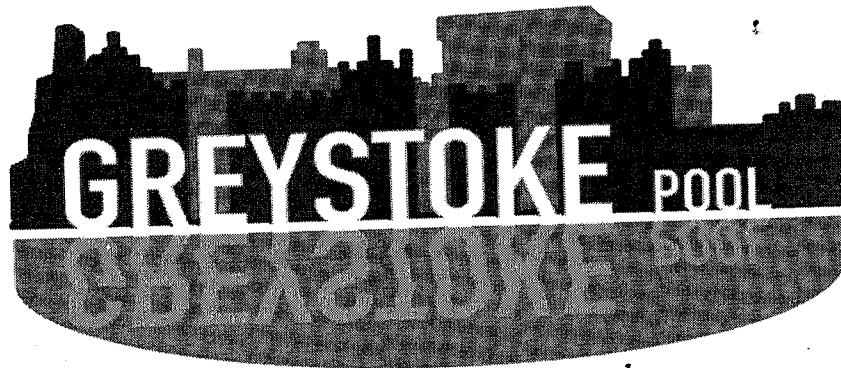


GREYSTOKE & DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION
(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 September 2023



GREYSTOKE & DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees:	Sue Richardson, Chair Rosie Illingworth, Secretary Tara King, Treasurer Moirra Dudson Trish Hawkyard Emma Neilsen Dominic Rhodes Jane Thompson Janice Weatherill-Timmins
Address:	Swimming Pool 8 Church Road Greystoke, Penrith Cumbria CA11 0TW
Bankers:	Santander Bridle Road, Bootle L30 4GB HSBC 29 English Street, Carlisle Cumbria, CA3 8JW
Charity Registration Number: 1177906	

GREYSTOKE AND DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Chair's Statement and Trustees Report for the year ended 30 September 2023

Our Charity

The Greystoke & District Sports Association was set up to establish and run a recreation ground and swimming pool and to promote it for the benefit of the inhabitants of and visitors to Greystoke and surrounding areas. In April 2018 we became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, moving from the sports association model that had served us well for many years.

We operate an open-air heated swimming pool in the village of Greystoke in Cumbria, along with its changing rooms and café. We also maintain two children's play areas and the playing fields which are used by the village football team and the local primary school.

In accordance with Charity Commission guidance, the organisation is able to demonstrate our public benefit in carrying out our objectives. The swimming pool facility, sports pitch and children's play areas have benefitted the inhabitants of Greystoke and surrounding areas and visitors to the area by providing healthy, outdoor social activities.

Report for 2023

This is our fifth formal annual report covering a full 12 months of operation as a charity.

Achievements and Operating Performance

There has been a lot of support in this, the 50th Anniversary Year. The facilities are providing a hub for a range of activities and our fundraising events over the winter months have become an important part of the village social calendar as well as fundraisers for the Swimming Pool. Financially however, it has been a challenging year with increased costs.

The Swimming Pool

This year the swimming pool opened earlier (6th May) and then stayed open after schools returned (9th September), due to good weather in September. Last season was 17th May to 6th September 2022. Whilst we had some sunny days when the pool reached capacity, we also had many quiet days during July and August which were generally cool and wet weather. This meant that extra was spent heating the pool and income from public sessions was lower than expected overall.

The total number of swims in the Adult Sessions increased by 557 to 2774 this year (2217 in 2022) despite having fewer members: 157 adult members (186 in 2022) and 19 family members (27 in 2022).

50th Celebration Weekend 19-21 May 2023:

The weekend started with an inter-school Swimming Gala for Greystoke and Penruddock Schools, with Violet Heggie, one of the founders of the pool, presenting the medals. There was a celebration on Saturday evening, with music provided free by the Flookes for the Buy-a-Brick sponsors. The weekend finished with a Butty morning on Sunday that was well-supported and helped to raise the profile of the pool in the area.

Lifeguards: Moira Dudson did a fantastic job of finding a new group of 5 to train and work over the summer. STA lifeguard training was organised in conjunction with Eden Pools Community Group. An unexpected increase in the cost of training from the proposed £240pp to £410pp was an unwelcome surprise, however we did receive £266 in funding from Westmorland & Furness Council to help with these increased fees. DBS checks undertaken for all too.

Following a bit of research with other outdoor Pools in the area, we decided to introduce online bookings for public swimming this summer. With some gratefully received advice and help from Mark Williamson, we started using BookWhen system. A few teething problems and tweaks later, it has been a great success with the public, who were guaranteed a swim on sunny days and for those who had booked in advance they enjoyed a swim on rainy days too. It was good to keep a few walk-in places available for our season ticket holders, locals & visitors to the village. Thanks to Tara King, Janice Weatherill-Timmins and Mark Williamson for their help throughout the season.

A series of unforeseen repairs over the winter (a leaking pipe in the roof space and a damaged heat pump) led to extra expenditure. Running costs were reduced by purchasing more concentrated chemicals in bulk quantities, although money was spent to make the storage of chemicals safer. Water quality has been good this year, helped by a better dosing system and cooler weather. Many thanks to Moira Dudson, Dominic Rhodes and the pool testing team for all their work this year. More volunteers will be needed to test next season. A crisis with the Pool Insurance in June, led to the pool being closed to adult swimmers for a week whilst new cover was sought. This involved committee members dealing with complex issues and holding urgent meetings to find a solution. The outcome involved a steep hike in premiums, increasing costs by £2500. Thanks go to all those who were involved in managing the situation.

The Winter Café was open on Tuesdays from 1st November 2022 – 28th March 2023. Trish Hawkyard took responsibility for the food, and since we are limited to using certified kitchens, we are very grateful to her for making the majority of the amazing soups and cakes. A team of around 20 volunteers staffed the café, cajoled and co-ordinated by Rosie Illingworth. The income is small in comparison to the effort required, but the committee feel it is important to provide a 'warm hub' and a welcome place to reduce social isolation in the village. The Yoga group meets in the café to chat and buy coffee most Saturday mornings.

Football Team and Playing Fields: Greystoke Football Club had two teams using the G&DSA fields and changing rooms September 2022 – 28 April 2023. Communication has improved over the year. David Simmons (manager/ coach/ grounds-man) attended a committee meeting and many of the issues faced by the pool committee and the footballers were addressed over the year. An agreement (negotiated by Rosie Illingworth) for the 2023-4 season has been signed, making it easier to manage the facility through the winter with defined roles for the committee and footballers. The annual fee has been increased to cover the costs of heating and hot water. The football pitch is being maintained to a high standard and improvements have been made to the grounds using a Football Foundation grant applied for by the Football Team themselves.

Playground: A group of parents, led by Katy Forrester and Lucy Beesley, have secured funds to replace the toddler climbing frame with a grant from Eden DC and a donation from Omega Proteins. Jane Thompson is investigating funding options for the remaining amount required.

Fundraising

- This year's Beer Festival raised an incredible £6,485. This was due to the hard work of Rosie and Robin Illingworth, their amazing team and an army of volunteers each night. Jane Thompson added new sponsors to the existing businesses to help cover costs.
- The Film Nights continue to be a popular feature of the winter calendar in the village. Judith Nicol, Janice Weatherill Timmins and Trish Hawkyard led a wonderful team of volunteers to run four shows, raising over £2,500.
- Village Hall Gig: In February, Moira Dudson organised a lively gig with Soul Junction performing and a raffle that raised over £2700. Thanks to all those involved.
- Monthly Draw: Emma Nielsen and her team of 9 collectors made over £1800 this year. The draw is important for advertising the pool locally with the monthly prizes advertised online and in the 'Together' church magazine. This year saw 229 tickets sold (up from 206 in 2022).
- Wine-tasting Evening: held by Dominic Rhodes raised £97. There was a lot of positive feedback and there is demand for another, suggesting that more profit could be raised with higher ticket pricing.

Media and social media profile

The BBC came to Greystoke to make a film on the financial crisis hitting swimming pools. Janice Weatherill-Timmins was interviewed sitting in the sunshine on the poolside. The filming was a great advert for our pool and appeared online and on TV. The 'Together' church magazine contains regular entries providing those who are not online an easy update on events. The website (www.greystokepool.org.uk) now has links for booking on public swimming sessions and for purchasing event tickets, thanks again to Emma Nielsen and Mark Williamson. The Facebook page is popular; regular posts including Pam Wood's humorous pen-portraits of the lifeguards and volunteers boost the numbers who follow and visit the pool.

Volunteering is an essential element of running the facilities and contributes to an amazing community spirit. Volunteers have a chance to meet others, share skills and care for others. We are very grateful for their support whether it is running the café, maintaining the pool, supporting online or fundraising.

To summarise, the G&DSA facilities have been very well used by locals and visitors to the area this year. The swimming pool is now fifty years old and is showing its age, major investment will be needed over the next few years. In addition, the energy crisis has seen a massive increase in running costs. Income did not cover expenditure this year. Over the winter, the committee will be focussing on developing plans for a more sustainable facility.

The Committee has benefitted from the enthusiasm new members have brought to the team.
Jenny Summerfield (café training, finance support, bookings, DBS checks, maintenance)
Katy Forrester (playground, fundraising, maintenance)
Matt Barton (maintenance and advice on insurance policies)
Adrienne Eyre (volunteering input and event help)
Helen Jackman (pool safety audit)

Financial Performance

We received our Annual Eden Pool grant from Westmorland & Furness Council and we continue to lobby for further financial funding via the Eden Pools Community Group & Sport England, to help with the increasing costs of running an outdoor swimming pool.

We closed our HSBC bank account in November 2022 to save costs, as a monthly fee and charges for cash deposits had been introduced. Just one bank account with Santander now.

The telephone contract with BT came to a close in April 2023, and has now been swapped to Vodafone due to increasing BT costs. We've seen a continuous stable internet connection.

Utility Aid, who had been recommended to us via the Eden Pools Community Group suggested we opt for a 2-year contract with SSE Business for our electricity in December to try and secure some stability with rising costs, especially standing charges from all suppliers.

Summer Operational income (season tickets, café sales & pool admissions, pool hire and annual grants from Westmorland & Furness Council) was £43,779.42 a very slight increase on 2021/22 season.

The Tuesday Social café increased its takings by 7% on 2011/22 winter, with a profit of £1,552 helping to cover some general running costs over the winter. This continues to be a welcome warm social space.

Estimate £285 per day (126 day season) to operate, compared to previous years £227 (2022), £180 (2021). Includes cost of electricity (36% increase), water (39% increase), insurance (225% increase) and lifeguards pay (38% increase).

The Monthly Draw raised slightly more income again this year £3,435 (compared to £3,095 last year). We have a few additional players from new residents in the village, who have also been volunteering their time in various ways for the Swimming Pool and Playground Area.

In summary, due to rising operating costs we incurred this year the fundraising events over the winter have 'propped' up the swimming pool running over the summer.

The committee have formally agreed a Reserves Policy. This states that:

1. The Greystoke & District Sports Association aim for a reserve level so that prior to the start of the season (April) it has sufficient reserves to enable it to cover: (a) a poor start to the season, and (b) during the season to be able to pay for potential essential emergency repairs and carry out emergency equipment replacement.
2. This provides the maximum certainty that the pool can carry on operating during the season and so deliver benefit to users.
3. As of September 2023, these costs were estimated at around £40,000, so this is the recommended minimum level of reserves and should the reserve level drop below this, then the Trustees will work to return the reserves to this level.

In light of increasing operating costs this figure will be reviewed before the start of the 2024 season.

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature 

Full name SUSAN ELIZABETH RICHARDSON

Position CHAIRPERSON GDSA

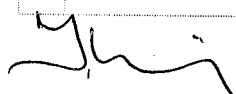
Date 10/1/2024

Greystoke and District Sports Association
Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Charity number 1177906

Receipts and Payments account for the year ended 30th September 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Receipts				
Takings and season tickets	42,135		42,135	39,181
Grants	1,559		1,559	1,559
Donations	724		724	488
Monthly and grand draws	3,435		3,435	3,095
Fundraising events				
Beer festival	11,301		11,301	9,170
Film nights	4,649		4,649	1,998
Other	4,008		4,008	-
Facility hire	3,080		3,080	2,935
Total receipts	70,891	-	70,891	58,426
Payments				
Lifeguard pay	8,835		8,835	6,376
Other lifeguard expenses	2,527		2,527	333
Repairs	6,716		6,716	8,964
Electricity	25,214		25,214	16,821
Insurance	4,520		4,520	1,391
Telephone and internet	470		470	480
Waste collection	281		281	164
Water	3,578		3,578	4,050
Chemicals	2,783		2,783	2,858
Café	3,519		3,519	2,966
Playground maintenance	-		-	341
Sundries	603		603	97
Draw	1,565		1,565	1,475
Fundraising events				
Beer festival	4,816		4,816	2,320
Film nights	2,069		2,069	1,067
Other	1,534		1,534	-
Sub Total	69,030	-	69,030	49,703
Asset purchases				
Total payments	69,030	-	69,030	49,703
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,861	-	1,861	8,723
Transfer between funds				
Cash funds last year end	37,986		37,986	29,263
Cash funds this year end	39,847	-	39,847	37,986

Greystoke and District Sports Association			
Charitable Incorporated Organisation			
Charity number 1177906			
Statement of assets and liabilities as at 30th September 2023			
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	funds	funds	funds
	£	£	£
Cash funds			
• Bank accounts	39,759		39,759
Cash in hand	88		88
Total cash funds	39,847		39,847
Assets retained for the charity's own use			
Pool equipment and buildings	239,545		239,545
	239,545		239,545
The pool equipment and buildings amount reflects the depreciated value at 01/10/2018 and expenditure since then. The charity prepares receipts and payments accounts and therefore does not make provision for depreciation.			
If such a provision was to be made, at 10% on a reducing balance basis, the pool equipment and buildings would have a year end accounts value of £152,744, after annual depreciation of £16,972			
Signed and approved on behalf of the board of trustees			


TARA KING



SUSAN ELIZABETH RICHARDSON

10/1/2024.

Greystoke and District Sports Association

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Charity number 11477906

Independent examiner's report to the trustees on the accounts for the year ended 30th September 2023

The accounts are set out on pages 6 to 7

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Organisation") for the year ended 30th September 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the Organisation, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("The Act").

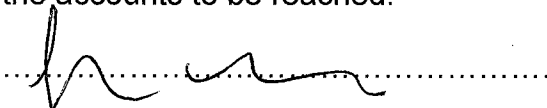
I report in respect of my examination of the Organisation's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable directions given by the Charities Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

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 which gives me cause to believe that, in any material respect:-

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act, or
- The accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Anna Jane Meeks

Stoddah Gate

Per.ruddock

CA11 0RY

Date 10/01/2024

