

FRIENDS OF FERALS (SHEFFIELD)

Caring for the feral cats in Sheffield

Charity Registration Number: 1170938

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

FRIENDS OF FERALS (SHEFFIELD)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

REG CHARITY NO: 1170938

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS: 3 Main Street
Back of Railway Arches
Catcliffe Rotherham S60 5SR

WEB SITE <http://www.friendsofferals.co.uk/>

TRUSTEE: Margaret Skinner (Chairperson)
Joanne Gardner
Nicola Speke
Michael Dooley

GOVERNING DOCUMENT: Trust deed dated 21 November 2016

BANK: Nat West Bank
42 High Street
Sheffield
S1 2GE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS: Mrs Sarah Smith BSc FCCA FCIE
TSA (Oakham) Ltd
Temple House
8 Main Street
Cold Overton
LEICS
LE15 7QA

FRIENDS OF FERALS (SHEFFIELD)

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustee of Friends of Ferals (Sheffield)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Friends of Ferals (Sheffield) for the year ended 31 July 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of Friends of Ferals (Sheffield) 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 accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination of the accounts 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Friends of Ferals (Sheffield) as required by s130 of the Act; or
- 2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Sarah Smith

Sarah A Smith (Mrs) BSc FCCA FCIE
TSA (Oakham) Ltd
Temple House
8, Main Street
Cold Overton
LEICS LE15 7QA

10th May 2021

FRIENDS OF FERALS (SHEFFIELD)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JULY 2020.

The report of the trustee for the year ended 31 July 2020 includes the information given on the Reference and Administration page, (page 1).

The charity is run by trustees within the principles of a charitable Trust Deed dated November 2016.

Objects:

- to help control the huge number of feral and abandoned unneutered cats in and around the city of Sheffield and Rotherham, and monitor their health and wellbeing.
- to remove cats from crisis situations in areas of danger to safety by way of placements at stables, homes or back to site where safe.
- to help small rescues, within and outside our area, with trapping advice, the use of specialist equipment and the funding of equipment, food and veterinary treatment. We are maintaining critical partnerships with small rescues in the Mansfield, Retford, Worksop, Ripon, Barnsley, Thorpe Hesley and inner-city Sheffield, which uphold our Mission Statement.
- to help cat owners, particularly the elderly and unemployed, in areas of social and economic deprivation, with neutering, microchipping and veterinary funding. When owners feel they have nowhere else to turn, a small gesture as regards basic treatment neutering or microchipping might be all that is required to support human and animal welfare.
- to promote humane behaviour and educate the public regarding neutering and basic cat care.

Activities and Achievements in support of the objects:

Our seventh year has again been a very good year from an information-sharing and financial point of view. We are the only charity in Sheffield which has the experience and specialist equipment to help feral cats and are regularly asked by other larger charities to trap on their behalf. We are only too pleased to do this but it does mean weeks, sometimes months, spent on helping other charities is not reflected in the number of cats our charity actually helps.

However, despite everything that 2020 threw at us, we have still been able to maintain our average figure of cats helped, 207, (2019 202). This figure includes 52 placed on stables/small holdings, all neutered, blood tested, microchipped and brought back to health.

To ensure continuation of our charity's current activities within the local community, especially at this precarious time, the Trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets should be 12 months of the resources expended.

-trapping, neutering, veterinary treatment and daily feeding of feral colonies, from online auction funding and voluntary donations

This year, again, has seen a further increase in cats giving birth on the streets and at sites such as Sheffield former steel works. We are constantly inundated with calls for help and although trapping continues on a daily basis from dawn until dusk it is taking all the charity's resources to keep on top of the previous week's calls.

Placing ferals in stables is a lengthy process and is something other rescues are unable to do. We have it down to a fine art after years of practice. Following the initial visit to assess suitability, chicken coops are placed to give the cats somewhere safe, secure and comfortable in which to live out their first few weeks of restriction while getting used to their new homes. Visits are carried out on a regular basis at the same time as delivering supplies to ensure the cats are settled and in good health.

FRIENDS OF FERALS (SHEFFIELD)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JULY 2020. (CON)

- information and advice given on our website and face book page

Our Facebook presence continues to grow and has become an excellent forum for detailing our activities, very popular with our supporters.

We have made great strides to increase our members on our facebook auction page which is also very popular and covers the cost of most of our veterinary and food bills, being responsible for the provision of food for over 100 cats every day.

The "Feeding Station" facebook page exists solely to raise funds to feed some of the ferals at their sites but at the same time shows the faces and living conditions of the cats on the streets.

We continue to run our video showing how we trap and place ferals and are only too pleased to loan out traps with lessons on how to make the best possible use of our specialist equipment at companies' fundraising events and on information stalls, although these activities have been severely curtailed by covid-19.

- educational and fund raising stalls

We were still able to have our regular neutering information stalls at community events, stores and vets, although these were curtailed early in the year, again because of the pandemic. They have always been well received and as well as generating income, have allowed us to speak to members of the public to raise awareness of cats in crisis. We have food donation bins in the main vets in Sheffield and Pets@Home stores where the displays draw attention to free neutering and microchipping. Our involvement in Pets@Home VIP voucher scheme has been very helpful, resulting in over £3k funding for in-store grooming and supplies.

We were asked to be the Pets@Home Charity of the Year 2019 and although this meant a tremendous amount of commitment with in-store events, it resulted in a grant of £15k for the purchase of a nearly new van. This came just in time as our old van had begun to let us down in dangerous areas.

We were proud to be a Partner of the CatSmart programme which funded neutering/microchipping in Sheffield, sponsored by the RSPCA. Unfortunately, funding ran out at the end of the year which will inevitably have an adverse effect on the number of unneutered cats left on the streets.

A monthly Craft Club was initiated by one of our talented volunteers to act to strengthen volunteer relationships, as well as enabling a new fundraising arm from the sale of handmade items. Again, covid-19 interfered with her plans but the volunteers have still been able to make superb items for online fundraisers.

- our supporters

The trustees extend their heartfelt thanks to their loyal Friends of Ferals who have helped by donating, adopting or fostering cats and in the vital frontline work of trapping and feeding the colonies.

We hope that by getting our prevention messages out into the community, we can stop things from hitting crisis point in families and communities, reducing the the number of emergencies we have to respond to at short notice and also reducing the number of cats that have to be destroyed in South Yorkshire every week. We know that by working with people at the earliest opportunity we can support them to access the services they need to reduce unwanted stress. For example if we can support people to neuter and spay their pets it reduces unwanted litters which can be the tipping point for families in financial difficulties.

FRIENDS OF FERALS (SHEFFIELD)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 JULY 2020. (CON)

Volunteers, as ever, are a huge part of our organisation, we have some dedicated supporters who have been with the charity since the very beginning of FOF. We owe them all a great debt of gratitude.

Financial Review:

In the seventh year of existence the charity has experienced a 7% drop in donations to £34,826 due to covid-19 but was fortunate to receive grants of £15,550 and a legacy of £500 which were new income streams this year. This income met 76% of the new vehicle and Ebike costs of £20,960.

Fund raising continued online but also saw a decrease of 18% to £7,775

A deficit of £2,185 (2019: surplus £16,915) was recorded and consequently reserves have reduced from £46,836, to £44,651. However, this was after funding the additional one off costs of the vehicles and leaves the charity in a secure financial position ready to re-start income generating activities that could not continue during the pandemic.

Annual running costs (excluding new equipment) are £33k and so the reserves policy, to maintain 1 years running costs on deposit at the bank has been met.

The trustees are confident that the reserves held at the year end are sufficient to meet liabilities for at least 12 months from the signature date on these accounts.

Public Benefit:

The trustees bear in mind the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit when making decisions regarding the use of funds.

The charity helps all local communities experiencing the management problems of unwanted, abandoned and feral cats. It also helps individual cat owners of limited financial means with veterinary care particularly neutering. The management, treatment and re-homing of feral cats manifestly benefits both the human and animal populations of Sheffield and environs.

Maggie Skinner

Mrs M Skinner
10th May 2021

FRIENDS OF FERALS (SHEFFIELD)

Receipts and Payments Accounts

For the Period 1 August 2019 to 31 July 2020

	NOTE	Unrestricted Fund	TOTAL 2020	TOTAL 2019
		£	£	£
Receipts				
Voluntary donations and auction		34,826	34,826	37,421
Grants <u>Pets@Home</u>		15,000	15,000	0
Volvux		550	550	0
Fundraising events and commissions paid		7,775	7,775	9,534
Legacy		500	500	0
<u>Total Receipts</u>		58,651	<u>58,651</u>	<u>46,955</u>
 Payments				
<i>Fund raising expenses incl platform fees</i>		1188	1188	1512
<i>Direct charitable costs</i>				
Veterinary fees		10,975	10,975	6,679
Crematorium		504	504	597
Cat food and litter		5,464	5,464	6,291
Equipment (Cats)	3	6,623	6,623	2,992
Equipment (Office/Unit)		857	857	450
Donations		550	550	131
Printing postage and stationery		2,174	2,174	1,435
Mobile Telephone		789	789	688
Fuel, vehicle repairs and hire		5,484	5,484	3,640
Garage rent and storage		4,008	4,008	3,522
Repairs and maintenance		0	0	1,021
Insurance (vehicle, volunteers and public liability)		780	780	722
Professional fees		480	480	360
Purchase of Vehicles	3	20,960	20,960	0
<u>Total Payments</u>		60,836	<u>60,836</u>	<u>30,040</u>
 <u>Net Receipts</u>			<u>-2,185</u>	<u>16,915</u>
 Cash Funds brought forward			<u>46,836</u>	<u>29,921</u>
Cash Funds carried forward			<u>44,651</u>	<u>46,836</u>

FRIENDS OF FERALS (SHEFFIELD)

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 July 2020

	NOTE	2020 £	2019 £
Cash Funds			
Nat West Account		38,228	43,289
Paypal Account		6,423	3,547
		<u>44,651</u>	<u>46,836</u>
 Tangible Assets			
VW Van and Ebike	3	20,960	500
Equipment (Cats)		17,081	10,458
Equipment (Office/Unit)		3,355	2,498
		<u>41,396</u>	<u>13,456</u>
 <u>Total Assets</u>		<u><u>86,047</u></u>	<u><u>60,292</u></u>
 Liabilities			
Independent Examiners Fee		405	390
Annual Return		95	90
		<u>500</u>	<u>480</u>

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf.

Maggie Skinner

Name	Mrs M Skinner
Position	Chairperson
Date	10th May 2021

FRIENDS OF FERALS (SHEFFIELD)

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 July 2020

1 Accounting Policies

These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

2 Payments to trustees

The trustees receive no remuneration, direct or indirect benefits from the charity.

Out of pocket expenses in respect of veterinary care, food and equipment are refunded to trustees and volunteers.

In addition, 4 trustees received reimbursed fuel costs totalling £2,704, (2019: £2,700)

3 Tangible Assets

Equipment is stated at cost.

In 2020 the charity purchased:	£
VW C20 Kombi Maxi Grey YS68NGG	18,260
Decathlon E-bike	2,700
Coops/Pens/Shelters/ Traps	6,623
	27,583
Brought forward 1 August 2019	10,458
Carried forward 31 July 2020	38,041
Brought forward 1 August 2019	2,498
Cameras and accessories	857
Carried forward 31 July 2020	3,355

The VW van is registered in a trustee's name. M Skinner

4 Funds

The charity has no Restricted Funds.