



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

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

**From 1/1/2024 Period start date**

**To 31/12/2024 Period end date**

**Charity name: AquaPaddle**

**Charity registration number: 1194714**

## **Objectives**

The two key objectives of AquaPaddle are:

1. the promotion of community participation in healthy recreation in particular by the provision of facilities for paddle boarding and associated water sports; and
2. to provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare and mental wellbeing for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age infirmity or disability, financial hardship, or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.

## **Activities, Achievements and Performance**

Our focus in 2024:

1. to broaden and strengthen the foundations of AquaPaddle
  2. to organise more AquaPaddle BlueSpace activities
  3. to increase the number of locations where AquaPaddle 5ks are run
  4. to increase the number of AquaPaddles run
  5. to increase the number of registered AquaPaddlers
  6. to build a strong and mutually beneficial relationship with British Canoeing (Paddle UK - 2024), the largest body in Britain promoting paddle sport activities
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1. The Board of Trustees formally met 4 times in 2024, and management meetings moved to once a month. The AquaPaddle website continued to be developed, improved and promoted through social media helping grow AquaPaddle. The website allows those interested in participating in AquaPaddle 5kms to register as a user, to obtain an AquaPaddle registration number, and to register participation in an AquaPaddle 5km. The web-based timing tool continues to perform well on the 5k AquaPaddles. All governance and operational documents were completed and reviewed and approved by the Trustees. The finances of AquaPaddle were organised on Xero accounting software. A donation page was set up on GiveTap.
  2. In 2024 AquaPaddle provided the following BlueSpace sessions:
    - a. In August and September 2024, AquaPaddle once again partnered with Surrey Care Trust to offer a BlueSpace Paddleboarding session for young cares undergoing mentoring. The session aimed to foster confidence and well-being by introducing the participants to paddleboarding, allowing them to experience the positive effects of being out on the water and learning a new

skill. Working alongside their local Delivery Partner in Thames Ditton, AquaPaddle organized the event for 26 young people, accompanied by their care workers, with a mix of both girls and boys in attendance.

Both sessions began with an introduction to the equipment and a focus on safety, followed by engaging warm-up games. Participants were then taught to paddleboard in a safe and fun environment. The Guildford session was on the River Wey and was along a scenic route past through the city. The Thames Ditton session took the paddlers passed historic Hampton Court Palace. They learned essential skills like controlling their boards, entering and exiting the water, and working together in team challenges, including forming a "snake of boards."

By the end of the sessions, all participants were able to stand and confidently navigate their paddleboards. Beyond mastering a new skill, many overcame personal challenges such as fear, anxiety, and nervousness in group settings.

- b. Also in August 2024, AquaPaddle's Delivery Partner, ELCAN in Newham, ran a series of BlueSpace Paddleboarding sessions for Spotlight, London Jaguars and the DOST Centre Charity at their paddle base on the Limehouse Cut, part of the River Lea.
    - i. A comment from one of the Charity involved in the sessions *"I would like to thank Moo Canoes/Aquapaddle for providing young people with a great opportunity to be able to learn and experience a sport that they most likely never will off their own back. Many of the young people who engaged in the session live close to the canal but may have never had the opportunity to try canoeing or engage with nature in this way. The fully funded session removes financial barriers, giving young people an equal chance to participate. The sessions promoted teamwork and problem solving within the group, challenging young people to work in pair and navigate through the difficulties that the sport brings. Many young people were scared at the beginning, but the session encourage them to overcome their fears while learning new skills and sport which has a positive effect on their confidence. Young people managed all of this while taking part in a sport that allows them to improve their health and wellbeing through active movement."*
  - c. During the 2024 Coaching Season, over 80 individual BlueSpace (Blue Therapy) sessions were run at 5 locations, with more planned for 2025.
3. In 2024 we increased the number of AquaPaddle locations from 20 to 30+. In addition to the existing locations, we now have locations from Scotland to Cornwall including 2 in Wales.
  4. At the 30 AquaPaddle locations we ran a total of 230 AquaPaddle 5ks, in which we had a total of 2,324 attendees.
  5. Through our website we had registered just over 5463 individuals AquaPaddlers by the end of 2024.
  6. In 2022 we made an agreement with British Canoeing, the largest body in Britain promoting paddle sport activities. They continued the agreement for another year in October 2023. The funding is for safety equipment for 15 new AquaPaddle 5k locations for a total value of £30,000.00 during 2023/2024. These funds are still being used as although we have grown in number of locations, these are mainly made up of location in

Scotland and Wales or commercial operations which are not covered by the agreement.  
The cross promotion also continues with them.

## Trustee Statement

The trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the charities commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

## Volunteers

The AquaPaddle Charity is entirely run by volunteers, and its AquaPaddle 5ks are run by volunteers at the various locations. During 2024 more than 200 volunteers helped to run the charity and run the AquaPaddle events.

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	At the year-end (31 <sup>st</sup> December 2024) AquaPaddle held a cash balance of £4,406.66. £2,200.00 of which related to the Grant (for Blue Therapy Sessions) from the PLA Active Thames fund (disclosed under Restricted Funds). The remaining sessions under this agreement were held during the 2025 season.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	No reserves are currently held.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	NIL
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	AquaPaddle is still in its early stages & uses small donations to cover expenses and working with a management team providing their time for free.
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	By December 2024 Year End the contingent loan relating to the cost of developing the website was reduced from £8,640 to £4,608 and this remaining balance was settled during the 2025.
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	At this stage, there are no concerns about the charity being a going concern.

## Structure, Governance and Management

AquaPaddle is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its constitution.  
AquaPaddle's only voting members are its trustees.

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	AquaPaddle
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1194714

Charity's principal address	22 Merton Way West Molesey Surrey KT8 1PQ

### 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	Arnold Jager	Chair		
2	Brett Scillitoe			
3	Anthony Wagstaff			
4				
5				

## 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)

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Position (eg Secretary,  
Chair, etc)

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Date

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CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name  
Aquapaddle

No (if any)  
1194714

## Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period  
from

Period start date  
1st Jan '24

To

Period end date  
31st Dec'24

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Income - Donations - Individuals & Clubs	4,936	-	-	4,936	5,048
Income - Donations - Corporate	-	-	-	-	-
Income - Donations - Charities	225	-	-	225	-
Grant Income - Corporate	7,200	-	-	7,200	4,000
Grant Income - Blue Therapy	-	-	-	-	5,000
Income - Merchandise	315	-	-	315	712
Long Term Loan - Trustee	-	-	-	-	1,373
Long Term Loan - Trustee	-	-	-	-	1,000
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b> (Gross income for AR)	12,676	-	-	12,676	17,133
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	12,676	-	-	12,676	17,133
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
DC - Delivery Partner Costs (Coaching)	2,020	-	-	2,020	-
DC - Kit & Equipment costs	199	-	-	199	728
IT & Hosting costs	616	-	-	616	491
Telephone & Internet Hosting	130	-	-	130	115
Printing, Stationery	197	-	-	197	99
Travel - National	902	-	-	902	-
Insurance	1,729	-	-	1,729	1,744
Consulting Fees	-	-	-	-	210
Marketing costs	400	-	-	400	64
Long Term Loan - Repayment to Trustee	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	6,193	-	-	6,193	3,451
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
Website Development	4,480	-	-	4,480	6,640
Marketing & Safety Equipment	-	-	-	-	1,586
Loan repayments - Trustees	3,100	-	-	3,100	2,373
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	7,580	-	-	7,580	8,226
<b>Total payments</b>	13,773	-	-	13,773	11,677
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	(1,097)	0	0	(1,097)	5,456
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	0	0	0	0	-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	503	5,000	0	5,503	47
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	(594)	5,000	0	4,406	5,503

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current A/c	2,206	2,200	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	2,206	2,200	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	Agreement Error	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Website	Unrestricted	13,120	10,368
	Marketing & Safety Equipment	Unrestricted	1,586	445
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Short Term Loan	Unrestricted	32	
	Long Term Loan - Trustee	Unrestricted	67	
	Long Term Loan - Trustee	Unrestricted	2,200	
	Contingent Liability re Website Dev'mt	Unrestricted	4,608	
	Deferred Income (re Blue Therapy)	Unrestricted	2,200	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	