

Trustees' annual report for the period:

Period start date: 01.01.2021

Period end date: day/month/year 31.05.2022

Reference and administration details

Charity name: Advantage! Barrow Raiders Community Foundation

Other names charity is known by: Barrow Raiders Community Foundation

Charity's principal address: The Matt Johnson Prestige Stadium (Craven Park), Duke Street, Barrow-in-Furness, LA14 1XP

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)
David Nixon	Chair person		Board of Trustees
Lisa Neale	Treasurer		Board of Trustees
Terry Barker	Secretary		Board of Trustees
Karen Scarr			Board of Trustees
Tony Colyer			Board of Trustees
Lee Edmondson			Board of Trustees

Name of trustees for the charity, if any

N/A	

Names and addresses of advisors

Denis Fay	Director of Community Barrow Raiders RLFC	21 Furness Park Road, Barrow-in-Furness
Nigel Fisher	Trust accountants	13 Sandhall Cottages Ulverston, Cumbria, LA12 9EH
Steve Neale	Chair Person Barrow Raiders RLFC	6 Kirkstall Close, Barrow-in-Furness

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (optional information)

Siona Hartley – Advantage! Barrow Raiders Community Foundation Manager

Structure, governance and management

Description of charity's trusts

Type of governing document (e.g. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (e.g. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (e.g. appointed by, elected by)	By appointment

Additional governance issues

The trustees oversee the strategic vision of Advantage! and evaluate its application. The charity has a Child Protection Policy in place and carries out DBS verification checks prior to the commencement of employment. All organisations which work with us are required to have appropriate policies.

As sample of organisations we work with, includes: Cumbria County Council; NHS, Community Integrated Care; a variety of schools and education establishments; Furness Carers; Cumbria CVS and Cumbria Constabulary.

Advantage! is subject to professional scrutiny from these organisations, before embarking upon joint projects.

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document	The promotion of community participation, healthy recreation for the public benefit of our community by coaching and the playing of rugby league and associated sports and activities. To provide or assist in providing facilities for sport and recreation to persons who are in need of such facilities by reason of youth, age, disablement or social economic circumstances, or for the public at large in the interest of social welfare. To promote other charitable purposes under the laws of England and Wales from time to time.
Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects	Advantage! Barrow Raiders Community Foundation is a registered charity, and has been in existence since January 2019, with charitable status being achieved in May 2021. Advantage! is the community arm of Barrow Raiders RLFC, and our aims are to tackle disadvantage in the area of Barrow and Furness, through sport and health and wellbeing. We work in a proud community which is beset with the problems associated with high unemployment for the young, and deprivation (both social and health) across the community.

	During the recent pandemic, when Barrow was described by the media as ‘virus town’, the Government rightly praised the Rugby League community and rugby league foundations for their work in sustaining their communities. Advantage!, with its mix of enthusiastic volunteers and professional coaches, has a unique partnership with its professional rugby league club, which supports our charity in its pursuit of the general public good in our community. We have also sought the assistance of major business partners in our area, such as the BAE Systems, Furness Building Society, Furness Park Motors and Identity Clothing Manufacturers, and our work has been endorsed and supported by Mencap, and also praised by Cumbria County Council and our local MP. We are using sport and wellbeing as a vehicle to improve the social and health conditions to thirteen groups of disadvantaged people within our community.
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Additional details of objectives and activities

We have been awarded grants from national charities, such as Sport England, and Mencap, and from local charities, such as Sir John Fisher Foundation and Cumbria Community Foundation. Advantage! has attracted support from prominent local businesses, such as BAE Systems and the Furness Building Society. The support of Barrow Raiders, based on ‘The Memorandum of Cooperation’, in providing seconded staff and facilities has been fundamental in the success of Advantage! allowing us to afford to deploy professional coaches.

Advantage! enjoys tremendous community support having been awarded the Love Barrow Award 2020, and it is supported by a growing group of volunteers, and its young sports leaders’ cohort.

Advantage! has been identified as a trusted partner, and awarded contracts, in delivering health and wellbeing projects in our community.

Achievements and performance

Advantage!, the community arm of Barrow Raiders RLFC, is designed to support people who suffer disadvantage within the heart of Barrow.

Advantage! is now a sustained, but still developing, programme still with its focus of making an immediate dynamic impact improving the physical and mental wellbeing of the young people and adults, and vulnerable adults, in the heart of Barrow: tackling issues such as the social isolation of adults with learning difficulties.

Our work, supported by the prestigious endorsement of our partners, has led us to offer a comprehensive prospectus of sport and well being activities in our town and attracted the interest of agencies such as Cumbria County Council, NHS Population Health and Cumbria CVS: which has commissioned us to be responsible for the planning and delivery of the Winter Wellness initiative. We have now become a registered charity and, to meet the challenge of increased demand due to the quality of our services, we have a team of eight staff delivering a schools and community programme.

In the 'living with Covid' era, our mission is to sustain the growing interest in health and wellbeing activities in our town and the centre of our town, and also, to bring a precise focus to assist appropriate agencies in tackling the health deficits which are well documented in Barrow-in-Furness.

Recognizing that we are in for the long haul in providing a sustainable resource to our brilliant town, we have evaluated how fit we are for purpose in being a high quality delivery vehicle. As a result, we have embraced the status of a registered charity, and the opportunities it brings, but also, the rigors and accountability it places on our operations.

To make us a more efficient organization, we have appointed an Assistant Advantage! Foundation Manager, and an Operations Manager, and we now have a permanent base in College House. We have also undertaken a review of our employment practices, and instituted an effective performance management system. This is underpinned by a carefully designed training programme for our staff which allows them to have the correct expertise and knowledge to work across our programme.

The endorsement of BAE Systems has been attractive to other potential donors, and we have expanded our staffing compliment to allow us to be able to meet demand, but we are conscious that growing demand remains a challenge. Our funding streams, which come from donations, are vital to us for sustainability. The relationships we have been building with, for instance, Barrow ICC, have allowed us to be more precise in focusing our activities in terms of the health deficits in Barrow, and, as such, our targeted approach reflects the gaps and needs of our community. We are seen as a problem solving, go to organisation, in the town, as was illustrated in a recent request to deliver on a Winter wellness initiative, and to consider designing a provision for Asylum Seekers.

The future and prosperity of the town, economically and socially, lies in its young people, and we have expanded our educational provision to include 12 schools per week, plus the Pupil Referral Unit.

Please see below, a leaflet outlining our current programme of activities (this does not include individual initiatives we have been asked to deliver on, such as the Winter wellness initiative).



Advantage! is a registered charity. We aim to develop sport, health and well-being for all age groups and ability levels in Barrow and the South Lakes area.

Contact: advantage@barrowrlfc.com Website: www.advantagebarrow.com
Facebook/Instagram/Twitter: @AdvantageBarrow

Educating Raiders	Pre-school, Primary, Secondary and Post-16 coaching delivery. Although Rugby League coaching is our core delivery, we have staff qualified in Athletics, Dodgeball and Boxercise (11+). These activities are already offered as community activities and we are expanding our offer to deliver these in schools
Raider Girls	5-16 years - a weekly session for girls to develop their rugby skills and fitness, focusing on touch and tag Advantage! Raider Girls Facebook
Raider Braves	5-14 years - a weekly session for boys, not connected to a rugby club, to develop rugby skills, and build confidence Advantage! Raider Braves Facebook
Mini Raiders	2-5 years - a weekly session developing agility, balance, coordination and ball handling skills using rugby and multi skills Advantage! Mini Raiders Facebook
Junior Raid Runners	5-16 years - a weekly athletics group developing track and field events Advantage! Raid Runners Facebook
Raider Leaders	14+ years - our bespoke sports leadership programme developing leadership skills, confidence and qualifications Advantage! Raider Leaders Facebook
Raid Runners	Adults - twice weekly running group for beginners and intermediate level. Raid Runners use the booking system: RunTogether Part of England Athletics Advantage! Raid Runners Facebook
Rambling Raiders	Adults - twice weekly well being walks with our trained walk leaders Advantage! Rambling Raiders Facebook
Able Raiders	Twice weekly sports and activities for adults with learning and physical disabilities Advantage! Able Raiders Facebook
Raiders Boxercise	A weekly Boxercise class for teenagers and adults, delivered by our trained Boxercise instructors Advantage! Boxercise Facebook
Raiders Dodgeball	A weekly session for teenagers, with a view to starting a competitive Dodgeball club Advantage! Dodgeball Facebook
Silver Raiders	55+ years, - twice weekly walking rugby sessions for men and women Advantage! Silver Raiders Facebook
Golden Raiders	Chair based exercise for older people or those with mobility issues, delivered in the community and residential care homes

Charitable donation is a vital element in allowing us to expand our programme of activities, so we are offering thirteen different community programmes, from nursery to ninety, and, as we mentioned earlier, a very extensive school's programme. Through the Government Holiday and Food Programme initiative, we have provided sports camps specifically targeted at children from families on health related benefits. A vital element of this being the delivery of nutritious food and healthy eating workshops.

One of our most successful programmes is Able Raiders – weekly sports and health and wellbeing provision for adults with learning disabilities. This involves wellbeing walks from different locations around the South Lakes area and a weekly sports session, which is attended by, between 40 and 60 participants, weekly. Launched during Covid, from small beginnings, Able Raiders has gone from strength to strength, and we are now fielding an adult with learning disabilities rugby team in the Community Integrated Care rugby league Super League structure. Able Raiders is a particularly well received initiative within the community, and we are seeking to create a youth delivery for children with learning disabilities. It is particularly strongly supported by Mencap and by the Furness building Society.

Recognising the health disparities experienced by the elderly in our community, we have been tasked by Barrow ICC to deliver chair based exercise to the elderly, in community settings and in care home throughout the Furness Peninsula, and our Winter Wellness programme has been designed in partnership with Cumbria CVS.

The initial impact can be seen in the numbers that attend our activities, which is over 1000 per week, including schools coaching. The longer term impact in our contribution to the entrenched problem that is health and wellbeing, is more difficult to measure in the short term. We are one of a number of groups working within the Borough to help alleviate the health issues of Barrovians and tackle the challenges to those experiencing social isolation. The effect of our work will become clearer as time goes on, but even then, it is often hard to isolate that from the work of other agencies.

It is also worth noting that our work in coaching rugby in primary schools, plus Raider Girls and Raider Braves (a group for boys who are initially reluctant to join rugby clubs, because of issues such as shyness, or even autism) has contributed to an increase of around 20% in the participation of children of primary age in local rugby community clubs (figures from Barrow and District League representative).

It is universally acknowledged that health and wellbeing activities are vital in improving the lifestyles and chances of a community, and that Barrow desperately needs our sort of provision. However, amongst that provision, we believe we are among the most accessible and affordable, and therefore are able to be more effective in dealing with aspects of deprivation on poverty.

In our long term journey, it is vital that our patrons, such as the Furness Building Society, that have a real regard for 'social value' remain with us, and hopefully increase the level of their funding to help us meet the increased level of the challenge.

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Cash at the bank, unrestricted funds, at the end of our financial year 31/12/21 were £42,749. As of 01/06/22, the figure is £38,983. We are owed a grant of £5000 from the RL, and we have been commissioned to do work on the 'Cumbria County Council Holiday Activity and Food Programme' (HaF) to the value of £21,000.

It is the trust's aspiration to have a reserve of £30,000, but, we are subject to availability of grants and donations.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

N/A

Further financial review details:

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about: The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising). How expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity. Investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The charity does not invest in other areas beyond its key objectives.

Other optional information

The trust is in process of creating its development plan for 2022/23. This will focus on sustaining successful initiatives and further developing its grant sources and relationship with statutory providers.

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature (s) *L K Neale*

Full name (s) Lisa Kay Neale

Position (e.g. secretary, chair, etc) Treasurer

Date 01.06.2022

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/members of

Advantage! Barrow Raiders Community Foundation

On accounts for the year ended

31.12.2021

Set out on pages

Please see attached report.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended_____.

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

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Advantage! Barrow Raiders Community Foundation	
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01.01.2021	To	31.12.2021
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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					
Police Commission for Cumbria	3344	-	-	3344	-
Grantscape	15623	-	-	15623	-
Boost	1160	-	-	1160	-
Cumbria County Council	20568	-	-	20568	-
Lottery Fund	3900	-	-	3900	-
Cumbria Community Foundation	14000	-	-	14000	-
Asda Foundation	950	-	-	950	-
Cash contributions & camps	1656	-	-	1656	-
	61201	-	-	61201	
A2 Asset and investment sales					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts		-	-		
A3 Payments					
BRLFC staff for community projects	65414	-	-	65414	-
Reimbursement to CCC	1619	-	-	1619	-
Camp Delivery	1026	-	-	1026	-
Hall Charges	1470	-	-	1470	-
Training	470	-	-	470	-
Software Package	100	-	-	100	-
		-	-		-
		-	-		-
		-	-		-
Sub total	70099	-	-	70099	
A4 Asset and investment purchases					
Electrical Equipment	1083-	-	-	1083-	
Dodgeball Equipment	224-	-	-	224-	
Sub total	1307-	-	-	1307-	-
Total payments	71406	-	-	71406	
Net of receipts/(payments)		-	-		
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end				52952	
Cash funds this year end	42749	-	-	42749	

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cumberland Building Society			-
			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	42749-		
		42749		

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

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost	Current value
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost	Current value
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due	When due
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

22.01.22

22.01.22

L Neale
K Scarr

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Advantage! Barrow Raiders Community Foundation.

I report on the accounts of Advantage! Barrow Raiders Community Foundation for the year ended 31st December 2021 which are set out on attached CC16a.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under section 144(2) of the charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioner under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act and
- to state whether any particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioner. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act: and
 - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met: or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Nigel Fisher CTA Limited
13 Sandhall Cottages
Ulverston
LA12 9EH

31st August 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Advantage! Barrow Raiders Community Foundation.

I report on the accounts of Advantage! Barrow Raiders Community Foundation for the year ended 31st December 2021 which are set out on attached CC16a.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under section 144(2) of the charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
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31st August 2022