



**CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

**Charity name: Ambleside Action for a Future (AAFAF)**

**Charity registration number: 1188921**

## **Objectives and Activities**

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment by taking action to mitigate climate change and its effects and by promoting biological diversity. To advance the education of the public in the subject of climate change and its mitigation and to promote research for the public benefit in all aspects of that subject and to publish the useful results.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>The groups that make up AAFAF continued to have regular monthly meetings throughout the year on Zoom. In September we had our first hybrid in-person/zoom monthly meeting for all members.</p> <p>Early in 2021 we collaborated with Friends of the Lake District to plan and execute a Big Switch-Off event for Ambleside. Residents and businesses switched lights over one night to save energy and draw attention to the harmful effects of lighting on wildlife. This is to be repeated next year and annually thereafter. It relates to our Ambleside to Zero Carbon objective and also to our aim of promoting greater biodiversity.</p> <p>Throughout the year we have had a representative attending meetings of both the Cumbria Sustainability Network and the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership in order to stay in touch with other groups who share our objectives.</p> <p>We were awarded a grant of £2,000 by the Cadent Foundation in February which we allocated equally to two projects: 1) The planting of a pollinator friendly wildflower</p>

		<p>meadow 2) A series of creative Saturday morning workshops for children focused on environment and climate change. These activities go towards our aims of increasing biodiversity and providing education on ecology and climate.</p> <p>We organised two talks during the year so that we could focus our efforts more effectively and give accurate information to the public - the first a speaker provided by Greenpeace on transport issues and the second by Neville Elstone, Director of Cumbria Woodlands about the best response to tree regeneration after Storm Arwen.</p> <p>The A-Z and Energy group researched Solar PV installers to identify reliable firms and with the help of our CAfS consultant organised an Energy Action Day in September bringing together experts on alternative technologies which was very well received by the public. A number of people registered their interest in working with us to have solar PV fitted on their homes and businesses to save on fossil fuel burning and save money.</p> <p>CAfS allocated money from a lottery grant to employ an organisation specialising in Effective Communication to survey local people identify stakeholders and put forward recommendations for extending our reach and finding more active volunteers to carry out our work. The Evidence Agency successfully tendered for the work and produced a useful report in October.</p> <p>Two members have followed the application for a new coal mine in West Cumbria closely, visiting the site, speaking at the inquiry, liaising with local groups and providing information to enable members to lobby against what would be a significant increase in carbon emissions.</p> <p>We acquired the infra-red camera for which we got funding last year and volunteers took part in training on how to use it. Despite Covid restrictions we surveyed more than 40 homes over the winter helping people to save energy. N.B. The outside temperature must be cold in order to carry out the surveys. This work will continue in the coming winter months.</p> <p>A new group formed specifically to look at opportunities for tree planting and increasing</p>
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	<p>biodiversity. The group amalgamated with the Growing Group and became known as the Growing and Biodiversity group. This group organised an event called Midsummer Giving and gave away over 250 vegetable plants, herbs and pollinator friendly flowering plants - donated by members - to local residents - to encourage growing, food security and insect pollination.</p> <p>We planted 300 trees on a fell near Ambleside in the autumn and the maintenance of these and other intensively planted young trees on fell sides around Ambleside went on for a large part of the year improving their chances of survival and thus increasing the sequestration of carbon and increasing wildlife habitat. We continued to search for other suitable tree planting sites liaising with the National Trust and the Woodland Trust.</p> <p>The small orchard in the park continued to thrive. A site was found for the wildflower meadow and children from Ambleside primary School helped plant bulbs in the autumn - again fulfilling our objectives of restoring land/biodiversity and education.</p> <p>In November AAFAF submitted a proposal to the National Lottery 'Together for Our Planet' initiative for a grant to put together an action plan for a programme of community led tree planting, tree maintenance and habitat creation. (This has been awarded February 2022 and is due to be completed 2023) This would involve mapping existing trees in and around Ambleside and engaging the wider community on how habitat restoration, tree planting and tree maintenance can address the causes and impacts of climate and biodiversity breakdown.</p> <p>Members have written emails to ministers on issues relevant to our climate and ecological concerns and responded to consultations on related issues.</p> <p>In September we organised a Picnic in the Park with storytellers, drummers and speakers with an invitation to children to draw what they wanted to protect. The drawings were sent to Alok Sharma, President of COP26 and their parents were encouraged to email him also. Nineteen members went by coach to Glasgow for the National Day of Action on November</p>
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		<p>6th to add to the message to World Leaders to stop fossil fuel extraction. There was also a small demonstration by members in the centre of Ambleside. Our Picnic in the Park event inspired a local business owner to pay for several seats on the coach to Glasgow.</p> <p>Membership rose during the year and numbers joining/using our social media group/page increased.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have followed the guidance on public benefit provided by the Charity Commission in its document CC3 - "The Essential Trustee"

#### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The entire work of AAFAF is carried out by volunteers
Other		-

### Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>Our public events - Energy Action Day, Picnic in the Park, Midsummer Giving - have all raised awareness of the climate and ecological crisis. The Big Switch-Off was also effective in making people think about energy use and the harmful effects of artificial lighting.</p> <p>AAFAF has also enabled people to reduce their carbon footprint by giving them access to experts in the fields of alternative energy and in some cases accompanying them on their journey to more sustainable energy use. In this respect we have built on the work we undertook last year to provide a carbon calculator via our website.</p> <p>Training our team of infra-red camera users and helping people to identify heat loss and take basic steps to keep their homes warmer</p>

		<p>(or, in some cases undertake more ambitious insulation work) has - and will continue - to mean less energy consumption and help mitigate some of the worsening effects of climate change.</p> <p>We do not yet know what effect intensive lobbying by AAFAF members opposing the West Cumbria Coal Mine has had, but it has certainly contributed to the government's awareness of opposition to the scheme in Cumbria and countrywide.</p> <p>According to residents who have attended our growing events, planting for the benefit of insects and/or food has become much more forefront in their lives. Feedback from this group also demonstrates a heightened awareness of the need for pollinator-friendly plants, growing without pesticides, using peat-free compost and other good practices. This is evident too amongst members, many of whom have started growing in their gardens or containers, giving space to wildflowers etc. This helps to stem the decline in insect life vital for our survival and improves biodiversity as well as adapting to the unfolding crisis by improving food security.</p> <p>Tree planting/ maintenance has drawn in new members including students from Cumbria University thus raising awareness of the climate and ecological emergency and getting more hands-on deck to do the practical work. This is mitigating climate breakdown by sequestering carbon, helping to reduce sheep numbers and improving habitat for wildlife and biodiversity. The lottery grant applied for will enable us to magnify these effects several fold.</p> <p>We have spread the message about climate and the ecological emergency in schools and engaged children in meaningful actions to improve the natural environment.</p>
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#### **Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	No specific objectives were set.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	A target of £2160 for income from donations and fundraising events was set. The total income achieved was £2024.77.

Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	No investment objectives were set.
Other		-

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	This was the first full year of the charity's operation. At the end of the period, sufficient surplus had been generated to achieve the target level of reserves plus a surplus of £946.84. This has enabled a budget to be set for 2022 which includes additional funding for projects aiming to achieve the charity's objectives. The charity is therefore in a sound financial position.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Reserves are held for the following reasons: - to meet the costs of essential routine items (e.g. insurance, ICT), in the event of a failure to raise sufficient funds to cover them; - a contingency fund for unexpected essential costs; - urgent small projects not anticipated in the annual budget; - a cushion for cash flow, in case of a need to incur planned expenditure before receiving the income to cover it. The target total of reserves is £1800.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£1800
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Not applicable
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	Not applicable

## Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Grants from charitable trusts, and donations by individuals.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	No such policies have been adopted.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The trustees have adopted a risk management policy which identifies potential financial, reputational, legal, operational and environmental risks. With the controls that have been put in place, none of these risks is currently regarded as significant.

Other		-
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## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Foundation model constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Apart from the first trustees, every trustee is appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as trustees, the trustees have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Trustees are provided with the Charity Commission trustee welcome pack.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	AAFAF has 7 formal members who are the charity trustees, and a wider membership of about 110. These members meet in 7 different working groups organised around specific topics or projects, each of which is led by a volunteer coordinator who reports to the trustees.  AAFAF works with Cumbria Action for Sustainability, charity number 1123155.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	-
Other		-

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Ambleside Action for a Future
Other name the charity uses	AAFAF
Registered charity number	1188921
Charity's principal address	Dillygarth, Loughrigg, Ambleside, LA22 9HF

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	Gillian Kelly	Chair		
2	Caroline Caple	Secretary		
3	Mary Wyburn	Treasurer		
4	Sharon Holt			
5	Steve Lenartowicz			
6	Steve Wyburn		Until 09/08/2021	
7	Ursula Brendling		From 12/10/2021	
8	Tim Clarke		From 12/10/2021	

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name	
None	

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year
None	

### Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	Not applicable
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	Not applicable

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
None		
Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)		
Not applicable		

### Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Not applicable

### Other optional information



None

### Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

	
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Full name(s)

Gillian Margaret Kelly	Caroline Anne Caple
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Position (eg  
Secretary, Chair,  
etc)

Chair	Secretary
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Date

14 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
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Charity Name		No (if any)		CC16a
Ambleside Action For A Future		1188921		
Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date	
	01/01/21		31/12/21	

## Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted to the nearest	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Unrestricted donations	1,695	-	-	1,695	1,114
Donation to Warmer Homes fund	-	-	-	-	250
Gift Aid	323	-	-	323	271
Funds raised at events	330	-	-	330	-
Grant from Lake District Foundation	-	250	-	250	-
Grant from South Lakeland District Council	-	1,507	-	1,507	2,000
Grant from Cadent Foundation	-	2,000	-	2,000	-
Grant from Community Lottery Fund via CAFS	-	125	-	125	-
Grant from MCS Charitable Foundation	-	7,000	-	7,000	-
Transferred from Ambleside Climate Change Forum	-	-	-	-	231
Compensation from NatWest Bank	-	-	-	-	150
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>2,347</b>	<b>10,882</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,229</b>	<b>4,015</b>

<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**Total receipts** 2,347 10,882 - 13,229 4,015

<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Subscriptions	196	-	-	196	232
Public liability insurance	157	-	-	157	89
Website	44	-	-	44	36
Event & project costs	762	-	-	762	-
Printing & promotional materials	54	-	-	54	-
Room hire for meetings	45	-	-	45	-
Warmer Homes project	-	3,495	-	3,495	-
Wild Flower Meadow	-	64	-	64	-
Pollinating plants	-	27	-	27	-
Creative workshops for children	-	222	-	222	-
Picnic in the Park	-	109	-	109	-
Climate Action Day & community engagement	-	6,135	-	6,135	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,258</b>	<b>10,051</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,310</b>	<b>357</b>

<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**Total payments** 1,258 10,051 - 11,310 357

**Net of receipts/(payments)** 1,089 831 - 1,920 3,658

<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	250	-250	-	-	-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	1,408	2,250	-	3,658	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>2,747</b>	<b>2,831</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,577</b>	<b>3,658</b>

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Cash reserve	1,800	-	-
	Other unrestricted funds	947	-	-
	Warmer Homes fund	-	12	-
	Wild Flower Meadow fund	-	186	-
	Cadent Foundation fund	-	1,751	-
	Picnic in the Park fund	-	16	-
	Climate Action fund	-	865	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>2,747</b>	<b>2,831</b>	<b>-</b>

(agree balances with receipts and

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<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £
		-	-	-

<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which	Cost (optional)	Current value
		-	-	-

<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which	Cost (optional)	Current value
		-	-	-

<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details	Fund to which	Amount due	When due
		-	-	-

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Steve Lenartowicz	10 October 2022