

Charity Number: 1185901

Friends of Bram

Annual Report and Accounts

For the year ended

31 March 2022

Friends of Bram

Year Ended 31 March 2022

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Friends of Bram

Year Ended 31 March 2022

Trustees Report

The trustees present their report and the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Legal and Administrative Details

Charity name

Friends of Bram

Charity Commission Registered Number

1185901

Registered Office

36 The Gill
Ulverston
Cumbria
LA12 7BP

Trustees

Carol Elizabeth Budge
Wilma Anne Anderson
Nicola Kell

Chairman

Jacqueline Ann Drake

Secretary

Jacqueline Ann Drake (acting secretary)

Treasurer

Carol Elizabeth Budge

Friends of Bram Year Ended 31 March 2021

Trustees Report (Continued)

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with financial statement to meet requirements. This report outlines the activity of the Friends of Bram from April 2021 to March 2022.

The purposes of the charity are:

(1) To provide facilities for the daily care, recreation and education of children during and out of school hours and school holidays and to advance education, promote the preservation and protection of good health and relieve the effects of poverty amongst residents of Barrow in Furness and the surrounding area.

(2) To relieve the needs of children, young people and their families by the provision of services in particular those aimed at promoting good health, relieving poverty and helping people meet their own needs in society.

(3) To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Barrow in Furness and the surrounding area for the provision of the assistance in 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 disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.

Activities and achievements

Due to the continuation of the situation within Covid 19 pandemic we continued to provide meals and food parcels and during the Christmas period we were extremely busy only closing Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day, this was due to the negative impact Covid 19 situation was having on the local community. We continued to provide this service up until the start of the Summer holidays 2021, during the period of March 2021 and July 2021 we started to reduce this service as families and individuals became more self-sufficient. Working with the most vulnerable individuals and families to provide fuel, white goods and furniture where needed as well as providing a service to collect prescription etc.

Through developing a strong partnership with The Well we developed the Well-fed programme to support struggling individuals and families who have been adversely affected by Covid 19 with their financial situation, the Well-fed programme provides an opportunity for individuals and families to choose food and fresh produce filling two carrier bags for a nominal fee of £3.00 per week. The programme has been extremely successful and on average we have between 20 and 25 individuals accessing this service.

Since September 2020, when we took over the running of the building, we have been working with partner organisations to develop services for the local community in line with government guidance which has changed on a regular basis which means we have had to adapt our plans on a regular basis to ensure the safety of everyone involved. We have a number of services delivered from the building by partner organisations including: WEA, Barrow Community Learning Skills, The Well, Family Action, Bay Wildlife Trust, Hawkes, Inspira, Furness Multi Cultural Group which is generating rentable income as well as providing a needed service to local families and individuals.

During the Summer holidays of 2021 the building closed for two and half weeks as Cumbria County Council were needing to do some essential work replacing the flat roofs which was part of the development plan and essential works for the building. Since taking the building over we have been working with Cumbria County Council to develop the building into a family and community hub linking in with the town deal which will create four hubs, ourselves, Ormsgill, Earnse Bay and the Forum.

Each of the hubs has an amount of funding attached to develop the buildings, Bram Longstaffe has been allocated 180K, 15K of which is revenue and the remainder Capital Funding. We are due for a final decision on this funding at the end of December beginning of January and the money is due to be released at the beginning of the next financial year, this will mean the building will have to close for a length of time which we are planning to have the work completed during the Summer holidays.

Working with Cumbria County Council we developed a wish list of work that would be a benefit to the local community and the building which includes; creating a more appropriate disabled accessibility doorway, developing both the first two rooms in the corridor, creating a kitchen area in the second room and one to one room as well as providing a large open space for group work, developing the first room to provide large group work space, a one to one room and computer suite, through moving both the staff room and the library to the far end of the building this will also provide more group space for the local community.

One of the main things on our wish list was to provide an outdoor classroom which when we costed the concept we were looking at towards 50k as a classroom is planned to be self-sufficient, heated and dual use. We have been successful to secure 47K from a different funding pot which means we will be able to achieve our outside classroom in the next financial year.

In line with this development a decision was made to cut the building in half where the nursery provision would be solely delivered in the far two classrooms, in Summer 2021 we moved the baby room into the Voyagers room while developing an outside area with artificial grass, fenced for the babies to utilise. The 2,3 and 4-year-old children have been condensed due to low numbers in the Navigators room which we have been delivering in since September and apart from a few teething troubles this seems to be going really well. Though condensing the nursery into one side of the building it has given us an opportunity to develop a training room which is used most days and a community room providing a range of activities across the week including weekends and planned activities of an evening.

In line with the development of the building we are also looking at developing the large piece of land adjacent to the woodland area which we are working in partnership, Bay Wildlife Trust, Greenheart Den, the Well and Community Friends-WEA. The area is now fenced off and working with Andy from AJ Automotive we have secured two gates from BAE and when the weather allows these will be erected to make the site secure. Working in partnership we have already secured a 36ft by 10ft vandal proof porta cabin which we can use for group work and a comfort area, a large poly tunnel and 5K to purchase the equipment needed to renovate the land, as part of the development the plan is to have raised beds so we can grow our own vegetables, open up the Air Raid shelter, mental health garden and a large open area which can be used by children for sports, these plans are changeable and we are working closely with Community Friends to look at our ongoing developments for the future.

During the previous year two of our members of staff moved on to other roles but due to low numbers within the nursery we have not had to replace staff. In September 2020 we had a large 3 and 4-year-old group with a number of children with EHCP which brought in extra financial support however we had very low 2-year funded children. Baby room continued to grow with firms asking parents to back into the office. In September 2021 we have very low 2,

3 and 4-year-old funded places which is now starting to grow which is excellent news as we were really concerned of how the numbers were going to be from September onwards.

Baby room continues to grow in numbers and we are now looking at the possibility of having a waiting list which is something we haven't had to do for a long period.

The pandemic has had negative and positive impact for the nursery and community hub, it created Bram Longstaffe, an opportunity in the beginning to re-open and provide some excellent work within the community, but as the year progressed it has had an adverse effect due to lock downs and restrictions put in place by the government, our expected rental income and partnerships have been delayed which has hit us financially, to ensure the continuity of the building I have had to chase funding throughout this year to ensure our financial survival, through the knowledge and partnerships I have developed over the past 20 years it has enabled Friends of Bram to be successful in gaining small grants from a number of local funding pots including; Area Committee, Cumbria Community Foundation, Francis C Scott, Sir John Fisher, Health Population Commission as well as the rentable income from partner organisations.

The pandemic has also affected the childcare provision as families are affected by Covid in the home as children are unable to attend the nursery this is having an adverse effect as we are unable to charge parents for sessions booked which means we lose money on a constant basis as this is a regular event.

Since September 2021 we have seen a huge impact of the number of children that have both shown an interest and attendance of the nursery provision which has created both a positive and negative affect as our numbers have risen dramatically through babies, 2, 3 and 4 year olds, this is however taking the Hub manager role away as he is needing to be in the classroom more, the hub role is essentially important in the continued development for the building and surrounding area, we are now looking at the possibility of bringing into the setting an apprentice who currently has a level 2 in Early Years and working towards a level 3 to alleviate this problem.

We are still working with a large number of organisations and partners to develop a range of services to provide the most appropriate provision for the local community to provide services that meet the needs of local families and individuals we have now developed key contacts with a range of organisations to ensure this happens and provides a service within the Barrow Island footprint which now includes Health, Housing, Benefits, Police, Health and Well-being, Multi-Cultural, Drug and Alcohol and carbon footprints. Working with the local authority, Barrow Borough Council and Health we are accessing the needs of the local community and how we can address the issues that are being highlighted and how we can best support the local community and individuals within their own footprint.

We have successfully secured funding for 'Brilliant Babies' which is due to be delivered after the Easter break which is designed to ensure babies are ready to attend nursery provision and parents feel a lot more confident in supporting their children in their age and stage development. We also have a new project which is due to start after Easter supporting children and families affected by bereavement one Saturday per month which will be relaxed with fun activities for children and their parents which will include outdoor play, gardening, leisure activities and cooking.

We have now been informed the town deal fund has now been secured which will bring in 180K to develop our ongoing community opportunities for the local people and families within our footprint providing an opportunity for a wide range of organisations to deliver services on the doorstep of the Barrow Island ward which provides an opportunity for a greater accessibility for families, individuals and children to be able to access services on their doorstep ensuring there is an opportunity for the whole community to access provision while also enabling them to have a voice in a provision provided in their local footprint.

Finance

As at March 31st 2022 the bank account funds stand at £21,610.

Approved by the trustees on the (insert date) and signed on their behalf by:

C A Budge

C Budge.
5/2/2023

W A Anderson

W Anderson
5/2/23

N Kell

N Kell
2/2/23

**Independent Examiner's Report
To the Trustees of
Friends of Bram**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2022.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act. Independent examiner's statement

Independent examiner's statement

The charity's gross income did not exceed £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Association of Chartered Accounts in England and Wales (ICAEW). 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:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- 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 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.



**Mr P Newsham ACA
RfM Ulverston Ltd
Chartered Accountants**

Bellevue
Princes Street, Ulverston
Cumbria LA12 7NB
Dated: 2 February 2023

Friends of Bram

Receipts and Payments Account

for the year ended 31 March 2022

Receipts	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
Funded children income - CCC	65,417		94,085	
Parent fees received	75,372		37,047	
Funding income - COVID-19	21,169		24,398	
Funding income	63,715		21,265	
Premises usage	6,387		1,773	
Interest received	13		-	
Total receipts		<u>232,073</u>		<u>178,568</u>
Payments				
Payments for generating funds				
Covid hub expenses	14,200		35,806	
Salaries and pensions	196,701		93,952	
Training costs	1,628		246	
Rates	433		833	
Insurance	950		910	
Utility costs	11,662		9,212	
Telephone	2,355		647	
Travel costs	-		100	
Bank charges	270		-	
Repairs and renewals	3,213		6,624	
Licences	704		544	
Computer costs	<u>1,796</u>		<u>2,250</u>	
Total payments		<u>233,911</u>		<u>151,122</u>
Capital expenditure		3,998		-
Total payments		<u>237,909</u>		<u>151,122</u>
Net of payments		(5,836)		27,446
Cash funds at 31 March 2021		27,446		-
Cash funds at 31 March 2022		<u>21,610</u>		<u>27,446</u>

Friends of Bram

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

as at 31 March 2022

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
Assets	
Cash funds	
Bank account	21,168
Deposit account	442
Cash In hand	
	<u>21,610</u>
Other monetary assets	
None held	
Investment assets	Cost £
None held	-
Assets retained for the charity's own use	Cost £
None held	-
Liabilities	Amount due £
Accountancy	900
Pension	909
PAYE/NIC	13,786

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on the 2 February 2023 and are signed on their behalf by:

C A Budge
Trustee

CBudge
5/2/2023

W A Anderson
Trustee

W A Anderson
5/2/23
C

N Kell
Trustee

N Kell
2/2/23