



Burley-in-Wharfedale Scout and Guide Group



AGM 2019 – New HQ Report

After the knock-on effects of the delays caused by awful weather to the start of building in the spring of 2018, Phase 1 (the shell of the building) was completed before the end of 2018 and Phase 2 (the technical fitting out) to the stage of practical completion and handover at Easter this year.

The Group has been responsible for final fittings and I thank those leaders and others who have dealt with those.

Phase 3 (demolition of the old hut, groundworks and roadworks) is mostly complete, so the whole project is due to be finished before the official opening at the end of this month.

We are grateful to the relevant planning officer for agreeing that we could use the HQ while the project is completed on the understanding that we were proceeding immediately to Phase 3 and had an acceptable target date for project completion.

The other condition for the HQ's current use is that we keep all construction traffic out of Peel Place and all Group vehicles (including parents' vehicles). We thank leaders and parents for their co-operation but we must keep honouring that condition until completion.

The fundraising team have continued their efforts during the year and we have settled all accounts on presentation. We have the major part of the cash we need for the last stage payments for Phase 3 but we will have some final professional fees to settle and the standard 2.5% retention against the builder's account to settle over the next year.

So, we have to set alongside the good news that there's still some fundraising to do, although we have the security of adequate offers of interest-free loans from a combination of the Community Trust and several individuals, should we need to take advantage of them.

The Official Opening on Saturday 28th September will provide the right occasion for formal thanks to all those who have worked so hard on this project but it would be remiss of me not to record tonight our gratitude to our excellent architect, Mark Hide, and builder, Tim Greenbank (and his team), to our own lay member John Spencer for the donated engineering design work by him and his firm, the skilled technical contractors and, without whom nothing would have built, all those who've laboured with the enormous task of fundraising.

Bryan Collins (Group Chairman)