

BIRCH HALL ADVENTURES

England & Wales · Charity number 1160251

Details

Other names	BHA
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	08961426
Registered	2015-01-30
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Birch Hall Dale Hill Kirby-le-Soken Frinton-on-Sea CO13 0EL
Phone	01255258307
Email	info@birchhall.com
Website	https://www.birchhall.com

Activities

Objects: 1 TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATEMENT OF BELIEFS APPEARING IN THE SCHEDULE HERETO IN THE UNITED KINGDOM OR ELSEWHERE AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT;2 TO ADVANCE EDUCATION, INCLUDING IN THE AREAS OF OUTDOOR PURSUITS, ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, SPORT, MUSIC, ARTS AND CRAFTS, BY SUCH MEANS AS THE TRUSTEES MAY CONSIDER APPROPRIATE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM OR ELSEWHERE AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT;3 TO PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR RECREATION, SPORT OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION IN THE INTEREST OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR PERSONS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABLEMENT, POVERTY OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR SUCH PERSONS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM OR ELSEWHERE AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT;

Activities: Birch Hall Adventures provides outdoor education and activities for schools and groups. These include: Sailing, Simulated Caving, Bush Craft, Camping, Archery, Geo-caching, Nature Walks. It also

provides access to facilities for other organisations and groups.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Religious Activities, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Essex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£160,521	£175,877	-	-
2024-03-31	£170,638	£168,208	-	-
2023-03-31	£143,707	£142,687	-	-
2022-03-31	£113,911	£102,591	-	-
2021-03-31	£83,634	£43,324	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Guy Main		2016-10-01
Joanna Lyn Bingham		2024-03-21
Nicholas John Vivian Singleton		2018-11-29
Peter James Kelway Law		2024-03-21
RICHARD JOHN MYERS		2014-03-26
Rachael Helen Hurst		2023-10-14

BIRCH HALL ADVENTURES

England & Wales - Charity number 1160251

Accounts

Registration Number 8961426 | Charity Number 1160251

Birch Hall Adventures

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Report to the Trustees & Financial Statements

For the Period to Year End 31st March 2025

Report of the Trustees

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Reference & Administrative Details

The trustees, who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the consolidated financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practices (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities'.

Company Details

Birch Hall Adventures
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Company Registration Number 8961426
Charity Registration Number 1160251
For the Period to Year End 31st March 2025

Trustees

Revd Mark Holdaway (Chairman)
Mr Guy Main
Mr Richard Myers
Mr Nicholas Singleton
Revd Andrew Winter
Revd Peter Law
Jo Bingham
Rachael Hurst

Company Secretary

Mr Jordan Alex Phillips

Address (Registered Office)

Birch Hall Adventures
Birch Hall
Kirby-le-socken
Frinton-on-sea
Essex
CO13 0EL
UK

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner

Mr John Lower

Structure, Governance & Management:

Birch Hall Adventures was established in 2014 as a registered charity. It is operated on a daily basis by the centre director, Alex Phillips, and office manager Naomi Lower. The charity is governed by a board of trustees. The board sits formally three times a year but is available for the Centre Director throughout the year informally. Trustees have general areas of expertise, which ensures that the activities of the charity are monitored and feedback given to the full board. Some trustees have a more active role, getting involved in group activities, or work parties.

Objectives & Activities:

Objects of the Charity

1. to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the statement of beliefs appearing in the schedule hereto in the United Kingdom or elsewhere as the trustees may from time to time think fit.
2. to advance education, including in the areas of outdoor pursuits, environmental studies, sport, music, arts and crafts, by such means as the trustees may consider appropriate in the United Kingdom or elsewhere as the trustees may from time to time think fit.
3. to provide facilities for recreation, sport or other leisure time occupation in the interest of social welfare for persons who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social and economic circumstances with the object of improving the conditions of life for such persons in the United Kingdom or elsewhere as the trustees may from time-to-time think fit.

Activities

Ensuring our work delivers it aims

We review our aims, objectives and activities each year. The review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work in the previous 12 months. This on-going process reviews our key strategies for the charity, the benefits it has brought to the groups, individuals, local community and people we work with. The review also helps to ensure our aims, objectives and activities remain focused on our stated purpose.

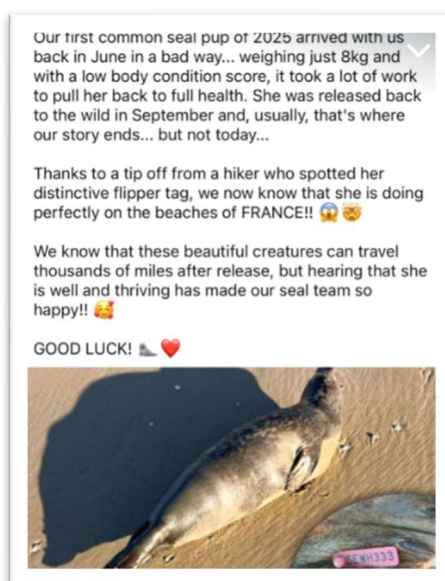
The main business of the centre is in providing day and residential visits for local schools and groups. Many of the schools that we work with are from areas of high deprivation in Clacton on sea and the surrounding area, who would not have opportunities for this type of visit unless we were in the local area. We make it a priority to allow local schools to visit over those from out of the district, and we are able to subsidise trips for the poorest schools.

The current offering of Birch Hall Adventures includes camping, bushcraft, climbing, archery, high ropes and low ropes, secret bunker, sailing, kayaking, seal watching, beach trips, crafts, cooking. In summer we run summer camps, which provide all the adventure activities and also an opportunity for spiritual reflection on the bible stories and work of Jesus. Also, in line with our spiritual aims we open the centre at weekends for church groups.

Public Benefit

The Centre is open to all people of all ages and benefits individuals, groups, staff volunteers and the local community in a wide range of ways. Our public benefit is demonstrated in these ways:

- Outdoor education has been demonstrated to develop confidence, resilience and teamwork in young people and has been shown to have positive outcomes on performance in class.
- Affordability for schools in areas of high deprivation.
- Access to outdoor education in the local area
- A venue for churches and other groups to meet in the outdoors
- Developing life skills in young people when staying away from home
- Building transferable employability skills in volunteers and employees
- Education – through school residentials, adventure activities, through Royal Yachting Association, and leadership & development training.
- Community links – with local primary schools, youth groups, sailing clubs and churches.
- Engagement with and work with the local wildlife reserves and seal rescue teams (see below).
- Promotion & development of physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing.



This little fella was abandoned as a pup and rescued from the backwaters by the centre's jetty. It was released in the same spot in September and is doing well across the channel in France.

Achievements & Performance:

Context

Birch Hall Adventures occupies the site of a former dairy at Birch Hall Farm. The farm covers 400 acres comprising arable land, wooded areas and coastal saltmarshes. The centre benefits

from the generosity of the farm partners in being able to access the farm and sea for activities in and around the centre.

Visitors come from school groups both local to the centre and further afield, but the majority come from within the Tendring peninsular. Many local groups, such as scouts, guides, church youth groups and other organisations also make use of the centre. Traditionally most groups visited for the day, but now many schools will stay overnight and make use of either our bunkhouse or tents belonging to the centre. The emphasis of the remains to encourage young people to grow through enjoyment of the outdoors as well as learning about themselves and abilities through teamwork and challenge. The Christian message underpins the work of the centre with Christian staff supporting visitors and participants and where appropriate getting visitors to consider life's deeper questions.

Facilities

In April 2024, we completed the work on the kitchen, opening it out into what was the old office.



The floor was tiled and the equipment reinstalled. Unfortunately, our Hobart dishwasher (bought for 99p) was no longer functional, nor worth repairing, so we had to manage another year with a domestic washer, and many hours for standing at the sink, but we'll be looking out for another one for summer 2025!

The office was moved to the Granary building which provided more space for the existing staff team and summer staff.

During the autumn the former equipment room was emptied and prepared for work in spring 2025 to convert to a new dining room. The new dining room then becomes adjacent to the kitchen making for easy flow and greater convenience for serving and clearing

The old dining room, which was also known as The Classroom, reverts to its former use and makes a great area for crafts and useful as our 'Café' for events. We're looking forward to autumn 2025 when we hope to build a new office, as first planned in 2023.

Staffing

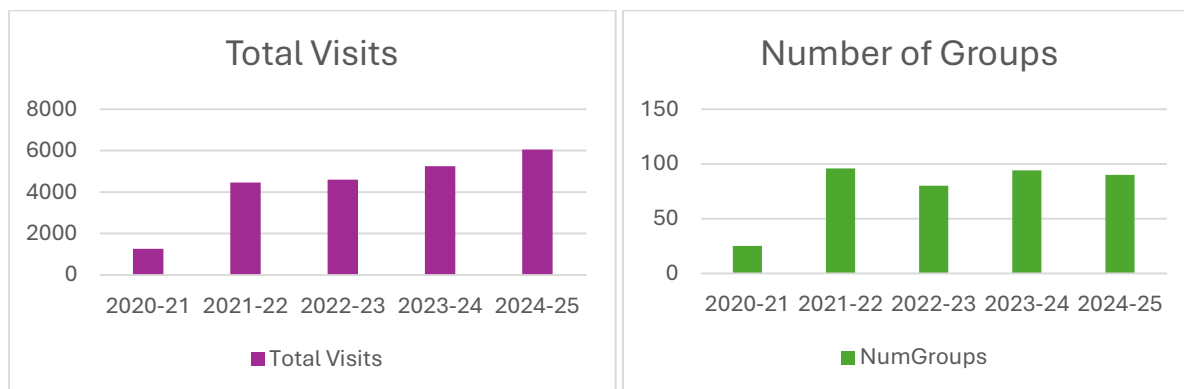
We took on a good crowd of new instructors and put them through some kayak training on a farm pond, with the aim of seeing how the activity would perform compared to previous years when we have kayaked on the backwaters. We're hoping that this activity will become more convenient and easier to operate.

Emma Hall completed the season but decided to move on in January 2025 to a role out of catering. The trustees would like to thank her for her service to the centre and the variety of new meals and cakes which she bestowed on the schools and groups, who were equally appreciative of her role.

Our trustees continued to support and encourage us though with no new additions nor resignations during this period.

Groups and visitors

Our visitor numbers were slightly higher than previous years, although some of our groups were smaller than anticipated. Two events also caused an increase in numbers with over 250 attending both the Tendring Cross Country and Free Church Fireworks

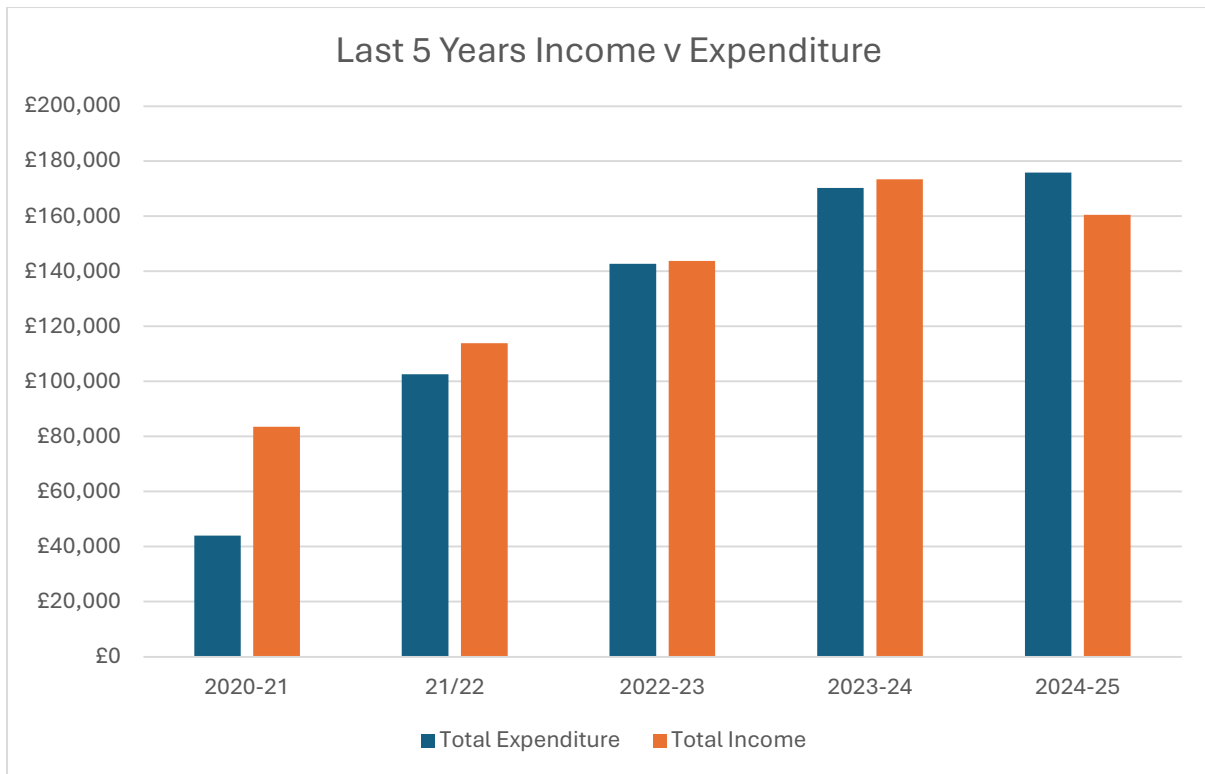


Summer camps continue to be popular and this year we expanded our provision for assistant leaders. Our first large cohort of 16+ pupils made a huge difference to the running of camp. They were split into two teams for duties in the kitchen or around the building and changing rooms and came together in the afternoon for their own bible study looking this year at the book of Ephesians. Several AL's attended multiple camps, and they were fantastic role models for the younger campers both in their service to camp and their involvement in activities.

Income

This year the centre as almost entirely supported itself from earned income with a small rise to 5% in contribution from donations, this mainly due to additional funds raise during the 10th Year Celebrations. This level is still lower that we would like, and we will be investigating ways in which we can look to raise this in the coming year.

Turnover was lower than anticipated due to contraction in numbers for some of the paying groups and this coupled with raise staffing cost (increase in minimum wage and statutory holiday pay for seasonal workers) meant for the first time the centre suffered a loss. This affected the Centre's cash flow in the autumn but with good bookings for 2025 we were able to secure financial support from the Slavanka Trust and we able to repay this in May 2025 from a National Insurance rebate. The trustees would like to express their gratitude for the support of the Slavanka Trust.



Financial planning

The trustees recognise the need for careful stewardship of limited funds but also the need to invest in a growing business. The financial health of the charity is reviewed on a regular basis and spending plans reflect the income available.

Looking forward to 2025-2026, we will aim to consolidate much of the recent development and focus on ensuring that the work done over the past ten years is fit for another 10. We will be focusing on raising funds for future projects with centre growth in mind.

Structure, Governance and Management Report of The Trustees

Governing Document

The Company was formed on 26 March 2014. The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as members. All members of the trustee board give their time voluntarily and receive no benefit from the charity. Every effort is made to ensure that we have a broad range of skills on the board, with training and support where appropriate. Members of the board volunteer and support the centre throughout the year in various forms.

Risk Management

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that necessary steps can be taken to mitigate those risks as necessary.

Organisation

The Directors/Trustees determine the general policy of the charity. The day-to-day management of the Centre is delegated to the staff team members led by the Centre Director. The Centre has a team of experienced instructors who deliver the various activity and residential programmes.

Financial Results

The results for the year to 31 March 2025 are set out on pages 9 to 12.

Resources

As stated, the funds are split between those held for restricted purposes and those available for the day-to-day requirements of the Centre.

Restricted Funds

Funds raised for specific purposes are disclosed in the notes and show balances held towards future expenditure. The Centre's assets are sufficient to meet its current obligations. Additional, fund-raising efforts are being made to support the core costs of the centre as well as towards the funding of future projects.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Company law requires the directors/trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those accounts the trustees are required to:

Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

Prepare the Accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

This report and the accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the board on 14/10/2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Revd Mark Holdaway

Chairman

Independent Examiner's report to the charity trustees of Birch Hall Adventures

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31st March 2025, which are set out on pages 11 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees (and 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. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

- 1) That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
- 2) That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
- 3) That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice CCNI ARR07 – supporting document 7 August 2016 applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
- 4) That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: John Lower

Relevant professional qualification if any: FCA (retired)

Address: 91 Chesterton Avenue, Harpenden, Herts AL5 5ST

Date: 23/12/2025

Financial Review:

Accounts April 2024 - March 2025

Income and Expenditure Account for year ended 31 March 2025

	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22
INCOME				
Group Income	152,596	166,121	141,922	95,713
Restricted donations	1,362	0	0	4,052
Unrestricted donations	6,563	4,516	1,785	14,146
Total Income	160,521	170,638	143,707	113,911

EXPENDITURE

Activity Costs	6,520	6,027	6,576	11,764
Centre Costs	22,238	16,277	12,393	5,429
Catering Costs	17,703	18,074	10,355	
Equipment	2,486	4,260	5,142	3,951
Marketing	2,617	710	542	564
Office Costs	4,842	5,874	7,734	7,128
Staff cost including training	102,178	100,337	87,020	64,077
Insurance	3,202	2,838		
Depreciation	14,091	13,810	12,926	8,672
Total Expenditure	175,877	168,208	142,687	101,585

Surplus for year	(15,356)	2,430	1,020	12,326
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Movements in Funds

Unrestricted Funds at beginning of year	74,430	72,000	70,980	58,654
Add: Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(15,356)	2,430	1,020	12,326
Unrestricted Funds at end of year	59,074	74,430	72,000	70,980

Balance Sheet at 31 March 2025

	31/03/2025	31/3/2024	31/3/2023	31/3/2022
Fixed Assets				
Fixed Assets-Cost	102,575	100,690	91,852	69,679
Less: Depreciation	(50,505)	(36,414)	(22,604)	(9,678)
Net Fixed Assets	52,070	64,276	69,248	60,001
Current assets				
Cash at Bank	10,385	10,154	7,442	12,326
Debtors	13,619	0	0	0
	24,004	10,154	7,442	12,326
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	0	0	(818)	0
Net Current Assets	24,004	10,154	6,624	12,326
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	0	0	0	0
Total Net Assets	76,074	74,430	75,872	72,327
Represented by:				
Funds/Reserves				
Unrestricted funds	59,074	74,430	72,000	70,980
Restricted funds	0	0	872	1,347
Trustee loans	4,000	0	0	0
Trust loan	13,000	0	3,000	0
Total reserves	76,074	74,430	75,872	72,327

Journal Analysis

Journals/Analysis

Fixed Assets	at 1/4/22	additions in year	at 31/3/23	additions in year	at 31/3/24	additions in year	at 31/3/25
Bunkhouse etc	42,579.53	11,862.12	54,441.65	5,893.21	60,334.86	960.00	61,294.86
Office	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,944.92	2,944.92	0.00	2,944.92
Other	27,099.27	10,311.06	37,410.33	0.00	37,410.33	924.72	38,335.05
	<u>69,678.80</u>	<u>22,173.18</u>	<u>91,851.98</u>	<u>8,838.13</u>	<u>100,690.11</u>	<u>1,884.72</u>	<u>102,574.83</u>

Depreciation	at 1/4/22	depn for year	at 31/3/23	depn for year	at 31/3/24	depn for year	at 31/3/25
Bunkhouse-10% pa on y/e bal	4,257.95	5,444.17	9,702.12	6,033.49	15,735.60	6,129.49	21,865.09
Office-10% pa on y/e bal	0.00	0.00	0.00	294.49	294.49	294.49	588.98
Other-20% pa on y/e bal	5,419.85	7,482.07	12,901.92	7,482.07	20,383.98	7,667.01	28,050.99
	<u>9,677.80</u>	<u>12,926.23</u>	<u>22,604.03</u>	<u>13,810.04</u>	<u>36,414.08</u>	<u>14,090.99</u>	<u>50,505.06</u>

Net Fixed Assets	60,001.00		69,247.95		64,276.04		52,069.77
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Restricted Funds	at 1/4/22	addns	utilised	at 31/3/23	addns	utilised	at 31/3/24
Tesco Groundworks	475.00	0.00	475.00	0.00			
Tendring District Council	872.00	0.00	0.00	872.00	0.00	872.00	0.00
Total	<u>1,347.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>475.00</u>	<u>872.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>872.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>

Current assets-Cash	At 1/4/22	At 31/3/23	At 31/3/24	At 31/3/25
Current Assets-CAFBank	12,106.58	4,469.82	8,673.66	2,953.70
Current Assets-Paypal	219.75	2,922.74	1,464.55	3,760.21
Current Assets-CAFBank-Gold				3,512.06
Current Assets-Petty Cash		49.89	15.60	158.54
	<u>12,326.33</u>	<u>7,442.45</u>	<u>10,153.81</u>	<u>10,384.51</u>

Movement in Unrestricted Funds

Balance at 1/4/22	70,980.33
Add: Surplus for the year	<u>1,019.67</u>
Balance at 31/3/23	72,000.00
Add: Surplus for the year	<u>2,429.85</u>
Balance at 31/3/24	74,429.85
Add: Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	<u>(15,356.29)</u>
Balance at 31/3/25	<u>59,073.56</u>

In approving these financial statements as directors of the company, we hereby confirm:

- i. that for the period in question the company was entitled to the exemption conferred by section 249a(1) of the Companies Act 1985,
- ii. that no notice has been deposited at the registered office of the company pursuant to section 249b(2) requesting that an audit be conducted for the year ended 31st March 2025,
- iii. that we acknowledge our responsibilities for:
 - a. ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 221, and
 - b. preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial period and of its profit for the period then ended and which otherwise comply with the provisions of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.
- iv. the directors have taken advantage of certain exemptions from disclosure conferred by Schedule 8, Companies Act 1985, on the grounds that the company is a small company as defined in that Act.

Notes to financial statements

Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2005 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in March 2005.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Incoming resources

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the conditions for receipt are met and there is a reasonable assurance of receipt. It comprises donations, fees and charges excluding VAT. The following accounting policies are applied to income:

Fees and similar income

Fees receivable are accounted for in the period in which they are received.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on a payments and receipts basis. Expenditure is allocated to expense headings either directly or apportioned according to time spent.

Charitable Activities comprises all expenditure directly related to the objects of the centre.

The Centre is not registered for Value Added Tax.

BIRCH HALL ADVENTURES

England & Wales - Charity number 1160251

Accounts

Registration Number 8961426

Birch Hall Adventures

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Report to the Trustees & Financial Statements

For the Period to Year End 31st March 2024

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Report of the Trustees

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Mr Guy Main
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Revd Andrew Winter
Revd Peter Law
Jo Bingham
Rachael Hurst

Company Secretary

Mr Jordan Alex Phillips

Address (Registered Office)

Birch Hall Adventures
Birch Hall
Kirby-le-socken
Frinton-on-sea
Essex
CO13 0EL
UK

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner

Mr John Lower

Objects of the Charity

1. to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the statement of beliefs appearing in the schedule hereto in the United Kingdom or elsewhere as the trustees may from time to time think fit.
2. to advance education, including in the areas of outdoor pursuits, environmental studies, sport, music, arts and crafts, by such means as the trustees may consider appropriate in the United Kingdom or elsewhere as the trustees may from time to time think fit.
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Ensuring our work delivers its aims

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Achievements and Performance

Context

Birch Hall Adventures occupies the site of a former dairy at Birch Hall Farm. The farm covers 400 acres comprising arable land, wooded areas and coastal saltmarshes. The centre benefits from the generosity of the farm partners in being able to access the farm and sea for activities in and around the centre.

Visitors come from school groups both local to the centre and further afield, but the majority come from within the Tendring peninsula. Many local groups, such as scouts, guides, church youth groups and other organisations also make use of the centre. Traditionally most groups visited for the day, but now many schools will stay overnight and make use of either our bunkhouse or tents belonging to the centre. The emphasis remains to encourage young people to grow through enjoyment of the outdoors as well as learning about themselves and abilities through teamwork and challenge. The Christian message underpins the work of the centre with Christian staff supporting visitors and participants and where appropriate getting visitors to consider life's deeper questions.

Overview of the year

The 2023 season saw an uptake in the number of residential groups and an increase in visits. Several new schools visited, and we are encouraged to be able to build relationships with these schools.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Groups	7	48	82	97	77	76	25	96	80	94
Visits	287	1298	3367	2955	4352	5298	1258	4462	4603	5210

The trend is towards more residential groups. The Bunkhouse has proved invaluable in this regard. It extended the season into October with the first group coming at the beginning of May and the last group visiting in the final week before the October half-term break. It also has allowed us to book a few student groups outside of the normal operating months as well with Essex University Christian Union coming in November and King's College London and Reading CU in March 2024. We still need

to look into efficient heating systems for these areas if these times of the year are to become more popular.

Summer Camps

This was the second year we ran four summer camps and numbers increased on the previous year with the residential camp proving popular. Each camp provided opportunity for children to hear the Bible explained and a time for questions in an informal and unpressurised setting. The camp team worked well and really enjoyed the time together fulfilling the main goal of the centre. Several of the older campers are keen to come back in 2024 as assistant leaders and this is a real encouragement.

Staff Team

The Centre is managed by the Centre Director, Alex Phillips, who is supported by a part-time administrator, Naomi Lower. In July we were joined by Emma Hall as caterer/housekeeper. Emma had joined right at the start of the camp season so by no means a gentle start, but she coped well. We have had a group of volunteers help us with some of our activities and several part time seasonal staff members on instruction.

Trustees

We welcomed three new trustees to the board.

Peter Law – minister at Kirby Evangelical church and former camp leader and a senior sailing and windsurfing instructor.

Rachael Hurst – secondary teacher in geography and the environment, former field studies instructor and a senior sailing instructor

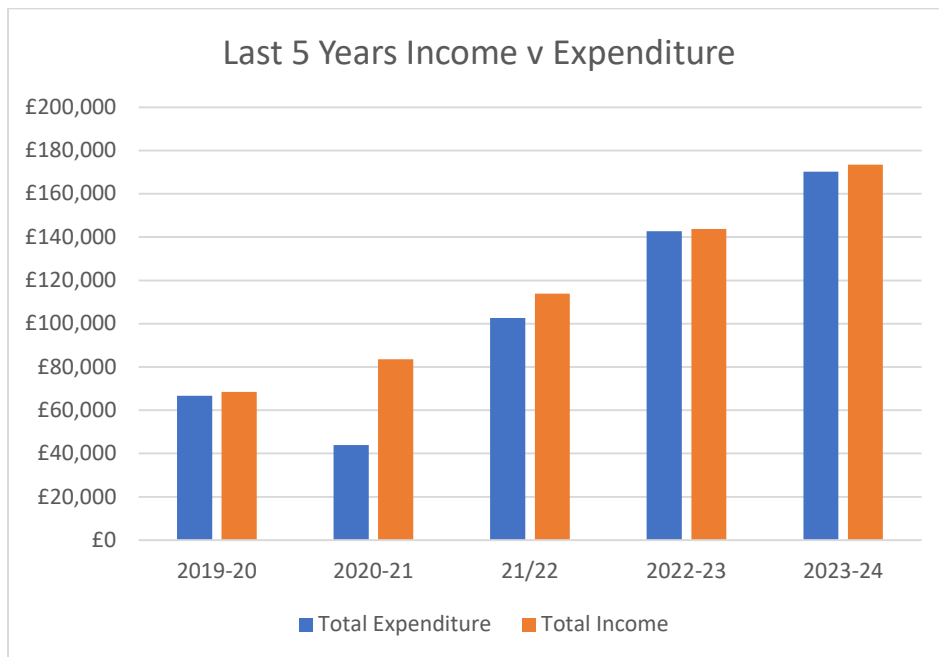
Jo Bingham – recently retired primary teacher with experience in early years provision and a wealth of knowledge of our local school network.

Facilities

We completed the work on the disabled bathroom and installed a shower and tiling. In the games room we levelled and laid a floor and put the meeting room and technical store in shape, with carpet tiles, plastering and painting. In the autumn we emptied then refurbished the Granary with the intention of creating a craft workshop and ran our first craft class during Lent.

Income

This year the centre as almost entirely supported itself from earned income with a small rise to 3% in contribution from donations. This level is still lower that we would like, and we will be investigating ways in which we can look to raise this in the coming year. That said the turnover of the business rose again.



Financial planning

The trustees recognise the need for careful stewardship of limited funds but also the need to invest in a growing business. The financial health of the charity is reviewed on a regular basis and spending plans reflect the income available.

Looking forward to 2024-2025, we will aim to consolidate much of the recent development and focus on ensuring that the work done over the past ten years is fit for another 10. We will be focusing on raising funds for future projects with centre growth in mind – accommodation, year-round suitability for groups and staffing.

Public Benefit

The Centre is open to all people of all ages and benefits individuals, groups, staff volunteers and the local community in a wide range of ways. These include:

- Life skills
- Transferable employability skills
- Education – through school residentials, adventure activities, through Royal Yachting Association, and leadership & development training.
- Community links – with local primary schools, youth groups, sailing clubs and churches.
- Engagement with and work with the local wildlife reserves.
- Promotion & development of physical wellbeing.

Structure, Governance and Management Report of The Trustees

Governing Document

The Company was formed on 26 March 2014. The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as members. All members of the trustee board give their time voluntarily and receive no benefit from the charity. Every effort is made to ensure that we have a broad range of skills on the board, with training and support where appropriate. Members of the board volunteer and support the centre throughout the year in various forms.

Risk Management

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that necessary steps can be taken to mitigate those risks as necessary.

Organisation

The Directors/Trustees determine the general policy of the charity. The day-to-day management of the Centre is delegated to the staff team members led by the Centre Director. The Centre has a team of experienced instructors who deliver the various activity and residential programmes.

Financial Results

The results for the year to 31 March 2024 are set out on pages 9 to 12.

Resources

As stated, the funds are split between those held for restricted purposes and those available for the day-to-day requirements of the Centre.

Restricted Funds

Funds raised for specific purposes are disclosed in the notes and show balances held towards future expenditure. The Centre's assets are sufficient to meet its current obligations. Additional, fund-raising efforts are being made to support the core costs of the centre as well as towards the funding of future projects.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Company law requires the directors/trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those accounts the trustees are required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3. Prepare the Accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

This report and the accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the board on 14/10/2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Revd Mark Holdaway

Chairman

Independent Examiner's report to the charity trustees of Birch Hall Adventures

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31st March 2024, which are set out on pages 9 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees (and 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. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

- 1) That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
- 2) That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
- 3) That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice CCNI ARR07 – supporting document 7 August 2016 applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
- 4) That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: John Lower

Relevant professional qualification if any: FCA (retired)

Address: 91 Chesterton Avenue, Harpenden, Herts AL5 5ST

Date: 6/12/2024

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ending 31st March 2024

Accounts April 2023 - March 2024

Income and Expenditure Account for year ended 31 March 2024	2023/24	2022/23
INCOME		
Group Income	166,121	141,922
Restricted donations	0	0
Unrestricted donations	4,516	1,785
Total Income	170,638	143,707
EXPENDITURE		
Activity Costs	6,027	6,576
Centre Costs	16,277	12,393
Catering Costs	18,074	10,355
Equipment	4,260	5,142
Marketing	709.72	542
Office Costs	5,874	7,734
Salaries	100,337	86,497
Training	2838.49	523
Depreciation	13,810	12,926
Total Expenditure	168,208	142,687
Surplus for year	2,430	1,020
Movements in Funds		
Unrestricted Funds at beginning of year	72,000	70,980
Add: Surplus for the year	2,430	1,020
Unrestricted Funds at end of year	74,430	72,000

Balance Sheet

As at 31st March 2024

	31/03/2024	31/03/2023
Fixed Assets		
Fixed Assets-Cost	100,690	91,852
Less: Depreciation	-36,414	-22,604
Net Fixed Assets	<u>64,276</u>	<u>69,248</u>
Current assets		
Cash at Bank	10,154	7,442
Debtors	0	0
	<u>10,154</u>	<u>7,442</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	0	-818
Net Current Assets	<u>10,154</u>	<u>6,624</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>74,430</u>	<u>75,872</u>
Represented by:		
Funds/Reserves		
Unrestricted funds	74,430	72,000
Restricted funds	0	872
Trustee loan	0	3,000
Total reserves	<u>74,430</u>	<u>75,872</u>

In approving these financial statements as directors of the company, we hereby confirm:

- i. that for the period in question the company was entitled to the exemption conferred by section 249a(1) of the Companies Act 1985,
- ii. that no notice has been deposited at the registered office of the company pursuant to section 249b(2) requesting that an audit be conducted for the year ended 31st March 2024,
- iii. that we acknowledge our responsibilities for:
 - a. ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 221, and
 - b. preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial period and of its profit for the period then ended and which otherwise comply with the provisions of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.
- iv. the directors have taken advantage of certain exemptions from disclosure conferred by Schedule 8, Companies Act 1985, on the grounds that the company is a small company as defined in that Act.

Notes to financial statements

Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2005 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in March 2005.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Incoming resources

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the conditions for receipt are met and there is a reasonable assurance of receipt. It comprises donations, fees and charges excluding VAT. The following accounting policies are applied to income:

Fees and similar income

Fees receivable are accounted for in the period in which they are received.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on a payments and receipts basis. Expenditure is allocated to expense headings either directly or apportioned according to time spent.

Charitable Activities comprises all expenditure directly related to the objects of the centre.

The Centre is not registered for Value Added Tax.

Journals/Analysis

Fixed Assets & Depreciation

Journals/Analysis

Fixed Assets	at 31/3/23	additions in year	at 31/3/24
Bunkhouse	54,441.65	5,893.21	60,334.86
Office	0.00	2,944.92	2,944.92
Other	37,410.33	0.00	37,410.33
	<u>91,851.98</u>	<u>8,838.13</u>	<u>100,690.11</u>

Depreciation	at 31/3/23	depn for year	at 31/3/23
Bunkhouse	9,702.12	6,033.49	15,735.60
Office	0.00	294.49	294.49
Other	12,901.92	7,482.07	20,383.98
	<u>22,604.03</u>	<u>13,810.04</u>	<u>36,414.08</u>

Net Fixed Assets 69,247.95 64,276.04

Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds	at 31/3/23	addns	utilised	at 31/3/24
Tendring District Council	872.00	0.00	872.00	0.00
Total	<u>872.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>872.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>

Current Assets

Current assets-Cash	At 1/4/22	At 31/3/23	At 31/3/24
Current Assets-CAFBank	12,106.58	4,469.82	8,673.66
Current Assets-Paypal	219.75	2,922.74	1,464.55
Current Assets-Petty Cash		49.89	15.60
	<u>12,326.33</u>	<u>7,442.45</u>	<u>10,153.81</u>

Movement in Unrestricted Funds

Movement in Unrestricted Funds

Balance at 31/3/23	72,000.00
Add: Surplus for the year	<u>2,429.85</u>
Balance at 31/3/24	<u>74,429.85</u>

BIRCH HALL ADVENTURES

England & Wales - Charity number 1160251

Accounts

Registration Number 8961426

Birch Hall Adventures

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Financial Statements

For the Period to Year End 31st March 2023

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Report of the Trustees

The trustees, who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the consolidated financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practices (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities'.

Company Details

Birch Hall Adventures
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Company Registration Number 8961426
Charity Registration Number 1160251
For the Period to Year End 31st March 2023

Trustees

Revd Mark Holdaway (Chairman)
Dr Alasdair MacKenzie (Retired March 2023)
Mr Guy Main
Mr Richard Myers
Mr Nicholas Singleton
Revd Andrew Winter

Company Secretary

Mr Jordan Alex Phillips

Address (Registered Office)

Birch Hall Adventures
Birch Hall
Kirby-le-socket
Frinton-on-sea
Essex
CO13 0EL
UK

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner

Mr John Lower

Objects of the Charity

1. to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the statement of beliefs appearing in the schedule hereto in the United Kingdom or elsewhere as the trustees may from time to time think fit.
2. to advance education, including in the areas of outdoor pursuits, environmental studies, sport, music, arts and crafts, by such means as the trustees may consider appropriate in the United Kingdom or elsewhere as the trustees may from time to time think fit.
3. to provide facilities for recreation, sport or other leisure time occupation in the interest of social welfare for persons who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social and economic circumstances with the object of improving the conditions of life for such persons in the United Kingdom or elsewhere as the trustees may from time-to-time think fit.

Ensuring our work delivers its aims

We review our aims, objectives and activities each year. The review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work in the previous 12 months. This on-going process reviews our key strategies for the charity, the benefits it has brought to the groups, individuals, local community and people we work with. The review also helps to ensure our aims, objectives and activities remain focused on our stated purpose.

Achievements and Performance

Context

Birch Hall Adventures occupies the site of a former dairy at Birch Hall Farm. The farm covers 400 acres comprising arable land, wooded areas and coastal saltmarshes. The centre benefits from the generosity of the farm partners in being able to access the farm and sea for activities in and around the centre.

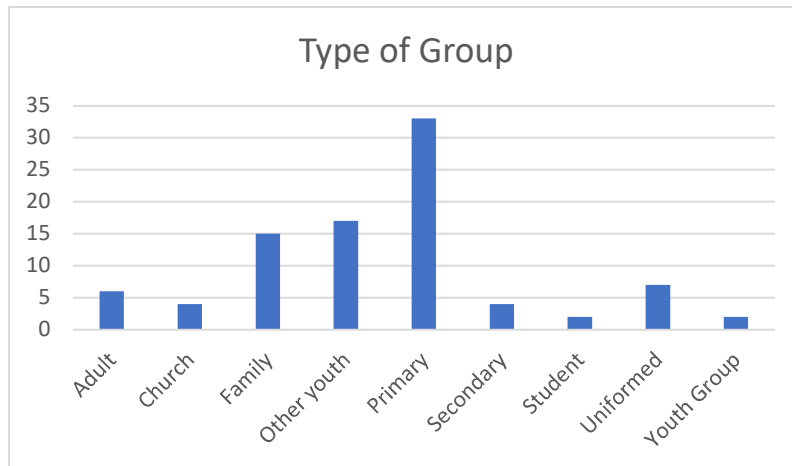
Visitors come from school groups both local to the centre and further afield, but the majority come from within the Tendring peninsula. Many local groups, such as scouts, guides, church youth groups and other organisations also make use of the centre. Traditionally most groups visited for the day, but now many schools will stay overnight and make use of either our bunkhouse or tents belonging to the centre. The opening of the bunkhouse during 2022 has made an impact on the length of the season, the shift from day to residential and the type of groups welcomed to the centre. The emphasis remains to encourage young people to grow through enjoyment of the outdoors as well as learning about themselves and abilities through teamwork and challenge. The Christian message underpins the work of the centre with Christian staff supporting visitors and participants and where appropriate getting visitors to consider life's deeper questions.

Overview of the year

The 2022 season saw an uptake in the number of residential groups although a drop in the total number of groups. In the previous year, 2021, we had seen an increase in day visits as schools were permitted to return to extracurricular visits hence a large number of groups. Many of these converted to residential visits at Birch Hall in the summer of 2022 which consequentially put pressure on the availability for day visits and we considered the possibility for another local site which might allow for day visits. Some of the schools that came as their first visit have resumed their previous residential commitment outside of the area, but several stayed with us.

	21-22	22-23
Groups	116	92
Children	4218	4779
Adults	1265	1178
Staff	452	681
Totals	5935	6638

Table of comparing visits between summer 2021 and summer 2022.



Distribution of groups in Summer 2022

Private weekend camping groups were ceased at the end of summer 2022 which will allow more time for instructors to have time to recover at weekends after intensive weekdays. The only weekend groups now will be church and youth groups with the intention to build this aspect of the centre's work in the quieter times of the year.

This year we have put the finishing touches to bunkhouse so that it is now a useable space. The bunkhouse accommodates up to 45 people in bedrooms with triple bunkbeds. The doors have been painted and the carpet tiles laid. The fire detection system has been installed as well as emergency lighting.

Summer Camps

This was the first year we ran four summer camps. One week was fully residential and one week had a sailing focus. Numbers for camp exceeded expectations with a waiting list for B camp and several late sign-ups for D camp based on feedback from earlier camps. Each camp provided opportunity for children to hear the bible explained and a time for questions in an informal and unpressurised setting. The camp team worked well and really enjoyed the time together fulfilling the main goal of the centre.

Staff Team

The Centre is managed by the Centre Director, Alex Phillips, who is supported by a part-time administrator, Naomi Lower. We have had a group of volunteers help us with some of our activities and several part time seasonal staff members on instruction. These have included Abby & Boo Phillips, Chris Smith, Jess Bryant and Ben Rowland. We are always so grateful for their hard work.

In January 2023, Alex Phillips finally took his sabbatical and spent 9 weeks in France, with plenty of opportunity to refresh and consider future plans for Birch Hall.

Thanks

In October, Sam announced that he would be returning to Scotland with his family as Lauren took up the job of Head of Housekeeping at Abernethy Centre. We recognise Sam's great contribution to Birch Hall over the years he has been with us, as volunteer, instructor and latterly Senior Instructor. We have been blessed by his time with us and the help provided by Lauren in the office in their early days and wish them and their girls well in this new venture in Scotland.

Alasdair Mackenzie stepped down as a trustee at the end of March. He has been a fantastic support to the centre with his wisdom and prayer. He and Linda have been stalwart marshals in the depths of the winter on our mud run and Alasdair an able helm in the Drascombes and climbing instructor. They are moving away to Suffolk to be closer to family and we wish Alasdair and Linda well and thank him for the many years of service at Birch Hall.

Income

This year the centre as almost entirely supported itself from earned income with a small (1.2%) contribution from donations. This is positive in one regard but the busyness of the centre this year has taken our eye off submitting bids and finding grant funding to help support activities and development. In previous years we have benefitted from grant funding and without it we either end up spending income on developing in the centre which would be better spend on staffing and running costs. It is good that the centre can support itself and encouraging that the income has again gone up and we are thankful for the schools that visit, but we are cognisant of the need to seek funding to help develop facilities and the range of activities on offer.

Financial planning

The trustees recognise the need for careful stewardship of limited funds but also the need to invest in a growing business. The financial health of the charity is reviewed on a regular basis and spending plans reflect the income available.

Plans for the development

- Completion of the meeting room, tech room and 'chill out' room.
- The high ropes course still needs some further remedial work to satisfy current safety standards and is currently out of use.
- Plans for addition of caving activity.

Public Benefit

The Centre is open to all people of all ages and benefits individuals, groups, staff volunteers and the local community in a wide range of ways. These include:

- Life skills
- Transferable employability skills
- Education – through school residentials, adventure activities, through Royal Yachting Association, and leadership & development training.
- Community links – with local primary schools, youth groups, sailing clubs and churches.
- Engagement with and work with the local wildlife reserves.
- Promotion & development of physical wellbeing.

Structure, Governance and Management Report of The Trustees

Governing Document

The Company was formed on 26 March 2014. The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as members. All members of the trustee board give their time voluntarily and receive no benefit from the charity.

There have been no changes to the trustee board this year. Every effort is made to ensure that we have a broad range of skills on the board, with training and support where appropriate. Members of the board volunteer and support the centre throughout the year in various forms.

Risk Management

A structured matrix of potential risks (Governance, Financial, External and Compliance) is in place, and regular review is maintained. The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that necessary steps can be taken to reduce those risks as necessary.

Organisation

The Directors/Trustees determine the general policy of the charity. The day-to-day management of the Centre is delegated to the staff team members led by the Centre Director. The Centre has a team of experienced instructors who deliver the various activity and residential programmes.

Financial Results

The results for the year to 31 March 2023 are set out on pages 9 to 12.

Resources

As stated, the funds are split between those held for restricted purposes and those available for the day-to-day requirements of the Centre.

Restricted Funds

Funds raised for specific purposes are disclosed in the notes and show balances held towards future expenditure. The Centre's assets are sufficient to meet its current obligations. Additional, fund-raising efforts are being made to support the core costs of the centre as well as towards the funding of future projects.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Company law requires the directors/trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those accounts the trustees are required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3. Prepare the Accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

This report and the accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the board on 14/10/2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Revd Mark Holdaway

Chairman

Independent Examiner's report to the charity trustees of Birch Hall Adventures

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31st March 2023, which are set out on pages 9 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees (and 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. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

- 1) That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
- 2) That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
- 3) That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice CCNI ARR07 – supporting document 7 August 2016 applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
- 4) That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

John Lower

Name: John Lower

Relevant professional qualification if any: *FCA (Retired)*

Address: *91, Chesherton Avenue, Hempsden, Herts* *ALS SST*

Date: *1 December 2023*

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ending 31st March 2023

Accounts April 2022 - March 2023

Income and Expenditure Account for year ended 31 March 2023

	2022/23	2021/22
INCOME		
Group Income	141,922	95,713
Restricted donations	0	4,052
Unrestricted donations	1,785	14,146
Total Income	<u>143,707</u>	<u>113,911</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Activity Costs	6,576	11,764
Centre Costs	12,393	5,429
Catering Costs	10,355	
Equipment	5,142	3,951
Marketing	542	564
Office Costs	7,734	7,128
Salaries	86,497	62,600
Training	523	1,477
Depreciation	12,926	8,672
Total Expenditure	<u>142,687</u>	<u>101,585</u>
Surplus for year	<u>1,020</u>	<u>12,326</u>
Movements in Funds		
Unrestricted Funds at beginning of year	70,980	58,654
Add: Surplus for the year	1,020	12,326
Unrestricted Funds at end of year	<u>72,000</u>	<u>70,980</u>

Balance Sheet

As at 31st March 2023

	31/03/2023	31/03/2022
Fixed Assets		
Fixed Assets-Cost	91,852	69,679
Less: Depreciation	(22,604)	(9,678)
Net Fixed Assets	<u>69,248</u>	<u>60,001</u>
Current assets		
Cash at Bank	7,442	12,326
Debtors	0	0
	<u>7,442</u>	<u>12,326</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(818)	0
Net Current Assets	<u>6,624</u>	<u>12,326</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>75,872</u>	<u>72,327</u>
Represented by:		
Funds/Reserves		
Unrestricted funds	72,000	70,980
Restricted funds	872	1,347
Trustee loan	3,000	0
Total reserves	<u>75,872</u>	<u>72,327</u>

In approving these financial statements as directors of the company, we hereby confirm:

- i. that for the period in question the company was entitled to the exemption conferred by section 249a(1) of the Companies Act 1985,
- ii. that no notice has been deposited at the registered office of the company pursuant to section 249b(2) requesting that an audit be conducted for the year ended 31st March 2021,
- iii. that we acknowledge our responsibilities for:
 - a. ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 221, and
 - b. preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial period and of its profit for the period then ended and which otherwise comply with the provisions of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.
- iv. the directors have taken advantage of certain exemptions from disclosure conferred by Schedule 8, Companies Act 1985, on the grounds that the company is a small company as defined in that Act.

Notes to financial statements

Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2005 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in March 2005.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Incoming resources

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the conditions for receipt are met and there is a reasonable assurance of receipt. It comprises donations, fees and charges excluding VAT. The following accounting policies are applied to income:

Fees and similar income

Fees receivable are accounted for in the period in which they are received.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on a payments and receipts basis. Expenditure is allocated to expense headings either directly or apportioned according to time spent.

Charitable Activities comprises all expenditure directly related to the objects of the centre.

The Centre is not registered for Value Added Tax.

Journals/Analysis

Fixed Assets & Depreciation

Fixed Assets	at 1/4/22	additions during year	at 31/3/23	
Bunkhouse	42,579.53	11,862.12	54,441.65	
Other	27,099.27	10,311.06	37,410.33	includes £2k for Ford pickup in 22/23
	<u>69,678.80</u>	<u>22,173.18</u>	<u>91,851.98</u>	
Depreciation	at 1/4/22	depreciation for year	at 31/3/23	
Bunkhouse	4,257.95	5,444.17	9,702.12	at 10% pa on balance at year end
Other	5,419.85	7,482.07	12,901.92	at 20% pa on balance at year end
	<u>9,677.80</u>	<u>12,926.23</u>	<u>22,604.03</u>	
Net Fixed Assets at 31/3/23	60,001.00		69,247.95	

Movement in Restricted funds

Restricted Funds	at 1/4/22	additions	utilised	at 31/3/23	Notes
Tesco Groundworks	475.00	0.00	475.00	0.00	Utilised in purchase of equipment
Tendring District Council	872.00	0.00	0.00	872.00	
Total	1,347.00	0.00	475.00	872.00	

Trustee Loan received during the year of £3,000 will be repaid over 1 years at the rate of 0% pa, commencing on 30th Apr 2023

Creditor at year end-money owed for equipment to Cotswold Outdoors repaid on 1/6/23 of £818.40. Utilised in purchase of equipment

Current assets	At 1/4/22	At 31/3/23
Current Assets-CAFBank	12,106.58	4,469.82
Current Assets-Paypal	219.75	2,922.74
Current Assets-Petty Cash		49.89
	<u>12,326.33</u>	<u>7,442.45</u>

There was a petty cash balance of £181.32 at 31/3/2022 excluded from last year's accounts. Thus reduce centre costs in accounts to 31/3/2023 by this sum

Movement in Unrestricted Funds

Balance at beginning of year	70,980.33
Add: Surplus for the year	1,019.67
Balance at end of year	72,000.00

BIRCH HALL ADVENTURES

England & Wales - Charity number 1160251

Accounts

Registration Number 8961426

Birch Hall Adventures

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Financial Statements

For the Period to Year End 31st March 2022

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Report of the Trustees

The trustees, who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the consolidated financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practices (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities'.

Company Details

Birch Hall Adventures
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Company Registration Number 8961426
Charity Registration Number 1160251
For the Period to Year End 31st March 2022

Trustees

Revd Mark Holdaway (Chairman)
Dr Alasdair MacKenzie
Mr Guy Main
Mr Richard Myers
Mr Nicholas Singleton
Revd Andrew Winter

Company Secretary

Mr Jordan Alex Phillips

Address (Registered Office)

Birch Hall Adventures
Birch Hall
Kirby-le-socken
Frinton-on-sea
Essex
CO13 0EL
UK

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner

Ms Emma Baker ACA
The Cottage
Ickleton Road
Elmdon
Essex CB11 4LT

Objects of the Charity

1. to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the statement of beliefs appearing in the schedule hereto in the United Kingdom or elsewhere as the trustees may from time to time think fit.
2. to advance education, including in the areas of outdoor pursuits, environmental studies, sport, music, arts and crafts, by such means as the trustees may consider appropriate in the United Kingdom or elsewhere as the trustees may from time to time think fit.
3. to provide facilities for recreation, sport or other leisure time occupation in the interest of social welfare for persons who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social and economic circumstances with the object of improving the conditions of life for such persons in the United Kingdom or elsewhere as the trustees may from time-to-time think fit.

Ensuring our work delivers its aims

We review our aims, objectives and activities each year. The review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work in the previous 12 months. This on-going process reviews our key strategies for the charity, the benefits it has brought to the groups, individuals, local community and people we work with. The review also helps to ensure our aims, objectives and activities remain focused on our stated purpose.

Achievements and Performance

Context

Birch Hall Adventures occupies the site of a former dairy at Birch Hall Farm. The farm covers 400 acres comprising arable land, wooded areas and coastal saltmarshes. The centre benefits from the generosity of the farmer in being able to access the farm and sea for activities in and around the centre.

Visitors come from school groups both local to the centre and further afield; one group travels from Surrey for a residential trip. Many local groups, such as scouts, guides, church youth groups and other organisations also make use of the centre. Many groups visit for the day, but some stay longer either in our bunkhouse or their own tents or hiring tents belonging to the centre. The emphasis of the centre is to encourage young people to grow through enjoyment of the outdoors as well as learning about themselves and abilities through teamwork and challenge. The Christian message underpins the work of the centre with Christian staff supporting visitors and participants and where appropriate getting visitors to consider life's deeper questions.

Overview of the year

Whilst this year has been challenging for so many other outdoor centres, our experience has been quite a positive one. The pandemic has meant that some schools have cancelled their residential, others have been nervous to operate too far from home. Families have sought to holiday in this country and many have chosen to camp. As a result of some of these changes, Birch Hall Adventures presented itself as a perfect venue & location. Many local schools, some of which have not used us previously, decided to use our centre for their Year 6 residentials enabling them to have choice about what they could do with the restrictions that they were under. Many opted for long days (and no overnight stays), some enjoyed the fact that they didn't need to take long coach journeys to the other side of the country, whilst others enjoyed being able to offer their children the option of staying over. Camping groups were very pleased to be able to return and we saw a rise in the number of churches that were wanting time away after not being able to meet for so long. One church who sought us out, is from the East end of London.

On behalf of Active Essex, we ran two 4-day Easter Camps, for low-income families as part of their Activate Programme. In the summer, we ran three adventure camps; 2 multi activity and one shorter one which had a sailing focus. These were again a huge success with over 100 children attending.

We have continued to run our Home Educators programme, providing families with an opportunity to learn different topics and completing their time with us doing an activity. December saw the return of our Christmas family trail. This was a great success, given the different pandemic restrictions, as it allowed families to meet, in the outdoors, at a significant time of the year.

This year we have put the finishing touches to bunkhouse so that it is now a useable space. The bunkhouse accommodates up to 45 people in bedrooms with triple bunkbeds. The doors have been painted and the carpet tiles laid. In addition, work has begun on our accessible toilet/shower facility. Work continues! The larger of the two kitchens has had some attention. The room has been painted throughout and lino replaced. It is now a useable, functional space and was recently awarded a 5* rating for its food hygiene. Our onsite caravan has had a good tidy/clean and made a more inviting space. We hope that for this season at least, it will be a space for the seasonal instructors to retreat to during their working day.

Due to the closure of another outdoor centre, we were able to receive 12 kayaks and 2 orange rigiflex boats and engines; this will enable us to develop our water-sport's offering.

Birch Hall Adventures is nestled on the Birch Hall Farm. It is with great sadness that we write that Bridgette Fleming, the farm owner has passed away in March 2022. Her support of Birch Hall Adventures has been instrumental in the establishment of the centre and she will be missed. The family are dealing with the division of the estate which may have future implications for Birch Hall Adventures.

Staff Team

The Centre is managed by the Centre Director, Alex Phillips, who is supported by a part-time administrator, Naomi Lower. During this year we appointed a part time Senior Instructor, Sam Puttick who has skills in outdoor instruction as well as carpentry/ facilities management. We have had a group of volunteers help us with some of our activities and several part time seasonal staff members on instruction. These have included Abby & Boo Phillips, Chris Smith and Erin Robinson. We are always so grateful for their hard work.

Booking Analysis

	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
Number Groups	171	15	94	147	143	105	65
Number Participants	5648	495	4430	4364	3141	2386	999
Number Adults	527	361	585	658	647	466	153
Total Visits	6175	856	5015	5022	3788	2852	1152

Income

Most of the centre income (64%) comes from visiting groups with 36% coming from donations and government support. After a very uncertain year in 2020 with Covid determining the level of activity of the centre it was very encouraging to come back so strongly. This in part was due to the increase in local schools who were not able to travel to other centres or had had other bookings cancelled. In addition, many of these schools who have now 'discovered' Birch Hall have already booked to return in 2022 also deciding to opt for a residential stay. The centre is particularly thankful to those donors that make regular contributions and those who have supported the events run throughout the year.

Financial planning

The trustees recognise the need for careful stewardship of limited funds but also the need to invest in a growing business. The financial health of the charity is reviewed on a regular basis and spending plans reflect the income available.

Plans for the Future Period

- Installation of fire safety systems booked in for April 2022 and heating.
- Ongoing decoration work will continue in the changing room, other centre buildings and the climbing barn.
- The high ropes course needs some further remedial work to satisfy current safety standards and is currently out of use.

Public Benefit

The Centre is open to all people of all ages and benefits individuals, groups, staff volunteers and the local community in a wide range of ways. These include:

- Life skills
- Transferable employability skills
- Education – through school residentials, adventure activities, through Royal Yachting Association, and leadership & development training.
- Community links – with local primary schools, youth groups, sailing clubs and churches.
- Engagement with and work with the local wildlife reserves.
- Promotion & development of physical wellbeing.

Structure, Governance and Management Report of The Trustees

Governing Document

The Company was formed on 26 March 2014. The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as members. All members of the trustee board give their time voluntarily and receive no benefit from the charity. There have been no changes to the trustee board this year. Every effort is made to ensure that we have a broad range of skills on the board, with training and support where appropriate. Members of the board volunteer and support the centre throughout the year in various forms.

Risk Management

A structured matrix of potential risks (Governance, Financial, External and Compliance) is in place, and regular review is maintained. The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that necessary steps can be taken to reduce those risks as necessary.

Organisation

The Directors/Trustees determine the general policy of the charity. The day-to-day management of the Centre is delegated to the staff team members led by the Centre Director. The Centre has a team of experienced instructors who deliver the various activity and residential programmes.

Financial Results

The results for the year to 31 March 2022 are set out on pages 9 to 11.

Resources

As stated, the funds are split between those held for restricted purposes and those available for the day-to-day requirements of the Centre.

Restricted Funds

Funds raised for specific purposes are disclosed in the notes and show balances held towards future expenditure. The Centre's assets are sufficient to meet its current obligations. Additional, fund-raising efforts are being made to support the core costs of the centre as well as towards the funding of future projects.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Company law requires the directors/trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those accounts the trustees are required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3. Prepare the Accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

This report and the accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the board on 27/9/2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Revd Mark Holdaway

Chairman

Independent Examiner's report to the charity trustees of Birch Hall Adventures

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31st March 2022, which are set out on pages 9 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees (and 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. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report


I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

- 1) That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
- 2) That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
- 3) That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice CCNI ARR07 – supporting document 7 August 2016 applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
- 4) That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



31st JANUARY 2023

Name: Emma Baker

Relevant professional qualification if any: ACA

Address: The Cottage, Ickleton Road, Elmdon, Essex, CB11 4LT

Date: 31/1/2023

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ending 31st March 2022

Accounts April 2021 - March 2022

Expenditure	21/22	20/21
Activity Costs	-£11,763	-£2,912
Centre Costs	-£5,246	-£3,070
Equipment	-£3,951	-£2,739
Instruction	-£12,053	-£277
Marketing	-£564	-£151
Office Costs	-£7,128	-£2,731
Salaries	-£50,547	-£30,559
Staff Costs	-£183	-£108
Training	-£1,477	-£776
Depreciation	-£8,672	£0
Total Expenditure	-£101,585	-£43,324

Income		
Group Income	£95,194	£17,928
Hire Income	£520	£0
Restricted Donation	£4,052	£21,349
Unrestricted Donation	£14,146	£44,357
Total Income	£113,911	£83,634

Net change	£12,326	£40,310
Opening Balance	£60,001	£20,695
Closing balance	£72,327	£61,005

Balance Sheet

As at 31st March 2022

	2022	2021
Fixed Assets	60001	50028
Current Assets	12326	10978
Pre-payment and accrued income	0	0
Creditors: amounts falling within one year	0	0
Net current Assets (liabilities)	12326	10978
Total assets less current liabilities	72327	61005
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		
Provisions for liabilities		
Accruals and deferred income		
Total net assets	72327	61005
Funds		
Unrestricted	70980	59685
Restricted	1347	1320
Reserves	72327	61005

In approving these financial statements as directors of the company, we hereby confirm:

- i. that for the period in question the company was entitled to the exemption conferred by section 249a(1) of the Companies Act 1985,
- ii. that no notice has been deposited at the registered office of the company pursuant to section 249b(2) requesting that an audit be conducted for the year ended 31st March 2021,
- iii. that we acknowledge our responsibilities for:
 - a. ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 221, and
 - b. preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial period and of its profit for the period then ended and which otherwise comply with the provisions of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.
- iv. the directors have taken advantage of certain exemptions from disclosure conferred by Schedule 8, Companies Act 1985, on the grounds that the company is a small company as defined in that Act.

Notes to financial statements

Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2005 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in March 2005.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Incoming resources

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the conditions for receipt are met and there is a reasonable assurance of receipt. It comprises donations, fees and charges excluding VAT. The following accounting policies are applied to income:

Fees and similar income

Fees receivable are accounted for in the period in which they are received.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on a payments and receipts basis. Expenditure is allocated to expense headings either directly or apportioned according to time spent.

Charitable Activities comprises all expenditure directly related to the objects of the centre.

The Centre is not registered for Value Added Tax.

Fixed Assets

Capital		2022		2021
As at 1st April		50028		15633
Additions	<i>bunkhouse/climbing barn/high ropes</i>	9973	<i>bunkhouse, boat engines, climbing wall, crash mats</i>	34395
As at 31st March		60001		50028

Movement in Restricted funds

Fund	Expenditure	Opening balance	Closing balance	Notes
Tesco Groundworks	-525	1000	475	<i>nature area development</i>
Sport England	-1250	1250	0	<i>final payment for climbing wall</i>
TDC	-929	1801	872	<i>covid workspace</i>
Duke of Edinburgh	-1367	1320	0	<i>partial repayment of grant</i>
Total		5371	1347	

BIRCH HALL ADVENTURES

England & Wales - Charity number 1160251

Accounts

Registration Number 8961426

Birch Hall Adventures

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Financial Statements

For the Period to Year End 31st March 2021

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Report of the Trustees

The trustees, who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the consolidated financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practices (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities'.

Company Details

Birch Hall Adventures
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Company Registration Number 8961426
Charity Registration Number 1160251
For the Period to Year End 31st March 2021

Trustees

Miss Sara Haines (resigned Nov 2020)
Revd Mark Holdaway (Chairman)
Dr Alasdair MacKenzie
Mr Guy Main
Mr Richard Myers
Mr Nicholas Singleton
Revd Andrew Winter

Company Secretary

Mr Jordan Alex Phillips

Address (Registered Office)

Birch Hall Adventures
Birch Hall
Kirby-le-socken
Frinton-on-sea
Essex
CO13 0EL
UK

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner

Ms Emma Baker ACA
The Cottage
Ickleton Road
Elmdon
Essex CB11 4LT

Objects of the Charity

1. to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the statement of beliefs appearing in the schedule hereto in the United Kingdom or elsewhere as the trustees may from time to time think fit.
2. to advance education, including in the areas of outdoor pursuits, environmental studies, sport, music, arts and crafts, by such means as the trustees may consider appropriate in the United Kingdom or elsewhere as the trustees may from time to time think fit.
3. to provide facilities for recreation, sport or other leisure time occupation in the interest of social welfare for persons who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social and economic circumstances with the object of improving the conditions of life for such persons in the United Kingdom or elsewhere as the trustees may from time-to-time think fit.

Ensuring our work delivers its aims

We review our aims, objectives and activities each year. The review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work in the previous 12 months. This on-going process reviews our key strategies for the charity, the benefits it has brought to the groups, individuals, local community and people we work with. The review also helps to ensure our aims, objectives and activities remain focused on our stated purpose.

Achievements and Performance

Context

Birch Hall Adventures occupies the site of a former dairy at Birch Hall Farm. The farm covers 400 acres comprising arable land, wooded areas and coastal saltmarshes. The centre benefits from the generosity of the farmer in being able to access the farm and sea for activities in and around the centre.

Visitors come from school groups both local to the centre and further afield; one group travels from Surrey for a residential trip. Many local groups, such as scouts, guides, church youth groups and other organisation also make use of the centre. Most groups visit for the day, but some stay longer either in their own tents or hiring those belonging to the centre. The emphasis of the centre is to encourage young people to grow through enjoyment of the outdoors as well as learning about themselves and abilities through teamwork and challenge. The Christian message underpins the work of the centre with Christian staff supporting visitors and participants and where appropriate getting visitors to consider life's deeper questions.

Overview of the year

The ongoing effect of the coronavirus pandemic continued to affect the working of the centre. We were unaware at the start of the financial year how things would develop and how the centre would be able to respond. As the year started, we agreed that, in line with schools, we would close to business, but with some hope that we might be able to open again before the end of the summer. How little we knew at that point how things would turn out: one school group in the year (in October) and several families camping during the summer, but without the normal activity provision. No schools or summer camps between April and October. As Christmas approached, we were able to offer a family adventure trail, outdoors of course and in family bubbles of six, which proved really successful and led to a repeat in 2021.

Not all was disappointing, however. We had in the early spring of 2020 decided to start work on the bunkhouse and now had our opportunity to work on it full time. With students being sent home from university and employees furloughed both Toby and Jacob Phillips, Jacob's friend Pura, were all available and eager to get to work on the bunkhouse. We received financial support from Tendring District Council as a hospitality business, initially to the tune of £25,000, but later more support came in. We applied successfully and received grants from Essex Community Foundation, Sport England and All Churches Trust and a received a gift from a private individual which enabled us to buy materials and carry on the work as a family 'bubble' of labourers, saving thousands of pounds on outside labour and with time to continue the work during the summer months.

Staff Team

The Centre is managed by the Centre Director, Alex Phillips, who is supported by a part-time administrator, Naomi Lower. During this year we benefitted from volunteer labour from several Phillips' children and in the autumn when universities and schools for a short period returned to teaching, we were joined by Sophie Hawes. Later in the winter, Chris Smith and Abby Phillips (on her 'Lockdown' gap year) joined our little work party.

Booking Analysis

The covid effect clearly limited the numbers of groups and visitors during the year. Schools were advised by local authorities not to make visits and this advice was only withdrawn in September 2020.

	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
Number Groups	15	94	147	143	105	65
Number Participants	495	4430	4364	3141	2386	999
Number Adults	361	585	658	647	466	153
Total Visits	856	5015	5022	3788	2852	1152

Income

In a reversal of previous years, only 21% of income was received from centre operations and 79% from donations and fundraising activities; 50% of total income came from Tendring District Council as Covid business grants. The centre is particularly thankful to those donors that make regular contributions and those who have supported the events run throughout the year.

Financial planning

The trustees recognise the need for careful stewardship of limited funds but also the need to invest in a growing business. The financial health of the charity is reviewed on a regular basis and spending plans reflect the income available.

Plans for the Future Period

- There are still aspects of the bunkhouse work that need completion, including the installation of fire safety systems and heating.
- Ongoing decoration work will continue in the changing room, other centre buildings and the climbing barn.
- The high ropes course needs some significant remedial work to satisfy current safety standards and is currently out of use.

Public Benefit

The Centre is open to all people of all ages and benefits individuals, groups, staff volunteers and the local community in a wide range of ways. These include:

- Life skills
- Transferable employability skills
- Education – through school residentials, adventure activities, through Royal Yachting Association, and leadership & development training.
- Community links – with local primary schools, youth groups, sailing clubs and churches.
- Engagement with and work with the local wildlife reserves.
- Promotion & development of physical wellbeing.

Structure, Governance and Management Report of The Trustees

Governing Document

The Company was formed on 26 March 2014. The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as members. All members of the trustee board give their time voluntarily and receive no benefit from the charity. There have been no changes to the trustee board this year. Every effort is made to ensure that we have a broad range of skills on the board, with training and support where appropriate. Members of the board volunteer and support the centre throughout the year in various forms.

Risk Management

A structured matrix of potential risks (Governance, Financial, External and Compliance) is in place, and regular review is maintained. In 2016 the trustees, took the services of PHAROS, providers of risk management services to assist with disaster planning. The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that necessary steps can be taken to reduce those risks as necessary.

Organisation

The Directors/Trustees determine the general policy of the charity. The day-to-day management of the Centre is delegated to the staff team members led by the Centre Director. The Centre has a team of experienced instructors who deliver the various activity and residential programmes.

Financial Results

The results for the year to 31 March 2021 are set out on pages 9 to 10.

Resources

As stated, the funds are split between those held for restricted purposes and those available for the day-to-day requirements of the Centre.

Restricted Funds

Funds raised for specific purposes are disclosed in the notes and show balances held towards future expenditure. The Centre's assets are sufficient to meet its current obligations. However, the COVID-19 crisis presents ongoing challenges to the viability of the centre and trustees are aware of the demand that this places on the staff team. Additional, fund raising efforts are being made to support the core costs of the centre as well as towards the completion of the bunkhouse.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Company law requires the directors/trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those accounts the trustees are required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3. Prepare the Accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

This report and the accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the board on 19/10/2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Revd Mark Holdaway

Chairman

Independent Examiner's report to the charity trustees of Birch Hall Adventures

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31st March 2021, which are set out on pages 9 to 10

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees (and 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. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

- 1) That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
- 2) That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
- 3) That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice CCNI ARR07 – supporting document 7 August 2016 applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
- 4) That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: Emma Baker

Relevant professional qualification if any: ACA

Address: The Cottage, Ickleton Road, Elmdon, Essex, CB11 4LT

Date: 31/1/2022



31ST JANUARY 2022

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ending 31st March 2021

Accounts April 2020- March 2021

Expenditure	20/21	19/20
Activity Costs	-£2,912	-£11,328
Centre Costs	-£3,070	-£6,945
Equipment	-£2,739	-£5,820
Instruction	-£277	-£8,534
Marketing	-£151	-£815
Office Costs	-£2,731	-£5,942
Salaries	-£30,559	-£26,224
Staff Costs	-£108	-£950
Training	-£776	-£480
Loss on disposal of assets	0	-1275
Total Expenditure	-£43,324	-£68,313

Income		
Group Income	£17,928	£60,398
Hire Income	£0	£1,440
Restricted Donation	£21,349	£3,600
Unrestricted Donation	£44,357	£3,000
Total Income	£83,634	£68,438

Net change	£40,310	£125
Opening Balance	£20,695	£20,571
Closing balance	£61,005	£20,695

Balance Sheet

As at 31st March 2021

	2021	2020
Fixed Assets	50028	15633
Current Assets	10978	5062
Pre-payment and accrued income	0	0
Creditors: amounts falling within one year	0	0
Net current Assets (liabilities)	10978	5062
Total assets less current liabilities	61005	20695
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		
Provisions for liabilities		
Accruals and deferred income		
Total net assets	61005	20695
Funds		
Unrestricted	59685	17695
Restricted	1320	3000
Reserves*	61005	20695

In approving these financial statements as directors of the company, we hereby confirm:

- i. that for the period in question the company was entitled to the exemption conferred by section 249a(1) of the Companies Act 1985,
- ii. that no notice has been deposited at the registered office of the company pursuant to section 249b(2) requesting that an audit be conducted for the year ended 31st March 2021,
- iii. that we acknowledge our responsibilities for:
 - a. ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 221, and
 - b. preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial period and of its profit for the period then ended and which otherwise comply with the provisions of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.
- iv. the directors have taken advantage of certain exemptions from disclosure conferred by Schedule 8, Companies Act 1985, on the grounds that the company is a small company as defined in that Act.

Notes to financial statements

Accounting Policies

a. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2005 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in March 2005.

b. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

c. Incoming resources

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the conditions for receipt are met and there is a reasonable assurance of receipt. It comprises donations, fees and charges excluding VAT. The following accounting policies are applied to income:

Fees and similar income

Fees receivable are accounted for in the period in which they are received.

d. Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on a payments and receipts basis. Expenditure is allocated to expense headings either directly or apportioned according to time spent.

Charitable Activities comprises all expenditure directly related to the objects of the centre.

The Centre is not registered for Value Added Tax.

Fixed Assets

Capital	2021	2020
As at 1st April 2020	15633	12646
Additions	<i>bunkhouse, boat engines, climbing wall, crash mats</i>	<i>Bunkhouse development, optimists, rescue boat, bunks</i>
Losses		<i>Theft of boat & engines less insurance claim</i>
As at 31st March 2021	50028	15633

Movement in Restricted funds

Restricted Funds		2021	2020
As at 1st April 2020		3000	0
Received	<i>Bunkhouse</i>	16624	<i>Donation to bunkhouse project</i> 3000
	<i>DofE</i>	3725	
	<i>Deo Gloria</i>	1000	
Spent	<i>Bunkhouse</i>	19624	0
	<i>DofE</i>	2405	
	<i>Deo Gloria</i>	1000	
As at 31st March 2021		1320	3000

Restricted donations and grants were received during the year and used as follows:

- £3000 from 20-21 was for use in the bunkhouse and was used for this purpose.
- £16624 was received in grants for the building work which has been spent on building projects.
- £3725 was given by the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme towards the set-up of the award scheme, £1320 remains in reserve.
- The Deo Gloria Trust gave £1000 to support family activity days and this was put towards the running of our "Follow the Star" family nativity event.