

Charity Number: 1185901



Friends of Bram

Annual Report and Accounts

For the year ended

31 March 2023

Friends of Bram

Year Ended 31 March 2023

Index

Page No

1 to 4	Trustees' Report
5	Independent Examiners Report
6	Statement of financial activities
7	Balance Sheet

Friends of Bram

Year Ended 31 March 2023

Trustees Report

The trustees present their report and the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023.

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 2023**

**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 2022 to March 2023.

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

With the aftermath of Covid 19 pandemic we have found families and individuals continuing to struggle with both food and fuel poverty in the current financial climate and found ourselves having to still support people to be able to heat and heat their properties although at a reduced rate. We continue to signpost both families and individuals to our hugely successful Well-Fed programme delivered on a weekly basis on a Monday which continues to support individuals and families to be able to eat at an excellent cost of £3.00 per bag which support families and individuals to eat for the whole week. We continue to work with local supermarkets receiving excellent donations which support both the Well Fed programme and food parcels for the most vulnerable and isolated especially those that continue to be affected by Covid.

During this period, we have continued to work with a range of partner organisation including: Barrow Community Learning Skills and WEA who are now able to deliver a direct service in line with government guidance in a safe, planned and structured environment ensuring both the safety of the students, teaching staff and other users of the building. We have also been working with a number of external organisations including: Families Matter, Bay Wildlife Trust, Hawcs, Inspira, Furness Multi Cultural Group and DWP providing essential support and advice to help the local community address any needs that may be affecting them including; physical and mental health, benefits and housing advice as well as signposting to the most appropriate services to meet their individual needs.

Friends of Bram continue to work with the local authority in developing the building into becoming one of the four town deal hubs based within the Barrow footprint, we have now been given the approval for our government funding which is due to start in the very near future and we look forward to the continued development of the building to provide services for the local community. We have been allocated 165K of capital funding to complete the development of the town deal hub within our site. We are working with officers from the local authority to

develop a plan of work which includes completing the town deal work, the canopy creating an outside classroom and a number of maintenance programmes to upgrade the Bram Longstaff building, these include: replacement of the fascia's within the courtyard area as well as the fascia's at the far end of the building adjacent to the Navigators and Voyagers rooms also replacement of all heaters throughout the building and emergency lighting. Looking through the scheme of work it is hoped and planned the work will be completed over the Summer holidays with this mind I am currently looking to develop an opportunity for ourselves to move our nursery provision to another site in the Barrow area working with local schools as they will be closed in the Summer break who would have their own Ofsted registration which means we would only have to inform Ofsted we are moving to another building for a short period of time.

We continue to plan to develop our outside provision adjacent to the garden including: erecting the gates, developing the patio area with seating and a wellbeing garden with our initial plan of opening the air raid shelter based on the setting, where local school and community will be able to learn some of the history of both the war and how it affected to Barrow Island footprint, we have now secured the wood to erect the raised beds as well as the stone and chippings to develop the paths throughout the area. We are currently looking at opportunities to secure funding to complete the work on this site and have made enquiries into the opportunities of applying to the heritage funding which would link extremely well to the historical values of the area.

During this financial year we have developed and delivered a number of new projects including: Brilliant Babies which was developed to support parents understanding of their child's development during the period of 0- 18 months using a range of activities including sensory play, arts and crafts and treasure baskets, the programme was delivered by a member of the nursery staff and volunteers. Due to staffing capacity we were unable to start the programme after Easter and had to delay until September. The programme is well attended and feedback from parents has been excellent. We plan to continue this programme throughout the next financial year and will produce a report for Orsted who have supported us with a grant to deliver this programme. Through securing funding from Cumbria Community Foundation, we were also able to develop and deliver a Slow Cooker programme designed to support individuals and families to both reduce their fuel costs while also improving their diet and reducing waste food.

The programme was extremely intergenerational with the youngest attendee being 28 years and the eldest 82 years both male and female, through attending the programme that participants were given the opportunity to share recipes, create wholesome meals while also developing friendships in a relaxed, informal and enjoyable environment. Friends of Bram provided the ingredients, slow cookers and utensils for the course and once the course is completed the participants will be able to take home the slow cooker and utensils which they will then be able to use in the home environment. Friends of Bram were offered an opportunity to become a Warm Spot providing an opportunity for the local community to access somewhere they could charge their electrical items, enjoy a warm drink, soup, sandwiches, biscuits and cakes as well as the opportunity to develop friendships and discuss any concerns that may be affecting them with either the member of staff or volunteer who delivered the programme.

During this financial year we have delivered a hugely successful holiday programme for children ages 2 years to 11 years as this included our Haf programme during Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays supporting the most vulnerable and isolated 5 years to 11 years old with a particular focus on children receiving free school meals, all our holiday provision is extremely well attended for both the most vulnerable and isolated children as well as paying children from working parents. Each of the Haf programme attendance has been exceptional and we have never been under 100% attendance, during this period we have also been both

internally and externally audited by the Haf team which we have come through with flying colours on both occasions and are seen as excellent practice.


As stated in last year's report our numbers of children in the nursery setting were extremely low which made our decision to combine the 2,3- and 4-year olds the most cost-effective answer to the delivery of the nursery provision, during this year we have seen our numbers steadily grow which is linked to word of mouth, social media which has been extremely positive where potential parents are looking for nursery provision for their children. This has led to us having to rethink how we provide our nursery provision and are now in a position of needing three rooms, Little Sailors 0-2 years, Navigators 2-3 years and Voyagers 3-4 years. At this present moment we have approximately 60 children on roll which is nearly double the figure we started with in 2021, we are managing with our current staffing levels but are now seriously needing to look if we need to employ an extra member of staff. We have qualified teachers and childcare assistants on casual bank which we have utilised in our holiday programmes especially the Haf programme, this also gives us an opportunity where we have been needing extra staff to cover holidays and sickness throughout term time.

This has been an extremely successful year for both our community work and nursery provision and we have developed an excellent name for our nursery as we are now independent from the local authority and developed an excellent relationship with the local community providing a range of services as well as creating an extremely trusting opportunity to work with local people within our community especially through the work we delivered through Covid 19. During this financial period, we have been successful with a number of grants including: Town Deal which is 180K for the 1st year which hasn't been received as of today. We received a total of £69,525.44 from a range of local funding organisations to support the delivery of a number of projects as well as supporting Bram Longstaff Community Hub running costs and salaries, this excludes our funded 2,3 and 4-year-old children and paid children which supports the running of Brams Little Sailors Nursery provision and staffing.

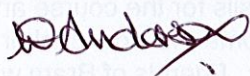
Finance

As at March 31st 2023 the bank account funds stand at £31,705.

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



C A Budge



W A Anderson



N Kell

**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 31/03/2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner and basis of report

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this Period under section 144(2) 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;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- 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

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**R F Miller & Co
Chartered Accountants**

RF Miller & Co

Doubletree Court
10A Cavendish Street, Ulverston
Cumbria LA12 7AD
Dated: 10 May 2024

Friends of Bram

Statement of financial activities

for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	
	2023		2022	
Receipts	£	£	£	£
Funded children income - CCC	94,870		65,417	
Parent fees received	114,995		75,372	
HAF	12,122		-	
Funding income - COVID-19	-		21,169	
Funding income	59,150		63,715	
Premises usage	7,950		6,387	
Interest received	9		13	
Total receipts		289,097		232,073
Payments				
Payments for generating funds				
Covid hub expenses	14,450		14,200	
Salaries and pensions	215,873		196,701	
Training costs	692		1,628	
Rates	201		433	
Insurance	597		950	
Utility costs	34,149		11,662	
Accountancy	2,700		-	
Telephone	2,448		2,355	
Travel costs	-		-	
Bank charges	175		270	
Barclaycard	1,800		-	
Repairs and renewals	4,771		3,213	
Licences	422		704	
Computer costs	1,971		1,796	
Total payments		280,248		233,911
Capital expenditure		-		3,998
Total payments		280,248		237,909
Excess of income over expenditure		8,848		(5,836)
Balance brought forward from previous year		6,924		12,760
Balance at end of the year		15,772		6,924
Cash funds at 31 March 2022		21,610		27,446
Cash funds at 31 March 2023		30,458		21,610

Friends of Bram

Balance Sheet

for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £ 2023	Unrestricted funds to nearest £ 2022
Current assets		
Prepayments	639	-
Other Assets	-	-
Cash at bank	639	-
Current account	30,016	21,168
Savings account	1,689	442
Total current assets	32,344	21,610
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Loans	-	-
Accruals	9,068	900
PAYE	6,481	13,786
Pension	1,023	909
Creditors	-	-
Net assets	15,772	6,924
Represented by		
Funds of the charity		
Unrestricted funds		
As at 31 March 2023	6,924	-
Add: Net assets (first completion of balance sheet)	-	12,760
Add Excess of income over expenditure for the year	8,848	(5,836)
Total funds as at 31 March 2023	15,772	6,924

I approve the financial information.

I acknowledge my responsibility for the financial information, including the appropriateness of the accounting basis as set out and for providing R F Miller & Co with all the information and explanations necessary for its completion.

The financial information was approved on

Signed

J. Dahi
Nicen

Friends of Bram

Statement of financial activities

for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	
	2023		2022	
Receipts	£	£	£	£
Funded children income - CCC	94,870		65,417	
Parent fees received	114,995		75,372	
HAF	12,122		-	
Funding income - COVID-19	-		21,169	
Funding income	59,150		63,715	
Premises usage	7,950		6,387	
Interest received	9		13	
Total receipts		<u>289,097</u>		<u>232,073</u>
Payments				
Payments for generating funds				
Covid hub expenses	14,450		14,200	
Salaries and pensions	215,873		196,701	
Training costs	692		1,628	
Rates	201		433	
Insurance	597		950	
Utility costs	34,149		11,662	
Accountancy	2,700		-	
Telephone	2,448		2,355	
Travel costs	-		-	
Bank charges	175		270	
Barclaycard	1,800		-	
Repairs and renewals	4,771		3,213	
Licences	422		704	
Computer costs	1,971		1,796	
Total payments		<u>280,248</u>		<u>233,911</u>
Capital expenditure		-		3,998
Total payments		<u>280,248</u>		<u>237,909</u>
Excess of income over expenditure		8,848		(5,836)
Balance brought forward from previous year		6,924		12,760
Balance at end of the year		15,772		6,924
Cash funds at 31 March 2022		21,610		27,446
Cash funds at 31 March 2023		<u>30,458</u>		<u>21,610</u>

Friends of Bram

Balance Sheet

for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £ 2023	Unrestricted funds to nearest £ 2022
Current assets		
Prepayments	639	-
Other Assets		
	-	-
	639	
Cash at bank	30,016	21,168
Current account	1,689	442
Savings account		
Total current assets	32,344	21,610
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Loans	-	-
Accruals	9,068	900
PAYE	6,481	13,786
Pension	1,023	909
Creditors	-	-
Net assets	15,772	6,924
Represented by		
Funds of the charity		
Unrestricted funds		
As at 31 March 2023	6,924	-
Add: Net assets (first completion of balance sheet)	-	12,760
Add Excess of income over expenditure for the year	8,848	(5,836)
Total funds as at 31 March 2023	15,772	6,924

I approve the financial information.

I acknowledge my responsibility for the financial information, including the appropriateness of the accounting basis as set out and for providing R F Miller & Co with all the information and explanations necessary for its completion.

The financial information was approved on

Signed

J. Drake
N. Con

