

15th Didcot Scouts Grant Aid Report

In summer 2019 the electric boiler and water heating system at 15th Didcot Scout Hut failed and needed to be replaced. The funds that we received from Didcot Town Council's Grant Aid scheme covered the cost of the removal of the existing system and installation of replacements, including upgrading the heating controls to a programmable thermostat. Following the approval of our Grant Aid application, we were able to have the work carried out the following week and the Beavers, Cubs, Scout and Explorers who use the Scout hut every week were able to benefit from the grant straight away.



15th Didcot is a popular Scout Group: each week we provide Scouting to around 60 young people from Didcot in Beavers, Cubs and Scouts supported by 11 leaders and other volunteers. The Scout hut is also used by Didcot Explorer Scout Unit and 23rd Didcot Beavers and Cubs for their weekly meetings providing benefits to a further 50 young people. Our Scout hut is in use for weekly meetings every night of the week and having hot water for hand washing and washing up as well as heating in our toilet block extension is essential, especially as we approached winter.

I will be very pleased to arrange acknowledgement of the Council's financial support on our (in-progress) website, other social media and in our annual report in due course. Since the electric boiler and water heating system was replaced, we have been able to continue to rent out the space for other Scouting and community groups to use. This provides us with a small but essential income stream and provides the wider community with a place for meetings. We have held night's away events at the Scout hut for the Cubs, Scouts and Explorer sections, all of which wouldn't have been possible without the replacement of the electric boiler and water heating system.

As Scouts, we believe in preparing young people with skills for life. We encourage our young people to do more, learn more and be more. On behalf of 15th Didcot Scout Group, I would like to thank Didcot Town Council for the Grant Aid award, which has allowed us to continue to do this.

Helen Seymour
Group Scout Leader, 15th Didcot Scouts