

**STAFFORD AND DISTRICT RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
INCORPORATING CARRIAGE DRIVING**

TRUSTEES REPORT YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

C. I. O. Registration number 1161500

Registered Office

Yew Tree Farm, Doley Gate, Stafford, Staffordshire, ST20 0EH

Structure, Governance and Management

The RDA is a Registered Charity and is generally governed by the rules and regulations of the Charity Commissioners. The Trust also has its own constitution, the decisions and responsibilities of which are taken by non-paid Trustees.

The Trustees meet at a formal meeting, on average once a month. Trustees are usually appointed at the Annual General Meeting, but recently the increased number of changes has meant appointments have been made more frequently.

Objectives, activities and public benefit

To promote the objects of the Riding for the Disabled Association Incorporating Carriage Driving (the association) a charity registered with the Charity Commission (number 244108) by providing disabled people with the opportunity to ride horses to benefit their health and wellbeing in the Stafford and District area.

The Trustees have reviewed the Charity Commission's guidance to report on public benefit and the Charity's aims and objects are consistent with this guidance. All the activities undertaken during the year were for public benefit.

Achievements, performance and looking ahead

The Trust has provided and aims to ensure continued provision of riding for those with disabilities within Stafford and District who would benefit from it.

Policies on reserves

Restricted Funds	
Heather Kesson Legacy to be used for capital projects only	£20,000
Unrestricted Funds	
Three years running costs based on average annual expenditure of £20,000 less income from ride fees £9,500 = £10,500 x 3	£31,500
Reserves to be spent at Trustees discretion in line with the aims and objectives of the charity	£42,095
Total Reserves held as at 31 March 2024	£93,595

Scope, Definitions and Purpose

The Trustees have reviewed the Groups need for reserves in line with guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

The Group needs reserves in order to: -

1. Ensure there are sufficient cash reserves in the current account to cover day to day running costs
2. Ensure continuity of service provision by covering running costs during periods of lower income following falls in donations and fundraising
3. Replace equipment as it wears out

In calculating these amounts, the Trustees assume the following: -

- The current horse hire rate will not be subject to change in the next twelve months
- Riders will be charged fees which will be reviewed on a regular basis

Policy Aims

In light of the scope, definitions and purpose, the Trustees aim to maintain reserves consisting of: -

- Reserves to cover 3 years running costs - Total expenditure less ride fees received.
- General contingency reserves to cover costs of replacement equipment, competition expenses and unforeseen maintenance costs of building.

The Trustees believe that this level of reserves is prudent and necessary to ensure that the Group can run efficiently and meet future needs.

The Trustees will monitor the actual level of reserves and compare with the target level no less than once a year (at the financial year end).

The Group has restricted funds of £20,000, all other cash balances can be considered part of reserves.

In the event of the reserves falling significantly below the target level, the Trustees will aim to restore the reserves as soon as possible by increasing fundraising and possibly, increasing ride fees. Similarly, if reserves are significantly above the target level, the Trustees will put in place a plan as soon as possible, aiming to eliminate the excess within 3 years by spending money to enhance the quality of the riding provision, or otherwise further the aims of the Group.

The Trustees will not, however, take any steps that might call into question the ability of the Group to continue as a financially viable operation in the long term.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed and approved annually by the Trustees of Stafford & District Riding for the Disabled Association.

Risk management

The Trustees understand their responsibility for monitoring and controlling the financial and operational risks to which the charity is exposed to.

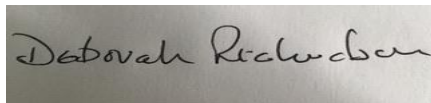
Statement of Trustees responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at the time the financial position of the charity to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

TRUSTEE MEMBERS AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

Chair	Mrs Fiona Round
Secretary	Ms Blythe Brewer
Treasurer	Ms Deborah Richardson
Trustee	Mr C Douglas Smith
Trustee	Mrs Susan Moore
Trustee	Mrs Maxine Connelly
Trustee	Mrs Charlotte Pitt
Trustee	Ms Jane Tinniswood
Trustee	Ms Tina Pemberton (Resigned)

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in dark ink. The signature appears to read "Deborah Richardson" in a cursive script.

Mrs Deborah Richardson

Date 28th September 2024

Treasurer

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF STAFFORD & DISTRICT
RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION INCORPORATING CARRIAGE DRIVING FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
 - have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Anna Richards (ACA FCCA)
Richards Associates Limited
Chartered Accountants
Hawkesyard, Armitage Lane
Rugeley
Staffordshire, WS15 1PS

Stafford and District Riding for the Disabled Association Incorporating Carriage Driving
Charity Number 1161500
Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Receipts		
Ride fees	5,284	4,701
Donations	1,028	6,236
Interest	265	105
Refunds	241	5
Interest others	720	312
Total receipts	7,538	11,359
Payments		
Horse Hire	9,159	10,937
Equipment	2,049	568
Prizes, awards and presents	256	103
AGM/helpers supper	447	309
First Aid courses	346	84
County Show	637	-
Competitions	1,467	-
Insurance	1,010	985
Legal and professional	240	2,696
Admin Expenses	344	750
Volunteers	-	23
Total expenditure	15,955	16,455
Excess payments over receipts	(8,417)	(5,096)
Funds brought forward	102,012	107,108
	93,595	102,012

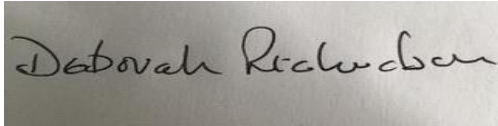
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Cash at Bank 31st March 2024

Current account	1,162	1,111
Deposit account	20,321	29,257
Scottish Widows	21,453	21,156
NS&I Income Bond	8,000	8,000
Virgin Money	42,659	42,488
	93,595	102,012

The notes on page 7 form part of the financial statements.

Approved by the board on 26th September 2024 and signed on their behalf by Deborah Richardson (Treasurer).

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INCORPORATING CARRIAGE DRIVING**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared using Receipts and Payments method, and in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

2. Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, as the numbers of interested users of the charity's facilities remain constant.

3. Status

Stafford & District Riding for the Disabled adopted Charitable Incorporated Organisation status from 1 April 2016.

4. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without any specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Restricted funds are to be used for the specific purpose as laid down by the donor and referred to in the trustees report.