Commissioner's nomination of the County Chairman.

The County Commissioner, Darren Lodge, nominated Martyn Bain this was supported by the County President for the upcoming year. Darren handed the meeting back to Martyn to carry on chairing. There was a show of votes from the council members for their approval. All approved with no objections or abstaining.

6. Election of County Secretary and County Treasurer

Again, this year we do not have any nominations for the County Secretary post, Debbie Jeacock has again agreed to still help with taking minutes at meetings and supporting Chair with any items that need to be covered.

Chair asks that the council vote to say they will be happy for the role to be filled during the year if a volunteer is found and that Debbie continues in the volunteer role of minute taking. Poll shows approved.

There are no nominations for the role of County Treasurer again at this present time. The Chair has over the year had many discussions with a number of people to support the county but these have not come to anything.

Chair asks if the scout council are in agreement that he and the executive do their best to continue to fill the post during the year and for now they are happy for him and Gordon Carr to continue doing the role between them of controlling income and expenditure until such time as the role is filled on behalf of the county. Poll shows approved.

7. Approval of the County Commissioner's nominated members to the County Executive Committee

Jason Hagan: DCC People

Debbie Jeacock: County Media Manager

Mark Doherty

Russell Jones

Chair announced they are duly appointed.

8. Election of members to the County Executive Committee

David Attenborough: Royal Greenwich District

heryl Stonebridge: Lambeth District

Linda Moore: Southwark District

Ben Ensom: Wandsworth District

Chair added he would like to note they are members across all five districts but are not sitting as representatives of the districts so would not be there to pass on views of their own area but to support and govern the county as trustees

These have been nominated and seconded before the meeting so the chair declared that since there are no other nominations they are duly elected.

The quorum for meetings of the County Executive Committee is to be SIX in attendance.

The Chair asked for a show of votes from council members for their approval. All approved with no objections or abstaining.

9. Announcement of Nominated District Members of the County Scout Council

Chair announced that each district are able to nominated one person to take this role, as it is early in the year most have not yet held their AGMs but these will be forwarded accordingly:

Royal Greenwich	AGM not held
Lambeth	AGM not held
Lewisham	Joe McEvelly
Southwark	AGM not held
Wandsworth	AGM not held

10. Approval of the County Commissioner's nominated members to the County Executive Committee

No further recommendations by the County Commissioner in consultation with the County Chairman.

11. Election of a representative and a Youth Member of the County Scout Council to serve as nominated members of the Council of the Scout Association

Matthew Butterfield and Alfie Francis

The Chair asked for a show of votes from council members for their agreement
All approved with no objections or abstaining.

12. Appointment of an Independent Examiner

The Chair to announce the nomination of Latham Lambourne Ltd, Chartered Accountants to act as the County's Auditors.

The Chair asked for a show of votes from council members for their agreement.
All approved with no objections or abstaining.

13. The County Chairman's Address

Martyn Bain's address to members:

'This gives me the chance say a few thanks to people who support the county.

I would like to start particularly thanking Darren as our county commissioner and his management team for their time over the year on behalf of the county executive for keeping the county moving forward, so thank you for your time and commitment. A thank you to our 5 district commissioners and district executives who over these past months have had again a very different type of role keeping everything working in their own areas of the county.

Also a grateful thank you to Matt for his work he does as our development officer in supporting our five districts in his paid role. I say this each year we are very lucky to have such a committed member of staff and I think this has shown through with the work he has done during the year.

The work he also does as a volunteer on behalf of the county sometimes goes well above what we should ask of one person and not always noted by most people. His role in heading up the county training team and working with the other members of the team to keep training active and the planning of what can be run when and who by is no easy task. The work he has done in transferring all the content from the website to the new format of the new look one we now have. And many more things he does for others to many to mention.

To Debbie for attending meetings to take note of what is agreed and always being on the end of an email to send information out sometimes with not much notice.

This past few months to Vicky Wilcox for her help with putting together plans for moving forward with the South London Centre as part of the agreement we have on the new lease.

And of course, to our long standing center Warden Gordon for his help as I have said with accounting but mostly just doing what he does for the center and seeing his smile when I told him we could open up the center for people to use said it all how much he enjoys seeing people use the center. And of course, the income it makes has a lot to do with the smile.

I have already said some about the Euro jam event having to be cancelled and it is such a shame but my thanks to the leadership team for all the work they had to put in without any enjoyment of taking part.

I think this really covers just how much the county depend on people giving their time with just these few thanks and this is often above the time they give locally to scouting with the young people. So I would like to say we are very lucky in South London to have people who go the extra bit and for those that sit on executive committees and support the governance of scouting across the county in Districts and groups a big thank you also.'

14. The County Commissioner's Address

Darren Lodge address' the members.

'Good evening everyone,

It's great to see you all here virtually this evening supporting the County. I hope that you have had time to read through the reports from Martyn, our county sections & myself. I hear from the DCs that most groups are taking every opportunity to get back to face to face scouting which is great news but in some instances they are still using the virtual meetings to ensure their young people do not miss out.

I would like to take this time to thank all of my county team, for their hard work and commitment over the last year and the work they are going to do for our young people over the coming year.

My team is constantly evolving and changing to ensure that we give the best support to the Districts and ultimately the young people.

Unfortunately Ross our DCC Perception has informed me due to family commitments that he is stepping down, but will remain our Jack Petchey Administrator so I would like to give my special thanks to him for his commitment, and wish him and his family well.

But on a plus note Jason has taken over the role as DCC People and has initiated the Shining Stars Award scheme which has been very responsive over the last year. He has also taken on our ACC International duties, and is working hard with his team. As I'm sure you have seen recently we are now advertising Jamboree Leadership roles for the county to take part in the 2023 South Korean Jamboree, so if you are interested in any of these roles please do go to the county website, download the info pack and get applying.

We still have some roles to fill on the County team, some ACC roles, DDC Programme & Perception, & Training team members, so if you know of anyone that might be interested in joining the team, please encourage them to let us know.

I would also like to express my thanks to Martyn as Chair for his continued support and guidance to me, it has been invaluable and greatly appreciated.

And finally my thanks go to all of our leaders, supporters and trustees throughout the county for all the work and dedication you give to scouting in South London. It's fantastic to see that now we are getting back to face to face scouting our membership is beginning to grow in our Districts so please keep up the magnificent scouting you're supplying to our young people. '

15. To close the meeting

William Sterne, County President gave thanks to all leaders in the county for looking after the young people in Greater London South.

Chair thanked all for joining this evening and stated he looks forward to seeing people face to face very soon.