



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024

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	AAFAF's subgroups have continued to work on tree planting and maintenance; water testing and liaison with stakeholders; and helping householders to improve the energy efficiency of their homes. We continue to have monthly public meetings open to all and have produced two newsletters with a wide distribution. We have worked with a wide variety of groups, organisations and authorities, and run events enabling people to exchange plants and other surplus items. We have produced reports detailing the tree work that we have done and supported Lancaster University students with projects around water harvesting and food growing in Ambleside. We are nearing completion of the "Net Zero with Trees and Bees" project (funded by the National Lottery) that will make suggestions for future work.
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>We have continued to raise awareness in the local area of climate and biodiversity issues. We have continued with water testing in the Rivers Rothay and Brathay and have worked with Lakes Parish Council, Windermere Town Council, the Environment Agency and local campaigns around issues of water quality. We feel that this has contributed to recent actions taken by United Utilities with regard to improving the state of local rivers and lakes. We have planted trees in a number of sites and worked with a variety of private landowners and stakeholders such as Woodland Trust and National Trust . We have continued to work on maintaining tree planting done by ourselves and other landowners in the area. We have produced summary documents on the work we have done so far, identifying a number of learning points.</p> <p>We have met with and worked with local authorities around parks and tree planting. Practical work has continued with maintenance of fruit tree plantings; a wildflower meadow and helping establish garden areas in the churchyard.</p> <p>We have held monthly open meetings on subjects such as water quality; transport; tree planting and agriculture; the effects of tourism, and a Q&A with the local MP.</p> <p>We ran our annual Plant Giveaway, attended by around 100 people, and also held a swap event. Following a student project at Lancaster University, we had a talk from (and organised a visit to) a community garden in Lancaster. This has led to a community garden project being restarted. A second student project is looking at rainwater harvesting.</p> <p>Our warmer homes group has continued to survey homes and businesses to advise on energy efficiency.</p> <p>We have continued to work with a wide variety of bodies and organisations.</p>

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	Donations totalling £1,160 were received, against a target of £750.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not applicable
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. A small surplus was generated in unrestricted funds.
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. ICT, insurance) in the event of a failure to raise sufficient funds to cover them; - a contingency fund for unexpected essential costs; - a cushion for cash flow, in case of a need to incur planned expenditure before receiving the income to cover it.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£2300
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 initial 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 and who has an interest in the charitable objectives.

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. A checklist has been developed to ensure Trustees are inducted in all areas of the charity's works and procedures at the point of election.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	<p>AAFAF has seven formal members who are the charity trustees (as at 31/12/24), and a wider membership of around 149 (at 27/10/24) who form the volunteer groups. These volunteer groups are organised around specific topics or projects, each of which is led by a volunteer coordinator who reports to the trustees.</p> <p>AAFAF works with many partners including Cumbria Action for Sustainability (CaFS), Cumbria Community Foundation, Lake District Foundation and projects are supported by funders such as the National Lottery and Co-Op Community Foundation.</p>
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	None
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	until 06/04/2024	
2	Peter Martin	Chair	from 06/04/2024	
3	Caroline Caple	Secretary		
4	Steve Lenartowicz	Treasurer		
5	Ursula Brendling			
6	Clare Humphry			
7	Jane Beenstock			
8	Susan Mathieson			
9				
10				

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 names(s)	Peter Martin	Caroline Anne Caple
Position (eg Secretary, Chair etc)	Chair	Secretary

Date	27/03/25
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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	
	01/01/24		31/12/24	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
A1 Receipts					
Donations	1,160	-	-	1,160	2,038
Gift Aid	275	-	-	275	183
Funds raised at events	159	-	-	159	131
Bank Interest	86	-	-	86	83
Tree Planting fund	-	403	-	403	-
Big Green Week fund	-	120	-	120	-
Sub total(Gross income for AR)	1,680	523	-	2,203	2,435
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,680	523	-	2,203	2,435
A3 Payments					
Subscriptions	251	-	-	251	219
Insurance	157	-	-	157	157
Website	44	-	-	44	44
Room hire for meetings	360	-	-	360	269
Publicity & fundraising	79	-	-	79	490
Plant Giveaway event	92	-	-	92	146
Bees & Trees project	-	-	-	-	7,075
Other Growing & Biodiversity projects	-	75	-	75	80
Warmer Homes project	-	-	-	-	726
Water testing project	322	-	-	322	258
Big Green Week	-	120	-	120	-
Other project costs	-	-	-	-	13
Miscellaneous	12	-	-	12	28
Sub total	1,318	195	-	1,512	9,506
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Water testing equipment	81	-	-	81	216
Miscellaneous	72	-	-	72	-
Sub total	153	-	-	153	216
Total payments	1,470	195	-	1,665	9,722
Net of receipts/(payments)	210	329	-	538	(7,287)
A5 Transfers between funds	0	(0)	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	4,319	3,624	-	7,943	15,229
Cash funds this year end	4,529	3,952	-	8,481	7,942

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted	Restricted funds	Endowment
B1 Cash funds	Cash reserve	2,300	-	-
	Other unrestricted funds	2,229	-	-
	Pam Williamson Memorial Fund	-	1,799	-
	Zero Carbon Bees & Trees (Lottery)	-	1,750	-
	Tree Planting Fund	-	403	-
	Total cash funds	4,529	3,952	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))		OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted	Restricted funds	Endowment
	N/A	-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	N/A	N/A	-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Warmer Homes survey equipment	Unrestricted	2,667	-
	Water testing equipment	Unrestricted	297	-
	Miscellaneous	Unrestricted	472	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Purchase of fruit trees	Tree Planting	150	Q1 2025

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

Signature	Print Name	Approval date
	S. LENARTOWICZ	27/3/25
	C. CABLE	27/3/25