

COBBES MEADOW RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION GROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 1074165

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1999-02-22

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Whiteacre Farm House
Whiteacre Lane
Waltham
Canterbury
Kent
CT4 5SR

Phone 07704267471

Email info@cobbes-meadow-rda.com

Website www.cobbesmeadow-rda.com

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE THE OBJECTS OF THE RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION INCORPORATING CARRIAGE DRIVING A CHARITY REGISTERED UNDER CHARITY NUMBER 244108 ("THE ASSOCIATION") BY PROVIDING DISABLED PEOPLE WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO RIDE AND/OR CARRIAGE DRIVE TO BENEFIT THEIR HEALTH AND WELL BEING IN THE CANTERBURY AREA

Activities: The charity provides riding and carriage-driving activities for disabled individuals.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, Amateur Sport
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** CANTERBURY, KENT
- Kent

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£99,030	£107,909	-	-
2024-03-31	£82,784	£49,802	-	-
2023-03-31	£62,323	£41,758	-	-
2022-03-31	£34,491	£32,569	-	-
2021-03-31	£29,240	£26,436	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Thomas David Owen HALL	Chair	
BARNABY SWIRE		
CATHERINE MCCULLY		
CHRISTINE SLADDEN		
Gerrie Serpell		2021-08-01
Margaret Jane Heath		2022-04-19
Mary Mustafa		2021-08-01
PHILIP HARLAND		
SUZIE ROSS-BROWNE		
Teresa Whitehead		2022-04-19

Accounts

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION

CHARITY NUMBER 1074165

ANNUAL REPORT,

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT AND

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2025

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for the year ended 31 March 2025

Legal and Administrative Information

Trustees	Mr David Hall (Chair) Mrs Marguerite Heath Mrs Gerrie Serpell (Treasurer) Mrs Mary Mustafa Mr Philip Harland Mrs Catherine McCully Mrs Suzi Ross-Browne Mr Barnaby Swire Mrs Sally Murch Mrs Christine Sladden Mrs Teresa Whitehead
Registered charity number	1074165
Governing document	Constitution
Principal address	Candlers Way St Augustine's Chartham Canterbury Kent CT4 7TU
Independent examiner	Bay Tree Accountancy Chartered Accountants Stelling Minnis Canterbury Kent CT4 6AA
Bankers	National Westminster Bank PLC 20 High Street Ashford Kent TN24 SSH

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2025

Trustees' Annual Report

Aim and organisation

1. The Cobbes Meadow Group was started in 1972 and at that time was a Group within the single national Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) charity. In 1999 the national RDA charity was broken up and the Groups within it, including Cobbes Meadow Group, became individual charities. The Group is governed by a constitution agreed at that time between RDA National and the Charity Commission on behalf of Groups across England and Wales.
2. The aim of Cobbes Meadow Group is to provide disabled people with the opportunity to ride and/or carriage drive to benefit their health and well-being.
3. The charity is managed by the Committee of Trustees which has control of the Group's property and funds. The Group's constitution requires a committee of at least 3 and no more than 11 trustees. No trustee may be a paid employee of the Group but must be a member of the Group. Election of trustees occurs at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) usually in June each year to which nominations may be made by any member or the Committee. One third of the Committee must retire at each AGM with the longest in office retiring first. Retiring trustees are eligible for re-election. If a vacancy occurs, the Committee may appoint a replacement until the next AGM.
4. Day to day running of the Group is the responsibility of a Management Subcommittee which reports to the Trustees. The Treasurer and Secretary of the Committee of Trustees sit on this subcommittee which then appoints its own Chairman. The charity employs no paid staff.

Review of progress and achievements

5. Our charitable objective is to provide disabled people with the opportunity to ride and/or carriage drive to benefit their health and well-being. The Trustees are pleased to report that both riding and carriage driving sessions provided during the year increased with an uplift in income of £8,599 in providing these core activities. Carriage driving sessions were increased with the introduction of Tuppence, one of the riding ponies, who has provided extra flexibility in the use of the driving ponies. Driving sessions operate between April and July and September to December.

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Review of progress and achievements (continued)

6. Various events were held during the year which not only raised funds for the Group but also raised awareness of our existence in the local area and showed other people, not associated with Cobbes Meadow, what we provide. We had a May Day Ramble which attracted many local people to the Centre for the first time, and many brought their dogs and finished the walk with hot drinks and a barbeque (it was a wet ramble). In the summer we repeated our successful Family Support Days which enabled other families to visit our Centre to meet the ponies and to try riding. Canterbury Fire fighters again brought one of their fire engines to the Centre and the visiting children were delighted to be allowed to climb aboard. Thank you, Canterbury Fire Service, for your support. We also held a Dressage Day for our riders as well as a dog show and a successful Christmas Fair raising £2,450. Our Quiz Night in March raised further a £1892 as well as being a most enjoyable evening.

Review of financial activities

7. The accounts for this financial year show a deficit of income over expenditure of £8,879 (2024: an excess of income over expenditure of £32,197). Factors contributing to this were that we purchased a replacement horse lorry for £28,000, selling our old lorry for £13,000 so there was a net expense of £15,000. We also bought a new horse, Birdie, for £7,000 plus costs for vetting and transport amounting to a total of £8,026. This expense has now been reimbursed to us by a donation which could not be made by the year end. Overall expenditure for the year, including purchase of the lorry and horse was £107,909 (2024: £62,337). Our main category of expenditure is for the care and welfare of our horses. We have had a full year with 5 horses at livery and had an increase of £20 per horse per week increasing livery costs alone by £5,200 for the year. We have received generous donations of £4,200 (plus gift aid) from Diane Tatt for a third-year sponsoring "Poppy", also £6,000 from the Albert Burns Children's Trust Fund and £4,000 from Martello, both received via the Kent Community Foundation for the upkeep of our horses. In addition we have another horse on loan where we share the livery costs with the owner and a further 3 horses on loan stabled at the home of one of our Trustees, and long serving volunteer, Catherine McCully BEM, where we pay for the cost of food and supplements but Catherine and her husband very generously provide for their grazing and stabling.

8. Sources of income come from a wide range of activities and donors and our grateful thanks goes to each and every one of them. We received another £1,000 donation from The Sir John Swire Foundation and "The Purchasers" donated £5,000 which was put to the purchase of the new lorry early in the financial year.

9. Thanks are due to all our supporters who kindly donated funds to us and whom I have not publicly thanked by name.

10. The policy of the Trustees is to have a financial reserve equal to one year's normal operating costs. This has been in the order of £30,000 but in the light of the increased livery costs and other expenses the Trustees have reviewed this and set a new reserve of £50,000 to cover eventualities which may arise.

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Review of financial activities (continued)

11. Fund raising events which have already been planned for the next financial year as well as high levels of activity on the riding and driving front, give the Trustees confidence for the year ahead and it is the opinion of the Trustees that the charity is considered to be a going concern for the next 12 months.

12. The Independent examiner's report (attached) has been seen and noted by the Committee of Trustees.

13. The Trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable the charity to lessen or mitigate these risks. Furthermore, the Trustees consider that the Group's objectives and activities comply with the Charity Commission guidance on Public Benefit.

14. The Trustees consider that the charity is in a sound financial position.

Approved by and signed on behalf of the Committee of Trustees

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Hall', written over a horizontal line.

Date: 7th July 2025

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
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for the year ended 31 March 2025

Independent examiner's report

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Cobbes Meadow Group Riding for the Disabled Association ("the charity") for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5Xb) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- a. accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- b. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Bay Tree Accountancy
Chartered Accountants
Stelling Minnis
Canterbury
Kent
CT4 6AA

Signed:



Date: 8th July 2025

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
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Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Grants and donations	16,813	14,200	31,013	49,034
Receipts from activities - note 3	43,281	-	43,281	27,138
Fundraising activities				
Other	6,206	-	6,206	9,231
Investment income				
Interest received	1,535	-	1,535	1,334
Other income				
Sale of assets	13,000	-	13,000	-
Gift Aid/GASDS claims	2,945	1,050	3,995	7,797
Total income	83,780	15,250	99,030	94,534
Expenditure				
Direct charitable expenditure				
Veterinary and pony care	31,304	15,250	46,554	32,372
Tack and clothing	451	-	451	1,184
Equipment, including repairs	879	-	879	1,521
Transport	9,732	-	9,732	7,501
Insurance (vehicles)	944	-	944	825
Insurance (horses)	-	-	-	-
Purchase costs of clothing	-	-	-	-
Costs of public website	291	-	291	287
Costs of outings, events & other activities	1,155	-	1,155	2,793
Management and administration - note 4	12,903	-	12,903	11,854
Purchase of horse	7,000	-	7,000	4,000
Purchase of equipment	28,000	-	28,000	-
Total expenditure	92,659	15,250	107,909	62,337
Excess/(Deficit) of income over expenditure	(8,879)	-	(8,879)	32,197
Cash funds brought forward	97,270	175	97,445	65,248
Cash funds carried forward	88,391	175	88,566	97,445

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
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Statement of Assets and Liabilities and other notes

Note 1 Monetary assets - cash and bank account

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
NatWest Current account	36,902	175	37,077
Yorkshire Building Society	51,489	-	51,489
	<u>88,391</u>	<u>175</u>	<u>88,566</u>

Other monetary assets

Inland Revenue (Gift Aid tax refund)	£ 1,535
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Note 2 Non-monetary assets - held for charity's own use

<i>All stated at original cost value</i>	£
Land at the Former St Augustine's Hospital, Chartham	19,974
Riding school, Linnet Room and viewing gallery extension	125,370
Sand school (all above insured for £385,289)	28,202
Renault Master Horsebox - HZ15 LZB	30,420
Renault Master Horsebox - HV65 KHH	28,000
Hoist and associated equipment	1,660
Sensory Ride	2,290
Muck trailer	350

<i>All stated at estimated value</i>	
7 ponies owned at year end	24,000
4 ponies loaned at year end	-
4 carriages plus 2 sets of harness	12,650
Tack, jumps and general equipment	15,878

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Statement of assets and liabilities and other notes - continued

Note 3 Receipts from activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Riders and drivers' subscriptions	32,017	23,418
Sale of merchandise	134	-
Donations for use of facilities	11,130	3,720
	43,281	27,138

Note 4 Management and administration

	2025	2024
	£	£
Property Costs including maintenance and utilities	8,738	6,993
Administration	367	119
Insurance (public liability/personal accident/building/contents)	2,199	1,997
Training Costs including courses	999	2,145
Independent Examiner's fee	600	600
Sundry expenses	-	-
	12,903	11,854

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3. The charity is managed by the Committee of Trustees which has control of the Group's property and funds. The Group's constitution requires a committee of at least 3 and no more than 11 trustees. No trustee may be a paid employee of the Group, but must be a member of the Group. Election of trustees occurs at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) usually in June each year to which nominations may be made by any member or the Committee. One third of the Committee must retire at each AGM with the longest in office retiring first. Retiring trustees are eligible for re-election. If a vacancy occurs, the Committee may appoint a replacement until the next AGM.
4. Day to day running of the Group is the responsibility of a Management Subcommittee which reports to the Trustees. The Treasurer and Secretary of the Committee of Trustees sit on this subcommittee which then appoints its own Chairman. The charity employs no paid staff.

Review of progress and achievements

5. Our charitable objective is to provide disabled people with the opportunity to ride and/or carriage drive to benefit their health and well-being. The Trustees are pleased to report that riding sessions provided during the year continued to build on the success of the previous year and were maintained at a high level. Carriage driving sessions were increased with the return from injury of Charlie, our wheelchair carriage pony. This meant that each week 4 wheelchair users were able to access the wheelchair carriage by means of our purpose-built lift, in addition to the 4 drivers who use the step access carriage. Driving sessions operate between April and July and September to December.
6. The Group held various events during the year to not only raise funds but to also involve other people not associated with Cobbes Meadow and to introduce them to what we do. In the summer we hosted a Family Support Day which enabled other families to visit our Centre, to meet the ponies and to try riding and we even had the local Canterbury Fire fighters at the Centre with one of their fire engines. This went down very well with the visiting children who were allowed to climb aboard. Thank you, Canterbury Fire Service, for your support. We also held a Dressage Day for our riders as well as a dog show which attracted 43 dogs and their handlers. Rosettes and certificates were presented at both events. In September we booked a visit from the Autism Reality Experience. They came to our Centre with their bus which is fitted out with equipment to

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demonstrate to non-autistic people the sensory processing difficulties faced by people on the autistic spectrum. Two groups of our helpers found the event invaluable in giving an insight into the challenges faced by those trying to deal with everyday situations which we may all take for granted.

7. Our great celebration this year was the fact that one of our Trustees has clocked up 50 years as a volunteer with Cobbes Meadow. Catherine McCully joined Cobbes Meadow in 1973 as a volunteer which was soon after the Group was founded in 1972. Catherine has been involved in very significant ways throughout her 50 years, serving as a trustee, directing the Group as Chair of Trustees for many years but her greatest dedication has been to look after 4, sometimes 5 horses at her stables at home, gallantly supported by her husband, Douglas. As we operate on a daily basis this has meant having the horses fed, watered and ready to be transported to our Centre at 8.30am each day and then to provide for their needs on return in the afternoon. Catherine continues to look after 4 horses in her stables and supervises the care and welfare (shoeing, inoculations and other vet appointments) of the 6 other horses which live elsewhere. The Group held a special lunch in the summer to celebrate Catherine's long service. Catherine was deservedly presented with her Gold 50 Year Certificate by Pauline Roestenburg, the Chair of the South-East Region of the Riding for the Disabled Association at our AGM in November 2023. Her exceptional service was also recognised at a higher level when Catherine was awarded the British Empire Medal in the first birthday honours of His Majesty King Charles III. Other long service awards were also presented by Pauline Roestenburg at our AGM to Claire Harland, Rosemarie Loxton-Edwards and Joy Claxton for 45 years each, with Joy also being presented with a glass trophy for being awarded the RDA South-East Region "Volunteer of the Year". Jill Steadman was presented with her 40 Year Certificate as well.

Review of financial activities

8. The accounts for this financial year show an excess of income over expenditure of £32,197 compared to £20,565 in the previous financial year ended 2023. The reason for this is due to a significant increase of £21,000 in donations from our supporters (a total of £49,034 in the year) and a total of £9,231 raised in our own fund raising activities. An additional £3,720 was received from use of our facilities by others, compared to £690 for the previous year. Although our expenses were also up, these were fortunately exceeded by income received.

9. Sources of income came from a wide range of activities and donors and our grateful thanks goes to each and everyone of them. In May 2023 we held a "Ramble" with invited guest and media star, Clare Balding, leading the ramblers on the walk and signing books and autographs afterwards. The event raised £2,000. King's School Rochester adopted us as their charity and painted some beautiful murals at the Centre as well as raising £7,700 for us during the school year. The East Kent Ploughing Match committee donated £500 to the Group and a similar sum was donated by the Lower Hardres Gardening Society with £1,000 received from the Sir John Swire Foundation again. Our "Crafty Christmas Fair" raised £2,000 from stall holders and from the sale of cakes, food and drink. We held a Quiz evening in February which was very well attended, great fun and raised £2,200. Cinque Ports Metal Detector Club donated £630 to us and The Worshipful Company of Loriners (representing the makers of bits and bridles) donated £750. The St

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Augustine's Lodge of the Masons raised £1,000 for us and the Dane John Lodge gave us £250. Special thanks must be given to Faversham Golf Club through Ginny Wilson, the Ladies' Captain, and Nick Sage, the Gentlemen's Captain, for selecting us as their charity of the year and for working so hard to raise £11,576 for us during the year; an incredible sum for which we are extremely grateful. Diane Tatt, a member of Canterbury Sunrise Rotary Club, sponsored our horse "Poppy" for a second year donating £4,200, which, with gift aid, will cover the livery costs for Poppy for a whole year and we are most grateful for this very generous donation. During the year we purchased two black and white ponies; Billy who stands at 15.3 hands and Tuppence at 13 hands. This brings our compliment of horses and ponies owned by us to 6, with 4 on loan and 3 others borrowed when required for driving days.

10. We submitted a funding application to the Kent Community Fund and received a most welcome donation of £2,500 from the Lawson Endowment Grant which will be used for the care of our other horses and ponies. Thanks are due to all our supporters who kindly donated funds to us and whom I have not publicly thanked by name.

11. On the expenses side our costs were up by just under £17,000 overall (excluding the cost of purchasing a new pony) with the main increase being for the livery and care of our horses (up by nearly £6,000) and £2,700 more being incurred in the running and maintenance of our 2 horse boxes which are used to transport horses from their "homes" to the Centre four days per week. Utility costs also increased by £1,100. Our overall expenditure was £62,337 for the year, up from £41,758 in the previous year; however thankfully more than covered by the additional income received in the year.

12. The policy of the Trustees is to have a financial reserve equal to one year's normal operating costs. This has been in the order of £30,000 but in the light of the increased livery costs and other expenses the Trustees have reviewed this and set a new reserve of £50,000 to cover eventualities which may arise.

13. The major items of expenditure for the operation of the charity are veterinary and pony care and livery costs which this year together amounted to £32,372, an increase on the previous year's figure of £26,373. The other item of expenditure which also increased was for transport where some large invoices were incurred for the cost of repairs to the 2 horse boxes and higher fuel costs due to increased usage. Fund raising events which have already been planned for the next financial year as well as high levels of activity on the riding and driving front, give the Trustees confidence for the year ahead and it is the opinion of the Trustees that the charity is considered to be a going concern for the next 12 months.

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14. The Independent examiner's report (attached) has been seen and noted by the Committee of Trustees.

15. The Trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable the charity to lessen or mitigate these risks. Furthermore, the Trustees consider that the Group's objectives and activities comply with the Charity Commission guidance on Public Benefit.

16. The Trustees consider that the charity is in a sound financial position.

Signed:

Date: 20th June 2024

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
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for the year ended 31 March 2024

Independent examiner's report

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Cobbes Meadow Group Riding for the Disabled Association ("the charity") for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5Xb) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- a. accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- b. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Bay Tree Accountancy
Chartered Accountants
Stelling Minnis
Canterbury
Kent
CT4 6AA

Signed:



Date: 20th June 2024

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
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Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Grants and donations	38,334	10,700	49,034	27,158
Receipts from activities - note 3	27,138	-	27,138	27,310
Fundraising activities				
Other	9,231	-	9,231	7,319
Investment income				
Interest received	1,334	-	1,334	536
Other income				
Sale of assets	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid/GASDS claims	6,747	1,050	7,797	-
Total income	82,784	11,750	94,534	62,323
Expenditure				
Direct charitable expenditure				
Veterinary and pony care	24,622	7,750	32,372	26,373
Tack and clothing	1,184	-	1,184	747
Equipment, including repairs	736	785	1,521	280
Transport	7,501	-	7,501	4,804
Insurance (vehicles)	825	-	825	794
Insurance (horses)	-	-	-	1,499
Purchase costs of clothing	-	-	-	-
Costs of public website	287	-	287	228
Costs of outings, events & other activities	2,793	-	2,793	390
Management and administration - note 4	11,854	-	11,854	6,643
Purchase of horse	-	4,000	4,000	-
Purchase of equipment	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure	49,802	12,535	62,337	41,758
Excess/(Deficit) of income over expenditure	32,982	(785)	32,197	20,565
Cash funds brought forward	64,288	960	65,248	44,683
Cash funds carried forward	97,270	175	97,445	65,248

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Statement of Assets and Liabilities and other notes

Note 1 Monetary assets - cash and bank account

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
NatWest Current account	59,744	175	59,919
Yorkshire Building Society	37,526	-	37,526
	<u>97,270</u>	<u>175</u>	<u>97,445</u>

Other monetary assets	£
Inland Revenue (Gift Aid tax refund)	1,735

Note 2 Non-monetary assets - held for charity's own use

<i>All stated at original cost value</i>	£
Land at the Former St Augustine's Hospital, Chartham	19,974
Riding school, Linnet Room and viewing gallery extension	125,370
Sand school (all above insured for £385,289)	28,202
Equi-Trek Super-Sonic horsebox 2010 (insured £20,000)	24,186
Renault Master Horsebox 2015 (insured £20,000)	30,420
Hoist and associated equipment	1,660
Sensory Ride	2,290
Muck trailer	350

<i>All stated at estimated value</i>	
6 ponies owned at year end	17,000
4 ponies loaned at year end	-
4 carriages plus 3 sets of harness	12,650
Tack, jumps and general equipment	15,427

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Statement of assets and liabilities and other notes - continued

Note 3 Receipts from activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Riders and drivers' subscriptions	23,418	26,614
Sale of merchandise	-	6
Donations for use of facilities	3,720	690
	27,138	27,310

Note 4 Management and administration

	2024	2023
	£	£
Property Costs including maintenance and utilities	6,993	3,523
Administration	119	95
Insurance (public liability/personal accident/building/contents)	1,997	1,730
Training Costs including courses	2,145	845
Independent Examiner's fee	600	450
Sundry expenses	-	-
	11,854	6,643

Accounts

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION

CHARITY NUMBER 1074165

ANNUAL REPORT,

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT AND

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023

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COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
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for the year ended 31 March 2023

Legal and Administrative Information

Trustees	Mr David Hall (Chair) Mrs Marguerite Heath (Secretary - appointed 19 th April 2022) Mrs Gerrie Serpell (Treasurer) Mrs Mary Mustafa Mr Philip Harland Mrs Catherine McCully Mrs Suzi Ross-Browne Mr Barnaby Swire Mrs Sally Murch Mrs Christine Sladden Mrs Teresa Whitehead (appointed 19 th April 2022)
Registered charity number	1074165
Governing document	Constitution
Principal address	Candlers Way St Augustine's Chartham Canterbury Kent CT4 7TU
Independent examiner	Bay Tree Accountancy Chartered Accountants Stelling Minnis Canterbury Kent CT4 6AA
Bankers	National Westminster Bank PLC 20 High Street Ashford Kent TN24 SSH

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Trustees' Annual Report

Aim and organisation

1. The Cobbes Meadow Group was started in 1972 and at that time was a Group within the single national Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) charity. In 1999 the national RDA charity was broken up and the Groups within it, including Cobbes Meadow Group, became individual charities in their own right. The Group is governed by a constitution agreed at that time between RDA National and the Charity Commission on behalf of Groups across England and Wales.
2. The aim of Cobbes Meadow Group is to provide disabled people with the opportunity to ride and/or carriage drive to benefit their health and well-being.
3. The charity is managed by the Committee of Trustees which has control of the Group's property and funds. The Group's constitution requires a committee of at least 3 and no more than 11 trustees. No trustee may be a paid employee of the Group, but must be a member of the Group. Election of trustees occurs at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) usually in June each year to which nominations may be made by any member or the Committee. One third of the Committee must retire at each AGM with the longest in office retiring first. Retiring trustees are eligible for re-election. If a vacancy occurs, the Committee may appoint a replacement until the next AGM.
4. Day to day running of the Group is the responsibility of a Management Subcommittee which reports to the Trustees. The Treasurer and Secretary of the Committee of Trustees sit on this subcommittee which then appoints its own Chairman. The charity employs no paid staff. Maria Conneely retired as a trustee in January 2022 and former Treasurer and trustee, Colin Caverhill, sadly died in March 2022 leaving 2 vacancies on the Committee of Trustees. Teresa Whitehead and Marguerite Heath agreed to serve as trustees and were appointed at a Committee Meeting on 19th April 2022 with Marguerite Heath agreeing to stand as Secretary to the Group. Both positions were ratified by the AGM on 14th June 2022.

Review of progress and achievements

5. The work of the Group focuses entirely on providing opportunities for disabled adults and children to ride and carriage drive. The year under review was significantly different to the year ended March 2022 which had been adversely affected for the first 6 months by the pandemic lockdowns. By the beginning of April 2022 the Group was again providing riding for children on Mondays and Wednesdays and riding for adults on Tuesdays and Thursdays with carriage driving sessions on Fridays. The Tuesday sessions restarted after the pandemic with a new leader and a small group of volunteers providing riding sessions to a few riders but by the end of the year the group had increased to 18 volunteers and 14 riders. This was an excellent outcome to what had been of considerable concern to the trustees in losing a day of providing riding to adult riders. In addition the riding sessions on the first Saturday of the month for both children and adults continued during the year with strong leadership from the coaches and great support from our volunteers. The trustees would like to see if it is possible to have an additional Saturday session during the month. These are important as they can be attended by children and young adults who may be at school or have other commitments during the week.

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023

6. A source of income for the Group comes from donations for the use of our facilities which are an indoor and an outdoor riding school and meeting room. A long standing supporter, who ran dog training sessions at the Centre on various evenings in the week, sadly died and this ended a useful stream of income. Furthermore, it was noticeable that expenses and outgoings had increased and from the start of the year the Trustees and those on the Management Committee were looking at attracting additional sources of income to cover the increasing costs. Details are to be found under the heading "Review of Financial Activities".

7. Our charitable objective is to provide disabled people with the opportunity to ride and/or carriage drive to benefit their health and well-being. The Trustees are pleased to be able to report that riding sessions during the year returned to a level close to numbers achieved in 2019-2020. Carriage driving sessions were more limited in the number of participants who could be accommodated because the Group was not able to use its carriage adapted for loading a wheelchair as the pony used for this carriage was injured. However, 5 participants were able to drive each week in the periods from April to July and September to December. The Trustees can report that the pony is fit and well and the wheelchair carriage is back in action and used by an additional 3 to 4 users each week.

Review of financial activities

8. The accounts for this financial year show an excess of income over expenditure of £20,565 compared to £1922 in the previous financial year ended 2022. This is mainly due to an increase of £18,000 in donations from our riders and drivers reflecting a much higher level of activity than the previous year. Although income from use of our facilities was down nearly £1,500, other fund raising activities raised over £7,000, an increase of £4,833 on the previous year. Sources of income were from a diverse range of activities and donors. £958 came from volunteers shaking buckets for small cash donations at the end of the Aldington point-to-point races in April 2022, £500 from Waitrose supermarket, a collection at Chartham Vineyard raised £643 and a "fun dog day" raised £501 from local people. Thanks must be extended to Richard Baines of City Awards who donated trophies and rosettes for that event. The East Kent Ploughing Match committee donated £500 to the Group and a similar sum was donated by the Lower Hardres Gardening Society with £1,000 received from the Sir John Swire Foundation again. Our Christmas Fair raised £2,000 and will be repeated in 2023. Particular thanks must be given to a member of Canterbury Sunrise Rotary Club who personally donated £4,200 in sponsoring "Poppy", a new horse we had recently acquired. This donation, with gift aid, will cover the livery costs for Poppy for a whole year and we are extremely grateful for this very generous donation. We submitted a funding application to the Kent Community Fund and received a most welcome donation of £2,000 from Hornbeam Charitable Fund – Community First and a further generous donation of £4,000 from The Kent Reliance Provident Society Community Fund both of which have been used for the care of our other horses and ponies. Thanks are due to all our supporters who kindly donated funds to us and whom I have not publicly thanked by name.

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023

9. On the expenses side our costs were up by just over £9,000 overall with the main increase being for the livery and care of our horses and higher costs being incurred in the running and maintenance of our 2 horse boxes which are used to transport horses from their "homes" to the Centre 4 days per week. We had some savings on property repairs and maintenance from the previous year. It is noticeable that our electricity costs have increased since July 2022 when our fixed term at a lower tariff ended. Our overall expenditure was £41,758 for the year, up from £32,569 in the previous year; however thankfully more than covered by the additional income of £27,000 received in the year.

10. The policy of the Trustees is to have a financial reserve equal to one year's normal operating costs. This had been in the order of £30,000 but in the light of the increased livery costs and other expenses the Trustees will need to review this, although funds brought forward from year end 2022 amounted to £44,683, which proved to be an appropriate sum.

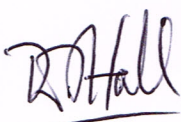
11. The major items of expenditure for the operation of the charity are veterinary and pony care and livery costs which this year together amounted to £26,373, an increase on the previous year's figure of £16,528. The other item of expenditure which also increased was for transport which was incurred for repairs to the 2 horse boxes, for additional fuel due to increased usage and for increased insurance costs. The fact that activity levels have increased and several fund-raising events have been held and also planned for next year, gives the Trustees confidence for the year ahead and it is the opinion of the Trustees that the charity is considered to be a going concern for the next 12 months.

12. The Independent examiner's report (attached) has been seen and noted by the Committee of Trustees.

13. The Trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable the charity to lessen or mitigate these risks. Furthermore, the Trustees consider that the Group's objectives and activities comply with the Charity Commission guidance on Public Benefit.

14. The Trustees consider that the charity is in a sound financial position.

Approved by and signed on behalf of the Committee of Trustees

Signed:  Chairman

Date: 30th October 2023

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Independent examiner's report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Cobbes Meadow Group Riding for the Disabled Association ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5Xb) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- a. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- b. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Bay Tree Accountancy
Chartered Accountants
Stelling Minnis
Canterbury
Kent
CT4 6AA

Signed:



Date: 1st November 2023

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Grants and donations	22,958	4,200	27,158	20,333
Receipts from activities - note 3	27,310	-	27,310	10,585
Fundraising activities				
Other	7,319	-	7,319	2,486
Investment income				
Bank interest	536	-	536	137
Other income				
Sale of assets	-	-	-	950
Total income	58,123	4,200	62,323	34,491
Expenditure				
Direct charitable expenditure				
Veterinary and pony care	22,173	4,200	26,373	16,528
Tack and clothing	747	-	747	31
Equipment, including repairs	280	-	280	1,668
Transport	4,804	-	4,804	1,434
Insurance (horses)	2,293	-	2,293	2,142
Purchase costs of clothing	-	-	-	-
Costs of public website	228	-	228	223
Costs of outings, events & other activities	390	-	390	-
Management and administration - note 4	6,643	-	6,643	10,543
Purchase of horse	-	-	-	-
Purchase of equipment	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure	37,558	4,200	41,758	32,569
Excess of income over expenditure	20,565	-	20,565	1,922
Cash funds brought forward	43,723	960	44,683	42,761
Cash funds carried forward	64,288	960	65,248	44,683

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Statement of Assets and Liabilities and other notes

Note 1 Monetary assets - cash and bank account

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
NatWest Current account	27,981	960	28,941
Yorkshire Building Society	36,307	-	36,307
	<u>64,288</u>	<u>960</u>	<u>65,248</u>

Other monetary assets	£
Inland Revenue (Gift Aid tax refund)	4,138
Donation from East Kent Ploughing Match Association	500

Liabilities

	£
March 2023 expenditure, paid in April 2023	427

Note 2 Non-monetary assets - held for charity's own use

<i>All stated at original cost value</i>	£
Land at the Former St Augustine's Hospital, Chartham	19,974
Riding school, Linnet Room and viewing gallery extension	125,370
Sand school (all above insured for £385,289)	28,202
Equi-Trek Super-Sonic horsebox 2010 (insured £20,000)	24,186
Renault Master Horsebox 2015 (Insured £20,000)	30,420
Hoist and associated equipment	1,660
Sensory Ride	2,290
Muck trailer	350

<i>All stated at insurance value</i>	
4 ponies owned at year end (Ralph insured for £1,200 and Poppy for £3,600)	4,800
4 ponies loaned at year end (Rupert insured £500)	500
4 carriages plus 3 sets of harness	12,650
Tack, jumps and general equipment	15,427

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Statement of assets and liabilities and other notes - continued

Note 3 Receipts from activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Riders and drivers' subscriptions	26,614	8,405
Sale of merchandise	6	-
Donations for use of facilities	690	2,180
	27,310	10,585

Note 4 Management and administration

	2023	2022
	£	£
Property Costs including maintenance and utilities	3,523	6,661
Administration	95	351
Insurance (public liability/personal accident/building/contents)	1,730	1,457
Training Costs including courses	845	1,231
Independent Examiner's fee	450	550
Sundry expenses	-	293
	6,643	10,543

Accounts

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION

CHARITY NUMBER 1074165

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2022

Legal and Administrative Information

Trustees	Mr David Hall (Chair) Mrs Christine Sladden (Secretary) Mrs Gerrie Serpell (Treasurer) Lt. Col. (Retd.) Colin Caverhill (until March 2022) Mr Richard Stilwell (until June 2021) Mrs Mary Mustafa (from June 2021) Mr Philip Harland Mrs Catherine McCully Mrs Suzi Ross Browne Mr Barnaby Swire Mrs Sally Murch Mrs Maria Conneely (until January 2022)
Registered charity number	1074165
Principal address	Candler's Way St Augustine's Chartham Canterbury Kent CT4 7TU
Governing document	Constitution
Independent examiner	Chris Lockhart FCA Chris Lockhart Limited Chartered Accountant Suite 2015 Letraset Building Wotton Road Ashford Kent TN23 6LN
Bankers	National Westminster Bank plc 20 High Street Ashford Kent TN24 8SH

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2022

Trustees' Annual Report

Aim and organisation

1. The Cobbes Meadow Group was started in 1972 and at that time was a Group within the single national Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) charity. In 1999 the national RDA charity was broken up and the Groups within it, including Cobbes Meadow Group, became individual charities in their own right. The Group is governed by a constitution agreed at that time between RDA National and the Charity Commission on behalf of Groups across England and Wales.
2. The aim of Cobbes Meadow Group is to provide disabled people with the opportunity to ride and/or carriage drive to benefit their health and well-being.
3. The charity is managed by the Committee of Trustees which has control of the Group's property and funds. The Group's constitution requires a committee of at least 3 and no more than 11 trustees. No trustee may be a paid employee of the Group, but must be a member of the Group. Election of trustees occurs at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) usually in June each year to which nominations may be made by any member or the Committee. One third of the Committee must retire at each AGM with the longest in office retiring first. Retiring trustees are eligible for re-election. If a vacancy occurs, the Committee may appoint a replacement until the next AGM.
4. Day to day running of the Group is the responsibility of a Management Subcommittee which reports to the Trustees. The Treasurer and Secretary of the Committee of Trustees sit on this subcommittee which then appoints its own Chairman. At the AGM in June 2021, Richard Stilwell retired as chairman of the Management subcommittee and as a trustee and Mary Mustafa succeeded him as chairman and was appointed a trustee. The charity employs no paid staff.

Review of progress and achievements

5. The work of the Group focuses entirely on providing opportunities for disabled adults and children to ride and carriage drive. The coronavirus pandemic continued to affect the ability of the Group to provide riding and driving to its users because schools, in the early part of the financial year, were unable to transport children to the centre, and it was a similar issue for the adult riders who reside in care homes. Activities were limited to those parents and carers who were able to bring children and adults to the centre themselves. Another casualty of the pandemic was that the team, which operated on a Tuesday to provide riding for adults, had to cease as there were insufficient volunteer helpers able to return to run the sessions. Some of the riders from the Tuesday sessions amalgamated with the Thursday session. These factors meant that the number of users was considerably limited in the early part of the year, which adversely affected income for the Group.
6. The first riding session for over a year took place on 8th April 2021 but this could only be for "independent riders", those who are able to support themselves on a pony without assistance from the Group's volunteers. The Driving group continued to meet and hold training sessions but were unable to provide driving sessions for their participants until May 2021 when restrictions were eased to allow driving to take place with masks on. In June 2021 each of our 2 schools were able to send children to ride at the centre; 6 from one school and 9 from the other. The children were excited to be back riding and the volunteers equally delighted to see them again. The "end of term" in mid-July meant that the Centre was closed but there was a real focus to ensure that from September 2021 operations would be back to normal levels of activity. "Keep in touch" days were held with riders and in August 2021 a very successful 'family event' day was held which enabled many families to see the Group in action and to take up the opportunity to register with us. A summer drinks party was also held in August with a view to getting volunteers back together again after so many months away from each other. This was very popular, and plans have been made to repeat it in 2022. Schools returned to riding in September 2021 with still reduced numbers, but

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2022

these increased from November. Unfortunately the Tuesday sessions were not operating then, however, due to considerable efforts by various trustees and others the sessions started again on 22 February 2022. In addition, the monthly Saturday riding sessions started up again and have been continued on the first Saturday of each month. These are important as they can be attended by children and young adults who are committed elsewhere during the week. The Carriage Driving Group, which meets on Fridays, had great success at the Royal Windsor Horse Show in July 2021 with Pat Hammond achieving 2nd and Andrew Norman gaining 4th in their respective classes. Andrew had the added bonus in August of being presented with a trophy for winning 1st place in the Novice Whips class at the South East Region RDA Driving Show back in 2019.

7. Our charitable objective is to provide disabled people with the opportunity to ride and/or carriage drive to benefit their health and well-being. It is with some sense of relief that the Trustees are able to report (as above) that riding sessions restarted early in the year, albeit on a limited basis, closely followed by carriage driving and furthermore that the level of activity increased from September and has been sustained to the year end.

Review of financial activities

8. The accounts for the last financial year show an excess of income over expenditure of £2,804, which was achieved, despite the Centre not operating for almost a year, due to the generosity of several donors and a grant of £10,000 from Canterbury City Council under the Small Business Grant Fund set up as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. In the year ended 2022 the excess of income over expenditure was slightly less at £1,922 and reflected an increase of £6,000 on expenditure due to greater costs spent on maintenance, utilities and training as the riding school was in operation on a regular basis, as well as increased costs for horse and pony care and insurance. Income was also up by £5,000 due to higher receipts from riders' and drivers' subscriptions (up £7,000 reflecting the additional level of activity) and fund raising activities at the Christmas Extravaganza, a Race Night in February and other smaller events raised £2,486. We were also most fortunate to receive a donation of £5,000 from a volunteer member of the Group, £2,500 from a local business (JSP Pumps), and a further £1,000 from the Atherton Trust at a time when expenditure was fast outstripping our income. However, it was necessary to dip into the Group's reserve savings account before these donations were received, for £5,000, when the current account dropped to a level where it might not have been able to meet anticipated expenses. As a result of those donations that sum has been repaid to the savings account. Other non-monetary gifts were also received. The charitable body 'The Purchasers' purchased a horse (Poppy) and donated her to us, avoiding the need for the Group to pay out for her. We were also very fortunate to be gifted Nutmeg, a smaller pony suitable for our young riders, by the nearby Chilham Estate. The Trustees gratefully thank these donors and everyone else who made donations or gave of their time to support the Group through another difficult year.

9. The policy of the Trustees is to have a financial reserve equal to one year's normal operating costs of about £30,000. Funds brought forward from year end 2021 amounted to £42,761, including funds of £960 allocated to the Sensory Ride project which were not spent in this financial year due to the reduced level of activities. As mentioned, it was necessary to take £5,000 from reserves due to possible cash flow difficulties on the current account. It is fortunate that our former Treasurer, Colin Caverhill, introduced this reserve during his 17 years as Treasurer. The Trustees are very sad to report that Colin died on 26th March 2022, still a serving trustee.

10. The major items of expenditure for the operation of the charity are veterinary and pony care and livery costs which this year together amounted to £16,528 an increase on the previous year's figure of £15,266. Equipment and repair costs show an increase of £800 on the previous year and insurance costs were up as well with £1,200 more for horse insurance and a further £1,000 on public liability and buildings and contents insurance. The fact that activity levels have increased and fund-raising events can be held gives the Trustees confidence for the year ahead and it is the opinion of the Trustees that the charity is

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2022

considered to be a going concern for the next 12 months.

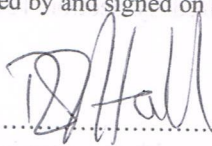
11. A significant anniversary will be reached in the next financial year as we celebrate in 2022 our 50 years of existence.

12. The Independent examiner's report (attached) has been seen and noted by the Committee of Trustees.

13. The Trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable the charity to lessen or mitigate these risks. Furthermore, the Trustees consider that the Group's objectives and activities comply with the Charity Commission guidance on Public Benefit.

14. The Trustees consider that the charity is in a sound financial position notwithstanding the impact of reduced operations in the early part of the year as activity levels have increased and remain positive at the year end.

Approved by and signed on behalf of the Committee of Trustees



David Hall

Date: 14th June 2022

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2022

Independent examiner's report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Cobbes Meadow Group Riding for the Disabled Association ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Chris Lockhart FCA
Chris Lockhart Limited
Chartered Accountant
Suite 2015 Letraset Building
Wotton Road
Ashford
Kent
TN23 6LN

Signed:



Date: **14 JUNE** 2022

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund Sensory Ride	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Grants and donations	20333	-	20333	24331
Receipts from activities – note 3	10585	-	10585	3295
Fundraising activities				
Other	2486	-	2486	1572
Investment income				
Bank interest	137	-	137	42
Other income				
Sale of assets	950	-	950	-
Insurance Claim	-	-	-	-
Total income	34491	-	34491	29240
Expenditure				
Direct charitable expenditure				
Veterinary and pony care	16528	-	16528	15266
Tack and clothing	31	-	31	-
Equipment, including repairs	1668	-	1668	880
Transport	1434	-	1434	2682
Insurance (horse)	2142	-	2142	911
Purchase costs of clothing	-	-	-	-
Costs of public website	223	-	223	223
Costs of outings, events & other activities	-	-	-	-
Fundraising costs				
Other	-	-	-	344
Management and administration – note 4	10543	-	10543	6130
Purchase of horse	-	-	-	-
Purchase of equipment	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure	32569	-	32569	26436
Excess of income over expenditure	1922	-	1922	2804
Cash funds brought forward	41801	960	42761	39957
Cash funds carried forward	<u>£43723</u>	<u>£960</u>	<u>£44683</u>	<u>£42761</u>

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2022

Statement of assets and liabilities and other notes

Note 1 Monetary assets - cash and bank accounts

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Natwest Current account	17951	960	18911
Yorkshire Building Society	<u>25772</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25772</u>
	<u>£43723</u>	<u>£960</u>	<u>£44683</u>

Other monetary assets

Inland Revenue (gift aid tax refund)	£1825
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Liabilities

March invoices and expenditure claims paid in April	£408
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Note 2 Non-monetary assets - held for charity's own use

<i>All stated at original cost value</i>	<u>£</u>
Land at the Former St Augustine's Hospital, Chartham	19974
Riding school, Linnet Room and viewing gallery extension	125370
Sand school (all above insured for £340,421)	28202
Equi-Trek Super-Sonic horsebox 2010 (insured £20000)	24186
Renault Master Horsebox 2015 (Insured £30000)	30420
Hoist and associated equipment	1660
Sensory Ride	2290
Muck trailer	350

<i>All stated at insurance value</i>	
5 ponies owned at year end (Ralph insured for £1,200 and Poppy for £3,600)	4800
4 ponies loaned at year end (Rupert insured £500)	500
4 carriages plus 3 sets of harness	12650
Tack, jumps and general equipment	15427

Note 3 Receipts from activities

	2022	2021
Riders and drivers' subscriptions	8405	550
Sale of group branded clothing	-	-
Donations for use of facilities	2180	2745
	<u>£10585</u>	<u>£3295</u>

Note 4 Management and administration

	2022	2021
Property Costs including maintenance and utilities	6661	3884
Administration	351	63
Insurance (public liability/personal accident/ Building/contents)	1457	1361
Training Costs including courses	1231	12
Independent Examiner's fee	550	550
Sundry expenses	293	260
	<u>£10543</u>	<u>£6130</u>

Accounts

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION

CHARITY NUMBER 1074165

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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for the year ended 31 March 2021

Legal and Administrative Information

Trustees	Mr David Hall (Chair) Mrs Christine Sladden (Secretary) Lt. Col. (Retd.) Colin Caverhill (Treasurer) Mr Richard Stilwell Mr Philip Harland Mrs Catherine McCully Mrs Suzi Ross Browne Mr Barnaby Swire Mrs Sally Murch Mrs Maria Conneely Mrs Gerrie Serpell (from January 2021)
Registered charity number	1074165
Principal address	Candler's Way St Augustine's Chartham Canterbury Kent CT4 7TU
Governing document	Constitution
Independent examiner	Chris Lockhart FCA CLLA Chartered Accountant Suite 2015 Letraset Building Wotton Road Ashford Kent TN23 6LN
Bankers	National Westminster Bank plc 20 High Street Ashford Kent TN24 8SH

COBBES MEADOW GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION

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Trustees' Annual Report

Aim and organisation

1. The Cobbes Meadow Group was started in 1972 and at that time was a Group within the single national Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) charity. In 1999 the national RDA charity was broken up and the Groups within it, including Cobbes Meadow Group, became individual charities in their own right. The Group is governed by a constitution agreed at that time between RDA National and the Charity Commission on behalf of Groups across England and Wales.
2. The aim of Cobbes Meadow Group is to provide disabled people with the opportunity to ride and/or carriage drive to benefit their health and well-being.
3. The charity is managed by the Committee of Trustees which has control of the Group's property and funds. The Group's constitution requires a committee of at least 3 and no more than 11 trustees. No trustee may be a paid employee of the Group, but must be a member of the Group. In the year ended 31 March 2021 the Group started the year with 10 trustees after the resignation of a trustee in October 2019 due to moving away from the area. During the year, a process was started to recruit a replacement who could take over the role of Treasurer in the Group. After references were obtained, Mrs G Serpell was appointed by the Committee as Treasurer designate in January 2021. Election of trustees occurs at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) usually in June each year to which nominations may be made by any member or the Committee. One third of the Committee must retire at each AGM with the longest in office retiring first. Retiring trustees are eligible for re-election. If a vacancy occurs, the Committee may appoint a replacement until the next AGM.
4. Day to day running of the Group is the responsibility of a Management Subcommittee which reports to the Trustees. The Treasurer and Secretary of the Committee of Trustees sit on this subcommittee which then appoints its own Chairman. The charity employs no paid staff.

Review of progress and achievements

5. The work of the Group focuses entirely on providing opportunities for disabled adults and children to ride and carriage drive. In "normal" non coronavirus years the structure is to hold daily sessions during term time at the Group's riding school at Chartham, near Canterbury. Each day of the week is structured for a different group of participants. For example, children ride on Mondays and Wednesdays and adult riders on Tuesdays and Thursdays with carriage driving being held on Fridays, all in usual school term times. In addition, a Saturday morning session for riders would also be provided on the first Saturday of the month. This gives riders an opportunity to take part if they are unable to attend during the week and some also like to have an additional ride.
6. The riding centre was closed on 20 March 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic, just before the start of this financial year. The trustees anticipated a loss of income of £1,100 per month as a result of the cessation of activities. The first "lockdown" requiring everyone to stay at home was lifted in July 2020. Preparations for the restarting of activities were being planned ahead of this and invitations for a Pony Fun Day on 22nd July 2020 were sent out to participants who could support themselves without assistance and who were able to understand the need for "social distancing". A non-riding morning was held at the Centre which included grooming a pony, tack cleaning, an obstacle course and a photographic scavenger hunt. 8 children took part, in 45 minute sessions with 2 children at a time doing different activities. It was a delight to see the smiles and hear the chatter of those taking part. A great deal of preparatory work was put in to ensure the safety of participants and helpers with an earlier gathering at the centre to carry out a thorough clean and sanitisation of the premises and a briefing for all helpers. RDA UK (our national body) had set out a number of requirements which had to be signed off by the trustees and provided to RDA UK before commencement including an assessment of the ponies, the provision of a risk assessment for the activities

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being planned, signage about sanitisation and social distancing and access arrangements. 4 coaches and 18 helpers were in attendance for the Fun Day.

7. Further non-riding sessions were held on 16 September, and the 3rd and 24th October 2020. Overall, activities were provided to 20 participants with assistance from 36 volunteers and coaches. A planned first riding session on 28th November 2020 had to be cancelled when coronavirus restrictions were re-imposed in early November 2020.

8. It was not until 8th April 2021 (after the end of this financial year) that the Centre was able to re-open but we did then provide our first riding session in over a year.

9. We achieved only 4 sessions and provided non-riding activities to 20 participants in the whole year. This can be compared to the year ended 2020 when 185 days of activity were provided for 255 of our disabled users, which shows the significant impact of the pandemic on our ability to provide riding and driving. Our charitable objective is to provide this for the benefit of the health and well-being of our participants and users. This has also had a major impact on the income we received by way of donations from riders and drivers. This is expanded upon below.

10. The Trustees recognise, and are grateful for, the fund-raising efforts and donations made by the many individuals who support the Group as well as several businesses and charitable foundations without whom this year would have been very difficult.

11. The Group's long-standing association with the White Stuff Foundation came to an end in August 2020 when the Foundation made the decision to focus its support on a single charity rather than its clothing shops choosing local charities. We received a generous final donation amounting to £1098.21. Sincere thanks are extended to all staff involved at White Stuff for their fund-raising efforts over the years. We were also beneficiaries of the sum of £2,000 from the Pamela Champion Trust and of £1,000 from the Sir John Swire Trust. Individuals have also made donations with just under £1,000 raised by Hannah on a sponsored cycle ride in memory of her mother, and a very generous donation of £5,000 from a long-standing volunteer. On the fund raising front, a parent of one of our young riders organised the printing and sale of 125 calendars featuring photographs of our ponies, riders and drivers which raised close to £1,300. The Trustees are most grateful to everyone for their donations and support of Cobbes Meadow without which our expenditure would have far exceeded our income.

Review of financial activities

12. When the riding centre had to close in March 2020, the Trustees' concern was that income from activities would be reduced by about £1,100 per month and that expenses would remain similar to the previous year leading to a deficit for the year of some £28,000 and eating into financial reserves. However, the accounts for this financial year show an excess of income over expenditure of £2,804, compared to a deficit of £1,227 for the year end 2019. As indicated, this surplus has arisen due to the generosity of our donors providing in excess of £10,000 in this difficult year. In addition we had reduced running costs for transport of horses to the centre as it had been closed and less repairs and maintenance to the premises were carried out, although in July 2020 the work to resurface the indoor arena was carried out having been ordered earlier in the year. Repairs to the post and rail fencing to the outdoor arena were also carried out before the restart of activities in April 2021. In June 2020 we received a grant of £10,000 from Canterbury City Council under the Small Business Grant Fund set up as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. Consequently the donations and the grant received have enabled the charity to remain on a firm and secure footing.

13. The policy of the Trustees is to have a financial reserve equal to one year's normal operating costs of £30,000. Funds brought forward from year end 2020 amounted to £39,957, including funds of £960 allocated to the Sensory Ride project which were not spent in this financial year due to the lack of

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activities.

14. The major items of expenditure for the operation of the charity are veterinary and pony care and livery costs which this year together amounted to £15,266, reduced from £22,272 on the previous year, due to one pony on loan being returned to its owner and another where the owner agreed to pay half the livery costs. The maintenance and running costs of the 2 horse boxes was reduced due to them not being used on a regular basis and savings were also negotiated on insurance premiums for the vehicles, for the premises and contents and for horse insurance. If the cost of the purchase of a horse and equipment (together £5870) are excluded from last year's figures, the reduction in expenditure for this year was approximately £15,275. As a result of these measures and the grant and donations received, the funds carried forward to the next financial year of £42,761 are far more positive than could have been expected in the first few months of the financial year. However, the position remains under constant review by the Trustees as activity levels, and hence income, are still not what they were in the previous year ended March 2020. Despite this, it is the opinion of the Trustees that the charity is considered to be a going concern for the next 12 months.

15. The Centre re-opened again on 8th April 2021 with riding taking place on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and carriage driving on Fridays but with significantly reduced numbers participating, as the two schools for whom we provided riding have a limited number of pupils who are able to ride independently. However, it is hoped that a few sessions will take place in June and July with a return to higher numbers of riders at the start of the new school year in September 2021. Looking further forward, plans are being made to request a visit from the Princess Royal (the Patron of Riding for the Disabled Association) in 2022 to celebrate our 50 years of existence.

16. The Independent examiner's report (attached) has been seen and noted by the Committee of Trustees.

17. The Trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable the charity to lessen or mitigate these risks. Furthermore, the Trustees consider that the Group's objectives and activities comply with the Charity Commission guidance on Public Benefit.

18. The Trustees consider that the charity is in a sound financial position notwithstanding the impact of closure due to the coronavirus pandemic during most of the year under review. The prospects appear to be better at the date of this report in June 2021, although the Government has just postponed the easing of regulations on social distancing, the number of persons gathering together and the wearing of masks from 21st June until 19th July.

Signed on behalf of the Committee of Trustees

David Hall

Date: 22nd June 2021

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Independent examiner's report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Cobbes Meadow Group Riding for the Disabled Association ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Chris Lockhart FCA
CLLA Chartered Accountant
Suite 2015 Letraset Building
Wotton Road
Ashford
Kent
TN23 6LN

Date: 22nd June 2021

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	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund Sensory Ride	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Grants and donations	24331	-	24331	23830
Receipts from activities – note 3	3295	-	3295	13126
Fundraising activities				
Other	1572	-	1572	7945
Investment income				
Bank interest	42	-	42	152
Other income				
Sale of assets	-	-	-	300
Insurance Claim	-	-	-	1000
Total income	29240	-	29240	46353
Expenditure				
Direct charitable expenditure				
Veterinary and pony care	15266	-	15266	22272
Tack and clothing	-	-	-	1145
Equipment, including repairs	880	-	880	1395
Transport	2682	-	2682	4561
Insurance (horse)	911	-	911	1424
Purchase costs of clothing	-	-	-	139
Costs of public website	223	-	223	223
Costs of outings, events & other activities	-	-	-	52
Fundraising costs				
Other	344	-	344	1268
Management and administration – note 4	6130	-	6130	9231
Purchase of horse	-	-	-	1570
Purchase of equipment	-	-	-	4300
Total expenditure	26436	-	26436	47580
Excess of income over expenditure	2804	-	2804	(1227)
Cash funds brought forward	38997	960	39957	41184
Cash funds carried forward	<u>£41801</u>	<u>£960</u>	<u>£42761</u>	<u>£39957</u>

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Statement of assets and liabilities and other notes

Note 1 Monetary assets - cash and bank accounts

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Natwest Current account	11167	960	12127
Yorkshire Building Society	<u>30634</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30634</u>
	<u>£41801</u>	<u>£960</u>	<u>£42761</u>

Other monetary assets

Inland Revenue (gift aid tax refund)	£1355
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Liabilities

March invoices and expenditure claims paid in April	£712
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Note 2 Non-monetary assets - held for charity's own use

<i>All stated at original cost value</i>	£
Land at the Former St Augustine's Hospital, Chartham	19974
Riding school, Linnet Room and viewing gallery extension	125370
Sand school	28202
Equi-Trek Super-Sonic horsebox 2010 (insured £20000)	24186
Renault Master Horsebox 2015 (Insured £30000)	30420
Hoist and associated equipment	1660
Sensory Ride	2290
Muck trailer	350

<i>All stated at insurance value</i>	
5 ponies owned at year end (Ralph insured)	1200
4 ponies loaned at year end (Rupert insured)	500
4 carriages plus 3 sets of harness	15047
Tack, jumps and general equipment	15427

Note 3 Receipts from activities

	2021	2020
Riders and drivers' subscriptions	550	9964
Sale of group branded clothing	-	487
Donations for use of facilities	2745	2675
	<u>£3295</u>	<u>£13126</u>

Note 4 Management and administration

	2021	2020
Property Costs including maintenance and utilities	3884	4616
Administration	63	312
Insurance (public liability/personal accident/ Building/contents)	1361	1626
Training Costs including courses	12	1597
Independent Examiner's fee	550	550
Sundry expenses	260	530
	<u>£6130</u>	<u>£9231</u>