

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 AUG 2022

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Low Gillerthwaite Field Centre
Charity Reg. No. 1188956
Principal address Low Gillerthwaite Field Centre, Ennerdale, Cleator, Cumbria, CA23 3AX

Board of Trustees

Tim Plaice	Chair
Victoria Pearce	Vice Chair
Patrick Muir	Treasurer
Rachael Muir	Secretary
Ian Thompson	
Siân Fox-Collins	
Jennifer Lanham	
Robert Lanham	

Independent Examiner

John Irwin

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION' CONSTITUTION ADOPTED 7 APRIL 2020.

How the charity is constituted

CIO

Trustee selection methods

Trustees are elected or re-elected at the Annual General Meeting in November by a vote of the members. A trustee must be a member of the Low Gillerthwaite Field Centre (LGFC) CIO.

Organisational structure

The charity is governed by up to 12 trustees who form the LGFC committee. The LGFC Managing Warden also sits on the committee as a non-voting member. All trustees provide their services on a voluntary basis and receive no remuneration.

The LGFC committee meets every 6-8 weeks and makes all decisions on the operational management of the charity, managing the finances and maintaining the property.

Members

There is a membership of approximately 200. Some of these members provide assistance and technical expertise, especially in maintenance, in running LGFC.

The Managing Warden, and those members who have contact with children during Educational Hub events, have the appropriate DBS certificates.

Relationships with Third Parties

LGFC has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Royal Logistics Corps Trust to make available a specified number of days for non-military adventure training.

The Field Centre premises are leased from Forestry England, with whom we have contact.

Objectives

LGFC is a residential Field Centre in the Ennerdale Valley in West Cumbria. It is in the middle of 'Wild Ennerdale', one of the UK's largest wildland partnerships, which is pioneering innovative ways of natural upland management.

The Field Centre is available for booking by up to 40 people, and all income from overnight stays goes towards maintaining and running the Field Centre.

The aims of the LGFC Association are set out in the constitution as:

- To promote safe enjoyment, understanding, appreciation and use of the environment for people of all ages.
- To encourage personal development and social education of individuals and groups by providing a setting that facilitates working and living together and to generate an awareness of others.
- To be open to all and with a particular commitment to young people without restricting those of modest means.
- To preserve and protect the setting, history and character of the Centre within Ennerdale valley so as to offer this unique experience to future generations.

Activities

The LGFC Association provides a public benefit in a number of ways:

- Provides low cost hostel accommodation for groups including primary and secondary schools, university students, family groups, religious and youth groups.
- A large field provides a safe playing space for children.
- A large classroom with screen provides educational facilities for visitors.
- Has Dark Sky accreditation, and runs free Dark Sky events with the support of a local astronomical society.
- Runs 'Educational Hub events for local primary school groups.
- Supports sustainability. It is not connected to any mains services; electricity is provided by a micro-hydro-electric scheme and a set of solar panels. Heating is provided by a biomass boiler fed by wood from the local forest, and water from a borehole and spring.

In pursuing these aims, the charity trustees have given due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit requirements.

Achievements

- Invested £13k in a new hydro-electric control system and batteries, and £6k in solar panels to add to our renewable energy bank. This will reduce our use of the generator, minimising noise in the remote and quiet Wild Ennerdale.
- Installed a log-burning stove in the lounge, and flagged the area outside the classroom to prevent it getting muddy and slippery,
- Members completed maintenance work and many improvements during the annual Working Week, including extending the car park.
- LGFC is now on the Airbnb and Group Accommodation forums.
- A Special Needs School booked a Residential, and we allowed exclusive use for this group even though they were not bringing the full 26.
- Held a subsidised wild food foraging event for members and local families, which was a great success.
- Celebrated our 50th anniversary with a party and live band.
- Survived the pandemic where we were unable to allow visitors to attend the centre. A considerable amount of much needed maintenance was completed during this time: a new roof on a number of areas of the centre, improvements to the walls (internally), heating improvements in the kitchen area.

- Maintenance was also carried out on the Managing Wardens accommodation to improve living conditions (new and increased boiler (hot water))
- Drainage was improved in the yard area to prevent previous years flooding and alleviate any new flooding.

Reserves

The biggest financial risk is probably a prolonged period of closure. We currently maintain a reserve of £60k in unrestricted funds, which would cover the costs of running the Field Centre for one year, with no bednight income. This sum would also cover any unforeseen expenditure that may occur.

Funding

- Almost all of the income comes from bednight fees from people staying overnight at the Field Centre (approx £62k pa). We also receive feed-in tariff payments for the electricity generated by our hydro-electric scheme (£5k pa), and membership fees (£1k pa).
- We received support grant from the government (as many hospitality groups did) which significantly helped us to survive the pandemic. Our employee was furloughed and supported continuing to pay her wages whilst we were closed.

Statement of Trustees responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that accurately disclose the financial position of the charity. All financial transactions are managed according to a set of rigorous financial procedures. The trustees are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Tim Plaice
Chair
28 June 2022

LOW GILLERTHWAITE FIELD CENTRE

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 7th APRIL 2020 TO 31st AUGUST 2021

A 17 month period - from 7th April 2020 (the date of changing to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation) to 31st August 2021 (the end of the first complete financial year)

	2020-21
INCOME	
BEDNIGHTS - GENERAL CUSTOMERS	14,528
BEDNIGHTS - RLC	8,336
PRE-PAID FEES - RLC	36,125
SUB-TOTAL BEDNIGHT INCOME	58,988
GOVERNMENT GRANTS FOR COVID-19	23,303
CJRS (CORONAVIRUS JOB RETENTION SCHEME)	13,780
DONATIONS FROM RLC TRUST PROJECT FUND	39,185
DONATIONS FOR COVID-19	973
OTHER GRANTS & DONATIONS	
SUBSCRIPTIONS	1,135
TRIODOS BANK INTEREST	103
INCOME FROM EVENTS	261
OTHER INCOME	
HYDRO FIT PAYMENTS	
INSURANCE CLAIM FOR FLOOD DAMAGE	
SUB-TOTAL OTHER INCOME	78,740
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	137,729
EXPENDITURE - RUNNING COSTS	
DIESEL FOR GENERATOR	7,280
GAS	8,623
LOGS	625
TELEPHONE - MANAGING WARDEN	1,498
TELEPHONE - BROADBAND & PUBLIC PHONE	1,803
EMPLOYMENT COSTS	36,093
RENT	283
RATES, WASTE, COUNCIL TAX	2,139
INSURANCE	10,617
ADMIN EXPENSES	1,131
FIELD STUDIES, EVENTS	258
REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE - GENERAL	33,123

REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE - HYDRO	5,900	
GENERATOR - HIRE AND ASSOCIATED COSTS	2,426	
PROPERTY AND CONTENTS IMPROVEMENTS	7,310	
STATUTORY PROTECTION - FIRE / ELECTRICAL	722	
CONSUMABLES	8,132	
WEBSITE & SOFTWARE LICENCE	194	
MARKETING	847	
LEGAL EXPENSES	2,965	
TOTAL RUNNING COSTS		131,970
SURPLUS FROM OPERATIONS		5,758
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE		
NEW GENERATOR (STEPHILL SSD10000S)	5,245	
SCAFFOLDING TOWER	1,499	
NEW GENERATOR (STEPHILL SSD10000S)		
NEW GENERATOR SHELTER (MATERIALS)		
NEW GENERATOR SHELTER (LABOUR)		
SHOWER BLOCK INCL 2 LOCHINVAR HEATERS		
SHOWER BLOCK (FINAL PAYMENT)		
BOREHOLE		
OIL TANK		
HYDRO CONTROL SYSTEM & BATTERIES		
SOLAR PV PANELS		
TOTAL CAPITAL		6,744
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR		-986

LOW GILLERTHWAITE FIELD CENTRE

ASSETS ON 31st AUGUST 2021

	2021
ASSETS	
Current account	42,191
Deposit account	0
Subscriptions account	5,385
Building society	10
Triodos account:	
- Opening balance	35,521
- Interest minus bank charges	43
- Transfer from / (to) trading account	-10,000
- Closing balance	25,564
Balance on Pockit card	320
Cash / cheques in hand	217
TOTAL ASSETS AT YEAR-END	73,687
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY	
Restricted Funds - Cumbria Community Foundation	667
Designated Funds - backdated rent increase from th	6,210
Reserves (provisional, to be discussed by the Comm	55,000
Unrestricted Funds - for general use	11,810
TOTAL	73,687

Signed

ROGER WENSLEY
Treasurer



I have examined the books and vouchers of the Low Gillerthwaite Field Centre and confirm that the annexed income and expenditure account together with the statement of assets are consistent with the transactions in the financial records.

Signed



JOHN E IRWIN
Independent Examiner

J.E.I. —