



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
From	Day 06	Month 04	Year 2024	To	Day 05	Month 04	Year 2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Bristol & Somerset RAYNET Group

Other names charity is known by

n/a

Registered charity number (if any)

1182470

Charity's principal address

29 Coulson's Road

Whitchurch

Bristol

Postcode

BS14 0NN

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Mike Whitehead	Chair		
2	Christopher Bessant	Deputy Chair		
3	Alan Williams	Treasurer		
4	Mark Hildich	Trustee		
5	Alan Ottaway	Trustee		
6	Martin Odam	Trustee		
7	Ron Hardie	Trustee		
8	Gill Whitehead	Trustee		
9				
10				
11				
12				
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15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
n/a	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
n/a		

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Bristol & Somerset RAYNET Group Articles of Association adopted 21 st December 2020.
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Bristol & Somerset RAYNET Group Constitution adopted 14 th March 2019. Unincorporated Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Trustees are elected or re-elected for a 3 year term at the Annual General Meeting held in July by the Group's membership.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Membership of the group is open to all those aged 14 and above. For ages 14 to 18 written parental or guardian permission is required. The day to day running of the Group is carried out by the trustees with financial decisions being taken by a simple majority vote.

The Group work directly with the Local Government Authorities of Somerset County Council, North Somerset Council & Bristol City & County Council as well as Category 1 & 2 services providing additional communications support and is an affiliate member of the National organisation RAYNET-UK.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The Protection of Human Life and Property for the public benefit, by providing an additional source of communications for emergencies or disasters or the prevention thereof.

When discussing the events the group have been requested to assist with, the Trustees ensure that the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit is kept in mind.

The main activities covered during this period were to provide event and safety communications for the following Charitable Organisations.

Weston Hospicecare – Mendip Challenge 2nd June 2024.

This event is a sponsored walk is to raise money towards the running costs of the hospice and consists of volunteers and supporters walking the West Mendip Way, our services are used to provide resilient and reliable radio communications to assist the tracking of walkers due to mobile phones not working over the terrain to ensure their safety.

Channel Events – Mendip Murmuration 8th June 2024.

This event is a mountain bike race covering 35 miles of the Mendip Hills AONB, our services are used to provide resilient and reliable radio communications due to mobile phones not working over the terrain to ensure rider safety.

Relish Running Races – Cheddar Gorge Challenge 9th June 2024.

This event is a series of cross-country running races over the Mendip Hills AONB covering various distances up to and including a half marathon. Our services are again required to provide resilient and reliable event and safety radio communications due to mobile phones not working over the terrain.

Parkinsons Walk for Life – 15th June 2024.

This year's event was held at a new location within the grounds of the Blaise Castle Estate in North Bristol and comprised of a 1.5-mile and a 5-mile leisurely family walk around the estate grounds to raise monies for Parkinsons UK.

This year also saw the group participating in a live exercise run by the Avon & Somerset Resilience Forum on 12th April. This exercise was for the local authorities to test their Rest Centre Plans with our element being to facilitate the off grid communications between the 4x rest centres, 1x Control Room and 2x Repeater/Relay sites.

The exercise ran from 12.00 to 18.00hrs and highlighted RAYNET's ability to operate a stand alone communications system however it did demonstrate that more resilience was required relating to off grid power if this type of situation was to be a prolonged situation.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Our members are all volunteers and provide their time, equipment, and expertise as licensed radio amateurs freely for the benefit of our local communities and the organisations supporting them.

The Group use donations received to acquire new equipment to assist in the provision of resilient and reliable communications for situations when other forms of communications fail.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Bristol & Somerset RAYNET Group have attended several events this year providing event and safety communications for events that would otherwise not be possible to run due to the lack of reliable communication routes. The organisations we have worked with have all expressed their thanks for the professional service we provide both on the event and with the assistance of their planning. The Group are very experienced in setting up and running communications facilities over challenging terrain and many of our members are long serving. We have worked with several of the organisations listed above for many years now through several staff changes and our experience is always valued and appreciated when planning current events.

Bristol & Somerset RAYNET Group were also able to demonstrate to the local authorities our ability to provide off grid communications over several locations should the need arise.

Brief statement of the charity’s policy on reserves

Cash at bank as of 5th April 2025 was £4201.85 in unrestricted funds. These funds are sufficient to cover the Groups registration renewal fees to the National Organisation in January 2026 of approximately £250 and to pursue investment in off grid power sources such as Lithium-ion batteries and portable generators.

No other outlays are expected at this time.

No specific fund reserves are set at this time as no additional expenditure is expected.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity’s principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Bristol & Somerset RAYNET Group’s only income is from donations received; it makes no charge for the services it provides to the organisations or communities it supports.

Section F

Other optional information

Future Plans.

The Group are looking to be able to purchase off grid power sources such as solar generators, Portable Power Stations & Lithium-Ion batteries to extend the operating time of our digital radios and repeaters and to become more resilient when operating away from mains power or in the event of a local or more regionalised power outage.

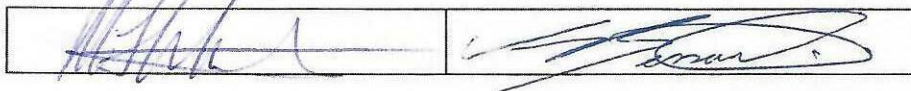
Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Mike Whitehead

Christopher Bessant

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair

Deputy Chair

Date

9th January 2026

Accounts 06 April 2024 to 05 April 2025**INCOME**

30/04/24	Richard M6TNH for RAYNET Fleece	32.50
12/06/24	Mendip Murmuration	300.00
13/06/24	Relish the Gorge. Donation.	250.00
04/07/24	Gladiator Events - Parkinsons Donation	150.00
12/07/24	Mendip Challenge Donation	250.00

+

Total Income 982.50

EXPENSES

09/04/24	Website fee Gill	14.40
30/04/24	G8OQG Fuel Mendip Challenge £14, Arc5 + engineering £18	32.00
30/04/24	M6TNH Fuel Big Cheese and engineering	46.64
09/05/24	Website Fee (Gill)	14.40
09/06/24	Website Fee (Gill)	14.40
29/06/24	Pete G8OQG Fuel June events and Engineering	33.00
29/06/24	Ron G4SNU Fuel Mendip Challenge	14.00
29/06/24	Graeme M3XIR Fuel TOTG and Parkinsons Walk	50.00
09/07/24	Website Fee (Gill)	14.40
09/08/24	Website Fee (Gill)	14.40
09/09/24	Website Fee (Gill)	14.40
09/10/24	Website Fee (Gill)	14.40
11/11/24	Website Fee (Gill)	14.60
13/11/24	Registration for Andy Evans 2E0IFG transfer	17.50
21/11/24	Bristol & Somerset Group 2025 Registrations	192.00
09/12/24	Website Fee (Gill)	14.20
06/01/25	Website Fee (Gill)	14.40
06/01/25	RAYNET registration	12.00
22/01/25	RAYNET registration	39.00

+

Total Expenses 580.14

Excess of income over expenditure

Income	982.50	
Expenditure	580.14	-

Excess		
Last years balance	3,799.49	+

Balance		

I Event Donations Represented by 950.00

Bank Acc	4,201.85

Balance	<u>4,201.85</u>

Breakdown of Expenses Per Event

The Mendip Challenge	
02/06/2024	
G8OQG fuel	14.00
G4SNU Fuel	14.00
Total Expenses	28.00
Donation from Channel Events	250.00
Surplus	<u>222.00</u>

Mendip Murmuration	
08/06/2024	
Total Expenses	0.00
Donation from Channel Events	300.00
Surplus	<u>300.00</u>

Cheddar Gorge Challenge	
09/06/2024	
Graeme M3XIR Fuel	25.00
Total expenses	25.00
Donation from Relish Running	250.00
Surplus	<u>225.00</u>

Parkinsons Walk for Life	
15/06/2024	
Graeme M3XIR Fuel	25.00
Total expenses	25.00
Donation from Parkinsons	150.00
Surplus	<u>125.00</u>

Total Event Expenses	64.00
Difference	<u>886.00</u>