



Bringing Kinship Families Together

Annual Trustee's Report for the report period 010423 to 310324

All data correct as at 31st March 2024

Name of the Charity – Kinfest

Registered charity number – 1171491

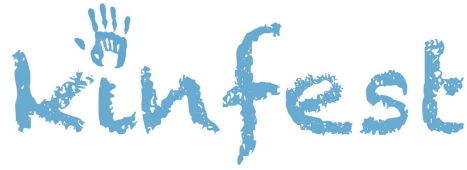
Registered address – 30 Castle Street, Upnor, Rochester, Kent ME2 4XR

Trustees as at 31st March 2024 - Vicki O'Leary, Neil Stow, Janelle Redington, Mat Bushell, Rob Pitman, Anna Clough.

Charity Structure

Kinfest is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with 6 trustees and no paid employees. The trustees make all decisions with regard to the management of the charity and Kinfeſt benefits from volunteer help throughout the year as well as the trustees being involved with the day-to-day practical organisation and management of the charities events and business.

Kinfest recruits new trustees through advertisement on its Facebook Community Page and amongst its beneficiary support groups. All potential trustees are given a formal interview by at least a quorum (4 out of 6) of the current trustees. Potential trustees are given an indication of the work that may be required of them, as roles change as necessary within the charity. Roles that are required to be undertaken are Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary, however other roles and responsibilities are spread out amongst both trustees and volunteers, using the skills available to the charity at any time.



Bringing Kinship Families Together

Objectives and Activities

Kinfest aims to alleviate isolation within Kinship Families. It does so by organising holidays, events, day trips and fundraising activities for people, and their families, who look after another family or friend's child(ren).

1. In 2023/2024 the main objective of Kinfest was to be able to fully fund at least two significant events per annual event. Kinfest is pleased to advise that it was able to:
 - a. fully fund a day trip to Clacton Pier for over 60 beneficiaries in Sussex,
 - b. fully fund a day trip to Colchester zoo over 60 beneficiaries,
 - c. fully fund a trip to the Blackpool Tower for over 60 beneficiaries,
 - d. fully fund a day trip to Blackpool Dungeons for more than 60 beneficiaries,
 - e. fully fund a trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach for over 60 beneficiaries,
 - f. fully fund a day Christmas Meal for over 100 people in the South East, including a visit from Santa, a present each and a disco.
 - g. partially fund multiple picnics around the country for over 150 beneficiaries, reaching more people across the country, raising awareness and bringing kinship families together.

Therefore, allowing more beneficiaries to participate in events designed to promote social inclusion, by alleviating a major obstacle to participation.

2. Kinfest was able to utilise the experience of its trustees to fulfil the Charity Commissions criteria, as well as creating the various procedures and operating practices, including the governing documentation. Kinfest has been able to access funding streams previously not open to not for profit organisations and has been able to use those funds to fund events for beneficiaries.
3. Kinfest uses a number of strategies to achieve their objectives these include but are not limited to:
 - a. Fundraising:-
 - i. from beneficiaries and their friends and family;
 - ii. applying for grants for specific events and/or activities;
 - iii. applying for holiday funding for specific beneficiaries;
 - iv. applying for regular funding for large events.
 - b. Raising awareness by:-
 - i. visiting Local Authority events specifically laid on for 'Friends and Family' or 'Connected Carers';
 - ii. giving talks to various local clubs, associations and support groups;
 - iii. giving interviews to radio, TV, magazine or newspaper reporters, and university researchers;
 - iv. being involved in debate and live events;
 - v. sharing information via social media and other platforms.
 - c. Supporting beneficiaries by:-
 - i. Running face-to-face peer groups;



Bringing Kinship Families Together

- ii. Administering online peer support groups;
 - iii. Organising meet ups, days out, trips, events and holidays.
- 4. Kinfest's three significant activities each year include a 5-day holiday during the second bank holiday week in May, a 7-day holiday during the summer school holidays, and a Christmas Party.
 - a. The 5-day and 7-day holidays aim to get kinship families together for a week of fun-filled activities. The objectives are to alleviate the isolation felt by the carers, and children, which can emerge after taking on the care of a family or friends' child(ren), as well as improving the bond within the family unit, by creating lifelong memories in a non-hostile and inclusive environment.
 - b. During the week's holiday various activities are organised these can include:-
 - i. a Sunday Lunch with children's entertainer;
 - ii. disco;
 - iii. circus skills workshop;
 - iv. a day trip out to a local tourist attraction;
 - v. a 'fun day' with children's games, mini-fete and BBQ;
 - vi. a fish and chip supper and quiz night;
 - vii. treasure hunts;
 - viii. funded or subsidised entry to local farm or wildlife park.
 - c. The Christmas Party enables families to get together with other families in a similar position, who otherwise may not have an opportunity for a 'family' get together/party, especially as many kinship families are excluded from their own wider family due to taking on the care of a family member's child.
- 5. Kinfest's specific objects as per the Governing Document are:
 - a. The promotion of social inclusion for the public benefit, by preventing people becoming socially excluded, children, their carers and the natural children of the carers (sharers), who are excluded from society or parts of society, due to their social and economic position, by the provision of social events, days out and group holidays, to enable kinship families meeting other kinship families, to relieve isolation and to assist bonding within the kinship family.
 - b. To advance the education of the public in the subject of Kinship Care.
- 6. Kinfest confirms that it's Trustees have complied with their duty, having due regard to the guidance on public benefit as published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers.



Bringing Kinship Families Together

Achievements and Performance

- Kinfest organised a holiday to Clacton in May 2023, enabling 18 families, 68 people to enjoy time away from the home, in an inclusive environment, where everyone else understood their challenges and where beneficiaries could talk freely without feeling judged by their audience. Kinfest was able to host and fully fund 2 separate day trips.
- Kinfest organised a holiday to Blackpool in August 2023, enabling 17 Families and 71 people to enjoy time away from the home, in an inclusive environment, where everyone else understood their challenges and where beneficiaries could talk freely without feeling judged by their audience. Kinfest was able to secure National Lottery Funding and could host and fully fund 4 separate day trips.
- Kinfest organised the fifth annual 'Kinfest Big Picnic' in September, there were multiple separate picnics held across the country where Kinfest paid for everyone to have a hot drink or an icecream.
- Kinfest secured funding for the annual Christmas Party in Sevenoaks in December 2023. Enabling over 25 families, 85 people, to spend quality time together over the festive period. A time when many kinship children and their carers do not have the wider family with which to spend quality time. Kinfest were able to fully fund this event, including the meal, a visit from Santa, a present for every child, and a disco.



Bringing Kinship Families Together

Financial Review

At the end of the reporting period, 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024, Kinfest's unrestricted reserves totalled £4,030. Restricted reserves totalled £0.

1. Kinfest's principal funding sources in this reporting period have been:
 - i. Corporate Donations - £9,581 of which £8,015 was for specific purposes
 - ii. Fundraising activities - £1,748 of which £0 was for specific purposes
 - iii. Personal Donations - £1,049 which was all unrestricted
2. Kinfest's policy on reserves is as follows:
 - a. Restricted reserves are those monies received from beneficiaries to specifically purchase, reserve or otherwise secure their participation in Kinfest events, and other funds that are received for a specific project or purpose. These funds are restricted for the use according to the funding agreements of donors' instructions.
 - b. Unrestricted reserves are made up of the Charity's activities for generating funds, investment income (as appropriate) and other donations which are expendable at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance to achieve the objectives of the Charity.

The Trustees have determined that the appropriate level of reserves to be held for non-earmarked expenditure should equate to 10% of total funds to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays in the spending and receipt of grants/funding and to provide a cushion for unexpected emergencies.

3. At the end of the accounting period Kinfest held £4,029 in unrestricted reserves, this represents 9.25% of total income. This is marginally less than the determined appropriate amount of 10%. This has been deemed an insignificant amount. Kinfest will not be increasing its spending next year.

KINFEST STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024	Notes	YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024		FUND VALUE	YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023
		£	£		£
EDUCATION & ADMINISTRATION					
INCOME					
Grants Received		0			0
Individual Donations		1,049			1,237
Corporate/charitable donations		9,581			4,850
Income from Fundraising		1,748			1,083
TOTAL FUND INCOME			12,378		7,170
EXPENDITURE					
Kinfest expenditure		10,900			5,749
Fundraising expenditure		353			1,072
General expenditure		1,580			569
TOTAL FUND EXPENDITURE			12,833		7,390
PROFIT / (LOSS)			-455	-455	-220
ACTIVITIES					
INCOME					
KFCG Benefits		25,237			24,731
TOTAL FUND INCOME			25,237		24,731
EXPENDITURE					
Benefits expenditure		27,303			23,271
TOTAL FUND EXPENDITURE			27,303	-2,066	23,271
OVERALL FUNDS TOTAL FOR THE YEAR				-2,521	1,240

KINFEST
BALANCE SHEET

YEAR ENDED
31ST MARCH 2024

YEAR ENDED
31ST MARCH 2023
As Restated

Notes

£

£

£

As at 31 March 2023

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash at bank and in hand	10,404	7,743
Paypal	689	5,876
Cash float	930	30

12,023

13,649

CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

Balance due for 2024 activities	21	2,260
---------------------------------	----	-------

NET CURRENT ASSETS

12,044

15,909

TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES

12,044

15,909

FUNDS OF THE ENTERPRISE

Unrestricted funds	1	4,029	4,073
KFCG Restricted funds	1	8,015	11,848
Restricted funds	1	0	-12

FUNDS TOTAL

12,044

15,909

To Members of the Committee

I confirm that I have independently verified the figures of the above community project for the year ended 31st March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and related notes from the accounting records and from information and explanations provided to me.

Based on this information these figures have, in my opinion, been properly prepared from the accounting records of the community project and fairly reflect the transactions and position of the community project as at 31st March 2024 and of its financial activities for the year.

Digitally Signed

Emm

20/01/2025