

Trustee's Annual Report for the period 1 January to 31 December 2023

The trustees present their annual report and independently examined financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 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

| Trustee Name | Office |
|------------------|--------|
| Sandra Jane Peck | Chair |
| Hannah Owen | |
| Tara Jones | |
| Alan Thomas | |
| Adrian Peck | |
| Ann Marie Watson | |
| Samantha Bryant | |

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

Lloyds Bank
Victoria Branch
PO Box 1000
BX1 1LT

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 seven 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 a subsequent trustees' meeting. This process allows due consideration of the person's eligibility, personal competence, specialist knowledge and skills.

New Bank Account

As the activities of the charity expanded it became apparent in 2020 that our bank account was no longer fit for purpose. Due to the banking system virtually shutting down for new customers during the covid pandemic it took 3 years to open a new business account with Lloyds Bank but this was successfully achieved in 2023.

New Premises

Towards the end of the 2023 the Trustees decided to seek to terminate the lease on the building that we rent for our hub due to a deteriorating relationship with the landlord and their agents. The only other viable option would have been to shut down the hub indefinitely but this would have had a detrimental affect on many peoples' lives.

We were lucky to find another suitable building in the centre of Sleaford which we will move into in early 2024. There is a cost to this move due to the time remaining on the lease of the current premises and the works required on the new property but these will mainly occur in early 2024.

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 at least a minimum of twelve months hub running costs is kept. Regular attempts to recruit volunteers are made in conjunction with the local volunteer bureau and by advertising on the charity's social media accounts and in the wider community. Appropriate Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks are made for all those who volunteer with children or vulnerable adults within the hub. Also, most activities are staffed by at least two volunteers where possible however parents are expected to accompany their children at all times.

Objectives and Activities

Our Aims

To provide relief for parents, carers 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 and responding to emails generated through our website. All volunteers at our hub are DBS 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.

Below is a summary of our activity during the year:

On-line

Rainbow Stars continues to operate as a Facebook based support group with over 2500 members. The group is a safe space for people to ask for, and receive, support and advice from people with lived experience or parents/carers regarding all manner of issues. It is also a platform for the charity to advertise the hub and the many events that are hosted there. There are many interactions on a daily basis.

Hub

The hub is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9.30 until 2.30 with various activities taking place during the week. We hold cookery and life skills session, help with completion of benefit claims and other paperwork such as Education Health and Care Plans and appeals. We continue to provide a safe place for off-rolled children to socialise and complete educational work.

A number of sessions are run in the evenings and at weekends so that children who are in school can attend. These include 'Manic Mondays', 'Siblings', 'After School Club', 'Teen and Adult night', and various sensory based sessions making use of our sensory room and other equipment.

For part of the year we had a volunteer chef who cooked with our users on a weekly basis, including planning meals and buying ingredients.

Events

2023 was a busy year for events and activities which were always oversubscribed.

We supported local businesses with trips to Playzone and Arcade Warehouse in Lincoln, Jump Revolution and Grantham Bowl in Grantham, Kinema in the Woods at Woodhall Spa, Wold Wildlife Park at Horncastle, and swimming at Billingham outdoor swimming pool.

We were able to return to a favourite venue, holding a sensory-tastic sleep-over at The Deep aquarium in Hull for 50 children and their families and carers.

Our Chairman was President of the Rotary Club of Sleaford from June 2023 and not only was Rainbow Stars one of her nominated charities but we also continued our long association with the two Rotary clubs of Sleaford who contributed to our trip to Twinlakes Adventure Theme Park at Melton Mowbray as part of Kids Day Out.

We held a chill out event for our female carers featuring spa type treatments and psychic readings. The male carers enjoyed a karting session at a local venue.

At Christmas, Sleaford Little Theatre put on a relaxed panto performance for us which was well attended.

Community Events

We get great support from our local community and like to get involved in community events where possible

We continue to be garden adopters at Sleaford railway station, enabling our users to do gardening and create some great displays to coincide with national or local events such as the Coronation and Remembrance Day.

In July we again held our Fun Fest, an inclusive, family event on the Recreation ground in Sleaford with Inflatables, stalls, circus skills and a colour run attended by many hundreds of people. This also acts as a promotional event and useful fund raiser.

Sleaford Town Football club played with our logo on their shorts and raised money for us during the season. They also won the South Kesteven Charity Cup and in doing so won £354 for us.

We helped the town council promote and run their summer car boot sales.

We are also entered a tree in the Christmas Tree Festival.

Financial Review

As can be seen, in 2023 we arranged many activities across the year and were also able to hold some well supported fund raising events. At the end of the period our cash balances had increased by £3,238 from £29,314 to £32,522. This included £3,205 restricted funds which will be spent in 2024.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have reviewed the reserves of the charity. Their policy is to hold at least enough funds to meet twelve months' gross operating costs of the hub. This is approximately £13,000 per year.

Principal Funding Sources

The principal source of funds during the year were donations from grant awarding bodies and the local community.

We are very lucky to retain the support of the local community, and many organisations, businesses and individuals supported us throughout the year.

Other funds come from the small charge we make to access our hub and to attend activities.

Investment Policy and Objectives

The charity has no long-term investments. Currently our cash reserves are held in a deposit account.

Plans for future periods

We look forward to 2024 when we will celebrate 10 years since Rainbow Stars came into existence as a Facebook based help group. We will continue to look to recruit volunteers and provide opportunities and experiences for our members in a safe, non-judgemental environment.

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 DORP;
- 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Peck', written over a horizontal line.

Sandra Jane Peck (Chair)
27 October 2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Rainbow Stars Disability Group Sleaford

No (if any)
1186118

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

| | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|----|-----------------------------|
| For the period from | Period start date 01/01/23 | To | Period end date 31/12/23 |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|----|-----------------------------|

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 £ |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A1 Receipts | | | | | |
| Donations | 19,690 | 3,377 | - | 23,067 | 18,867 |
| Fundraising | 4,873 | - | - | 4,873 | 4,750 |
| Trips and Activities | 7,647 | - | - | 7,647 | 5,789 |
| Hub Related Income | 6,687 | - | - | 6,687 | 5,905 |
| Miscellaneous Income | 20 | - | - | 20 | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total (Gross income for AR) | 38,916 | 3,377 | - | 42,293 | 35,311 |
| A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table). | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total receipts | 38,916 | 3,377 | - | 42,293 | 35,311 |
| A3 Payments | | | | | |
| General Expenditure | 1,289 | - | - | 1,289 | 1,746 |
| Fundraising Expenditure | 1,069 | - | - | 1,069 | 1,032 |
| Trips and Activities | 9,117 | - | - | 9,117 | 7,191 |
| Hub Related Expenditure | 27,409 | 172 | - | 27,581 | 24,136 |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | 38,883 | 172 | - | 39,055 | 34,105 |
| A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table) | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total payments | 38,883 | 172 | - | 39,055 | 34,105 |
| Net of receipts/(payments) | 33 | 3,205 | - | 3,238 | 1,206 |
| A5 Transfers between funds | - | - | - | - | - |
| A6 Cash funds last year end | 29,315 | - | - | 29,315 | - |
| Cash funds this year end | 29,348 | 3,205 | - | 32,553 | 1,206 |

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 | Cash | 101 | - | - |
| | Bank | 28,191 | 3,205 | - |
| | Paypal | 1,056 | - | - |
| | Total cash funds | 29,348 | 3,205 | - |
| | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | | | |

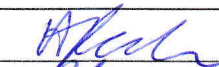

| | Details | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
|--------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| B2 Other monetary assets | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |

| | 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 | Sensory Room equipment | Restricted Funds | - | - |
| | Computers and other electrical | Non Restricted funds | - | - |
| | Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings | Non Restricted funds | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |

| | Details | Fund to which liability relates | Amount due (optional) | When due (optional) |
|----------------|---------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| B5 Liabilities | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |

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

| Signature | Print Name | Date of approval |
|---|-------------|------------------|
|  | Adrian Peck | 2/10/24 |
|  | ALAN THOMAS | 2/10/24 |



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Rainbow Stars Disabilities Group Sleaford

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1186118

Set out on pages

Remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2023

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 (~~other than that disclosed below~~ *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

7-10-2024

Name:

SHANE WHITEHEAD

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

Address:

35 CHURCH LANE, CAYTHORPE, N432 3DU

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight 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.