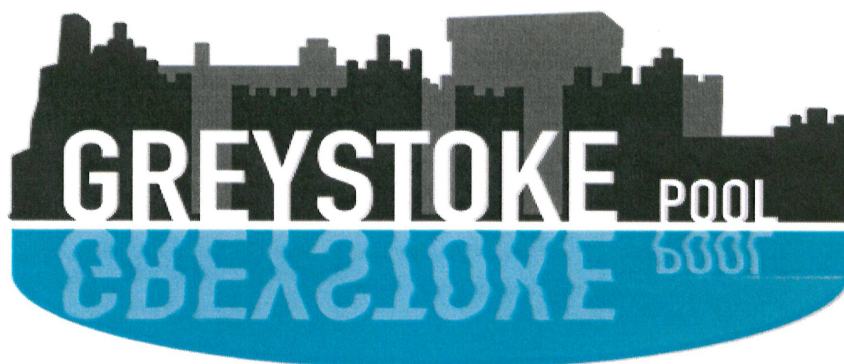


GREYSTOKE & DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION
(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 September 2024



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
Charity Registration Number: 1177906	

GREYSTOKE AND DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Chair's Statement and Trustees Report for the year ended 30 September 2024

Our Charity

The Greystoke & District Sports Association (G&DSA) 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 2024

The facilities continue to be an asset for the community. New groups have been attracted to the facilities and fresh faces have added value to the team of volunteers. Work has been carried out to refurbish existing assets and much time has been spent making plans for the future. Whilst grant support has been very welcome, financially it has been a challenging year.

Swimming Pool

The pool opened to the public on Saturday 18th May (two weeks after 2023) and closed on Sunday 8th September (same as 2023). Repairs, made at the start of the year appear to have stopped the leaks, helping to reduce water costs by 28%. This was made possible by a top team of volunteer cleaners and painters and a grant from Westmorland and Furness Council (see financial report). Local schools made use of the pool to teach children to swim and local youth groups returned once again for private fun hires in an evening. Regular bookings for aqua aerobics and a wild swimming class attracted new users and were well supported, along with a Go-Tri Event. However, 2024 was a disappointing season for the pool; there was a decrease in swimmer numbers, memberships sold and overall revenue was down on 2023 figures (see Financial Report).

Cumbria had a poor summer of weather. Temperatures were cooler than average this year and there were no extended periods of warm weather. The combination of cool air temperatures and problems with one of the air source heat pumps meant that it took longer than normal to heat the pool water up, which may have put locals off buying season tickets. The heat pumps are old and unreliable, resulting in expensive repairs and a sap on volunteer time. A burst pipe in the aged plant room and problems with chlorine levels after heavy rain meant the pool had to close for two 24-hour periods, resulting in lost revenue and the cancellation of an aqua aerobics session.

The committee is working hard to ensure the pool stays open for the next generation. Trish Hawkyard has invested an enormous amount of time this year actively investigating and pursuing grants. The aim is to install an efficient, renewable heating solution, extend the life of the pool structure and set up a sustainable water treatment system. An architect is being sought (via Royal Institute of British Architects) to manage the project and there has been encouraging feedback from grant bodies that we have approached for funds.

This year we had a team of nine lifeguards, which made it easier to cover all the public sessions. We are very grateful to our Head Lifeguard, Jenni Hodgson for organising the rotas and running training sessions. The lifeguards did a great job turning out in all weathers to keep swimmers safe and the facilities clean. Water quality was good, (one advantage of the cooler weather) and thanks to a fantastic team of pool testers.

The pool reception and summer café were run very efficiently by a small army of volunteers. All the sessions were covered and many people commented in the visitors' book about the friendly welcome they received. The Winter Café once again provided a valued weekly hub for locals. Café volunteers have been encouraged to gain hygiene certification and have their kitchens inspected, so there are now more people to share the rota.

A massive thank-you goes out to everyone who has contributed to the pre-season preparation and/or running the pool and café this year.

Playground:

A playground inspection in May highlighted the need for urgent repairs and maintenance. The project to re-open the playground was well-supported and completed within a month. One group of volunteers carried out a much-needed spring clean, whilst others held a Bacon Butty morning and raffle to raise funds. Grants from the Leo group, and the Parish Council (see financial report), were generously topped up with donations from local people and AW Jenkinson kindly donated fresh bark chippings to complete the maintenance requirements. The playground has become a popular attraction in all weathers, but especially after school on Fridays.

Playing Fields:

Greystoke Football Club had two teams using the G&DSA fields and changing rooms. The football pitches are in great condition and the Association is grateful to Dave Simmons for the many hours of work he puts in.

Conclusion

In conclusion, we are navigating tricky waters at present. The age of the pool and supporting plant room, together with the poor summer weather, is threatening the financial viability of our facilities. The G&DSA are focussed on creating a sustainable future for the pool. We are excited about the possibility of improving the experience for users and extending our season. Solutions are complex and expensive, but we are convinced that it is worth the effort to keep the amazing facilities that were developed in the centre of Greystoke over the last 124 years for the benefit of all local people. The committee look forward to sharing plans, once funding has been secured.

Thank you to everyone in helping the work of the G&DSA this year; by supporting us, you are supporting the wider community.

Committee:

Sue Richardson (Chairperson)

Rosie Illingworth (Secretary)

Tara King (Treasurer)

Moirá Dudson (Pool Manager and Lifeguarding)

Trish Hawkyard (Lead for Grant Applications and Future Pool Planning, Café management)

Janice Weatherill-Timmins (Team App and Volunteer Trainer)

Jane Thompson (Fundraiser and Playground Lead)

Jenny Summerfield (assistant to Treasurer and Volunteer Trainer)

Dominic Rhodes (Plant room)

Mike Bousfield (Insurance/Utilities)

Emma Nielsen (Website/100 Club)

Greystoke & District Sports Association has benefitted from having a stable team of experienced volunteers managing the facilities. Adrienne Eyre and Andrea Raper joined the committee bringing

fresh ideas, skills and lots of enthusiasm. The Association is grateful for the help given by Katy Forrester, Helen Jackman and Matt Barton; unfortunately, they were unable to give sufficient time and stepped down during the year.

Financial Performance

We received our annual Eden Rural Pool grant of £1,559 from Westmorland and Furness Council and we continue to lobby for further financial funding via the Eden Pools Community Group, to help with the increasing costs of running an outdoor swimming pool.

We were successful in securing grant funds from the following:

- Westmorland and Furness Council - Strong & Connected Fund: £2k for maintenance opening costs
- Parish council £1k for pool and £500 for playground maintenance
- Cumbria CF £1k for pool
- Westmorland and Furness Council - Community Grant: £200 towards lifeguard training costs
- Leo Group £1k towards playground maintenance

Due to the poor weather over the majority of the summer months, we've had very low swimming attendance by the general public, seeing a 26% drop in swimmer numbers (2,919 in 2024 vs 3,962 in 2023). We sold 32 fewer season tickets than in 2023: 20 Family, 59 Adult and 57 Silver Season Tickets. Total number of member swims fell to 1685 (2774 in 2023) but adult swimmers took advantage of morning and evening swims and the stalwarts were taking to the water, whatever the weather. Our pricing structure may have led to this change; despite altering the family ticket this year or possibly it is the impact of the cost of living crisis causing some to cutback.

Summer Operational income (season tickets, café sales and pool admissions, pool hire and annual grants from Westmorland and Furness Council) was £40,964.89 a decrease of 7% from 2023 season.

The Winter Café had less of a profit than 2022/23, but still gained us £1,147 helping to cover some general running costs over the winter. The weekly café opened on Mondays from the end of October 2023 to mid-March 2024, providing a regular social community hub point for local people.

The Monthly Draw is well supported by the local community and raised slightly more income again this year £3,765 (compared to £3,175 last year). Thanks to the volunteers for collecting subscriptions and advertising the work of the G&DSA.

Some very successful fundraising events were held over the winter months with 3 Film nights, a hilarious pantomime which raised money for the Village Hall as well as G&DSA, and a gig night with Soul Junction playing. This was topped off with another 2-night beer festival to complete the year in style with Sneaky Finch headlining on Saturday night. Thanks must go to all the volunteers and committee members who organise these events, as they have become an important part of the village social calendar as well as fundraisers for the Sports Association.

Estimate a cost of £285 per day (114 day season) to operate, same as 2023, £227 (2022), £180 (2021). This includes cost of electricity (2.8% decrease), water (28% decrease), insurance (3.8% decrease) and lifeguards pay (24.6% decrease). It was a shorter season than last year.

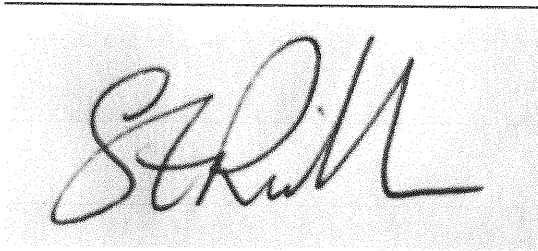
A total of £4,722 was spent on pump/pump room maintenance over the summer months and a further 2 replacement showers in changing rooms. We had 3 new lifeguards to put through their RLSS Lifeguard qualification and DBS checks this year, however, we did receive £200 to help with these costs from Westmorland and Furness Council.

In light of our current operating costs, the reserves figure was reviewed at the start of the 2024 season and it was decided to remain at £40,000.

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

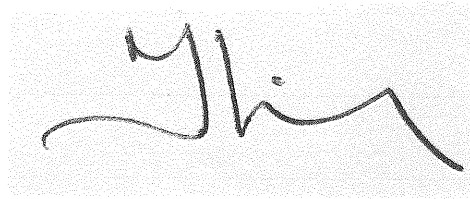
Signatures:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Richardson', written on a light-colored background.

Full name: Mrs Susan Richardson

Position: Chairperson

Date: 12th December 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T King', written on a light-colored background.

Full name: Miss Tara King

Position: Treasurer

Date: 9th December 2024

Greystoke and District Sports Association
Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Charity number 1177906

Receipts and Payments account for the year ended 30th September 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
Receipts				
Takings and season tickets	39,214		39,214	42,135
Grants	2,559	4,700	7,259	1,559
Donations	1,945		1,945	724
Monthly and grand draws	3,798		3,798	3,435
Fundraising events			-	
Beer festival	9,905		9,905	11,301
Film nights	2,769		2,769	4,649
Other	7,002		7,002	4,008
Facility hire	3,524		3,524	3,080
Total receipts	70,716	4,700	75,416	70,891
Payments				
Lifeguard pay	7,088		7,088	8,835
Other lifeguard expenses	1,257	200	1,457	2,527
Repairs	8,122	3,000	11,122	6,716
Electricity	22,923		22,923	25,214
Insurance	4,761		4,761	4,520
Telephone and internet	303		303	470
Waste collection	191		191	281
Water	1,801		1,801	3,578
Chemicals	3,986		3,986	2,783
Café	3,371		3,371	3,519
Playground maintenance	414	1,500	1,914	-
Sundries	254		254	603
Draw	1,745		1,745	1,565
Fundraising events			-	
Beer festival	4,183		4,183	4,816
Film nights	2,011		2,011	2,069
Other	3,170		3,170	1,534
Sub Total	65,580	4,700	70,280	69,030
Asset purchases				
Total payments	65,580	4,700	70,280	69,030
Net of receipts/(payments)	5,136	-	5,136	1,861
Transfer between funds				
Cash funds last year end	39,847		39,847	37,986
Cash funds this year end	44,983	-	44,983	39,847

Greystoke and District Sports Association
Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Charity number 1177906

Statement of assets and liabilities as at 30th September 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Cash funds			
Bank accounts	44,814		44,814
Cash in hand	169		169
Total cash funds	44,983		44,983

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 £137,470, after annual depreciation of £15,274

Signed and approved on behalf of the board of trustees



Signature

SUSAN ELIZABETH RICHARDSON

Name



Signature

TARA KING

Name

12th December 2024

Date of approval

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 2024

The accounts are set out on pages 7 to 8

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Organisation") for the year ended 30th September 2024.

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
Penruddock
CA11 0RY

Date 9th December 2024