

**15 August 2023**

### **Statement regarding Girlguiding's announcement about activity centres (Waddow Hall)**

Following Girlguiding's announcement on 18 May and yesterday's subsequent announcement regarding the activity centres (in particular Waddow), we stated that we would make a further announcement in August following the result of Girlguiding's consultation.

In our original statement, we advised that we were sympathetic to the situation that Waddow finds themselves in and although we are unable to support Waddow financially, we very much wanted to offer help and support in other ways. We also committed to doing a number of things to help, which included;

- talking to Waddow Hall to see how and if we can help
- talking to anyone in the membership who has ideas about how we can support Waddow Hall going forward

Over the last two months we have been able to do both of these things and we want to thank everyone for their support and all their communications regarding this situation.

In addition, the Friends of Waddow AGM was held in July and Julie Walton Region Chief Commissioner, Kathryn Qattan Deputy Region Chief Commissioner and Kelly Hunter, Executive Manager of Girlguiding North West England all attended this meeting. At this meeting we heard that Friends of Waddow together with their Heritage Group are working incredibly hard to do all they can to ensure Waddow continues to offer adventure to all. To that end they have set up Waddow Hall Trust with the purpose of securing a future for Waddow Hall. For more information you can visit <https://waddowhalltrust.co.uk/>

We all love Waddow Hall and are sympathetic to the situation that they find themselves in, we understand that many of our members are upset by the decision made by Girlguiding Trustees. Anyone wishing to support Waddow Hall Trust can do so by visiting the website above to find out more regarding their plans.

Girlguiding also have a special support team in place, to give volunteers and members the support needed. Any member or parent who has questions about this announcement should contact [enquiries.property@girlguiding.org.uk](mailto:enquiries.property@girlguiding.org.uk) or 020 3839 8466.

You can also contact us regionally with any ideas or suggestions about how we can help further, please email [northwesthq@girlguidingnwe.org.uk](mailto:northwesthq@girlguidingnwe.org.uk) and these will be considered.

**Girlguiding North West England**