

THE DALE FARM TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1156516

Details

Other names	DALE FARM WIRRAL TRUST
Status	Registered
Legal form	Trust
Registered	2014-04-03
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address 51 Oldfield Road
Heswall
Wirral
CH60 6SN

Phone 01513427819

Email dalefarmtrust@gmail.com

Website <https://www.dalefarmtrust.org/>

Activities

Objects: 1. THE RELIEF OF THOSE IN NEED IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY ASSISTING IN THE TREATMENT AND CARE OF PERSONS SUFFERING FROM MENTAL OR PHYSICAL ILLNESS OF ANY DESCRIPTION OR IN NEED OF REHABILITATION AS A RESULT OF SUCH ILLNESS, BY THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR WORK AND RECREATION. 2. TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE WIRRAL AND SURROUNDING AREA, THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABLEMENT, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES OR FOR THE PUBLIC AT LARGE IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF LIFE OF SAID INHABITANTS.

Activities: Provides a day service for adults with disabilities and/or mental illness with opportunities to learn life skills through the therapeutic use of all aspects of horticulture to create a working environment in which people can participate. We grow for sale organic fruit and vegetables and keep bees. We also sell composted manure seasoned split logs and wood chippings.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Disability
- **Who:** People With Disabilities

Geography

- Wirral

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£44,016	£38,131	-	-
2024-03-31	£46,175	£55,717	-	-
2023-03-31	£50,356	£47,975	-	-
2022-03-31	£36,771	£35,580	-	-
2021-03-31	£32,835	£22,645	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
JAMES LESTER	Chair	2014-03-21
Allie Abraham		2022-02-26
Arne Muller		2022-02-04
Arthur Simpson		2024-07-22
BERND HEERWAGEN		2013-10-18
Caroline Fenna		2025-02-17
IAN JOHNSON		2013-10-18
Maddy O'Rourke		2018-10-01
Michelle Swann		2025-10-01
Robert Winterson		2020-08-10
WENDY MCKEOWN		2014-03-21

THE DALE FARM TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1156516

Accounts

Dale Farm Trust
Financial Statement and Annual Report
for the Year ended 31st March 2025

**Dale Farm Trust
Trustees' Annual Report
for the Year ended 31st March 2025
Charity No: 1156516**

The address of the Trust is;
51 Oldfield Rd, Heswall, Wirral CH60 6SN

Governing Document; The charity is governed by its Trust Deed

Structure

The Trust consists of 10 Trustees

James Lester (Chair)
Wendy McKeown (Vice- Chair)
Ian Johnson (Secretary)
Madeleine O'Rourke (Treasurer)
Bernd Heerwagen
Jean Scott
Robert Winterson
Allie Abraham
Arne Muller
Caroline Fenna

Charity Structure, Management and Trustee Recruitment

Dale Farm is situated at the edge of Heswall Dales on the Wirral Peninsula and can be accessed from Oldfield Road in Heswall. Dale Farm is a Vocational Service and run as a partnership between Wirral Council and Dale Farm Trust.

Dale Farm provides daytime opportunities for adults with a variety of learning disabilities in a real work environment. The people we support at Dale Farm develop existing and learn new skills in all aspects of horticulture.

The Board of the Trust meets regularly and receives reports on financial activity over the intervening period. The accounts are updated monthly with a detailed breakdown of income and expenditure. The Farm Manager and Team Leader attend each meeting and report on key events and anything else pertinent to the Trust.

The Trust holds an annual general meeting which is open to the public, staff of the Farm, volunteers and the people we support at which the

accounts of the Trust are made available and the work of the Trust and Farm are discussed.

The Trust's Rules and Policies, including financial regulations were last updated in May 2025 and approved by the Board.

Objects and Activities

The Trust objectives are

- The relief of those in need in particular but not exclusively by assisting in the treatment and care of persons suffering from mental or physical illness of any description or in need of rehabilitation as a result of such illness, by the provision of facilities for work and recreation.
- to promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Wirral and surrounding area, the provision of facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving conditions of life of said inhabitants.

The Trust achieves its objectives by supporting Dale Farm financially and through the work of 26 volunteers, some of whom are also Trustees.

All aspects of horticulture are used to create a working environment in which people can participate. We grow organic fruit and vegetables in the fields and polytunnels and keep bees. We sell our fruit, vegetables and honey in our farm shop which is open to the public every weekday and from Bluebelles Tea Rooms in Wallasey and the Courtyard Café in Royden Park. We also sell bagged compost and split, seasoned logs and wood chippings.

We operate a professional woodwork workshop which gives the people we support an opportunity to gain skills in all aspects of woodworking and carpentry, producing good quality items for sale and undertake commissions for woodwork items.

In the craft workshop people that attend Dale Farm produce a variety of craft items with help from a professional tutor, which we sell at our Summer and Winter plant sales.

Achievements and Performance

In 2024/25 the Farm held plant sales at Christmas and in the Spring. Both events help promote the Farm as well as generating an income of £3,000.

An extensive programme of statutory training was provided by Wirral Council to volunteers covering first aid, fire safety, safeguarding, manual handling and health and safety. Additional training is also being offered on the use of machinery and working at height.

During the year three talks were given on horticultural topics attended by staff and volunteers.

The Development Group continued to meet regularly throughout the year helping to coordinate the works of the Farm as did the Service Users committee.

Work around the Farm included resurfacing of pathways, new seating and picnic benches, improvements to the sensory garden and repairs to the watering system.

Financial report

The Trust ended 2024/25 in a strong financial position with an income of £40,000 and donations of over £6,000.

The main source of income is sales of manure which totalled £22,500. There has been a significant reduction in the supply of wood for logs and bark which brought in £3,000 in 2024/25

The year-end accounts for 2024/25 are attached to this report.

Many thanks again to our Treasurer, Maddy O'Rourke who has ensured that our accounts are kept in good order and submitted regular reports to the Farm Board and to Suanne Price who keeps a daily check on income and expenditure.

Declaration

There have been no serious incidents or matters that should have been brought to the attention of the Charity Commission.

The Trustees have approved this report and the financial statement which follows.



J Lester
Chair of the Trustees, June 2025

Dale Farm Trust

Registered Charity Trust Number 1156516

51 Oldfield Road, Heswall, Wirral CH60 6SN

Tel 01516665190

Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31 March 2025

Receipts	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Gross income	37960	37917
Donations	6056	8258
Total Receipts	44016	46175
Payments		
Total	38131	55717
Receipts/Payments	5885	-9542
Cash Funds	56675	50790
Cash Funds		
HSBC amenity account	55504	49522
Cash Account	1068	1183
Petty Cash Float	103	85
Total Cash Fund	56675	50790



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

DALE FARM TRUST

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1156516

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with 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**

[The charity'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 *) 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 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.

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

Signed:

A Robert

Date:

3. 10. 2025

Name:

ANDREW ROBERT.

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

THE DALE FARM TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1156516

Accounts

Dale Farm Trust
Financial Statement and Annual Report
for the Year ended 31st March 2024

**Dale Farm Trust
Trustees' Annual Report
for the Year ended 31st March 2024
Charity No: 1156516**

The address of the Trust is;
51 Oldfield Rd, Heswall, Wirral CH60 6SN

Governing Document; The charity is governed by its Trust Deed

Structure

The Trust consists of 10 Trustees

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Wendy McKeown (Vice- Chair)
Ian Johnson (Secretary)
Madeleine O'Rourke (Treasurer)
Bernd Heerwagen
Jean Scott
Robert Winterson
Allie Abraham
Arne Muller

Charity Structure, Management and Trustee Recruitment

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Dale Farm provides daytime opportunities for adults with a variety of learning disabilities in the real work environment. People we support at Dale Farm develop existing and learn new skills in all aspects of horticulture.

The Board of the Trust meets regularly and receives reports on financial activity over the intervening period. The accounts are updated monthly with a detailed breakdown of income and expenditure. The Farm Manager and Deputy Manager attend each meeting and report on key events and anything else pertinent to the Trust.

The Trust holds an annual general meeting which is open to the public, staff of the Farm, volunteers, and people we support at which the accounts of the Trust are made available, and the work of the Trust and Farm are discussed.

The Trust's Rules and Policies, including financial regulations were last updated in October 2018 and approved by the Board. They are available as an A5 booklet.

Objects and Activities

The Trust objectives are

- The relief of those in need in particular but not exclusively by assisting in the treatment and care of persons suffering from mental or physical illness of any description or in need of rehabilitation as a result of such illness, by the provision of facilities for work and recreation.
- to promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Wirral and surrounding area, the provision of facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving conditions of life of said inhabitants.

The Trust achieves its objectives by supporting Dale Farm financially and through the work of over 30 volunteers, some of whom are also Trustees.

All aspects of horticulture are used to create a working environment in which people can participate. We grow organic fruit and vegetables in the fields and polytunnels and keep bees. We sell our fruit, vegetables and honey in our farm shop which is open to the public every weekday and from Bluebelles Tea Rooms in Wallasey and the Courtyard Café in Royden Park. We also sell bagged compost and split, seasoned logs and wood chippings.

We operate a professional woodwork workshop which gives the people we support an opportunity to gain skills in all aspects of woodworking and carpentry, producing good quality items for sale and undertake commissions for woodwork items.

In the craft workshop people that attend Dale Farm produce a variety of craft items with help from a professional tutor, which we sell at our Summer and Winter plant sales.

Achievements and Performance

In 2023/24, following the remodelling of the main field a new crop management plan was produced and a range of crops were grown guided by the Development group. The student committee met regularly suggesting improvements that could be made around the Farm. The sensory garden was officially reopened by the mayor on the 19th August 2023 following the completion of the restoration work.

Michelle Swann rebuilt the website and has kept it up to date with news of work on the Farm.

Colin and Coral Richards have guided several students through a training programme which could be extended to others.

A mini tractor was purchased to help with the handling of heavy items and the Trust funded the installation of a dust extraction system for the workshop. An extensive training programme was held on site for 20 volunteers on how to care for the bees and bee hives.

We held plant and produce sales in May and at Christmas both of which were well supported.

During the year the Farm retained its organic status. There were 49 people we support attending the Farm each week with an average of 25 each day.

Financial report

The year-end accounts for 2023/24 are attached to this report.

Many thanks again to our Treasurer, Maddy O'Rourke who has ensured that our accounts are kept in good order and submitted regular reports to the Farm Board and to Suanne Price who keeps a daily check on income and expenditure.

Declaration

There have been no serious incidents or matters that should have been brought to the attention of the Charity Commission.

The Trustees have approved this report and the financial statement which follows.



J Lester
Chair of the Trustees, August 2024

DALE FARM TRUST

Registered Charity Trust No: 1156516
51 Oldfield Road, Heswall, Wirral, CH60 6SN
Tel: 0151 342 7819

**Receipts and Payments for the year ended
31 March 2024**

Receipts	2023/2024	2022/2023
Unrestricted Funds		
Gross Income	37917	43565
Donations	8258	6595
Bank Interest		196
Total Receipts	46175	50356
Payments		
Unrestricted Funds		
Vehicle Costs	947	3471
Site costs	54770	44504
Total	55717	47975
Receipts/Payments	-9542	2381
Cash Funds last year end	60332	57951
Cash Funds this year end	50790	60332
Cash Funds		
Lloyds	49522	26802
COIF Charity Deposit Accounts	0	0
HSBC Amenity Account	0	33081
Cash Account	1183	199
Petty Cash Float	85	250
Total Cash Fund	50790	60332

Dale Farm Trust

Profit and Loss Report

01 April, 2023 - 31 March, 2024

Sales	
4000 - Bark Income	1,972.00
4001 - Woodwork Income	1,919.41
4002 - Logs Income	2,831.57
4003 - Manure Income	20,028.91
4004 - Donations Income	8,258.19
4007 - Honey Income	283.00
4008 - Vegetables Income	871.99
4010 - Plants Income	9,329.16
4014 - PPE/Clothing Income	680.50
Total Sales	£46,174.73
Direct Expenses	
	Total Direct Expenses
	£0.00
	GROSS PROFIT / LOSS
	£46,174.73
Overheads	
5100 - Fuel Expense	919.43
5102 - Hardware Expense	33,568.48
5103 - Stationery/Postage Expense	62.07
5104 - Seeds Expense	4,777.35
5105 - Bees Expense	1,254.70
5108 - Vehicle Maintenance Expense	27.80
5110 - Soil Association	540.00
5112 - Plants Expense	77.50

5114 - Events Expense	7,085.57	
5116 - Manure/Bark Expense	432.00	
5117 - PPE/Clothing Expense	59.90	
5118 - Subscriptions Expense	771.31	
5121 - General Expenses	6,101.45	
5123 - Bank Charges	39.06	
	Total Overheads	£55,716.62
NET PROFIT / LOSS		-£9,541.89



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name
DALE FARM TRUST

On accounts for the year ended

31ST MARCH 2024
Charity no (if any) 1156516

Set out on pages

1 (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2024

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

~~[The charity'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 in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) 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.

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

Signed: A 2020 KJ

Date: 28.10.2024

Name: ANDREW ROBERTS

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

CIPFA

THE DALE FARM TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1156516

Accounts

**Dale Farm Trust
Financial Statement and Annual Report
for the Year ended 31st March 2023**

**Trustees' Annual Report
for the Year ended 31st March 2023
Charity No: 1156516**

The address of the Trust is;
51 Oldfield Rd, Heswall, Wirral CH60 6SN

Governing Document; The charity is governed by its Trust Deed

Structure

The Trust consists of 9 Trustees

James Lester (Chair)
Wendy McKeown (Vice- Chair)
Ian Johnson (Secretary)
Madeleine O'Rourke (Treasurer)
Bernd Heerwagen
Jean Scott
Robert Winterson
Allie Abraham
Naomi Graham

Charity Structure, Management and Trustee Recruitment

Dale Farm is situated at the edge of Heswall Dales on the Wirral Peninsula and can be accessed from Oldfield Road in Heswall. Dale Farm is a Vocational Service and run as a partnership between Wirral Council and Dale Farm Trust.

Dale Farm provides daytime opportunities for adults with a variety of learning disabilities in the real work environment. People we support at Dale Farm develop existing and learn new skills in all aspects of horticulture.

The Board of the Trust meets regularly and receives reports on financial activity over the intervening period. The accounts are updated monthly with a detailed breakdown of income and expenditure. The Farm Manager and Deputy Manager attend each meeting and report on key events and anything else pertinent to the Trust.

The Trust holds an annual general meeting which is open to the public, staff of the Farm, volunteers, and people we support at which the accounts of the Trust are made available, and the work of the Trust and Farm are discussed.

The Trust's Rules and Policies, including financial regulations were last updated in October 2018 and approved by the Board. They are available as an A5 booklet.

Objects and Activities

The Trust objectives are

- The relief of those in need in particular but not exclusively by assisting in the treatment and care of persons suffering from mental or physical illness of any description or in need of rehabilitation as a result of such illness, by the provision of facilities for work and recreation.
- to promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Wirral and surrounding area, the provision of facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving conditions of life of said inhabitants.

The Trust achieves its objectives by supporting Dale Farm financially and through the work of over 30 volunteers, some of whom are also Trustees.

All aspects of horticulture are used to create a working environment in which people can participate. We grow organic fruit and vegetables in the fields and polytunnels and keep bees. We sell our fruit, vegetables and honey in our farm shop which is open to the public every weekday and from Bluebellies Tea Rooms in Wallasey and the Courtyard Café in Royden Park. We also sell bagged compost and split, seasoned logs and wood chippings.

We operate a professional woodwork workshop which gives the people we support an opportunity to gain skills in all aspects of woodworking and carpentry, producing good quality items for sale and undertake commissions for woodwork items.

In the craft workshop people that attend Dale Farm produce a variety of craft items with help from a professional tutor, which we sell at our Summer and Winter plant sales.

Achievements and Performance

In 2022/23 the Farm was fully operational following the restrictions imposed by Covid. We continue to attract a wide range of volunteers who are essential in ensuring that the people we support and staff are able to

undertake a wide range of activities. Training courses were given for staff and volunteers at the Farm on safeguarding, manual handling, first aid and log splitting.

The Development group met regularly during the year and oversaw a number of significant changes including the remodelling of the north field and the restoration of the Sensory Garden.

The student committee also met regularly suggesting improvements that could be made around the Farm.

We held plant and produce sales in May and at Christmas both of which were well supported.

In October Dale Farm hosted a Yoga Retreat. The day was a great success, and the place was totally transformed thanks to the hard work of all the staff and volunteers.

Financial report

The year-end accounts for 2022/23 are attached to this report. The Trust's income increased as did donations and although expenditure was up the year finished with an increase in funds held. The COIF deposit account was closed.

Many thanks again to our Treasurer, Maddy O'Rourke who has ensured that our accounts are kept in good order and submitted regular reports to the Farm Board and to Suanne Price who keeps a daily check on income and expenditure.

Declaration

There have been no serious incidents or matters that should have been brought to the attention of the Charity Commission.

The Trustees have approved this report and the financial statement which follows.



J Lester
Chair of the Trustees
August 2023

DALE FARM TRUST

Registered Charity Trust No: 1156516

51 Oldfield Road, Heswall, Wirral, CH60

6SN Tel: 0151 342 7819

Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31 March 2023

Receipts	2022/2023	2021/2022
Unrestricted Funds		
Gross Income	43565	33066
Donations	6595	3696
Bank Interest	196	9
Total Receipts	50356	36771
Payments		
Unrestricted Funds		
Vehicle Costs	3471	5235
Site costs	44504	30344
Total	47975	35580
Receipts/Payments	2381	1191
Cash Funds last year end	57951	56760
Cash Funds this year end	60332	57951
Cash Funds		
Lloyds	26802	24782
COIF Charity Deposit Accounts	0	21609
HSBC Amenity Account	33081	10507
Cash Account	250	769
Petty Cash Float	199	283
Total Cash Fund	60332	57951



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

The Dale Farm Trust

**On accounts for the year
ended**

March 2023

**Charity no
(if any)**

1156516

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 03 / 2022**.

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
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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:

A Roberts

Date:

23/10/2023

Name:

Andrew Roberts

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

Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accounting

Address:

11, Teal Close, Aughton, Ormskirk,

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.

None

THE DALE FARM TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1156516

Accounts

Dale Farm Trust
Financial Statement and Annual Report
for the Year ended 31st March 2022

**Dale Farm Trust
Trustees' Annual Report
for the Year ended 31st March 2022
Charity No: 1156516**

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Jean Scott
Robert Winterson
Allie Abraham

Charity Structure, Management and Trustee Recruitment

The Farm is situated on the edge of Heswall Dales on the Wirral Peninsula. Dale Farm provides a day service for adults with disabilities and/or mental illness giving people the opportunities to learn life skills through the therapeutic use of horticulture.

The Board of the Trust meets regularly and receives reports on financial activity over the intervening period. The accounts are updated monthly with a detailed breakdown of income and expenditure. The Farm Manager and Deputy Manager attend each meeting and report on key events and anything else pertinent to the Trust.

Clare Gaskin resigned as a Trustee in April 2022 due to personal commitments and Allie Abraham was appointed in May 2022. The minimum number of Trustees is 7.

The Trust holds an annual general meeting which is open to the public, staff of the Farm, volunteers, and service users at which the accounts of the Trust are made available, and the work of the Trust and Farm are discussed.

The Trust's Rules and Policies, including financial regulations were last updated in October 2018 and approved by the Board. They are available as an A5 booklet.

Objects and Activities

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- The relief of those in need in particular but not exclusively by assisting in the treatment and care of persons suffering from mental or physical illness of any description or in need of rehabilitation as a result of such illness, by the provision of facilities for work and recreation.

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Achievements and Performance

In 2021/22 the Farm continued to offer a reduced programme with a limited number of service users attending and measures in place to ensure the safety of all from Covid infection. We continue to attract a wide range of volunteers who are essential in ensuring that the service users and staff are fully supported. Alison McAfee was a volunteer at the Farm for 18 years but has now retired.

The newly formed Development group met regularly during the year agreeing a new cropping and harvesting programme and other improvements to working practices on the Farm. Some of these proposals were delayed by restrictions on the use of the access lane by larger vehicles which also prevented deliveries of manure leading to a backlog of orders and a significant loss of income. Thankfully, the issue seems to have been resolved with the support of Wirral Council. A key project was the improvements to the sensory garden which has involved the replacement of the raised beds, replanting and the ongoing restoration of the water feature.

Despite the restrictions of the pandemic, we were able to hold plant sales at Christmas and in the Spring which were well supported, and we retained our Soil Association organic designation.

The service users group restarted, meeting regularly and suggesting improvements that could be made around the Farm.

Mark Diggory retired in November after 30 years of service as Farm Manager. His expertise and depth of knowledge will be much missed. A restructure in Wirral Evolutions led to the appointment of Zeb Wenski as Farm Manager alongside his other work as manager of Best Bites.

Financial report

The year-end accounts for 2021/22 are attached to this report.

Despite the restrictions of the pandemic income increased but there was also an increase in expenditure which resulted in a reduced annual income of £1,191.

Many thanks again to our Treasurer, Maddy O'Rourke who has ensured that our accounts are kept in good order and submitted regular reports to the Farm Board.

Declaration

There have been no serious incidents or matters that should have been brought to the attention of the Charity Commission.

The Trustees have approved this report and the financial statement which follows.



J Lester
Chair of the Trustees
Date August 2022

DALE FARM TRUST
Registered Charity Trust No: 1156516
51 Oldfield Road, Heswall, Wirral, CH60 6SN Tel: 0151 342 7819
Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31 March 2022

Receipts	2021/22	2020/21
Gross Income	£33,066	£28,136
Donations	£3,696	£4,674
Bank Interest	£9	£26
Total Receipts	£36,771	£32,836
Payments		
Vehicle Costs	£5,236	£3,785
Site costs	£30,344	£18,860
Total	£35,580	£22,645
Receipts/Payments	£1,191	£10,191
Cash Funds last year end	£56,760	£46,569
Cash Funds this year end	£57,951	£56,760
Asset and Unrestricted Fund		
Lloyds	£24,782	£22,590
COIF Charity Deposit Accounts	£21,609	£21,600
HSBC Amenity Account	£10,507	£11,622
Cash Account	£769	£754
Petty Cash Float	£283	£194
Total Cash Fund	£57,951	£56,760



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

The Dale Farm Trust

On accounts for the year ended

March 2022	Charity no (if any)	1156516
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Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 03 / 2022**.

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:

A Roberts

Date:

04/012023

Name: Andrew Roberts

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accounting

Address: 11, Teal Close, Aughton, Ormskirk,
Lancs L395QQ

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.

None

THE DALE FARM TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1156516

Accounts

**Dale Farm Trust
Financial Statement and Annual Report
for the Year ended 31st March 2021**

**Trustees' Annual Report
for the Year ended 31st March 2021
Charity No: 1156516**

The address of the Trust is;
51 Oldfield Rd, Heswall, Wirral CH60 6SN

Governing Document; The charity is governed by its Trust Deed

Structure

The Trust consists of 9 Trustees

James Lester (Chair)
Naomi Graham (Vice- Chair)
Ian Johnson (Secretary)
Madeleine O'Rourke (Treasurer)
Bernd Heerwagen
Wendy McKeown
Jean Scott
Clare Gaskin
Robert Winterson

The minimum number of Trustees is 7.

Charity Structure, Management and Trustee Recruitment

The Farm is situated on the edge of Heswall Dales on the Wirral Peninsula. Dale Farm provides a day service for adults with disabilities and/or mental illness giving people the opportunities to learn life skills through the therapeutic use of horticulture.

The Board of the Trust meets regularly and receives reports on financial activity over the intervening period. The accounts are updated monthly with a detailed breakdown of income and expenditure. The Farm Manager and Deputy Manager attend each meeting and report on key events and anything else pertinent to the Trust.

The Trust holds an annual general meeting which is open to the public, staff of the Farm, volunteers, and service users at which the accounts of the Trust are made available, and the work of the Trust and Farm are discussed.

The Trust's Rules and Policies, including financial regulations were last updated in October 2018 and approved by the Board. They are available as an A5 booklet.

Objects and Activities

The Trust objectives are

- The relief of those in need in particular but not exclusively by assisting in the treatment and care of persons suffering from mental or physical illness of any description or in need of rehabilitation as a result of such illness, by the provision of facilities for work and recreation.
- to promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Wirral and surrounding area, the provision of facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving conditions of life of said inhabitants.

The Trust achieves its objectives by supporting Dale Farm financially and through the work of over 30 volunteers, some of whom are also Trustees.

All aspects of horticulture are used to create a working environment in which people can participate. We grow organic fruit and vegetables in the fields and polytunnels and keep bees. We sell our fruit, vegetables and honey in our farm shop which is open to the public every weekday. We also sell bagged compost and split, seasoned logs and wood chippings

The Farm is presently operating a reduced programme with a limited number of service users attending. We continue to attract a wide range of volunteers who are essential in ensuring that the service users and staff are fully supported.

The Board has had fewer meetings during the year because of the pandemic and many of those meetings have been online limiting the agenda. It is planned to review the Development Plan and expenditure for the next three years.

Achievements and Performance

The Covid pandemic dominated all our lives in 2020/21 and is going to be a significant influence in the future. The Farm was closed to service users from 23rd March until 28th July 2020 with staff and a small group of volunteers ensuring that essential maintenance was carried out. From the end of July, we operated with limited capacity and strict social distancing and hygiene regimes. Service users were restricted to attending one facility throughout the summer and autumn and then close to Christmas a further national surge in Covid cases led to a second lockdown and the cancelation of Christmas activities with the exception of an online Christmas plant sale which raised £298.00

The reduced numbers of volunteers and service users during the year meant that it was difficult to undertake all the maintenance tasks around the Farm with a subsequent reduction of harvestable crops.

Following a survey of volunteers in February and March it was decided to establish a development group with representatives from each day. The group elected Robert Winterson as their chair. They have met regularly and, with the support of Farm staff have agreed a detailed programme of improvements which they have started to implement including the promotion of the Farm shop and a review of the cropping programme.

The year ended on a sad note when Mike King, a volunteer for over 20 years died in March after a short illness. He will be much missed.

Financial report

The year-end accounts for 2020/21 are attached to this report. Despite the limited activity during the year the annual accounts show a surplus of income over expenditure of £10,191 increasing the amount held in our accounts to £56,760.

Many thanks again to our Treasurer, Maddy O'Rourke who has ensured that our accounts are kept in good order and submitted regular reports to the Farm Board.

Declaration

There have been no serious incidents or matters that should have been brought to the attention of the Charity Commission. The Trustees have approved this report and the financial statement which follows.



J Lester
Chair of the Trustees
Date September 2021

DALE FARM TRUST

Registered Charity Trust No: 1156516

51 Oldfield Road, Heswall, Wirral, CH60 6SN Tel: 0151 342 7819

Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31 March 2021

Receipts	2020/2021	2019/2020
Gross Income	£28,136	£21,625
Donations	£4,674	£6,901
Bank Interest	£26	£131
Total Receipts	£32,836	£28,657

Payments		
Unrestricted Funds		
Vehicle Costs	£3,785	£3,530
Machinery Costs		£1,237
Site costs	£18,860	£26,057
Van Purchase		£15,000
Total	£22,645	£45,824

Net Receipts/Payments	£10,191	-£17,167
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Cash Funds last year end	£46,569	£63,736
Cash Funds this year end	£56,760	£46,569

Cash Funds

Lloyds	£22,590	£18,810
COIF Charity Deposit Accounts	£21,600	£21,575
HSBC Amenity Account	£11,622	£5,750
Cash Account	£754	£346
Petty Cash Float	£194	£88
Total Cash Fund	£56,760	£46,569



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

The Dale Farm Trust

On accounts for the year ended

March 2021

Charity no (if any)

1156516

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 03 / 2021**.

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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:

A Roberts

Date:

19/01/2022

Name: Andrew Roberts

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accounting

Address: 11, Teal Close, Aughton, Ormskirk,
Lancs L395QQ

Section B

Disclosure

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

None

