

Annual Report
September 2019 to September 2020

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity name: Ash Rescue Centre
Registered charity number: 1153339
Principal address: Ash Tree Farm, Dartmouth, TQ6 0LR

Charity trustees who manage the charity

Julie Tomkinson – Chair
Ian Whatley – Treasurer – September 2019 – 17 February 2020
Jenny Rogers – Treasurer – Appointed 17 February 2020
David Wilding
Craig Irons

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Type of governing document: Trust Deed adopted 6th August 2013

How the charity is constituted: Charitable Trust

Trustee selection methods: Trustees are appointed or reappointed every three years by a resolution of the trustees passed at a special meeting.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary of objects of the charity set out in the governing document:

To relieve the suffering of elderly equines and other animals by providing care, rehabilitation and a permanent sanctuary facility.

To provide people with learning opportunities in animal care and welfare matters through information sharing, volunteering and courses.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects:

In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustee meetings. Our main activities are as follows:

- Working through the application process to amend our trust deed to expand our charitable objects
- Maintaining health and providing habitat enrichment for the animals in our care

- Inducting and retaining new volunteer team members
- Managing financial stability through COVID-19 restrictions.

These activities benefit not only the animals in our care but the families, organisations and individuals that approach us for help. Horses come into our care from many different backgrounds: abandonment, homelessness due to owner's death, rescues from cruelty/neglect cases.

Our volunteering opportunities provide people with a variety of ways to get involved and help, boosting self-esteem, combatting isolation, and encouraging social interaction while learning and becoming part of a team.

We are grateful for the many hours that our volunteers have committed to the charity in these unprecedented times. Their hard work, time and support has been invaluable through this incredibly challenging time.

ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main Achievements of the charity during the year:

October -December 2019

Volunteers ran a fundraising stall at Dartmouth Food Festival, engaging with the local community and raising funds.

Throughout November and December various Christmas markets were attended to sell our handmade Christmas wreaths as 2 day the Candlelit Dartmouth event was cancelled due to high winds. We took in a guillemot for a couple of days as an interim rehab until the RSPCA were able to accommodate and we sadly lost one of our own resident horses, Polly.

We ended the year with our entry at the local Christmas Tree Festival and attended the Community Christmas Fair.

January – March 2020

This quarter brought us four new arrivals. Heidi & Rosie, whose elderly owner could no longer care for them, joined us in January and Badger an ex RDA pony at the grand age of 34. We also responded to a plea through The Hugs Foundation and provided a permanent retirement home for Sioux in February, an elderly mare who had had an abandonment notice placed on her. Her transport was funded in full by donations. Our pony herd relocated for a short while to assist our neighbour at Fast Rabbit Gardens, carrying out conservation grazing of a wildflower area for a few weeks. We sadly lost Joy at the age of 30 and Fred the elderly collie. A large hedge laying project and new fencing was completed along the road boundary.

All horses' feet were trimmed and maintained.

April – June 2020

Due to COVID restrictions, activities offsite were restricted. Energy was concentrated on clearing, painting, general housekeeping of the yard and buildings. We purchased a shipping container to enable feed to be purchased in bulk with trade discount. Fresh apples and carrots were regularly donated by Dartmouth Co-op for the horses. All horses had their annual dental treatment over a two-day session and treatments were donated monthly as required by MJ Equine Therapy & Massage. We hand reared and released some orphaned pheasant chicks and the first of our resident swallow broods hatched. We received a donation of £1000 from two ladies making fabric masks within the community and in June retired police horse Charlie joined us from South Wales Police to begin his medical retirement.

July – September 2020

We successfully produced our first cut and bailing of our own hay and completed outstanding passports and microchips for horses. A request for a lockdown 10th birthday treat led to a new volunteer family joining us on a regular basis on top of two additional new volunteers who joined the team after a visit. We carried out a wildlife and nature survey to gain data and opinions from local groups, individuals and professionals which has been used to inform decision and directions for future projects. We took delivery of our winter straw and received an additional donated 35 bales from a local wedding. All horses received hoof trimming/care and monthly donated treatments from MJ Equine Therapy and Massage. 40 Swallow chicks counted onsite. A further donation of £2000 was received from local ladies making masks in the community, all 2020 weddings were postponed. Online fundraising initiatives discussed for next quarter.

In Summary

In this unprecedented year we have concentrated on maintaining financial stability of the charity. Fundraising opportunities have had to be replaced with smarter working and money saving initiatives to safeguard finances for the future. Our connection with the public during lockdown has mainly been through social media, providing regular photos, videos of our animals and nature and updates to keep in contact and provide some relief during isolation. Through the hard work and diligence of our Treasurer/Manager we have ended the year in a financially stable position in spite of enforced restrictions. We are extremely grateful to our hard working and dedicated team of volunteers who have proved to be flexible and adaptable over the last unpredictable year.

Created by: Julie Tomkinson – Chair

Date: 5th June 2021



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the
trustees/directors/
members of

Charity Name

ASH RESCUE CENTRE

On accounts for the year
ended

30TH SEPTEMBER

2020

Charity no.:

1153339

Company no.:

Set out on pages

1-3

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 09 2020

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

[The company's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.


I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:



Date:

21/02/2021

Name:

MR GARY R WEBB

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

FCPA

Address:

I.A.W Accountancy Services
5 Hyde Road, Paignton
Devon TQ4 5BW
paignton@iawaccountancy.co.uk

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.