

HAMPSHIRE and SURREY BORDERS RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION INCORPORATING CARRIAGE DRIVING

Annual Report - Year 1 April 2023 to 31st March 2024

Constitution

The Group is a charity registered on 20 August 2021, no. 1195581. Its elected Committee Members at the date of this report were:-

Chairman	- Mr D Hawkins
Secretary	- Mrs S Wood
Treasurer	- Mrs L Bull

Member	- Mrs P Dobbin
Member	- Mrs S Astle
Member	- Mrs K Knight
Member	- Mrs L Hawkins

Addresses are registered with the Charity Commission. The address for correspondence purposes is c/o The Secretary (as above), 1 Oldfield View, Hartley Wintney, Hook, Hampshire RG27 8JH. The group is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), being an independent charity subscribing to the requirements of RDA UK of which it is a member. There are no subsidiaries or related parties. The constitution of the group was adopted in Nov 2021, and the Trustees appointed are the Committee Members as listed. Appointments are made at the AGM, with co-option to the Committee when appropriate.

All administrative decisions are made by the Committee at regular meetings of which minutes are kept.

Objectives

The objectives of the group are consistent with the aims of the Riding for the Disabled Association, namely providing disabled children in the Hants and Surrey Borders area with the opportunity to ride to benefit their health and well-being. The Trustees pay due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

Operation

The functions of the group are carried out entirely by volunteers, and there are no paid staff. Riding is provided for children from local schools, at a riding facility (Larkspur Equestrian, Tadpole Lane, Ewshot GU10 5BU) to which the group's equipment is transported. The group has eight approved instructors, a physiotherapist and a speech and language therapist. A trained first aider is always present at riding sessions.

Activity review

The activities for the year comprised over 800 half -hour therapeutic rides for 15 disabled children per session, held on two mornings per week in term time. This is a hidden therapy which is enjoyable for the children and consists of exercises and games designed to fit each rider's disability. RDA UK proficiency tests are taken and certificates are achieved.

Financial Policies

1. The group's objective is to generate income sufficient to cover expenditure and vehicle depreciation. This income derives almost entirely from collections, donations and fund raising activities, with occasional help from grants.
2. An informal reserve fund is accumulated to provide for vehicle replacement. This fund is expected to amount to a substantial proportion of the replacement cost, reliance being placed on donations to cover the remainder when necessary. The reserve is funded by retained income surpluses.
3. Cash reserves are normally held to meet Charity Commission guidance.
4. There are no dedicated funds.
5. Cash reserves are invested in a common deposit fund to produce income.
6. Our one vehicle is a capitalised asset and was depreciated at 25% p.a. on a reducing balance basis. Depreciation was charged to the income and expenditure account although the van is now 20 years old and of little value. Depreciation is trivial and no longer applied. The Group has owned no horses since early 2017. All other assets (mainly tack and riding hats) with little realisable value are charged direct to revenue and are thus written off on acquisition.
7. The group does not trade, except to sell certain items of stock (badged uniform clothing) at cost.
8. There are no accounting assets other than the one vehicle, cash deposits or bond investments, and a small amount of stock. As a matter of policy, no long-term liabilities are incurred.
9. The group is insured through RDA UK for public liability, personal accident and trustee liability.

Financial Review

No large donations were received during this accounting period meaning income was less than in some previous years. Our reserves are strong and include two generous bequests, which gives us confidence that we can deliver our services well into the future, however it is important that we miss no opportunity to fund raise as our operating expenses remain high.

The operating shortfall of £15,000 is less than expected as an invoice due from Larkspur Equestrian for the 2024 summer term (£4,500) came outside this accounting period. Vehicle repair expenses were higher than expected. There were no payments to Trustees other than for expenses.

HANTS & SURREY BORDERS
RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION INCORPORATING CARRIAGE DRIVING

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
1 APRIL 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024

Income	2024	2023	
	£	£	
Donations	1,355	810	(1)
Gift Aid Reclaim	0	96	(2)
Lottery and Easy Funding	272	377	
Fund Raising (2 Events)	652	1397	
Interest Cambridge & Counties	2,449		(3)
Sale of Uniform Items	169		
Sub Total	4,897	2680	
Expenditure			
Van			
Road Fund Licence	320	290	
Insurance	688	419	
Fuel	120	108	
Electricity	100	90	
MOT & Repairs	772	50	
Sub Total	2,000	957	
Other			
Equipment & Tack Insurance	2,352	238	(4)
Larkspur	9,625	20,604	(6)
RDA Insurance & Membership	681		
Internet Hosting	123		
DBS Checks	168		
Purchase Uniform	122		
Sundries	94		
Sub Total	13,165		
Total Expenditure	15,165	21,799	
Surplus / (Shortfall)	(10,268)	(19,119)	

NB: Figures for 2023 are only noted where comparable breakdown of income and expenditure has been used for 2024 accounts