

Equine Market Watch Sanctuaries UK

Reg Charity 1114700

Registered Address REDLYNCH OLD ROAD BROMYARD HEREFORDSHIRE HR7 4AU

**Sanctuary Address LODORE FARM STONEHOUSE LANE BRINGSTY COMMON WORCESTERSHIRE
WR6 5TG**

Trustees Annual Report April 5th, 2023, to April 4th, 2024.

Financial Year end 04 -04 -2024

Trustees serving

Mr Bryan R Weaver, Mrs Winifred A Weaver, Mrs Siobhan A Lord, Ms Marysia Jozwik, Dr Lucy Wilkinson, Ms Samantha L Millward, Ms Elaine M Tasker.

Meetings held via Zoom/in person on daily to weekly basis/ secure social media messenger group chat/ official meetings

Policies reviewed annually/bi-annually as required

Treasurers: Elaine Tasker and Bryan Weaver

Trustee serving period 3 years with re-election process at Annual general meeting.

Round table meeting protocol.

2023 Annual general meeting Zoom and in person April 30th.

Trustees due to end period of service re-elected and seconded and as above serving into the next financial year.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND REPORTS

General Overview

A very difficult early start to the financial year for this charity with periods of little to no income and times where we only just met our commitments with nothing to left to spare.

Our resident numbers have remained static balancing any losses due to old age against intakes admitted. Admitted to sanctuary as a resident pony, the aged and in poor condition the Shetland gelding, renamed EMW Dude, coming into charity ownership and admitted to sanctuary from Brecon auction during September 2023.

In March 2024 we sadly lost the extremely aged EMW Gracie, Shetland mare.

With Gracie's death space had become available to intake but that was curtailed during the relentless wet weather as our housing policy is to be able to provide undercover and hard standing for all residents. The sanctuary however does always remain open to admitting welfare emergency cases.

The arrival in late November 2023, of £50,000 unrestricted bequeath from the estate of the late Janet Mary George, brought huge relief about the future continuation and the ability to financially provide the correct care for the equines in residence in the sanctuary.

We were immediately able to increase our stabling options and to improve our hard standing as well as maintain stocks of bedding/fodder throughout the sodden Winter and Spring weather that relentlessly followed.

Janet Mary George, a former patron of this charity, was keen to enable this charity to have its own equine transport and the necessary 4x4 vehicles to ensure that we would be in a position to respond to calls for help in emergencies, to be able to remove welfare cases immediately when called to do so, and to also have our own transport at auctions and in markets etc to ensure safe and fast removal back to the safety of sanctuary of animals in poor bodily condition.

Previously having to rely on outside sourced/commercial transport, no matter how generous those offers, had always been a huge worry and costly issue, many times this had prevented our intake of equines that, had we had our own transport immediately available, would without a doubt have brought poor condition/aged/very young vulnerable animals into sanctuary care and safety. Immediately upon the bequeath funds being made available, and with full Trustee agreement of the course of action to take, Trustees sourced a 'quick fix' vehicle to cover the immediate Winter needs of seriously inclement weather conditions predicted, those of snow and never-ending flooding. This vehicle provided enough 4x4 cover while the search began in earnest to provide the charity with long term suitable transport. Trustees initially debated purchasing a 3.25 ton horse lorry, going so far as to make available deposit funds for that vehicle but after meeting with constant delays with the seller in question the vehicle was negated and the funds returned to the charity.

The decision was then made to source excellent towing and 4x4 capability no matter what the weather brought, and so followed the subsequent purchase of the two Freelanders was made shortly afterwards. Thanks to this bequeath the charity now has excellent 4x4 needs and towing ability fully met, and the final purchase was made in early March 2024 of the Ifor Williams 505 trailer supplied from local company, SB Trailers Ltd, complete with full certification and all safety and security requirements fully met and is now in full use. We also commissioned extras relating to security of the trailer when parked/off site and had adjustment breast bars fitted to enable carrying safely single bigger equines or very small ponies within. The trailer meets all needs of this charity.

The original 'quick fix vehicle' will now be sold as no longer required and the funds generated from it will be returned to the charity in due course.

The balance of the funds left from the bequeath remain in the Lloyds 100 Club account for use during these difficult times as the financial climate continues to bring worries over regular funding income but the charity is now in better financial health than it has been for many previous years, and Trustees agree that we will build upon this fund to ensure a robust safety net for the charity ahead but fundamentally the care of our residents and those in desperate need must be met where and when the charity responds to cases when called upon to do so as is and complying with our mission statement.

The dedicated emergency fund for Death/Destruction and Disposal (and also immediate and emergency needs) initially was a set-aside sum of £6000, a safety net to ensure all of the sanctuary/charity owned residents final needs can be met. This fund, should it be required, is in place in the event of this charity not being able to continue to care for the elderly and vulnerable equine residents in its ownership, and in the event of there be no other option open for rehousing them. The costs for euthanasia and disposal would be met in full. Trustees agree resident equines, aged and with issues, would without doubt face a bleak and unsure future if there was no such provision was in place.

The fund is also there for cash needs in emergency situations and for making provision such as in the event of a failed hay/straw making season such as 2023 almost became for this charity and which caused Trustees huge worries.

Since this provision was put in place the charity has used a sum of £2800 as payment in full for upgrading the previous aged and fast failing computer system and the construction of new website/domain name security/hosting/links/ and additional training in usage of new system and content editing etc. This outlay will be reduced as the old system will be sold and those funds return to the set-aside fund in due course.

£2250 from the fund has also been used to pay for and pre-book the required Hay/Straw for 2024 to

2025 winter season, 300 x hay small bale at £5 each and 130 Straw at £4 each, as our supplier still has sufficient quantity and good quality stocks to enable the charity to buy at last years' prices and will also store for us and then deliver as we require.

Unfortunately, hay/straw prices are predicted to rise rapidly during the coming year as planting has not been able to happen and ground remains waterlogged with no end in sight. Trustees agreed pre-booking was a prudent move and that we have secured fodder and bedding regardless of the season ahead.

The DD and D fund will be topped back up to the £6000 sum during 2024 to 2025 from incoming funds held in the 100 Club Lloyds account other than any amounts that may be required for Death costs etc incurred ahead.

We will continue to make our own hay crop, providing the crop does grow and is harvestable during the next season ahead. Whatever we make is a bonus and always has been so and for which all Trustees are grateful for. Any pre-paid stocks of hay/straw held with our supplier we will continue to use up throughout the 24 to 25 season ahead.

The DD/D fund is peace of mind for trustees and a charity safeguard as we currently have 8 horses and ponies with 6 of those in advancing old age and with 1 other with serious veterinary issues. The charity tends mostly to intake older ponies so it is expected that our numbers will remain static as intakes replace losses.

Destruction and disposal per equine currently cost in the region of £450/£500 (veterinary costs and removal and disposal costs) undoubtedly this cost will escalate ahead. Previously having to fund end of life costs has always been an issue, 'dead' money is hard to find without having to incur a payment plan which in turn depletes necessary monthly/weekly/daily funds needed in the running of the sanctuary. With DD/D fund held we know that all residents have their end-of-life costs mostly covered and with a little over that may include any aged equine intakes ahead.

General running costs have escalated enormously throughout this financial year with feed, hay, bedding, supplements, farriery, veterinary costs, dentistry, necessary insurances and all other items relating to the care of the sanctuary residents costing double, and in some cases triple or even more, than in previous financial years. Our general income has been steady from our kind donators and supporters but with costs constantly increasing what once covered all outgoings no longer does that. We have had to be prudent and very cautious with our outgoings to ensure that we meet our costs and do not incur debts.

Our social media presence continues to bring in a trickle income via online auctions and the once-a-month prize draw, 100 Club, also gives a small extra income. Unfortunately, online and social media fundraising is an ever-increasing income source for most charities, so funding is scattered thinly between all who use it. Innovation of new methods of fundraising is always in our forethoughts but without a doubt digital and social media is the way forward. During 2023 to 2024 the charity did not source any dedicated grants.

Taking the charity stand out on the road has dwindled alarmingly due to the knock on effects of the previous Covid years which closed down venues that previously we were able to attend and with many sadly no longer hosting events that are suitable for our stand presence, or that they have moved hosting venues (Arab Horse society being one major loss) to distances too far away for our attendance to be viable without suitable vehicle(s) .

Many local and area shows have now gone so those are another loss of income.

Stand space costs have escalated alarmingly at the few major venues still running which makes our presence financially non-viable.

Donated tack/rugs/items etc can cause storage issues at the sanctuary so we have not earned income from that source. Also selling tack etc through horse auctions has not been viable due to the locations of auctions being too distant for delivery of the items prior to the sales. This however may change ahead as a new auction venue closer to the sanctuary has just started up.

The charity still receives periodic payments from a, non-dedicated, local community shop that brings in an average of £400 per quarter year on year. The charity also receives the small sums from clothing collections of the discarded shop items generating a monthly payment.

The projection for the coming year is one of similar general outgoings to this financial year which in turn is causing the charity to have to postpone any previously planned changes within the sanctuary other than basic maintenance and repairs.

The provision of Mud Control Mats during September 2023 was a huge bonus. A project to cover the costs of another full pallet of these mats will be launched in June 2024 to enable us to provide more hardstanding before the next Autumn and Winter. The Mud Control Mats are environmentally friendly and increase hard standing which is vital as we discovered through the wettest autumn and winter for decades. We also have urgent fencing repairs to make due to the constant wet weather rotting posts and rails. We are duty bound legally to ensure our paddocks and boundaries are secure. Lastly the muck heap which was unable to be moved during Covid years and then during the subsequent relentless wet summer, autumn, and winter 23 to 24 is now huge and if nothing else it must be bulldozed back up and rounded up prior to removal later in 2024.

During 2023 to 2024 we purchased and installed a full system of Reo-Link security cameras which are proving to be a very good investment and continue to ensure the safety of our residents on site. There is an ongoing monthly cost for the Data provision, but the security peace of mind far outweighs the costs involved.

We have also, as previously mentioned, a new website created to bring this charity in line with other charities. The new computer system update was long overdue to replace the previous failing and aged system. Training on use and new programmes is ongoing.

The charity continues to review its ecological sustainability with regard to maintaining and encouraging an abundance of wildlife and flora, harvesting rainwater for sanctuary use, as well as recycling generated waste wherever possible. We offer rotted manure to the local community gardening group for their use.

Summing up 2023 to 2024.

If not for the large bequest received all Trustees were aware that this charity would have struggled to continue as income up until November 2023 was barely sufficient to ensure best resident care and provide basic necessary maintenance of the sanctuary but that worry has now been alleviated.

The charity is grateful to all supporters donating in many and varied ways.

In general, a mixed year, good and bad, losses and intakes, welfare work constant, responding to public enquiries and calls for help increased through Autumn and Winter and into early Spring.

England and Wales Equine Markets were regularly covered and attended by at least 2 Trustees on each occasion. Advice to public from calls for help and welfare reports logged and liaison with major welfare organisations increased throughout 2023 to 2024. Where possible the charity's onus is upon education and improvement of equine care without removal of animals and working alongside other major agencies.

The charity will continue to produce informative material available to the public when and where required. The charity will seek to increase talks to schools and other organisations showcasing our

work and bringing to public notice how ignorance, neglect, and abuse can affect equines in the wider community and how this charity works both with other agencies and alone.

Horse Fair attendance at Stow on the Wold during Autumn 2023 was by two senior Trustees where there were issues reported relating to equine transport and other welfare considerations.

Our National Equine Welfare Council self-accreditation was renewed, and the charity continued work within sub-groups of NEWC and comply with all standards laid down. NEWC meetings are regularly attended by at least one Trustee.

Complying with health and safety at the sanctuary we have installed a fire alarm and new extinguisher and have had volunteer training in this area.

We continue to provide a place of safety to those animals who have nowhere else to go.

FINANCES AT APRIL 4th Close of year

Income to general Santander account £25649.00

Expenses from general Santander account £25517.41

Income to 100 Club Lloyds account £55536.67

Expenses from 100 Club Lloyds account £35107.18

PayPal running balance year end £667.37

Petty cash held year end £31.40

Death and destruction and emergency costs, fund held year end £1200

Assets purchased 2023 to 2024

Jeep Patriot 2009, to be sold to value, purchased £2000

Landrover Freelander 2013 £9250

Landrover 2010 £5200

Ifor Williams 505 double horse trailer £3500

Website £1725 from D/D fund

Computer system £1125 from D/D

Reolink Security cameras x3 sim cards x3 SD cards x3 £700

Assets held year end

Jeep Patriot 2009 (to be sold)

2013 Freelander

2010 Freelander

Ifor Williams 505 Trailer

Round Training pen

Equi-Hut x1 on skids

Field Shelter x 2 on skids

Tack/Fencing/Rugs/ Storage/ rubber matting/barrows

Mud Control Matting

Stiga mower

Electric Wheelbarrow

Computer System/Printer

Total asset replace/resale value at April 4th 2024
£42075 replacement (£37937.50 resale value)

Year end balances held

Santander £681.06

Lloyds 100 Club £20684.91

Petty Cash £31.40

Year end Balance Held £21397 .37

Paypal £667.37

Drop and Go Post Office account £31.81

Death, destruction, veterinary fund £1200

Year end balance held £1899.18

Year end 4th April 2024 balance to nearest £ from all sources

£21397

£1899

Year end : £23296.37

Co-Treasurer signature *E M Tasker*

PRINT NAME ELAINE TASKER DATE 15/9/24

Trustee signature *S. Millward*

PRINT NAME S. MILLWARD DATE 15/9/24

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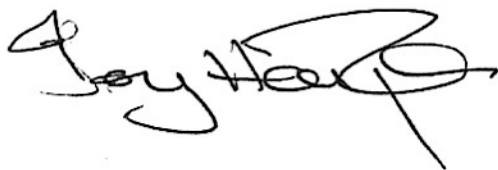
Equine Market Watch Sanctuaries UK
Charity No. 1114700
c/o Elaine Tasker
Secretary
'Red Lynch', Old Road
Bromyard
Herefordshire
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22 August 2024

To Whom it May Concern:

I have independently examined the accounts of Equine Market Watch Sanctuaries UK, for the year 4 April 2023 to 3 April 2024, including associated paperwork. All transactions have been accurately transcribed and all bank transactions have been duly reconciled to a satisfactory standard. All questions have been satisfactorily answered and I thereby attest to the annual transactions being an accurate reflection of the charity accounts for the year.

With Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joy Harper', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joy Harper