

Charity number: 1180051

FLEET CAMPS CIO

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR 1 JANUARY 2023 – 31 DECEMBER 2023

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
For the year 1 January 2023 – 31 December 2023

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FLEET CAMPS CIO

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

CHARITY INFORMATION

REGISTERED CHARITY No.	1180051. The charitable incorporated organisation was registered on 24 September 2018	
CONTACT ADDRESS	Abbey Court Cove Tiverton Devon EX16 7RT	
PRINCIPAL OBJECTS	<p>To advance the Christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. to seek to lead children and young people and others to a saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and to help and encourage them to grow in the Christian faith;ii. to promote and conduct evangelistic and other services and public and private meetings and gatherings and activities at camp, in the open air, in places of worship and elsewhere; andiii. to promote, help and encourage young people in Christian leadership.	
TRUSTEES	Luke Briner Christopher Newnham Colin Small Neil William Summerton Keith William White	(Resigned 22 September 2024) (Chairman)
TREASURER	Suzanna Bell	
BANKERS	Lloyds Bank 92 St Mary Street Weymouth Dorset DT4 8PA	
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	John Helm Tandem Accounting Ltd 17 Heathville Road London N19 3AL	

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TRUSTEES REPORT

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts of Fleet Camps CIO (“the CIO”) for the calendar and financial year 2023. The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis with a statement of assets and liabilities.

BACKGROUND

Fleet Camps were formerly the responsibility of the Fleet Camps Trust, which was established by a deed dated 18 February 2004, taking over activities previously operated by the Cholmeley Evangelical Church (Second Century) Trust for many years. The Camps have always provided recreation and Christian education for children, teenagers and young adults.

In 2018 the trustees of Fleet Camps Trust successfully applied to the Charity Commission for England and Wales for the registration of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) to take responsibility for the activities of the trust in future, and to transfer the assets of the trust to the CIO for that purpose. The CIO was registered and established on 24 September 2018.

The CIO took responsibility for the operations and activities of Fleet Camps as from 1 January 2019 and the assets of Fleet Camps Trust were transferred to the CIO as from that date.

TRUSTEES

The CIO has kept its composition under review and seeks to anticipate likely retirements and the need for replacements. It is actively seeking to add one or two trustees, now that the total number has fallen to five. New trustees are usually drawn from those already familiar with the camps work through participation in it and preferably through membership of the Camps Leadership Team, which is a committee of the CIO. They are therefore already familiar with the work of the camps in a practical way. However, on becoming trustees, they are briefed in detail by the existing trustees, and provided with a copy of the CIO (foundation) constitution, recent reports and financial statements, and other key documents that they may not already be familiar with, as well as being directed to key items of general guidance for trustees that the Charity Commission produces, including relevant sections of the Commission’s guidance on public benefit. These key documents to which the attention of trustees is directed include the CIO’s suite of policies, including its safeguarding policies, though members of the Camps Leadership Team are already familiar with these.

TREASURER

The Hon. Treasurer is Suzanna Bell who has been familiar with Fleet Camps for many years as a camper and then as a camp leader.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Up to 2019 inclusive, the CIO’s main activities were to organise three week-long camps for children and young people at Fleet House Farm, Fleet, Weymouth in July and August. However, COVID meant that in 2020 no camp could be held (though some online activities were substituted for them) and in 2021 only a day camp could be held. Since 2022, the camps have been confined to a five-day youth camp (for 14–19 year olds) and a week-long camp for the 8–13 age group.

In 2023, the youth camp was participated in by 19 youth and 15 leaders, while the children’s camp was participated in by 52 children and 22 leaders. The quality of the camps was in every respect excellent.

The scale of activity by the CIO is constrained by the fact that all associated with the work do so on an entirely voluntary basis, give up personal holidays for the purpose, and pay camp fees at a reduced level if they are present at the camps.

Training sessions for tent leaders and others are conducted in order to ensure that they are fitted for their duties and that they are fully familiar with Fleet Camps’ policies and procedures, including on safety and safeguarding children matters (policies and procedures which are approved by the trustees). These sessions also serve the wider purposes of the CIO, including training in Christian leadership. In addition, reunion meetings for campers, and other ways of following up and reinforcing the work at the camps, are arranged to the extent feasible.

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PUBLIC BENEFIT

The CIO provides public benefit within the ambit of its objects in the following main ways:

- Advancing the Christian faith in accordance with the CIO's statement of faith, including by means of (i) – (iii) of its objects. This is done by presenting biblical truth in a clear and relaxed way which is calibrated appropriately to the age of each group of campers. The effectiveness of the camps can be judged in the way that over recent years campers who may have begun at the camps at the age of eight have developed into camp leaders and are now active in Christian work and leadership in other ways.
- Providing informal spiritual and moral education to campers and camp leaders which will fit and develop them:
 - for involvement in Christian worship, life and work, and in leadership of churches and other bodies;
 - to be excellent citizens; and
 - to encourage them to contribute to the good of society in the future both at home and abroad.
- Providing an educational and spiritual environment, and recreation, conducive to the development of moral and spiritual character which will contribute to the quality of personal life and to society more widely
- Providing summer recreation for children, adolescents and young adults
- Developing leadership potential which will benefit the Church and society more widely.

The quality of the work and activities is testified to both by the enthusiasm of children and young people for the camps, and the endorsement, which is given by parents and guardians, and by representatives of local social services departments.

The CIO does not have any restrictive criteria governing who may be accepted as a camper and gives financial assistance both to campers and young leaders who need it insofar as resources are available from time to time and insofar as such assistance would be appropriate in the particular case. The CIO raises money for a bursary fund for this purpose. The CIO's general practice is to use all bursary fund resources that are in hand at the time of the camps in any year to subsidize fees for particular individuals, and, if further funds are needed for that purpose, to draw from its general funds as necessary and available. However, the funds in hand to the CIO have been drawn down in recent years, to the point that the scope for supplementing restricted bursary funds from general funds is now limited.

From time to time, the CIO, and the Trust before it, has received grants from other trusts and individuals to support its activities. These have usually been tied to some specific purpose, such as the replacement of equipment.

The trustees have had regard to relevant aspects of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit of charities in shaping its policies and undertaking its activities.

FINANCIAL, FUND-RAISING AND GRANT-MAKING POLICIES

The CIO's activities are funded mainly by camp fees raised from campers and camp leaders. These fees are held as low as is consistent with covering costs from year to year and providing for the gradual replacement and improvement of equipment (to the extent that that is not met by specific grants from other trusts and individuals, and donations of equipment from other camps which no longer have use for it). No person associated with Fleet Camps receives any remuneration for work for the camps: all are volunteers. Camp leaders normally pay camp fees in order to contribute, indispensably, to the viability of the work and thus facilitate the public benefit which it gives.

Some campers, and younger camp leaders (normally those still in full-time education), need financial assistance with their fees if they are to participate. The CIO maintains a Bursary Fund to provide this assistance, in the form of abatement of camp fees (both for campers and junior leaders) to individuals who need assistance if they are to be able to participate in the camps. Normally this assistance is at a standard rate of grant per individual. In particular cases of hardship, the trustees might decide to give a higher rate of assistance. The CIO solicits donations to the Bursary Fund from the churches and individuals associated with the camps, but not more widely.

In addition, when necessary, the CIO seeks grant funding from selected funders who might be interested in the activities of the camp. Normally, these funds are for the acquisition of specific pieces of equipment, whether new or replacement, for the camps. Details of any such grants received in the course of the year are given in the notes to the accounts.

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The CIO does not solicit funds from the general public.

By holding down fees to the minimum feasible level in the ways described above, and through bursaries, the CIO seeks to ensure that the opportunity to benefit from its work is not limited by financial constraints on the part of possible users.

The CIO keeps these policies and approaches under review, modifying them gradually as changing circumstances dictate.

RESERVES POLICY

The CIO budgets on a break-even basis, allowing for expected income from fees, likely grants and the need to replace, improve and add to equipment on a planned basis. The CIO and the predecessor trust has not employed staff. Normally, surpluses have not been large, and deficits have been avoided, if possible, though estimating income and expenditure in any year cannot be exact, and small surpluses or deficits may arise. The aim has been to correct any deficits in the immediately following years. Given the present nature of the activities, the trustees have not considered that there is a need to build up significant reserves except from time to time when there is a need to replace major items of equipment, and these cannot be funded by grants. The CIO expects that the present balance of funds being carried forward in the General Fund will gradually be drawn down over time, in particular to fund replacement and additional camp equipment, though the balance is now approaching the level that it will be necessary to treat it as an appropriate operating reserve.

RISK MANAGEMENT

In particular because the camps are mainly for people under the age of 18 and are held in temporary tented accommodation with temporary electricity, gas and water services, the trustees have taken, and their successors will take, risk management very seriously. Camp procedures and policies have been drawn up, covering, among other things, health and safety (including of specific activities on and off the site), child protection (Safeguarding Children), and equality of access to camp activities. They are reviewed regularly. Risks arising in erecting and breaking the camps are also assessed, and remedial measures identified where appropriate.

The trustees have considered appropriate procedures in the unfortunate event of individual physical violence between campers or between campers and leaders. Camp leaders are instructed about risks, and key issues are drawn to the attention of children at the start of and during each camp, including in the form of rules which must be followed at all times. Camp leaders are also subject to appropriate rules and guidelines, for their own protection as well as that of the campers. DBS checks are carried out on all British residents who are associated with the work of the camps, both trustees and others. Policies and procedures which bear on the protection of both children and adolescents are kept under review in the light of recent experience and assessments of current needs.

The trustees are aware that the CIO's safeguarding obligation is regarded by the Charity Commission as applying to all persons who have any connection with the CIO and its work, whether or not they are children or adults at risk. This is borne in mind in reviewing the relevant policies annually and in risk management. Physical risks arising both on the camp site and in the course of off-site activities have been and continue to be carefully assessed and remedial action is taken where necessary, in the form of physical measures or procedures and policies as appropriate. Risks are re-assessed on a regular basis and, exceptionally, as may appear necessary.

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL OUTTURN

The total income for the period was £17,259 (2022: £10,532). Total expenditure was £15,985 (2022: £20,969). The overall surplus for the year was £1,274 (2022: deficit of £10,437) and the cash balance carried forward on 31 December 2023 was £6,145 (2022: £4,871).

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Charity law requires us as trustees to prepare accounts for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year. The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the

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Charities Act 2011. The trustees also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

The trustees confirm that to the best of their knowledge these accounts comply with applicable law.

BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES

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N W Summerton (Chairman)

11 October 2024
Date

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the accounts of the charity for the period ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on page 7 and 8.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- 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

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 respect of the church as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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 requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as 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.

John Helm ACA
Tandem Accounting Limited

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RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Receipts		
Voluntary Receipts	2,700	6,000
Charitable Activities (camp applications)	14,065	4,270
Trips	432	200
Food		62
Miscellaneous	43	-
Bank interest	19	-
Total Receipts	17,259	10,532
Payments		
Camp Applications (refunds)	1,542	806
Camp equipment (purchase & hire)	1,262	10,849
Food	3,248	2,799
Insurance	1,100	1,066
Site maintenance & utilities	628	372
Trips	6,527	4,013
Administration	161	309
Miscellaneous	17	755
Governance	1,500	-
Total Payments	15,985	20,969
Net Receipts/(Payments)	1,274	(10,437)
Cash balances brought forward	4,871	15,308
Cash balances carried forward	6,145	4,871

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As at 31 December 2023

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The Accounts were approved by the Trustees on xx xxxx 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

		2023	2022
		£	£
<u>Assets</u>	Notes		
Equipment	Various camping equipment is held, although it is not possible to place a value on it. The insured value is £48,732	-	-
Debtors		613	-
Bank balances		6,145	4,871
Total Assets		6,758	4,871
<u>Liabilities</u>			
Fees for Independent Examinations		(780)	(1,000)
Total assets less total liabilities		5,978	3,871

N W Summerton
Chairman