

Charity Number: 1178539

Company number: CE014222

BRIGHTLINGSEA LIDO
TRUSTEES REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

BRIGHTLINGSEA LIDO

LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	David Atkinson Neil Ballard Gill Clegg Celia Jones Brian Lambert Steve Watts
Charity number	1178539
Company number	CE014222
Principal Address	Promenade Way Brightlingsea Colchester CO7 0HH
Independent examiners	Adrian Gibbons
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 1 West Ave Clacton on Sea CO15 1OP

BRIGHTLINGSEA LIDO

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BRIGHTLINGSEA LIDO

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Introduction and priorities for 2024-25

This report covers the seventh year of the operation of Brightlingsea Lido as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation following the community asset transfer from Tendring District Council to Brightlingsea Town Council in spring 2018.

Objectives and activities

The charitable objects of Brightlingsea Lido are 'to promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Brightlingsea and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants'

In developing and updating our plans and policies the trustees have continued to be mindful of the charitable objects, and of the guidance on public benefit provided by the Charity Commissioners. Hence, we have ensured that pricing structures, opening hours and other operating procedures take account of the charitable objectives and the desire to provide public benefit by ensuring where possible that:

- Prices remain affordable for families of limited means, including concessionary pricing.
- A range of sessions are offered including those suitable for families and for adults only.
- Our commitment to inclusive provision is promoted with plans to further improve accessibility.
- We provide volunteer and employment opportunities to benefit local people across a wide age range including encouraging cross-generational working relationships, supporting reduction of loneliness and enhancing employability to improve quality of life.
- We work with local charitable and voluntary organisations to support our joint objectives and ensure that our services are available to a wide range of user-groups. (e.g. providing sessions to schools and local clubs)
- We promote the benefits of swimming and outdoor exercise to enhance physical and mental health.

The primary aim for the year was to improve energy generation via renewable sources, with the aim of reducing environmental impact and mitigating energy costs. Brightlingsea Lido remains financially secure, and the trustees are committed to ensuring that plans for 2025 and beyond are managed prudently. Looking ahead, the trustees are exploring opportunities for expansion and the development of new revenue streams.

Access and inclusion

Ensuring the lido is accessible and appealing to a broad user base remains a priority. The reduced size paddling pool and expanded seating area has been well received with families with young children. Additional picnic benches now provide free seating near the paddling pool. Relocating the “ice cream” hut closer to this area has improved refreshment access and alleviated pressure on the Café Lido’s kiosk, allowing customers to purchase refreshment without using stairs.

Achievements and Performance

The lido operated successfully throughout the season, opening its doors from May to September. A significant achievement during this period was the installation of solar panels, which played a vital role in offsetting rising energy costs and supporting the lido’s commitment to sustainability.

The season began with cooler weather, which resulted in lower visitor numbers at the outset. However, as the summer progressed, periods of heatwaves led to a marked increase in attendance, particularly during peak times. To further enhance the visitor experience, new signage was installed across the site, improving wayfinding and contributing to a more welcoming environment.

Season tickets were introduced, providing regular visitors with a cost-effective means of accessing the lido throughout the summer months. Additionally, three special “Doggie Swim” sessions were organised at the end of the season, allowing pet owners to enjoy the facilities with their dogs.

In terms of staffing, lifeguard supervisors were appointed to oversee pool safety and assist with the daily management of the site, ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for all users.

Setbacks

Despite these successes, the lido faced several challenges during the season. A tidal surge led to the pool becoming contaminated with mud, which required substantial cleaning and maintenance before the site could reopen to visitors. The early part of the season saw a slow start, primarily due to the unseasonably cool weather. Additional operational difficulties included plumbing blockages which caused flooding on site, necessitating urgent repairs and resulting in temporary disruptions to normal operations.

Volunteers, Training, and Employment

Strong community support continued, with volunteers offering time and expertise. The Fundraising and Promotions team secured extra funds and kept community engagement high. During the season, experienced lifeguards acted as Duty Managers, supported by trustees. Around 12 lifeguards, 10 catering staff, a pool manager, and a technical/plant room manager were employed.

Café Lido

The café's dedicated team efficiently served extra customers during heatwaves and built a loyal base of regulars, such as dog walkers and early swimmers, in quieter periods. Café Lido consistently provided excellent service and supported Brightlingsea Lido's financial stability.

Fundraising and grants

The lido was successful in a bid for funding to initiate measures designed to lengthen the season and improve heat retention and aid energy efficiency. The volunteer fundraising team also raised £5,905 from local events towards flood resilience measures.

Customer and community support and feedback

The 'Lido in Brief' bulletin kept volunteers and the local community informed about development plans, events, and staffing. Social media and direct requests led to more "Doggie Swim" sessions, which took place on the season's last day.

Ebb & Flow: Celebrating 90 Years of Brightlingsea Lido

The Creative Team led a community art project which culminated in the production of colourful panel documenting the history of the lido. The vibrant panels are now a permanent exhibit along the Lido perimeter.

Financial review

The accounts show a £65,196 surplus in the year.

Structure, governance and management

Brightlingsea Lido is Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed by a constitution, based upon the model foundation constitution for a CIO, whose only voting members are its charitable Trustees.

Trustees

A team of up to eight trustees oversee the running of the lido. The following served as Trustees during the reporting period

David Atkinson
Neil Ballard
Mick Barry (until February 2024)
Jenny Barry (until February 2024)
Gill Clegg
Celia Jones
Brain Lambert
Steve Watts

The lido is actively recruiting trustees from the local community, seeking candidates whose skills and experience fit the CIO's current needs and aiming for balanced representation of gender, age, and user interests.

The Trustees in post in January 2025 when this report was approved for publication are:

David Atkinson
Neil Ballard
Gill Clegg
Celia Jones
Brain Lambert
Steve Watts

Management

Team of Responsible Trustees, Lifeguard Manager and Duty Managers.

Brightlingsea Town Council (BTC)

Continuing thanks are due to BTC without whom the successful operation of the CIO would not be possible. The Town Council are our key partner who have contributed to capital improvements and other support. They are also our landlord, with whom we have a sub-lease. We are required to act independently of the council, with Michael Barry serving as the council liaison linking the trustee board with both BTC and Tendring District Council.

Future priorities

The principal aim of our project is to safeguard a much-loved local asset, ensuring it remains a valued recreational facility for both the community and visitors. Our long-term vision encompasses not only the preservation of the Lido but also the expansion of health-promoting activities across an extended season. We remain committed to enhancing accessibility for vulnerable groups, making sure that everyone can benefit from the opportunities the Lido provides.

Among our recent initiatives, the installation of solar panels has been pivotal. This development aligns with our key objectives of boosting heat retention and generating energy from renewable sources.

This document serves as a means to articulate our vision for future progress. We hope it will motivate new volunteers and trustees to engage with our ongoing efforts, supporting Brightlingsea Lido as it enters its next stage of growth and improvement. Looking ahead, we aspire to maintain the popularity and safety of outdoor activities at the Lido, ensuring it continues to play a significant role in fostering the health and wellbeing of Brightlingsea residents and visitors alike.

Reference and administration

This forms the Brightlingsea Lido Trustees Annual Report for the period to 31 March 2025 for Brightlingsea Lido, Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) as required by the Charity Commission.

Our registered/ principal address is:

Brightlingsea Lido
Promenade Way
Brightlingsea
Colchester
CO7 0HH
brightlingsealido@gmail.com
Charity number: 1178539

Website www.brightlingsealido.org.uk

We are also on social media, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter @brightlido and have reviews on Google maps and Trip Advisor.

Brightlingsea Lido does not hold funds as a Custodian Trustee.

Report approved by Brightlingsea Lido Trustees

Signed



Celia Jones

Chair of Trustees

Date 9th January 2026

BRIGHTLINGSEA LIDO

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER FOR THE PERIOD ENDED

31 MARCH 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Brightlingsea Lido (the trust) for the period ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- 2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3) the accounts did 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 requirements that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered 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



Name

Adrian Gibbons

Address

Flat 4, The Shipyard, Waterside, Brightlingsea

Date

13 / 01 / 2026

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total period to 31 March 2025	Total period to 31 March 2024
Income from:				
Grants	0		0	0
Donations	2,460		2,460	4,240
Pool Income	135,241		135,241	95,630
Fundraising events	8,669		8,669	4,105
Café sales	85,540		85,540	72,984
Insurance claims receivable	0		0	0
	<u>231,909</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>231,909</u>	<u>176,959</u>
Expenditure from:				
Cost of sales	(42,713)		(42,713)	(38,036)
Employee and Volunteer Costs	(85,560)		(85,560)	(86,590)
Equipment and Premises Costs	(14,363)		(14,363)	(35,833)
Administration costs	(15,264)		(15,264)	(3,830)
Fees, subscriptions and Insurance	(8,813)		(8,813)	(12,180)
Building and development projects	0		0	(5,954)
	<u>(166,713)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(166,713)</u>	<u>(182,423)</u>
Net income/expenditure	<u>65,196</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>65,196</u>	<u>(5,464)</u>
Pool development			(4,938)	(109,990)
Fund Balances at 31 March 2025	75,119	0	75,119	14,861
Fund Balances at 31 March 2024	<u>14,861</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>14,861</u>	<u>130,315</u>

All activities are classed as continuing. There are no recognised gains or losses other than those reported on the Statement of Financial Activities.

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	31-Mar-25	31-Mar-24
<u>Current Assets</u>		
Cash at bank and in hand	85,519	10,966
Petty cash	2,759	88
Restricted funds	-	-
	<u>88,278</u>	<u>11,054</u>
<u>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</u>		
Café balance owed	17,290	(4,814)
Accruals	-	-
Credit Card	(3,423)	1,433
Payroll balances	(709)	(426)
	<u>13,159</u>	<u>(3,807)</u>
Net current assets	<u>75,119</u>	<u>14,861</u>
Net assets	<u>75,119</u>	<u>14,861</u>
<u>Funds</u>		
Unrestricted Funds	75,119	14,861
Restricted Funds	-	-
Total Funds	<u>75,119</u>	<u>14,861</u>

The accounts were approved by the Board of Trustees on 6 January 2025.

Signed



Celia Jones

Chair of Trustees

Date 9th January 2026

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of financial statements are as follows:

Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis, which the trustees consider to be appropriate for the following reasons.

The trustees are confident that the charity will have sufficient funds to continue to meet its liabilities as they fall due for at least 12 months from the date of approval of the accounts and therefore have prepared the accounts on a going concern basis.

Income

Grants and donations are credited to the SOFA when the charity becomes entitled to the income, the income can be measured reliably, and it becomes possible that the income will be received. Whereby a grant is subject to donor-imposed conditions, (i.e., they are performance related or the donor specifies the time period in which the funds must be spent), the income is recognised in line with such donor imposed conditions. Other trading income is recognised on an accruals basis at point of sale.

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accrual's basis with the irrecoverable element of VAT included with the item of expense to which it relates. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. Governance costs (included within support costs) include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity. These are included within support costs. All costs are allocated between expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned based on estimated usage as a proportion of directly attributable expenditure.

Cash Flow Statement

In accordance with Section 7 of FRS 102 the charity is claiming exemption from the requirement to prepare a cash flow statement on account of its size.

Taxation

As a charity, Brightlingsea Lido is exempt from tax on income and gains to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

Fund Accounting

Funds held by the charity are either: Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees and which have not been designated for other purposes. Restricted funds - these are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the accounts.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes bank accounts, cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposits or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised. The trustees do not consider that there are any critical estimates or areas of judgement that need to be brought to the attention of the readers of the financial statements.

Restricted Funds

There were no restricted funds received or unexpended for the period ending 31 March 2025.

Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	31 Mar 2025 Total	31 Mar 2024 Total
Fund Balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:				14,861
Current Assets	88,278	0	88,278	11,054
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13,159	0	13,159	(3,807)
	<u>75,119</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>75,119</u>	<u>14,861</u>

Related party transactions

Commercial party transactions relating to non-trustee service during the year to 31 March 2025, are recorded and disclosed.

Control

The charity is under the control of the Trustees.

Charity information

Brightlingsea Lido is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales. The charity's registered number and registered office address can be found on the legal and administrative information page.