



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
	Day 1st	Month January	Year 2023		Day 31st	Month December	Year 2023
From				To			

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name	Friends of Golcar Library
Other names charity is known by	FoGL
Registered charity number (if any)	1162979
Charity's principal address	Golcar Library, 12 Town End, Golcar
	Huddersfield
	West Yorkshire
Postcode	HD7 4QD

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Karen Armitage	Chair	22 nd March, 2023	FoGL Annual Meeting
2	John Chappell	Minutes and Membership Secretary		FoGL Annual Meeting
3	Jeremy Cuss	Project and Fundraising Officer		FoGL Annual Meeting
4	Sue Eaton	Events Organiser		FoGL Annual Meeting
5	Angela Sewell	Volunteer Organiser	22 nd March, 2023	FoGL Annual Meeting
6	Andrew Marchington	Treasurer and Social Media Officer		FoGL Annual Meeting
7	Hilary Richards	Committee Member		FoGL Annual Meeting
8	John Walker	Committee Member		FoGL Annual Meeting
9	Beverley Ingham	Committee Member	22 nd March, 2023	FoGL Annual Meeting
10				
11				
12				

The FoGL volunteers have continued to support library staff throughout this period and it has not been necessary for any volunteer only opening.

At the AGM the Chair – John Walker stood down from this role but wished to carry on as a Trustee. A new Chair Karen Armitage was appointed as well as two new Trustees - Angela Sewell and Beverley Ingham. Angela took on the role of Volunteer Co-Ordinator.

The Trustees have met approximately every 6 – 8 weeks throughout the year moving from Zoom to in person meetings held at the library.

Section B

Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	CIO
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	1/3 rd elected by the AGM every year after the first AGM at which all the trustees resign and are eligible for re-election.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

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

The Friends of Golcar Library group is run by a management committee, all of whom are trustees of the CIO. This committee meets, on average, every 6 – 8 weeks to decide how best to support the work of Golcar Library.

The work of the volunteers is co-ordinated by the volunteer co-ordinator - Angela Sewell taking on the role at the AGM.

Everyone (including trustees) who wishes to volunteer for work in the library is provided with a full induction package for this role and is supported by the Library's Customer Service Officer.

There is a network of library Friends groups across Kirklees. They are all independent but learn from and give support to each other as required.

New trustees are provided with a copy of the FoGL constitution the accounts and the annual report for the previous year.

When the group started in 2015 a business plan was developed and the possibility of an asset transfer of the building was considered. However, following a financial assessment of what would be needed to fund the operation of the library (including work and refurbishment of the integral flat) it was concluded, at the time, that the library could not be run independently without other fund-raising. Thankfully, Kirklees funding of the library continued, so no asset transfer was required. Nonetheless, the current financial constraints on Council budgets have again put library services in some jeopardy with the future being uncertain.

The flat within the library building could be a source of income however this would need major refurbishment and would not be sufficient to maintain the library. However, due to its potential finance generating element, the refurbishing of the flat might be something which needs to be revisited in the future.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To advance the education of the public in Kirklees, by operating and managing a lending library in Golcar with access to computer technology.

Nothing in this constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for the purposes which are not charitable.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

FoGL maintained its involvement in the running of the library by offering volunteer support to members of staff attending the library. Following the retirement of the library's well established Customer Service Officer, FoGL welcomed a new member of staff and supported their new ideas for development of the library.



You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The library is open 15 hours a week over 4 days with one member of staff accompanied by one volunteer. Our list of volunteers has remained extremely stable with many being a volunteer since the inception of FoGL, we have also had several new members joining the team as well as Duke of Edinburgh students helping as part of their community involvement.

There are regular activities and various groups who use the library (including outside of opening hours) these include: - a fortnightly walking group, ancestry, knit and natter, board games, jigsaws, story-time, lego as well as craft sessions. Some of these are led by library staff whilst others organised and supported by FoGL volunteers.

Kirklees Council has dedicated libraries as 'warm spaces' with Golcar library being utilised by older people as well as younger members of the community. FoGL has provided funding support for prizes for children taking part in activities over the Easter and Christmas period as well as purchasing a jigsaw 'folder' so any jigsaw started can be safely stored until the next session.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)



The garden continues to be developed, planting of more flowers has been undertaken, a hut erected and links established with Golcar Environment Group. Further plans for the garden are in the development stage incorporating suggestions by library users. Thanks to a local firm who donated some railway sleepers it is anticipated that a large planter can be made which will be at an accessible height for both young and old. FoGL have also supported this development work both financially and with manpower.

Following work by local primary school children, facilitated by library staff and FoGL volunteers, a mural has been erected to the rear of the library overlooking the garden. The 'big reveal' of this mural was undertaken by way of a Garden Party. This was very well attended by the local community with FoGL members providing support, information (composting) and activities - seed planting and crafts.



The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

The FoGL was set up from a Foundation meeting on December 6th 2014 and became a registered CIO with an approved constitution on August 4th 2015.

It was anticipated at that time that the new FoGL organisation would need to fundraise to take over the Golcar Library building and to run the library with volunteers only in 2017. Fortunately, the cuts to library provision were not as severe as anticipated and the threat of closure at that time was removed and the need to apply for an asset transfer no longer required. However, currently with financial constraints within the council's budget it is not clear how this will affect library services in the future.

Therefore, the future of the library continues to be under review however, Kirklees Council continues to meet the running costs of the library – including the computers and other IT equipment which are to be updated in the near future enabling library users easier access to the IT equipment.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

FoGL has continued to maintain its full range of support to the library throughout 2023. It publicises its presence both within the library but also on Facebook which is currently being reviewed and updated.

Historically we have had an excellent attendance at our Management Committee meetings and this has continued throughout 2023 gradually moving away from Zoom to in person.

All members of this committee are Trustees of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation that was set up and registered with the Charity Commissioners on August 4th 2015.

It is unclear how the current budgetary constraints of the Council will, as yet, affect library services.

It has not been necessary to have any volunteer only opening of the library but it may be something which we need to revisit in the future if budget constraints limited staff availability. However, only volunteers who have built up enough expertise and experience will be used should volunteer only opening be required.

We have a strong team in our Friends group, and we are confident that in co-operation with the Kirklees Library Service we will be able to face future challenges.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

There are no regular financial commitments at the present and hence no need for reserves. However, this may change in the future depending on the actions required by the Council to eliminate their current deficit.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

A small amount of fund raising (badge making) was undertaken at various events throughout the year. This has allowed FoGL to ensure various library initiatives were enhanced e.g prizes for children entering the Easter and Christmas 'art' competitions, jigsaw folder as well as supporting development of the garden.

Section F



Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Karen Margaret Armitage	John Chappell
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Secretary

Date

11/03/2024



Charity Name Friends of Golcar Library	No (if any) 1162979
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Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	1st January 2023	To	31st Dec 2023
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Badge Making	40	-	-	-	
	33	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	74	-	-	-	82
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	74	-	-	-	82
A3 Payments					
Easter Resources	145	-	-	145	
Garden Work		100	-	100	
Jigsaw Storage	28		-	28	
Rosources for Light Switch on	25	-	-	25	
Lego	31	-	-	31	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	229	100	-	329	60
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	229	100	-	329	60
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 156	- 100	-	-	
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	527	384	-	911	-
Cash funds this year end	371	284	-	655	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Account	296	284	-
	Cash in Hand	75		-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	371	284	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK


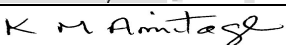
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Treasurer FoGL		Andrew Marchington	11th March 2024
Chair FoGL		Karen Armitage	11th March 2024