

Canine Concern

Annual report and financial statements
Year ended 31 December 2021

CANINE CONCERN CIO

Annual report and financial statements
Year ended 31 December 2021

Charity no 1177334 (England & Wales)



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History

Canine Concern was formed in 1988 by Eve Waring, from Wellington in Somerset, who had seen how important dog visits were to the elderly and lonely. Eve believed in reaching out to people through their dogs. She wanted to make the group friendly and supportive of each other as well as to the people, old and young, that we visited.

The group grew across England and Wales with local coordinators to support new members on their visits as well as friendship for the established members. Canine Concern became a successful charity, with Eve at the helm, from 1988 to the summer of 2016 when she became poorly and sadly passed away in April 2017.

The mantle of running the charity was generously taken up by Barbara Gasson (Previous Chair, now retired) and Valerie Fillery (CEO). The Charity offices were moved from Wellington in Somerset to its current home Pevensey, in East Sussex. The charity required some modernisation and re-structure in places which was achieved by the hard work of the Sussex administration and management team and has allowed the charity to continue to move forward and flourish, and in February 2018 became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

Canine Concern continues to be a charity whose policy and belief is and always will be the organisation, caring for the whole community with our care dogs.

Legal and administrative information

Charity Name Canine Concern CIO

Charity registration no 1177334

Date of Formation

27th February 2018

Date Established (Non-CIO)

28th February 1988 (registered charity 13th June 1989)

Founder

Eve Waring

Registered office

21 Dallaway Drive
Stone Cross
Pevensey
East Sussex
BN24 5FB

Trustees

Chris Lovegrove
Colin Scott
Lyn Storey
Tina Jullings
Steve White
Amanda Morris

CEO

Valerie Fillery
*BSc (Hon), IHM BSYA (MT) BSYA (CMA) MCMA
DIP Canine Massage, Cert in Dog Psychology
Dip in Pet Bereavement Dip in Animal Assisted Therapy*

Accountants

Rowland Smith
4 Grand Parade
Polegate
East Sussex
BN6 5HG

Principal Bankers

HSBC
94 Terminus Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 3ND

Trustees Annual Report

Canine Concern CIO Registered number: **1177334**

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 December 2021.

Overview

When we went into lockdown in March 2020, little did we think that COVID 19 would continue to have such a dramatic impact on all our lives throughout 2021

The last 24 months have been difficult for all Charities, and we are no exception, with ever increasing costs in running the charity to conform with the statute and completing our re-modelling, while having to cope and re-organise with the onslaught of COVID 19 and falling revenues.

Adapting to Government guidelines under the pandemic, was the charity's responsibility ensuring everyone stayed safe. Hopefully now we have come through the worst of the COVID 19 outbreak, but sadly some of those that we have visited are no longer with us and our thoughts are with them. We have also lost a few members to COVID as well as several suffering with long COVID and unable to continue visiting but remain as a supporter.

The sphere of our operations has expanded and grown, our read to dogs' programme in schools has grown and is highly rewarding, we are heavily involved with the three main services, we also are providing specialist service to the police, secure establishments, and law courts.

The work for Residential Homes, Care Homes, Hospices and Hospitals continues and we remain immensely proud of that. Universities, Colleges, Special Schools and many more benefit from our charity, we embrace all and will endeavour to help anyone in our community who requests a visit.

Volunteers made fantastic efforts to provide every possible support to their establishments with emails, newsletters, and window visits.

We are most grateful for the continued support of our volunteers who gave additional donations and supported our fundraising activities throughout these difficult times even though they were unsure of their own financial future.

We look forward to many years of serving the members and the community but will be seeking to increase donations to the charity to stabilize our reserve in future years and months to preserve and protect our future and secure long term financial stability.

Small charities, like the whole of the UK charity sector, have been hit hard by the coronavirus crisis, and face an uphill struggle to balance the increasing demands on their services with a decrease in funding and staff capacity. However, we remain today on a sound financial foundation for the years ahead, but we are constantly having to find funding for our day to day running costs in supporting our membership.

The Focus of our work

Our main objectives for the year continued to be the promotion of the wellbeing of the whole community across England and Wales even though there were challenges to the normal face to face visits, we still managed to help many with some innovative, supportive, caring members

Aims and Objectives

The object of the charity was:

- 1) To help people who are in need by reason of their age, disability, health, or social circumstances, particularly, but not exclusively by the provision of therapy dogs to visits school, colleges, care homes, hospital, hospices, libraries, courts, secure establishments, and other similar institutions.
- 2) To relieve sickness, suffering and distress and to promote good health, especially but not exclusively amongst children and elderly people demonstrating good relationships between people and companion animals

The accounts incorporate the results of Canine Concern Fund Raising which raises funds and promotes public awareness of the charity by the holding and attending fun dog shows and events and giving talks.

Activities

Our volunteers with their temperament-assessed dogs visit a wide spectrum of establishments, which include secure units, the three emergency services, hospitals, hospices, residential and nursing homes, and day-care centres, bringing comfort, mutual support, and beneficial care into their lives of who we meet.

We are recognised by the Kennel Club (Bark and Read sponsored dogs) with our work with children in all types of schools as well as mainstream schools through our Read-to-Dogs scheme which use dogs to help children develop a passion for reading and alleviate the anxiety of getting words wrong.

The Charity also undertakes special work with sectors/areas of the police, fire, and ambulance forces, in bringing comfort and support to distressed situations and staff.

Publicity and Communication

Through our media consultants we are daily highlighted on various media outlets such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn with a large following. Many of the places we visit also 'tag' us into their posts which showed the enjoyment from our visits. These posts are increasing in number as our presence on social media increases thanks to our active members and social media consultants

We have been often approached by local radio/TV stations across the UK who broadcast interviews with our volunteers and by local newspapers and magazines for articles. We have even appeared on television with such programs as "Crime Watch"

Risk Management

The Trustees have conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. A risk register has been established and is updated at least annually. We kept up to date with the regulation related to COVID, and kept our members informed of any changes. We also offered an online course to guide our members to the possible behavioural changes in their dog and the people they visit due to COVID. Ongoing training and guidance are considered important to ensure our visits are safe and enjoyable.

The Trustees confirm that policies & Insurances are in place where appropriate to manage this risk.

Structure Governance and Management

The charity was registered with the Charities Commissioners (No. 1177334) and charitable status was granted on 27 February 2018 as **Canine Concern CIO** which incorporated Canine Concern Charity (No. 328237) which was registered in 1989.

The charity was constituted under its governing document, the Constitution dated 28 February 2018. All of the assets and funds of the Canine Concern Charity (No. 328237) were transferred on 28 February 2018. Canine Concern (No. 328237) was then removed from the charities register on 29 March 2018

The charity was managed by the Board of Trustees. If a vacancy on the Board arose, a new member would have been co-opted by the existing trustees.

Trustees

The following persons served as trustees during the period:

Chris Lovegrove (Chairman)

Colin Scott

Lyn Storey (Resigned August 2021)

Tina Jullings (Resigned October 2021)

Amanda Morris (Appointed 22nd November 2021)

Steve White (Appointed 1st August 2021)

No further Trustees were appointed during the period

Achievements and Performance

Having regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit, during the period the charity has promoted its objectives by providing therapy dogs to homes, hospitals, schools, colleges, secure units, county courts and businesses

The Charity continues to grow with new volunteers registering during the year. The demand for our service is ever growing and our Read to Dogs programme is also expanding, being recognized, and supported by the Kennel club. We do not need to advertise, word of mouth from our satisfied members and places we visit continue to increase our membership. We have also had several newspapers and magazines featuring our members and our work.

The number of members not renewing their yearly membership remains at a rock-bottom percentage and usually relates to their dogs not being able to carry out duties, due to illness or death or the members themselves being unable to continue. Over 70% of our membership renewed with many people saying once COVID regulations ease further, they will renew. With a large number of new members joining us, we have lost just 8% of our total membership since 2019.

COVID has affected enquiries and new memberships slightly, however, establishment visit requests were good with places looking at ways to manage the risk of COVID

Those members who left in 2019 were 26.66% of active members, in 2020 were 29.68% and 2021 25.94%. Considering the unprecedented years this is amazing as there is always a loss of membership due to age and health of our dogs or their owners.

Considering we are smaller than other similar charities, we maintain a strong, supportive membership, even in these challenging times.

Organisation Structure

The Board of Trustees is responsible for administration of the Charity. The Board meets formally at least twice a year with other informal contacts and meetings as appropriate. The Charity's Chairman is responsible for the Charity's operational management.

We have employed office staff of a CEO, Commercial/Financial Manager and Membership Liaison Officer as well as volunteer area coordinators and assessors.

Future Plans

The Trustees have agreed that membership of volunteers should be limited to 1,000 members, this is to avoid over stretching the service we provide and to becoming ungovernable with a financial drain on its assets both current and fixed.

The Trustees believe that it is not the size of the membership that counts, but the service and devotion that the individual member brings to the charity. Staying smaller means Head Office can remain approachable for all our members and places we visit to support and encourage all. The charity is proud in being more family and personally based and wishes to keep that status.

Our membership fees remain the lowest possible, in order that it remain open to all regardless of income, especially in these uncertain times for people. Although many members have paid more to the charity, if they feel they can.

The Trustees have taken steps to provide a secure future for the Charity by careful investment, thus providing a platform for income to keep membership fees low and assist in administration costs of the Charity.

Financial review

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the financial information and observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.

The trustees have reviewed the level of unrestricted reserves carried by the charity other than those invested in property, and which represent nearly 3 years' expenditure.

The trustees regard this level of reserves as appropriate in the context of uncertainty over the charity's income to cover the ongoing costs of maintaining the charity's operation.

Each month the CEO. provides a financial overview to the Trustees including budget comparisons, profit & loss statements and any extraordinary require expense required.

As the majority of work that was undertaken in the course of the fulfilling the charity's objectives was undertaken by unpaid volunteers, the recurring annual costs remain low.

Net outgoing resources for the period amounted to £17,314.00

Canine Concern received money from membership fees, member, and establishment donations and from the income from rented property.

Legacy Gifts and Donations

We appreciate those who supported us during the year and those who remembered us in their wills

These gifts make a huge difference to our charity, and we would like to thank the estates and executors of the late Joan Elkins for the support

Our membership is highly supportive in raising funds and our gratitude to them.

In addition, significant funding came from individuals and businesses donations

Investment Policy

We continue to retain a prudent amount in reserves each year although a substantial amount of the charity's funds is spent in the short term. However, we do have long term investment, in our current property folio. This helps to ensure longevity of the charity.

Canine Concern

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This report was approved and authorized for issue by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Lovegrove', is written over a horizontal dotted line.

Chris Lovegrove
Chairman/Treasurer

Dated

7/10/22

**Canine Concern
Independent Examiner's Report**

**Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of
Canine Concern**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out in pages 14 to 18.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

If it is my responsibility to:

1. examine the accounts under section 144 of the Charities Act.
2. to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
3. to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a true and fair view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below:

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
 - b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met or
2. to which, in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Mr G Trenchard, MAAT
Rowland Smith
Chartered Tax Advisers and Accountants
4 Grand Parade
East Sussex
BN26 5HG

Canine Concern
Statement of financial activities
for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Incoming resources		91,265	36,259
Resources expended		(73,951)	(68,121)
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	2	<u>17,314</u>	<u>(31,862)</u>
Exceptional items:			
Loss on the disposal of tangible fixed assets		-	(606)
Gain on the revaluation of fixed assets		<u>50,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>
		<u>50,000</u>	<u>14,394</u>
		<u>67,314</u>	<u>(17,468)</u>
Net movement in funds for the year		<u>67,314</u>	<u>(17,468)</u>

Canine Concern
Balance Sheet
as at 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	3	425,893	376,586
Current assets			
Debtors	4	60,505	1,150
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>120,526</u>	<u>161,876</u>
		181,031	163,026
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	5	(846)	(848)
Net current assets		<u>180,185</u>	<u>162,178</u>
Net assets		<u>606,078</u>	<u>538,764</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted fund	6	606,078	538,764
Total funds		<u>606,078</u>	<u>538,764</u>

The company was entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small company regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.



Chris Lovegrove

Chair of Trustees Board

Date: 7/10/22

Canine Concern

**Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2005) and the Charities Act 2011.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of the incoming resource can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure.

VAT

Value added Tax is not recoverable by the charity, and as such is included in the relevant costs in the accounts.

Assets and depreciation

Assets are capitalised at cost and stated in the balance sheet at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Office equipment: 20% Straight Line

2 Net resources for the year

	2021	2020
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	<u>693</u>	<u>693</u>

3 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Office equipment etc £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 January 2021	375,000	3,466	378,466
Surplus on revaluation	50,000	-	50,000
At 31 December 2021	425,000	3,466	428,466
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2021	-	1,880	1,880
Charge for the year	-	693	693
At 31 December 2021	-	2,573	2,573
Net book value			
At 31 December 2021	425,000	893	425,893
At 31 December 2020	375,000	1,586	376,586

4 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Legacy income due	60,000	-
Other debtors	505	1,150
	60,505	1,150

5 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Other taxes and social security costs	-	2
Other creditors	846	846
	846	848

6 Funds

	2021
	£
Unrestricted fund	
At 1 January 2021	538,764
Net resources for the year	67,314
	<hr/>
At 31 December 2021	606,078

Canine Concern**Schedule to Statement of financial activities
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Incoming resources		
Legacies & donations	71,529	15,984
Membership subscriptions	4,616	5,718
Bank interest receivable	14	157
Fund raising events	306	-
Investment property income	14,800	14,400
	<u>91,265</u>	<u>36,259</u>
Resources expended		
Costs in furtherance of charitable objects		
Insurance	485	539
Merchandise costs	1,031	849
Website and software costs	2,454	3,657
Employer's NI	989	-
Staff training and welfare	17	29
Travel and subsistence	-	218
	<u>4,976</u>	<u>5,292</u>
Investment property costs:		
Fixtures, fittings and repairs	102	407
Property insurance	359	425
Property management fees	993	3,162
	<u>1,454</u>	<u>3,994</u>
Governance costs		
Telephone	918	776
Postage	561	600
Stationery and printing	756	774
Advertising and PR	2,898	3,024
Subscriptions	167	233
Bank charges	-	3
Bookkeeping and administration	422	6,900
Employee salary	58,794	43,614
Pensions	884	586
Accountancy	1,050	1,026
Equipment expensed	-	50
Depreciation	693	693
Sundry expenses	216	366
	<u>67,359</u>	<u>58,645</u>

Canine Concern

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Legal and professional costs:

Other legal and professional

<u>162</u>	<u>190</u>
<u>162</u>	<u>190</u>
<u>73,951</u>	<u>68,121</u>