



RN 57

# 1<sup>st</sup> Clifton (York) Sea Scout Group



Beavers

Cub Scouts

Sea Scouts

Explorer Scouts

## Treasurer's Report for the Financial Year 2016 / 2017

July 2017

Dear Leaders, Parents and Supporters.

Attached to this report is a copy of the end of year accounts for the Group for the year 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017. Please spend a few moments looking through the numbers. This brief report explains some of the income and costs associated with the of running the Group in the last Financial Year.

Our total income for the year remains remarkably static, but is a reflection of the wide variety of sources that we rely upon. In total we received £23,419 in the 12 months to 31st March 2017. This is a reduction of £40 from the previous year (£23,459), however, our receipts from the subscriptions that you pay was up by over £2,000 to £15,704 (67% of all income), so clearly there were some significant reductions. If you are as uncomfortable as I am with relying so much on member subscriptions, then we need to hear from you. A few years ago, we only relied upon subs for half of the income, so now that the figure is around two thirds, we need your help to reverse the trend. Of the reduced income, the figures show that hire fees from HQ and equipment was down by just over £1,000 so to some extent, "all" we need to do is make better use of our resources.

As we need other means to make up a third of all of our income, we are extremely reliant upon just a few key individuals. One of the behind the scenes activities that we do is to talk with the local charitable organisations that help in various areas. We also benefit from Gift Aid that allows us to reclaim back from HMRC the tax that you paid when you earned the money to pay the subs. But this cannot be done unless you sign a simple form. The total received from grants, donations and Gift Aid comes to £3,636 – down by nearly £1200 from £4,822.35. If you are a UK tax payer and have not Gift Aided your subs payments, then please do let me know. It is literally a simple sheet of paper for you to read, understand and sign. I do the rest.

On the expenditure side, a reduction from £35,696 to £20,790 would appear to show that we have significantly cut back on our spending, but this is not the case. The figures circulated need to be viewed bearing in mind last year we bought a new minibus for £17,000. Hence when we take out the cost of the new minibus, you can see that we have in fact increased our spending when comparing like for like. We are now allocating funds to a separate designated vehicle fund so that future vehicle purchases do not have such an impact on our day-to-day finances. However, this is at the expense of any funds we might try to set aside for a new HQ. This is shown separately on page 2 of the accounts.

### Summary

We are "just about managing" in terms of the funds. We're not afraid to spend the money where it's necessary, but I refer back to a similar comment I made in my report last year – we are working out of a building that was third hand when we got it nearly 40 years ago. With the state of the finances today, all we can ever hope to achieve is that we keep it going for another 40 years. If you have any questions regarding our accounts, or any particular line of the summary accounts provided, please do not hesitate to ask.

Phil Stead - Group Treasurer