

## **Trustee's Annual Report for the period 1 November 2019 to 31 December 2020**

The trustees present their annual report and independently examined financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 and confirm they comply with the Charities Act 1993, as amended by the Charities Act 2006, the constitution and the Charities SORP 2005

### **Reference and Administration Details**

**Charity Name** Rainbow Stars Disability Group Sleaford

**Known As** Rainbow Stars

**Charity Number** 1186118

**Charity's Principal Address** 8 Duke Street, Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG34 7DX

### **Board of Trustees**

<b>Trustee Name</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for full period</b>
Sandra Jane Peck	Chair	
Hannah Owen		
Tara Jones		
Alan Thomas		
Adrian Peck		
Katy Gardner		To June 2020
Ann Marie Watson		From 2 December 2020

**Bankers** Natwest  
Grantham(A) Branch  
27/28 St Peter's Hill  
Grantham  
NG31 6QG

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

#### **Governing Document**

Rainbow Stars Disability Group Sleaford is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered with the Charity Commission in November 2019 under charity number 1186118. It is governed by a constitution.

#### **Organisational Structure**

The six charity trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The trustees give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other financial benefits.

## **Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees**

The existing trustees are responsible for the recruitment of new trustees. In selecting new trustees, we seek to identify people who regularly attend events and functions organised by the charity. Potential trustees are invited to attend trustees' meetings as observers and are given more details of the charity's aims and activities and, if all agree, they are then proposed as new trustees at the subsequent trustees' meeting. This process allows due consideration of the person's eligibility, personal competence, specialist knowledge and skills.

## **Risk Management**

The trustees have assessed the risks the charity faces and have drawn up a risk matrix which identifies the major risks by area of activity, the nature of those risks, the likelihood of the risks happening and the measures taken to manage them. The trustees review this risk matrix regularly at their meetings. The trustees are satisfied that systems are in place, or arrangements are in hand, to manage the risks that have been identified.

In particular, finances of the charity are kept under review and a reserve equal to a minimum of six months hub running costs is kept. Regular attempts to recruit volunteers are made in conjunction with the local volunteer bureau. Appropriate Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks, supported by regularly reviewed policies, are made for all those who volunteer with children or vulnerable adults within the hub. Also, all activities are staffed by at least two volunteers

## **Objectives and Activities**

### **Our Aims**

To provide relief for parents, careers and families of children living with autism and associated problems living in Lincolnshire, through advice, advocacy, and practical support. To relieve the need of children with autism spectrum disorders and those family members who care for such children living in Lincolnshire, through the provision of recreational and leisure time activities.

### **Use of Volunteers**

Volunteers are an extremely important resource and all our events are entirely volunteer run. We utilise the services of up to 15 volunteers over the course of a week running various sessions and events at our hub. Volunteers are also active on the charity's social media accounts, promoting the charity alongside answering questions and signposting people on the Facebook group. All volunteers working at our hub are DSB checked and are aware of safeguarding procedures.

## **Activities and Achievements**

### **How our Activities Deliver Public Benefit**

The charity carries out a wide range of activities in pursuance of its charitable aims. When planning and carrying out these activities the Trustees have kept in mind the Commission's guidance on public benefit.

In line with many organisations many of our activities were curtailed from mid March 2020 through until the end of the year due to the various restrictions and lock downs imposed due to the global Covid 19 pandemic. Below is a summary of some of our activity:

#### **On-line**

Rainbow Stars was set up in 2014 as a Facebook based support group and this continues to this day, with well over 1000 members on the group. The group is a safe space for people to ask for, and receive, advice regarding all manner of issues from other disabled people or parents/carers. It is also a platform for the charity to advertise the hub and the many events that are hosted there and elsewhere. There are many interactions on a daily basis.

Whilst people were unable to meet up in person, weekly catch up/welfare meetings were held over Zoom so that social contact could be maintained.

#### **Hub**

We officially opened our Disability Hub in Sleaford on 2 November 2019.

The hub is open in the day for people to drop in for a 'coffee and a chat'. Wednesday is paperwork day, where volunteers are able to help with benefit claims and Education Health and Care Plan paperwork. Thursday is Home Ed day where off-rolled children can come together to complete their work and to socialise. A number of sessions are run in the evenings so that children who are in school can attend. These include 'Manic Mondays' which is run by male volunteers and centres mainly around gaming, 'Siblings' which is a session for siblings and young carers and Teen and Adult nights for our older users, where they are able to have more of a say about the activities on offer.

Due to lock down, the hub was forced to close for approximately 3 months and on reopening we had UV air cleaning lights fitted in the main spaces. At the time of writing we have had no positive Covid cases linked to the hub.

#### **Soft Play**

Pre Covid we held a monthly Sunday morning get together at a local soft play venue regularly attended by 20+ children and their families. These first started back in 2014 and the last of these occurred in March 2020 before the first lock down.

#### **Training**

A level 1 Makaton course was held. A level 2 course was booked but this had to be



postponed to 2021 due to the second lock down. This was heavily subsidised for parents and carers. These courses allow parents and carers to communicate with Makaton users.

## **Events**

Many of our planned events in 2020 were curtailed by the Covid 19 pandemic. These included Easter and Xmas craft fairs as well as a Summer Fun Fest.

However between November 2019 and March 2020 we held a number of events for our users and their families including ten pin bowling, bingo sessions, a Xmas party and visit from Santa, a trip to a trampoline park, a pamper night and an exotic animal experience. We also managed to fit in a trip to a local wildlife park in between lockdowns in September.

## **Awards and Recognition**

Rainbow Stars was recognised by the community winning two awards during 2020. They were the winners of the North Kesteven District Council Community Champions Awards in the Contribution to Health and Well Being category and Sleaford Town Council Mayor's Special Award.

## **Financial Review**

In spite of the Covid 19 pandemic, which effectively curtailed much of our activity for the majority of 2020 at the end of the period funds had increased from £14,132 to £29,010.

## **Reserves Policy**

The trustees have reviewed the reserves of the charity. Their policy is to hold enough funds to meet six months' gross operating costs of the hub. This is thought to be approximately £8,000 in a 'normal' year.

## **Principal Funding Sources**

The principal source of funds during the year were donations from grant awarding bodies and the community, the largest of which was a Covid Grant awarded by the National Lottery to cover missed fundraising opportunities and running costs. Along with many other charities and organisations our fundraising events were severely curtailed between March and December 2020 however we were successful in raising funds from other community based and grant awarding sources.

## **Investment Policy and Objectives**

The charity has no long-term investments. Our cash reserves are held in deposit accounts.

## **Plans for future periods**

Due to the majority of our first year being affected by the global Covid pandemic we need to consolidate our position. We will, however, pursue funding opportunities to enable the charity to install a sensory room in our hub.

## Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing an annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

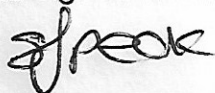
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees for the purposes of charity law who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by

Sandra Jane Peck (Chair)



19 October 2021



## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/11/19	To	31/12/20
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### 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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations	23,071	-	-	23,071	-
Fundraising	3,169	-	-	3,169	-
Trips and activities	1,367	-	-	1,367	-
Hub related income	4,224	-	-	4,224	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
AR)	31,831	-	-	31,831	-
<b>sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	31,831	-	-	31,831	-
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
General expenditure	606	-	-	606	-
Fundraising expenses	0	-	-	-	-
Trips and activities	2,608	-	-	2,608	-
Hub related expenditure	13,739	-	-	13,739	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	16,953	-	-	16,953	-
<b>A4 Asset and investment</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total payments</b>	16,953	-	-	16,953	-
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	14,878	-	-	14,878	-
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	14,132	-	-	14,132	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	29,010	-	-	29,010	-



# Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank	27,685	-	-
	Paypal	935	-	-
	Cash	390	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>29,010</b>	-	-
	account(s))	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
	N/A	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
	N/A		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Computers and other electrical	Unrestricted	-	-
	Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings	Unrestricted	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
	N/A		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on  
behalf of all the trustees

Signature  
*Adrian Peck*  
*Alan Thomas*

Print Name  
ADRIAN PECK  
ALAN THOMAS

Date of  
approval  
19/10/21  
19/10/21



## Section A

## Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name

Rainbow Stars Disability Group *Sleaford*On accounts for the year  
ended

31/12/2020

Charity no  
(if any)~~11816~~  
1186 118

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended ~~D~~31/12/2020

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

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.

Signed:

Date:

16-10-21

Name:

Shane Whitehead

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):



Address. 55 Church Lane

Caythorpe

NG32 3DU

## Section B

### Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.