

Clifford C Palmer & Co  
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors

**THE FRIENDS OF RSPCA SOUTHRIDGE ANIMAL CENTRE**

Charity Registration No : 1068731

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

61 – 67 Rectory Road, Wivenhoe, Colchester, Essex, CO7 9ES  
Telephone: 01206 827770 Email: [office@cliffordpalmer.co.uk](mailto:office@cliffordpalmer.co.uk)  
Steve Reynolds B.A. F.C.A. Director  
VAT registration No: 102 0066 47 Company Registration No: 1068728

**THE FRIENDS OF RSPCA SOUTHRIDGE ANIMAL CENTRE  
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**Objects of the charity:**

The Friends of RSPCA Southridge Animal Centre is constituted under a deed dated 23 April 1997 and is a registered charity number 1068731. The charity is also known as 'Friends of Southridge'.

The objects of the charity are to further the charitable work of the animal establishment by making grants or providing such other assistance to the animal establishment as the executive committee shall, after prior consultation with the animal establishment from time to time, decide.

**Organisation:**

The Executive committee (trustees) comprises of the Manger of Southridge animal centre and, not less than four, or more than eight Full or Associate members of the Friends group, elected at the Annual General Meeting. Elected trustees shall hold office until the end of the Annual General Meeting next after the date on which they came into office, but they may be re-elected.

**Review of transactions and financial position of the charity:**

Total income for the year was **£33,493** up from **£19,429** in 2022. This increase was largely due to large increase in donations in particular, one of over £8,000 via Just Giving, and increased income from fundraising, following the nationwide recovery from Covid restrictions.

The charitable expenditure rose to **£57,186** from **£17,204** in 2022. This was due to a **£20,000** cost for a roof extension on the rabbit enclosure to avoid rainwater running into the hutch area. Veterinary costs also rose significantly on 2022 but these costs tend to fluctuate considerably from year to year and partly reflect a return to a higher number of animals in the Centre's care. This resulted in a deficit of **£19,917.22** in total general unrestricted funds.

Despite this deficit the Charity still has total assets of **£624,136** available for general use.

The charity pays expenses on behalf of the RSPCA Animal Centre. Requests for funding are considered and approved by the committee.

**Achievements:**

The principal achievements of 2023 included the increase in donations and fund-raising revenue following recovery from COVID. We were able to improve the facilities for the rabbits and chickens in the enclosures and ensure that additional veterinary costs cost be covered both for the animals at the Centre and those under the Pensioner's scheme..

**THE FRIENDS OF RSPCA SOUTHRIDGE ANIMAL CENTRE  
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**Plans for the future:**

Our plans are to modernise the system of governance of the Charity, for example by updating the Constitution. We have approached solicitors for legal advice and are entering into discussion with RSPCA HQ, which is an interested party. In addition, we are seeking to develop a Friends website and have put this out to tender to a small number of website design companies.

With regard to the Centre itself, we are looking at providing a significant grant towards providing a water feature and enrichment for the dogs in the large compound. This work is subject to HQ approval before we can begin to seek estimates for the cost.

**Reserves policy:**

The Trustees do not currently have a formal reserves policy but hold a level of reserves, which is sufficient for the charity to meet future costs such as vets' bills and equipment. The appropriate level of reserves and the need for a formal policy is under review by the current Committee.

**Statement of trustees' responsibilities:**

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence take reasonable step for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**THE FRIENDS OF RSPCA SOUTHRIDGE ANIMAL CENTRE  
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**Independent Examiner:**

The charity has approved Clifford C Palmer & Co to be its independent examiner.

**Administrative Information:**

The name of the Charity is The Friends of Southridge Animal Centre and the registered number is 1068731.

The registered office is Packhorse Lane, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire EN6 3LZ.

The Trustees who have served from 1 January 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

Mrs A White	
Ms M Jorgensen	
Ms C Hoffman	
Mr J Loveday	
Mrs V Miner	
Mr C Shepherd	
Mrs M Briscoe	(resigned May 2023, appointed May 2024)
Ms C Boydell	(appointed May 2023)
Mr S Bird	(appointed May 2023)
Ms K Duncan	(appointed May 2023, resigned Jan 2024)
Mrs I Ling	(resigned May 2023)
Mr D Young	(resigned May 2023)

Approved by the Trustees on.....25<sup>th</sup> September 2024

And signed on their behalf by:

...Valene G. Miner..... Trustee

**THE FRIENDS OF RSPCA SOUTHRIDGE ANIMAL CENTRE  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

<b>RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT</b>		<b>Unrestricted Funds 2023</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds 2022</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Regular giving</b>			
Receipts from Donors:	Donations	30,968	18,288
	Subscriptions	845	1,100
<b>Other Voluntary Receipts</b>			
Event fundraising net of expenditure		1,680	0
Receipts from Shop		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total receipts</b>		<b><u>33,493</u></b>	<b><u>19,388</u></b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>			
Building Maintenance		20,000	0
Equipment		7,171	1,727
Veterinary Treatment		27,076	12,978
Printing, Stationery & Postage		170	0
Professional Fees		600	864
Miscellaneous		<u>2,168</u>	<u>1,645</u>
		<b><u>57,185</u></b>	<b><u>17,214</u></b>
<b>Shop costs</b>			
Rent		0	0
Insurance		0	0
Utilities		0	0
Wages		0	0
Miscellaneous		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
		<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b><u>57,185</u></b>	<b><u>17,214</u></b>
Fixed deposit interest		3,775	334
Adjustments		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>EXCESS OF PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPTS</b>		<b>(19,917)</b>	<b>2,508</b>
Bank accounts at 1 January 2023 / January 2022		<u>644,003</u>	<u>641,495</u>
Bank accounts at 31 December 2023 / December 2022		<u>624,137</u>	<u>644,003</u>
<b>STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CASH FUNDS:</b>			
Current Account		463,718	486,888
Fixed Deposit Account		160,253	156,478
Petty Cash		<u>166</u>	<u>638</u>
		<b><u>624,137</u></b>	<b><u>644,004</u></b>
<b>ASSETS RETAINED FOR CHARITY USE</b>		<b><u>624,137</u></b>	<b><u>644,004</u></b>

Approved by the Trustees on:

and signed on their behalf by:

Trustee

The attached notes form part of these financial statements

**THE FRIENDS OF RSPCA SOUTHRIDGE ANIMAL CENTRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

- a) The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the applicable standards of the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and reporting by charities SORP (FRS 102).
- b) Income and expenditure are inclusive of VAT which is not recoverable.
- c) The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis.
- d) The charity's reserve consists of general unrestricted fund which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objectives: this is spent in accordance with the charity's reserves policy detailed in the trustees report.

**2. STAFF**

There are no employees of the charity, and no trustee remuneration was incurred during the year.

**3. TAXATION**

The charity is exempt from taxation.

**4. FIXED ASSETS**

All assets costing more than £1,000 with an expected useful life exceeding one year are capitalised. It is the opinion of the trustees that any assets currently exceeding this value are the property of the RSPCA Southridge Animal Centre branch, having been donated.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF 'FRIENDS OF SOUTHRIDGE'**

We report on the accounts of 'Friends of Southridge' for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 4 and 5.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner:**

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) as amended by S28 of the Charities Act 2006) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 43 of the Act)
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and,
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

1. Which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements;
  - To keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act, have not been met., or
2. To which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Signed: Clifford C Palmer & Co, 61 – 67 Rectory Road, Wivenhoe, Colchester, CO7 9ES

Dated: