



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022

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. Monthly meetings have been in-person. Membership rose during the year and numbers joining/using our social media group/page increased.</p> <p>Early in 2022 we collaborated with Friends of the Lake District in the second 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 annually. 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 and cooperate where possible..</p> <p>Having researched Solar PV installers to identify reliable firms, we got our first solar two installations on Ambleside properties. The</p>

		<p>householder has been very satisfied with the savings in electricity use. The A-Z Love Solar Group organised an evening in November for anyone interested in Solar PV. The event was well publicised and was attended by 45 people in the space of 90 minutes. Many people registered their interest in solar PV and a smaller number were interested in working with us to actually help them install solar on their homes and businesses to save on fossil fuel burning and save money.</p> <p>The work of the Evidence Agency in 2021 to identify stakeholders and help us extend our reach has been a very useful resource to draw on in 2022. We have given talks to three local organisations and strengthened ties with one of them. We now have a quarterly newsletter going out to members and we plan to distribute it more widely in 2023.</p> <p>We received the news of the go-ahead for the West Cumbria Coal Mine in early December with dismay. Some members have been liaising with South Lakes Action on Climate Change about their legal challenge and have been promoting the group's fundraiser, as well as liaising with Friends of the Earth locally to provide sources of information to equip members to lobby effectively against what would be a very significant increase in carbon emissions.</p> <p>Our infra-red camera trained surveyors surveyed many homes over the winter helping people to save energy - often by improving their insulation. N.B. The outside temperature must be cold in order to carry out the surveys. This work will be carried out each winter.</p> <p>The Growing and Biodiversity Group organised a Plant Giveaway in May and gave away over 250 vegetable plants, herbs and pollinator friendly flowering plants which had been donated by members - to local residents - to encourage growing, food security and insect pollination. This is also a family oriented day with activities for children and plants for them too to take home. Refreshments were also on offer and a friendly and sociable community atmosphere prevailed which fits with our aim of community building and inclusiveness.</p> <p>Tree maintenance of intensively planted young trees on fell sides around Ambleside went on</p>
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		<p>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. We were awarded a National Lottery (Together for our Planet) grant of £8,900 in April which we allocated to a major project, named Zero Carbon Bees & Trees. This involves mapping existing trees and wildlife habitats in and around Ambleside as well as identifying possible new tree-planting sites, liaising with landowners and engaging residents to hear their opinions and wishes. This work will go on into 2023 and will prepare the ground for more tree planting and habitat restoration in late 2023.</p> <p>The small orchard in the park continues to thrive as does the wildflower meadow which now has a sign in order to draw people's attention to it and raise awareness of the need to increase planting for pollinators.</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>Two undergraduate students from Lancaster University have been researching topics suggested by us and have almost completed their dissertations - one on Food waste in the Hospitality Industry and one on attitudes to Tree Planting in the area. This research will give us important information for future work with the business community and for future tree planting.</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>The Plant Giveaway was a spectacular success this year - attracting and enthusing more people than ever and thus increasing awareness of the importance of growing for food and for pollinators. As we observed last year, residents who have attended our growing events find that 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>Good work was done in preparing for tree planting later in the winter - ordering of biodegradable tree guards and liaising with landowners such as the National Trust and their tenant farmers and cementing our co-working arrangements with the Woodland Trust.</p> <p>Tree planting/ maintenance has drawn in new members thus raising awareness of the climate and ecological emergency and getting more hands-on deck to do the practical work. This will mitigate climate breakdown by sequestering carbon and helping towards the general aim of improving habitat for wildlife and improving biodiversity. The lottery grant we successfully applied for is enabling us to prepare the ground for larger scale tree planting which will also sequester carbon and</p>

		<p>create habitat for wildlife (everything from microbial life to hover flies to woodcock to badgers) which, as most of us know, is catastrophically depleted in this country. One of the most important phases of this project - planned for early next year - is creating opportunities for people in the village to have their say about what they want and where.</p> <p>The Big Switch-Off was again effective in making people think about energy use and the harmful effects of artificial lighting on wildlife.</p> <p>The successful installation of Solar PV on two very different properties was an important step towards bringing about the uptake of renewable energy at scale. The Solar Project event in November helped to spread the word far and wide and got a number of households taking their interest further which will help decrease the carbon footprint of the village overall.</p> <p>Our trained infra-red camera users continued to help people identify heat loss and take basic steps to keep their homes warmer (or, in some cases undertake more ambitious insulation work). This work will continue each winter reducing energy consumption and helping to mitigate some of the worsening effects of climate change.</p> <p>The lobbying group has renewed its efforts to oppose the West Cumbria Coal Mine and many members from the wider group and the public have donated to the legal challenge being mounted by our SLACC (South Lakes Action on Climate Change) as a result of our publicity. Hopefully this project can at least be delayed and even abandoned saving millions of tonnes of emissions</p> <p>We have maintained our connection with two Primary Schools in the area via the Big Switch-Off and involving the children in planting in the wild flower meadow schools and we hope to work more with them in the coming year.</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.
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Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	A target of £1000 for income from donations was set. The total income achieved was £692.32, plus donations of £1799.15 to a restricted fund in memory of a member who sadly died recently.
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	The charity remains in a sound financial position. Most expenditure on charitable projects was from restricted funds donated by external funders, and a small surplus of unrestricted funds was generated.
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		-

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 six formal members who are the charity trustees, and a wider membership of about 135. There are several 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 and the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership.
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 Trustee	until 03/03/22 until 22/09/22	
4	Sharon Holt			
5	Steve Lenartowicz	Trustee Treasurer	- from 22/03/22	
6	Ursula Brendling			
7	Tim Clarke		until 10/11/22	
8	Clare Humphry		from 26/04/22	

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)



Full name(s)

Gillian Margaret Kelly

Caroline Anne Caple

Position (eg
Secretary, Chair,
etc)

Chair

Secretary

Date

28th March 2023



Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
A1 Receipts					
Donations	692	1,799	-	2,491	1,695
Gift Aid	94	-	-	94	323
Bank Interest	1	-	-	1	-
Funds raised at events	-	-	-	-	330
Grant from Lake District Foundation	-	-	-	-	250
Grant from South Lakeland District Council	-	-	-	-	1,507
Grant from Cadent Foundation	-	-	-	-	2,000
Grant from Community Lottery Fund via C&F	-	-	-	-	125
Grant from MCS Charitable Foundation	-	-	-	-	7,000
Grant from National Lottery	-	8,900	-	8,900	-
Compensation from NatWest Bank	500	-	-	500	-
Sub total(Gross income for AR)	1,288	10,699	-	11,987	13,229
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,288	10,699	-	11,987	13,229
A3 Payments					
Subscriptions	219	-	-	219	196
Insurance	157	-	-	157	157
IT costs	44	-	-	44	44
Event & project costs	116	-	-	116	762
Printing & promotional materials	28	-	-	28	54
Room hire for meetings	209	-	-	209	45
Warmer Homes project	-	-	-	-	3,495
Wild Flower Meadow	-	157	-	157	64
Pollinating plants	-	1,057	-	1,057	27
Creative workshops for children	-	120	-	120	222
Picnic in the Park	-	16	-	16	109
Climate Action Day & community engagement	-	139	-	139	6,135
Sub total	773	1,490	-	2,263	11,310
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Warmer Homes survey equipment	60	12	-	72	-
Sub total	60	12	-	72	-
Total payments	832	1,502	-	2,335	11,310
Net of receipts/(payments)	455	9,197	-	9,652	1,920
A5 Transfers between funds	28	-28	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	2,747	2,831	-	5,577	3,658
Cash funds this year end	3,230	11,999	-	15,229	5,577

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted	Restricted funds	Endowment
B1 Cash funds				
	Cash reserve	1,800	-	-
	Other unrestricted funds	1,430	-	-
	Cadent Foundation fund	-	574	-
	AtoZ (MCS Foundation) fund	-	726	-
	Pam Williamson Memorial Fund	-	1,799	-
	Zero Carbon Bees & Trees (Lottery)	-	8,900	-
	Total cash funds	3,230	11,999	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				
B2 Other monetary assets				
	N/A	-	-	-
B3 Investment assets				
	N/A	N/A	-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				
	Warmer Homes survey equipment	Unrestricted	2,667	-
	Wheelbarrow	Unrestricted	70	-
B5 Liabilities				
	Mapping commissioned from Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre	Net Zero Bees & Trees (Lottery) fund	2,652	Before 31 May 2023

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

Signature	Print Name	Approval date
	Steve Lenartowicz	28 March 2023
	Caroline Caple	28 March 2023