

ANIMAL AID & ADVICE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ANIMAL AID AND ADVICE₂

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2024

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner the Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that the audit requirements of section 43(2) of Charities Act 1993 (the Act) do not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts (under section 132(1)(chapter 1) of the Act, follow the procedures laid in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 131(1,2&3) of the Act, akknd state whether particular matters have come to my attention. Also as required by the Charities Act 2011 and Charities Act 2006.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanation from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements.

(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 134 of the 2011 Act and

(b) to prepare accounts which in accordance with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met or

2. to which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

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AMIR AND ASSOCIATES

ANIMAL AID & ADVICE NORTH LONDON

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Registered Charity No: 1039640

Working to promote responsible pet ownership

www.animalaidandadvice.org

Principal Address: - 48 High Road East Finchley London N2 9PJ

Annual Review - 1st January - 31st December 2024

<u>Trustees:</u>	<u>Chair:</u>	<u>Deputy Chair:</u>	<u>Hon. Secretary</u>	<u>Committee Members</u>
	Clara Colvin	Marilyn Dyson Hon Treasurer	Sally Sampaio	No others

All our Trustees served throughout 2024

Animal Aid & Advice North London is a registered Charity, Number 1039640, founded in 1971. The Charity's Aims and Objectives are the provision of care and shelter of stray, neglected and unwanted animals of all kinds. Most of our work currently involves rescuing stray, abandoned cats with some re-homing of unwanted ones. Some small mammals occasionally come into our care but 99% of our work involves cats. We also promote how to be a responsible pet owner and the importance of neutering which gives a better quality of life to cats. The Charity has a non-destruction policy.

To achieve these aims the Charity encourages and helps people to have their animals neutered and disseminates information on responsible pet ownership among the public.

The Management Committee comprises the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and can be up to four other Committee Members. All of these would be Trustees of the Charity.

The Charity's bankers are: Barclays Bank PLC, PO Box 6549, Muswell Hill, London N10 and Nat West Bank PLC, 190 Muswell Hill Broadway, London N10 3TF and Lloyds Bank

There are no paid officials or staff and the group owns no premises. Elections of officers and committee members take place annually at the Annual General Meeting. Eligible outgoing members may stand for re-election. The Annual General Meeting is held within three months of the end of the financial year.

Election of Officers and Committee Members for 2024. Clara Colvin elected chair, Marilyn Dyson Deputy Chair/Treasurer, Sally Sampaio Hon. Secretary. Barbara Lillford as Committee Member from Aug '25.

General: We would like to thank Accountants, Amir Associates Ltd of 39 Braemar Avenue, Wood Green London N22 7BY for their work in examining the accounts.

The Trustees continue an on-going review of the systems of financial and administrative control and continue to introduce new procedures in respect of both income and expenditure, which the Trustees believe will ensure that the charity continues to operate in accordance with best practice.

Finance: The accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024 are part of this review

Donations: The income from donations is down on the previous year but does tend to fluctuate yearly.

Legacies: We have had a further Legacy from the late Sylvia Currie after her final accounts have now been settled.

Membership: Renewals remain roughly the same but we are extending our contacts through email.

We have only 48 life members and now down to 14 yearly ones.

Our Lend-a-Paw scheme still generates a regular source of income and raised £1,682 this year.

This is a little higher than previous year.

Charity Shop: The shop has been fully operational throughout 2024 and has generated an income of £28,282. The shop is the mainstay for the charity and is a still focal point for our regular customers who normally pop in hoping to find a bargain. With competition from other shops in the High Street we are forever grateful for their support.

Receipts from Assets: We have had an increase this year on normally low interest rates in the past

Veterinary Fees: have greatly increased due to the higher costs from the veterinary services. This has been shown in the accounts but we are still dedicated to provide the best quality of care for all of the cats/kittens.

Fostering Costs: Fostering costs have marginally increased due to the mums and kittens who take up a large proportion of these costs but we are forever grateful to the fosterers who take on this endless task of feeding and cleaning up after these little rogues. Some cats do spend a longer time with us before being re-homed or moved on, but we have tried where possible, to reduce the time that animals spend with us and this has been reflected in our overall costs. Foster homes remained much the same as the previous year.

C4: Due to their change of management being run by Cats Protection and the re-branding of the new scheme, we feel very disappointed as the outcome of this new programme ceased to operate for almost a year. This has had a dramatic effect on the cat population that seems to have exploded, causing lots of pressure on other charities and small independent rescuers who are suffering the consequences. As we made the decision to no longer be a contributing member to this neutering scheme, we have tried to neuter more cats for people with strays and pets to try and reduce the unwanted cats that seem to be breeding everywhere. This has shown in our yearly accounts and figures.

Shop and Rent Costs have remained much the same.

Vehicle Costs are marginally down on last year.

Overheads are slightly higher due to rising costs all round and is to be expected.

Repairs & Maintenance: Regular servicing of the Fire Extinguishers is carried out each year with any repairs to the shop.

Fieldwork: The number of cats being homed is slightly lower than the previous year.

Economic pressures on households still affect the uptake of new pets and people have specific criteria for cats they wish to give homes to. Cats that have been neutered has increased, with microchips much the same. Cats taken in by other animal charity groups is much higher as is cats being returned back on site where safe to do so. Cats in long and short term foster care remained constant. Our intake of FIV+ cats is much less than previous years. If anyone would be interested in giving a home to one of our rescue cats, please speak to us after the meeting.

Fieldwork	2024	2023
Cats Homed	50	53
Cats Neutered	117	82
Cats Micro-chipped	66	48
Cats into care with other groups	6	28
Cats returned back on site	36	24
Cats in long/short term foster care	26	28
Euthanasia/Died	7	10
FIV+	3	1
FELV+	0	0

We continue to test all cats that pass through our hands for the FIV and FELV virus. We vaccinate against Feline Enteritis, Influenza and Leukaemia and micro-chip them on re-homing. These measures offer cats the maximum possible protection. Our figures show that our Fieldworker activities were busy throughout the year dealing with stray, feral and abandoned cats and we thank our fieldworkers for their continued exceptional work.

Social Media: Our Website still generates interest in adopting some of our cats.

Our Thanks: We are, as ever, grateful to the Hills Veterinary Practice, 178 Park Road, N8, the Village Vet Potters Bar and the Scratching Post in Hertfordshire for their continued support. Also, our grateful thanks to the Rhodes Minnis Cat Sanctuary, for taking in a number of cats from us this year.

In Conclusion: At the end of 2024 our accounts show that we are down by £20,822 thereby reducing our reserves to £171,310 in line with the Trustees' aim to hold a minimum a reserve of at least two year's expenditure, we are still in a position to do so. This would enable the charity to continue in full operation if any source of income were lost until such time as a replacement source could be found in line with other charities.

Finally, as Chair I would like to thank our Trustees for their hard work and support. Our thanks also go to all our dedicated volunteer workers in the field, the shop, fostering, fund-raising and helping with social media. Volunteers are the lifeblood of a group such as ours without whom we could not continue our work for the animals.

Signature: 

Date: 13th APRIL 2025

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR YEAR END 31 DECEMBER 2024

UNRESTRICTED -	<u>TOTAL FUNDS - 2024</u>	<u>TOTAL FUNDS - 2023</u>
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
<u>Donations/Grants</u>		
Grant Barnet Council	-	-
Donations	7,040.47	7,877.85
Memberships	111.00	151.00
Lend a Paw	1,682.00	1,568.00
Stalls/Sales	-	-
Charity Shop	28,281.66	31,536.86
Legacy	7,843.80	-
	<u>44,958.93</u>	<u>41,133.71</u>
 <u>Receipts from Assets</u>		
Co-Op	18.14	4.33
<u>Receipts from Assets</u>	<u>1,219.15</u>	<u>237.01</u>
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>	<u>46,196.22</u>	<u>41,375.05</u>

PAYMENTS**Direct Charitable Expenditure**

Veterinary Fees	39,842.46	35,111.18
Foster Fees	9,341.08	8,587.56
Baskets & Traps	-	-
C4 Neutering	-	-

Other Expenditure

Cost of Stalls/Sales	-	-
Charity Shop Rent & Costs	10,200.46	10,276.86
Printing & Stationery	101.65	209.88
Administration	872.66	143.59
Car Expenses/Car	2,516.21	2,688.29
Overheads	2,681.59	2,821.06
Repairs & Maintenance	810.12	216.72
Advertising	-	-
Insurance - Shops	274.44	259.00
Insurance - Trustees	190.00	190.00
Website Maintenance	187.76	203.07
Bank Charges	-	-

<u>TOTAL PAYMENTS</u>	<u>67,018.43</u>	<u>60,707.21</u>
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<u>Net of Receipts(Payments)</u>	- 20,822.21	- 19,332.16
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Cash Funds Last Year End	192,132.33	211,464.49
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Cash Funds this year end	171,310.12	192,132.33
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CASH FUNDS

Nat West	47,649.06
Barclays	54,812.10
Cash in Hand	74.37
Llyods Bank account	4,986.00
Lloyds Treasurer account	63,000.00
Santander Business Bond Closed	-
Co-Op Business Bond	788.59
Total Cash Funds	171,310.12

ASSETS RETAINED FOR THE CHARITY'S OWN USE

Baskets	8
Crush Baskets	5
Traps	11
Pens	6
Hospitalisation Pens	5
Car	1
Woods Lamp	1
Shop Till	1
Gazebo	1
Desktop Computer	1
Fax Machine	1
Scanner/Printer	1
Digital Camera	1
Micro-chip scanner	2
Mobile phone	1
Ferminator	1

LIABILITIES

Vets Bills
Expense Claims

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Marilyn Dyson
Treasurer

Date: 28th February 2025

**Minutes of the AGM Meeting of Animal Aid & Advice
held at 2:30pm on 13th April 2025 at the AAA shop in East Finchley**

Present: Clara Colvin (Chair)
Marilyn Dyson (Deputy Chair, Fieldworking/Treasurer)
Sally Sampaio Trustee (Secretary)

Carol Fenwomyn Life Member
Maja Hasan Member
Imran Hasan Member
Barbara Lillford Member

1. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the last AGM meeting held on 14th April 2024 were read and approved

2. Matters Arising

Nothing to report

3. Adoption of Minutes

The minutes were adopted by Maja Hasan and seconded by Sally Sampaio

4. Election of Officers

The Officers were elected as follows:

Clara Colvin - Chair
Marilyn Dyson - Deputy Chair, Treasurer
Sally Sampaio - Secretary
Barbara Lillford As a new Committee Member as from August 2025

5. Consideration of Formal Motions

None Received

6. Presentation of Annual & Financial Reports

As always it has been a busy year. The shop continues to be our main stay for the charity and the volunteers work hard to keep it running. Un-neutered cats seem to be the biggest problem for all concerned with the C4 neutering scheme coming to a halt for most of 2024 has caused an explosion of cats having kittens where people have not or can not afford to have their cats neutered. Micro chipping although a legal requirement does not mean cats will be treated as people are less inclined to take their cats to the vet when sick or injured as vet fees are so high. Cats like these are just left as they are classed as property so they can not be helped by others. Great shame, the government certainly missed the target when neutering should have been the legal requirement and not chips!

The knock on effect of this is, whenever possible, we have tried to increase our neutering of cats and this shows in our financial accounts. Vet and Foster fees are higher due to the extra work load placed onto our Fieldworkers and Fosterers. Our Finances for the year are down on the previous year by £20,822 and reduces or reserves to £171,310

7. Adoption of the Accounts

Adopted by Clara Colvin and seconded by Carol Fenwomyn

8. Any other Business

We welcome Barbara onto our team as a new working Trustee as from August 2025