



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date			Period end date			
From	01	10	2023	To	30	09	2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Kingfisher Canoe Club

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1170349

Charity's principal address 16 Sandford Close

Abingdon

Oxfordshire

Postcode

OX14 2PX

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	Mark Walker	Chairperson	16/11/2023-30/09/2024	Members of the Charity
2	Tim Wilkes	Secretary	16/11/2023-30/09/2024	Members of the Charity
3	Andrew Pope	Treasurer	16/11/2023-30/09/2024	Members of the Charity
4	David Surman	Youth Membership		Members of the Charity
5	Martin Wood	Membership Secretary		Members of the Charity
6	Tim Wilkes	Chairperson	01/10/2023-15/11/2023	Members of the Charity
7	Penny Sansom	Secretary	01/10/2023-15/11/2023	Members of the Charity
8	Mark Walker	Treasurer	01/10/2023-15/11/2023	Members of the Charity
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10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				

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

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

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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)	Elected annually by members of the charity at the 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.

Nothing to report

Section C Objectives and activities

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

The object of the CIO is the promotion of community participation in healthy recreation in particular by the provision of facilities and coaching for paddlesports for both adults and youth.

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 CIO provides opportunities to participate in most types of recreational paddlesport including white water kayaking at all levels of difficulty, canoeing and stand up paddle boarding, inland touring, sea touring, and freestyle. The club operates under the guidelines of the UK governing body which during the year changed name from “British Canoeing” to “Paddle UK” (PUK).

In setting the CIO’s objectives and planning activities the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charities Commission’s public benefit guidance.

The CIO is open to all and the annual membership fee is set so that the poor are not excluded. Concessionary rates are set for students, those not in work etc. All necessary equipment can be provided.

Members of the public are encouraged to participate through Taster Sessions (PUK “Start”) and Beginners Courses (PUK “Discover”) which are organised and provided by volunteer coaches with appropriate qualifications (PUK or equivalent) and experience. Added last year and repeated this, SUP Safer courses have been provided in order to increase safety awareness for people new to the rapidly growing sport of Stand Up Paddleboarding.

The trustees are aware that all forms of canoeing constitute “An assumed risk sport”. Risk of harm is managed through having a “Risk Assessment” and guidelines for all led trips. Experienced suitably qualified leaders and coaches risk assess conditions whenever club-led trips are organised.

Additionally all committee members and session leaders are required to complete a basic safeguarding course and have a DBS check. Those working directly with the youth members are required to complete a more detailed safeguarding course.

Coaches, session leaders and many members have suitable First Aid qualifications and the club supports these by arranging regular courses.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

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

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

All coaches and leaders are unpaid volunteers who pay their own membership fees. As such the charity has a fund available to assist members with the cost of courses for coaching and other relevant development courses. The amount available to support coaches was increased by agreement of members at the AGM in November 2023 in recognition of the increasing costs incurred by coaches and leaders in gaining and maintaining qualifications, however coaching grants are tied to providing a pre-determined number of hours coaching or leadership to the club.

Volunteers, together with the Trustees, make up a Management Committee.

Without the active support of the many volunteers the club would be unable to function. Apart from sitting on the Club Committee or coaching and leading sessions, volunteers this year have been responsible for activities that included supporting our website and communications; maintaining and improving the club hut for storing club equipment, including much work this year to solve issues with its solar lighting; ensuring the club equipment is fit for purpose; buying new and selling surplus equipment; arranging paddling trips; organising social events; arranging courses including Outdoor First Aid courses; liaising with Paddle UK, our insurers and others; documenting coaching and leadership qualifications and managing our finances, membership system and records.

The Trustees express their sincere thanks to all those who have helped.

Section D Achievements and performance	
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Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year	
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The 2023 club AGM happened on 15th November 2023, when a number of Committee Members / Trustees changed roles, resigned or joined the Committee - changes of Trustees are detailed on page 1.

KCC membership for the year was 136 members in total, split as 44 Youth (under 18 years) and 92 Adult Members, with the Adult section falling by 11 members on 2023. Split by gender where given was 72% male and 28% female in the Adult section and 70% male and 30% female in the Youth section.

This year there have been regular paddles on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, and Sunday and Tuesday mornings. Pool sessions, were held at the Abingdon School Sports centre, run with the purpose of increasing water confidence and safety and rescue skills including developing rolling, in a warm, safe and clean environment. The same pool is not available for Winter 2024/5 but we are exploring use of Radley College pool instead.

In the Spring and Summer of 2024 beginner courses (PUK Discover) were run for kayak and canoe, with courses happening on weekday evenings and weekends. Unfortunately an Autumn course had to be rescheduled to Spring 2025 due to unsafe levels of river flow. SUP skills sessions have been running on Thursday evenings and the club also ran Paddlesport Safety and Rescue training for both KCC members and the local Sea Scouts.

As well as people who are new to the sport, we have also again welcomed several new members who already have paddling experience and are already active in contributing to the club as leaders and volunteers. With the help of these and other leaders our current members to continue to work on progressing their skills, including: PUK Kayak Explore Award; PUK Intermediate White Water Personal Performance Award, sea kayak skills training; canoe, kayak and SUP skills training.

Following the investigations into the Scouting Great Orme and River Cleddau SUP deaths PUK has increased the stringency of its requirements for clubs to operate officially-led activities. KCC is fortunate that it has already got a solid base of qualified leaders and these are being supported to obtain the additional qualifications required to ensure the club continues to operate in accordance with PUK and wider safety requirements. Presently for example the club has 12 members who are in training to become whitewater leaders. As a volunteer-run charity committed to keeping memberships fees accessible it is not able to fully cover all costs of achieving qualifications, so the leaders will still typically incur costs of several hundred pounds as they progress to the level needed to lead whitewater trips. For this financial commitment, and their commitment in time and effort the club is very grateful.

With regards Adult section paddling, there have been around 400 paddling sessions from our base on the River Thames (ie 3 people paddling on a trip = 3 paddling sessions) and around 200-300 on trips away from the club base. Special activities from the base have included the Annual Chris Wheeler Blastathon Freestyle Event, The Mince Pie Paddle and celebrations of the club's 50th anniversary, plus litter picking / river clean-up sessions. Further afield trips have included The Lake District, the Dart, Exe, Wye, and Tryweryn Rivers, Scotland and the French Alps, plus the Lee Valley, Cardiff, Nene and Holme Pierrepont artificial courses. A number of club members have attended paddle festivals, including the 'She Paddles'

weekend at the Tryweryn and Dewerstone event at Holme Pierrepont, developing skills and friendships and having fun.

In addition club members have provided safety cover at various open water swimming events, run a water station at the Abingdon Marathon and participated in social activities such as the club Christmas meal.

In the club's Youth Section, informally known as Pathfinders, 40 different members have attended 23 Monday night river sessions since April, with a total of 333 session attendances from many regular paddlers.

There has been no lack of water and Monday sessions have included the regular activities such as the River Ock descent, Ock Slalom, "Ockathon" Freestyle Competition, Kayak Polo, Confidence games, Swift Ditch, Culham Lock one way trip as well as upstream and Abingdon mill stream paddles. Abingdon Weir has been open in kayak-friendly configurations for longer than usual this year and so we have been able to develop activities in the waves of the weir itself, with several of our paddlers progressing rapidly. For those less confident and for those new to whitewater, we have also been able to use the tail of the weir to develop skills. We have held our usual Tryaboat session followed by a barbeque at the end of the school summer term. The Blastathon was held in September with excellent performances by 5 youth members.

We had 13 new members this year. Interestingly we did not get as many enquiries as usual, early in the season, probably due to the prevailing wet weather early on. However we still managed to run a successful intro course early on, and later in the season we were able to incorporate would-be new members by some "filter in " sessions on Monday nights.

We have arranged 2 visits to the Nene Whitewater Centre Northampton and to Symonds Yat. In addition members have taken part in club and GB Freestyle Development Events at Lee Valley, Hurley, Boulton as well as the Palm Park Event at Cardiff International Whitewater Centre. We have had one member who was selected to take part in the GB Freestyle Development Week at Holme Pierrepont in Nottingham. There will also likely be some whitewater river trips over the winter months.

The Youth coaching and leadership team place great emphasis on a bottom up approach, being aware and adapting to the interests and needs of individual members and encouraging intrinsic rather than extrinsic motivation. We believe this contributes greatly to our good Youth member retention levels and continued success.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The trustees shall ensure the club maintains financial reserves so the club can withstand and survive unexpected expenditure loss of income. The target reserves are 2 years expected expenditure fixed overheads, such as insurance, rent and contribution to the site contingency fund.

The club hut site lease places a duty on the club to:

- a) Clear the site on lease termination
- b) Replace the building at the end of its usable life

The site lease with the Environment Agency has a minimum term of 10 years. The club must be prepared to clear the site by February 2030 should the EA choose to exercise the break clause at this stage. The estimated cost to clear the site in 2020 would be £15k. The aim is to have this fund at this amount, annually adjusted by "Office of National Statistics CPIH Annual Rate 00:All Items 2015" figure for the preceding complete calendar year.

As the club building is constructed from wood, no matter how well it is maintained it will deteriorate and require major refurbishment after around 20 years. If the EA does not exercise the lease break clause, the site contingency funds can also be used to pay for that refurbishment. The Site contingency fund will therefore be incremented at the same annual rate beyond the 2030 date to cater for site clearance and refurbishment, with a target amount of £50k over 20 years, annually adjusted in the same manner.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

There are no funds 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.

The charity's principal sources of funding are annual membership fees (Adult section), weekly session fees (Youth section) and fees paid to the club for courses. Nominal additional amounts are also received for use of club equipment on trips.

Revenue for organised trips and events also passes through the club but these are on an at-cost basis and such revenue is then used to pay for items such as accommodation (eg bunk houses), third-party training(eg first aid), food (eg Christmas Meal) or venue hire fees (eg Lee Valley Course).

Section F Other optional information



No additional information

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
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Full name(s)	Mark Walker	Tim Wilkes
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Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chairperson	Secretary
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Date	03-Nov-2024
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Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/10/2023

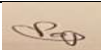

To

30/09/2024

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					
Donation: General	710	-	-	710	3,795
Members' Subscriptions (Youth)	248	-	-	248	193
Members' Subscriptions (Adult)	4,078	-	-	4,078	4,352
Events & Fundraising Income	2,454	-	-	2,454	838
Activity: Youth Attendance	1,615	-	-	1,615	1,845
Activity: Adult	2,689	-	-	2,689	4,642
Activity: Boat Hire	37	-	-	37	90
Activity: Pool fees	1,422	-	-	1,422	1,440
Activity: Course Fees	4,952	-	-	4,952	2,380
Governance: Deposit Received	10	-	-	10	45
Interest	267	-	-	267	103
Asset Sales Equipment	660	-	-	660	45
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	19,140	-	-	19,140	19,769
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	19,140	-	-	19,140	19,769
A3 Payments					
Activity: Pool (inc Lifeguard)	1,470	-	-	1,470	1,450
Activity: 3rd Party course provider	3,960	-	-	3,960	1,294
Activity: Equipment Maintenance	192	-	-	192	1,252
Activity: Training Grant	778	-	-	778	280
Activity: Misc	3,032	-	-	3,032	3,828
Events & Fundraising Expenditure	1,602	-	-	1,602	746
Governance: General Admin	1,565	-	-	1,565	3,729
Governance: Site Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-
Asset: Site Maintenance	1,428	-	-	1,428	1,095
Asset: Equipment	2,333	-	-	2,333	5,394
Asset: Governance	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	16,360	-	-	16,360	19,068
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	16,360	-	-	16,360	19,068
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,780	-	-	2,780	701
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	33,165	602	-	33,767	33,067
Cash funds this year end	35,945	602	-	36,547	33,768

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 Current Account	19,097	-	-
	Bank Deposit Account	16,848	602	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	35,945	602	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	None	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	None		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
			Andrew John Pope	05/02/2025
			Tim Wilkes	06/02/2025