



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date
From **01 10 2023** To **30 09 2024**
Period end date

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Catch And Treat Strays
Other name charity is known by	C.A.T.S.
Registered charity number	1153666
Charity's principal address	80 The Street, Kettlestone, Fakenham, Norfolk Postcode NR21 0AU

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Doreen Smith	Chair		
2	Brenda Duggan	Secretary		
3	Jayne Cooper	Treasurer		
4	Celia Lee			
5	Jean Saunders			

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Constitution
How the charity is constituted	Unincorporated company
Trustee selection methods	Nominated and appointed at Special General Meetings of trustees. Re-appointed at Annual General Meetings.

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

C.A.T.S. works and shares information with other individuals and local cat rescue charities in the area that take in strays or ferals, and helping each other where possible.

C.A.T.S. has built up a particularly strong relationship with The Grove Veterinary Clinic and Hospital based in Fakenham. Their service, help and advice have been invaluable. C.A.T.S. helps them, where possible, to look after un-owned cats brought to the vet's surgery. The vets offer the charity a discount for services, that is much appreciated. C.A.T.S. is constrained by the service and help it can offer by a shortage of temporary cat accommodation and funds to expand further. A Brick Fund has been established with the long-term goal of acquiring a building or land for that purpose.

The major risks to C.A.T.S. is a shortfall in income and a shortage of volunteers. C.A.T.S. has built up a strong presence in the local community and is regularly overwhelmed at the generosity of local people at times of emergency — most donors have had past experience of the good work of the charity and support it as much as possible.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Objects of the charity set out in its governing document

- (1) For the benefit of the public to relieve the suffering of cats and kittens in need of care and attention and in particular by:
 - the rescue rehabilitation and re-homing of stray and abandoned cats and kittens;
 - the neuter and release of feral cats to humanely controlled colonies.
 - the treatment of any illness or disease before returning them to their original environment or re-housing them with an approved owner
- (2) To educate the public in matters pertaining to animal welfare in general and the prevention of cruelty and suffering among cats and kittens.

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

The main activities have been directed at the capture, homing and care of feral and un-owned cats and kittens along with fund-raising to cover the cost of any appropriate medical treatment, feeding and general care during their stay with the charity. Nearly 40 cats were neutered. As well as the neutering programme C.A.T.S. supplies food for local feeders at controlled feral cat colonies. 65% of C.A.T.S.' outgoings were for veterinary bills whilst the cost of buying food and cat litter accounted for 17% of costs. Generous donations of cat food from the public also boost supplies.

Fund-raising is a major activity and, again, generous public donations of cash and goods for sale boost potential income as well as the proceeds of supporter's own fund-raising events that include penny pots, table-top sales and funeral donations (Much Loved). Collections at the Fakenham Parish Church Christmas Tree Festival boost donations. Main sales at events include a Christmas Fayre with stalls, a raffle, tombola and refreshments, plant sales, spring and autumn fetes, garage sales, and fabric sales as well as collections of money and cat food at Morrisons. Sales and events account for 28% of our income. Public donations contributed 65% of our total income including Gift Aid. We received a grant for £500 from the Douglas and Joanne Chapman Animal Trust.

Education has been further advanced through personal contact with the public and at events, along with extensive use of social media (website, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) and the provision of information and advice, including the publication of spring and autumn newsletters and leaflets.

Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit by providing information to educate the public about the benefits and necessity of neutering cats not only among feral communities but also within a domestic situation and the need to control disease and promote good health of cats which has benefits to society and to the general well-being of their owners too. When invited we give talks to groups. As a locally-based charity, C.A.T.S. has the added benefit of bringing communities together at their fund-raising events.

The contribution made by volunteers

C.A.T.S. has no paid staff and relies on the goodwill and dedication of its volunteers. Every penny raised by C.A.T.S. directly helps the charity meet its aims. It goes without saying that the contribution made by volunteers is not only vital for the success of the charity in meeting its objectives but is beyond value and deeply appreciated.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

C.A.T.S. policy of trapping, neutering and returning cats to their colony has continued and any neutered cats are microchipped at the same time. 38 cats were neutered this year (an increase on last year). Homes were found for many other cats and kittens. Towards the end of the financial year, in September 2024, there was a sudden explosion of public appeals to help and activity increased considerably. It had been a relatively quiet year with regard to the need for veterinary care for neutering, general care, the treatment of illnesses and infections and for operations and investigative procedures.

C.A.T.S. has succeeded in raising much-needed funds thanks to generous public donations and fund-raising events that have had the added bonus of bringing the local community together.

Food has been supplied to help four feral colonies and there has been excellent public support whenever appeals have been issued to help obtain emergency supplies of food. A fundraising event by 6th formers at Fakenham academy raised money to buy cat food for the charity. Cat food is also donated by the general public either by leaving supplies at two local shops in Fakenham or by sending orders direct to C.A.T.S..

Advice and help has been offered to the general public through personal direct contact, or through our publications and social media.

Education is ongoing through personal communications, spring and autumn newsletters, a website, Facebook, twitter and Instagram, leaflets, and at charity and community events.

Some rescued kittens are hand-reared by volunteers, albeit this wasn't required this year. Cats and kittens are cared for until the perfect family or individual can provide a home forever. C.A.T.S. was able to place most of its rescued cats and kittens with final homes in a domestic environment or, in the case of ferals, to an appropriate home (mainly farms) or returned to their former colony, but safe in the knowledge that breeding is curtailed and a healthier life is more likely.

Activities on social media, mentioned previously, are enhanced by encouraging online shoppers to use Easy Fundraising whereby participating companies make a small donation to C.A.T.S..

There was an excess of income over expenditure of £13,068.40, largely as a result of the temporary lull in the need for veterinary care. Vet fees were down nearly £8,000 from the previous year.

Income is higher than the previous year largely thanks to public donations. Expenditure was lower.

Section E

Financial review

Charity's policy on reserves

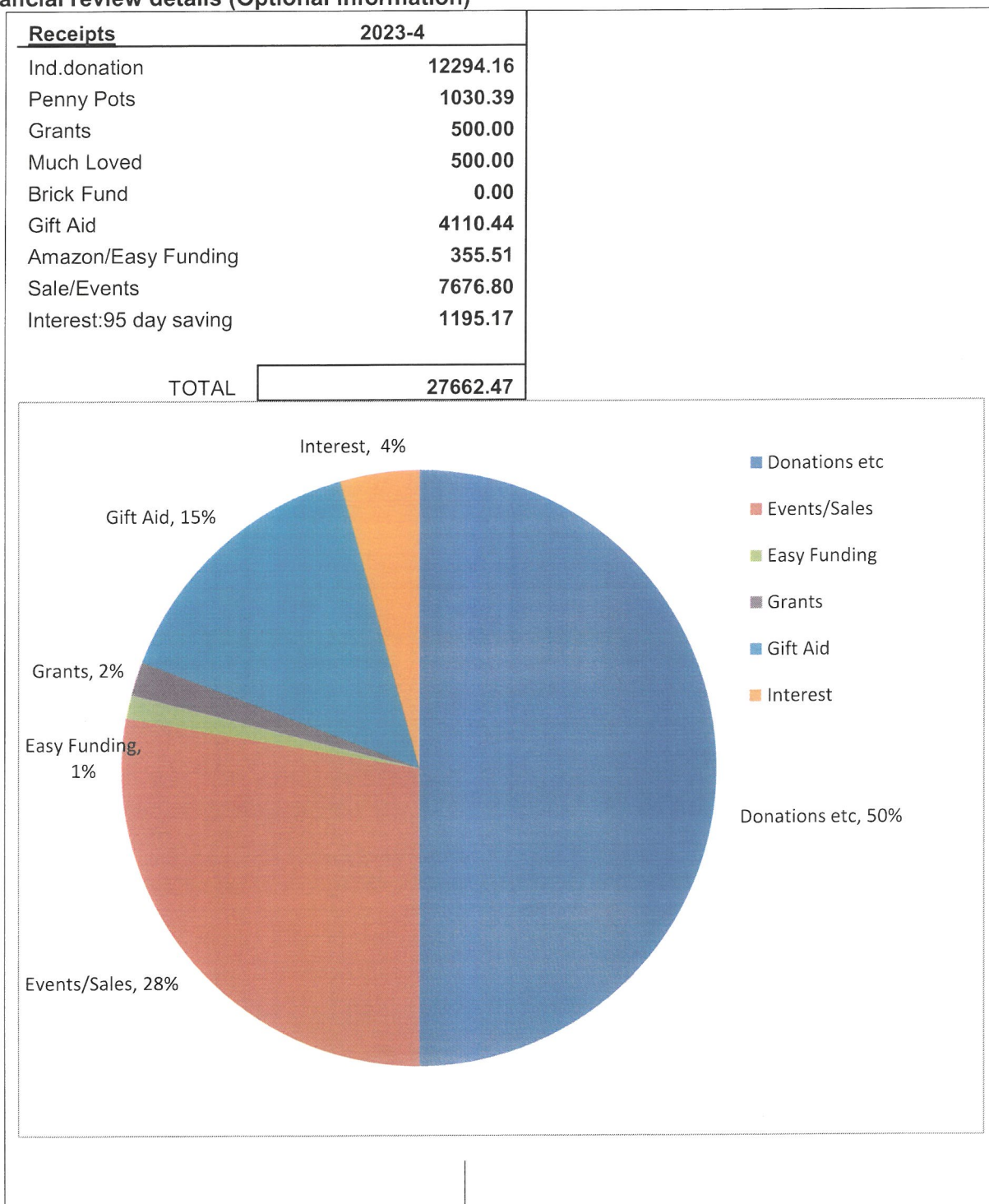
Reserves are based on the predicted expenditure for the following financial year to allow for any unforeseen drop in income or no income.

At 1 October 2024, £25,000 was set aside to cover expenditure for the coming year that includes £20,000 for vet fees. The Brick Fund reserve total remains at £4417.10 (none added this year) leaving an uncommitted reserve of £19921.90 for unexpected expenses.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None. There was an overpayment for Gift Aid amounting to £602.54 that will be repaid to HMRC in the 2024-5 financial year.

Further financial review details (Optional information)



Payments	
Vets	9504.31
Cat food/litter	2445.06
Event costs	1154.97
Online fees	33.43
Insurance	252.00
Miscellaneous	1204.30
Vets	9504.31
Cat food/litter	2445.06
Event costs	1154.97
TOTAL	14594.07

Payments 2023-2024

Category	Amount (£)	Percentage
Vet Bills	9,504.31	65%
Cat Litter & Food	2,445.06	17%
Misc	1,474.73	10%
Event Costs	1,154.97	8%

C.A.T.S. has two accounts with the NatWest bank: a current account and a 95 day savings account (that accrued an interest of £1196.17). In view of the higher interest rates, and the simplicity of transferring monies online, the current account total is kept at a minimum to operate on a day-to-day basis.

Current & savings at	
30 Sep 2024	
Current account	3462.61
95 day saving	45876.39
	49339.00

Allocations for	
2024-2025	
BRICK FUND-ring-fenced	4417.10
GENERAL	25000.00
RESERVES	19921.90

Section F comparison accounts for 2 years

Catch And Treat Strays Receipts and payments accounts for the year ending 30 September 2024

<u>Receipts</u>	2023-4	2022-3	<u>Payments</u>	2023-4	2022-3
Ind.Donation	12294.16	9975.46	Vets	9504.31	17337.04
Penny Pots	1030.39	517.52	Cat food/litter	2445.06	1150.44
Grants	500.00	1500.00	Equipment	0.00	232.40
Much Loved	500.00	386.12	Event costs	1154.97	1148.01
Brick Fund	0.00	15.00	Fuel	175.00	244.50
Gift Aid	4110.44	3663.33	Online fees	33.43	42.44
Amazon/Easy Funding	355.51	539.96	Insurance	252.00	252.00
Sales/Events	7676.80	8218.71	Miscellaneous	1029.30	133.81
Interest:95 day saving	1195.17	335.94			
TOTAL	27662.47	25152.04	TOTAL	14594.07	20540.84

Bank/current & saving

Bank CA	3462.61	5275.26
95 day saving	45876.39	30995.34
TOTALS	49339.00	36270.60

Excess c/f 13068.40

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature 

Full name(s) Doreen Audrey Smith

Position Chair of Catch And Treat Strays ☐

Date 7 April 2025

The Accounts were Examined by John Constance, an independent auditor and his positive report follows on page 7.



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CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Catch And Treat Strays (C.A.T.S.)

On accounts for the year ended

30th September 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1153666

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/09/2024

Responsibilities and basis of 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

Signed:

Date:

19/12/2024

Name:

John L G Constance

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

Address:

92 Bittering Street, Gressenhall

Dereham

NR20 4EQ