



Rescue Me Animal Sanctuary (RMAS) Trustees' Annual Report

01.08.2020 - 31.07.2021

Charity Name:
Rescue Me Animal Sanctuary

Address:
Bells Farm, Prescott Road, Melling, Liverpool, L31 1AR

Telephone Number:
07952 017696

Email:
info@rescueme.org.uk

Website and social media:
Website: www.rescuemesanctuary.co.uk
Twitter: @rescuemeanimal
Facebook: rescuemeanimalsanctuary

Legal Status:
Registered Charity No: 1157210
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION
GOVERNING DOCUMENT: Constitution

Charity Objectives:

"For the benefit of the public and in particular the more vulnerable members of our community, to relieve the suffering of animals in need of care and attention and in particular to provide and maintain rescue homes or other facilities for the reception, care and treatment of such animals".

REHOMING

A strict rehoming policy is followed ensuring every rescue animal finds their 'forever home'



VETERINARY

Every animal in need of professional veterinary care receives it promptly



The demand remained overwhelming for Rescue Me Animal Sanctuary with 501 animals (plus numerous small rodents, often pregnant females who gave birth to litters, plus budgies and pigeons, resulting in an additional 102 animals and birds overall) admitted from desperate situations, many having been turned away from other rescues due to the lack of space. The majority were cats, kittens and dogs and once admitted were fed in to our foster home network until rehomed. Again we admitted a high number of diseased kittens from the streets and very young kittens with deceased mothers or who had been abandoned, who needed hand rearing which required a large amount of resources. We also had a number of elderly cats and notably again this year very poorly animals requiring significant veterinary fees. We admitted and tamed feral kittens, rehomed dogs, fancy mice, rats, rabbits, hamsters and gerbils. We continued to run at full capacity making full use of our network of foster homes and adapting constantly due to Covid.

This year we even admitted a marmoset monkey! For details see 'Molly's Story' below.

We continue to operate as a member of the Association of Dogs and Cats Homes (ADCH) and we have been grateful for guidance provided by ADCH. They recommended a specialist VAT Consultant to us at Grosvenor VAT Consultants, as he had successfully acted for a number of animal rescue charities and used some tribunal decisions to make a case for it being worthwhile for us to register for VAT, and we have been able to recover monies using his expertise and services. We also engaged the services of an Architect recommended by ADCH, as we require specialist plans to be drawn up to further our aims of having the premises refurbished in the best way.

The Trustees decided that the rescue needed a Manager on a full time basis, in order to progress the aims of Rescue Me and also due to the particular demands of Covid. Stephanie (Steph) Taylor was not a party to the meeting when the other Trustees resolved to appoint her; having satisfied themselves that this would be beneficial for the charity and that the remuneration offered was reasonable and did not exceed market rates. The services of a firm of Solicitors was sought to oversee this matter. Steph Taylor took a career break from her professional role and started as Manager on 1st October 2020.

We have a staff member on site from 9 to 5 every day, as we have three staff members, one being full time and two part time, plus from October 2020, Steph Taylor as Manager.

Covid continued to have a significant impact on our way of working as well as on our income and we have continued to adapt. During this time, we have remained open although many rescues were unable to. Last year we had adapted our policies to enable non contact adoptions and adopters now pay their adoption fee electronically. We try to prioritise suitable homes nearest the foster home to limit travel.

We were again able to admit a number of dogs and cats from Irina's Sheltered Hearts rescue in Romania. This rescue has a very good reputation and Irina is very committed to neuter/spay campaigns to limit the number of litters of puppies and kittens that would otherwise be born on the streets and/or abandoned. All animals are fully vaccinated, spayed/ neutered if old enough and have official documents and passports. We use only reputable transporters, to ensure that animals are transported in suitable cages, adequately fed, watered and exercised. Irina also provides videos of cat tested dogs, as many of our adopters want cat friendly dogs, having already adopted a cat or cats from RMAS. A number of Trustees have experience in advising on dog behavioural issues, and in how

to understand the needs of dogs who have previously lived in a large rescue in Romania. This was a positive development, and has continued to attract new volunteers and supporters.

Our amazingly dedicated team of volunteers has continued to tirelessly fundraise towards the property remodeling and refurbishment of our premises. We are fortunate to have a team of highly committed long term volunteers who have been with us since the start of Rescue Me, and this year more volunteers have joined us with an interest in fundraising in different ways. Sincere compassion and a genuine determination to help our area's most vulnerable animals enables the team to work together to achieve the shared goal of becoming a truly sustainable charitable animal rescue.

Dr Steph Taylor, Founder and Head Trustee at RMAS

VISION

Every animal will enjoy a healthy, happy life in a loving home



AFTER CARE & SUPPORT

New owners are offered experienced after care and support for their new pet



Our Vision:

RMAS continues to face increasing workloads due to the cruelty and abandonment of animals within Merseyside and the surrounding areas.

The overall vision of RMAS is to grow and develop, to ensure that it is effective and fit for purpose to meet the increasing demand and promote education and animal welfare to the general public.

Animals provide measurable benefits to people's physical and mental health and this is one area that the organisation would like focus on in the future.

The aims of the charity are to:

1. Raise awareness of animal welfare issues and encourage the public to adopt these principles;
2. Assist with the neutering, rescue and rehoming of stray and unwanted animals with special attention to those most at risk;
3. Encourage the local community to become involved through various campaigns;
4. Provide education on animal welfare so that we can put a STOP to animal cruelty at the root level;
5. Provide local employment to like-minded individuals
6. To reduce the numbers of cats living in feral colonies with the expansion of our TNR (Trap, Neuter & Release) programme in partnership with other local rescues.

Our Mission Statement

"Our philosophy is to care based solely on its physical characteristic space to accept and care non-destruct policy and our care until a forever

"for the benefit of the public and in particular the more vulnerable members of our community, to relieve the suffering of *animals* in need of care and attention and in particular to provide and maintain rescue homes or other facilities for the reception, care and treatment of such animals".

accept any animal in to our need and not on any other providing we have the for them. We have a strict will keep every animal in home can be found".

Our Values

The sanctuary's ethos is to never turn away a call from a member of the public even if the problem is outside the capabilities of the organisation or falls outside the remit, but to assist through the network of more relevant bodies within the community to help with the call and to ensure both the member of the public and the animal (s) in question are supported and cared for in a kind, compassionate and supportive manner.

Public Benefit Need

RMAAS has been set up to assist members of the public within the Merseyside region in the rescue, care, support, re-homing and adoption of stray and unwanted animals. The general public benefits from knowing that RMAAS will do everything within its capabilities and resources to support both themselves and the animals in need. This includes vulnerable members of the community, people who find they cannot cope, or simply find they no longer can afford to keep their animal due to financial circumstances.

Our activities

Since its formation in July 2013, RMAS has grown from an extremely small organisation to a registered charity with a network of foster homes spread across the Merseyside area and now we have premises.

This has been achieved by the coming together of a group of like-minded, passionate, experienced volunteers who have worked with animals for many years and bring a wealth of experience to the sanctuary.

Every animal that is taken in by RMAS is assessed and they are:-

- Neutered (if applicable)
- Microchipped
- De-flead and wormed
- Emergency veterinary care is provided if required

On our 5th Anniversary on 20/07/2018 almost 2,500 animals had been admitted into the sanctuary and the demand for our assistance grows daily.

During the year ended 31st July 2019 we admitted 458 animals plus 319 hens; to 31st July 2020 563 animals plus 51 birds and small rodents (this number includes the litters they gave birth to) and to 31st July 2021 501 animals plus 76 budgies, pigeons, small rodents (and litters given birth to) and we also arranged for 9 'home to home' adoptions with our staff and volunteers providing the advice and home checks. This makes a total of 4477 animals helped by Rescue Me.

6

RMAS charges a re-homing fee for our animals, highlighting the ongoing financial commitment of pet ownership. It would not be in the best interest of any of our animals to re-home them to people who could not afford their upkeep, financial commitment and care.

Current rehoming fees at 31/07/2021 are;

- Cat: £125
- Kitten: £150
- Rabbit: £50
- Dog: £275
- Puppy: £350
- Smaller animals by minimum donation of £5

We also advise on the minimum acceptable housing set ups for smaller animals, because the set ups sold and regarded as acceptable in pet shops are often far too small and with inadequate exercise facilities with little to no possibilities for enrichment activities. We do not rehome unless the adopter provides the right environment and facilities for any of our animals.

We offer full 'Rescue Back Up' for all of our animals, and we have become aware that many rescues do not operate to these standards.

We continue to offer a unique approach to tackling the 'bigger picture'. This involves our 'in-reach' on-line free-ad work, where we directly reach out to people currently part of the irresponsible rehoming and breeding 'system' which forms the crux of today's overpopulation of domestic pets and a large proportion of the animals that ultimately require rescue. This promotes responsible pet ownership as we offer to neuter any resident pets for free especially the mothers of the young who are being advertised and offer to undertake home checks for animals being advertised. This approach differs from other neutering/rescue services who offer a more passive approach by helping only people who seek out their service. We believe the 'on-line animal free-ad community' will not seek help as this community makes it both free and easy to 'get rid' of pets they no longer want. We have had huge success by directly approaching these people via comments, private messages or emails in a non-judgmental fashion and offering our help for 'free'.

One of the problems during Covid has been that a lot more people have wanted to get a kitten, puppy, cat or dog, and this means that the unscrupulous breeders are making a great deal of money from their activities.

We have also noticed an increase in brachycephalic ('flat faced') dogs who are at risk of breathing-related problems because of the shape of their noses and jaws.

Funding was secured through Cats Protection (CP) for the in-reach programme in 2015, and they awarded RMAS £11,000 worth of neutering vouchers in 2021.

Impact of Covid on Neutering

The main impact of the Covid pandemic was the impact in neutering slots available via our vets. At times, neutering could not be undertaken and at others it was allowed but far less slots were available due to changes within the veterinary surgery. We were therefore aware of a backlog of our rehomed animals needing neutering and the community neutering and feral cat Trap, Neuter, Release (TNR) work was temporarily halted on and off. Last year we sourced a mobile vet with an adapted van to come to our site to undertake neutering but this was still difficult and our capacity was reduced overall. Rabbit neutering became virtually impossible to access and this impacted on our ability to admit and rehome rabbits, which can sadly be some of the most neglected of pets.

Main achievements and summary

One of the innovative ways in which we responded to Covid was to create our onsite Vet Room, because of the difficulty in securing appointments. Volunteers remodeled the inside of what was once a smithy to create a Vet Room which opened in March 2021. We were donated some equipment and we were able to buy an autoclave, suitable tables and trolleys: we now have a room which is secure, comfortable, hygienic and with sterile facilities to enable our visiting Vets and Vet Nurses to perform operations safely. We have specific Vet Days when our staff and volunteers ensure a smooth visit from start to finish: animals arrive at precise times with owners driving in through one gate and leaving by the other and they are given times to collect their animal(s) once they have had a suitable recovery to the satisfaction of the Vet/ Vet Nurse. This facility has enabled us to make some inroads into tackling the backlog of spays and neuters. In the meantime, we have been grateful to our adopters in being vigilant in keeping animals indoors to avoid litters being born.

We were grateful to receive donations and income via Enthuse (formerly Charity Checkout), PayPal, Online Giving, Payroll Giving, Go Cardless and Justgiving, Pets at Home, Petplan, Agria Pet Insurance, Charities Trust, Charities Aid Foundation. We received £6810 from Edge Hill University Students and £1214 from Liverpool L1 Fundraiser as well as £245 from Copy Lane Police Station Tuck Shop.

The Amazon Wish List appeals continue to support our work and many necessary supplies are donated by our kind supporters.

We continue to have support from donors who give regularly via standing order for which we are very grateful. This has been impacted by Covid, as many supporters have lost their jobs or been furloughed.

This year our numerous and very popular raffles, Facebook selling group, and a few tombolas have continued to bring in funds. Some of the events where we have previously had a stall have not run, due to cutbacks in funding in general for such events and from March 2020 due to Covid.

We were again chosen as the store's Charity of the Year by Pets at Home Edge Lane. The funds raised, the pallets of donated goods and the items donated by kind customers at the store are gratefully received and help RMAS in its work immensely.

The 'Bonus Ball' Lottery brings in a regular income of £195 monthly which is of great help. Some winners have declined to accept their prizes and we are grateful for these extra donations.

8

Gifted supporters and volunteers continue to make and sell craft items which are always popular. We now have a volunteer who makes wooden items including hedgehog houses.

This year some of the new fundraising activities include Ebay selling, more street collections and a stall at Bygone Times.

We received £300 from the sale of stamps which supporters had collected for a number of years, and also raised money by weighing in clothing, curtains and handbags which had not been sold.

A number of supporters and volunteers kindly asked their friends and families to donate to RMAS instead of giving presents or sending Christmas cards, and this was much appreciated.

We are grateful to those small businesses who hold our charity collection boxes, as well as to those businesses who act as drop off and collection points for pet food, donations and auction items (Covid permitting).

Sadly a number of our supporters passed away during this year. We were extremely honoured to receive donations in their memory and, with his family's permission, would like to specifically mention the loss of one of our long term supporters and adopters Bill Tunna.

Several volunteers also donated funds in memory of beloved deceased pets.

Frog and Newt, two cats who were born as littermates without back legs, together with David (another two legged cat) and Roo (who has full front legs and two very small, different sized back legs) remain as permanent and cheerful foster residents at Bells Farm due to their complex medical conditions and specific care needs. Frog and Newt continue to have their own Facebook page and have appeared in countless newspapers and magazines. The four 'boys' live with Ellen Rae who is a blind female cat. All of these special cats require frequent vet checks, specific care regimes, particular foods and medications. Last year they were joined by Monty, an elderly male dog and Gracie, a nervous female dog, whose specific needs mean that they also live as permanent residents at Bells Farm. During this year, Gracie's confidence has developed so much that she now greets staff and many volunteers with a wag of her tail, regardless of whether they have brought her a treat or not!

On 22nd July 2021 work started on the renovations of the roof, in the manner approved via the Planning Application.

We also decided to use Cliffe Boarding Kennels if required for dogs with specific rehabilitation needs, and in July 2021 we placed (another) Monty there, due to their excellent reputation for rehabilitation and care.

Examples of some of the animals whom we have had the pleasure to care for this year

Andre's Story

Andre, a giant lop eared rabbit, was found as a stray, underweight with a severely matted and dirty backside and long nails. He had to be shaved on his bottom and legs to clean him up. When he first came in to foster he was unable to hop properly: it was assumed that he had been confined to a very small cage. He couldn't even get into a litter tray to start with, but having free roam of the living room in his foster home his legs slowly strengthened, and he decided the sofa next to his fosterer for a cuddle was a good place to be and would jump up onto her knees every morning for his head rubs. He wasn't neutered so became a bit too fond of his fosterer and making sure the sofas smelt of him, but soon calmed down and relaxed after his neuter. He gained weight and got healthier and more confident. He was then ready for a new home and went to a very experienced giant bunny home with new bunny friends, where he is now the leader of the gang, with free roam of the house and garden. This is such a happy ending after the miserable life he must have had before he came to Rescue Me.

Rula and Reuben's Story

Rula and Reuben arrived at Rescue Me in May 2021 as 5 week old stray kittens. They were suffering from a severe bout of cat flu which had left them both with severe eye infections in their left eyes. However, this did not hold them back from showing their true characters and flourishing in one of our lovely foster homes. During their time in foster, they had to undergo daily medication for their infected eyes as well as dealing with upset tummies. This did not stop them from playing and

developing large appetites! While Rula's eye began to show signs of improvement, it was clear that Reuben's eye was not going to heal as the infection was too deep within the eye. The decision was made for him to lose his eye. His surgery took place on the day of their neutering operations to save him from having multiple anaesthetics. The surgery was a success! They were adopted by their foster family and they love their two older feline brothers. They love nothing more than morning dreamies, afternoon zoomies and bedtime cuddles! Congratulations Rula and Reuben! We love a happy ending!

Holly's Story

Holly came to us as a referral from another organisation. She had been purchased from Gumtree by a cat breeder who was hoping to breed from Holly also. When Holly was delivered to her 'purchaser' it was immediately obvious that Holly had a grapefruit sized mammary tumour. Her 'vaccine' card was bogus and she also had terrible ear infections. Her buyer was not happy and was trying to sue the original seller so it was agreed that Holly would come into rescue as neither party wanted her: the dispute was about money. We welcomed Holly with open arms and a promise to get her health back on track. Holly was a true angel and didn't put a paw wrong in foster. She was booked in to have her lump removed and this needed to be done separately from her spay as the wound was so big. Once recovered she was adopted by a Rescue Me supporter who already had a Rescue Me cat and has since adopted a Rescue Me dog to join the family. Holly is living her best life and managed to escape becoming a breeding machine.

Peli's Story

Peli came to Rescue Me Animal Sanctuary when another local rescue reached out for help with a cat described by her previous owner as being, 'a happy 18 month old with several deformities'. On arrival it was clear that Peli was no ordinary cat. First impressions pointed to Cerebral Hypoplasia, also known as 'wobbly cat syndrome', a condition we have seen a few times over the years caused by poor brain development in the womb. Peli was unable to run or jump and had a peculiar way of positioning her hind legs. Despite this she was a curious girl and loves to climb. Provided she has achievable spaced steps she was very capable of getting about and has enjoyed popping up and down the cat tree. She used a litter tray perfectly and was a clean and happy girl. As we spent more time with Peli it was clear she had a number of other issues too, most noticeably a short lower jaw causing an inability to close her mouth and a lot of dribble. Thankfully she was able to eat normally and enjoyed her food very much, even if she got gravy on her face every mealtime. After a few days of assessment, bloods were taken to check for internal issues and her numbers all came back normal. So she was booked in for a spay along with x-rays of her head and hips to rule out any skeletal issues that could explain her strange mobility. It is no exaggeration to say that the x-rays were shocking. Peli's jaw was malformed and only opened a couple of centimetres even under anaesthetic. More shocking though, was her spine where x-rays showed some major curvature. This went a long way to explaining her mobility although it was still believed she had neurological issues too. Despite all her wobbles, Peli was a happy cat and coped incredibly well. She loved cuddles and would climb up onto her fosterer's lap for fuss and play, and was adventurous despite being slower than other cats. Peli has found a wonderful home with a vet who understands her needs and is able to continue to assess her ability and requirements moving forward. She lives happily with other cats and is thriving with her new family.

Molly's Story

Molly, a 6 year old marmoset, came to us in December 2020 after her owner relinquished her to our care. She had been used for breeding and the owner no longer wanted her after Molly's partner had passed away. She was clearly grieving as she missed him, and Rescue Me looked after her in the short term until we secured a specialist placement for her in Wales. She was one of our more unusual temporary residents at Bells Farm and we were very glad to have found her a specialist placement where she can enjoy being with her own kind again.

Board of Trustees:

Dr Stephanie Taylor, experience in direct animal rescue, management skills and team working

Mr. David Callender, experience of direct animal rescue work, previously managed an established rescue centre for over 5 years.

Mrs. Heather Prescott, experience in direct rescue and veterinary work, with excellent IT skills

Miss Faye Robinson, experience in direct rescue work, working with vulnerable people and qualified to Masters Level in animal behaviour.

Ms Barbara Connolly, experience in direct rescue work and has a wealth of experience in education

Dr Stephanie Taylor
Chair and Founder of Rescue Me Animal Sanctuary
16th April 2022

Receipts and Payments Accounts

Charity Name Rescue Me Animal Sanctuary
 Charity Number 1157210
 For the period from 01/08/2020 to 31/07/2021

Section A	Receipts and Payments				
A1 Receipts	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds	Last Year
	Funds £	Funds £	Funds £	£	£
Donations	102903			102903	87995
Care of Klaus		208		208	
Care of Wink		690		690	
Care of Teddy		480		480	
Care of Boris		125		125	
Care of Alma		145		145	
Care of Gerbils		15		15	
Care of Oodie		5		5	
Care of Andre		50		50	
Care of Serafina		106		106	
Care of Molly		5		5	
Care of T Kittens		5		5	
Care of Rabbits		50		50	
Care of Fagin		982		982	
Care of Max		552		552	
Care of Puppies		30		30	
Care of Sheldon		10		10	
Care of Holly		30		30	
Care of Rula & Reuben		10		10	
Care of Jess		10		10	
Care of Momo		125		125	
Care of Milo		15		15	
Care of F Kittens		45		45	
Vet Room		1120		1120	
Care of Amber					145
Care of Dale					50
Care of David					241
Care of Ellen Rae					15
Care of Leaf					120
Care of Luthien					5
Care of Nancy					158
Care of Qutie-Pie					203
Care of Simon					170
Care of Stevie					161
Care of Storm					20
Care of Tiny Tiff					20
Care of Ursula					30
Dog Transport					100
Animal Food					110
Vet Fees Specified					245
Towards Shed					50

Adoption Fees	70880			70880	72682
Fundraising	29409			29409	6405
Gift Aid	2915			2915	2618
Contribution to Bills	800			800	800
Interest Received	33			33	244
Compensation New Ferry Explosion					1600
VAT Reclaim Backdated to 2013	16022			16022	
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Sub Total	222962	4813		227775	174187
A2 Asset and Investment Sales					
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Receipts	222962	4813		227775	174187
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
A3 Payments					
Care of Klaus		208		208	
Care of Wink		690		690	
Care of Teddy		480		480	
Care of Boris		125		125	
Care of Alma		145		145	
Care of Gerbils		15		15	
Care of Oodie		5		5	
Care of Andre		50		50	
Care of Serafina		106		106	
Care of Molly		5		5	
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Care of Rula & Reuben		10		10	
Care of Jess		10		10	
Care of Momo		125		125	
Care of Milo		15		15	
Care of F Kittens		45		45	
Vet Room		1120		1120	
Care of Amber					145
Care of Dale					50
Care of David					241
Care of Ellen Rae					15
Care of Leaf					120
Care of Luthien					5
Care of Nancy					158
Care of Qutie-Pie					203

Care of Simon				170
Care of Stevie				161
Care of Storm				20
Care of Tiny Tiff				20
Care of Ursula				30
Dog Transport				100
Animal Food				110
Vet Fees Specified				245
Towards Shed				50
Vets, Medicines, Food				
And Microchips	22096		22096	31840
Animal Transport	21742		21742	22342
Wages, HMRC, Pension	43307		43307	25060
Security Cameras	300			300
Care of Frog and Newt		800	800	2100
Fundraising Expenses	2289		2289	167
Paypal, Go Cardless and				
Facebook Fees	3310		3310	2479
Heat and Light	3610		3610	1284
Council Tax	8122		8122	3094
Insurance	3465		3465	1665
Postage and Stationery	1382		1382	243
Telephone, Internet	593		593	108
Legal, Professional and				
Architect	15180		15180	19880
Refurbishment				805
Repairs, Storage	2173		2173	288
Loan Repayment	150		150	500
Staff Travel	281		281	166
Bank Charges and				
Currency Conversion	181		181	145
Sundry	43		43	171
A4 Asset and Investment				
Purchases				
Total Payments	127924	5613	133537	114480
Net of Receipts/ Payments			94238	59707
A5 Transfers Between Funds			Nil	Nil
A6 Cash Funds Last Year End			147406	87699
Cash Funds This Year End			241644	147406

Section B**Statement of Assets and Liabilities at the End of the Period**



B1 Cash Funds	Details	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £
	Cash Held in Petty Cash	122		
	Paypal	2527		
	Bank Current Account	28987		
	Bank Deposit Account	210008		
		-----	-----	
	Total Cash Funds Agreed with Receipts and Payments Accounts	241644		
		-----	-----	
B2 Other Monetary Assets				
	HMRC Gift Aid	2796		
	Council Tax	401		
	Insurance	1748		

		4945		
B3 Investment Assets				
B4 Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use				
	Bells Farm Property	410000		

B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund	Due £	
	Loan Repayable to Stephanie Taylor	Restricted	65540	
	Veterinary Bills Due	Unrestricted	3813	
	Water Rates	Unrestricted	1350	
	EDF Energy	Unrestricted	121	
	NEST Pension	Unrestricted	262	
	Bonus Ball Prizes	Unrestricted	100	
	Legal and professional Fees	Unrestricted	4800	
	Boarding Fees	Unrestricted	264	
	Storage	Unrestricted	40	
	Staff Travel	Unrestricted	45	
	Self Employed Manager from October 2020	Unrestricted	20833	

			97168	

Signed on Behalf of all Trustees:

Signature  Name
S TaylorDate of Approval
16/04/2022Signature  Name
H PrescottDate of Approval
16/04/2022

Notes to the Accounts

1 Rescue Me Animal Sanctuary purchased premises, Bells Farm, in Melling during year ended 31st July 2018. This comprises of a house, land and outbuildings and the total purchase price was £410,000. The trustees consider that because refurbishment of the premises includes splitting the house into part dwelling and part animal rescue premises, the amounts spent on refurbishment have not added any value to the premises overall.

2 Rescue Me Animal Sanctuary had been outbid on similar properties in previous years, and in order to secure Bells Farm, Stephanie Taylor, Founder and Trustee, loaned the charity the sum of £66,990. Trustees were of the opinion that Bells Farm was the most suitable property available to date and agreed to this arrangement.

The Loan Agreement for this was signed by all Trustees on 12th February 2018. Clause 2 states that:

This Loan will be repaid in consecutive yearly instalments of £10,000 each commencing on 6 February 2019 and continuing on the 6th February of each following year until 8 February 2025 with the balance then owing under this Agreement being paid at that time providing the borrower has sufficient reserves to do so and ALL the Trustees are in agreement to release the instalment.

On 6 February 2019, a decision was made to defer repayment of the loan and these funds became restricted to be used for renovation work to enable the site to become fit for purpose with adequate facilities as soon as possible.

3 In December 2018, Stephanie Taylor moved in to the accommodation created at one end of the premises at Bells Farm. There are outstanding repairs required to the accommodation which the Trustees have discussed, including leaks to the roof and windows, broken gates, difficulty with getting hot water and electric and outside lighting tripping and going off in rain.

The priority is to have the rest of the building works to be planned and overseen by a specialist architect, with experience in planning and building for animal rescues, and for this to be completed as soon as possible.

During this time, Stephanie Taylor has used her accommodation to run the rescue, which has afforded her very little privacy. Animals have been housed there and one room has three crates and cages in it, which have at times been occupied by cats with litters of kittens. The living room contains a crate used for cats and/ or kittens. Administrative work is carried out in her accommodation; volunteers use facilities such as kitchen and bathroom. Meetings have been held in the accommodation. Contractors also use the bathroom and kitchen.

The Trustees therefore decided that as they will not be making any payment off the interest free loan from Stephanie Taylor, that they wish to charge a nominal sum only, being £800 included in the accounts as income, and which has been deducted from the loan. Stephanie Taylor put £650 into the petty cash account this year. This leaves a sum outstanding of £65540 to Stephanie Taylor. The original interest free loan of £66,990 has been in place with an agreement that the charity does not need to pay it back until in a position to do so. This affects Stephanie Taylor's ability to purchase her own property, which is her intention.

4 Rescue Me took in two kittens, named by the charity Frog and Newt, each was born with only their two front legs and no back legs. A generous donation was made in the sum of £5000 specifically for their ongoing care. This sum was received in July 2018 and was set aside in the deposit account as a restricted fund. During the year ended 31st July 2019, over £2,100 has been spent on their care as they require specialist food, supplements, medications, regular vet checks. The same sum was spent on them during the year ended 31st July 2020 leaving £800 in Restricted Funds which has been used to pay towards their care during the year ended 31st July 2021. The specific donation of £5,000 has now been spent as per the donor's wishes.

5 After discussion by Trustees excluding Stephanie Taylor, and having taken appropriate legal advice, a General Meeting of the Trustees took place on 30th September 2020 at which it was resolved that Stephanie Taylor be paid remuneration of £25,000 per annum to provide full time management services, including to oversee the care and maintenance of the sanctuary, staff supervision and animal welfare. The Trustees were satisfied that this is reasonable and that the remuneration does not exceed market rates, and that this is beneficial for the charity. Appropriate Agenda, Notes and Resolution were minuted and provided by a specialist Legal firm.

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Rescue Me Animal Sanctuary

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Rescue Me Animal Sanctuary (the charity) for the year ended 31st July 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the charity 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 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 am a member of the AAT and I am bound by the code of ethics issued by FRC's Revised Ethical Standard 2016.

Accounts preparation services were provided by Sefton CVS, my employer, and I as examiner have applied the ethical standard to my work.

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.



Anthony Deegan, MAAT, MICB, Pm.dip
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