

PHOENIX FRENCH BULLDOG RESCUE
(REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER : 1171943)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

PHOENIX FRENCH BULLDOG RESCUE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The committee present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Charity number

1171943

Principal address

17 Wellington Road
Shortstown
Bedford
MK42 0UT

Trustees

Stephen A Cargill
Teresa L Cargill
Kimberleigh L Malyan
Kirstine Dellbridge

Independent examiner

C J Goodhead FCA
Knight Goodhead Limited
7 Bournemouth Road
Chandler's Ford
Eastleigh
Hampshire
SO53 3DA

Bankers

NatWest Plc
81 High Street
Bedford
MK40 1YN

PHOENIX FRENCH BULLDOG RESCUE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Phoenix French Bulldog Rescue, also known as Phoenix FBR, registered charity no 1171943, operates in England, Scotland and Wales to assist in the rescue, rehabilitation and rehoming of French Bulldogs in need or at risk. The year 2022/2023 is our sixth year of accounting since the award of charity status in March 2017. Trustees for this period were as follows:

Stephen A Cargill
Teresa L Cargill
Kimberleigh L Malyan
Kirstine Dellbridge

Initially, Phoenix FBR was set up as a family concern and still retains that feel, which works well with our audience, but an external Trustee was brought in to give a more pragmatic view of how things were managed. The Trustees meet on ad hoc basis for any matters arising which need a consensus of opinion, and these may take the form of emails, telephone calls, video calls or in person meetings, but we meet no less than once per year in person for a review of the past year and that ahead. This is when discussions have been made regarding changes to fees and the restrictions placed on which vet costs will be the burden of the charity or of the adopter. Policies and procedures have been re-written to ensure the public at large recognise their responsibility when fostering a dog so that unnecessary costs are avoided. The Management Team (all volunteers) are also very instrumental in helping to make changes and implement them as they are in the field and see what works well and what doesn't.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The aims and objectives of the charity is to offer a home to any Frenchie (or crossbreeds thereof) in need, but also to educate the public on this wonderful breed, promote good ownership and to help keep Frenchies at home with their families wherever possible.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The Committee has identified that it is exposed to normal risks, and in doing so has established control systems, which comply with the requirements of current legislation in order to manage those risks.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Income for the year totalled £111,650 (2022: £151,436) with expenditure of £107,092 (2022: £163,303) resulting in a surplus for the year of £4,558 (2022: £11,867 deficit). This has resulted in total net funds of £7 at the balance sheet date (2022: £4,551 overdrawn). The trustees are keeping this under close review – the charity has generated a surplus of income over expenditure since the balance sheet date.

The French Bulldog is a very niche breed with many health issues, and although it is accepted that any charity involved with this breed will never be rich, it is hoped and expected that reserves may now begin to build as we enter our 7th year. An initial goal of holding £3K in reserve by the end of 2023/24 has been set, rising from there as we seek to build financial resilience.

PHOENIX FRENCH BULLDOG RESCUE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

FY2022/2023 was the year that it finally felt as though finances were improving slightly and there was a steady turn-over of adoption fees and donations to pay the more conservatively managed vet costs. The latter remain high but with the refusal of very sick animals into rescue, unless there are exceptional circumstances, and the burden of neutering being placed on the adopter where necessary, more of the adoption fees remained with the charity for routine procedures and general out-goings. It is clear that a breed such as French Bulldogs will never allow for the charity to be rich, but the general consensus was of more control financially after a very tough 21/22.

Phoenix FBR was active in the rescue of 162 French Bulldogs and rehomed 204 to new homes during 2022/2023. Behavioural issues were a challenge with many of the 'lockdown' dogs being poorly socialised and owners wanting to give them up for rescue as they returned to work and/or could not manage their needs and behaviour. Due to the nature of how Phoenix FBR work, i.e. placing dogs directly into foster homes, many have had to be turned away on safety grounds. This year has seen much more advice from the charity being offered to owners in need, maybe to instruct behaviourists or even give recommendations to premise-based rescues who have the facilities to work with more difficult dogs in a safe environment, than the acceptance of the dog into the care of PFBR for rehoming. There have been some months where more dogs were turned away than were admitted, due to the issues of those dogs, and self-enforced embargos were placed on the admission of dogs, whilst the Team regrouped, re-evaluated and lowered the numbers of dogs in our care through adoptions, and then could sensibly recommence acceptance of more. During these embargos, priority was still given to genuine welfare cases, such as dogs at risk of euthanasia for no fault of their own, and those that are surrendered to vets where owners have abandoned them or signed them over due to costs, as well as ex-breeding dogs needing to retire, mostly at a young age. No dog in genuine need has ever been refused where it is possible to help them, and these are always discussed at Management level.

The year saw the division of the volunteers at Management level re-adjusted as new volunteers joined and took on responsibility for new regions. This proved to be extremely beneficial to the charity as new enthusiasm brought in more people wanting to foster and/or adopt a dog and has given a fuller coverage of the UK. Home-visits have continued to be carried out largely as virtual appointments since Covid restrictions, but the Team has now started to visit more in-person where possible, to re-establish a more personal service.

Phoenix FBR continues to refuse rescue dogs from abroad, recognising that the UK already has a surplus of dogs in need, particularly in our breed, and these remain our priority.

The charity began organising and attending carefully selected events, but these tended to be for the purposes of advertising and recruitment, and general public awareness rather than for the limited financial benefit.

For the first time in many years, the recorded numbers of litters for French Bulldogs fell dramatically and was expected to be reflected in those that went unregistered too, as the cost of the puppies became prohibitive for most. Breeders sought to leave the breed due to their lack of profitability and the issues involved with trying to rehome their puppies. Phoenix FBR had more breeders coming to them requesting homes for ex-breeding stock and has become recognised as a reliable, safe, and confidential service for doing this. These dogs often have medical needs for which fundraisers are used, but there is strong feeling within the Team and the public at large that these dogs deserve their Forever Sofas after a life which may not have been the most loving and gentle.

PHOENIX FRENCH BULLDOG RESCUE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

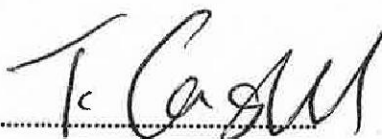
Phoenix FBR does not discriminate against breeders in any way, accepting that the public will always want puppies and 'Adopt Don't Shop' is not practical for all, but it does hold strong views against poor breeding and those who do not care well for their stock. This does not prevent a dog in need from any kind of breeder being assessed for surrender to the charity, just as no judgement is made on any other person wishing to surrender their pet. The charity's focus always remains on the welfare of the dog.

FUTURE PLANS

The changes in working practices that were put into place in FY21/22 have continued to bear fruit and there are no plans to revise these at this time. There are no major plans for the forthcoming year beyond an endeavour to re-establish a more grounded approach in how the charity is funded and to be realistic in where the funding of dog treatments is viable and where they are cost preclusive – head over heart decisions are very difficult where there is an impassioned Team, but this is recognised as being necessary. Long-term fostering has largely ceased due to the costs involved, but some 'supported' adoptions have been approved with pre-agreed-conditions-only being supported by the charity. The longer-term plan is to cease these entirely, by honouring current contracts but not taking on any new ones.

The year ahead looks to be fraught with new challenges as the cost of living continues to hold the UK in its grip and those increased costs mean many feeling that they cannot keep their pets. The charity will look to take on as many dogs as is reasonably practicable, but with a more realistic eye to the costs of each dog in mind, as vet costs have also spiralled ever upwards. It may be several years yet until the saturation of dogs in the UK regulates through natural means, but the charity is braced for this to be the case.

Signed on behalf of the committee



T L Cargill
Trustee

15 March 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF PHOENIX FRENCH BULLDOG RESCUE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Phoenix French Bulldog Rescue for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 6 to 12.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

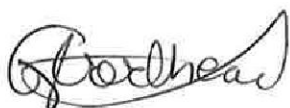
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I can confirm that no 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 charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do 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 other 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.



CJ GOODHEAD FCA
Knight Goodhead Limited
Chartered Accountants

15 March 2024

7 Bournemouth Road
Chandler's Ford
Eastleigh
Hampshire SO53 3DA

PHOENIX FRENCH BULLDOG RESCUE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
INCOME			
Donations and legacies	3	111,650	151,436
TOTAL INCOME		111,650	151,436
EXPENDITURE			
Charitable activities	4	107,092	163,303
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		107,092	163,303
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		4,558	(11,867)
FUND BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD		(4,551)	7,316
FUND BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2023		7	(4,551)

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

PHOENIX FRENCH BULLDOG RESCUE

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	6		<u>397</u>		<u>794</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock		2,520		1,750	
Cash at bank and in hand		668		724	
Debtors	7	<u>40,216</u>		<u>40,384</u>	
		43,404		42,858	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>(34,022)</u>		<u>(35,337)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			9,382		7,521
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	9		(9,772)		(12,866)
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)			<u>7</u>		<u>(4,551)</u>
FUNDS					
Restricted funds			-		-
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund	10	<u>7</u>		<u>(4,551)</u>	
			7		(4,551)
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>7</u>		<u>(4,551)</u>

Approved by the board of trustees on 15 March 2024.
and signed on its behalf by:



T L Cargill
Trustee

PHOENIX FRENCH BULLDOG RESCUE

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant

The accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis.

b) Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income.

- Donations and legacies are received by way of grants, donations, and gifts, and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. It includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Charitable activities comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries.

d) Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

Unrestricted general funds	Funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
Designated funds	Funds which are set aside for specific purposes by the trustees to be used in accordance with the charitable objects.
Restricted funds	Funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purpose.

e) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

PHOENIX FRENCH BULLDOG RESCUE

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (continued)

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

f) Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees are confident that the charity has continued to operate with a surplus of income over expenditure post year end, and that the balance sheet is being restored to a more positive position.

The charity continues to rely on the Bounce Back Loan, meeting all repayments as they fall due.

g) Fixed assets

Assets that cost more than £500 are capitalised at cost price. Depreciation is provided using the following rates and bases to reduce by annual instalments the cost, less estimated residual value of the tangible assets over their estimated useful lives:

Dog equipment	25% straight line
Computer equipment	25% straight line

h) Stocks of dog supplies and merchandise on hand at the year end are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

2 LEGAL STATUS

The charity is a charitable incorporated organisation and registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales on 8 March 2017. The charity is a public benefit entity.

3 INCOME

	2022	2021
	£	£
Adoption fees	44,935	54,837
Donations	53,209	82,360
Auctions and raffles	13,498	14,187
Other income	8	52
	<u>111,650</u>	<u>151,436</u>

PHOENIX FRENCH BULLDOG RESCUE

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (continued)

4 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE

	2023	2022
	£	£
Stock	201	2,163
Vets	38,186	85,150
Dog supplies	8,631	9,463
PR (Literature & Brochures)	-	4,077
Merchandise purchases	2,577	7,546
Wages	33,503	22,161
Training	-	476
Travel and subsistence	4,789	8,609
Printing, postage and stationery	3,281	6,679
Subscriptions	824	571
Telephone	1,004	626
Computer software	3,405	4,356
Sundry	1,465	1,220
Bank charges	1,788	340
Accountancy	3,665	5,495
Insurance	402	978
Rent	1,861	850
Repairs	736	2,068
Depreciation	397	397
Loan interest	377	78
	<u>107,092</u>	<u>163,303</u>

Included within accountancy is £1,500 relating to the annual accounts and independent examination, and £600 for other services from the independent examiners.

5 EMPLOYED STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

Employed staff costs were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries and wages	30,894	18,939
Social security costs	2,192	2,896
Pension	417	326
	<u>33,503</u>	<u>22,161</u>

No employee earned more than £60,000 during this or the prior year.

The average weekly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Direct charitable work	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

PHOENIX FRENCH BULLDOG RESCUE

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (continued)

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Dog equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At beginning of year	789	799	1,588
Additions	-	-	-
At end of year	789	799	1,588
Depreciation			
At beginning of year	394	400	794
Charge for year	197	200	397
At end of year	591	600	1,191
Net book value			
At end of year	198	199	397
At beginning of year	395	399	794

7 DEBTORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments	-	192
Other debtors	40,216	40,192
	40,216	40,384

8 CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	9,523	15,454
Accruals	11,614	8,200
Bank loan	3,179	3,967
Other creditors	9,706	7,716
	34,022	35,337

9 CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank loan	9,772	12,866

PHOENIX FRENCH BULLDOG RESCUE

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023 (continued)

10 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	At beginning of year £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At end of year £
<i>General fund</i>	(4,551)	111,650	(107,092)	-	7
	(4,551)	111,650	(107,092)	-	7

11 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:				
Fixed assets	-	-	397	397
Current assets	-	-	43,404	43,404
Current liabilities	-	-	(34,022)	(34,022)
Long term liabilities	-	-	(9,772)	(9,772)
	-	-	7	7

Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:

Fixed assets	-	-	794	794
Current assets	-	-	42,858	42,858
Current liabilities	-	-	(35,337)	(35,337)
Long term liabilities	-	-	(12,866)	(12,866)
	-	-	(4,551)	(4,551)

12 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Other debtors includes £15,148 (2022: £15,619) relating to funds advanced to S and T Cargill, trustees. This has been cleared after the year end, by way of funds introduced to the charity and additional salary processed via PAYE.

T Cargill, trustee, was paid a total of £30,894 (2022: £18,939) for her work as chief executive of the charity.

During the year, S and T Cargill, trustees, received rent payments totalling £800 (2022: £400) from the charity.