

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	1	10	2021		30	9	2022

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name

Friends of Rock Road Library

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

1166498

Charity's principal address

Rock Road Library

69 Rock Road

Cambridge

Postcode

CB1 7UG

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	Peter Axe	Deputy Chair		
2	James Berry	Treasurer		
3	Nigel Blackmore	Membership Officer		
4	Stephanie Boyd	Education lead		
5	Peter Chamberlain	Collection boxes		
6	Iain Cross			
7	Alec Dyson	Chair		
8	Brenda Purkiss	Arts & Culture lead		
10	Jill Trend	Meeting Secretary		
9				
10				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Banker	Lloyds Bank	76-80 Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge, CB1 7UH
Independent examiner	Adrian Burns	79 Hills Avenue, Cambridge, CB1 7UZ

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

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)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Trustees are appointed by the Board of Trustees and this is confirmed at the next Annual General Meeting

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.

--

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

The object of the charity is the advancement of education for the public benefit in the area served by Rock Road Library, in particular but not exclusively by:

- supporting and promoting library services;
- facilitating educational, cultural and community courses, events and exhibitions in both the library and its garden;
- fostering links to educational, cultural and community organisations.

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

The benefits to the public are:

- The availability of a local library which is well cared for and partly staffed by volunteers, and which without financial and practical support from the Friends of Rock Road Library might have been closed by now.
- An attractive community garden in an area without much public open space, which is safe and secure and particularly valued by families and children.
- The provision of a community room and kitchen, which is an ideal space for courses, events and exhibitions.

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)

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

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

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

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The financial year 2021-22 was the first for 3 years when Rock Road Library was fully open, following the lifting of COVID restrictions. Unfortunately, for most of the year interior library meeting spaces throughout Cambridgeshire were capped at 20% of normal occupancy, which meant that most of our events had to take place outdoors. As a result, the library gardens were even more appreciated than ever. The trustees decided to invest in a two-year planned programme for the gardens, planting trees and shrubs and creating a functional area with new compost bins and a shed full of tools. The garden has already shown improvement from the mulching (for two successive winters) with large quantities of mushroom compost - this has greatly improved the soil and will make the plants more resistant to our increasingly dry summers. A tree to mark the Platinum Jubilee, a *Sorbus pseudohupehensis* 'Pink Pagoda', has now been planted at the back of the garden, as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative. It has lovely autumn colour and stunning pink berries which we hope library visitors as well as the native wildlife will enjoy!

We commissioned Rowan – an art centre and charity for adults with learning difficulties - to produce a new notice board, which was installed next to the front entrance.

Two well attended events took place in the back garden during October 2021 – Apple Day, which was joyous for adults and children alike – and Halloween “Tricks and Treats”, which was dark and spooky with some amazing costumes.

We celebrated Christmas with a wreath-making workshop, followed by three decorated Christmas trees to brighten up the front of the library and an illuminated window display, part of the Rock Road Advent street calendar.

May 2022 was a busy month. Our annual Plant Sale and Kid's Fun was our most successful fund-raising event ever, generating £925. Also that month, the Friends' textile group created a stunning new wall hanging titled “Protect our Earth” which is now on display in the Cherry Hinton library.

Two very different events took place in June. The first was a popular coffee morning in the library garden to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The second was Green Queen Edith's: the introduction of a series of events in collaboration with the Queen Edith's Community Forum to explore what we can all do to reduce our impact on the climate. We opened a photographic exhibition in July by local resident Justin Perkins entitled “The Pandemic Paradox”. This showed the strangeness of the pandemic from a very different perspective with, for example, images of an empty Kings Cross station at what would normally have been rush hour and empty punts on the river Cam on a spring evening.

We were delighted to welcome Jane Wilson-Howarth as our 4th Writer-in-Residence. Her inaugural talk was an illustrated presentation in September about the years she spent in Nepal. Soon after that she launched a fun, flash fiction competition on the Halloween theme, open to writers of all ages.

On the last day of our financial year, we held a much-appreciated Acoustic Music Night, with The String Section, a locally-based acoustic trio, followed by singer songwriter John Meed and his band. Finally, we introduced two regular activities to attract children to the library: a Scrabble Club and a Lego Group.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity's policy is to (a) ensure that restricted reserves fully cover future spending commitments and (b) maintain an unrestricted reserve of at least £1,000 in order to meet fluctuations in receipts and payments. At 30 September 2022 we had accumulated £5,785 in our bank accounts, partly because of spending delays due to extended library closure and partly because of successful fund raising. The trustees have agreed to budget spending of £8,323 in 2022-23, the highest figure for 6 years. The main categories are: community garden £2,000, fundraising and events £2,000, newspapers £1,173, story time £1,000 and interior decoration £1,000.

Details of any funds materially in deficit**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.

Our principal sources of funds are grants, fundraising, membership subscriptions and donations.

Over the years, much of our expenditure has "seeded" substantial grants which have transformed community facilities in both the library and its garden.

Our day-to-day expenditure funds:

- Library events (e.g. Film Club, Open Studios, Children's Writing Competition)
- The provision of newspapers (no longer provided by the County Council)
- Equipment for the library and garden

Other optional information



[illegible]

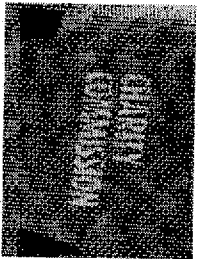
Section G

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) Alec William Thomas Dyson		James Robert Berry	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair		Treasurer	
	Date 28 January 2023			



Friends of Rock Road Library

No 1166498

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period 1 October 2021 To 30 September 2022

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	£	£	£	£	£
A1 Receipts					
Collection boxes	289			289	17
Donations	530			530	592
Film club receipts					
Gift aid	781			781	206
Fundraising and events	1,918			1,918	369
Membership subscriptions	1,120			1,120	220
Total receipts	4,638			4,638	1,404

A3 Payments					
Community garden	2,250			2,250	8
Film club expenses					120
Fundraising and events	1,214			1,214	769
Library equipment	129			129	
Library frontage project	1,507			1,507	319
Miscellaneous	267			267	186
Newspapers	262			262	
Publicity	626			626	118
Total payments	6,155			6,155	1,520

Net of receipts/(payments)
A5 Transfers between funds
A6 Cash funds last year end
Cash funds this period end

	(1,517)			(1,517)	(116)
	7,302			7,302	5,882
	5,785			5,785	5,766

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

B1 Cash funds

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
	Lloyds Bank	5,785		
	Total cash funds	5,785		
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)

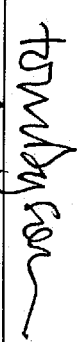
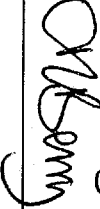
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)

B5 Liabilities

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

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Alec William Thomas Dyson	28.1.2023
	James Robert Berry	28.1.2023



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Friends of Rock Road Library

On accounts for the year
ended

30 September 2022

Charity no
(if any)

EW62218

Set out on pages

1 - 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and
basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30 / 09 / YYYY.

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

~~The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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

Signed:

R. A. Burns

Date:

17 November 2022

Name:

R A Burns

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

Previously CIPFA

(If any):

Address:

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

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