



THE
KEARNS
FOUNDATION

Making a positive contribution to personal development for community benefit.

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

2020-21

*Established in 2007 and registered as a Charity in England and Wales
(Number 1156557) and now a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Registered under 1174340*

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THE KEARNS FOUNDATION

Charity Name: The Kearns Foundation

Established: October 2007 (under Charity 1156557)

Principal Address: c/o 21 Garrett Court, Gertrude Road, Norwich, Norfolk, NR3 4SD

Trustees:

Andrew Copelin – Chair
Alex Kearns – Vice Chair
James Kearns – Treasurer and Managing Trustee
Shirley Sinclair
Mick Tingley
Karen Willett
Chris Willett
Sarah Diver – resigned 19th July 2020

Board Advisers

Sarah Diver – appointed 19th July 2020
Cathy Corneille
Will Kearns
Stephen Rogers – resigned 19th July 2020

Employees: The charity is run entirely by volunteers and has no employees.

Governance structure: The charity was originally constituted as an unincorporated association under a constitution initially adopted in 2007.

It is now registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) as registered and approved by the Charity Commission of England & Wales on 23 August 2017.

Appointment of Trustees: Trustees are appointed annually at, or between General Meetings, in line with the governing document, such that the membership of the Board of Trustees reflects the skills, knowledge and experience required for both the effective management of the charity, and its resources, and with due regard to the discharge of the charitable objectives.

Board membership seeks to reflect a wide range of experiences of working, or volunteering with the charity's beneficiaries.

Charitable Objectives:

1. To advance in life and help young people through:
 - (a) The provision of recreational and leisure time activities provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life;
 - (b) Providing support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals.
2. To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of charities and the effective use of charitable resources for the benefit of the public
3. Such other purposes as are exclusively charitable in accordance with the laws of England and Wales as the trustees may from time to time decide

Charitable Activities:

The Charity has a priority of making a positive contribution to personal development for community benefit and this is delivered through three core strands of its work:

Small Grants Programme – Grants of between £50 and £250 awarded to individuals, and organisations, meeting set criteria who, as the result of our investment, can make a direct, and positive impact on the communities in which they live, or serve.

Community Support Service – providing information, advice and guidance from its network of trustees, contacts and supporters, to community based voluntary organisations which enable them to grow, progress and improve their communities. This may be through training workshops, mentoring or support with fundraising.

Trimingham Log Cabin Youth & Community Resource Centre – the provision of a log cabin residential centre and camping grounds in North Norfolk provided at a subsidised rate to predominantly youth and community groups to support educational, and developmental projects for young people and community volunteers, as well as providing low cost accommodation for families, and children in need supported by the appropriate agencies.

Trustees' Report:

This report covers the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021 and highlights the achievements within the three core areas of work set out above as a way of achieving the charitable objectives.

Small Grants Programme

In response to the Covid-19 global pandemic and the planned loss of revenue by the closure of the Log Cabin and Campsite, the Small Grants programme was suspended in May 2020.

The Foundation received 2 applications for assistance under our small grants programme during this period from voluntary and community organisations and from individual young people. Neither application was qualifying under the advertised criteria and were generic appeals from national charities.

Community Support Service

Plans for a major conference and workshop to support small charities in Norfolk was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions. No requests were received for specific support, and no training workshops took place during this period (in line with UK Government guidance).

Board Review of the Small Grants and Community Support Programme

In response to a poor number of applications received, over many years, and most not meeting the criteria for funding, Trustees carried out a full 2010-2021 review of its grant-making and support programmes in March 2021 and concluded the following:

- ✓ 67 applications or requests had been received of which only 43% were eligible under the criteria
- ✓ In total 15 community groups and 8 individuals have been offered support
- ✓ Grants awarded - £6,092.88
- ✓ Support Value awarded £750.00

The Board reviewed the needs for funding based on an assessment of other funding opportunities available locally for small and medium sized charities and community organisations. It also looked at ways in which it could support its communities using the compensation funds received during the Covid-19 related closure of the Log Cabin and campsite.

As a result it refreshed its criteria to specifically target organisations with an income below £100,000 per annum, and smaller, as well as individual young people and community volunteers.

It recognised an emerging need for supporting small organisations recovering from the impacts of the Covid-19 global pandemic by introducing two specific funding schemes as follows:

- **Post Covid -19 Comeback Fund** – To help cover venue hire, equipment replacement or marketing to enable youth and community groups to re-engage with their communities as we exit the pandemic effects.
- **Family Support Fund** – where organisations can recommend specific needs for individual young people, and families who are experiencing financial hardship as a result of the impact of a loss of family income through the Covid-19 pandemic

These programmes were launched in May 2021.

Trimingham Log Cabin Youth & Community Resource Centre

Managed entirely by volunteers, both within and supporting the Foundation, the following table shows the use of the log cabin and camping fields.

Year	Total Bookings	No of Groups	No of young people	Cabin nights	Campsite nights
2021*	4	4	99	8	218
2020	1	1	40	4	160
2019	9	6	173	14	289
2018	16	13	333	33	697
2017	15	11	349	29	588
2016	16	14	266	27	452
2015	11	9	170	13	292

*Based on bookings held at 30th June 2021 (for the year)

The Centre and campsite remained closed for most of 2020-21 unable to operate within the UK government restrictions linked to the global Covid-19 pandemic. Whilst one school used the centre for day only use in September 2020, the centre was only able to re-open properly on 17th May 2021.

Overall the Log Cabin and campsite produced an operating deficit during the financial year (2020-21) of £1,938 compared with a loss of £2,330 (2019-20) and surpluses of £1,679 in 2018-19, £1,829 in 2017-18 and £557 in 2016-17. These losses are directly

attributed to the loss of the larger camping area (up to March 2019) and the Covid-19 global pandemic subsequently.

Following the sale of the land, (leased by the Foundation until 2040), by Norfolk County Council to a private individual in July 2019, the Foundation lost use of the camping fields to the north of the site and camping became restricted to the area immediately surrounding the log cabins.

An offer from a local farmer for annual use of an adjoining field for camping was gratefully accepted by the Foundation but unable to proceed after a long, and protracted series of negotiations with the planning authority, North Norfolk District Council (NNDC), who could not grant planning permission for a change of use due to local planning restrictions.

This proposal received full support from the Trimmingham Parish Council, local elected members and residents but contravened development restrictions. Recognising that they had not acted to their own standards NNDC refunded the planning application fee.

Taking into account the impact of this much reduced area for operation, proposals for land use surrounding their site by the new private land-owner, and the implications of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Trustees conducted a full review of the purpose and potential of the site for future use.

They concluded that the site should be retained, and maintenance carried out on the building in terms of management of adjoining trees and repairs to the roof and surrounding timbers.

A programme of maintenance and repairs was planned for the summer and autumn of 2021 to meet the expected demand from post Covid-19 returning customers in 2022.

Fundraising

The Foundation was restricted in its ability to generate funds from events due to the Covid-19 global pandemic however it was able to access compensation funding grants from the UK Government through NNDC.

Additional funds were raised through funeral tributes received in memory of the late Sally Kearns, a former founding trustee and Chair of the Board of Trustees who died in October 2020, a private family donation, and income generated from on-line shopping.

Governance and Administration of the Charity

The Board of Trustees have met regularly, and always quorate, during the year to ensure the effective management of the agreed projects, and to diligently review reports on income, expenditure and budget forecasts in relation to its core activities.

Board Advisers (Will Kearns, Sarah Diver and Cathy Corneille) received copies of all Board papers and comments were invited. Will Kearns attended all meetings.

All trustee meetings during this period were held remotely via video-conferencing when Trustees, and Advisers were visible and audible. Trustees who have been unable to attend meetings on a regular basis have been engaged through e mail, and have been given the opportunity to contribute to decisions.

Trustee attendance records for this period show as follows:

Trustee Name	Meetings Held	Meetings Attended	% attendance
Andrew Copelin	5	5	100%
Alex Kearns	5	5	100%
James Kearns	5	5	100%
Michael Tingley	5	5	100%
Shirley Sinclair	5	2	40%
Chris Willett	5	5	100%
Karen Willett	5	5	100%
Sarah Diver*	1	1	100%

(*Sarah Diver resigned as a Trustee in July 2020 and was appointed as an Adviser to the Board.)

Much of the day to day operation of the charity, including grant applications, centre management and finances are delegated to the Managing Trustee to prepare, with four named trustees being signatories to any outgoing payments, and the Board being regularly updated through meetings and e mails between them on major issues.



Andrew Copelin – Chair

On behalf of the Board of Trustees

4th July 2021

THE KEARNS FOUNDATION

2020-21 Income and Expenditure

INCOME

Budget Heading	Amount	Note
Donations	528.21	1
Fundraising	49.03	2
TLC - Restricted	-	
TLC - Hire	58.44	3
Refunds	70.68	4
Covid Compensation Grants	20,708.00	5
Total	21,414.36	

EXPENSES

Budget Heading	Amount	
Fundraising	-	
TLC	2,026.55	6
Training	-	
Grants	-	
Marketing	-	
Subscriptions	-	
Governance & Admin	143.97	7
Total	2,170.52	

Summary

Income received	2020-21	21,414.36
Expenditure	2020-21	2,170.52
Surplus/Deficit	2020-21	19,243.84
Balance brought forward	1st April 2020	16,237.43
Balance carried forward	31st March 2021	35,481.27
Restricted funds		-
Unrestricted funds		35,481.27

Notes to the Accounts:

1. These funds are represented by the unrestricted donations linked to funeral tributes in memory of the late Sally Kearns
2. These are funds generated from the revenues generated from Easyfundraising and Easysearch on-line pay per click advertising
3. These are funds received from bookings at the Trimingham Log Cabin Youth and Community Resource Centre and Camping site.
4. These funds are represented by refunds from British Gas following fraudulent activity on the account by a third party.
5. These funds are the Covid compensation grants received from the UK Government via North Norfolk District Council.
6. These are the costs associated with the management and operation of the Trimingham Log Cabin Youth and Community Resource Centre and Camping site.
7. These are primarily bank charges of £6 per month and stationery costs.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have not considered a formal reserves policy for the charity to date, within this accounting period but will consider setting a formal policy within the next accounting period likely to be equivalent to three months operational costs.

Audit and Independent Examination Policy

The Charity's income is below the Charity Commission's £500,000 gross income threshold for the requirement for a statutory audit.

As the gross income for the current accounting period is below the Commission's £25,000 threshold, these accounts have been prepared on a "Receipts and Payments" basis without the need for independent examination or audit.

Trustees regularly review all income and expenditure on a quarterly basis and will make its full accounts available, on receipt of a valid and reasonable request. A copy of the

Annual Report and Accounts will be made publicly available as part of the Annual Return to the Charity Commission and published on their website.

Declaration

These accounts and notes have been received, considered, and accepted by the Trustees of the Kearns Foundation as being an accurate representation of the receipts and payments occurring within the financial year 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021 and the balances shown provide an accurate representation of the current assets and liabilities of the funds held by the charity.



Andrew Copelin
Trustee and Chair

4th July 2021



Alex Kearns
Trustee and Vice Chair

4th July 2021

