

Charity Registration No. 1136306
England and Wales

BIRCH HILL DOG RESCUE
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MAY 2025

**Birch Hill Dog Rescue
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For the Period Ended 31 May 2025**

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**Birch Hill Dog Rescue
Reference and Administrative Information
For the Period Ended 31 May 2025**

Charity Name	Birch Hill Dog Rescue
Charity Number	1136306
Trustees	Mrs W A Watts Mrs L Millward Mrs T Cutler
Principal Address	Birch Hill House Neen Sollars Kidderminster Worcestershire DY14 0AQ
Independent Examiner	Powell & Associates Chartered Certified Accountants 28-29 New Road Kidderminster Worcestershire DY10 1AF
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC & TSB Bank PLC

**Birch Hill Dog Rescue
Annual Report
For the Period Ended 31 May 2025**

1. Structure, Governance & Management

Constituted: Under Constitution document adopted 14 May 2010, and registered as a charity on 10 June 2010.

Trustee Selection: By Appointment. New Trustees will be selected from individuals who already have some involvement with the charity and supported in their role by the current Trustees.

Additional Governance: The Trust consists of three Trustees all of whom are involved in the various aspects of the Trust activities. Mrs L Millward is responsible for dog welfare and provides support for the Trust's activities, and Mrs W Watts is responsible for fund raising activities. Mrs T Cutler assists with dog welfare and fundraising.

2. Public Benefit

For the benefit of the public to relieve the suffering of dogs in need of care and attention; and to provide and maintain kennels or other facilities for the reception, care and treatment of these dogs.

- 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; and
- To educate the public in matters pertaining to animal welfare in general; and
- The prevention of cruelty and suffering among animals.

The main activities in order to carry out the aims are:

- Provide kennel facilities for dogs in need, under circumstances;
- To involve volunteers and the local community in the work of the charity;
- To raise money and the Trust's profile through fundraising activities.

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit.

2.1 Donations and Legacies

Income received consists of regular monthly donations, together with other one-off donations.

During the year we received legacies of £80,599.

Trustees are guided by the criteria stated in note 2 above as well as ensuring that the money is used for the purpose intended and is in the best interest to the beneficiaries.

2.2 Volunteers

The Trust relies on the goodwill of a number of volunteers who assist in the day-to-day care of the rescued dogs and have helped in the fund-raising activities during the period.

2.3 Fundraising

Regular donations from the public are well received by the Trust but obtaining other donations and fundraising activities are the core of the charity's income. Activities are developed in order that donations may be raised to help fund the Trust's main activities. Without the support of the community and public the Trust would struggle to provide the facilities required. The aim of the fundraising is primarily to raise money to cover the cost of providing day-to-day care and kennel facilities, but also to make the public aware of the Trust's existence and to promote the welfare and care of dogs.

The Trustees are indebted to the generous support received throughout this period. Despite remaining a difficult economic climate, people continue to support directly through donations and by supporting the Trust at various fundraising events.

3. Achievements and Performance

Through donations and fund raising the Trust has been able to accommodate approximately 30-40 dogs each month.

Financial

Sadly, yet another year affected by the current cost of living crisis, however we managed to increase our sponsors by sending out a sponsor form with our raffle tickets for the Christmas Raffle. This has proved to be a worthwhile exercise and one that we will continue to do.

Our charity shop in Worcester still continues to see a drop in income but continues to receive plenty of good quality donations. The shop has always done extremely well in Gift Aid with most of our donors signing up to it. Our small shop continues to be one of the highest Gift Aid raisers for an animal charity in the whole of the West Midlands.

The level of requests for us to take in unwanted dogs continues to gain momentum and we take in when we can from both dog pounds and private homes. Birch Hill Dog Rescue prides itself on not "cherry picking" dogs that need our assistance, we will take a dog no matter what age, condition, or breed, every dog needs a second chance. Throughout the year we rehomed 24 dogs, we also have 8 dogs in permanent foster, some of these dogs take longer to rehome due to medical conditions or behavioural issues. A dog with behavioural issues needs time and patience to correct the problem and get the dog ready for a new home.

Many of the dogs we have taken in throughout the year had medical issues and contributed to our vet bills amounting to £17,000. The cost of veterinary care just continues to rise however we have managed to purchase some medications online. We also managed to source alternative vets who offered a slightly cheaper price for larger operations. We have been quite successful by raising some of these funds through Just Giving.

During the year we received two legacies which have helped tremendously with the day to day running of the rescue together with the purchase of a new heater for the kennel block.

Fundraising

We once again booked up more outdoor events throughout the summer months despite as ever, a shortage of volunteers. We find it extremely difficult to attract younger people to give up some of their free time to help raise funds.

The weather played a large part in our fundraising calendar, especially our Annual Fun Dog Show. All the week before we were keeping an eye on the forecast and it was getting hotter towards the weekend. With four days to go we made the difficult decision to cancel our event because the temperature was going to be 30 degrees, far too hot for dogs to be out and about in, it would have been totally irresponsible of the charity to continue, even though we needed the funds. Unfortunately, it was not the only event, there were one or two others that we decided it was too hot for our volunteers to participate in.

Achievements

Social media is still an important source of communication for the charity, we have seen our followers exceed 12,000, and we often show videos of our dogs on Tiktok. This enables us to show the rescue dogs all over the country and have even gained some interest abroad.

We were able to purchase a new heater for the main kennel block, long overdue because the old one kept breaking down. Receiving a legacy meant that we could purchase this sooner than expected.

Future Plans

At the end of the year, we launched our biggest project to date, to build a new kennel block to replace the old one, this project we have called "Operation Sunrise". Following years of patching up and repairing various parts of the old block, there comes a time when it is no longer possible, and therefore this is the only option left.

Next year 2026 is our 30th Anniversary, 30 years of saving dogs and giving them a second chance. We hope to promote "Operation Sunrise" as much as we can and linking this with our anniversary will hopefully enforce the need for the new, state-of-the-art kennel block, a kennel for the future and one that can keep the dogs happy in both cold and extreme heat.

We are hoping to apply for some grants in order to help achieve our project together with support from the general public and supporters.

4 Financial Review

Cash balances at the year-end were £59,907 (2024 - £16,482)

4.1 Core Fundraising

As the Trust has no income from endowments or regular grants it must rely primarily on donations and event-based community fundraising for its income and promotional activities. The charity is registered to receive Gift Aid on donations.

The Trust reviews and evaluates each fundraising event and promotional activity to identify need and value for money.

The fundraising expenses are necessary to generate funds to fulfil the Trust's obligation to further charitable causes. Trustees are committed to reduce expenses wherever possible.

4.2 Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the Trust to maintain a fund balance to sustain the Trust's operations and remain in a position to provide funds to provide kennel and other facilities over a 3-month period. The Trustees consider the cash reserve of £15,000 to be appropriate, and funds at the year end of 31 May 2025 were more than this amount.

5 Plans for the future

Trustees are:-

- Committed to raising as much income as possible to provide facilities for dogs in need.
- Supporting and encourage people to donate or to support fundraising activities to provide funds but also to encourage volunteers to help with the day-to-day care at the centre.

Trustees are aware that many people volunteer their time to help with the care of the dogs as they like to feel involved in making a difference to the lives of those less fortunate.



.....
Mrs W Watts
Trustee

16 March 2026

**Birch Hill Dog Rescue
Independent Examiners Report
For the Period Ended 31 May 2025**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 May 2025, which are set out on pages 6 to 9.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity's trustees 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all of 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 charity 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.



George Powell FCCA

Powell & Associates
28-29 New Road
Kiddeminster
Worcestershire
DY10 1AF

16 March 2026

Birch Hill Dog Rescue
Receipts and Payments Account
For the Period Ended 31 May 2025

	Notes	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2025 £	2024 £
<u>Receipts:-</u>					
Regular Donations		-	24,825	24,825	17,097
Other Donations		-	46,123	46,123	46,176
Legacies		-	80,599	80,599	7,722
Fund Raising Events		-	17,357	17,357	11,999
Shop Income		-	39,472	39,472	46,343
Rehome		-	3,821	3,821	4,275
Gift Aid Donations		-	15,993	15,993	17,977
Bank Interest Received		-	13	13	104
Grants Received		-	-	-	11,000
Loans Received		-	460	460	6,574
Total Receipts:		-	228,663	228,663	169,267
<u>Payments:-</u>					
Direct Charitable Expenditure	2	-	132,632	132,632	145,543
Charitable Activities to Furtherance of Charitable Objectives	3	-	1,691	1,691	1,758
Fundraising and Publicity	4	-	4,129	4,129	2,578
Management and Administration of the charity	5	-	42,435	42,435	28,866
Loans Repaid		-	1,084	1,084	4,540
		-	181,971	181,971	183,285
<u>Asset & Investment Movements:-</u>					
Fixed Asset Purchases		-	3,267	3,267	2,585
Fixed Asset Disposals		-	-	-	(333)
Total Payments:		-	185,238	185,238	185,537
<u>Surplus/(deficit) of Receipts over Payments</u>		-	43,425	43,425	(16,270)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Brought forward Monetary Assets		5,000	11,482	16,482	32,752
Carried forward Monetary Assets		5,000	54,907	59,907	16,482

Birch Hill Dog Rescue
Statement of Assets & Liabilities
For the Period Ended 31 May 2025

Cash Funds

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash at Bank	59,716	15,599
Petty Cash	191	883
	<u>59,907</u>	<u>16,482</u>

Assets Retained for Charity Use

		2025	2024
	<u>Fund</u>	Cost	Cost
		£	£
Computer Equipment	Unrestricted	421	421
Gazebo	Unrestricted	500	500
Industrial Wall Heater	Unrestricted	550	550
Shop Assets	Unrestricted	2,242	2,242
Shop Stock	Unrestricted	2,982	2,982
Digital Copier	Unrestricted	670	670
Printer	Unrestricted	400	400
Heating System	Unrestricted	7,800	7,800
Foundation for 'Meet & Greet'	Unrestricted	5,966	5,966
Kennel Runs	Unrestricted	5,100	5,100
Log Cabin 'Meet & Greet'	Unrestricted	10,850	10,850
Flooring 'Meet & Greet'	Unrestricted	1,346	1,346
Stone Base	Unrestricted	1,308	1,308
House Renovation Works	Unrestricted	5,510	5,510
Panels / Gates	Unrestricted	6,600	6,600
Boilers, Radiators and Pipework	Unrestricted	3,400	3,400
Van EK68 EHW	Unrestricted	13,999	13,999
Designer Kennels	Unrestricted	2,585	2,585
Kennel Block Heater	Unrestricted	3,267	-
		<u>75,496</u>	<u>72,229</u>

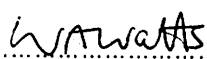
Creditors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and Pensions	5,309	6,623
Tax and Social Security	825	673
Independent examiners fee	500	2,750
	<u>6,634</u>	<u>10,046</u>

Long Term Creditors

		2025	2024
		£	£
Loan - A Jones	(Note 7)	-	384
Loan - W A Watts	(Note 7)	11,410	11,650

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 16 March 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

.....


Mrs W A Watts – Trustee

Birch Hill Dog Rescue
Notes to the Accounts
For the Period Ended 31 May 2025

1 Principal Accounting Policies

1.1 Accounting Policies – The financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and CC16 issued by the Charity Commission.

1.2 Payments – Direct charitable expenditure comprises of costs relating to the board and treatment of dogs under the care of the Charity during the period.

2 Direct Charitable Expenditure

	2025	2024
	£	£
Kennel Fees	14,673	21,687
Vet Fees	17,379	14,378
Shop Expenses	27,919	27,935
Wages and Salary	66,842	76,142
PAYE	5,819	5,401
	<u>132,632</u>	<u>145,543</u>

3 Charitable Activities to Furtherance of Charitable Objectives

	2025	2024
	£	£
Van Expenses	1,691	1,758
	<u>1,691</u>	<u>1,758</u>

4 Fundraising and Publicity

	2025	2024
	£	£
Event Fees and Stall Rents	4,129	2,578
	<u>4,129</u>	<u>2,578</u>

5 Management and Administration of the Charity

	2025	2024
	£	£
Rent and Rates	18,415	13,769
Insurance	3,325	555
Repairs and Maintenance	3,031	261
Postage and Stationary	280	3,168
Telephone	2,812	1,066
Computer Expenses	4,452	3,093
Bank Charges	1,054	288
Sundry Expenses	2,440	1,255
Accountancy	4,295	4,089
Legal and Professional Fees	2,331	1,322
	<u>42,435</u>	<u>28,866</u>

Birch Hill Dog Rescue
Notes to the Accounts
For the Period Ended 31 May 2025

6 Fund Balances

<u>Restricted</u>	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£
Jean Sainsbury Trust	5,000	-	-	5,000
	<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,000</u>

Jean Sainsbury Trust – A £5,000 grant was awarded towards the cost of the Kennel roof repairs.

7 Related Parties

The Charity has a long-term outstanding loan to Mrs W Watts (Trustee). The balance carried forward at the year-end is £11,410 (2024 - £11,650).

A Jones (employee) had a loan balance brought forward of £384. This was fully repaid during the financial year.