

WARWICKSHIRE SEARCH AND RESCUE

England & Wales · Charity number 1167079

Details

Other names WARKSAR

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2016-05-13

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Unit 70
5th Street
Stoneleigh Park
Kenilworth
Warwickshire
CV8 2LG

Phone 07751656222

Email chair@warksar.org.uk

Website www.warksar.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 1) TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE GOOD HEALTH AND SAFETY OF HUMAN LIFE IN AN EMERGENCY BY THE PROVISION OF TRAINED VOLUNTEERS AND SEARCH DOGS TO ASSIST ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED IN THE SEARCH AND RESCUE OF MISSING PERSONS. 2) TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN ALL MATTERS RELATING TO LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE.

Activities: Protect and preserve good health and safety of human life in an emergency by the provision of trained volunteers and search dogs (?Volunteers?) to assist organisations involved in the search and rescue of missing persons. Advance the education of the public in all matters relating to lowland search and rescue.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Armed Forces/emergency Service Efficiency
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Warwickshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£63,675	£60,025	-	-
2024-03-31	£114,695	£113,796	-	-
2023-03-31	£67,751	£122,046	-	-
2022-03-31	£88,825	£35,300	-	-
2021-03-31	£21,268	£19,073	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Ian Malins	Chair	2017-03-24
John Charles Haselden		2025-05-23
Nicholas Ian Cole		2025-05-23
Paul Middleton		2019-03-29
Phil Hewish		2022-06-17
Stevan Brown		2018-03-29
Wendy Elizabeth Clarke		2025-05-23

Accounts

Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Trustees Report and Accounts
For the year ended
31st March 2025

Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Trustees Annual Report for the Year ended 31st March 2025
Charity No 1167079

Charity Address	Bankers	Independent Examiner
Unit 70	The Co-Operative Bank	Benjamin Lancashire
5th Street	PO box 101	124 Woodside Avenue Sth
Stoneleigh Park	1 Balloon street	Coventry
Kenilworth	Manchester	
CV8 2LG	M60 4EP	

Current Trustees

Ian Malins - Chair
John Haselden - Vice Chair
Paul Middleton - Treasurer
Stevan Brown - Secretary
Phil Hewish
Wendy Clarke
Nicholas Cole

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

WarkSar (the charity) is an unincorporated association. It is governed by its constitution, which was adopted on 18 May 2013 and last amended on 8 February 2016. WarkSar is a registered charity, with charity number 1167079

Trustees

The trustees of Warksar are pleased to present their report together with their financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

At 1st April 2024 Warksar's trustees comprise the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Secretary, the Treasurer and a trustee without portfolio. During the year, at the Annual General Meeting the number was increased to include 2 further trustees.

Any member is eligible to become a trustee, Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting, held every year in or around June. Under the constitution there must be a minimum of three trustees, although there is no maximum number.

Management

The trustees are responsible for the strategic direction and governance of Warksar, whilst the day to day running of the charity's operational activity is delegated to the management group. Members of this group may be invited to attend trustee meetings to discuss progress and development

Objectives and Activities

Charitable purpose

Warksar's charitable purposes are twofold;
to protect and preserve good health and safety of human life in an emergency by the provision of trained volunteers to assist organisations involved in the search and rescue of missing persons;
and, to advance the education of the public in all matters relating to Lowland search and rescue.

Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Trustees Annual Report for the Year ended 31st March 2025
Charity No 1167079

Activities

Warksar works directly for the police, providing valuable search management services and physical resources to search on land and inland waterways. The charity provides a team of qualified volunteers available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to support in the search for vulnerable missing persons in Warwickshire, Coventry and south west Birmingham. Warksar also assists other lowland rescue search teams in the surrounding counties, and are available to assist the emergency services, local councils, and other agencies in the event of a major incident. Volunteers regularly interact with the public during local events, visits to local schools and societies and fundraising activities and use this time to provide information about Warksar and search and rescue in general, and to answer any questions about search and rescue that the general public have.

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

Achievements and Performance

This has been another very busy year for the charity. Having moved from its home of 6 years to a new home, within the Stoneleigh Park complex, further work has been done by its volunteers using the skills. Last year Warksar were awarded the King's Award for Charity which is the highest award a charity can attain. This was achieved by the high standards set by the volunteers.

Warksar's volunteers continue to maintain their high standard through thousands of hours of searching, training and fundraising. They have participated in searches not only in Warwickshire, but assisting in searches in all of the surrounding counties.

Warksar have continued to utilise all of its assets in our kayak, foot, bank search and drone teams.

Our powered watercraft to further enhance the search capability of Warksar and also to assist in other major incidents such as flood relief.

Financial Review

During the year our main source of income continues to be grant income and fundraising efforts.

This supplements the donations received from attending events. Grants in the year were £27,834 and fundraising raised £21,121. Other forms of income from donations, subscriptions, gift aid received and subscriptions amounted to £14,720, giving total income of £63,675

Reserves Policy

Due to the uncertainties surrounding the levels of Warksar's future donations income, and the highly cyclical nature of Warksar's other income streams, the trustees' policy was to maintain unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover the basic running costs of WarkSar, along with any other foreseeable expenses, for approximately 12 months. During the year the Trustees agreed to increase this reserve to up to 36 months income. In this way, trustees can be comfortable that the Charity can meet its commitments and cover any unexpected expenditure. With the new premises and vehicles and our new activities, this cost has risen to around £26,000 at March 2024.

Available, unrestricted reserves at the end of the year (excluding any amounts already owed to suppliers) were £32,619

Plans for Future Periods

The Trustees and Management Team intend to continue to develop the team, both in terms of qualified Search Technicians, but also in terms of the Water team, by increasing our capability of our swift water response technicians and continuing to invest in our drone search team and Search Dog teams. This has been made achievable with the receipt of specific grants. The Charity will also continue to work with local communities to raise awareness of, and the profile of, the team.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Ian Malins
Chair

Paul Middleton
Treasurer

Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended

	12 Months to 31/03/2025	12 Months to 31/03/2024
Income		
Grants (Non Specific)	7,485	820
Grants (Specific)	20,350	64,695
Donations	7,484	1,384
Fundraising	21,121	26,297
Equipment sales	1,639	17,987
Gift Aid	2,511	1,847
Course Fees Received	791	
Subscriptions	2,295	1,665
Income	63,675	114,696
Expenditure		
Grants (Specific)	- 26,116	- 74,159
Building Costs	- 8,582	- 13,902
Equipment Purchases	- 5,208	- 4,221
Equipment Replace/Repair	- 282	- 650
Vehicle Costs	- 3,564	- 8,070
Insurance	- 7,942	- 7,131
Medical	- 2,629	- 1,261
Telecoms/Internet	- 564	- 832
Subscriptions (inc D4H)	- 556	- 1,765
Courses	- 2,890	- 1,281
Legal and Professional	- 559	- 35
Stationery	- 35	- 223
Bank Charges		
Miscellaneous	- 1,098	- 265
Expenditure	- 60,025	- 113,797
Surplus/Deficit Transferred to Funds	3,650	899
Transferred to/From General Funds	9,417	10,363
Transferred To/from Restricted	- 5,767	- 9,464
	3,650	899

Funds Statement for the year ended 31st March 2025

	Brought Forwards	In Year	Transfer Between Funds	Carried Forwards
General Funds	23,203	9,417		32,619
Restricted Funds	6,174	- 5,767		408
	29,377	3,650	-	33,027

Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Balance Sheet
For the year ended

	12 Months to 31/03/2025	12 Months to 31/03/2024
Cash at Bank	<u>38,254</u>	<u>29,377</u>
General Funds	32,619	23,203
Restricted Funds	<u>408</u>	<u>6,174</u>
	<u>33,027</u>	<u>29,377</u>

Independent Examiners Report
Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Charity No. 1167079
For the year ended 31 March 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts set on pages 3 and 4, of the above charity, for the year ended 31st March 2025

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirement 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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection to the examination 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 the 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 the 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.

Ben Lancashire

31st January 2026

Accounts

Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Trustees Report and Accounts
For the year ended
31st March 2024

Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Trustees Annual Report for the Year ended 31st March 2024
Charity No 1167079

Charity Address	Bankers	Independent Examiner
Unit 70	The Co-Operative Bank	Gavin Merrett
5th Street	PO box 101	35 Risborough Close
Stoneleigh Park	1 Balloon street	Coventry
Kenilworth	Manchester	CV5 9HT
CV8 2LG	M60 4EP	

Current Trustees

Ian Malins - Chair
Adrian Smith - Vice Chair
Paul Middleton - Treasurer
Stevan Brown - Secretary
Phil Hewish

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

WarkSar (the charity) is an unincorporated association. It is governed by its constitution, which was adopted on 18 May 2013 and last amended on 8 February 2016. WarkSar is a registered charity, with charity number 1167079

Trustees

The trustees of Warksar are pleased to present their report together with their financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Warksar's trustees comprise the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Secretary, the Treasurer and a trustee without portfolio. Any member is eligible to become a trustee, Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting, held every year in or around June. Under the constitution there must be a minimum of three trustees, although there is no maximum number.

Management

The trustees are responsible for the strategic direction and governance of Warksar, whilst the day to day running of the charity's operational activity is delegated to the management group. Members of this group may be invited to attend trustee meetings to discuss progress and development

Objectives and Activities

Charitable purpose

Warksar's charitable purposes are twofold;
to protect and preserve good health and safety of human life in an emergency by the provision of trained volunteers to assist organisations involved in the search and rescue of missing persons;
and, to advance the education of the public in all matters relating to Lowland search and rescue.

Activities

Warksar works directly for the police, providing valuable search management services and physical resources to search on land and inland waterways. The charity provides a team of qualified volunteers available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to support in the search for vulnerable missing persons in Warwickshire, Coventry and south west Birmingham. Warksar also assists other lowland rescue search teams in the surrounding counties, and are available to assist the emergency services, local councils, and other agencies in the event of a major incident. Volunteers regularly interact with the public during local events, visits to local schools and societies and fundraising activities and use this time to provide information about Warksar and search and rescue in general, and to answer any questions about search and rescue that the general public have.

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

Achievements and Performance

This has been a very busy year for the charity. We have moved from its home of 6 years to a new home, within the Stoneleigh Park complex. This has been done by its volunteers using the skills and knowledge they have.

We were also nominated for and received the King's Award for Voluntary service, the highest award a charity can attain. This has been achieved by the high standards set by the volunteers.

Warksar's volunteers continue to maintain their high standard through thousands of hours of searching, training and fundraising. They have participated in searches not only in Warwickshire, but assisting in searches in all of the surrounding counties.

In addition to our kayak, foot and bank search teams, Warksar have added a team using drones to assist in the searches, and have a team able to use powered watercraft to further enhance the search capability of Warksar and also to assist in other major incidents such as flood relief.

Financial Review

During the year our main source of income continues to be grant income and fundraising efforts.

This supplements the donations received from attending events. Grants in the year were £65,515 and fundraising raised £25,542. Other forms of income from donations, subscriptions, gift aid received and subscriptions amounted to £23,639, giving total income of £114,696

Reserves Policy

Due to the uncertainties surrounding the levels of Warksar's future donations income, and the highly cyclical nature of Warksar's other income streams, the trustees' policy is to maintain unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover the basic running costs of WarkSar, along with any other foreseeable expenses, for approximately 12 months. In this way, trustees can be comfortable that the Charity can meet its commitments and cover any unexpected expenditure. With the new premises and vehicles and our new activities, this cost has risen to around £26,000 at March 2024.

During the year we completed the purchase of a new support vehicle (ISU) which was funded from specific grants received and some excess general funds.

Available, unrestricted reserves at the end of the year (excluding any amounts already owed to suppliers) were £23,203 which is close the target range at the year end.

Plans for Future Periods

The Trustees and Management Team intend to continue to develop the team, both in terms of qualified Search Technicians, but also in terms of the Water team, by increasing our capability of our swift water response technicians and continuing to invest in our drone search team and Search Dog teams . This has been made achievable with the receipt of specific grants. The Charity will also continue to work with local communities to raise awareness of, and the profile of, the team.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Ian Malins
Chair

Paul Middleton
Treasurer

Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended

12 Months to
31/03/2024

12 Months to
31/03/2023

Income

Grants (Non Specific)	820	2,017
Grants (Specific)	64,695	24,000
Donations	1,384	7,443
Fundraising	26,297	20,282
Equipment sales	17,987	6,395
Gift Aid	1,847	4,267
Course Fees Received		1,308
Subscriptions	1,665	2,040

Income

114,696

67,751

Expenditure

Grants (Specific)	-	74,159	-	100,712
Building Costs	-	13,902	-	5,520
Equipment Purchases	-	4,221	-	1,087
Equipment Replace/Repair	-	650	-	436
Vehicle Costs	-	8,070	-	3,098
Insurance	-	7,131	-	5,870
Medical	-	1,261	-	1,717
Telecoms/Internet	-	832	-	1,186
Subscriptions (inc D4H)	-	1,765	-	675
Courses	-	1,281	-	1,132
Legal and Professional	-	35	-	35
Stationery	-	223	-	72
Bank Charges				
Miscellaneous	-	265	-	508

Expenditure

- **113,797**

- **122,046**

Surplus/Deficit Transferred to Funds

899

- **54,294**

Transferred to/From General Funds

10,363

22,417

Transferred To/from Restricted

- 9,464

- 76,712

899

- 54,294

Funds Statement for the year ended 31st March 2024

	Brought Forwards	In Year	Transfer Between Funds	Carried Forwards
General Funds	19,124	10,363	-6284	23,203
Restricted Funds	9,354	9,464	6284	6,174
	28,478	899	-	29,377

Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Balance Sheet
For the year ended

	12 Months to 31/03/2024	12 Months to 31/03/2023
Cash at Bank	<u>29,377</u>	<u>28,478</u>
General Funds	23,203	19,124
Restricted Funds	<u>6,174</u>	<u>9,354</u>
	<u>29,377</u>	<u>28,478</u>

Independent Examiners Report
Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Charity No. 1167079
For the year ended 31 March 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts set on pages 1 and 2, of the above charity, for the year ended 31st March 2023

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirement 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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection to the examination 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
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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.

Gavin Merrett AAT

Accounts

Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Trustees Report and Accounts
For the year ended
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Independent Examiners Report
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Gavin Merrett AAT

Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Trustees Annual Report for the Year ended 31st March 2023
Charity No 1167079

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Adrian Smith - Vice Chair
Paul Middleton - Treasurer
Stevan Brown - Secretary
Phil Hewish

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

Achievements and Performance

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We were also nominated for and received the King's Award for Voluntary service, the highest award a charity can attain. This has been achieved by the high standards set by the volunteers.

Warksar's volunteers continue to maintain their high standard through thousands of hours of searching, training and fundraising. They have participated in searches not only in Warwickshire, but assisting in searches in all of the surrounding counties.

In addition to our kayak, foot and bank search teams, Warksar have added a team using drones to assist in the searches, and have a team able to use powered watercraft to further enhance the search capability of Warksar and also to assist in other major incidents such as flood relief.

Financial Review

During the year our main source of income continues to be grant income and fundraising efforts.

This supplements the donations received from attending events. Grants in the year were £26,017 and fundraising raised £20,282. Other forms of income from donations, subscriptions, gift aid received and subscriptions amounted to £67,751

Reserves Policy

Due to the uncertainties surrounding the levels of Warksar's future donations income, and the highly cyclical nature of Warksar's other income streams, the trustees' policy is to maintain unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover the basic running costs of WarkSar, along with any other foreseeable expenses, for approximately 12 months. In this way, trustees can be comfortable that the Charity can meet its commitments and cover any unexpected expenditure. With the new premises and vehicles and our new activities, this cost has risen to around £26,000 at March 2024.

During the year we completed the purchase of a new control vehicle (ICU) which was funded from specific grants received and some excess general funds.

Available, unrestricted reserves at the end of the year (excluding any amounts already owed to suppliers) were £19,124 which is above the target range at the year end.

Plans for Future Periods

The Trustees and Management Team intend to continue to develop the team, both in terms of qualified Search Technicians, but also in terms of the Water team, by increasing our capability of our swift water response technicians and continuing to invest in our drone search team and Search Dog teams. This has been made achievable with the receipt of specific grants. The Charity will also continue to work with local communities to raise awareness of, and the profile of, the team.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Ian Malins
Chair

Paul Middleton
Treasurer

**Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended**

	12 Months to 31/03/2023	12 Months to 31/03/2022
Income		
Grants (Non Specific)	2,017	14,547
Grants (Specific)	24,000	40,429
Donations	7,443	2,691
Fundraising	20,282	17,498
Equipment Deposits		
Equipment sales	6,395	7,497
Gift Aid	4,267	
VAT Refund		
Course Fees Received	1,308	1,680
Landlord Donation		2,979
Subscriptions	2,040	1,505
Income	67,751	88,825
Expenditure		
Grants (Specific)	- 100,712	- 18,225
Building Costs	- 5,520	- 3,661
Equipment Purchases	- 1,087	- 854
Equipment Replace/Repair	- 436	
Vehicle Costs	- 3,098	- 2,111
Insurance	- 5,870	- 5,643
Medical	- 1,717	- 1,037
Telecoms/Internet	- 1,186	- 1,039
Subscriptions (inc D4H)	- 675	- 765
Courses	- 1,132	- 1,705
Legal and Professional	- 35	- 35
Stationery	- 72	- 44
Bank Charges		
Miscellaneous	- 508	- 181
Expenditure	- 122,046	- 35,300
Surplus/Deficit Transferred to Funds	- 54,294	53,525
Transferred to/From General Funds	22,417	31,321
Transferred To/from Restricted	- 76,712	22,204
	- 54,294	53,525

Funds Statement for the year ended 31st March 2023

	Brought Forwards	In Year	Transfer Between Funds	Carried Forwards
General Funds	50,719	22,417	-54012	19,124
Restricted Funds	32,054	- 76,712	54012	9,354
	82,772	- 54,294	-	28,478

Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Balance Sheet
For the year ended

	12 Months to 31/03/2023	12 Months to 31/03/2022
Cash at Bank	<u>28,478</u>	<u>82,772</u>
General Funds	19,124	50,719
Restricted Funds	<u>9,354</u>	<u>32,054</u>
	<u>28,478</u>	<u>82,772</u>

Accounts

Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Registered Charity No. 1167079

Accounts and Independent Examiner report

For the year ended 31st March 2022

Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended

12 Months to
31/03/2022

12 Months to
31/03/2021

Income

Grants (Non Specific)	14,547	2,450
Grants (Specific)	40,429	9,850
Donations	2,691	2,120
Fundraising	17,498	5,361
Equipment Deposits		
Equipment sales	7,497	
VAT Refund		
Course Fees Received	1,680	
Landlord Donation	2,979	
Subscriptions	1,505	1,388

Income	88,825	21,168
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Expenditure

Grants (Specific)	-	18,225	-
Building Costs	-	3,661	4,336
Equipment Purchases	-	854	5,981
Equipment Replace/Repair			121
Vehicle Costs	-	2,111	1,891
Insurance	-	5,643	4,193
Medical	-	1,037	670
Telecoms/Internet	-	1,039	881
Subscriptions (inc D4H)	-	765	885
Courses	-	1,705	50
Legal and Professional	-	35	35
Stationery	-	44	
Bank Charges			
Miscellaneous	-	181	31

Expenditure	-	35,300	-	19,073
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Surplus/Deficit Transferred to Funds	53,525	2,095
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Transferred to/From General Funds	31,321	-	7,755
Transferred To/From Restricted	22,204		9,850
	53,525	2,095	

Funds Statement for the year ended 31st March 2022

	Brought Forwards	In Year	Transfer Between Funds	Carried Forwards
General Funds	19,397	31,321		50,719
Restricted Funds	9,850	22,204		32,054
	29,247	53,525	-	82,772

Warwickshire Search and Rescue
Balance Sheet
For the year ended

	12 Months to 31/03/2022	12 Months to 31/03/2021
Cash at Bank	<u>82,772</u>	<u>29,247</u>
General Funds	50,719	19,397
Restricted Funds	<u>32,054</u>	<u>9,850</u>
	<u>82,772</u>	<u>29,247</u>



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Warwickshire Search and Rescue

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2022

Charity no
(if any) 1167079

Set out on pages

1-2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2022.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

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:

Date:

26/01/2023

Name:

Gavin Merrett

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

AAT

Address:

35 RIBBINGTON CLOSE, COVENTRY, CV5 9HT

Trustees' Annual Report – For the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Reference & Administration Information

Charity Name
Warwickshire Search and Rescue
(WarkSAR)

Charity Number
1167079

Charity Address

Unit 121 Allander House
Avenue R
Stoneleigh Park
Kenilworth
CV8 2LG

Bankers

The Co-Operative Bank PLC
PO Box 101
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

Independent Examiner

Gavin Merrett AAT
35 Risborough Close
Coventry
CV5 9HT

Current Trustees

Ian Malins Chair
Connor Patmore Vice Chair resigned 17th June 2022
Paul Middleton Treasurer
Steve Brown Secretary
Adrian Smith appointed Vice Chair 17th June 2022
Phil Hewish Appointed 17th June 2022

Structure, Governance & Management

Constitution

WarkSAR (the Charity) is an unincorporated association. It is governed by its constitution which was adopted on 18 May 2013 and last amended on 8 February 2016. WarkSAR is a Registered Charity, with charity number 1167079.

Trustees

The Trustees of Warwickshire Search and Rescue (WarkSAR) are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018.

WarkSAR's trustees comprise the Chair, the Vice-Chair, the Secretary, the Treasurer and a trustee without portfolio. Any member is eligible to become a trustee. Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting, usually held in March each year. Under the constitution, there must be a minimum of three trustees (although there is no maximum number).

Management

The trustees are responsible for the strategic direction and governance of WarkSAR, whilst the day-to-day running of the Charity's operational activities is delegated to a management group. Members of this group may be invited to attend trustee meetings to discuss progress and developments.

Objectives & Activities

Charitable Purposes

WarkSAR's charitable purposes are twofold:

to protect and preserve good health and safety of human life in an emergency by the provision of trained volunteers and search dogs to assist organisations involved in the search and rescue of missing persons; and
to advance the education of the public in all matters relating to lowland search and rescue.

Activities

WarkSAR works directly for the police, providing valuable search management services and physical resources to search on land and inland waterways. The Charity provides a team of qualified volunteers, available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to support with searches for vulnerable missing persons in Warwickshire. WarkSAR also assists other search teams in the surrounding counties, and are available to assist the emergency services, County Council, and other agencies in the event of a major incident.

Volunteers regularly interact with the public during local events, visits to local schools and societies, and fundraising activities, and use this time to provide information about WarkSAR and search and rescue in general, and to answer any questions that members of the public have.

The Trustees have had due regard at all times to guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Achievements & Performance

The charity is in the process of moving its headquarters from its home of 6 years. It has agreed a lease with the Police college in Ryton for exclusive use of offices and regular use of training rooms. Ryton is the home of the national policing search college. They are also in negotiations with Stoneleigh Park for a different unit within the park, which will maintain their relationship with

Stoneleigh Park.

The Charity has an extremely committed team of volunteers, who continue to donate thousands of hours of their time each year, through fundraising, training, community events and, of course, searches. WarkSAR's volunteers have participated in missing person searches, not just in Warwickshire, but also Northamptonshire, Leicestershire, West Mercia and Oxfordshire.

WarkSAR also has specialist teams of search dogs and handlers, and a dedicated Kayak Search Team.

On top of qualified, operational search technicians, the Charity is continuing to develop the team's skills in other areas, including bank search and a newly formed drone team, as well as individuals qualified in Lowland Rescue Search Operations and Lowland Rescue Search Managers.

Financial Review

During the year the main source of income moved from donations to fundraising and grants received. This is due to the need to replace our control vehicle. Grants received in the year totalled £54,976

Members have been more involved in sponsored community events with the aim of raising funds for WarkSAR, raising £17,498 through activities such as marshalling events such as the Wolf Run. Other income includes membership fees and course contributions from our volunteers.

Any equipment that is found to be surplus to the charity's need is sold off and in the year £7,497 was raised by such sales.

Reserves Policy

Due to the uncertainties surrounding the levels of WarkSAR's future donations income, and the highly cyclical nature of WarkSAR's other income streams, the trustees' policy is to maintain unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover the basic running costs of WarkSAR, along with any other foreseeable expenses, for approximately 12 months. In this way, trustees can be comfortable that the Charity can meet its commitments and cover any unexpected expenditure.

Available, unrestricted reserves at the end of the year (excluding any amounts already owed to suppliers) were £50,719 which is above the target range, however these excess funds are designated for the replacement of the control vehicle.

Plans for Future Periods

The Trustees and Management Team intend to continue to develop the team, both in terms of qualified Search Technicians, but also in terms of the Kayak and Search Dog teams, and increase our capability by training swift water response technicians and a drone search team. This has been made achievable with the receipt of specific grants. The Charity will also continue to work with local communities to raise awareness of, and the profile of, the team.

Approved by the trustees on 31 January 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Ian Malins
Chair

Paul Middleton
Treasurer