



Shy Lowen Horse and Pony Sanctuary

Annual Report 2022

Reference and Administration Details

Charity name	Shy Lowen Horse and Pony Sanctuary
Registered Charity Number	1122891
Charity's principal address	18 Back Lane
	Thornton
	Merseyside
Postcode	L29 7WD

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted (if not for whole year)
Bernadette Langfield	Chair	
Eric Langfield		
Michelle Irving		
Patricia Sheridan		
Kellie O'Shea		
Elouise Jones		
Nanette Cox		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of the Charity's Trusts

Type of governing document: **Trust Deed**

How the Charity is constituted: **Trust**

Trustee selection methods: **Appointed by The Board of Trustees** she charity operates with a Child and Vulnerable Adults Protection Policy and Trustees, staff and adult volunteers are DBS (CRB) checked every three years.

The Charity works closely with Carla Lane's Animals In Need, military veteran charity Tom Harrison House and local education providers

The trustees recognize that public interest in the riding establishment activities are improving future economic sustainability. Continuation in the future sustainability will be dependant upon improvements to the infrastructure. With this in mind the trustees are pursuing a permanent property holding to ensure the home of Shy Lowen is secure.

The year began with the uncertainty of strict Covid 19 lockdowns which led to 5 of the 7 annual open days being cancelled. In addition there were very limited opportunities to offer any of the services provided through our Riding Establishment licence.

Objectives and Activities

Whilst assessing the requirements to ensure the survival of this charity it was apparent that the original objectives set were not reflecting the actual activities. Additional objectives were agreed to properly describe the charitable objects and activities. These were agreed and ratified.

The full objectives are now:-

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC TO RELIEVE THE SUFFERING OF ANIMALS (IN PARTICULAR EQUINES) IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION AND TO PROVIDE AND MAINTAIN RESCUE HOMES OR OTHER FACILITIES FOR THE RECEPTION, CARE AND TREATMENT OF SUCH ANIMALS.

TO PROMOTE HUMANE BEHAVIOUR TOWARDS ANIMALS BY PROVIDING APPROPRIATE CARE, PROTECTION, TREATMENT AND SECURITY FOR ANIMALS WHICH ARE IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION BY REASON OF SICKNESS, MALTREATMENT, POOR CIRCUMSTANCES OR ILL USAGE.

TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC IN MATTERS PERTAINING TO ANIMAL WELFARE IN GENERAL AND THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY AND SUFFERING AMONG ANIMALS.

TO PROVIDE OPEN SPACE FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGES AND ABILITIES TO ENJOY AND RESPECT NATURE AND WILDLIFE.

TO PROVIDE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WITH THE USE OF HOLISTIC THERAPIES.

TO PROVIDE INCLUSIVE AND AFFORDABLE ETHICAL EQUESTRIAN RECREATIONAL AND LEISURE PURSUITS FOR THE COMMUNITY.

Whilst organising and arranging activities and events the trustees had regard for the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on Public Benefit.

- © The seven sanctuary Open Days which are usually well attended and enjoyed by the local community were largely lost to the global pandemic lock down situations. We did manage two events held outdoors at Shy Lowen which were very well attended, in part because people were grateful for an opportunity to enjoy being together at an event.
- © The continued decimation in numbers of volunteers owing to the Covid 19 restrictions meant that we needed to increase our staffing which led to an increase in costs to the charity.
- © We are very grateful to all of the following people and organisations for their huge contribution in funding this charity throughout the pandemic crisis of through from 2020 to the present day. Without their help we would survive.

Monty Roberts
Kelly Marks
Roger Lyon
Mike Badger
Joyce Lund Trust
Jean Sainsbury Animal Welfare Trust
Sefton MBC Discretionary
LCR Cares
Petplan Charitable Trust
Royal Sun Alliance
Ravensdale Trust
Sylvia Waddilove Trust
Marchig Animal Welfare Trust
Marchig Foundation
CAF Resilience Fund
Hilda Holmes Charitable Trust
Elise Pilkington Charitable Trust
The Armed Forces Covenant Fund
Sefton CVS
Community Foundation for Merseyside

Activities relating to aims and objectives

Horses and ponies come to Shy Lowen for a number of reasons: owner's redundancy or other economic problems; illness of owners; animal behavioural problems or animal age or infirmity; abandoned animals etc.

Re-homed horses remain the property of Shy Lowen as they have been guaranteed a home for life.

New homes are inspected prior to placement and these are subject to contracts requiring specific care standards including agreement not to sell or pass the animal on to others.

Those who re-home an animal must donate a minimum of £10.00 a month as a Friend of Shy Lowen. Successful re-homing is due, in large part, to the work undertaken by volunteers.

Permanent residents can also be sponsored for as little as £10.00 a year and regular supporters come from far and wide to visit their adoptees.

Shy Lowen is sited on the edge of an urban area surrounded on three sides by social housing estates scoring highly for indices of deprivation. Volunteers come mainly from the local area and have few other opportunities to interact and care for horses and ponies.

Usually our volunteers range in age from 10 to over 80 years old. Owing to lockdown requirements throughout this year most volunteers were unable to attend and the daily duties fell upon a core group of staff, the number of whom was increased to cover the shortfall in volunteer number and experienced volunteers.

Our newly created all weather surface passed its test of a first winter with flying colours.

NB with effect from 23rd March 2020 all public participation activities ceased pending further instruction from the UK Prime Minister. This was the situation throughout the 2020 to 2021 financial year and continued through the 2021 to 2022 year. The gaps in lock downs this year meant that 2 of our usual 7 fundraising events could be held and we found ourselves still heavily reliant upon the generous donations made by individual members of the public and grants from organisations and trusts.

Social media

Shy Lowen makes active use of social media through its webpage

<http://www.shylowen.com/>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Shy-Lowen-Horse-Pony-Sanctuary/105853832819403>

And Twitter

<https://twitter.com/shylowen>

Social Media remains the most effective way to inform and educate the public about the Sanctuary and equine-related issues and advertise horses and ponies suitable for re-homing.

It is also the medium preferred by most young people and it is important to adapt to their communication style when working and educating young people.

The funding stream through Facebook has continued to be popular and is a great resource as it is completely free of charge.

We utilized these platforms to keep people up to date with the animals at Shy Lowen by showing regular videos and photographs of the activities.

This leads to more donations being made as we made appeals for support.

Achievements and Performance

Rehoming of horses and ponies has remained very slow this year as the effects of lockdown furlough bite people's finances.

Donations have remained steady .

We have continued to receive significant grant funding which has allowed the charity to survive.

Financial Review

Our vulnerability owing to lack of reserve funding caused serious issues as the lock down has been prolonged. A lack of ability to fund raise in our usual ways coupled with the lack of reserves caused us to seek the support of grant funders to whom we are grateful as they chose to support us. We are continuing to take all steps possible to ensure that the charity survives in the short term and thrives in the long term.

No funds are in deficit.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees Report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees.

Signature(s)



Full Name(s) Bernadette Langfield

Position Chair

Date 27/1/23

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2022**

	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2022	2021
Receipts		
loan horses	4800	8300
fundraising	8126	6204
sponsor horses	6020	10330
gift aid	9664	2679
friends of Shy Lowen	1450	2920
donations	69524	51570
grants	42250	60120
silent whispers	22415	22300
tack sales	657	320
Total Receipts	164906	164743
Payments		
wages	84686	59940
capital equipment	6950	4100
hard feed	12976	11440
hay	29120	25480
bedding	3900	3900
farrier	5380	5400
rent	1395	1384
manure	4160	2400
transport	120	0
tack	98	132
water	3960	1480
generator petrol	2912	3650
insurance	8800	7120
tools	272	640
skip hire	1250	1250
cleaning	2900	2672
fundraising	921	216
vet	5320	9624
repairs	420	973
road tax	576	560
bank	0	0
stationery	165	57
website	65	65
reward and recognition	0	0
vehicle fuel	3255	3650
vehicle repairs and MOT	1340	960
passports	160	0
Total Payments	181101	147093

	2022		2021	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Unrestricted	Restricted
Net receipts (payments)	-16195		17650	
Cash balances as at 1/4/20	23158		5508	
Cash balances as at 31/3/21	6963		23158	

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Shy Lowen Horse and Pony Sanctuary – Charity number 1122891

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 01 to 02.

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 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently 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 41 of the 1993 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signature



Name: Kari Hansen

Address: Newstead Farm, Quarry Street, Liverpool L25 6DY

Date: 19/01/23