

Bulldog Rescue and Re-homing Trust

Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Company information

Company registration number	05664557
Registered Charity number	1115009
Registered office	Little Knowlton Carron Lane Midhurst West Sussex GU29 9LD
Directors	VJ Collins-Nattrass J Gilbert-Frew (resigned 16 February 2024) K Harrison M Woodman SJ Barber FCA M Chandler (resigned 16 February 2024) R Hough D Sahasra (appointed 16 February 2024) NS Hacke (appointed 16 February 2024)
Company secretary	TA Holmes
Independent examiner	RT Pullen ACMA 107 Winchester Road Four Marks Alton Hampshire GU34 5HU

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Report of the Board of Trustees

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. This report has been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Bulldog Rescue is committed to the re-homing of bulldogs which, for whatever reason, can no longer stay with their current owners. We are not a "dogs' home" or a "shelter" and our network of volunteers covers the UK.

Bulldog Rescue is an official Bulldog Rescue and Re-homing service for Great Britain. Overseen by Chief Executive, Tania Holmes, from West Sussex, the charity covers the entire mainland UK with a network of foster homes and volunteers, making sure that when a bulldog needs a new home, he is found somewhere which is exactly the right home for him.

This is the annual report of the Board of Trustees and covers the twelve months ended 31st March 2024. The organisation is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. It is registered as Bulldog Rescue and Re-Homing Trust and uses the working name Bulldog Rescue.

The members of the company are the same as its trustees. The company is established under a Memorandum of Association which sets out the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

The board is responsible for the oversight of the management of all the affairs of the charity. It seeks to ensure that all activities are within UK law and come within agreed charitable objectives. Our work includes setting strategic direction, agreeing on the financial plan, the disaster recovery plan, and ensuring that activities are carried out within agreed governance frameworks.

The mission of Bulldog Rescue is:

- to promote responsible dog ownership amongst those who own a pure-bred bulldog;
- to ensure that all those who can no longer keep their bulldog for whatever reason, have the option of safely placing their dog in a vetted pet home;
- to ensure a place of safety is available to all bulldogs whose owners can no longer cope or look after their dogs properly;
- to be available to offer unbiased breed advice to all those who own a pure-bred bulldog; and
- to educate bulldog owners in the hope that bulldogs in the future can be free from cruelty, abuse or neglect.

The Rehoming Service offered by Bulldog Rescue

Due to the large number of dogs that owners have asked to rehome, we are using the 'stay with owners whilst we find the right home' basis more; this avoids taking up a foster space which is needed for rescued dogs that are homeless. This has proved very popular and enables the new owners and the old ones to meet, and many great homes have been found using this basis. This approach is better for the dogs as they avoid the upheaval of moving into a temporary foster situation. This of course can only be done with thorough temperament testing which is carried out by experienced volunteers during the home visit.

Head Office

Bulldog Rescue has been in existence as an unregistered association for over 45 years and has been in its current form since 2001. It became registered as a charity in April 2006 and has been running for 18 years as such. It is administered by Tania Holmes and her husband, David, from their home in Midhurst, West Sussex.

Tania Holmes (CEO) is a part-time member of staff; besides her paid hours she does a large amount of unpaid overtime voluntarily and is on call 24/7 for emergencies. David Holmes remains a volunteer and neither he nor Tania claim expenses.

The Kennels that we have at Midhurst are maintained to a high standard by Tania, who took back this role herself during the previous financial year.

We continue to participate in helping young people undertake their Duke of Edinburgh Award or work experience, and the Rescue is pleased to offer placements and education to young people interested in animal care.

Kennel maintenance at Midhurst

There is continued improvement and updating work done at the kennel throughout the year. We have a fully working bathroom/grooming room on-site and a second-hand shed used for storage; we continuously need to spend on maintenance. We have a small retail area attached to the block which doubles as an office and a waiting area for visitors.

We operate with 5 foster kennels plus a quarantine pen for new arrivals and a fully equipped sick bay for dogs on serious treatment or recovering from surgery - both are monitored by CCTV.

Security measures are in place, and the kennel and surrounding area are under constant recording.

Tania can concentrate on management and running the kennels herself without a kennel maid, and she is now free to do the work in the office and provide advice via the charity's helpline. She also maintains the website and runs fundraising events/competitions online. Tania continues to work a rota so immediately everyone knows who is working that day which ensures that the rescue is always fully covered.

Tania continues her support system for the volunteers' mental health, which aims to combat compassion fatigue which can affect the health of those working within the stresses of animal welfare.

Tania is the co-ordinator of the Bulldog Breed Council Education Committee, and her knowledge and input are helping to educate owners before they need Rescue services.

Several studies and surveys are being worked on to try to give a complete picture of bulldog ownership in the UK. Much education is needed to try to get the public to fully the commitment they need to make when buying a dog of any breed, and encouragement is given to research where to obtain a healthy bulldog and avoid buying a puppy bred to meet a demand for fashion-driven traits.

Employees

The ever-increasing number of dogs coming into rescue and the volume of help required by people seeking to rehome their bulldog means the Charity could not function efficiently without the following invaluable part-time employees.

Lana Alliston whose role is Re-homer, uses the computerized Anilog system. Lana is a part-time employee engaged in matching dogs that are offered on our website to the most suitable applicant to ensure they find the perfect home.

Georgia Burton whose main role is Co-ordinating the movement of the dogs and enlisting and managing the Volunteers. Her workload is huge, she does as many hours as possible voluntarily extra to her paid ones, and donates her expenses back to the Rescue.

The following are key unpaid volunteers who are indispensable to the smooth running of the charity:

Michelle Woodman (Trustee and unpaid volunteer) has undertaken a huge amount of office administration work besides her normal fostering of dogs with special needs and, as in previous years, she has donated her time to the charity.

Helen Osbourne and Jaynie Roberts voluntarily co-ordinate the Fundraising Auction which supports our efforts to deal with ever-increasing veterinary bills.

Anilog

An essential element to the smooth running of the Rescue is the use of Anilog, a professional kennel/rescue management system which has now been in place for 11 years, enabling all the management staff access to all the records online 24/7.

One of the main advantages of this system has been to speed up the rehoming, as prior to this every application for a dog had to be read and assessed but now the comprehensive questionnaire that all potential adopters complete ensures that matched candidates are immediately short-listed, enabling our re-homer to process more efficiently. This system generates emails to match owner criteria to any new dog listed so providing maximum exposure to gain the most ideal home is in place.

Anilog is also being used to keep track and maintain contact with the dogs adopted, sending a neutering voucher, and checking at 1 month, 6 months, and 1 year to make sure all is well with the dogs and contact is maintained.

Full records, including every step of a dog's contact with us, including intake and medical records, are recorded in the system; all dogs are numbered on arrival, so it is possible to chart their journey throughout the process.

Telephone system

We have an efficient phone system that makes it easier for us to be contacted out of hours. The main 0871 number earns us revenue when used. Calls are also recorded which can be helpful in cases involving owner disputes.

Qualifications

Tania is AMTRA (Animal Medicines Training Regulatory Authority) qualified and a C-SQP (Suitably Qualified Person) which helps the charity to reduce the impact of veterinary bills as many common problems can be dealt with by the medicines she can dispense under her licence. We continue to advertise the Bulldog Clinic to generate further revenue to help with the running costs.

Associations

The associations of which we are members are:

- ADCH (Association of Dogs and Cats Homes)
- Kennel Club - Find a Rescue Dog Service

Review

While awaiting re-homing, Bulldog Rescue tries to foster as many dogs as possible in a home with our volunteers, as this makes temperament testing much more reliable. We do also use our own kennels at Midhurst where Tania takes care of them.

Unfortunately, the number of dogs requiring help is rising; fewer people are prepared to hold on to their dogs whilst they are being found new homes and are eager to pass them into the care of the rescue. This is the eighth year we have made this observation as people are often not prepared to wait for a space in foster or keep the dogs while we find new owners.

Often people who change their minds about dog ownership seek to pass their dog to a family member or friends, and sadly we often get these dogs after several homes. People often take on dogs without fully realizing the extent of the commitment required; Bulldog Rescue prides itself on fully checking out the homes and the expectations of potential adoptions and has a minimal failure rate.

It is still a fact that Bulldogs retain a cash value higher than that of most breeds until they are over 6 years old; people can still sell them on suspect internet selling sites for several hundred pounds.

Bulldogs are also at high risk of being stolen - sometimes to order - with the higher demand for pedigree dogs. However, due to indiscriminate breeding the number of Bulldogs is now much more than homes available this is leading to a crisis in all rescues as prospective adopters are becoming fewer.

Review (continued)

We are still affected by the change in the nature of dog ownership in the UK which followed the Covid-19 stay-at-home restrictions. The fallout from this is keenly felt by rescues of all breeds. People who normally have been out working long hours suddenly had more free time and the added incentive that dog walking was permitted under the regulations. This led to a sudden increase in the numbers of all dogs bred and sold, and people acquiring dogs without careful consideration of the time dogs would be spending alone in the home once working patterns returned to normal. Bulldog Rescue still has a huge demand for help caused by this situation.

The pre-Covid price of a Breed Standard Bulldog Puppy was over £2,200 for a puppy. This then rose to between £3,500 and £4,000. The prices of Bulldogs of non-Breed Standard colours have led to dog breeding providing a lucrative income, allowing people to sell puppies of various colours for whatever customers were prepared to pay, often many thousands.

Over the last year, this picture has started to change, and in 2023/24 prices have fallen dramatically; the registration numbers have significantly dropped amongst the dogs registered at the Kennel Club.

There are still unfortunately fashion trends which are still encouraging bad practice among certain breeders. The breeding of unusual so called 'exotic' bulldogs mean the market is still quite flooded with poorly bred variants bred for fashion, by colour and coat texture. It is essential future owners do their homework before buying a puppy; better still if they could see what the dogs waiting in rescues can offer as this would help the situation across the country.

History tells us that fashions in dog ownership change over the course of time and we expect demand for fashionable breeds to fall significantly after a certain fad burns out.

Another big consideration for dog owners is the rising price of veterinary treatments; this has more than doubled since Covid-19 restrictions in many practices. This is a serious concern to all animal owners in the UK. Veterinary practices seem to be run with an increasing focus on profitability, and sadly the dogs Bulldog Rescue are seeing need more treatment and care before they can be rehomed because owners are struggling to cover veterinary fees. The time has long gone where we just had to temperament test, cut nails and bath them some of the dogs are in desperate need of extensive (and expensive) veterinary treatment, and this is reflected in the figures we spend on veterinary care.

Over the years the situation of new owners deciding to breed their expensive puppy to recoup their outlay has encouraged home breeding. We are strongly advising that the number of puppies bred be seriously reduced.

People only tend to ask for help from Bulldog Rescue when they have exhausted other ways to have their bulldog rehomed (e.g. by selling) which sadly means they are often desperate when they do contact us, this is now including puppies under a year old which has never been the norm in years gone by.

The Annual Kennel Club UK registration of Bulldogs for 2022 was 11,667 registered puppies; in 2023 the number is significantly lower at 6,924 which were classified as Standard or Colour not Recognised (CNR) now known as NBS (Non-Breed Standard colour); this shows a drop of almost 5,000 registered puppies which we are pleased to see.

However, a recent data estimate by the Royal Veterinary College vet compass tells us we have a population of bulldogs of 132,024 alive in the UK.

We are seeing a change in the population of bulldogs in the UK and NBS dogs are being sold for large sums of money; it is still a major concern that there will be a rescue influx as these dogs age as there is no support system in place to help these dogs.

We still rehome only pure-bred Bulldogs. Coloured dogs that are registered by the KC are technically still bulldogs as they have pedigrees. A high number of these coloured dogs have found themselves in Bulldog Rescues throughout the UK in 2022/23.

The Kennel Club seems to have changed its previous policy of protecting pedigree dogs and has become more inclusive of all dogs. Alternative registries are thriving, adding to the number of dogs bred outside of the Breed Standard; it is thought at this time the Royal UK Kennel Club only registers 30% of all dogs bred here.

Despite the Kennel Club's refusal to register Merle bulldogs on health grounds, this is still the fastest-growing area of dogs being sold as rare and regarded as something special; this continued through 2023/24. We expect that when some of the health issues arise, we will be asked to help these poor dogs. They are usually registered not as Merle but as one of the colours in the standard.

The KC has set up a department that deals with incorrect registration in the hope of reducing these dogs fraudulently claiming to be KC registered. More public education is needed to make it clear that these dogs are not purebred bulldogs.

Onward

The changing face of rescues' economic needs in 2023/24 shows that this is evolving. In the past, we had a lot of older dogs, but increasingly we feel society has become more 'throw-away' in nature, and the number of younger dogs coming in to the Rescue is increasing.

There is also an increased volume of younger dogs being put into rescue because of aggression between family dogs in the home; not all Bulldogs like sharing their home. This has become a common reason that dogs need to be moved into rescue at short notice.

The most common reasons for rehoming recently have shifted and have leaned more towards costs of vet fees, losing accommodation, divorce and separation of owners, still closely followed by the arrival of a new baby in the family.

Rental properties that will accept pets have become harder to find, even though a new law has been introduced to enable more people to keep pets in rental properties. However, the impact of the new legislation is yet to widely reflected in re-homing numbers.

There has been a new element coming into the rehoming of bulldogs: due to their increase in registrations (more than half of which are KC Non-Recognised Colours) which have been sold at a premium by unscrupulous breeders, people are duped into thinking they are rare and valuable, and selling them on is attempted before they ask us.

The changes brought into Animal Welfare in back in 2018 resulted in more dogs being rehomed by breeders as restrictions were introduced on the number of dogs kept in breeding establishments. This has increased the numbers needing rehoming after breeding has finished.

The Covid-19 lockdown changed a lot of the ways the new welfare rules were applied to protect breeds. We at BDR continue to monitor this situation carefully as this will affect all breeds and we are concerned that enough homes will be able to be found for these dogs; we noted this last year and sadly we are seeing this prediction come true.

Veterinary bills are also affecting the way people wishing to rehome a bulldog are looking at our dogs. The changing requirements of families looking to rehome a dog means that they are very aware of the costs a needy dog might incur at the vets; people applying for bulldogs do not want dogs with problems and although we rarely see a bad breather, skin problems continue to be an issue in the breed as do problems with ears and eyes. These are not cruelty reasons but neglect and lack of education. Bulldog Rescue really tries to educate and help owners with its online Supporters Group, giving advice 24/7. This observation made last year is even more applicable to this year's report; demand for bulldogs is very low and dogs that have any ongoing health issues are not being taken on.

The public buying dogs need to be aware that DNA testing for colours is NOT health testing.

In light of the increase in CNR dogs, we launched a campaign at Crufts in April 2018 asking the Kennel Club to help us. Known as Trevor's Treaty after Trevor the 3 footed Lilac Bulldog who was in our care, it had 15 Breed Clubs and Rescues on board and a letter signed by 2,025 people was sent to the Kennel Club, but 6 years on we have seen no progress in helping this situation to help us deal with these issues.

Onward (continued)

We operate a no-destruction policy, except in cases of temperament failure and severe or terminal illness. This aspect of our work is still the most heartbreaking and is never taken lightly. Knowing a dog bites people is still the only reason Bulldog Rescue would ever refuse to re-home a dog, although we do sometimes offer to take the dog to euthanize if we feel it is a public danger or think that the owner is not likely to comply with the advice given.

We are very lucky our 'oldies' are given the opportunity to be cared for, as we have several volunteers who have taken on these dogs undertaking to care for and feed them until the end of life. The Charity picks up the veterinary bills which can be considerable amounts as sadly the high need for vets' bills puts people off adopting these oldies. We do offer a sponsorship scheme so donors can help a particular dog's future care.

One of our volunteers/Trustee Michelle continues to give a home to epileptic dogs and has nursed them and given them a chance at a normal family life. This is wonderful and her advice on managing this condition is offered to any owners receiving this diagnosis. This helps to make the Rescue a main point of contact for troubles and situations, and with our support helps owners to keep their dogs longer.

The Joan Davies Bursary

Our legacy gifted money account was set up as this bursary that we have kept as a separate account and it has, by putting it to the specific 'owner help' rather than allowing it to be used for everyday rescue expenses, been used to help owners to keep their dogs. Further legacies have been received and all deposited into the account which will be kept in the Bursary as part of a strategy for emergencies.

Unfortunately, it is now very likely to run out and with escalating fees charged by vets, we have been unable to sustain 'giving' the help without contributions from the owners. Accordingly, we implemented the loan scheme VFH (Veterinary Fees Help) repayments to replace our original outlay.

This can be of help to many temporarily financially embarrassed owners whose vet's bills have spiralled without warning, whilst keeping the legacy money for emergencies. We have however had to put a cap on the amount as so many dogs need help, and the amount of available money does not go far enough to pay the new higher level of charges from veterinary practices.

This is a serious concern to the charity that this failsafe may not be replaced as fast as our demands for treatment are rising.

Volunteers

The volunteer network is the lifeblood of the charity and their work in collecting and fostering dogs, assessing potential new homes, and transporting dogs is key to the charity's success. We have 138 volunteers. We have avoided the use of commercial kennels.

However, we are still short of foster homes, working at clearing all the dogs to homes as soon as possible. Georgia has worked hard at this, and this is reflected in the savings of kennel fees.

All prospective volunteers are interviewed by William Kralik and approved by the Volunteer Manager, Georgia Burton. Once accepted, they sign up for the Bulldog Rescue Volunteer Code of Conduct and Good Practice and are provided with a uniform shirt and identity badge. They all receive a full briefing about how to work most effectively for the charity. We maintain high expectations of those trusted and committed volunteers' loyalty and respect for our confidentiality and Data Protection laws. We have appointed a Mental Health First Aider to provide support to the volunteers if needed.

There is also a written advice and practice handbook provided for referral to give the Charity a professional code they adhere to always, in all situations. Due to the economic situation in the country and the increased costs of travel, our Annual Volunteers Meetings will be held online for the foreseeable future.

As there is always a shortage of volunteers in certain parts of the country, telephone interviews take place weekly as we are looking for experienced people in the breed, but we have strict criteria they must meet to become a volunteer, and we always need volunteers who can foster. Ideally, to avoid the expensive use of external boarding kennels (as we recognize the testing of temperament is most effective in a home situation) our aim is to get those fostered as soon as possible.

Georgia Burton continues in the role of Volunteer Co-ordinator, taking responsibility for contacting volunteers and arranging collections, transportation, and home checks.

Some volunteers do not claim mileage, some claim but donate it back to the Charity. Each year the trustees invite nominations for an award to be given to someone who has made an outstanding contribution to the welfare of the bulldog breed during the previous year. This gives us a chance to recognise people who are not part of our volunteer system.

Governance

Governing document

Bulldog Rescue and Re-homing Trust Limited is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 29 November 2005. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

The charity is governed by its Board of Trustees who have met on average every three months. These meetings have been held by webcam conference.

The Annual General Meeting is always held in person in accordance with our Articles of Association.

The meetings are attended by the Trustees with the Chief Executive in attendance together with other members of the management team. The Trustees consider the policies and strategic direction of the charity.

The board delegates all other operational and management matters to the Chief Executive. All decisions are recorded in the minutes of the meetings.

Trustees

The Trustees during the year were:

Vicky Collins-Nattrass (Chair)

Simon Barber FCA (Treasurer)

Kathryn Harrison

Michelle Woodman

Roland Hough

Devayani Sahasra

Nicolas (Joe) Hacke

The Trustees seek to act independently and impartially with their sole interest being the furtherance of the charity's objectives. Any potential conflict of interest is declared in advance of any agenda item, and, in such an event, an individual trustee may be excluded from the decision-making process.

Trustees were not remunerated for their work as Trustees, none claimed out-of-pocket expenses to enable attendance at meetings, and those trustees who were also volunteers were able to reclaim expenses incurred in the latter capacity.

Reporting on our activities

Trustees seek to go further than the minimum reporting required by the Charity Commission. The website www.bulldogrescue.org.uk, which is maintained by Tania Holmes, is a source of excellent up-to-date breed information as well as details of bulldogs seeking new homes, news on fundraising activities, and stories about dogs that have been re-homed. There are two Facebook pages: one for charity work, and a second one for Supporters and friends.

Finances and fundraising

Kathryn Harrison (a Trustee) is our Fundraising co-ordinator who has a focus on raising funds from Charitable Trusts and Foundations.

This period has been difficult, but Kath has managed to secure grants and donations from the following trusts, organizations, and individuals, including the following: Walker £300; Robert and Shirley Hunt £1,000; Animal Friends Insurance £2,500; Vodafone Charity match £500; Animal Defence £2,000; Alice Noakes £1,500; Pets Foundation £10,000. These amounts alone total £17,800

Kath is the distributor of the collection boxes - 218 collection tins are out on sites. Three registered charities rescue bulldogs in the UK, all vying for public supporters' money, which makes raising funds harder.

The number of Brachycephalic breeds bred and the number of other Brachycephalic breeds finding themselves in need of Rescue have increased over the last few years, and we are always looking for new ways to increase our revenue to match the demand.

Kath registers and keeps track of all the fund-raising events/walks by the general supporting public.

Merchandise

Roly Hough (a Trustee) developed his fund-raising character 'Archie' who was a real-life permanent bulldog foster with severe spinal problems. Unfortunately, he died unexpectedly, but Roly has continued with Archie's merchandise created in his memory and will continue to do so. Roly and Kath remain our go-to experts on the care of bulldogs with spinal issues.

Roly has created 'Archie to the Rescue' and a whole range of retail items including car logos designed to order.

Many items can be printed and personalised and Roly has voluntarily purchased new machinery to print on most items. Kathryn has made goods to sell. He is attending our charitable events with his own stall of merchandise; he has a selling website that is sending out goods worldwide, he is an invaluable member of the team bringing very good support to BDR.

Financial responsibilities

The bookkeeping is undertaken by Tania Holmes who has implemented a new computerised programme enabling the balance of finances to be seen each quarter by the Trustees.

Our Treasurer Simon Barber FCA oversees the financial matters of the Charity.

Bulldog Rescue Online Auction

The Charity remembers and thanks former Trustee Jo Frew, for her inspirational idea to raise online fundraising Charity Facebook Page Auction. Unfortunately, Jo has had to step down due to ill health, but the auction now continues under the oversight of Helen Osbourne and Jaynie Reynolds. We gratefully acknowledge the time spent voluntarily by these ladies.

This source of income raised £35,162 (last year £40,571), a reduction of £5,409. This is used to support the vet fees and many special needs dogs which are highlighted during the year for appeals. Unfortunately, while this used to be enough to meet our vets' bills, this no longer reaches this level due to the increased level of veterinary fees across the country.

Prescription costs have been reduced by drugs being purchased online and this has achieved a significant overall saving. Veterinary costs are still the major expense of the charity. Many dogs come into the rescue requiring treatment before we can list them as being well enough to rehome.

Other fundraising

We highlight the Fundraising Activities and Events generated £47,757 (last year £37,134), a welcome increase of £10,623.

Bulldog Rescue and Rehoming are very grateful to the private fund raisers for holding these events which have become well-established annual events. Attendance by the public has slowed, no doubt due in part to the impact of the current economic situation on households, but these events are still very popular:

- An Educational Bulldog Day UK (Organised by our Chairman VJ Collins-Nattrass and the Blackpool and Fylde Bulldog Breed Club);
- The London Bulldog Society continues its support at the Annual Bulldog Picnic with fun classes organized by Anna Strowger Chapman;
- Tania Holmes whose book 'The Bulldog Bible' continues to sell well and full price is donated to Rescue; and
- Yvonne Pannifer for her two annual fundraising days at Shirebrook near Mansfield.

Thanks to all who gave their time for organising these events.

The main fundraising event run by the Charity continues to be the Annual Bulldog Picnic held at Lodsworth Village Hall, near Petworth, West Sussex on the first Saturday in September.

The Trust reported a net deficit for the year of £79,948 (year ended 31 March 2023: Deficit £73,907) and has bank and cash balances on 31 March 2024 totalling £96,041 (31 March 2023: £176,545).

Unfortunately, the repercussions of the COVID lockdown are still felt by all rescue and welfare organisations in the UK, and the long-term effects of the pandemic continue to impact the way in which the Charity operated this financial year.

People changed their behaviour and meeting up was not necessarily high on the priorities of owners. This continues to severely affect our ability to raise funds desperately needed to meet the ever-growing demand for our help. Due to the cost of living crisis many families are struggling with everyday living costs. There has been a noticeable change in attendance at all dog-related events, and reports from the Breed Club shows that the number of exhibitors is at an all-time low.

Restricted and unrestricted funds

Funds are applied for the purpose for which the donor requests. On the rare occasions when this is not possible, with the donor's permission, the funds are used to support the work of the charity more generally. General appeals for a specific purpose always bear a note to the effect that when enough funds have been raised to finance that need, the balance will be applied to the charity's running costs.

Equal opportunities

We are committed to the principle and practice of equal opportunities and aim to apply equal opportunities principles to the recruitment of volunteers, the selection of foster and adoption homes and in the delivery of training and information.

Independent examiner's statement

During the year, Reg Pullen once again was re-appointed the charity's independent examiner. His services are greatly appreciated.

Many Thanks

The Trustees would like gratefully to acknowledge the tireless and invaluable work of Tania and David Holmes, Georgia Burton, Lana Alliston, Anna Strowger Chapman for her work on the supporters' page and with missing Dogs, all the volunteers, and the support and assistance of the many organizations and individuals who have helped Bulldog Rescue during the year. To all those who have contributed in any way to help the rescuing of bulldogs, fund raising, sponsorship and for stepping up to the mark whenever we made an appeal - thank you all!

On behalf of the Board of Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vicky Collins-Nattrass', written in a cursive style.

Vicky Collins-Nattrass
Chair

Date: 16 November 2024

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees (who are also the directors of Bulldog Rescue and Re-homing Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

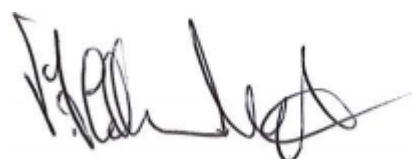
The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Statement as to disclosure to our independent examiner

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the examiner in connection with preparing his report, of which the company's examiner is unaware, and
- the trustees, having made enquiries of fellow directors and the company's examiner that they ought to have individually taken, have each taken all steps that he/she is obliged to take as a director in order to make themselves aware of any information relevant to the examination of the financial statements and to establish that the examiner is aware of that information.

By order of the board of trustees



Vicky-Collins Natrass
Chair

16 November 2024

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees and members of Bulldog Rescue and Re-homing Trust

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Bulldog Rescue and Re-homing Trust for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 15 to 24.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and

to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



R T Pullen ACMA
107 Winchester Road
Four Marks
Alton
Hampshire
GU34 5HU

Date: 16 November 2024

Statement of financial activities

		Unrestricted funds 2024	Unrestricted funds 2023
	Note	£	£
Incoming resources			
Donations, legacies and grants	1	69,127	64,062
Charitable activities	1	95,070	104,101
Investment income		1,224	418
Total incoming resources		165,421	168,581
Resources expended			
Expenditure on:			
Fundraising and events	2	(4,562)	(6,945)
Charitable activities	2	(240,807)	(235,543)
		(245,369)	(242,488)
Net deficit		(79,948)	(73,907)

All of the activities of the company are classed as continuing.

There are no gains or losses other than those recognised in the statement of financial activities for the current and prior year.

Balance sheet

		2024	2023
	Note	£	£
Fixed assets			
Property, plant and equipment	6	-	-
		-	-
Current assets			
Stock		1,064	1,208
Cash at bank and in hand	7	96,041	176,545
		97,105	177,753
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
Accrued expenses		(1,500)	(2,200)
Net current assets		95,605	175,553
Total assets less current liabilities		95,605	175,553
Net assets		95,605	175,553
Represented by:			
Accumulated fund (unrestricted)	9	95,605	175,553
		95,605	175,553

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of the accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 16 November 2024 and are signed on their behalf by:



Vicky Collins-Natrass
Chair

Company number 05664557
Registered Charity number 1115009

Principal accounting policies

Statement of compliance

Bulldog Rescue and Re-homing Trust is a company limited by guarantee which is incorporated in England and Wales. The Registered Office is Little Knowlton, Carron Lane, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 9LD.

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The Company's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and with the Charities Act 2011. The Company constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts.

The financial statements are prepared in pounds sterling which is the Company's functional currency and rounded to the nearest £.

Going concern

The Trust reported a net deficit for the year of £79,948 but has bank and cash balances at 31 March 2024 totalling £96,041. The Trustees are of the view that, taking into account certain proposed cost reduction plans and other measures which are currently being formulated, the Trust has sufficient resources to enable it to continue to meet its liabilities for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements, and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

The principal accounting policies of the company are set out below.

Cash flow statement

The Company meets the definition of a qualifying entity under FRS102 and has therefore taken advantage of the disclosure exemptions available to it in respect of the presentation of a cash flow statement.

INCOME

Revenue recognition

Revenue is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the Charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- it is more likely than not that the Trustees will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS 102 SORP).

In the case of performance related grants, income is only recognised to the extent that the Charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met.

Legacies

Legacies are included in the SoFA when receipt is probable; that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the Charity or have been met.

Principal accounting policies (continued)

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

Donated goods

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

The cost of any stock of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those gifts at the time of their receipt and they are recognised on receipt. In the reporting period in which the stocks are distributed, they are recognised as an expense at the carrying amount of the stocks at distribution.

Donated goods for resale are measured at fair value on initial recognition, which is the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale, and recognised in 'Income from other trading activities' with the corresponding stock recognised in the balance sheet. On its sale the value of stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds from sale are also recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'.

Goods donated for on-going use by the charity are recognised as tangible fixed assets and included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as income from donations when receivable.

Donated services and facilities

Donated services and facilities are included in the SOFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably.

Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SOFA.

Volunteer help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the Trustees' annual report.

Income from bank interest

This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable, and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

Principal accounting policies (continued)

Basic financial instruments

The charity accounts for basic financial instruments on initial recognition as per paragraph 11.7 FRS 102 SORP. Subsequent measurement is as per paragraphs 11.17 to 11.19, FRS 102 SORP.

ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least. They are valued at cost.

The depreciation rates and methods used are as follows:

Kennels	-	8 years straight line
Van	-	4 years straight line

Stocks

Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

Goods or services provided as part of a charitable activity are measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock.

Debtors

Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

Operating lease agreements

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Notes to the financial statements

1 Analysis of income

Donations and legacies:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	58,827	56,562
Grants	10,300	7,500
	<u>69,127</u>	<u>64,062</u>

Charitable activities:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Adoption fees	10,448	23,090
Adopter registration fees	1,703	3,306
Online auction	35,162	40,571
Fundraising and other activities	47,757	37,134
	<u>95,070</u>	<u>104,101</u>

Donations include the following amounts received from clubs and societies:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Birmingham and Midland Counties Bulldog Club	100	100
London Bulldog Society	517	202
East Midlands Bulldog Club	300	150
Bulldog Club of Scotland	-	200
South of England Bulldog Club	-	70
Bath and Western Counties Bulldog Club	10	-
	<u>927</u>	<u>722</u>

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

2 Analysis of expenditure

	2024	2023
	£	£
Expenditure on raising funds		
Fundraising and events costs	3,083	692
Cost of merchandising items	1,479	6,253
	<u>4,562</u>	<u>6,945</u>
	2024	2023
	£	£
Expenditure on charitable activities		
Veterinary bills	120,822	131,458
Insurance	654	1,763
Travel and telephone	16,832	20,414
Postage, printing and stationery	6,819	3,352
Supplies including dog food	12,530	5,930
Staffing costs	59,067	49,621
Administration and website	9,535	7,012
Utilities and property costs	659	1,197
Boarding fees	504	3,214
Motor vehicle costs	4,207	2,363
Bank charges and fees	1,756	1,608
Sundry costs including subscriptions	1,343	2,483
Kennel maintenance and repairs	6,079	5,128
Depreciation	-	-
	<u>240,807</u>	<u>235,543</u>

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

3 Particulars of employees

The average monthly number of staff employed by the company during the financial year amounted to:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Number of operational staff	2	2
Number of administration staff	1	1
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

The aggregate payroll costs of the above were:

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	54,916	46,390
Social security costs	4,151	3,231
	<u>59,067</u>	<u>49,621</u>

4 Directors

None of the Directors/Trustees of the Company received any remuneration during the year (2023: £nil).

Key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel other than the directors of the Company amounted to £22,090 (2023: £19,332).

5 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

6 Property, plant and equipment

	Kennels and van £	Total £
Cost or valuation		
At 1 April 2023	24,081	24,081
Additions	-	-
	<u>24,081</u>	<u>24,081</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>24,081</u>	<u>24,081</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2023	24,081	24,081
Charge for the year	-	-
	<u>24,081</u>	<u>24,081</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>24,081</u>	<u>24,081</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

7 Cash at bank and in hand

	2024 £	2023 £
Bank – current account	17,396	25,072
Bank – deposit account	76,224	150,000
Petty cash and Paypal account	2,421	1,473
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>96,041</u>	<u>176,545</u>

8 Related party transactions

No transactions with related parties were undertaken such as are required to be disclosed under FRS 102 Section 33. Remuneration of key management personnel is disclosed in note 4 above.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

9 Accumulated fund

	2024 £	2023 £
Balance brought forward	175,553	249,460
Deficit for the financial year	(79,948)	(73,907)
Balance carried forward	<u>95,605</u>	<u>175,553</u>

10 Financial instruments

	2024 £	2023 £
Financial assets measured at face value		
Bank and cash balances	<u>96,041</u>	<u>176,545</u>
Financial liabilities measured at undiscounted amount payable:		
Trade and other creditors (excluding deferred revenue)	<u>(1,500)</u>	<u>(2,200)</u>