



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 September 2023
To 31 August 2024

Period start date
Period end date

Charity name: Wilby Riding for the Disabled incorporating Carriage Driving
working name Venture RDA

Charity registration number: 1173610

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	Venture RDA is set up to work across the spectrum of disabilities, age range, social status and rural and urban environments. The focus of the work is to ensure that each individual has the chance to derive therapeutic benefit and opportunity to achieve personal goal.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Venture RDA offers regular riding sessions for children with a variety of needs. The sessions in corporate activities that encompass the following skill sets; pony care, riding skills, physical development, cognitive support, speech and language skills, self esteem and confidence and relationship building. These skills show the children empathy and care through looking after the ponies. They allow children to try new things whilst building physical and inner strength. The focus on the child as an individual gives them a voice, a voice that can be heard. The families meet like minded others, who face the same day to day difficulties which gives them a network and subsequent strength as well. Venture RDA offers skills to the children and families that can open new doors when at times the families and children may feel many are closing.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Trustees have ensured that guidance is read an understood.

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>Summary of activities</p> <p>Between September 2023 and August 2024 we provided 750 riding sessions for 106 children of these 88 where new to Venture RDA up from 525 sessions for 74 participants in the previous year</p> <p>Our three most important difference outcome for the lives of participants are- RDA ensures all children make progress physically whilst involved with the project. The specific outline of a child's development cannot be stated, due to every child being individual. However, this physical development could range from fine motor skills, to core strength, to gross motor skills.</p> <p>The RDA ethos means that all children build positive relationships at a pace or level suitable to them. Children can interact with ponies, side helpers and coaches. The children are able to experience respectful and kind relationships. Also, the families involved build a network of support and friendship. At every visit every child will achieve, no matter the size of the achievement.</p> <p>Achievement grows confidence, confidence grows enjoyment, enjoyment grows positivity. Positivity is the heart of Venture RDA, someone believing in you gives you inner strength, the children who come to RDA are encouraged and genuinely cared about.</p>

		<p>Communication and language are benefitted by having to say specific commands to the ponies, and having to speak to people who may not be very used to her speaking mannerisms</p> <p>What we have learnt about our project whilst we have been delivering it this year.</p> <p>We have continuing to understand the role and importance of Venture RDA for the families as a whole. It is a place where the participants grow and continue to develop through the three differences but also the place where the whole family finds support, build relationships with others. Siblings also are finding Venture RDA can offer support, build relationships and confidence.</p> <p>When we see a dwindling of local authority provision for families and young people with special educational needs and disabilities, outlets and facilities like ours become eve more valuable. Adults have a space to talk, feel safe and understood and share familiar stories with people who understand and can sympathise, support and encourage.</p> <p>Our riders have a sense of belonging and we have learnt from our families how important this is, particularly for our riders who are now aged over seven years old and are often finding they are asked to leave mainstream groups as the provision is not adapted for them. This has taught us that longevity of opportunity is vital and we aim to be able to let our riders stay riding with us for as long as possible.</p> <p>Also with a growing demand and growing number of participants we acknowledged the need for more ponies and one that was more weight barring.</p> <p>Also that our families struggle to find a place to hold birthday parties that can accommodate their class group who all have needs and celebrate fully with them.</p> <p>What we have done with this learning- We have continued to develop our activities within the family room, with having a weekly theme that allows children to broaden their horizons, partake in shared experiences and understand the world around them. These activities are focussed on expressive arts and design, knowledge</p>
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		<p>of the world and fine and gross motor, all with opportunities to develop communication and language and social, emotional and personal skills.</p> <p>We have managed to have acquire one pony on loan for an extended period- allowing us to offer more rides.</p> <p>We held our second Family Fun Day- inviting all participants and their extended families to a family fete style event that was tailored to ensure that all our riders could take part in every activity and share with their families, their friends and community. We held our first Christmas Party this was valuable to our families and riders to build friendships, and meet Father Christmas in a setting where their needs could be met.</p> <p>We continue to seek another pony to allow us to invite more riders to ride with us. We now offer birthday parties to our participants after a successful trial which consists of a horse ride, a craft and activities in the yard.</p>
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Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>Income from riding amounts to circa £4.5k pa.</p> <p>However, the Charity initiated a fund-raising campaign during the year and was successful in raising an additional £80k in the 12 months to 31 August 2024 for the purposes of purchasing a Mechanical Horse, hoist and building to house it.</p> <p>As a result, the Charity Reserves increased to almost £113k by the end of August 2024.</p> <p>However, this amount includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £95,628 being the value designated for the mechanical horse under construction • £3,000 ring-fenced for potential replacement of ponies • Leaving £14,047 as "free" unrestricted reserves to cover approx 6 months of ongoing running costs
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Reserves are held to ensure that the Charity has the capacity to run for up to 6 months, if funding reduced / ceased.

Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£112,675
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	The RDA family is a federation of member groups which are governed by a Membership Agreement with RDA UK and a standard group constitution.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Prospective trustees apply and are notified of a decision within 21 days. All applicants are given fair consideration. Posts are decided collectively with nominations from trustee group members, first and seconded.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Wilby Riding for the Disabled Incorporating Carriage Driving
Other name the charity uses	Venture RDA
Registered charity number	1173610
Charity's principal address	77 The Ashway Brixworth NN6 9UZ

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	Karen Mackaness	President		
2	Kevin Hives	Vice Chair		
3	Wendy Spillane	Pony welfare		
4	Karen Vessey	Compliance		
5	Sarah Hedgecock	Treasurer		
6	JD Hives	Secretary, Safeguarding and Risk Assessments		

7	Claire Stuart	Chair		
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)		
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)		
Date		

Wilby Riding for the Disabled Association
Charity Number 1173610
Income & Expenditure for the 12 months to 31 August 2024

	2024	2023
Income		£
Income from riding	4,492	4,018
Grant income	68,000	12,094
Fundraising	11,078	
Interest Received	2,556	1,550
Other income		-
	86,126	17,662
less Cost of Charitable Activities		
Livery fees	19,959	14,558
Pony lease		
Grant refund		
Vet and Farrier fees	1,339	227
Repairs, maintenance and renovations	617	1,304
Riding equipment	492	288
Horses		
Insurance	1,394	
Training	907	
Legal & Professional	244	
Other costs	260	627
	25,212	17,004
Net surplus / (deficit)	60,915	658
	1	-
Reserves bfwd	51,760	51,102
Reserves cfwd	112,675	51,760

Wilby Riding for the Disabled Association**Charity Number 1173610****Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024**

	£ 31-Aug 2024	£ 31-Aug 2023
Fixed Assets		
Assets under Construction to 31 Aug 24	60,628	
Current Assets		
Trade Debtors (Fairfields Sch x 2 invoices)		520
Prepayments - livery for Sep 22		
Bank Account: Business Current Account	43,815	2,385
Bank Account: CCLA COIF Charities Deposit Fund	51,412	48,856
Current Liabilities		
Trade Creditors)	(43,180)	
Net Assets	112,675	51,761
Reserves		
Free Unrestricted funds	14,047	11,761
Designated funds - assets under construction to date	60,628	
Designated funds - mechanical horse to completion	35,000	40,000
Designated funds - replacing ponies	3,000	
Total Funds	112,675	51,761

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Wilby Riding for the Disabled
incorporating Carriage Driving, working name Venture RDA, charity number 1173610**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of:

Wilby Riding for the Disabled incorporating Carriage Driving, working name Venture RDA, charity number 1173610, (the Charity) for the year ended 31 August 2024.

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 ('the Act').

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 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 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 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.

Signed: *Zoe J Carroll*

Name: *ZOE JANE CARROLL*

FCA (Retired)

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): *B.Sc*

Address: *31 LATTIMORE CLOSE
WEST HADDON
NORTHAMPTON
NN6 7GL*

*Accounting +
Business Ec*

Date: *22nd FEBRUARY 2025.*