



COMMUNITIES FOR HORSES

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND UNAUDITED

ACCOUNTS

FOR THE PERIOD 4 APRIL 2023 TO 3 APRIL 2024

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TRUSTEES' REPORT

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity name	Communities For Horses
Other names charity is known by	CFH
Registered charity number	1180625
Principal address	2 Coach House Mews Ranmore Surrey RH5 6SX

CHARITY TRUSTEES

Ana Pombo Rose
Joanna Hockenhull
Melissa Upjohn (until November 2023)
Marie Rowland (from October 2023)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Type of governing document:	Trust Deed 01/11/18
How the charity is constituted:	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Our Trustees

Our trustees are appointed by resolution of existing trustees at a recruitment meeting (governing document section 10.1). Once appointed, the trustees are brought up to date on current activities and the necessary administration, either at a meeting in person or online. Our trustees are appointed for their relevant expertise and specific training is not often required but is available if appropriate.

Our Organisational structure

Communities For Horses (CFH) has two co-founders. There are three trustees appointed who meet regularly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity.

Policy on financial reserves

The policy on reserves is to avoid holding excessive funds to maximise spend on our charitable objectives. Large reserves are not currently required as CFH has minimal fixed costs and programmes of work are only undertaken when funding has been secured and with a clear remit. However, the charity trustees agreed to hold a reserve balance of £1000 to make sure public liability insurance and phone credit costs each month could be covered, enabling the welfare officer to still attend emergency welfare cases and operate the phone line. The trustees review the policy on an annual basis to ensure that it is still relevant as the charity develops.

Risk management and mitigation

CFH does not own premises or offices and does not have significant running costs. CFH has public liability insurance which covers all staff members and volunteers. Furthermore, all our policies and procedures are reviewed by the trustees annually.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Our charity works with communities where horses are a key part of the heritage and life of the people who live there. A foundation of our approach is that we are trusted within the communities. We are the point of contact for many horse owners for information and help. We have formed relationships

built on trust within and through years of work in communities and we have formed relationships with many horse owners. This enables us to monitor welfare issues, take action where needed and focus on prevention and mitigation of problems.

The charity works in an area of high-level economic deprivation and low educational attainment. Historically this has led to widespread failure to meet the standards set by animal welfare legislation, in some communities. Additionally, visible occurrences of equine welfare failure create problems with both the wider communities and the Authorities which in turn can reinforce feelings of ostracism, create tension and prevent resolution of the underlying problems.

The core aim of the charity is to prevent equine suffering and promote humane behaviour towards equines through educational methods tailored to the communities in which we serve. Our charitable aims and objectives are detailed below along with a summary of the main activities undertaken to deliver benefit to the community.

Summary of charity objectives as set out in the governing document:

- To promote humane behaviour and good equine welfare practices through public education to prevent cruelty and suffering.
- To provide appropriate care, protection and treatment for horses in need (including necessary veterinary intervention). This may be due to neglect, maltreatment or unsuitable living conditions.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objectives:

- To provide equine welfare education in horse owning communities on an outreach basis through innovative programmes for children and adults.
- To provide support both to horse owners and to concerned members of the public in relation to equine welfare and one of the most important avenues to achieving this is via a telephone helpline.
- To monitor our effectiveness, share our experiences with other organisations and provide mentoring and training opportunities to those who want to learn about working in an ethical, constructive way in the community.

All the charity trustees have regard to the commission's public benefit guidance and take it into account when making decisions to which that guidance is relevant.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

During the review period Communities For Horses has continued to be a source of advice and support for local horse-owning communities. In addition, we play a key role as a contact point for any community member who has a concern about equine(s) within the community.

Our charity seeks not only to help equines in need but educates, supports and facilitates sustainable changes within the community. This year it has been incredibly positive to see this evidenced through community members who have previously received training from us, now taking an active role in helping others within the community.

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS 4 APRIL 2023 TO 3 APRIL 2024:

Rehoming

We continue to monitor and provide ongoing support for our loan horses and ponies who are in their new homes.

Advocating to improve equine welfare – CFH working in collaboration with other animal welfare organisations

Despite our relatively small size, Communities For Horses advocates for equine welfare at the highest levels with CFH representatives attending meetings of Animal Welfare Network Wales (AWNW), AWNW Equine Welfare Working Group, the World Horse Welfare conference and the British Horse Council.

In February 2024 we responded to the Welsh Government's Consultation on Licensing of animal welfare establishments, activities and exhibits.

Responding to requests for support

Throughout the reporting period we received and acted upon numerous requests for support from local horse owners and community members. One example of this was our support of one of our beneficiaries when their horse was euthanised. This was the best course of action for the horse's welfare, but it was logistically very challenging. It was also incredibly upsetting for the owner as they had been together for over 30 years. The costs quickly escalated for the owner when the euthanasia costs were combined with the hire of machinery needed to facilitate the removal of her long-term companion. We were fortunate to be in a position where we could assist the owner with some of the costs of recovery.

We frequently respond to calls about free-roaming ponies on the common and the marshes. We continue to provide advice on every day and extraordinary issues. We are a point of contact for local councillors, MPs and concerned members of the public about equine welfare, management, environment, care and behaviour.

Education and training

CFH began providing weekly equine educational Facebook posts to engage the community and promote a deeper understanding of horse care and welfare. These posts covered a range of topics, including equine health and nutrition. One post in July 2023 reached 800,000 people.

Equine factsheets have been created and/or updated to include more comprehensive and detailed information. The updates now feature information for Osteoarthritis, Equine Influenza, Poisonous plants, Body Condition Scoring and much more. These factsheets give horse owners and caretakers easy access to important information, helping them make better decisions and improving their horses' well-being. We will continue to grow this library going forwards.

We provide assistance to British Animal Rescue Trauma care Association (BARTA) for practical training sessions for the Welsh Fire and Rescue Service.

Website redesign

The redesign of the Communities For Horses website (<https://www.communitiesforhorses.org/>) was an important focus of our work during this review period. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a shift in our activities. As a consequence, it was more important than ever to have a fit-for-purpose online presence containing information to help horse owners in our communities.

The content of the entire website was reviewed, and revised where necessary. The format has been expertly redesigned, and the resulting site is more efficient and streamlined, making it easier to navigate and find information. We are incredibly proud that the site is now available in both Welsh and English language.

ASPIRATIONS OF THE CHARITY

Building on our experience to date we aspire to:

- We will facilitate welfare lead events and clinics.
- We will continue and aspire to grow our impact, with face to face and telephone advice
- We will facilitate, when necessary, castration, vaccination, microchipping and passporting of unregistered horses.
- Maintain on the ground engagement with an ever-widening network of contacts, expanding the prospects for positive change across the communities.
- Embark on a proactive programme to source funding in order to develop our educational resources.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position at the end of the reporting period:

During the 12-month period ending 3rd April 2024 CFH had total receipts of £2,209 which were higher than the total amount of payments for the same period (£1,856). Cash Funds as of 3rd April 2024 were £16,889 most of which were restricted funds.

Section A Receipts and payments					
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	1,638	130	-	1,768	19,703
Charitable Activities	382	-	-	382	1,135
Other Activities	59	-	-	59	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	2,079	130	-	2,209	20,838
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	2,079	130	-	2,209	20,838
A3 Payments					
Cost of Raising Funds	23	-	-	23	88
Cost of Charitable Activities	1,001	663	-	1,664	4,853
Other Expenses	169	-	-	169	654
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,193	663	-	1,856	5,595
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	1,193	663	-	1,856	5,595
Net of receipts/(payments)	886	- 533	-	353	15,243
A5 Transfers between funds					
	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	1,764	14,772	-	16,536	1,293
Cash funds this year end	2,650	14,239	-	16,889	16,536

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period				
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current accounts	2,650	14,239	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,650	14,239	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Equipment & Fittings	Restricted	2,571	N/A
	Other Assets	Restricted	5,751	N/A
			-	
			-	
	Total		8,322	
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	None		-	
			-	
			-	

Fund details:

No funds are in deficit. There have been no transfers between funds.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank our supporters, especially those who have donated money to fund our work and our wonderful volunteers.

DECLARATION

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



Ana Pombo Rose



Joanna Hockenhull



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Communities for Horses

1180625

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

04/04/2023



To

03/04/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
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Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

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		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,650	14,239	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Equipment & Fittings	Restricted	2,571	N/A
	Other Assets	Restricted	5,751	N/A
			-	
			-	
	Total		8,322	
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	None		-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Ana Pombo Rose	28/01/2025	
		Jo Hockenhull	30/01/2025	