



Annual General Meeting Agenda

2025

12th March 2025, 17:00pm

Elvet Riverside 1

1. Welcome

- *Meeting commenced: 17.10*
- *AB: Hello everybody thank you for coming. You've got agendas on your table in front of you, hopefully. So we're gonna do a bit of welcome. Annual reports from three of the exec members, our extensive list of motions. Thank you, everybody. Exec position hustings, DUSAGG awards, and then any other business. We have got 64 slides to go through this evening. So we're gonna try and rattle through them pretty quickly.*

2. Present

- *Alfie Baker (AB - President), Beth Clayton (BC - Secretary), Martha Manley (MM - Liaison's Officer Scouts), Katie Pugh (KP - Liaison's Officer Guides), Isaac Williams (IW - Freshers' Rep), Sylvie Hollinghurst (SH - Events Secretary) Sam Walshaw (SW - Joint Social Secretary), Annabel Quill (AQ - Joint Social Secretary), Sakura Doody (SD - Treasurer), Ella Bradick (EB), Liam Ford (LF), Charlotte Chow (CC), Jayne Gibson (JG), Rosie Talbot (RT), Vince Crosby, (VC).*

a. Apologies

- *AB: We have got apologies from Hannah Cole, our First Sea Lord and Quartermaster, Andy Carr, Caroline Hammond, and Darren Melroy.*
- *AB: We've got apologies from Carolyn, who is the Guide representative. She says, "I want to formally thank DUSAGG for the events you hosted*

this year. Feedback has been great, and for your support at Freshers' Fair. I was also going to acknowledge some issues we had around communication and placing students at the start of the year. This is on our side and down to changes in the division team. And to say we look forward to continuing to work together to provide opportunities to both local guides and for students to continue their Guiding both from a volunteering and social point of view." Thank you very much, Carolyn.

3. Ratification of Minutes

- *AB: First order of business is approval of the minutes. You've all got a copy of last year's minutes in front of you. I'm hoping to approve last year's minutes on the general aye. Any objections? Good. *Approved with a General Aye**

4. Reports

a. Treasurer

- *SD: So as you can see from this wonderful slide that Alfie has kindly made for me, the starting balance for this year was £843.38. We have had a total income, from both volunteering and socials, of £2,554.49. Of that, we have spent £2,019.15. So we're at a net profit of £464.44 for this year. So our current balance is £1,307.82 because that's the net added to the starting balance. And our total volunteering budget, because we're doing the new thing of splitting our volunteering and social money now, the volunteering budget is £846.31, and the social budget is £461.51. So whoever is Treasurer next year, we might want to look at trying to decrease the amount of volunteering money we've got because, realistically, that should be spent on the volunteering. This is our expenditure, and in the general pot, we have made a loss of £72.18, but that includes the banner and advertising materials. And then membership costs, we have had an increase of £137.70. And then Mid Mad, £238.21. Socials, we've spent £105.45, but that is, covered by the membership costs. And then events, £66.16. And we kindly had a donation from Martha's mom's group of £200, which has gone straight into the volunteering money.*
- *AB: Thanks Sakura, any questions for our Treasurer?*

- *SW: I think we're not supposed to make a profit In our society Is that true?*
- *MM: We're going to circle back to this.*
- *AB: Yeah we're not supposed to make a profit, we're allowed to make a small profit to cover running costs so for Instance upkeep of equipment, buying neckers to have a bit of float In the bank account. We've made a significant profit on Mid Mad which just hasn't been spent over the past few years and there Is a spending plan In place which we'll circle back to later. Although we're not allowed to make a profit per se, we do need to keep moving upwards to cover running costs and so forth.*

b. Liaisons

- *MM: So Scouts wise we're doing really well. We've got 16 members affiliated with Scouts and nine of those are volunteering in the local area and we've got two volunteering at home. We've increased steadily but that's just come with increasing our members.*
- *KP: So we currently have 4 members who are associated with Guiding, which has quadrupled since last year. Three of those are actively volunteering in the local area. There are a lot of groups in the area so there's a lot of opportunities for volunteering. Hopefully the split between the social and volunteering side will help next year, because I'm aware of students who are volunteering who are not in the society.*
- *MM: So Mid Mad went very well. We had a very good attendance. I think 46 volunteers and 144 young people. Good feedback on the bases as well. Yeah. It's venue we'll hope to use again as well. They had great camping space and good facilities. Indoor was held on the 6th of Feb in the TLC, and we had 104 young people and 15 volunteers on the bases. Outdoor was held this past Saturday on the 8th March and we had 62 young people and 30 volunteers. It was a lot of fun. It worked well having base leaders plan their own base this year, it meant that people were more confident in running the activities and their risk assessment. So we introduced a new theme this year for Indoor and Outdoor, a theme isn't something we've had for a long time. I think it's drawn a lot more Guides in.*
- *KP: We've also introduced logos for Indoor and Outdoor, we decided the previous logos weren't particularly appetizing. So we've done a bit*

of changing in line with Alfie's Brand Guidelines. I would like some feedback, please let me know now if you have any ideas. Great, those are the logos. And now we have some future plans. With Outdoor we found that not as many teams have signed up this year because they've had a lot of younger Scouts and Guides and they don't feel that the skills are up to the level of Outdoor. So we're hoping to introduce a skills and navigation day. We were hoping to hold it before Outdoor this year but the organisation is a nightmare. So we've decided to hold it in the summer. Or maybe we could get one or two DUSAGG members to run a session on a Scout or Guide night. We can reach out to groups and see what they think. So for Mid Mad we took a bit more income and spent that on trackers for retrieval teams which we didn't opt for again for Outdoor but it worked well for Mid Mad which is a much bigger event. It meant that on our map we can see where each team and each driver is so it makes it easier for drivers to meet teams. Getting advertising out earlier would help with numbers of young people at Outdoor.

- *JG: Just to note that the Scout expedition date will be the 21st to 22nd of June so If anyone wants to come and help on that It would be really good. I did push the events and both Indoor and Outdoor were on the district calendar as well.*
- *MM: It would be great to see more members at local events. Before COVID, DUSAGG had a big volunteering presence and we had our own radios.*
- *SW: There was something about Outdoor clashing with a nav thing.*
- *JG: It's usually the same time of year but It was moved to the Outdoor weekend this year.*
- *MM: One thing that Sam's already mentioned Is profit, so right now we have about £846 In our volunteering budget. We want to get that down to about £200 for the split. So Katie and I have spent a long time going over what we need, tents and hi vis we currently borrow from NX so we're not going to prioritise those. We're looking at hopefully getting some 308 active maps because we currently only have two which will help on route checks, we're looking to get four trangias and first aid kits and compasses. We hope to have enough first aid kits for 5 bases plus retrieval, we used to have ten. We'll work on It with the exec.*
- *JG: There's loads of equipment which can be borrowed from District. You can use the trangias, you'll just need to provide the fuel. They're*

all bookable by the district website. There's things on there like rucksacks and carry mats and things.

- **AB:** Any more questions for Martha and Katie?
- **VC:** Does this mean that DUSAGGs becoming a lot more heavily volunteer based rather than social based, or is it still keeping that balance?
- **MM:** So, the split kind of helps us to have that balance. So, we are going to have members who don't volunteer and volunteers who aren't social members. You don't have to pay membership twice.

c. **President**

- **So 2024 to '25 has been a great year for DUSAGG. After COVID, we had a bit of a lapse in engagement and during COVID, as well, to be honest. But this year, we've tripled our membership from eight to 24 members, which is absolutely fantastic. And we actually are operating with a full executive committee now, which is, again, amazing, including our new quartermaster. We've also successfully reintroduced and expanded our key events, including introducing a new Christmas sleepover, which is a great success. We're hoping to bring that back next year, as well as the much anticipated return of Big Event, which was in York. We've also have weekly socials (thank you to Sam and Annabel), which strengthens our community and majority of our members are also actively volunteering with local Scout and Guide groups. Additionally, as Martha and Katie just said we've had a successful Mid Mad, Indoor and Outdoor reaching nearly 300 young people in total in the local area, which is absolutely fantastic. Our presence of Freshers' Fair was stronger than ever. With the addition of our new roller banner, printed leaflets, stickers, business cards, we were able to grow DUSAGG more effectively, leading to a significant increase in membership. 24 members, which is probably the biggest it's been since about 2007 possibly from looking back at old reports, which is absolutely fantastic. We additionally had a presence at both the society fair and the volunteering fair, strategically located next to the Scout and Guide stalls which helped us attract students interested in both the social and volunteering aspects. We have a new tradition, Christmas meal, it's a new tradition, everyone seems to enjoy it. We enjoyed various activities, games, Christmas film, and I must say an excellently prepared meal. It was just fantastic. Due to the success, I think we should make a staple on the calendar every year. Big Event, after several years of absence we've successfully reintroduced Big Event this year. We went to York, and we had a fantastic range of activities: a monopoly run, museum visit, and group meal. So really big thanks to Sylvie for organising. It was fantastic. Weekly socials, this year, we ran weekly socials, major paid member engagement, and foster a sense of community. Activities**

include games nights, campfires, quizzes, film nights, laser tag, hikes, and more, ensuring that there's something for everybody from both Scouting and Guiding and non Scout/Guide backgrounds. We have at least, I think, three or four non Scout/Guide background members which is good. Socials have played a crucial role in keeping our members connected, especially during busy periods so again thank you Sam and Annabel for running those this year.

- *Volunteering, one of the highlights of 24/25 has been the high level of volunteering amongst our members. A majority are actively involved in local Scout and Guide Groups providing invaluable support to young people in the community. Their contributions include assisting with weekly meetings, leading activities, sports supporting events. Collectively, so far this academic year, our volunteers have contributed an incredible 1600 hours of volunteering. Fantastic, so round of applause to all of our volunteers. And on that note, the Durham University Volunteering Awards nominations are open. Please nominate us and various volunteers that you may wish to nominate. I'll send around the nomination link at the end of the AGM in the group chat. We've played a key role in organising major County and District competitions, again 300 members. Thank you again, Martha, Katie. Fantastic Liaisons officers this year. Looking ahead, so with such a strong year behind us, I'm excited for what DUSAGG will do in the future. Plans include expanding our event offering, more exciting socials, strengthening volunteering efforts. Also in the future, we're looking at we're setting up a DofE Gold Expedition team, and we successfully ran a classroom navigation course Wednesday last week, which had nine members attendance, fantastic. Joint efforts with Durham City Networks. We've joined one of their socials, we invited them to our quiz. I hope next years exec will continue that. Finally thank you, so as I step down as DUSAGG President, I'd like to say thank you to everybody.*

5. Motions

- *AB: We have seven motions.*
- *Motion "Expanding the DUSAGG Navy" Proposer Isaac Williams, Seconder Sam Walshaw*
- *IW: I propose that we expand the DUSAGG navy. Once the Quartermaster mascot has been decided, we should bestow them with the rank of Admiral of the Fleet. Giving the rank of Honorary Admirable to the Secretary because they were stripped of the Sea Lord Title.*
- *AB: Why should we do that?*
- *IW: Why not? We will have the largest navy in the SU.*

- *SD: What happens if the society becomes small again and we lose the role of Quartermaster?*
- *IW: Then Sea Lord gets passed back to the Secretary and they'd lose the title of Honorary Admiral.*
- *AB: Would anybody like to speak against the motion? Ok we're now going to have a round of voting. This can be done by secret ballot or show of hands. Isaac you decide.*
- *IW: Hands up.*
- *AB: Hands up for the motion.*
- ****Passed on a General Aye****

- *Motion: "Mole Year" Proposee Annabel Quill, Seconder Sam Walshaw*
- *AQ: Ok I propose that there is already an academic year and a financial year so we should have a mole year which we put all of our records onto. To create a legacy. The dates of this year will be decided by the exec.*
- *KP: Do you have ideas when the year would be?*
- *AQ: I suggest it starts from the first exec meeting, or from Mid Mad, or the President's birthday.*
- *SD: What about the years after Alfie?*
- *AQ: How about Mole's birthday.*
- *LF: Would this not just make it more difficult to find out when socials will be?*
- *AQ: We'd publish both.*
- *VC: If we're storing records on the mole year, how are we going to make sure the calendar isn't changed?*
- *AQ: The calendar won't change.*
- *RT: Isn't it a bit unfair to the other mascots that there's only a mole year? Could it be like the zodiac where there's a different mascot for each year?*
- *VC: That means we have to rank the mascots.*
- *AB: Would anyone like to speak against the motion?*
- *BC: I'm not sure we've fully considered the administrative work that would be put on the Secretary. The google drive is a mess so trying to put that into mole years would be much harder.*
- *AB: Votes for the motion? 1 vote.*
- *AB: Votes against? 11 No abstains.*
- ****Motion not passed****

- *Motion: "Effigy Ashes" Proposer Martha Manley, Secunder Beth Clayton*
- *MM: The ashes of cardboard Alfie's first effigy should be kept safely in the stores. If his container needs to be replaced, it should be replaced with a clean bean tin and marked with "RIP Alfie Baker", the ashes should attend each AGM.*
- *AB: Any questions?*
- *VC: What happens if we forget to bring the ashes to the AGM?*
- *MM: No forfeit but it should traditionally come to the AGM.*
- *AQ: Was the tin of beans cleared out before we put cardboard Alfie in there?*
- *MM: Tim did that so I don't know but I think so.*
- *AB: Would anybody like to speak against the motion?*
- *AB: I think this is completely ridiculous, five years down the line nobody's going to know who I was. And this relies on people, students might I add, not only keeping a tin of beans but cleaning it. Also I take offense to this because it was not an accurate representation of me.*
- *SD: I have two ideas to fix the issue: stick a photo of you on it and we could get a better container.*
- *AB: Votes for the motion? 10 votes for.*
- *AB: Votes against the motion? 1 vote against*
- *AB: Any abstains? 1 abstain.*

- *Motion: "Mascot Stealing" Proposer Jenny Thompson, Secunder Beth Clayton*
- *AB: Jenny isn't here to hust on behalf of the motion, so Beth as Secunder would you hust for it.*
- *BC: I'd like to revoke my seconding.*
- *AB: Would anybody like to second it?*
- *AQ: I'd like to second it.*
- *AB: Do you agree to everything on the side?*
- *BC: It means you wouldn't be able to steal mascots as exec members.*
- *AQ: No, I won't second then.*

- **AB: Does anyone else want to second it?**
- **IW: What's the difference between DUSAGG and SSAGO stealing mascots?**
- **AB: Things like not letting exec members steal mascots. We can currently steal them at events. Ok then the motion is no longer under consideration since no one will second it.**
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- **Motion: "Brand Guidelines" Proposer Alfie Baker, Secunder Katie Pugh**
- **AB: This is from me. Excellent. So, over the past year, I've been creating the official, grants guideline documents for the society. And I propose that we, that we officially adopt this into the constitution. Hence, we need over two thirds majority for this to pass. But that's a side point. As I'm proposing this motion, Beth will be chairing this motion. I would like to now show you the brand guideline document. So we've got the wording of our name, such that, we should have capitalization on all of our letters properly. We should not be split the acronym poorly it looks ugly. So this will be our, round dark and round light logo, and they should show a nice contrast to the background. And if neither of them shows nice contrast to the background, a new background color should be picked. We've also got a linear logo, light and dark, obviously. So this one can be used in the center of pages and on stash, like, right in the middle of things. Whereas this one is in the headers of documents and so forth. We've also got the official DUSAGG color palettes, with hex codes. We've got our official font, which is nunito sans, which is the official scouting font as well. There was consideration made for the guiding font poppins, but the exec voted for nunito sans. They are practically identical except for letter a as far as I can tell. We've also got the font for our logo, which is archive. Mold has adaptations, mole can be the normal way round and mirrored, we can put items in his hand, put a hat on him. We cannot change his facial expression, use just his head or edit him in a disrespectful manner. These original moles can be brought back for anniversary, joint events with our graduate association DOGs. They should be used in limited capacity to draw excitement. Post nominals. For our DUSAGG awards, we'll go through later. I believe every DUSAGG member should be allowed to wear their post nominals and that they should go before other traditional post nominals such as PhD. Banana mole should not be a post nominal. Mid Mad logo has new**

designs thanks to Martha. We've got the new outdoor logo as created by Katie. Thanks Katie. Light and dark variations. Indoor logo as created by Katie light and dark variations.

- - *We've also got the logos of our varying partners, the SU, DUSVO, SSAGO. These should be used in line with their own brand guidelines for each organisation.*
 - *BC: Any questions for Alfie?*
 - *VC: With the whole thing of not being able to edit mole, are we allowed to do it on, like, specific scenarios where it's supposed to be funny?*
 - *AB: So you can edit mole, just respectfully.*
 - *VC: Can we get a definition for respectfully?*
 - *AB: You could email me to get it approved.*
 - *AB: Any more questions for me?*
 - *CC: Would it help if Mid Mad, Indoor and Outdoor said DUSAGG on the logo?*
 - *AB: They haven't traditionally, to be fair, because Midnight Madness is associated with us, and Indoor and Outdoor are Durham City events run by DUSAGG.*
 - *BC: Would anybody like to speak against the motion?*
 - *BC: Are we happy to go to a vote? Okay. So all for the motion?*
- Unanimous*

• ***Motion passed with a General Aye***

- *Motion: "Time limits for exec husts" Proposer Sam Walshaw, Seconder Alfie Baker.*
 - *SW: At our EGMs the husts seemed to go way to long so I'm proposing 3 minutes for every hust except the President who can have 5 minutes. This works well for other societies and JCRs.*
 - ***SD: In my JCR we knock on the table with a minutes notice, will we do that?***
 - ***SW: Yes that would work.***
 - ***KP: Is there a minimum time?***
 - ***SW: No.***
 - ***RT: Will there be time for questions within the three minutes?***
 - ***SW: No questions is however long afterwards.***
 - ***AB: Does anybody want to speak against the motion?***
 - ***AQ: I feel like limiting the hust takes away some of the personal aspect of the hust. It's a chance to introduce yourself.***
 - ***SW: If you're going for an exec role, you should already be integrated into the society.***
 - ***AB: Votes for the motion? 10 votes for.***
 - ***AB: Votes against? 1 vote against.***
- ***Motion passed***

- *Motion: "Volunteering split", Proposer Alfie Baker, Secunder Katie Pugh.*
- *AB: So the society will officially split its efforts between Durham University Student Volunteering Organisation and Durham Student's Union. The volunteer leads will be DUSAGG Liaisons Officers. Our finances will be split. What does this mean? For the day to day running of the society, this means basically nothing. It's an administrative change which allows our volunteering finances to be held under DUSVO rather than the SU, it's easier to deal with the finances with DUSVO because we'll have access to a card or they'll go shopping with us. Being an official DUSVO group will allow us to be more engaged with the DUSVO community, log our volunteering hours properly, basically it's making everything a lot easier. There will be a change to the constitution. But this is a motion to say, are we happy that this is going to happen? If not, that's fine as well.*
- *LF: How is this going to be put to Freshers? Is it not going to change or will we mention that you can focus on one side or the other.*
- *AB: So officially in DUSAGG we already say you can just volunteer you don't have to be involved in the socials and hence you don't pay membership. This is just making that official. So people can just be volunteering or just social members.*
- *AQ: So do volunteering members not pay membership?*
- *AB: No, but they also don't get any of the benefits.*
- *BC: How will it work if they need a necker to volunteer at events, if they haven't paid membership?*
- *AB: You'd assume the volunteering members would be volunteering with groups so you'd expect the group to provide them with a necker. They could purchase a necker from DUSAGG if you wanted one.*
- *VC: What if you pay membership for other years but you already have a necker, is it just subsidising socials then?*
- *AB: Sp your necker cost is split across three years of membership so we take a loss in your first year as a gamble that you'll continue in later years.*
- *BC: Any more questions for Alfie? Would anybody like to speak against the motion? No?*
- *BC: Those in favour of the motion?*
- **Motion passed with a General Aye**

Short break

6. Exec Position Hustings

a. President

- *AB: For President, the two candidates are Martha or RON.*
- *Nominator: Beth Clayton, Secunder: Katie Pugh*

MM:

- *What I have done:*
- *Improved Resources:*
 - *digitisation of liaison files*
 - *social media post catalogue for stash orders*
- *Enhanced Volunteering and Networking:*
 - *Attended all district leadership team meetings and promoted our communications and inputs into local Scouting and Guiding.*
 - *9 volunteers locally, 16 scout-associated members.*
- *Strengthened Liaisons Events:*
 - *Retrieval trackers*
 - *MidMad to Durham Scouts Events and updates to all plans, RAs, etc. that came with this*
 - *Loaning of county kit - feather flags, county phone, spokes, hi vis neckers*
 - *Logos*
 - *Safety briefing video*
 - *50/50 split between Scouts and Guides at indoor. Social media.*
- *Enhanced Event Processes:*
 - *dual direction route checks for Midnight Madness and Outdoor events*
 - *Review of MidMad venue including pros, cons, photos. Support future officers, continue.*
- *As President, I plan to:*
- *Continue Improving Resources:*
 - *Complete digitization*
- *Reinforce Volunteering and Networking:*
 - *Support the establishment of regular Scout Network meetings and strengthen collaboration with local groups.*
 - *Encourage volunteering - groups and events*
- *Develop Funding and Equipment:*
 - *volunteering funds work w exec committee*
 - *grants and funding to further improve equipment (vol and social)*
- *Oversee the DSU-DUSVO Split:*
 - *Continue Alfie's work*
 - *Encourage members to volunteer with total, district, and county Scout and Guide events to rebuild DUSAGG's volunteering presence.*
 - *#freemole*
- *Develop Funding and Equipment:*

- *Work with the exec on budgeting to allocate volunteering funds toward enhancing future events.*
- *Apply for local grants and additional funding to improve social and event equipment.*
- *oversee the DSU-DUSVO Split:*
 - *Continue Alfie's work on managing the split between Durham Students Union and Dusvo. ensuring clarity in funding and responsibilities*
- *I would be honoured to serve as your president and am eager to work with each of you to build on our society even more and to continue to improve on the group.*
- *AB: Questions for Martha?*
- *SW: How do you propose we get more freshers Involved In the society?*
- *MM: The advertising this year was very beneficial so we'd use the promotional material again. The other good thing about DUSVO Is that we could go to more volunteering fairs.*
- *SW: How will you support DUSAGG 100?*
- *MM: I'd liaise with the committee and with DOGs.*
- *SW: Do you think we should have an annual survey?*
- *MM: I could see the benefits, I think AGMs and EGMs are also a good place to bring things up.*
- *BC: Having seen your Interactions with social media, how can we be sure you won't harm the reputation of the society by creating more teeth moles? In terms of social media though, I do intend to share that out a bit.*
- *AQ: Would you consider making a social media role on the exec?*
- *MM: It falls under the secretary's responsibility.*
- *AB: Does anybody want to hust on behalf of RON? Someone Is supposed to according to tradition.*
- *AQ: We should make Alfie be president long after his year finishes.*
- *AB: Voting Is done online and will be open for about a week.*
- *Results from online voting: 14 Votes for Martha, 0 Votes for RON*

Results from online voting: 14 Votes for Martha, 0 Votes for RON, Total votes: 14

b. Secretary

- *AB: Choices for Secretary are Beth or RON.*
- *Nominator: Martha Manley, Seconder: Sam Walshaw*
- *BC: Hello. I'm Beth. I've been your Secretary for this last year. I'm a second-year sociology student. I'm also a Cub leader in Durham, a Scout leader at home, a County Youth lead at home, and a youth*

advocate. So, this year, I've redesigned the website. I will say my degree has suffered less than Martha's, I think. So I've redesigned the website. That's now all up to date. The minutes are all uploaded for the past years. At the start of the year, I was focusing more heavily on the social media side of things for our socials. Then Kris very kindly took that on. So I am very happy to take that on again for the coming year. I know that is within the job description, but it has moved around towards social secretary, so I'm happy to take that back on. And then obviously the day to day of meetings and minutes. So how will I build on the progress of this year, next year? Continuing with the day to day. So, committing to a one week turnaround for minutes. I feel like I've learned a lot from the social media. At the start of the year being a bit kind of just thrown in the deep end with it. So they're not going to be probably as good as Chris's because I'm not sure how to make them look so artistic, but they will be functional, engaging social media posts. And then I know that Alfie has been working on the move to Microsoft 365. So I will continue to work on moving from the Google Drive to 365. Any questions?

- SW: Is there enough space on the website for all the Mid Mad files?
- MM: That'll be on the SharePoint.
- BC: I haven't tested how much we can upload to the website, but it's coping so far with the minutes etc.
- AB: Would anybody like to hust for RON?
- MM: RON would support teeth mole.

Results from online voting: 13 Votes for Beth, 0 Votes for RON, Total votes: 13

c. Treasurer

- AB: So this is a contested election, Liam would you like to go first as Annabel has slides.
- Liam: Nominator: Sam Walshaw, Seconder: Beth Clayton
- Annabel: Proposer: Alfie Baker, Seconder: Sylvie Hollinghurst
- LF: I'm Liam, I've been in the Scouts for a long time, young leadering, I went to Korea. I'm a maths student, I'm good with numbers. I really want to get a position on the exec this year and get more involved in the society. I think it's a great thing and I want to help run activities. I'm monetary minded, I'm efficient. My mum was the treasurer for our Scout group and I helped her with that. I'm one of those spreadsheet people. I'm also very rational and

reasonable, I won't make any rash decisions with our spending. With some of the money we have now and wanting to turn it into equipment, I think that has to be done efficiently and mindfully. I've set up uno society, I'm looking at gettingg Treasurer on the archery society.

- *AB: Questions?*
- *RT: Knowing how busy a maths degree is, do you think you have time for the role?*
- *LF: I've learnt to manage my time in second term. The second year of a maths degree is quite difficult but I've seen how it's been redone as a maths student voice person.*
- *SW: Is your plan as treasurer to be cheap and efficient?*
- *LF: Spending should be limited, so as cheap as possible without losing quality. Unreasonable expenditure is to be curbed wherever possible.*
- *MM: What's unreasonable expenditure?*
- *LF: Anything that had a cheaper alternative that's still reasonable, try and only purchase things that are absolutely necessary. If it was significantly less in quality then that would not be suitable.*
- *AB: Annabel it's your turn to hust.*
- *AQ: I have had lots of experience, whether it be in scouting with my group at home or at school, in handling large sums of money very well and, keeping track of it all. I think the most we ever handled at once was £1,200 for a fundraiser, that we ran as part of our school, and that was very well handled. Lots of money counting, I have a number of contacts and therefore, if I did ever have any questions, then I would know who to talk to. I'm proficient at using Excel, as evidenced. These are various things I've done and, also finances on Excel. I made a rubber duck once. Yeah. I got an eight at math GCSE. And I can use a calculator? The workload of treasurer is good, the sporadic timing of the treasurer role works well with my attention span. I'm good at budgeting. On a more serious note, I have had experience, handling lots of money, and I've always got the support of lots of the other exec members I know, because we've had a lot of help this year for stuff, whether it be Sam or Alfie or literally anyone. So I know if there ever was a point that anything needed helping with, then we've got that support. I want to take on more responsibility so I can be better use at treasuring with my group at home. I'd like to help with the split between social and volunteering. I'm not known to be an overspender, and I have seen firsthand, both within and outside of scouting what uncontrolled and overspending can do and what it can do to a group. So, like, my group at home has always had a had a lot of issues and I'd like to prevent anything like that from happening.*
- *AQ: Questions?*
- *VC: What happens if you're attention span fails when the treasurer stuff needs to be submitted?*
- *AQ: Well, the great thing about my attention span is that I will focus on one thing and only one thing until that thing is done.*

- *SW: How would you make the finances more transparent to people?*
- *AB: Anyone can ask a question about the finances at any time.*
- *AQ: In that case, I'll have the spreadsheet on my phone so I can give anyone an answer straight away.*
- *AB: Questions for both candidates?*
- *SW: Question to Liam the same as I asked of Annabel, how would you make the finances transparent?*
- *LF: You can make them accessible on request, all of it will be formatted in a way so that at any time you can go and access it. I'd be more than happy to work with people to go through the spreadsheets.*
- *MM: For the smaller costs, how do you both plan to regulate spending?*
- *LF: People can obviously buy stuff and ask for it to be reimbursed, if it looked reasonable then I would approve it. If it was maybe not the best option, it could be a case of having a conversation and next time saying have a look at this, look in this different place. If it was less reasonable, it would have to be on a case by case basis. Most issues would be alleviated by having these discussions beforehand. Maybe put something on the exec group chat so we can come to a consensus.*
- *AQ: From what I've gathered, the equipment for bases is pre decided. Whether it needs to be a whole exec discussion maybe not, but should be discussed with someone. Not just going out and buying something and expecting it to be reimbursed.*
- *SD: What would you say is you're average response time to reimbursements because expense 365 comes through as a notification.*
- *LF: I check my messages over lunch and the evening, I can almost always respond within the day if it is urgent. I can acknowledge the response but I can't promise it will be done within the day.*
- *AQ: By the end of the day I'd at least see the notification, it depends what the turn around has to be for the app. If people want it paying back straight away, then it can be paid back as soon as possible.*
- *SW: How does your financial background prepare you for the role?*
- *AQ: I have had experience in handling personal and non personal money, I have contacts with accountants who I could ask, and the treasurer of my scout group.*
- *LF: My mum was treasurer and is also an accountant, and I helped with the treasurer role.*
- *AB: Would anyone like to hust for RON?*
- *SW: God help us if either of these two get treasurer.*

**Results from online voting: 11 Votes for Annabel, 0 Votes for Liam, 1 Vote for RON,
Total votes: 12**

d. Social Secretary

- *AB: We have nobody running for social secretary, would anybody like to run from the floor? No? Ok that will go to an EGM.*

Results from online voting: 13 Votes for RON, Total votes: 13

e. Events Secretary

- *AB: Sam and RON are the candidates for Events.*
- *Nominator: Beth Clayton, Secunder: Liam Ford.*
- *SW: Hello. I'm Sam as you may know. I really want to be event sec because I love DUSAGG. I've really enjoyed being co-social sec this year, planning loads of socials, which the feedback from has been really good. I've already got the skills from that to liaise with venues and communicate to people, in terms of events. And I've got lots of ideas and socials that we could turn into larger events that we didn't manage to do, this term. I love the exec, we're lovely. I'm really keen to work with these likeminded people next year. DUSAGG is my favorite society, and I've been to the vast majority of socials, since I joined. I'm realistic about time commitments and I considered going for liaisons but I decided not to so I have more time for my degree. I seem to have a fairly decent work life balance. I'm sociable and don't mind sending random emails to people or chatting. My pledges: work with our wonderful current events secretary to plan this years summer camp, bring back the two night Freshers camp, organise and lead a DUSAGG expedition. I'd make the Christmas sleepover a two night event if that's what we wanted. Make Safari Supper a full day event, update the website with our recent event.*
- *AB: Questions for Sam?*
- *SH: How would you handle the responsibility of events after losing your phone on a recent DUSAGG trip?*
- *SW: I'm very good at the very complex things, and not normal things.*
- *MM: How would you make Safari Supper practical with a full exec.*
- *SW: Again if people are free on the day, we could make it a full day event.*
- *KO: Which society is better, DUSAGG or hill walking?*
- *SW: DUSAGG.*

Results from online voting: 13 Votes for Sam, 0 Votes for RON, Total votes: 13

f. Liaisons Officer (Scouts)

- *AB: For the role of Scout Liaisons, we have Sylvie and RON.*
- *Nominator: Alfie Baker, Secunder: Ella Bradick*
- *SH: What would I do? What it says in the job description, I would work with the Guides Liaison to organize and plan Mid Mad, Indoor and Outdoor. Obviously, it's important to remain more in contact with local scout groups and keep building the size of them. I was events sec this year, and so that's given me a lot*

of prior event management, organization, planning skills. Adaptability thanks to Liverpool Scouts. I'll organise summer camp as well which should give me even more event management skills. I've organised an incident hike before, and I've had many roles: assistant Beaver leader, District Youth Team, County Youth Team and running leader modules and I'm on the UK rep pool.

- *SW: Do you have the work life balance for this role?*
- *SH: I've been managing work life balance my whole life.*
- *MM: Any themes in mind for Mid Mad?*
- *SH: Not yet.*
- *AQ: Are you willing to sacrifice cheer?*
- *SH: It's only four hours a week, so I've definitely still got time for liaisons.*
- *AB: One of the key roles is liaising with groups to help members volunteer with local groups, are you prepared to work with the District Lead Volunteer to find out which groups need most help?*
- *SH: 100%, I like the idea of publishing on the WhatsApp group when groups need occasional help. I think that's a nice way to get volunteers who don't have time to commit weekly.*
- *SW: How will you do the role without a car?*
- *SH: I'll rely on public transport.*
- *MM: We can use the minibus for liaisons events.*
- *AB: Are you willing to work with the Guides Liaisons officer to promote both Guides and Scouts?*
- *SH: Yes, I have experience with Guiding.*
- *JG: It would be helpful for you to visit some groups to get an idea of what's going on and we have termly district leadership meetings, would you be happy to attend?*
- *SH: Yes.*
- *AB: Would anybody like to hust for RON?*
- *KP: Tawny would like to be Scouts Liaisons because Tawny wants to be scouts as well as Guides.*

Results from online voting: 13 Votes for Sylvie, 0 Votes for RON, Total votes: 13

g. Liaisons Officer (Guides)

- *AB: Ella and RON are the options for Guides Liaisons.*
- *Nominator: Alfie Baker, Seconder: Sylvie Hollinghurst.*
- *EB: I'm a Guide Leader, and a Brownie and Ranger leader back home. I have really enjoyed volunteering at the events this year, I've managed to go to all of them and I've had such a great time and I would like to help organise them alongside the Scouts Liaisons officer. I want to encourage more people to volunteer with Guides and get more Guides involved in Indoor and Outdoor.*

- *AB: Questions for Ella?*
- *AB: Our relationship with current Guiding Division has been a bit hit and miss this year, mostly on their side, how will you work to fix that this year? You could maybe attend their team meetings?*
- *EB: I'd definitely be happy to do that. I also have contacts with Guiding in the local area who could help. I'm more than willing to work with anyone.*
- *SW: How will you manage the workload?*
- *EB: I did a lot this year, but I've chosen not to do some of those role next year to make space for liaisons. As a history student, I don't have many contact hours.*
- *AB: Can someone hust for RON?*
- *EB: RON has been more committed to socials but in my defence most socials are on a Wednesday when my Guides meet.*

Results from online voting: 13 Votes for Ella, 0 Votes for RON, Total votes: 13

h. Quartermaster

- *AB: Isaac or RON are the options for Quartermaster.*
- *Nominator: Alfie Baker, Secunder: Sam Walshaw.*
- *I've been in Scouting since I was 5 and a half, I've been to Korea. I have no idea what's in the stores so I want to go through them out of interest, I want to make sure that all the kit is up to date. So first aid kits, gas bottles, make sure anything is not damaged, and then organizing, repairing, and reordering, anything that requires it. And make sure that the kit that's in the stores is suitable for the society or your Scout/Guide group's plans, so camps, expeditions, and events. Make sure the spreadsheet that's being made or make a spreadsheet, and make sure the spreadsheet is accessible. Help support people if they want to borrow stuff from district. I've got good organization and good packing skills. I also packed Rosie's car on outdoor and did a very good job. I like fixing things. I like knowing how things work.*
- *AQ: When do the roles come into effect?*
- *AB: There's a handover period of one term, both the execs act at the same time.*
- *AQ: Would you stay over Easter and help Hannah go through the stores?*
- *IW: If the dates fit, I live in Newcastle so it would be easier.*
- *SD: How do you plan to look after Cardboard Alfie's ashes?*
- *IW: I think that's for the exec to decide.*
- *AB: We currently don't have a mascot for Quartermaster, are you willing to work with Hannah to pick one? Do you have any ideas?*
- *IW: I'll work with Hannah to pick one.*

Results from online voting: 13 Votes for Isaac, 0 Votes for RON, Total votes: 13

- *AB: Sylvie excused from the AGM at 19.16.*

7. Awards

- *AB: As many of you know, we have four DUSAGG Awards, a new one for this year as well. It has no recipients yet. These are a prestigious part of our society. Nominations for these need a nominator and a seconder from the floor, and they need a reason or citation which can be added to the minutes.*

a. Banana Mole

- *AB: Firstly, banana mole. The recipient of the Banana Mole Award is someone who through an act of spectacular silliness has secured their place in DUSAGG history. Their memorable misstep, mishap, or moments of madness is truly deserving of the honor. I'd like to kick off proceedings by nominating Katie for banana mole, for, sleeping through the start of outdoor. Who would like to second me for this?*
- *Ella: I will.*
- *Are we all happy to agree on this, hands up?*
- **Passed on a General Aye**
- *SW: I'd like to nominate Annabel and Sylvie for the creation of Cardboard Alfie and all events which followed.*
- *MM: Rosie created a cardboard Alfie as well.*
- *SD: I'll second that.*
- *AB: Votes by a show of hands?*
- **Passed on a General Aye**
- *IW: I'd like to nominate Beth for putting her base in the wrong place at Outdoor.*
- *AB: I second that. Do we agree that on a General Aye?*
- **Passed on a General Aye**
- *SW: I'd like to nominate Annabel for the spectacular silliness of bringing the eggs to the social and bringing them to Outdoor.*
- *IW: I'll second.*
- *AB: Do we all agree on that?*
- **Passed on a General Aye**
- *AB: The next three awards should not be given as lightly, they are for distinguished and extended service. So please do think carefully about who you want to vote for these.*

b. Order of Roger

- *AB: Those given the order of Roger are a special breed and have done Old Roger Proud, for they have become like an uncle to us all. Relied upon to always show up and stay till the very end. They bring an extra something special to any meeting. Roger, we salute you.*
- *SW: Martha and Beth should be nominated for always coming to every social and staying to the very end and being the embodiment of DUSAGG to me.*
- *LF: I second that.*
- *AB: Do we agree on that?*
- **Motion passed on the General Aye**

c. Order of Mole

- *AB: Order of Mole. This is our highest award we can nominate somebody for in the society. Those given the Order of Mole are those members that for one reason or another have become a surrogate parent to every member of the club. They're devotion knows no limits and our gratitude knows no end.*
- *BC: I'd like to nominate Alfie Baker. Can I have a seconder?*
- *RT: I'll second that.*

BC: Now this is my opportunity to embarrass Alfie. So, as we've said, the Order of Mole, is given out to people whose devotion knows no limits and our gratitude knows no end. So these are just some quotes from some of our exec.

- *"Creation of exec member documents and always going above and beyond to help all exec members in their roles" – Sam*
- *"Safety briefing video, District youth lead, volunteering across all DUSAGG events and supporting many local groups and events" – Martha*
- *"Not doing his degree as DUSAGG is more important" – Sam*
- *"Gives people lifts everywhere and even offers to pick people up when they get stuck at Lidl" – Katie*
- *"Very nearly drove all the way to Spennymoor on a cold Tuesday night to pick us up" – Sam*
- *"Has put up with Annabel superbly all year" – Sam*
- *"Despite hating Christmas, he organised an amazing Christmas Sleepover" – Katie*
- *"We love him so much we made a cardboard toy of him" – Sam*
- *"Continuously goes out of his way to leave a lasting legacy, such as the brand guidelines" – Sam*

- *“Has worked really hard to make the society inclusive to all, resolving issues and dealing with conflicts” – Katie*
- *“Providing his support and guidance in a slightly condescending and sarcastic way but he deeply cares” – Katie*
- *“The person we would call in a crisis, but he would laugh at us after” – Beth*

Other things that weren't quoted:

- *He has been dedicated to the society throughout his degree (Basically Alfie is old).*
- *Caring and kind figure, going above and beyond for all members.*
- *Has run successful MidMad, Indoor and Outdoor and supported many events – also supported Liaisons Officers this year.*
- *Introducing Guides back to Indoor and Outdoor for the first time since 2007.*
- *Single-handedly reached an agreement between the SU, DUSVO and SSAGO over the volunteering split. This is an achievement that has never been seen before and may never be seen again.*
- *Under Alfie's leadership, the society has tripled in size and we have brought back weekly socials (sometimes multiple times per week). We are really back in the Golden Age of DUSAGG.*
- *Closing comments from Sam: “His ego's gonna get so inflated it might explode” – Sam*
- *AB: Thank you everybody for your kind words. I really appreciate it.*
- *BC: Are we all happy to agree on that?*
- ****Passed with a General Aye****
- **CC: I just want to say thank you to Alfie for helping me through a really hard time.**

d. Order of Tawny and Duncan

- *AB: So those given the order of Tawny and Duncan are recognized for their outstanding dedication, extended service to DUSAGG, whether as ex members or devoted supporters, their commitment to helping events, volunteering, or simply*

going above and beyond to have a lasting impact on the society. We are deeply thankful for their continued support. So this award is for nonmembers or ex members of DUSAGG who have given us an extended period of support or particularly strong support. We have asked exec back to when I was first in the society for nominations for this. But we'll also be taking nominations from anybody else. So we're going through my ones first. If people would be having to send in to come. Seconding will be Matthew Taylor, a previous exec member if everyone's happy to accept that? Good. So firstly, we'd like to nominate Andy Carr, for his exceptional dedication to DUSAGG. For serving as a retrieval driver at our events and contributing to the organization. His support as a King Scout Award mentor is significant and his ongoing friendship to the society has made a significant impact. Are we happy to approve that?

- ***Passed on a General Aye***

- *AB: Next, Tony Brewis for over 20 years of dedicated service to DUSAGG as a first aider at Mid Mad, ensuring the safety and wellbeing of participants throughout the event. Are we happy to approve?*

- ***Passed on a General Aye***

- *AB: Rich Hall for his invaluable technical support at our volunteering events. For providing his tracker system free of charge, setting up radios and offering vital assistance to ensure our events run smoothly. Are we happy to approve?*

- ***Passed on a General Aye***

- *AB: Ok so Susan Ford for her continuous support at DUSAGG events since graduating, including serving as our Guiding Going Away With license holder at Midnight Madness enabling many Rangers to attend safely. Are we happy to approve? I will note these citations are quite short, these people do a lot more for our Society. They help massively with everything we do.*

- ***Passed on a General Aye***

- *AB: Ok so Slimer (Jonathon Tones). For his continuous support at DUSAGG volunteering events, as well as providing valuable advice and knowledge to those in the society who need it. As Martha and Katie will tell you, Slimer is fantastic. Are we happy to agree?*

- ***Passed on a General Aye***

- *AB: Finally, Darren Melroy. For his unwavering support with our volunteering events, providing invaluable assistance with control, route checking, event safety, and technical support. His dedication and friendship have been greatly appreciated by the society. Are we happy to agree?*

- ***Passed on a General Aye***

- **AB: Any nominations from the floor? No.**

8. AOB

- **SW: Do you think Scouts and Guides Liaisons should apply as a duo?**
- **AB: We had that previously and it didn't work. If people wanted to hust together they could.**
- **IW: Can we banana mole you for omitting the post nominals?**

- *RT: I'll second.*
- *BC: All in favour?*
- **Passed on a General Aye**
- *JG: I've really enjoyed being here tonight and I'd like to give out something to Alfie Peter Baker which is your five year service award.*

Meeting ended: 19.30