BENDRIGG TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 508450

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	01396557
Registered	1979-02-15
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Bendrigg Trust Bendrigg Lodge Old Hutton Kendal LA8 0NR
Phone	01539723766
Email	bookings@bendrigg.org.uk
Website	www.bendrigg.org.uk

Activities

Objects: (1) TO HELP AND EDUCATE YOUNG PERSONS TO DEVELOP THEIR PHYSICAL, ENTAL SPIRITUAL CAPACITIES. (2) TO EDUCATE AND RELIEVE DISTRESS AMONG PERSONS WHO ARE SUFFERING OR WHO HAVE SUFFERED A LEGAL RESTRICTION ON THEIR LIBERTY IN ANY PENAL OR CORRECTIONAL ESTABLISHMENT OR THROUGH ANY MEANS WHATEVER AND THE FA OF SUCH PERSONS. (3) TO RELIEVE AND PREVENT SUFFERING CAUSED BY MENTAL OR PHYSICAL ILL HEALTH. (4) THE RELIEF OF INFIRMITY, OLD AGE OR DISTRESS BY THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL*

Activities: Bendrigg Trust runs high quality courses for disabled and disadvantaged people who come to Bendrigg from all parts of the UK for a day, weekend or a week.We aim to promote inclusion, encourage independence and build self-confidence through the use of residential experience and the safe provision of adventurous activities delivered by dedicated, qualified staff.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Disability, Amateur Sport
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- Cumbria

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£1,943,862	£1,748,807	£3,996,423	43
2023-12-31	£1,546,079	£1,524,481	£3,801,368	38
2022-12-31	£1,420,548	£1,314,541	£3,779,770	34
2021-12-31	£923,294	£1,010,208	£3,673,763	30
2020-12-31	£812,268	£916,102	£3,760,677	30

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Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Adrian Walter	Chair	2018-09-20
Anne Fleck		2016-05-13
Brian McDonough		2016-05-13
Claire Connor		2025-06-06
DAVID KIM PARRY		2018-09-20
JOHN HOLMES		2011-06-23
Kay Foster		2021-01-28
Kirsty Heywood-MacDonald		2023-06-23
PETER JAMES BATES		2018-09-20
Rachael Hodgson		2016-05-13
Richard Huxley		2025-03-13
Stuart Woodall		2025-03-13
TIMOTHY LOWE		
TOM HIBBERT		

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BENDRIGG TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 508450

Accounts

Annual Report 2024

Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Creating change, one adventure at a time

Bendrigg

Introduction & contents

Bendrigg Trust: Trustees' foreword

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements for Bendrigg Trust, an incorporated charity with charity number 508450 and company number 01396557, for the year ending 31 December 2024. This report includes the requirements of a director's report as required by company law.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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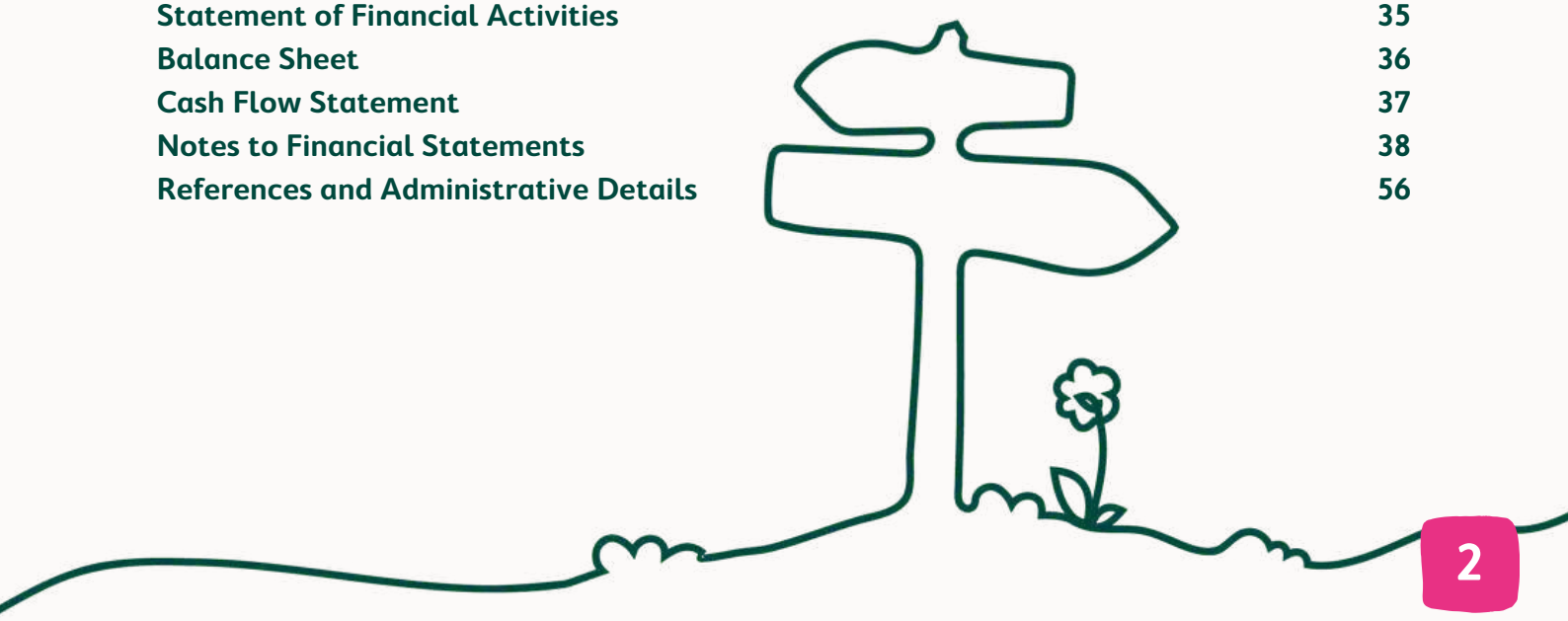
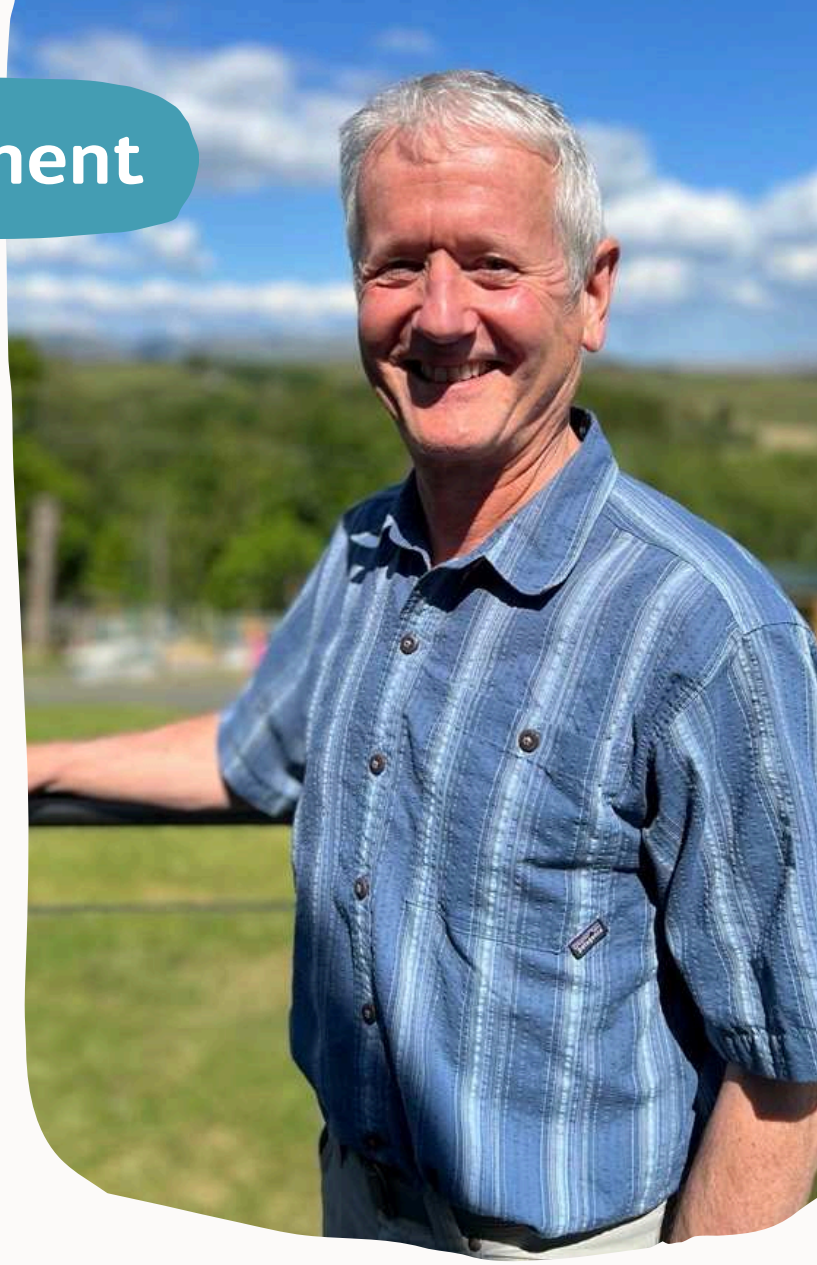


Chairman's Statement



A statement from our Chair of Trustees

2024 has been an outstanding year for Bendrigg. A packed programme of high quality courses, a variety of innovative training and consultancy engagements and community events, and a rejuvenated BA scheme all delivered with consistently high levels of customer satisfaction. Record visitor numbers and buoyant fundraising activity mean the financial results are good too. Although we have posted an operational loss for the year it is significantly less than forecast and the outlook remains positive even though there is still work to do to get our finances back in balance. These achievements have only been made possible because of the hard work, dedication and professionalism of the entire Bendrigg team with every single person playing their part.

Our visitors continue to give us excellent feedback which is testament to the great work of the Bendrigg delivery team. We are now looking at smarter course programming to further improve the visitor experience whilst at the same time being more efficient and reducing the wear and tear on our staff.

The implementation of our Financial Recovery Plan got off to a flying start. Fundraising income was strong, exceeding targets, and we have been busier than ever with visitor numbers and occupancy rates at record levels. However despite this excellent progress our operating environment has become increasingly challenging. Our costs have continued to rise, not helped by the Employer NI increase, and there is increasing competition for donor funds in the grant making trust channel requiring ever more effort to yield results.

We have had to take some difficult decisions to trim costs too. For example we concluded that our apprenticeship scheme was financially unsustainable in our current situation so unfortunately we have closed the scheme. The challenges facing Bendrigg are replicated across much of the charity sector.

Whilst we are confident that we are on the right trajectory, achieving a financially sustainable business model is taking longer than planned so looking ahead we will be leaning harder on our recovery plan focusing on three main areas:

- Developing additional measures to generate income with targeted investments primarily by extending our Beyond Bendrigg training and consultancy offer.
- Adapting our fundraising model to reflect the changing environment.
- Continue to drive operational efficiency improvements.

Our balance sheet received a major boost in 2024. The Edward Gostling Foundation nominated Bendrigg as a legacy partner and generously awarded a substantial grant to underpin our reserves. The purpose of providing this type of support is to give us the confidence to take the right measures over the medium term to get our finances back on track.

On the strategic front our 'Beyond Bendrigg' training and consultancy service completed its first full year of operation and performed beyond expectations. It is still being run as a 'start-up' with an entrepreneurial approach but it has clearly demonstrated a significant opportunity for us in this type of work. The next step is to establish it sustainably as part of Bendrigg and maximise our impact on disability adventure activities beyond the visitors that come to our centre.

> "
>
> **Bendrigg is a very special place. This was our 18th year visiting and we look forward to next year already.**

We are developing a 'master plan' for the Bendrigg site which has two main elements:

- The re-development of the existing estate to upgrade accommodation and facilities, improve accessibility generally and better connect the built spaces to the natural environment.
- Providing new ways to enjoy the Bendrigg experience through the development of accessible self-catering accommodation.

The concept certainly looks very exciting and the next step is to develop detailed proposals.

The Bendrigg Alternative scheme experienced a hiatus, post pandemic, whilst the prison service worked through its own issues but in 2024, following a campaign of proactive engagement by Bendrigg, the scheme started to operate again. We now have to ensure that this key element of our mission stays relevant and adapts to changing trends in the criminal justice system.

A staff satisfaction survey is a significant, even brave, step for an organisation to undertake, particularly for the first time. Bendrigg did just that early in 2024. The results yielded a wide variety of responses but with some common themes. A working group has been formed and an action plan created. One early outcome is the provision of a health plan for all staff to help support them with the considerable physical, mental and emotional demands our work entails. Overall it has been a very positive experience so thank you to all staff for participating in the survey itself and supporting the working group. The process will be repeated either later in 2025 or early 2026.

Jonny Wolfendale, who was our Facilities Manager, has moved on to pursue new opportunities personal and professional. We wish him well. In his place we have recruited Dave Garman who has been a great addition to the management team.

Graham Franks, a long time volunteer, sadly died in January 2025. Graham's support was invaluable when he stepped into the role of Facilities Manager to cover a long term staff absence. Graham contributed so much over many years and he will be missed by all who knew him.

Jennifer Hughes, a long serving member of our domestic team, passed away in May 2024 following a battle with a brain tumour. Her beaming smile and warm personality will be missed. A tree, in her memory, was planted in the grounds.

In May 2024 Nick completed the gruelling cycle ride from Lands End to John O'Groats raising £3,000 for Bendrigg in process. An amazing achievement. I wonder if there's anything our Centre Director can't do.

As my three year term as Chair finishes in June 2025 this is my final Chair's Statement. I must thank Nick Liley for his patience and openness. I would also like to thank all my fellow trustees. I am grateful for their energy and commitment with everyone getting involved either through the committee structure or special projects. Finally I wish my successor the best of luck and success in moving our cherished organisation forward.

Our vision, mission and values

Our vision

To harness the power of adventure to create lasting change and transform communities for all.

At our core, we champion the transformative power of adventure, seeing it not just as an individual journey but as a force that shapes society for the better. Our vision hinges on the Bendrigg experience being a catalyst, reshaping societal perspectives and creating enduring, impactful changes in people's lives.

Our mission

If our vision defines our goal, then our mission statement defines what we will do every day to achieve it.

We make adventure accessible, working together to overcome barriers and transform lives.

Our values

Our values are at the heart of Bendrigg, shaping who we are and how we operate. They've been with us since the start, passed down by each employee. They are crucial, always leading the way we think and act.

Bring Compassion

Bendrigg is a place built on empathy. By taking the time to listen, being consistently compassionate and valuing each person for who they are, we create a unique haven where kindness is in the air, and adventure is in the offing. At Bendrigg, there is always freedom to have fun, all are welcomed, and all are valued.

Practice Progress

Every day is a chance to make lasting changes, not just for visitors or their families. We constantly look for improvement and find better ways of working. We challenge traditional approaches, offer innovative ideas, and develop our practice. Little by little, we make big changes – becoming a force for progress far beyond our borders.

Push Past Boundaries

Some limits may be real, but we remove the ones that aren't. We challenge attitudes, strip away doubts and break through personal barriers. Removing those limits is how we will make extraordinary things happen. We instil self-belief that reshapes everyday lives for individuals and brings a new understanding that will reshape our communities.

Embrace Nature

There is no better classroom, there is no better therapy. This place is not just the setting for adventure; the outdoors is part of our purpose and our personality. Stepping outside and connecting with nature spurs our growth and improves our well-being, making an impact that lasts well beyond a visit.

Make It for Everyone

Opening doors is what we do; to an outdoors full of exciting and empowering adventures, to new abilities and attitudes, to personal potential waiting to be fulfilled. We open these doors for absolutely everyone, with endless flexibility and steadfast adaptability. At Bendrigg, we are exclusively inclusive and we always find a way.

Work As One

We value each and every individual, but it's as a team that we excel. From staff and volunteers to first-time visitors and experienced leaders, we all contribute and 'muck in'. We celebrate all our successes and share all our missteps. We are all each other's cheerleaders and safety nets, trusted advisors, and personal champions. We are all equals.

The spirit of adventure is incredible. A bona fide superpower that can fill any one of us with conviction and confidence, with new abilities and renewed agency. And it's universal too – not the exclusive preserve of the advantaged and non-disabled. It's for everyone because we're making sure it is.

At Bendrigg, we have the setting and the scenery, the equipment and the expertise, the people and the passion. Together, we have a limitless supply of adventure, with a limitless determination to improve people's lives.

Because we know that, whatever adventure means to each individual, it has the power to empower. To challenge and inspire, to tear down barriers and build up possibilities, to create real and lasting change.

Above all, it has the power to change minds – within those individuals and across our whole society: changing the way people see their world and changing the way the world sees them.

#BeMoreBendrigg

Bendrigg

Objectives & achievements

Objectives

In 2024, we commenced delivery of our five year strategic plan, covering 2024 - 2029. To turn our ambitions into achievements, we planned five key themes for the work that lies ahead. These are not isolated programmes - each theme overlaps with the other, each success will provide a platform for the next. We aim to:

1. Accommodate a wider audience
2. Transform our space
3. Protect our environment
4. Help the Bendrigg family flourish
5. Go Beyond Bendrigg

Achievements

1. **AdventureMind collaboration**

Bendrigg hosted the annual AdventureMind conference in November which saw over 100 delegates from the UK and abroad gather for two days of talks, workshops and networking opportunities - all with the aim of exploring how inclusive adventure can improve and benefit mental health.

1. **Celebrating and growing our Bendrigg Alternative Scheme**

Bendrigg visitors, staff, volunteers, partners and stakeholders gathered together to celebrate the achievements of our Bendrigg Alternative Scheme and hear of plans to grow the reach and impact of the scheme even further. Whilst historically the 'BA' scheme has focused on working with individuals in prisons, the scheme continues to grow and will diversify by working with probation, those at risk of offending, and partner organisations in the Criminal Justice sector.

New website

Continuing with our new brand rollout, our new website went live in November. The new site offers a more accessible and refreshed place for people to find out more about Bendrigg's work.

Exciting news!

Our new website is now live!

New equipment

2024 saw the long anticipated arrival of our new canoe fleet and new accessible minibus. The new canoes have replaced old canoes and doubled the size of our fleet , meaning more people can enjoy inclusive canoeing experiences. The new canoes and the new minibus improve our operational efficiencies, reduce the environmental impact of towing trailers and reduces the physical labour required of our instructors.

Tube slide refurbishment

One of our most popular activities, the tube slide, was the recipient of a makeover. New, larger shelters were installed at the top and bottom of the slide, giving more room for groups to wait and shelter from the weather. The new shelters also allowed the installation of ceiling-mounted hoists, kindly donated by Simply Moving and Sleeping, enabling this activity to become even more inclusive.

More accessible adventures

Continuing the success of our climbing festival, new activity-specific courses were launched in 2024 including a caving festival and paddlesports festival. These dedicated courses allow individuals to further develop their skills, experience and love of an activity in a more in-depth way.

Big Give milestone

In our most successful campaign to date, the Big Give Christmas Challenge raised over £100,000 for Bendrigg's work in December 2024. In an increasingly challenging financial environment, these vital funds support all of Bendrigg's day-to-day work and contribute towards making our future plans a reality.

Simply giving back

As part of their ongoing support, Simply Moving and Sleeping kindly donated and installed ceiling-mounted hoists for our tube slides, resource centre and bike shed. These additions not only make our activities more accessible for guests with physical disabilities, but also greatly improve our staff and visitors' wellbeing.

New visitors

2024 saw several groups visit Bendrigg for the first time, opening up inclusive and accessible adventure opportunities to even more people. We continue to promote Bendrigg's services to new schools, charities, youth groups, individuals and families to ensure everyone can access the transformative power of adventure.

Legacy Partners

We were honoured to be chosen as a Legacy Partner of The Edward Gostling Foundation as they commit to spend out their funds. The £250,000 restricted grant will support our shared mission of giving those "who have a disability or long-term illness as many as possible of the same choices, quality of life opportunities and aspirations as others".

Supporting staff

In 2024 we undertook a staff health and wellbeing review and, using the results, put in place a programme of support to ensure that our staff are valued, supported and rewarded in their careers and lives. A new Health and Wellbeing committee made up of staff from all departments meets regularly to ensure this remains a top priority going forward.

Our year in numbers

A summary of our year

In 2024, we remained busy, seeing a 12% increase in residential courses and a 16% increase in visitor numbers compared to 2023. We continue to be seen as disability specialists and saw a 24% increase in wheelchair users to Bendrigg. Here are just some of the statistics that highlight the impact we've had in 2024.

149 residential courses and 47 day activities delivered

2,930 participants and 1,330 leaders/ carers totalling 4,260 visitors in the year

437 wheelchair users supported

Visitors rated Bendrigg 4.89 out of 5 stars

78% of visitors saw 'significant' or 'considerable' increases in self confidence

83% of visitors saw 'significant' or 'considerable' increases in feeling more included

77% of visitors saw 'significant' or 'considerable' increases in independence

75% of visitors saw 'significant' or 'considerable' increases in social skills

78% of visitors saw 'significant' or 'considerable' increases in physical and/or mental wellbeing

> **I feel I have obtained skills that, the last few times I've visited, I didn't previously have.**

Volunteering in 2024

In 2024, we were excited to see 214 unique volunteers come through our doors, giving a total of 11,181 hours of support. The Living Wage of this time would have cost Bendrigg £147,091, so their generous gift of time is greatly appreciated!

35 volunteers declared a disability. Whilst these individuals make up 16% of our volunteers, they actually make up an astonishing 39% of our volunteer hours; which proves the need for projects like 'Someone Like Me'.

'Someone Like Me' is a Bendrigg project seeking to support those with disabilities to volunteer. There remains in society, a lack of recognition for the contribution that people with disabilities can bring to volunteering. People with disabilities are often recipients of volunteer services but are rarely considered as a potential volunteer resource. 'Someone Like Me' seeks to support those with disabilities to volunteer at Bendrigg - becoming role models and mentors for our visitors.

Meet one of our volunteers, Ben*.

***name changed**

Ben has been a huge asset to the Bendrigg team. Across two years he volunteered over 700 hours of his time and supported 19 residential courses. Without incredible volunteers like Ben, Bendrigg's work simply wouldn't be possible.

Ben started volunteering with Bendrigg two years into his recovery from a head injury, which left him unable to work and suffering with debilitating headaches. Trained as an outdoor instructor before his injury, a key motivation for Ben was to be in an environment that would support his recovery whilst also helping him on his journey back into work.

He got in touch with our Volunteer Coordinator and with her, and the support of our team of Activity Tutors passionate about inclusion, Ben was back in the world of providing outdoor adventures. Dedicated to being fully accessible, Bendrigg was the perfect place for Ben to volunteer at his own pace. At first, he volunteered for short periods of time building up to three-day then five-day residentials. His responsibilities initially involved supporting in the dining room at meal-times but over time, Ben's recovery meant he was capable of more and more.

> **"Volunteering massively helped with my recovery. Nine months in I felt like a different person. Doing stuff, being in the outdoor education environment, talking to Tutors reignited those brain pathways for me. Even sitting with staff at mealtimes and talking through things I would normally chat through in my role as a Tutor (before my head injury) was something I hadn't done in a few years. It re-energised my brain and activated parts I hadn't used for a while.**

As much as we will miss Ben after two years of having his wonderful support as a volunteer, we are delighted that for now, his volunteering has come to an end because it means he is ready for the rest of his life. He is now gradually returning to work as an instructor in his previous place of work and he is looking forward to going on his own well-deserved adventures.

> **“I’ve learnt that no matter what people’s disabilities are, they can still achieve anything they want to do. I’ve learned about myself and how much gratitude I’ve got from seeing the children achieve so many things this week.**

Bendrigg Alternative Scheme

Our Bendrigg Alternative (BA) scheme supported 30 unique individuals in 2024, across 52 placements. In total, BA volunteers gave over 500 hours of their time to supporting Bendrigg and our visitors.

The BA scheme has historically focused primarily on people in prison. However, after thoroughly reviewing our work, and the changing needs of those impacted by the Criminal Justice sector, the BA scheme continues to expand and now focusses on four distinct areas:

- People in Prison
- People on Community Licence
- People on Community Order (unpaid work)
- People at higher risk of offending

Beyond Bendrigg

2024 year in review

2024 has been a busy year for the Beyond Bendrigg team.

Overall, the first year of the programme has been successful, bringing in over £45,000 - nearly £15,000 over the projected income. Our income streams have been more diverse than initially thought with more work secured from the charitable sector, particularly The National Trust.

"

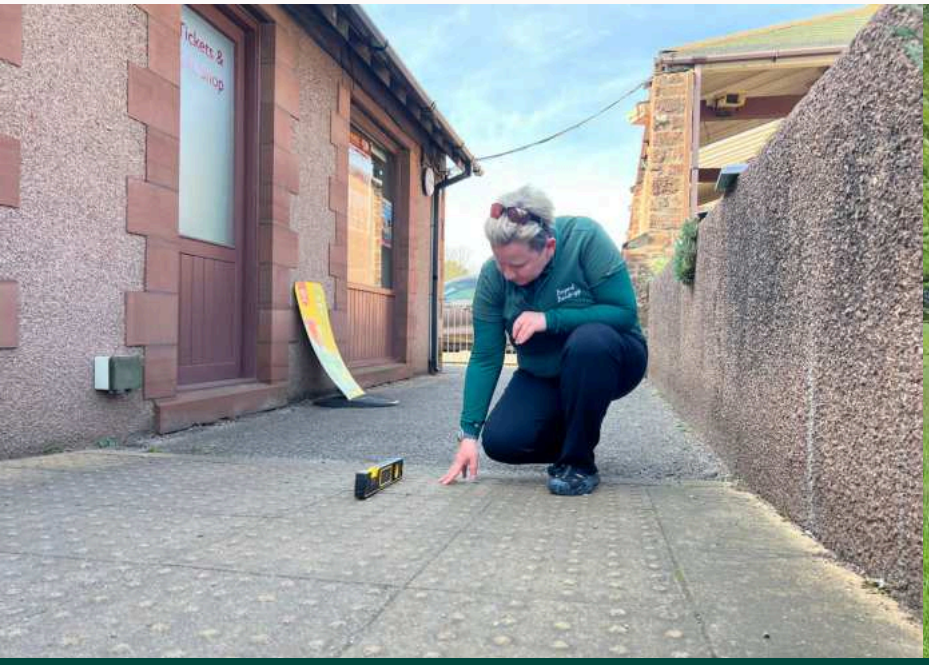
Bendrigg were amazing in the planning, preparation and delivery of the 2024 Adventure Mind conference. Their expertise in inclusive, accessible adventures made the event a massive success, and we look forward to a long partnership with our university through placements, research, education and knowledge exchange.

Sam Pywell, Mental Health Research & Knowledge Exchange Lead, University of Central Lancashire

We trained 6 members of staff to deliver the programme and during the year delivered 24 days training, 8 days of consultancy and 13 talks and workshops. We worked in partnership with the University of Central Lancashire to deliver the 2024 'Adventure Mind' conference which saw nearly 100 people attend the 2 day event on 'Inclusive Adventures'.

There was little marketing of the programme in 2024 so most of our work came from word of mouth and current contacts, but with the launch of the new Bendrigg website we now have good web presence which gives us more potential to market our services and increase our reach and potential income.

2025 gives an opportunity to continue our 'test and grow' model of growth, but the first full year of the programme has shown us that there is a need and appetite for the disability awareness training in the outdoor and tourism sectors and that there is potential for growth in coming years.



"You delivered exactly the course we asked for. The presentation was clear and engaging, the content was pitched at the right level, and everyone left feeling better informed.

James Bumby, Head of Centre,
High Borrans, Outdoor Education Centre

Looking forward: 2024 - 2029

Our plans for the future

In the last 47 years, we have come a long way. But we know we still have a long way to go. 2024 saw the start of our newly approved five-year Strategic Plan. With our strategy set and our goals stated, we're giving form to our ambitions for the next five years and beyond - harnessing more adventure, creating more change and touching more lives.

To turn our ambitions into achievements, we have planned five themes for the work that lies ahead. These are not isolated programmes - each theme overlaps with the other, each success will provide a platform for the next. From 2024 to 2029 we will:

Accommodate a wider audience

We will give people new ways to enjoy the Bendrigg experience, by building fully accessible multi-functional self-catering accommodation. When we're finished, as well as making a small difference in meeting a national shortfall, our new service will make a huge difference for our visitors - supporting our mission while generating income to sustain our organisation.

Transform our space

We will make better use of space across our estate; making space for getting meals and getting rest, for getting around and getting closer to nature. When we're finished, Bendrigg will be coherent and connected, more accessible and better equipped than ever – the sector's leading destination for visiting, working, volunteering, learning and more.

Protect our environment

Working to preserve the setting so vital to our spirit of adventure, we will make our connection to nature central to everything we do. When we're finished, with Net Zero in sight, we will work in ever-closer harmony with our natural environment.

Help the Bendrigg family flourish

We will go further for our people, by fostering a growth mindset in everyone connected to Bendrigg – not only helping people challenge the boundaries of disability, but giving our employees and volunteers the support and space to excel. When we're finished, everyone at Bendrigg will have the opportunity to realise their fullest potential – inspired to be innovators and leaders, driving our progress and taking their place at the forefront of the industry.

Go Beyond Bendrigg

Our training and consultancy programme will equip a broad range of organisations with the skills to bring inclusion into their everyday practice. When we're finished, we will have extended and multiplied the impact of our expertise – touching the lives of over 30,000 people every year, to play an increasingly powerful role in creating a more inclusive society.

Looking forward: 2025

The coming years are a big adventure, but often big adventures start with a small step. During 2025 we will continue our journey by:

Delivering excellence for our visitors

At our core, we champion the transformative power of adventure, seeing it not just as an individual journey but as a force that shapes society for the better. We will continue to harness the power of adventure, ensuring that our visitors get the most inclusive and personal experience possible, making an impact that lasts well beyond a visit.

Driving forward our financial recovery

We have not been untouched by the ongoing challenging financial climate and must take steps to ensure we can continue funding our vital services through these difficult times, without adding additional unaffordable cost to those hardest hit by the pandemic and Cost-of-Living crisis. This will include continuing to invest in our fundraising capacity, investing in new initiatives to increase income and/or reduce costs, and progressing our operational efficiency measures, without losing the Bendrigg magic.

Developing our "Masterplan"

Big adventures need careful planning. Our strategic themes of transforming our space, accommodating a wider audience, protecting our environment, helping the Bendrigg family flourish and going 'Beyond Bendrigg' need the infrastructure behind them. 2025 will see further development of this "Masterplan" including new activities, accommodation refurbishments and expansion into accessible self-catering accommodation.

Encouraging more organisations to 'Be More Bendrigg'

Through specialised training and consultancy offers, we will champion inclusive and accessible places, spaces and people, with the aim of supporting the outdoor, tourism, leisure, and hospitality sectors to be more inclusive and accessible for all.

> "
>
> I leave Bendrigg with more friends than I arrive.

"

Bendrigg and it's staff has magical energy, it really does. All the staff and the volunteers always are so accommodating, kind and caring.

Bendrigg

Fundraising Standards

A look at fundraising standards and practices at Bendrigg

Donors to Bendrigg Trust can be assured that we comply with the regulatory standards for fundraising. We are registered with the Fundraising Regulator and are committed to the Fundraising Promise and comply with all the relevant standards set out in the Code of Fundraising Practice. Our Head of Income and Engagement is a member of the Chartered Institute of Fundraising.

Our fundraising effort involves encouraging donations and gifts from individuals, running and supporting fundraising events, engaging with corporate partners and applying for grants from Charitable Trusts and Foundations. These fundraising activities are organised and managed by our in-house fundraisers with one external professional fundraiser engaged from November 2022 - December 2024 to support our fundraising efforts. All our in-house and third-party fundraisers receive regular training including Data Protection and fundraising specific training. All fundraising activities and third-party contracts are monitored by the Fundraising Manager on a regular basis throughout the year, to ensure standards are maintained. This includes direct review of work, staff appraisals, monitoring of communications and consultations with non-fundraising staff and supporters.

We encourage any individual, business or third-party, fundraising, on our behalf, to inform us of their fundraising activities and also adhere to the Code of Fundraising Practice.

We have an Ethical Fundraising and Donations Acceptance Policy which seeks to cover the ethical issues and social responsibility within fundraising.

We respond to all complaints within ten working days. Complaints are dealt with in-line with our Fundraising Complaints Procedure as outlined in our Ethical Fundraising Policy. All complaints are dealt with by our Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and our trustees are informed of those which are serious. We received zero complaints about our fundraising in 2024.

We have published our Safeguarding Policy on our website. We are also signed up to the Fundraising Preference Service to enable individuals to opt out from receiving fundraising communications from us. We received zero requests from this service last year.

Our fundraising promise

We will be;

- Respectful
- Fair and reasonable
- Accountable and responsible
- Clear, honest and open

Risk Management

The Board of Trustees is sensitive to potential risks to which the charity may be exposed.

Risk Register

The management of risk by Bendrigg Trust is based upon a Risk Register ('the Register') which has been in use since February 2017. The Register is kept under active consideration by the Centre Director and is reviewed every six months by the Risk Register Committee, which consists of the Centre Director and up to three Trustees. The last bi-annual review of the Register was on 28th February 2024.

Responsibilities

The Risk Committee reports to the Trustees in Council. Risk Management is ultimately the responsibility of all Trustees. It is the Trustees duty (assisted by the Risk Committee) to identify risks, to devise systems for managing those risks (or ensure that proper systems have been devised) and to monitor these systems to ensure that they are being put into effect.

The risks considered in the register are considered under five headings:

1. Governance
2. Financial
3. Operational
4. External factors
5. Legislation Compliance

Public Benefit

From 2008, the Charities Act has required all charities to meet the legal requirement that its aims are for the public benefit. For this to be true there must be an identifiable benefit and the benefit must be to the public or a section of the public.

The Trustees are satisfied that the aims and objectives of the charity, and the activities reported on in its annual report to achieve those aims, meet these principles.

Financial Review

Treasurers Report

The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) reports a total surplus of £195,055 for the year ended 31 December 2024 (2023: surplus of £21,598); this is made up from an unrestricted deficit of £38,403 and a restricted funds surplus of £233,458. The overall surplus was added to the reserves brought forward of £3,801,368, to give total reserves at the balance sheet date of £3,996,423.

We are pleased and relieved to be able to report this overall surplus in our activities in 2024, achieved in spite of the ongoing challenges we are encountering in terms of our rising cost base and a more challenging fundraising environment. Our unrestricted deficit has been reduced significantly from our original budget for the year, with strong demand for Bendrigg's courses and outstanding commitment and hard work from the management and staff team. The restricted fund position has strengthened dramatically during the period, due in particular to the £250,000 grant made by the Edward Gostling Foundation. Overall our client and donor income has improved considerably during the year, up from £1,546,079 in 2023 to £1,943,862 in 2024, an overall increase of almost £400,000. We are immensely grateful to all of our customers, donors and volunteers for their invaluable ongoing support

The Balance Sheet at 31 December confirms net assets of £3,996,423 (2023: £3,801,368), with net current assets of £871,315 (2023: £767,731) and net cash balances of £1,236,419 (2023: £998,042). The Balance Sheet also shows the carrying value of our property and other fixed assets at £3,125,108, most of which are funded by restricted capital funds.

With reference to the relatively high level of cash held at the Balance Sheet date it is important to clarify that not all of these funds are held in respect of unrestricted 'free' cash reserves; £420,538 is held as future restricted project funding and £336,375 is held in respect of deferred income, leaving a net 'free' cash balance of £479,506 to support the day to day cashflow of the charity. The 'free' cash position provides Bendrigg with good financial resilience as we face into the ongoing sustainability challenges that lie ahead in 2025 and beyond, and we remain focussed on returning our unrestricted position to surplus making as soon as possible.

The Cash Flow Statement provides the detail of the cash movements during the year to 31 December showing that the overall cash position strengthened significantly in 2024, as described above.

Overall the Financial Statements reflect a good position after another year in which the Charity achieved a better than expected overall financial performance. The Bendrigg management and staff team have worked exceptionally hard to build the current levels of demand and occupancy of the centre, and their ongoing efforts will ensure that the organisation returns to a surplus making position as soon as possible.

Financial Review cont.

Going Concern

The Trustees and Management Team remain concerned that the Charity may continue to incur ongoing Unrestricted General Fund deficits in the short to medium term future; in spite of high levels of demand and occupancy we continue to struggle to contain our cost pressures within our customer and donor income. Having said this we do not believe that the expected level of deficit gives rise to concern in terms of the ongoing assumption of Going Concern, in part due to the resilience of our balance sheet and cash reserves and in part due to the various projects that are being developed to address the deficit position. As a result the Council are satisfied that the assumption of Going Concern remains entirely valid.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy, which is reviewed and approved by the Council on an annual basis, sets out an assessment of an appropriate level of free reserves after restrictions and designations.

The Trustees have again considered the Reserves Policy, at 31 December 2024, taking full account of the range of risks that face the organisation and as captured in our updated Risk Register. In determining the target level of General Fund reserves the Council have paid close attention to certain key risks; in particular these include the ongoing deficits that the charity expects to continue to incur in the short term future. This risk-based approach to determining our policy continues to suggest a target level of free reserves of £600,000, which equates to approximately six months of unrestricted operating costs.
The unrestricted fund reserves stand at £561,224 at 31 December 2024, meaning that the Charity is now carrying less free reserve than is required by the Reserves Policy. It should be noted that the terms of the Edward Gostling Foundation gift, of £250,000, serve to further under-write our Unrestricted Reserves even though these funds are currently reported as Restricted Funds.

Treasurer

Structure, Governance & Management

Constitution

Bendrigg Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee (01396557) incorporated on 27 October 1978 and registered with the Charity Commission (508450) on 15 February 1979.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which defines the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, the members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £5.

Trustees: Recruitment and Induction

Bendrigg recognises that a robust, independent, and effective Board of Trustees is essential to the charity's success and its ability to achieve its objectives.

Prospective Trustees are asked to submit a CV and cover letter and will meet with the Centre Director and the Chair of Trustees. Aspirant Trustees are given a tour of Bendrigg and, where appropriate, are invited to attend a Council and/or Committee meeting. If elected, new trustees receive a Trustee Induction Pack, which includes key organisational documents outlining the charity's operational framework—such as the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Business Plan, and Financial Statements.

Many Trustees make regular visits to Bendrigg, fostering an open and informal relationship with the Centre Director, staff, and fellow Trustees.

Bendrigg is committed to maintaining a diverse and skilled Board of Trustees that reflects the charity's needs. Under the Articles, Trustees are elected to serve a term of three years. One-third of the elected Trustees retire each year and are eligible for re-election. Those retiring are the Trustees who have served the longest since their last election.

Organisational Structure and Governance

The Council meets bi-monthly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. Sub-committees consider the detail and report to the Council.

Further to the sub-committees, working groups are also formed to oversee specific projects for a set period of time.

Renumeration of Key Management Personnel

The HR Committee oversees a periodic pay review process to set pay for all key management personnel. The process could, but not necessarily, include criteria such as; capability of undertaking the role and fulfilling any relevant duties; successful completion of relevant professional qualifications; delivery of specified projects; experience gained within the role; following a benchmark with other organisations in consideration of the essential retention of key personnel.

In relation to the Centre Directors pay, a specific periodic pay review process takes place, at the discretion of the Chair of the HR Committee. Any pay review proposal relating to the Centre Director must be approved by the Treasurer and the Chair of Trustees and formal approval must be given by the Board of Trustees.

Related Parties

The charity has a very close relationship with The Bendrigg Support Trust. The Support Trust was established for the purpose of supporting the work of the Bendrigg Trust. Mr J Holmes, Mr T Lowe and Miss R Hodgson, Trustees, are also Trustees of the Bendrigg Support Trust along with an independent Trustee, Mr R Brownson.

The charity also has a close relationship with The Mary Kinross Charitable Trust through an influential member who is also on the Bendrigg Alternative Committee.

Indemnity Provision

The charity has made qualifying third-party indemnity provisions for the benefit of its Trustees during the year. These provisions remain in force at the reporting date.

Official statement

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Bendrigg Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounts Standards and applicable law). Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to :

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements, on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditor

MHA, previously traded through the legal entity MacIntyre Hudson LLP. In response to regulatory changes, MacIntyre Hudson LLP ceased to hold an audit registration with the engagement transitioning to MHA Audit Services LLP.
MHS will be proposed for reappointment in accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

Each of the persons who is a Trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as they are aware there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- each Trustee has taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a Trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information.

Approval

By approving the Trustees report the Trustees are also approving the strategic report in their capacity as company directors. This report was approved by the Trustees on 6th June 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr Nicholas Liley
Secretary and Centre Director

Adrian Walter
Chair of Trustees

Independent auditor's report

Auditor's opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Bendrigg Trust (the 'charitable compnay') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise of the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2024, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities, and the responsibilities of the Trustees, with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 29, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- enquiries with the board about any known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud;
- challenging assumptions and judgements made by the board in their significant accounting estimates;
- auditing the risk of fraud in income by way of cut off testing, including testing deferral of income for future bookings, as well as transactional testing to obtain evidence that income is complete and recognised in the correct accounting period;
- an evaluation of the risk management override of controls and subsequent testing, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness;
- an evaluation of the charitable company's internal control environment; and
- a review of board minutes.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/auditors/audit-assurance/auditor-s-responsibilities-for-the-audit-of-the-fi/description-of-the-auditor%E2%80%99s-responsibilities-for.
This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

MHA
14, Mannin Way
Lancaster
Lancashire
LA1 3SW

Date

MHA is the trading name of MHA Audit Services LLP, a limited liability partnership in England and Wales, (registered number OC455542)

MHA is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appoints as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating the income and expenditure account)

For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	243,252	641,290	884,542	670,904
Investments	4	19,954	-	19,954	11,222
Charitable activities	5	1,039,366	-	1,039,366	863,857
Other	6	-	-	-	96
Total		1,302,572	641,290	1,943,862	1,546,079
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	99,046	65,075	164,121	103,501
Charitable activities	8	1,346,903	237,783	1,584,686	1,420,980
Total		1,445,949	302,858	1,748,807	1,524,481
Net (expenditure)/ income before transfers	9	(143,377)	338,432	195,055	21,598
Transfer between funds	10	104,974	(104,974)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(38,403)	233,458	195,055	21,598
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		599,627	3,201,741	3,801,368	3,779,770
Total funds carried forward		561,224	3,435,199	3,996,423	3,801,368

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all recognised gains and losses in the year.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 38 to 55 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 December 2024

		2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**12**		3,125,108		3,033,637
Current assets					
Stock		7,447		7,100	
Debtors	**13**	69,722		87,391	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,236,419		998,042	
		1,313,588		1,092,533	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**14**	(442,273)		(324,802)	
Net current assets			**871,315**		**767,731**
Total assets less current liabilities			**3,996,423**		**3,801,368**
Net assets			**3,996,423**		**3,801,368**
Funds:					
Restricted funds	**16**		3,435,199		3,201,741
Unrestricted funds	**18**		561,224		599,627
Total funds			**3,996,423**		**3,801,368**

These accounts were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on the .....and are signed on their behalf by:

.....
Adrian Walter
Chair

.....
Kim Parry
Treasurer

Company Registration Number: 01396557

The notes on pages 38-55 form part of these financial statements.

Cash Flow Statement

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
Cash generated in operating activities	**408,274**	**140,255**
Cashflows from investing activities:		
Investment income	**19,954**	**11,222**
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	**-**	**416**
Purchase of fixed assets (excluding donated assets)	**(189,851)**	**(18,872)**
Cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities	**(169,897)**	(7,234)
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**238,377**	133,021
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	**998,042**	865,021
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**1,236,419**	998,042

Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cashflow from operating activities

Net movement in funds	**195,055**	21,598
Profit on sale of assets	**-**	(96)
Donated goods and services	**(12,677)**	-
Investments income received	**(19,954)**	(11,222)
Depreciation	**111,057**	105,217
Increase / (decrease) in stocks	**(347)**	5,495
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**17,669**	(76,372)
Increase in creditors	**117,471**	95,635
Net cash generated in operating activities	**408,274**	140,255

Components of cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and in hand	**1,236,419**	998,042
	1,236,419	998,042

The notes on pages 38-55 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies

Legal form

Bendrigg Trust is a registered charity and a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006, incorporated in England and Wales. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £5 per member of the Charity.

The registered office of the Charity, the nature of its operations and its principal activities are all detailed in the Charity administrative details of these financial statements.

Basis of preparation

Bendrigg Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The particular accounting policies adopted by the Trustees are described below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees consider the charity to have a sufficient level of working capital to see it through the upcoming months and have made an assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements. There are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income

Donations and legacies are included in the accounts on a cash received basis or where there is a certainty of receipt and the amount is quantifiable. Grants and donations in respect of specific projects are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they are receivable and are credited to restricted reserves.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Investment income is credited to the statement of financial activities in the period in which it becomes receivable.

Income from charitable activities is recognised in the period to which it relates.

Other income includes income from the sale of tangible assets which are recognised upon legal entitlement to the Charity.

Donated goods and services

Donated goods and services are recognised as income when the Charity has control over the item, the receipt of the economic benefit is probable, and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. A corresponding amount is then recognised in expenses or fixed assets. In accordance with SORP (FRS 102) no amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis in the expense categories required by the SORP. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Costs are further allocated between the activities undertaken on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Charitable activities expenditure includes costs incurred in the delivery of the Charity's activities and services. It includes both direct costs, including staff costs, that are incurred in the delivery of the activities and services and indirect costs which are required to support the delivery of the charitable objects.

Costs of raising funds include those costs in relation to the Charity's operations which are used to generate further income which is integral to the Charity in meeting its charitable objectives. It includes direct costs and also indirect costs which have been allocated based on an estimated share relating to fundraising costs.

Fixed assets

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

Freehold property	- 2% straight line per annum
Motor vehicles and trailers	- 25% reducing balance
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	- 10%/20% straight line per annum

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making allowance for obsolete and slow moving stocks.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Debtors and creditors within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable and payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is a basic financial asset and includes cash in hand and deposits held on call with banks.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds - General funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds - Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds - Restricted funds arise where there is a donor-imposed restriction on the use of the funds, or the funds have arisen in response to an appeal for a specified purpose.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution scheme. Contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Taxation

HM Revenue & Customs considers Bendrigg Trust to be a charity and therefore they are entitled to exemption from tax afforded by Sections 478-489 of the Corporation Taxes Act 2010 to the extent that income is applied exclusively for charitable purposes.

Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price and are subsequently carried at amortised cost. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Financial assets are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date. Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that the estimated future cash flows have been affected. The impairment loss is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the company transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, are initially recognised at transaction price, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised. Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Key assumptions, judgements and estimates

In the opinion of the Trustees, there have been no significant judgements made in the process of applying the above accounting policies. There have been no key assumptions concerning future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Staff sponsorship	-	-	**-**	3,000
Project donations	-	60,532	**60,532**	73,334
General donations	243,252	-	**243,252**	266,174
Specific donations	-	371,885	**371,885**	81,200
Sponsored courses	-	141,119	**141,119**	106,246
Specific capital donations	-	55,077	**55,077**	140,950
Donated goods and services	-	12,677	**12,677**	-
	243,252	**641,290**	**884,542**	670,904
Total 2023	*266,174*	*404,730*	*670,904*	

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Bank interest receivable	19,954	-	**19,954**	11,222
	19,954	-	**19,954**	11,222
Total 2023	*11,222*	-	*11,222*	

5 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Course fees	972,161	-	**972,161**	833,731
Other charitable activities	67,205	-	**67,205**	30,126
	1,039,366	-	**1,039,366**	863,857
Total 2023	*863,857*	-	*863,857*	

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Proceeds from sale of asset	-	-	-	96
	-	-	-	96
Total 2023	*96*	*-*	*96*	

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Telephone	150	-	**150**	383
Postage	395	-	**395**	110
Direct fundraising costs	3,423	6,697	**10,120**	7,694
Freelance fundraisers fee	-	6,563	**6,563**	9,600
Staff costs	95,078	51,815	**146,893**	85,714
	99,046	**65,075**	**164,121**	103,501
Total 2023	*63,501*	*40,000*	*103,501*	

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**Total 2024**	Total 2023
	£	**£**	**£**	£
Goods for resale	10,889	-	**10,889**	9,115
Rates and water	1,666	-	**1,666**	1,766
Light and heat	42,705	-	**42,705**	46,050
Repairs and maintenance	64,646	18,284	**82,930**	83,644
Insurance	28,758	-	**28,758**	22,712
Motor vehicle expenses	29,027	2,981	**32,008**	24,683
Telephone	1,354	-	**1,354**	3,450
Provisions and household	119,036	6,959	**125,995**	113,065
Sundry expenses	38,784	11,716	**50,500**	46,833
Outdoor equipment	7,587	-	**7,587**	6,040
Staff training	14,326	300	**14,626**	13,446
Advertising and sponsorship	16,312	-	**16,312**	24,693
Bank charges	2,355	-	**2,355**	2,236
Printing, post and stationery	15,146	-	**15,146**	14,190
Freelance instructors fees	62,047	-	**62,047**	51,256
Audit and professional fees	17,490	-	**17,490**	16,124
IT software and consumables	12,171	-	**12,171**	15,282
Entry fees	1,758	-	**1,758**	2,201
Subscriptions	3,180	-	**3,180**	2,943
Indemnity insurance	1,298	-	**1,298**	1,193
Wages and salaries	658,420	174,513	**832,933**	743,439
National insurance	50,939	13,501	**64,440**	40,454
Pension cost	35,952	9,529	**45,481**	30,948
Depreciation	111,057	-	**111,057**	105,217
	1,346,903	**237,783**	**1,584,686**	1,420,980
Total 2023	*1,214,227*	*206,753*	*1,420,980*	

Support costs are allocated entirely to charitable activities in both the current and prior period.

9 Net income/(expenditure)

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net income is stated after charging:		
Staff pension contributions	**52,604**	43,561
Auditors' remuneration		
- audit of the financial statements	**8,400**	8,000
Other non-audit services provided by the auditor	**4,883**	3,764
Depreciation of tangible assets		
- owned by the Charity	**111,057**	105,217

10 Fund transfers

A transfer is made annually from restricted to unrestricted funds in respect of depreciation charges in the year which relate to restricted assets. This year this transfer amounted to £104,974.

Restricted funds are made up of restricted income funds and restricted capital funds. During the current year restricted income funds were used to purchase fixed assets in the financial year and transfers of £120,394 were made to restricted capital funds. A further £10,960 of restricted income funds have been committed to fixed assets (deposits have been made) so a similar transfer to the restricted capital fund has been made. Total transfers from income funds to capital funds were £131,354.

The transfer out of restricted capital funds of £26,380 is the net of the depreciation transfer (£104,974) and the capital asset transfer (£131,354).

Further details of fund transfers are included in Note 16.

11 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and the cost of key management personnel

Total staff costs were as follows	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	**961,662**	798,806
Social security costs	**75,481**	58,188
Pension costs	**52,604**	43,561
	1,089,747	900,555

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

11 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and the cost of key management personnel (continued)

Particulars of employees:

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Administrative staff	**15**	13
Tutorial staff	**18**	16
Maintenance staff	**1**	1
Catering and domestic staff	**9**	8
	43	38

No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000 during the current or prior year.

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel, as determined by the Charity, is £261,285 (2023: £234,602) during the current period.

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The contributions paid into the scheme in respect of eligible employees for the year ended 31 December 2024 amounted to £52,604 (2023: £43,561).

No Trustees received any remuneration during the current or prior period. No Trustee received any expenses for their role as Trustees in the current or prior period.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Property £	Motor Vehicles & trailers £	Fixtures Fittings & equipment £	Totals £
Cost				
At 1 January 2024	4,187,290	244,590	143,288	**4,575,168**
Additions	52,417	89,626	60,485	**202,528**
Disposals	-	-	-	**-**
At 31 December 2024	**4,239,707**	**334,216**	**203,773**	**4,777,696**
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2024	1,226,136	188,527	126,868	1,541,531
Charge for the year	84,894	19,616	6,547	111,057
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	**1,311,030**	**208,143**	**133,415**	**1,652,588**
Net book value At 31 December 2024	**2,928,677**	**126,073**	**70,358**	**3,125,108**
At 31 December 2023	2,961,154	56,063	16,420	3,033,637

The freehold at Bendrigg Lodge was transferred from the Mary Kinross Trust on 12 March 1985 as a gift. The freehold is not included in the financial statements as an asset but has a substantial market value.

The freehold property reported above, having a netbook value of £2,928,677 relates to the capitalised cost of property developments (including Acorn House) that have taken place on the Bendrigg site subsequent to the original gift of Bendrigg Lodge.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

13 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	**2,004**	193
Prepayments	**67,718**	87,198
	69,722	87,391

14 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

		2024	2023
		£	£
Trade creditors		**15,994**	23,380
Taxation and social security		**31,148**	22,383
Other creditors		**8,789**	1,045
Accruals		**49,967**	36,613
Deferred income	Note 15	**336,375**	241,381
		442,273	324,802

15 Deferred income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Balance brought forward	**241,381**	161,963
Course fees received in advance	**336,375**	238,574
Release of deferred income	**(241,381)**	(159,156)
	336,375	241,381

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

16 Restricted funds: Current year

		At 1 January 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
		£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds						
Restricted funds income	17	213,460	641,290	(302,858)	(131,354)	**420,538**
Restricted funds capital		2,988,281	-	-	26,380	**3,014,661**
Total funds		**3,201,741**	**641,290**	**(302,858)**	**(104,974)**	**3,435,199**

Restricted funds: Prior year

	Note	At 1 January 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2023
		£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds						
Restricted funds income	**17**	102,579	404,730	(246,753)	(47,096)	**213,460**
Restricted funds capital		3,041,865	-	-	(53,584)	**2,988,281**
Total funds		**3,144,444**	**404,730**	**(246,753)**	**(100,680)**	**3,201,741**

Restricted capital funds are made up of incoming resources given specifically to acquire fixed assets, as reduced over the useful economic life of those assets in line with their depreciation - £3,014,661 (2023: £2,988,281).

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

17 Restricted funds: Current year

	At 1 January 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Sponsored Courses	34,352	141,119	(145,617)	-	**29,854**
BA Coordinator	-	15,000	(15,000)	-	**-**
Edward Gostling Foundation	-	250,000	-	-	**250,000**
Fair Share (RL)	-	3,249	(3,249)	-	**-**
Training	-	10,000	-	-	**10,000**
Paddling Project	-	9,083	(3,401)	-	**5,682**
Profile Beds	-	3,500	-	-	**3,500**
Energy Efficiency Project	-	10,000	-	-	**10,000**
Fundraising Support	-	65,075	(65,075)	-	**-**
Simply Moving and Sleeping	-	12,677	-	(12,677)	**-**
Outdoor Equipment	4,332	38,561	(16,927)	(5,125)	**20,841**
Canoes	20,041	6,000	(1,356)	(17,338)	**7,347**
Tube Slide Huts	26,000	10,000	-	(16,575)	**19,425**
'Someone Like Me' Project	32,980	41,449	(40,795)	-	**33,634**
Bendrigg Development	23,250	-	(9,700)	-	**13,550**
Minibus	69,000	25,577	-	(79,639)	**14,938**
Staff Wellbeing Project	3,505	-	(1,738)	-	**1,767**
Restricted income funds	213,460	641,290	(302,858)	(131,354)	**420,538**

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

Restricted income funds: Prior year	At 1 January 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Climbing Club	12,025	-	(12,025)	-	-
Sponsored Courses	17,617	106,246	(89,511)	-	**34,352**
Outdoor Equipment	9,350	12,220	(13,537)	(3,701)	**4,332**
Canoes	16,486	25,950	-	(22,395)	**20,041**
Sensory Room	560	-	(560)	-	-
Tube Slide Huts	1,000	25,000	-	-	**26,000**
Trainee Coordinator	15,000	-	(15,000)	-	-
BA Coordinator	8,750	15,000	(23,750)	-	-
'Someone Like Me' project	21,791	53,364	(42,175)	-	**32,980**
Beyond Bendrigg	-	3,750	(3,750)	-	-
Bendrigg Development	-	25,000	(1,750)	-	**23,250**
Minibus	-	90,000	-	(21,000)	**69,000**
Apprenticeship	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Fair Share (RL)	-	1,200	(1,200)	-	-
Staff Wellbeing Project	-	4,000	(495)	-	**3,505**
Fundraising Project	-	40,000	(40,000)	-	-
Restricted income funds	102,579	404,730	(246,753)	(47,096)	**213,460**

17 Restricted income funds (continued)

Sponsored Courses: enables bursaries to be given to some groups who without it would not be able to afford to come to Bendrigg.

BA Co-ordinator: to fund a co-ordinator post for the Bendrigg Alternative Scheme which is a scheme providing opportunities for those in the Criminal Justice system, or those at risk of entering the Criminal Justice system, to work alongside the groups who visit Bendrigg.

Edward Gostling Foundation: Deed of gift which is to be used if Bendrigg's General Fund Reserve falls below three months operating costs. After five years the restriction will be lifted.

FareShare (RL): funding received through Kinder Kind of Kitchen Project, which allows access to FareShare, an organisation that redistributes food across Cumbria and Lancashire, to community food groups.

Training: to provide training for the Tutorial team and for the Beyond Bendrigg project.

Paddling Project: enabling people with disabilities to take part in padddlesports and the set up of a Paddling Club.

Profile Beds: to purchase new profile beds which enable individuals with complex needs have a comfortable stay at Bendrigg.

Energy Efficiency Project: looking at ways to improve and increase the energy efficiency of the Centre.

Fundraising Support: funding received to expand Bendrigg's fundraising capabilities.

Simply Moving and Sleeping: donation of specific pieces of equipment.

Outdoor Equipment: enables specific pieces of equipment to be purchased.

Canoes: to fund a new fleet of canoes.

Tube Slide Huts: to fund the building of 2 new tube slide huts which will incorporate a built in hoisting system.

'Someone Like Me' Project: to support the volunteer programme with a specific focus on increasing the number of volunteers with a disability.

Bendrigg Development: to fund an enabling phase for possible improvements to the Bendrigg estate.

Minibus: to fund the purchase of minibuses.

Staff Wellbeing Project: funding received to provide wellbeing support to Bendrigg employees.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

18 Unrestricted income funds: Current year

	At 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2024 £
General Funds	599,627	1,302,572	(1,445,949)	104,974	561,224
Unrestricted funds	**599,627**	**1,302,572**	**(1,445,949)**	**104,974**	**561,224**

Unrestricted income funds: Prior year

	At 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2023 £
General Funds	635,326	1,141,349	(1,277,728)	100,680	599,627
Unrestricted funds	**635,326**	**1,141,349**	**(1,277,728)**	**100,680**	**599,627**

19 Analysis of fund transfers

	Total £
Annual transfer in respect of restricted fixed asset funds	104,974
Total transfers	**104,974**

Further details of fund transfers are included in Note 10.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

20 Analysis of net assets between funds: Current year

	Tangible fixed assets £	Cash £	Net current assets excl. cash £	Long term liabilities £	Total £
Restricted funds	3,014,661	420,538	-	-	3,435,199
General funds	110,447	815,881	(365,104)	-	561,224
Total funds	**3,125,108**	**1,236,419**	**(365,104)**	**-**	**3,996,423**

Analysis of net assets between funds: Prior year

	Tangible fixed assets £	Cash £	Net current assets excl. cash £	Long term liabilities £	Total £
Restricted funds	2,988,281	213,460	-	-	3,201,741
General funds	45,356	784,582	(230,311)	-	599,627
Total funds	**3,033,637**	**998,042**	**(230,311)**	**-**	**3,801,368**

21 Operating lease commitments

At 31 December 2024, the total of the Charity's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2024	2023
Amounts payable:		
Within 1 year	**1,596**	1,596
Between 1 and 5 years	**2,389**	3,984
	3,985	5,580

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

22 Capital committments

	2024	2023
Amounts contracted for but not provided in the financial statements:		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	**43,840**	106,893
	43,840	106,893

23 Contingencies

The charity received lottery grants totalling £243,364 during the financial years 1999 and 2000 to fund the development of improvements to the accommodation in Bendrigg Lodge and also a grant of £200,000 between 2007 and 2008 towards the construction of the Kinross Building. The charity may not dispose of these buildings without prior written permission of the Lottery Board, nor use the buildings as security for a loan. This restriction shall be in force for 80 years from the date of the grants.

24 Control and related party transactions

The charity was under the control of the Board of Trustees who are also directors for the purposes of company law in both the current and prior period.

The charity has a very close relationship with The Bendrigg Support Trust. The Support Trust was established for the purpose of supporting the work of the Bendrigg Trust. A specific donation grant of £35,075 (2023: £25,000) was received during the year. Mr J Holmes, Mr T Lowe and Miss R Hodgson, Trustees, are also Trustees of the Bendrigg Support Trust along with an independent Trustee, Mr R Brownson.

The charity also has a close relationship with The Mary Kinross Charitable Trust through an influential member who is also on the Bendrigg Alternative Committee. Total grants received during the year total £95,000 (2023: £105,000). Of these grants, £95,000 was for restricted purposes.

During the year the charity incurred costs of £1,298 (2023: £1,193) relating to indemnity insurance for the Trustees.

There were no outstanding balances with related parties at 31 December 2024 or 31 December 2023.

25 Company Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee. In event of the company being wound up or dissolved, each member undertakes to contribute such amounts as is required, not exceeding £5, for payment of any debts or liabilities.

Reference & administrative details

Charity details

Registered Charity name: Bendrigg Trust
Charity Registration number: 508450
Company Registration number: 01396557
Registered office: Bendrigg Lodge, Old Hutton, Kendal LA8 0NR

Trustees

The Trustees who served the company during the period were as follows:
Adrian Walter, Chair of Trustees
Kim Parry, Treasurer
Tom Hibbert
Tim Lowe
John Holmes MBE
Rachael Hodgson
Anne Fleck
Brian McDonough
Peter Bates
Kay Foster
Jeremy Prall
Kirsty Heywood-MacDonald
Amy Pearman (resigned 21st June 2024)
Richard Huxley (appointed 13th March 2025)
Stuart Woodall (appointed 13th March 2025)

Senior Management Team

Company Secretary and Centre Director: Nicholas Liley
Head of Income and Engagement: Sarah Garman
Activities Manager: Sam Litten
Finance and HR Manager: Gill Smith
Facilities Manager: Jonathon Wolfendale (to 31st August 2024), Dave Garman (from 9th September 2024)
Training, Research & Consultancy Manager: Sara Murray
Fundraising Manager: Elizabeth Feltoe (from 17th March 2025)

Patrons

Sir Chris Bonington CVO CBE DL
Claire Hensman, Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria (retired 3rd July 2023)
Jamie Andrew

Auditor: MHA, Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor, 14 Mannin Way, Lancaster, Lancashire, LA1 3SW

Bendrigg

ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES LICENSING AUTHORITY AALA

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

AHOEC ASSOCIATION OF HEADS OF OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRES GOLD STANDARD

www.bendrigg.org.uk | 01539 723766 | bookings@bendrigg.org.uk
Bendrigg Trust, Bendrigg Lodge, Old Hutton, Kendal LA8 0NR | Registered Charity: 508450

BENDRIGG TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 508450

Accounts

Annual Report 2023

Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

Bendrigg

Introduction & contents

Bendrigg Trust: Trustees' foreword

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements for Bendrigg Trust, an incorporated charity with charity number 508450 and company number 01396557, for the year ending 31 December 2023. This report includes the requirements of a director's report as required by company law.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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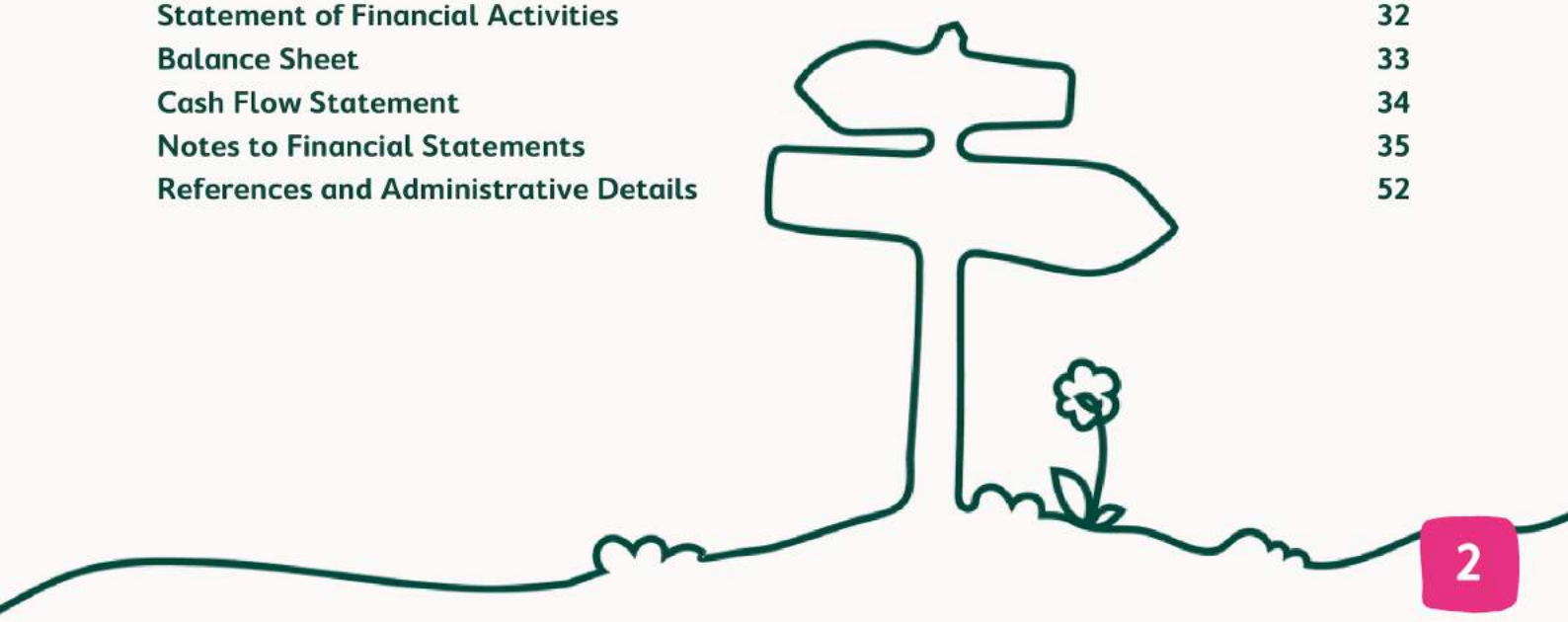


Chairman's Statement

A statement from our Chair of Trustees

Welcome to our new look. After consulting widely with visitors, staff and other stakeholders, the 'Bendi folk' brand, which has represented Bendrigg for many years, is being replaced with more inclusive and modern imagery and messaging. We have also updated our Vision, Mission and Values to better reflect our more ambitious and outward looking approach. I love our new tagline: 'Creating change one adventure at a time'. It communicates, very powerfully and succinctly, what Bendrigg is all about. Our brand update is not just a 'fresh lick of paint', it is an integral part of our strategy ensuring Bendrigg continues to be relevant for our visitors, donors and society more widely.

More than ever before our visitors want and need the Bendrigg experience; that unique blend of challenge and adventure in a friendly, caring and safe environment. It is marvellous to see the grounds and buildings buzzing with the positive energy that Bendrigg generates but even at our subsidised prices some visitors can struggle with the cost. One result of this has been the trend towards shorter stays but intensively packed with technical activities. Also our fully accessible Acorn House enables us to accommodate more visitors with complex needs and so the combined effect of these changes has been to gradually increase staffing levels in order to maintain the high quality we offer.

These trends have been building over a number of years but the pandemic did a good job masking the impact. We are now confronted by the full force of these issues and with high inflation added in we face a situation where our costs are going up but our income isn't keeping pace. The result is significant deficit forecasts in the medium term (2024-2026). Although our reserves are strong we must recover our finances to a sustainable position and this task is the top priority for the Centre Director, management team and the trustee board.

A financial recovery plan is being developed with the objective of eliminating the budget deficit by 2026.

The plan includes a review of our donor income streams and a forensic financial analysis of the different activities we offer resulting in a range of measures which should significantly increase donor income and improve financial performance through changes to pricing, occupancy and efficiency.

Thank you to Kim Parry and Jeremy Prall for leading this work.

I am pleased to report that momentum has been maintained on developing our long term strategy. One of the main strategic themes to emerge is to exponentially increase our reach and impact beyond the visitors that come through our doors each year. This concept has crystallised into 'Beyond Bendrigg', a training and consultancy service that aims to equip and educate other organisations that need to consider accessibility and inclusivity in the services that they provide. Convinced that this was such a strong idea, the decision was taken to launch this initiative before our strategy was completed. A small team has been formed and partnerships are being developed with a range of organisations at national and community level. Even though this is still very much a start-up we have a strong proposition and are building a good reputation in this field.

> **"I love our new tagline: 'Creating change one adventure at a time'. It communicates, very powerfully and succinctly, what Bendrigg is all about.**

Other strategic options being evaluated are: Re-development of the existing estate to upgrade accommodation and facilities, improve accessibility generally and better connect the built spaces to the natural environment. We also want to make better use of our available land to develop opportunities for alternative income streams and additional activities for our visitors.

I would particularly like to thank Kay Foster for her major contribution, in time and expertise, developing the strategy.

In August we attracted significant media exposure, including television, through our support for 'Summits up for Tony'. Tony Hudgell, an eight year old double amputee, had the goal of ascending a Lake District peak raising funds for four charities including Bendrigg. Our activities and accessibility expertise was essential in ensuring Tony's successful ascent of Orrest Head was completed safely.

Our staff are at the core of the Bendrigg experience and have once again been brilliant, continuing to deliver a consistently high quality visitor experience even with the added pressure of increased visitor numbers. The excellent visitor feedback we regularly receive is due to their passion and professionalism.

Our fantastic team keep Bendrigg operations running smoothly and our Centre Director Nick Liley continues to blend inspirational leadership and professional management. The management team are assuming more responsibility for operational matters freeing up Nick to operate more strategically and spend more time creating networks with the wider outdoor activity and disability communities. I believe this change in emphasis is vital to Bendrigg achieving its strategic aims.

In my report for 2022 I referred to the tragic road accident involving Facilities Manager Jonny Wolfendale and his family. I am pleased to report that Jonny has now returned work and is continuing his recovery.

I have acknowledged a few specific Trustees for their contributions but I would also like to thank all of the Trustees for their continued work and commitment particularly with the enhanced committee structure which is improving decision making and connecting Trustees more directly with the management team.

Judy Rayner and Shelagh McGregor retired as Trustees. Judy has been a long serving trustee and, along with her family, very supportive of the Bendrigg Trust. I thank them both for their commitment over the years.

We welcome new trustees Amy Pearman and Kirsty Heywood-MacDonald and look forward to their energy and ideas helping us move forward in the years ahead.

Judy Goodland, a former Trustee and long standing supporter of Bendrigg, sadly passed away in February 2024. We are incredibly grateful to Judy for all of her contributions to Bendrigg over her many years of service as a trustee, her time as chair of trustees and for her ongoing support since retirement. She will be deeply missed by all those who knew her.

Finally I reflect that Nick and his team really have pulled off an amazing feat in 2023: keeping the Bendrigg magic going day in day out whilst at the same time addressing our medium term financial challenges and advancing our strategic plans ensuring we remain relevant in the long term.

Our vision, mission and values

Our vision

To harness the power of adventure to create lasting change and transform communities for all.

At our core, we champion the transformative power of adventure, seeing it not just as an individual journey but as a force that shapes society for the better. Our vision hinges on the Bendrigg experience being a catalyst, reshaping societal perspectives and creating enduring, impactful changes in people's lives.

Our mission

If our vision defines our goal, then our mission statement defines what we will do every day to achieve it.

We make adventure accessible, working together to overcome barriers and transform lives.

Our values

Our values are at the heart of Bendrigg, shaping who we are and how we operate. They've been with us since the start, passed down by each employee. They are crucial, always leading the way we think and act.

Bring Compassion

Bendrigg is a place built on empathy. By taking the time to listen, being consistently compassionate and valuing each person for who they are, we create a unique haven where kindness is in the air, and adventure is in the offing. At Bendrigg, there is always freedom to have fun, all are welcomed, and all are valued.

Practice Progress

Every day is a chance to make lasting changes, not just for visitors or their families. We constantly look for improvement and find better ways of working. We challenge traditional approaches, offer innovative ideas, and develop our practice. Little by little, we make big changes – becoming a force for progress far beyond our borders.

Push Past Boundaries

Some limits may be real, but we remove the ones that aren't. We challenge attitudes, strip away doubts and break through personal barriers. Removing those limits is how we will make extraordinary things happen. We instil self-belief that reshapes everyday lives for individuals and brings a new understanding that will reshape our communities.

Embrace Nature

There is no better classroom, there is no better therapy. This place is not just the setting for adventure; the outdoors is part of our purpose and our personality. Stepping outside and connecting with nature spurs our growth and improves our well-being, making an impact that lasts well beyond a visit.

Make It for Everyone

Opening doors is what we do; to an outdoors full of exciting and empowering adventures, to new abilities and attitudes, to personal potential waiting to be fulfilled. We open these doors for absolutely everyone, with endless flexibility and steadfast adaptability. At Bendrigg, we are exclusively inclusive and we always find a way.

Work As One

We value each and every individual, but it's as a team that we excel. From staff and volunteers to first-time visitors and experienced leaders, we all contribute and 'muck in'. We celebrate all our successes and share all our missteps. We are all each other's cheerleaders and safety nets, trusted advisors, and personal champions. We are all equals.

The spirit of adventure is incredible. A bona fide superpower that can fill any one of us with conviction and confidence, with new abilities and renewed agency. And it's universal too – not the exclusive preserve of the advantaged and non-disabled. It's for everyone because we're making sure it is.

At Bendrigg, we have the setting and the scenery, the equipment and the expertise, the people and the passion. Together, we have a limitless supply of adventure, with a limitless determination to improve people's lives.

Because we know that, whatever adventure means to each individual, it has the power to empower. To challenge and inspire, to tear down barriers and build up possibilities, to create real and lasting change.

Above all, it has the power to change minds – within those individuals and across our whole society: changing the way people see their world and changing the way the world sees them.

#BeMoreBendrigg

Bendrigg

Objectives & achievements

Objectives

In 2023, we were working towards our 'Bounce Back' plan as the effects of the pandemic continued to be felt. Our aims were to:

1. Return to pre-pandemic operating levels, delivering high quality, outdoor courses
2. To return to a position of financial sustainability
3. To ensure that Bendrigg's resources continue to meet visitors expectations as a leader in the field
4. To develop our long term strategic plans as we look to the future.

Achievements

Beyond Bendrigg launched

Our 'Beyond Bendrigg project' launched with the successful appointment of Sara Murray, our new Training, Research and Consultancy Manager. Sara took up the role in September 2023 and you can read more about Beyond Bendrigg on page 17.

A new look for Bendrigg

Throughout 2023 we undertook extensive consultation with our visitors, staff, volunteers and supporters to review Bendrigg's 'brand'. This included a review of our Vision, Mission and Values and ultimately concluded in a complete overhaul of our visual identity. What makes Bendrigg special has not changed, but our look and feel now reflects this better. Our new brand will be rolled out in stages from January 2024, including a new website.

Bendrigg Alternative Scheme re-launched

In March 2023 we appointed a new BA Co-ordinator, Jorj Haston, to relaunch this flagship scheme. See page 16 for more details.

Lodge accommodation upgrades

Our main Lodge accommodation got some tender loving care with decorating updates including new curtains, refreshed paint, updated photos and new lounge seating. To improve the accessibility of the accommodation for some of our visitors with physical disabilities, we also installed new ceiling hoists in our lounge and some of our bedrooms and bathrooms thanks to generous donations of equipment and time from Simply Moving and Sleeping.

'Someone Like Me'

Volunteers returned to Bendrigg in droves in 2023, including some fantastic work parties, far surpassing our pre-pandemic volunteer numbers and bucking the trend elsewhere in the charity sector which saw volunteer numbers dropping. See page 14 for more information on our 'Someone Like Me' volunteering project and page 15 for a case study on one of our brilliant volunteers, Jack.

Reducing food waste

2023 saw the start of a wonderful relationship with Fareshare - a UK charity fighting hunger and food waste. Surplus food comes through Fareshare to Bendrigg once a week, which is then used in our delicious meals. This not only reduces food waste and saves Bendrigg money by reducing the amount of food we need to purchase, but also comes with a cash grant from The Cumberland's Kinder Kind of Kitchen initiative - wins all around!

Fundraising growth

Thanks to the first stage of an investment in fundraising for Bendrigg, almost £671,000 was raised in 2023, accounting for 43% of our total income. This is almost double what was raised in 2022 and has buffered some of the effects of the cost of living crisis on our charity.

More accessible adventures

We constantly look for ways to improve our activities and facilities and 2023 was no different. We improved access to some of our on-site activities by installing electric hoists, tweaked and improved countless ways of working and re-invigorated our 'Zap' activity (pictured opposite) - enabling visitors to challenge themselves through adventure in different ways.

Businesses back Bendrigg

We saw an outpouring of support from local businesses wanting to support Bendrigg in 2023. From 'Busking for Bendrigg' and various other fundraising events organised by Harrison Drury Solicitors, to donations of hoists and services-in-kind from Simply Moving and Sleeping. We are grateful to all of our local business community for continuing to support adventure for all.

> Today we are joining the dots between families who no longer need hoists and a charity that does.
>
> Simply giving back.

Simply
MOVING & SLEEPING

Summit's Up For Tony

In August, Bendrigg supported 8-year-old double amputee Tony Hudgell as he took on an immense fundraising challenge by climbing to the top of Orrest Head in Windermere. Tony's challenge was featured in national media and inspirational adventurers such as Hari Budha Magar and Sir Chris Bonington turned out in support. Tony raised over £58,000 for 4 charities, including Bendrigg.

Big Give: Make it for everyone

Less than 48 hours into our annual Big Give Christmas Challenge we hit our fundraising target of £80,000! This was a big ask and our supporters rallied to our cause with various fundraising events, personal donations and corporate support helping us to make 2023 a record-breaking appeal. This vital funding allowed us to 'Make It For Everyone': supporting our bursary scheme to ensure finances are not a barrier for people wishing to achieve through adventure.

Our year in numbers

A summary of our year

In 2023, we hoped to return to our pre-pandemic operating levels and we did! We've had an incredibly busy year and here are just some of the statistics that highlight the impact we've had on the people through the doors at Bendrigg.

133 residential courses and 55 day activities delivered

2,824 participants and 834 leaders/ carers totalling 3,658 visitors in the year

353 wheelchair users supported

Visitors rated Bendrigg 4.92 out of 5 stars

72% of visitors saw 'significant' or 'considerable' increases in self confidence

80% of visitors saw 'significant' or 'considerable' increases in feeling more included

72% of visitors saw 'significant' or 'considerable' increases in independence

70% of visitors saw 'significant' or 'considerable' increases in social skills

73% of visitors saw 'significant' or 'considerable' increases in physical and/or mental wellbeing

> **Volunteering at Bendrigg has helped my confidence, helped me have faith in myself. They look beyond my disability and condition and see the true me and my capabilities. As soon as you walk through the door you instantly feel part of a fantastic team.**

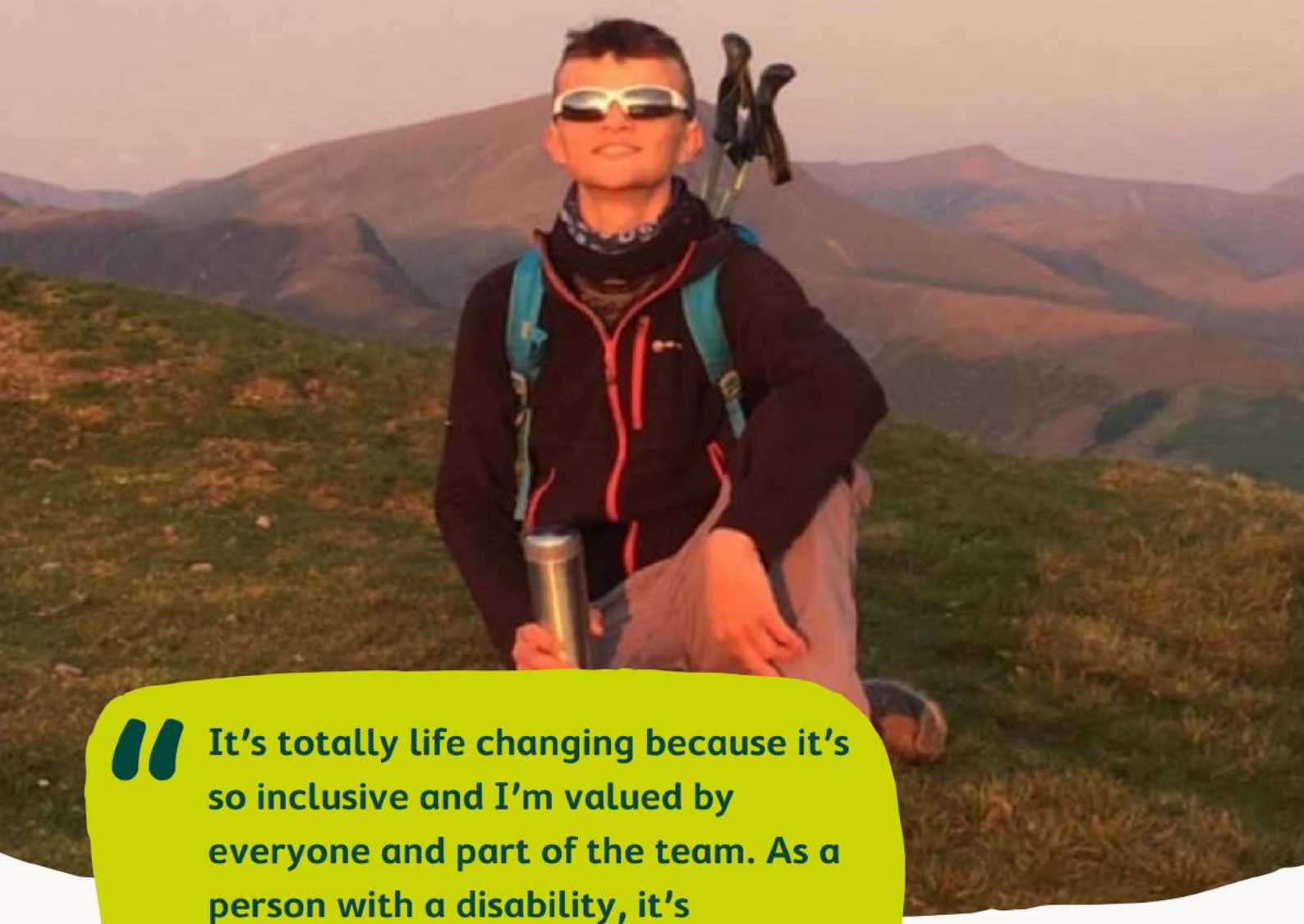
Volunteering in 2023

In 2023, we were excited to see 264 unique volunteers come through our doors, giving a total of 10,480 hours of support. The Living Wage of this time would have cost Bendrigg £131,367, so their generous gift of time is greatly appreciated!

32 volunteers declared a disability. Whilst these individuals make up 21% of our volunteers, they actually make up an astonishing 41% of our volunteer hours; which proves the need for projects like 'Someone Like Me'.

'Someone Like Me' is a Bendrigg project seeking to support those with disabilities to volunteer. There remains in society, a lack of recognition for the contribution that people with disabilities can bring to volunteering. People with disabilities are often recipients of volunteer services but are rarely considered as a potential volunteer resource. 'Someone Like Me' seeks to support those with disabilities to volunteer at Bendrigg - becoming role models and mentors for our visitors.

In 2023, Alistair (who drew the picture above) celebrated 40 years since his first Bendrigg holiday. Since then, he has volunteered each year and creates wonderful newsletters of each of his visits.



> **"It's totally life changing because it's so inclusive and I'm valued by everyone and part of the team. As a person with a disability, it's reassuring that I can ask for support and guidance if I need it.**

Meet one of our volunteers, Jack.

Jack first came to Bendrigg on a residential trip when he was nine and has been volunteering with us since 2020. His ultimate goal is to work in outdoor education and so we are working together to support him in this.

Jack describes himself as a deafblind person who is seeking to break the barriers faced by the deafblind community but also other disabilities.

The support Jack gets at Bendrigg is constantly evolving based on his needs. So far, we have helped him build a consistent routine when on site, spent time with him learning how to safely navigate around the buildings including adding additional aids on his main routes and we always ensure that tasks are communicated clearly and concisely so he can action them independently. We grade and adapt his programme so he is able to sustain his energy and be his best.

Visitors constantly leave very positive feedback about Jack; he is an asset to our team. It is our pleasure to continue to support Jack in working towards his future career prospects and we're very grateful for his time and hard work with us.

> **It is hard to contain the emotion involved when talking about Bendrigg Lodge. 'Giving back to society' is a cliché that is over-used at the best of times; only at Bendrigg is it real.**

Bendrigg Alternative Scheme

Our Bendrigg Alternative (BA) scheme was mostly paused during 2023 whilst we recruited to our BA Co-ordinator role (appointed in March 2023) and then undertook a thorough review of the scheme's history, impact and future aims and objectives.

Although there were no residential BA volunteers in 2023, our maintenance team were supported by six Community Pay Back Team visits, giving a total of 183 hours of work across our 15 acres of grounds; renewing sections of fencing, repairing paths, strimming, mowing and generally maintaining our site.

The BA scheme has historically focused primarily on people in prison. However, after thoroughly reviewing our work, and the changing needs of those impacted by the Criminal Justice sector, the BA scheme at Bendrigg will expand in 2024 and beyond to focus on four key areas:

- People in Prison
- People on Community Licence
- People on Community Order (unpaid work)
- People at higher risk of offending

> **Bendrigg is honestly the only place we have found on this planet where we can truly relax and have fun. Everywhere should be more Bendrigg.**

Training and consultancy launched in 2023.

Beyond Bendrigg is born out of a need for education and support to make the world a more accessible and inclusive space.

We are more than a place, offering more than facilities: we are home to sector-leading knowledge and life-changing expertise. Now, we're preparing to harness that capability, to make an impact far beyond the boundaries of our estate: to go Beyond Bendrigg.

Launched in 2023, Beyond Bendrigg is a training and consultancy service for the outdoor education and tourism sectors, regionally, nationally and – ultimately – internationally. And it's already off to a strong start - training 119 people across nine sessions in the first four months of the program!

While it's an opportunity to diversify our offering and generate funding for our charitable operations, it's also a vehicle for much greater change. As an authority in the sector, we can influence individuals, organisations, national governing bodies and even policy makers.

By sharing our expertise, we're going further to change attitudes, raise awareness and embed positive practice into everyday experiences – driving inclusion across all areas of society. In short, it's our chance to make an impact far Beyond Bendrigg.

Looking forward: the next five years

Our plans for the future

In the last 47 years, we have come a long way. But we know we still have a long way to go. As we look forward, 2024 will see the start of our newly approved five-year Strategic Plan. With our strategy set and our goals stated, we're giving form to our ambitions for the next five years and beyond - harnessing more adventure, creating more change and touching more lives.

To turn our ambitions into achievements, we have planned five themes for the work that lies ahead. These are not isolated programmes - each theme overlaps with the other, each success will provide a platform for the next. Over the next five years we will:

Accommodate a wider audience

We will give people new ways to enjoy the Bendrigg experience, by building fully accessible multi-functional self-catering accommodation. When we're finished, as well as making a small difference in meeting a national shortfall, our new service will make a huge difference for our visitors - supporting our mission while generating income to sustain our organisation.

Transform our space

We will make better use of space across our estate; making space for getting meals and getting rest, for getting around and getting closer to nature. When we're finished, Bendrigg will be coherent and connected, more accessible and better equipped than ever – the sector's leading destination for visiting, working, volunteering, learning and more.

Protect our environment

Working to preserve the setting so vital to our spirit of adventure, we will make our connection to nature central to everything we do. When we're finished, with Net Zero in sight, we will work in ever-closer harmony with our natural environment.

Help the Bendrigg family flourish

We will go further for our people, by fostering a growth mindset in everyone connected to Bendrigg – not only helping people challenge the boundaries of disability, but giving our employees and volunteers the support and space to excel. When we're finished, everyone at Bendrigg will have the opportunity to realise their fullest potential – inspired to be innovators and leaders, driving our progress and taking their place at the forefront of the industry.

Go Beyond Bendrigg

Our training and consultancy programme will equip a broad range of organisations with the skills to bring inclusion into their everyday practice. When we're finished, we will have extended and multiplied the impact of our expertise – touching the lives of over 30,000 people every year, to play an increasingly powerful role in creating a more inclusive society.

Looking forward: 2024

The next five years are a big adventure, but often big adventures start with a small step. During 2024 we will start our journey by:

Delivering excellence for our visitors

At our core, we champion the transformative power of adventure, seeing it not just as an individual journey but as a force that shapes society for the better. We will continue to harness the power of adventure, ensuring that our visitors get the most inclusive and personal experience possible, making an impact that lasts well beyond a visit.

Taking steps to improve our financial sustainability

We have not been untouched by the ongoing challenging financial climate and must take steps to ensure we can continue funding our vital services through these difficult times, without adding additional unaffordable cost to those hardest hit by the pandemic and Cost-of-Living crisis. This will include investing in our fundraising capacity and looking at ways to make our services even more efficient, without losing the Bendrigg magic.

Undertaking a staff health and wellbeing review

It is our people who make Bendrigg so special and we want to give our employees and volunteers the support and space to excel. In 2024 we will undertake a staff health and wellbeing review and, using the results, put in place a programme ensuring that our staff are valued, supported and rewarded in their careers and lives.

Completing the vital work to our Lodge

Although we made great progress in 2023 in refurbishing our Lodge accommodation, we will continue this into 2024 with more internal and external improvements.

> "
>
> **I loved how students were encouraged to develop independence skills. The tutors were so attentive, learned all names and made it feel really personal.**

Looking forward: 2024

Continuing to improve our activities

As we constantly look for improvement and find better ways of working, we will continue to enhance our activities and make them more accessible for all. This will include the refurbishment of our tube slide shelters, and the commissioning of a new and expanded fleet of canoes.

Welcoming back our residential Bendrigg Alternative volunteers

As well as re-starting our Bendrigg Alternative Scheme for residential volunteers we will expand the project to work with more people in the Criminal Justice sector, carrying on the original spirit of Bendrigg.

Developing our Beyond Bendrigg project

In its first full year of operation, we plan to develop training and consultancy offerings to support the outdoor sector, as well as leisure, tourism and hospitality sectors, to 'Be More Bendrigg' and become more accessible and inclusive for all.

Implementing our new branding

With a re-invigorated brand, Bendrigg will become more recognisable and more accessible for all. 2024 will see our new branding spreading through our social channels, a new website, as well as on our site, in our gift shop and across all of our work.

> **"We have loved how easy you make things that usually feel impossible. You give each child the time and space they need for their individual needs and see instinctively how to meet those needs. Watching one child overcome several difficulties with patience and support and our other child being included where she otherwise might not be.**

Fundraising Standards

A look at fundraising standards and practices at Bendrigg

Donors to Bendrigg Trust can be assured that we comply with the regulatory standards for fundraising. We are voluntarily registered with the Fundraising Regulator and are committed to the Fundraising Promise and comply with all the relevant standards set out in the Code of Fundraising Practice. Our Head of Business Development is a member of the Chartered Institute of Fundraising.

Our fundraising effort involves encouraging donations and gifts from individuals, running and supporting fundraising events, engaging with corporate partners and applying for grants from Charitable Trusts and Foundations. These fundraising activities are organised and managed by our in-house fundraisers with one external professional fundraiser engaged in November 2022 to support our fundraising efforts. All our in-house and third-party fundraisers receive regular training including Data Protection and fundraising specific training. All fundraising activities and third-party contracts are monitored by the Head of Business Development on a regular basis throughout the year, to ensure standards are maintained. This includes direct review of work, staff appraisals, monitoring of communications and consultations with non-fundraising staff and supporters.

We encourage any individual, business or third-party, fundraising, on our behalf, to inform us of their fundraising activities and also adhere to the Code of Fundraising Practice.

We have an Ethical Fundraising and Donations Acceptance Policy which seeks to cover the ethical issues and social responsibility within fundraising.

We respond to all complaints within ten working days. Complaints are dealt with in-line with our Fundraising Complaints Procedure as outlined in our Ethical Fundraising Policy. All complaints are dealt with by our Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and our trustees are informed of those which are serious. We received zero complaints about our fundraising in 2023.

We have published our Safeguarding Policy on our website. We are also signed up to the Fundraising Preference Service to enable individuals to opt out from receiving fundraising communications from us. We received zero requests from this service last year.

Our fundraising promise

We will be;

Risk Management

The Board of Trustees is sensitive to potential risks to which the charity may be exposed.

Risk Register

The management of risk by Bendrigg Trust is based upon a Risk Register ('the Register') which has been in use since February 2017. The Register is kept under active consideration by the Centre Director and is reviewed every six months by the Risk Register Committee, which consists of the Centre Director and up to three Trustees. The last bi-annual review of the Register was on 28th February 2024.

Responsibilities

The Risk Committee reports to the Trustees in Council. Risk Management is ultimately the responsibility of all Trustees. It is the Trustees duty (assisted by the Risk Committee) to identify risks, to devise systems for managing those risks (or ensure that proper systems have been devised) and to monitor these systems to ensure that they are being put into effect.

The risks considered in the register are considered under five headings:

1. Governance
2. Financial
3. Operational
4. External factors
5. Legislation Compliance

Public Benefit

From 2008, the Charities Act has required all charities to meet the legal requirement that its aims are for the public benefit. For this to be true there must be an identifiable benefit and the benefit must be to the public or a section of the public.

The Trustees are satisfied that the aims and objectives of the charity, and the activities reported on in its annual report to achieve those aims, meet these principles.

Financial Review

Treasurers Report

The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) reports a total surplus of £21,598 for the year ended 31 December 2023 (2022: surplus of £106,007); this is made up from an unrestricted deficit of £35,699 and a restricted funds surplus of £57,297. The overall surplus was added to the reserves brought forward of £3,779,770, to give total reserves at the balance sheet date of £3,801,368.

We are pleased to be able to report this overall surplus in our activities in 2023, in spite of some ongoing challenges during the year due to the re-basing of our cost base after the pandemic and due to widespread inflationary cost pressures. Our client and donor income has improved very considerably, from £1,420,548 in 2022 to £1,546,079 in 2023, an overall increase of over £120,000.

Having said this, the income in 2022 was much assisted by the inclusion of two exceptional items with a combined value of £347,000, meaning that the adjusted year on year increase in non-exceptional income is over £470,000. Some of this increase relates to an uplift in restricted income received in the year (£404,730 in 2023, compared with £168,654 in 2022), meaning that unrestricted income has risen by £236,000.

The Balance Sheet at 31 December confirms net assets of £3,801,368 (2022: £3,779,770), with net current assets of £767,731 (2022: £659,468) and net cash balances of £998,042 (2022: £865,021). The cash balances are mostly held for unrestricted purposes, with £784,582 held as unrestricted funds and £213,460 relating to restricted projects.

The overall cash position provides Bendrigg with good financial resilience as we face into the ongoing sustainability challenges that lie ahead in 2024. The Balance Sheet also shows the carrying value of our property and other fixed assets at £3,033,637, most of which are funded by restricted capital funds.

The Cash Flow Statement provides the detail of the cash movements during the year to 31 December showing that the overall cash position strengthened significantly in 2023, this is largely due to the increased value of carried forward restricted project funds.

Overall, the Financial Statements reflect a good position after another year of recovery when the Charity achieved a better than expected overall financial performance. The Bendrigg management team have worked tirelessly to bring the organisation back to pre pandemic levels of occupancy, and their ongoing efforts will ensure that the organisation returns to a surplus making position as soon as possible.

Financial Review cont.

Going Concern

The Trustees and Management Team are concerned that the Charity is likely to incur ongoing Unrestricted General Fund deficits in the short to medium term future; in spite of the return to pre pandemic levels of income generation and site occupancy, our cost base has risen significantly due to inflationary and other cost pressures.

We do not believe that the expected level of deficit gives rise to concern about the ongoing assumption of Going Concern, in part due to the resilience of our balance sheet and cash reserves and in part due to the work that is currently being undertaken to address the deficit position.

As a result the Council are satisfied that the assumption of Going Concern remains entirely valid.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy, which is reviewed and approved by the Council on an annual basis, sets out an assessment of an appropriate level of free reserves after restrictions and designations.

The Trustees have again considered the Reserves Policy, at 31 December 2023, taking full account of the range of risks that face the organisation and as captured in our updated Risk Register.

In determining the target level of General Fund reserves the Council have paid close attention to certain key risks; in particular these include the ongoing deficits that the charity expects to continue to incur in the short term future. This risk-based approach to determining our policy continues to suggest a target level of free reserves of £600,000, which equates to approximately six months of unrestricted operating costs.

The unrestricted fund reserves stand at £599,627 at 31 December 2023, meaning that the Charity is carrying slightly less free reserves than required by the Reserves Policy.

Structure, Governance & Management

Constitution

Bendrigg Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee (01396557) incorporated on 27 October 1978 and registered with the Charity Commission (508450) on 15 February 1979.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which defines the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, the members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £5.

Trustees: Recruitment and Induction

Bendrigg recognises that a robust, independent and effective Board of Trustees is essential if the charity is to achieve it's objects.

New Trustees are invited to provide a CV and meet the Centre Director and Chair of the Trustees. Those without background knowledge of Bendrigg are given a tour and invited to attend Council and/or Management Committee meetings before they commit themselves. The aim is to have a varied and diverse Trustee Board with a mix of skills that match Bendrigg's needs.

After being elected, new Trustees are provided with the main documents which set out the operational framework of the charity including the Memorandum and Articles, Business Plan, and Financial Statements. Many Trustees make frequent visits to Bendrigg, giving rise to an easy and informal relationship with the Centre Director, the rest of the staff and other Trustees.

Under the Articles, the Trustees are elected to serve a period of three years. Of the elected Trustees, one third retire every year and are eligible for re-election. Those Trustees retiring are those who have been longest in office since their last election.

Organisational Structure and Governance

The Council meets bi-monthly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. Sub-committees consider the detail and report to the Council.

Further to the sub-committees, working groups are also formed to oversee specific projects for a set period of time.

Official statement

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Bendrigg Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounts Standards and applicable law). Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to :

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements, on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Following the merger of MHA Moore and Smalley with MHA, the charity's independent auditor has now become MHA. A resolution to re-appoint MHA as independent auditor will be proposed at the next Annual General Meeting.

Each of the persons who is a Trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as they are aware there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- each Trustee has taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a Trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information.

Approval

By approving the Trustees report the Trustees are also approving the strategic report in their capacity as company directors.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 21st June 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr Nicholas Liley
Secretary and Centre Director

Independent auditor's report

Auditor's opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Bendrigg Trust for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise of the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2023, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities, and the responsibilities of the Trustees, with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report (incorporating the Directors' Report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and sufficient accounting records have not been kept by the charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing a strategic report.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 26, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- enquiries with the board about any known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud;
- challenging assumptions and judgements made by the board in their significant accounting estimates;
- auditing the risk of fraud in income by way of cut off testing, including testing deferral of income for future bookings, as well as transactional testing to obtain evidence that income is complete and recognised in the correct accounting period;
- an evaluation of the risk management override of controls and subsequent testing, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness; and
- an evaluation of the charitable company's internal control environment; and
- a review of board minutes.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Jack Steer Date
Senior Statutory Auditor
For and on behalf of MHA, Statutory Auditor

14, Mannin Way
Lancaster
Lancashire
LA1 3SW

MHA is the trading name of Macintyre Hudson LLP, a limited liability partnership in England and Wales, (registered number OC312313)

Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating the income and expenditure account)

For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	266,174	404,730	670,904	367,482
Investments	4	11,222	-	11,222	3,753
Charitable activities	5	863,857	-	863,857	702,205
Other	6	96	-	96	347,108
Total		1,141,349	404,730	1,546,079	1,420,548
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	63,501	40,000	103,501	48,409
Charitable activities	8	1,214,227	206,753	1,420,980	1,266,132
Total		1,277,728	246,753	1,524,481	1,314,541
Net (expenditure)/ income before transfers		(136,379)	157,977	21,598	106,007
Transfer between funds	10, 19	100,680	(100,680)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(35,699)	57,297	21,598	106,007
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		635,326	3,144,444	3,779,770	3,673,763
Total funds carried forward		599,627	3,201,741	3,801,368	3,779,770

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all recognised gains and losses in the year.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 35 to 52 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 December 2023

		2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**12**		3,033,637		3,120,302
Current assets					
Stock		7,100		12,595	
Debtors	**13**	87,391		11,019	
Cash at bank and in hand		998,042		865,021	
		1,092,533		888,635	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**14**	(324,802)		(229,167)	
Net current assets			**767,731**		**659,468**
Total assets less current liabilities			**3,801,368**		**3,779,770**
Net assets			**3,801,368**		**3,779,770**
Funds:					
Restricted funds	**16**		3,201,741		3,144,444
Unrestricted funds	**18**		599,627		635,326
Total funds			**3,801,368**		**3,779,770**

These accounts were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on the 21st June 2024 and are signed on their behalf by:

.....
Adrian Walter
Chair

.....
Kim Parry
Treasurer

Company Registration Number: 01396557

The notes on pages 35-52 form part of these financial statements.

Cash Flow Statement

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£
Cash generated in operating activities	**140,255**	175,496
Cashflows from investing activities:		
Investment income	**11,222**	3,753
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	**416**	125,317
Purchase of fixed assets	**(18,872)**	(11,588)
Cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities	**(7,234)**	117,482
Cashflows from financing activities		
Payment of loan	**-**	(250,000)
Cash provided by/ (used in) financing activities	**-**	(250,000)
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**133,021**	42,978
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	**865,021**	822,043
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**998,042**	865,021

Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cashflow from operating activities

Net movement in funds	**21,598**	106,007
Profit on sale of assets	**(96)**	(118,394)
Investments income received	**(11,222)**	(3,753)
Depreciation	**105,217**	113,112
Increase / (decrease) in stocks	**5,495**	(1,484)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**(76,372)**	1,927
Increase in creditors (excluding loan)	**95,635**	52,348
Net cash generated in operating activities	**140,255**	175,496

Components of cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and in hand	**998,042**	865,021
	998,042	865,021

The notes on pages 35-52 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting policies

Legal form

Bendrigg Trust is a registered charity and a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006, incorporated in England and Wales. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £5 per member of the Charity.

The registered office of the Charity, the nature of its operations and its principal activities are all detailed in the Charity administrative details of these financial statements.

Basis of preparation

Bendrigg Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The particular accounting policies adopted by the Trustees are described below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees consider the charity to have a sufficient level of working capital to see it through the upcoming months and have made an assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements. There are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income

Donations and legacies are included in the accounts on a cash received basis or where there is a certainty of receipt and the amount is quantifiable. Grants and donations in respect of specific projects are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they are receivable and are credited to restricted reserves.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Investment income is credited to the statement of financial activities in the period in which it becomes receivable.

Income from charitable activities is recognised in the period to which it relates.

Other income includes income from insurance claim receipts and the sale of tangible assets which are recognised upon legal entitlement to the Charity.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis in the expense categories required by the SORP. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Costs are further allocated between the activities undertaken on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Charitable activities expenditure includes costs incurred in the delivery of the Charity's activities and services. It includes both direct costs, including staff costs, that are incurred in the delivery of the activities and services and indirect costs which are required to support the delivery of the charitable objects.

Costs of raising funds include those costs in relation to the Charity's operations which are used to generate further income which is integral to the Charity in meeting its charitable objectives. It includes direct costs and also indirect costs which have been allocated based on an estimated share relating to fundraising costs.

Fixed assets

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

Freehold property	-	2% straight line per annum
Leasehold property	-	4% straight line per annum
Motor vehicles and trailers	-	25% reducing balance
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	10%/20% straight line per annum
Sports installations	-	10% straight line per annum

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making allowance for obsolete and slow moving stocks.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Debtors and creditors within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable and payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is a basic financial asset and includes cash in hand and deposits held on call with banks.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds - General funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds - Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds - Restricted funds arise where there is a donor-imposed restriction on the use of the funds, or the funds have arisen in response to an appeal for a specified purpose.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution scheme. Contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Taxation

HM Revenue & Customs considers Bendrigg Trust to be a charity and therefore they are entitled to exemption from tax afforded by Sections 478-489 of the Corporation Taxes Act 2010 to the extent that income is applied exclusively for charitable purposes.

Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price and are subsequently carried at amortised cost. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Financial assets are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date. Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that the estimated future cash flows have been affected. The impairment loss is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the company transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, are initially recognised at transaction price, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised. Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Key assumptions, judgements and estimates

In the opinion of the Trustees, there have been no significant judgements made in the process of applying the above accounting policies. There have been no key assumptions concerning future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
General donations	266,174	-	**266,174**	198,828
Restricted donations	-	157,534	**157,534**	106,642
Sponsored courses	-	106,246	**106,246**	62,012
Specific capital donations	-	140,950	**140,950**	-
	266,174	**404,730**	**670,904**	367,482
Total 2022	*198,828*	*168,654*	*367,482*	

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest receivable	**11,222**	-	**11,222**	3,753
	11,222	-	**11,222**	3,753
Total 2022	*3,753*	-	*3,753*	

5 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Course fees	833,731	-	**833,731**	677,816
Other charitable activities	30,126	-	**30,126**	24,389
	863,857	-	**863,857**	702,205
Total 2022	*702,205*	-	*702,205*	

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Insurance claim receipt	-	-	-	228,714
Proceeds from sale of asset	96	-	**96**	118,394
	96	**-**	**96**	347,108
Total 2022	*347,108*	-	*347,108*	

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Telephone	383	-	**383**	633
Postage	110	-	**110**	-
Direct fundraising costs	4,678	3,016	**7,694**	4,642
Freelance fundraisers fee	-	9,600	**9,600**	1,200
Staff costs	58,330	27,384	**85,714**	41,934
	63,501	**40,000**	**103,501**	48,409
Total 2022	*48,409*	-	*48,409*	

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Goods for resale	9,115	-	**9,115**	4,514
Rates and water	1,766	-	**1,766**	3,302
Light and heat	46,050	-	**46,050**	42,739
Repairs and maintenance	83,644	-	**83,644**	81,423
Insurance	22,712	-	**22,712**	15,702
Motor vehicle expenses	24,683	-	**24,683**	25,257
Telephone	3,450	-	**3,450**	2,532
Provisions and household	113,065	-	**113,065**	86,888
Sundry expenses	8,819	38,014	**46,833**	9,956
Outdoor equipment	6,040	-	**6,040**	5,976
Staff training	13,446	-	**13,446**	12,371
Advertising and sponsorship	24,693	-	**24,693**	9,791
Bank charges	2,236	-	**2,236**	1,796
Printing, post and stationery	14,190	-	**14,190**	11,605
Freelance instructors fees	51,256	-	**51,256**	43,735
Audit and professional fees	16,124	-	**16,124**	9,609
IT software and consumables	15,282	-	**15,282**	14,092
Entry fees	2,201	-	**2,201**	2,142
Subscriptions	2,943	-	**2,943**	3,732
Indemnity insurance	1,193	-	**1,193**	435
Wages and salaries	589,486	153,953	**743,439**	551,697
National insurance	32,077	8,377	**40,454**	23,931
Pension cost	24,539	6,409	**30,948**	24,015
Depreciation	105,217	-	**105,217**	113,112
Impairment of leasehold	-	-	**-**	25,733
	1,214,227	**206,753**	**1,420,980**	1,266,132
Total 2022	*1,126,086*	*140,046*	*1,266,132*	

Support costs are allocated entirely to charitable activities in both the current and prior period.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

9 Net income/(expenditure)

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income is stated after charging:		
Staff pension contributions	**43,561**	36,849
Auditors' remuneration		
- audit of the financial statements	**9,500**	5,500
Depreciation of tangible assets		
- owned by the Charity	**105,217**	113,112

10 Fund transfers

A transfer is made annually from restricted to unrestricted funds in respect of depreciation charges in the year which relate to restricted assets. This year this transfer amounted to £100,680.

Restricted funds are made up of restricted income funds and restricted capital funds. During the current year restricted income funds were used to purchase fixed assets in the financial year and transfers of £7,404 were made to restricted capital funds. A further £39,692 of restricted income funds have been committed to fixed assets (deposits have been made) so a similar transfer to the restricted capital fund has been made. Total transfers from income funds to capital funds were £47,096.

The transfer out of restricted capital funds of £53,584 is the net of the depreciation transfer (£100,680) and the capital asset transfer (£47,096).

Further details of fund transfers are included in Note 16.

11 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and the cost of key management personnel

Total staff costs were as follows	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	**798,806**	674,332
Social security costs	**58,188**	49,343
Pension costs	**43,561**	36,849
	900,555	760,524

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

11 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and the cost of key management personnel (continued)

Particulars of employees:

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Administrative staff	**13**	11
Tutorial staff	**16**	15
Maintenance staff	**1**	1
Catering and domestic staff	**8**	7
	38	34

No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000 during the current or prior year.

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel, as determined by the Charity, is £234,602 (2022: £194,927) during the current period.

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The contributions paid into the scheme in respect of eligible employees for the year ended 31 December 2023 amounted to £43,561 (2022: £36,849).

No Trustees received any remuneration during the current or prior period. No Trustee received any expenses for their role as Trustees in the current or prior period.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Property £	Leasehold Property £	Motor Vehicles & trailers £	Fixtures Fittings & equipment £	Totals £
Cost					
At 1 January 2023	4,180,254	76,456	277,432	602,456	**5,136,598**
Additions	7,036	-	-	11,836	**18,872**
Disposals	-	(76,456)	(32,842)	(471,004)	**(580,302)**
At 31 December 2023	**4,187,290**	**-**	**244,590**	**143,288**	**4,575,168**
Depreciation					
At 1 January 2023	1,142,377	76,456	202,307	595,156	2,016,296
Charge for the year	83,759	-	18,742	2,716	105,217
Eliminated on disposal	-	(76,456)	(32,522)	(4,71,004)	(579,982)
At 31 December 2023	**1,226,136**	**-**	**188,527**	**126,868**	**1,541,531**
Net book value					
At 31 December 2023	**2,961,154**	**-**	**56,063**	**16,420**	**3,033,637**
At 31 December 2022	3,037,877	-	75,125	7,300	3,120,302

The freehold at Bendrigg Lodge was transferred from the Mary Kinross Trust on 12 March 1985 as a gift. The freehold is not included in the financial statements as an asset but has a substantial market value.

The freehold property reported above, having a netbook value of £2,961,154 relates to the capitalised cost of property developments (including Acorn House) that have taken place on the Bendrigg site subsequent to the original gift of Bendrigg Lodge.

A 25 year lease on Greenslack was agreed in April 2006 and this is the only leasehold held by the Trust. During the year, the Charity has disposed of the leasehold property improvements, on the basis that it intends to terminate the lease.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

13 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	193	358
Prepayments	87,198	10,661
	87,391	11,019

14 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

		2023	2022
		£	£
Trade creditors		23,380	24,466
Taxation and social security		22,383	10,901
Other creditors		1,045	2,241
Accruals		36,613	29,596
Deferred income	Note 15	241,381	161,963
		324,802	229,167

15 Deferred income

	2023	2022
	£	£
Balance brought forward	161,963	145,900
Course fees received in advance	238,574	147,861
Release of deferred income	(159,156)	(131,798)
	241,381	161,963

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

16 Restricted funds: Current year

		At 1 January 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2023
		£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds						
Restricted funds income	17	102,579	404,730	(246,753)	(47,096)	**213,460**
Restricted funds capital		3,041,865	-	-	(53,584)	**2,988,281**
Total funds		**3,144,444**	**404,730**	**(246,753)**	**(100,680)**	**3,201,741**

Restricted funds: Prior year

	Note	At 1 January 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds						
Restricted funds income	**17**	73,971	168,654	(140,046)	-	**102,579**
Restricted funds capital		3,176,817	-	-	(134,952)	**3,041,865**
Total funds		**3,250,788**	**168,654**	**(140,046)**	**(134,952)**	**3,144,444**

Restricted capital funds are made up of incoming resources given specifically to acquire fixed assets, as reduced over the useful economic life of those assets in line with their depreciation - £2,988,281 (2022: £3,041,865).

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

17 Restricted funds: Current year

	At 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2023 £
Climbing Club	12,025	-	(12,025)	-	**-**
Sponsored Courses	17,617	106,246	(89,511)	-	**34,352**
Outdoor Equipment	9,350	12,220	(13,537)	(3,701)	**4,332**
Canoes	16,486	25,950	-	(22,395)	**20,041**
Sensory Room	560	-	(560)	-	**-**
Tube Slide	1,000	25,000	-	-	**26,000**
Trainee Coordinator	15,000	-	(15,000)	-	**-**
BA Co-ordinator	8,750	15,000	(23,750)	-	**-**
Someone Like Me Project	21,791	53,364	(42,175)	-	**32,980**
Beyond Bendrigg Project	-	3,750	(3,750)	-	**-**
Bendrigg Development	-	25,000	(1,750)	-	**23,250**
Minibus	-	90,000	-	(21,000)	**69,000**
Apprenticeship	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	**-**
Fareshare (RL)	-	1,200	(1,200)	-	**-**
Staff Wellbeing project	-	4,000	(495)	-	**3,505**
Fundraising Project	-	40,000	(40,000)	-	**-**
Restricted income funds	102,579	404,730	(246,753)	(47,096)	**213,460**

Restricted income funds: Prior year

	At 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2022 £
Climbing Club	8,760	11,580	(8,315)	-	12,025
Sponsored Courses	35,504	62,012	(79,899)	-	17,617
Outdoor Equipment	1,450	12,614	(4,714)	-	9,350
Canoes	-	16,486	-	-	16,486
Sensory Room	560	-	-	-	560
Tube Slide	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Trainee Coordinator	16,611	15,000	(16,611)	-	15,000
Trainee - Training	960	3,000	(3,960)	-	-
BA Co-ordinator	-	15,000	(6,250)	-	8,750
Hidden Disabilities Project	10,126	-	(10,126)	-	-
'Someone Like Me' Project	-	31,962	(10,171)	-	21,791
Restricted income funds	73,971	168,654	(140,046)	-	102,579

17 Restricted income funds (continued)

Climbing Club: funds used to support an inclusive climbing club which allows young people of all abilities to learn to climb in a safe, supported and fun environment.

Sponsored Courses: enables bursaries to be given to some groups who without it would not be able to afford to come to Bendrigg.

Outdoor Equipment: enables specific pieces of equipment to be purchased.

Canoes: to fund a new fleet of canoes.

Sensory Room: funding received enabled the sensory room to be upgraded.

Tube Slide: to fund the building of two new tube slide huts which will incorporate a built-in hoisting system.

Trainee Co-ordinator: to fund a post which supervises the work and the development of trainee tutors.

BA Co-ordinator: to fund a co-ordinator post for the Bendrigg Alternative Scheme which is a scheme providing opportunities for offenders, or those at risk of offending, to work alongside the groups who visit Bendrigg.

Hidden Disability Project: funding to create 15 social story books and videos aimed at people with autistic spectrum disorder and other hidden disabilities.

'Someone Like Me' Volunteer Project: to support the volunteer programme with a specific focus on increasing the number of volunteers with a disability.

Beyond Bendrigg Project: to help the outdoor, tourism and leisure sectors to be more inclusive and accessible. Tailored training and bespoke advice demonstrate how, and why, to make activities open to all.

Bendrigg Development Project: to fund an enabling phase for possible improvements to the Bendrigg estate.

Apprenticeship: funding received to support Bendrigg apprentices.

Fareshare (RL): funding received through Kinder Kind of Kitchen Project, which allows access to Fareshare, an organisation that redistributes food across Cumbria and Lancashire, to community food groups.

Fundraising Support: funding received to expand Bendrigg's fundraising capabilities.

Staff Wellbeing Project: funding received to provide wellbeing support to Bendrigg employees.

Minibus: to fund the purchase of minibuses.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

18 Unrestricted income funds: Current year

	At 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2023 £
General Funds	635,326	1,141,349	(1,277,728)	100,680	599,627
Unrestricted funds	**635,326**	**1,141,349**	**(1,277,728)**	**100,680**	**599,627**

Unrestricted income funds: Prior year

	At 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2022 £
General Funds	422,975	1,251,894	(1,174,495)	134,952	635,326
Unrestricted funds	**422,975**	**1,251,894**	**(1,174,495)**	**134,952**	**635,326**

19 Analysis of fund transfers

	Total £
Annual transfer in respect of restricted fixed asset funds	100,680
Total transfers	**100,680**

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

20 Analysis of net assets between funds: Current year

	Tangible fixed assets £	Cash £	Net current assets excl. cash £	Long term liabilities £	Total £
Restricted funds	2,988,281	213,460	-	-	3,201,741
General funds	45,356	784,582	(230,311)	-	599,627
Total funds	**3,033,637**	**998,042**	**(230,311)**	**-**	**3,801,368**

Analysis of net assets between funds: Prior year

	Tangible fixed assets £	Cash £	Net current assets excl. cash £	Long term liabilities £	Total £
Restricted funds	3,041,865	102,579	-	-	3,144,444
General funds	78,437	762,442	(205,553)	-	635,326
Total funds	**3,120,302**	**865,021**	**(205,553)**	**-**	**3,779,770**

21 Operating lease commitments

At 31 December 2023, the total of the Charity's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2023	2022
Amounts payable:		
Within 1 year	**1,596**	1,596
Between 1 and 5 years	**3,984**	5,580
	5,580	7,176

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2023

22 Capital committments

	2023	2022
Amounts contracted for but not provided in the financial statements:		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	**106,893**	-
	106,893	-

23 Contingencies

The charity received lottery grants totalling £243,364 during the financial years 1999 and 2000 to fund the development of improvements to the accommodation in Bendrigg Lodge and also a grant of £200,000 between 2007 and 2008 towards the construction of the Kinross Building. The charity may not dispose of these buildings without prior written permission of the Lottery Board, nor use the buildings as security for a loan. This restriction shall be in force for 80 years from the date of the grants.

24 Control and related party transactions

The charity was under the control of the Board of Trustees who are also directors for the purposes of company law in both the current and prior period.

The charity has a very close relationship with The Bendrigg Support Trust. The Support Trust was established for the purpose of supporting the work of the Bendrigg Trust. A revenue grant of £40,000 (2022: £20,000) and a specific donation grant of £25,000 (2022: £nil) was received during the year. Mr J Holmes, Mr T Lowe and Miss R Hodgson, Trustees, are also Trustees of the Bendrigg Support Trust along with an independent Trustee, Mr R Brownson.

The charity also has a close relationship with The Mary Kinross Charitable Trust through an influential member who is also on the Bendrigg Alternative Committee. Total grants received during the year total £105,000 (2022: £100,000). Of these grants, £105,000 was for restricted purposes.

During the year the charity incurred costs of £1,193 (2022: £435) relating to indemnity insurance for the Trustees.

There were no outstanding balances with related parties at 31 December 2023 or 31 December 2022.

25 Company Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee. In event of the company being wound up or dissolved, each member undertakes to contribute such amounts as is required, not exceeding £5, for payment of any debts or liabilities.

Reference & administrative details

Charity details

Registered Charity name: Bendrigg Trust
Charity Registration number: 508450
Company Registration number: 01396557
Registered office: Bendrigg Lodge, Old Hutton, Kendal LA8 0NR

Trustees

The Trustees who served the company during the period were as follows:
Adrian Walter, Chair of Trustees
Kim Parry, Treasurer
Rachael Hodgson
Kay Foster
Shelagh McGregor (retired 23rd June 2023)
Jeremy Prall
Tim Lowe
Judy Rayner (retired 23rd June 2023)
John Holmes MBE
Brian McDonough
Peter Bates
Tom Hibbert
Anne Fleck
Kirsty Heywood-MacDonald (appointed 23rd June 2023)
Amy Pearman (appointed 23rd June 2023)

Senior Management Team

Company Secretary and Centre Director: Nicholas Liley
Head of Business Development: Sarah Garman
Activities Manager: Sam Litten
Finance and HR Manager: Gill Smith
Interim Facilities Manager: Graham Franks (January - June 2023)
Facilities Manager: Jonathan Wolfendale
Training, Research & Consultancy Manager: Sara Murray (appointed September 2023)

Patrons

Sir Chris Bonington CVO CBE DL
Claire Hensman, Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria (retired 3rd July 2023)
Jamie Andrew

Auditor: MHA, Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor, 14 Mannin Way, Lancaster, Lancashire, LA1 3SW

BENDRIGG TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 508450

Accounts

BENDRIGG TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

“Exceptional. The most inclusive, heart-warming and humbling experience for both children and staff.”

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The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 December 2022. This report includes the requirements of a directors' report in accordance with company law.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

THE HIGHS AND LOWS
CHAIR OF TRUSTEES STATEMENT

I took over the privilege of serving as the chairman of our special organisation from Rachael Hodgson in May 2022 so here is my first Chairman's statement.

Firstly I must pay tribute to Rachael's exemplary leadership over the last three years which has been one of the most challenging periods in Bendrigg's history. Her thorough, collaborative and decisive style helped us successfully navigate the pandemic years and emerge ready for action. I am delighted that Rachael remains involved as an active trustee and I thank her for her support and guidance.

We started 2022 with many challenges: for our visitors the post pandemic environment has been particularly difficult. Initially they had to adopt a cautious approach to residential programmes and then financial pressures exacerbated the situation whilst, at the same time, they needed the benefits of the Bendrigg experience more than ever. For Bendrigg, a tight labour market was making recruitment difficult even risking our ability to service bookings and grant making trusts were facing unprecedented levels of demand making fundraising difficult. In the meantime global events caused spiralling inflation driving up our operating costs and the cost of living for our employees.

Bendrigg has faced up to these challenges, responding quickly with innovative new ideas and approaches. Decisions to maintain regular engagement with our visitors during the pandemic meant they felt confident to start booking with us again. Recruitment opened up because decisions were made to improve our offer and create exciting opportunities through a new tutor pay framework and fundraising strategies were revised to better reflect changing donor requirements. The response of everyone at Bendrigg to these challenges has been outstanding including staff, the management team, volunteers and trustees. I am delighted to report that Bendrigg is fully up and running and is 'buzzing' again.

Our finances benefited from two significant cash injections:
A Business Interruption insurance claim to cover losses attributed to Covid-19 was settled and, after a comprehensive review, the Fell End bunkhouse was sold. Special thanks go to Kim Parry and Peter Bates for driving these through. These one-off windfalls will strengthen our reserves which is essential as we continue to deal with a challenging operating environment.

Despite these positive elements, 2022 was marred by two tragic events. The untimely death of our Bendrigg Alternative Coordinator Stephen Evans in September and, just before Christmas, our Facilities Manager Jonny Wolfendale and his family were involved in a serious road traffic accident leaving Jonny severely injured. Both of these events had a deep impact on our small, close knit team and ensuring their wellbeing has been uppermost in the minds of the management team and trustees. As well as emotional and psychological support in the immediate aftermath we are also looking into how we can better embed staff welfare into our policies and culture. That Bendrigg was able to come through this whilst still delivering for our visitors is due to the exceptional leadership of our Centre Director Nick Liley. Our thoughts go out to Jonny, his family and friends and Stephen's family and friends.

Continued...

THE HIGHS AND LOWS

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES STATEMENT cont...

I would like to thank all of the trustees for their continued work and commitment. The committee structure has had a refresh and some new committees are being formed. The aim is to improve decision making by forging closer working relationships between the management team and trustees. The implementation is being phased in and I would like to thank trustees for their support in this.

Our staff have once again been amazing maintaining a positive, warm and friendly atmosphere despite the challenges in the background. The excellent visitor feedback we consistently receive is due to their passion and professionalism. In September, Jo Winchester's Bendrigg career of over 25 years came to a close. We wish her a long and happy retirement.

Finally I am delighted that work is well underway developing a new long term strategic plan for Bendrigg and whilst this is not due to be completed until later in 2023 an exciting vision is emerging which, at its core, will see Bendrigg's reach and impact expand exponentially and layout a pathway for the rejuvenation of the Bendrigg estate.

Adrian Walter
Chair of Trustees

It was wonderful to feel that my son was one of the most important people in the room. We normally feel as though we are being 'accommodated', at Bendrigg we feel celebrated.

VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

OUR MISSION

To **promote inclusion**, **encourage independence** and **build self-confidence** through the provision of **adventurous activities**

OUR VISION

An **inclusive society** where **everyone is equal**

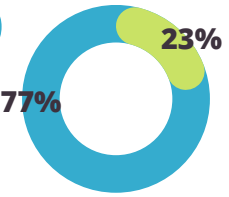
OUR VALUES

Our 6 core values are at the heart of everything we do

2022 SUMMARY

3,724
Total visitors

2,870
Visitors



854
Leaders

246
Wheelchair users

117
Residential visits

43
Day activities

PEOPLE WHO ACCESSED OUR SERVICES IN 2022 SAW 'SIGNIFICANT' OR 'CONSIDERABLE' IMPROVEMENTS IN:

OUR VISITORS GAVE 4.9 OUT OF 5 STARS FOR THE OVERALL BENDRIGG EXPERIENCE

"I'd just like to say what a success it has been. I didn't know what challenges I was going to face. On top of all that I had to put my trust in strangers I didn't know. I had a fantastic time and as the week progressed I felt trust in the staff."

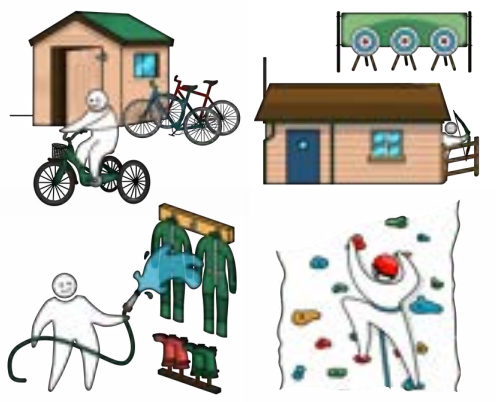
OBJECTIVES & ACHIEVEMENTS

Emerging from the pandemic, we had three main objectives for 2022: **consolidate our delivery**, **create a new long term plan for the organisation** and **build financial stability**.

Bendrigg continually reviews our activity offer and this year we were pleased to continue developing our provision for people with hidden disabilities as well as new courses for young adults.

ACTIVITY STORIES AND VIRTUAL TOUR

Not every disability is visible. This amazing project was designed to develop the accessibility of our provision for people with autism and learning disabilities. Activity stories, virtual tours and improved signs and symbols around the site has made a huge difference for our visitors. A huge thank you has to go to Amphigean for providing their generous support, particularly around revitalising and developing hundreds of 'Bendifolk' symbols (pictured opposite).



> *Coming from an inner London school to Bendrigg is like stepping into an oasis. We have used a number of different residential facilities in the past and Bendrigg is the only place that is truly accessible.*

YOUNG ADULT TRANSITION COURSE

Historically, there has been a lack of support for young people moving out of education and into adulthood, making this important stage in life very tricky to navigate. This new course, designed in conjunction with local Occupational Therapist, Kathryn Cubby, positively supports young people to reach their personalised goals and move towards greater independence by focusing on life skills such as planning, organisation and responsibility.

> *The young adults enablement course was amazing in every way. The joy and gratitude expressed from the young adults when they were enabled to successfully participate in life skills is something I'll never forget.*

OBJECTIVES & ACHIEVEMENTS

CLIMBING CLUB

Thanks to funding from the Cumbria Community Foundation our climbing club continues to enable local young people with disabilities to discover their potential, achieve their goals and overcome barriers in their everyday lives, through the challenge of climbing.

In 2022 we introduced NICAS (National Indoor Climbing Award Scheme) awards, providing a gateway to learning more and allowing visitors to work towards nationally recognised awards whilst developing a love of climbing.

We also commissioned external evaluation of the club, which, amongst other findings, showed:

"for participants the climbing club delivers important social interactions, a rare opportunity for regular physical exercise, the ability to undertake activity independently, increased confidence and increased life-skills, all of which have an impact on the lives of the participants".

"I can't thank the staff enough for what [climbing club] has given us as a family. It's about personal challenges and supporting abilities both learning and physical and confidence. Everyone is able.

We were delighted when staff introduced the climbing qualifications as this gives each climber goals and a record of progress each session. Chris was one of the first to pass his Level 1 and this was such a huge achievement. He's now working towards Level 2, determined to keep his strength up.

I can't thank you enough for the smiles and sense of worth and pride it gives Chris and Aaron. All kids want, is to belong and feel part of something. Climbing gives them that and more."

OBJECTIVES & ACHIEVEMENTS

The world as we knew it has changed almost beyond recognition with adaptations, innovations and new ways of thinking on a global scale. The pandemic has brought many challenges but has also presented many opportunities.
As Bendrigg comes out of 'survival mode' and starts to look forward once more, we must take stock of the new environment we find ourselves in and review our previous long-term strategic plans for the 'new normal'.

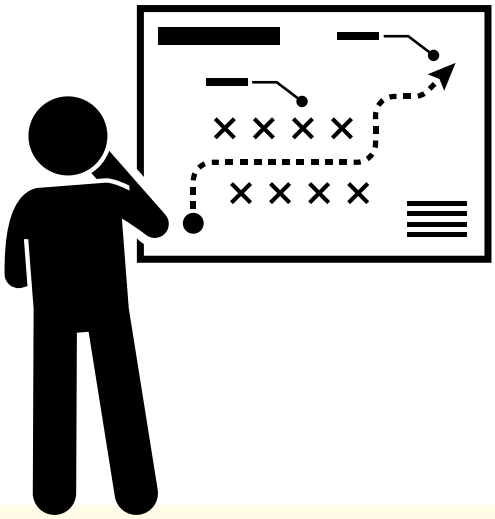
BENDRIGG BOUNCE BACK PLAN

The Bendrigg 'Bounce Back' plan was developed in early 2022 to cover the eighteen-month 'bounce back' period to the end of 2023.
The plan set out the 'direction of travel' for Bendrigg over the short to medium term so that we could have a shared vision and goal.
We identified four main objectives, which are described in more detail on page 16 of this report.

> *Love that at Bendrigg everyone is equally valued and listened to. Time is taken to include everyone.*

NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

In mid 2022, work began on a longer term strategic plan for Bendrigg.
This is an ongoing project, overseen by a Strategy Committee, which seeks to be complete in late 2023 (for implementation from 2024).
So far, this strategy has involved feedback from a wide range of stakeholders including staff, trustees, volunteers and visitors.



> *Everyone can do everything; they don't provide alternatives, they provide access and adaptation. Anything you need, any barrier you're looking to overcome, you can guarantee they have thought of it already.*

OBJECTIVES & ACHIEVEMENTS

Bendrigg has not escaped the effects of the pandemic unscathed. Challenges with recruitment, restricted funding from course and voluntary income, and 14 months of closure combined to produce a complex and challenging environment.
To meet the increasing demand for our services amongst this uncertainty we know we need to become more financially stable.

FUNDRAISING

£367,482 was raised through fundraising in 2022, accounting for around quarter of our total income and surpassing our fundraising target for the year by 17%. This figure includes raising £62,012 towards our 'Sponsorship Fund' to support individuals and groups who would otherwise not be able to afford our services - an important project that became even more vital as the cost of living crisis took hold.

GRANTS FROM CHARITABLE TRUSTS & FOUNDATIONS

There is no doubt that, once again, funding from Charitable Trusts and Foundations has been incredibly important for Bendrigg, accounting for the majority of our fundraised income. We are grateful to all of our funders for their continued support. We would particularly like to thank the Mary Kinross Charitable Trust, Bendrigg Support Trust, Cumbria Community Foundation and Albert Gubay Charitable Foundation, whose long-term support is greatly appreciated.

We give thanks to all of our funders including:

The Albert Gubay Charitable Foundation
The Alchemy Foundation
Arnold Clark Community Fund
B&Q Foundation
The Barbour Foundation
Bendrigg Support Trust
BMC
Chapman Charitable Trust
Cumbria Community Foundation
Eden Little Friends
Furness Lions
The Hadfield Trust
Homelands Charitable Trust
John Cutforth Charitable Trust
Joseph Strong Frazer Charitable Trust
Kendal and District Lions
Lakeland Disability Support
Marsh Charitable Trust
Mary Kinross Charitable Trust
The National Lottery Community Fund - Awards for All
The Noble Charitable Trust
Outdoors for All
The Ross Family Charitable Trust
Rotary Club of Ambleside Kirkstone
Rotary Club of Furness
Rotary Club of Furness Peninsula
Rotary Club of Kendal
POM Charitable Trust
ScottishPower Foundation
The Sir James Roll Trust
Sir John Fisher Foundation
Sylvia Adams Charitable Trust
Yorkshire Building Society Charitable Foundation

VOLUNTEERS

In 2022, we have been supported by 204 volunteers who have contributed to everything from supporting our residential courses to maintenance and grounds support.

"I had an exceptional experience at Bendrigg, as I was given the opportunity to gain and develop a plethora of skills. Having been coupled with a group of inspiring college students and teachers, I was able to build rapport with them, help push them to persevere and attempt to conquer their fears. Now having concluded my 5 day stay as part of my Gold Duke of Edinburgh residential, there was honestly no better place to do it that could have compared to my experience at Bendrigg."

We were supported by 204 volunteers at Bendrigg in 2022

If we paid our volunteers the National Living Wage, this would have cost us over £131,000

13% of volunteers have a disability - and account for 30% of the volunteer hours

76% of volunteer hours were spent on activities, 13% on maintenance, 5% admin, 5% domestic, 1% kitchen

204 volunteers doing 529 volunteering 'sessions' giving 10,509 hours of volunteering!

In 2022 we were supported by 79 residential volunteers, 37 non-residential volunteers, and 94 work party volunteers

VOLUNTEERS

"I want to say a massive thank you for being so welcoming after having my confidence completely destroyed by the college telling me there would be no opportunities in the outdoor industry because of my epilespy and disability. Coming to Bendrigg I didn't know what to expect as I've always been told you can't do this and you can't don't that. So to be included and involved in everything took me completely by surprise. I've never had that feeling of truly being accepted and included. I've always been made to feel a hindrance and pushed aside as much as possible. All the negative thoughts and worries I had about coming to Bendrigg for the first time increased the likelihood of me having a seizure. Frustratingly I did and the way the staff dealt with it I can't thank you enough. I am that used to if I have a seizure people can't get rid of me quick enough. To continue on with the rest of planned activities was a shock and a relief. Listening to me in what I thought was best for myself after it and not telling me this is what you must do now."

BENDRIGG ALTERNATIVE SCHEME

The Bendrigg Alternative (BA) scheme provides the opportunity for offenders or people 'at risk' of offending, to work alongside disabled people. Since the scheme's inception in 1991, many people have benefited from such a positive and powerful experience, which has helped change the way they think and relate to others. Thereby reduce their offending behaviour.

We were delighted to be able to restart the Scheme in 2022 following a pause during the pandemic.

"I would like to thank you all for making my stay welcoming and making me feel part of the Bendrigg family. I feel honoured to be part of such an amazing scheme. I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for inviting me, and especially Edwin, who over the weeks we have spent together has given me great knowledge and new skills I will use for life. It's never goodbye, it's I will see you all soon."

7 BA volunteers visited Bendrigg during 2022

56% of BA hours were spent on the tutorial team, 42% on maintenance and 2% on admin support

7 BA volunteers gave 14 'sessions' which totalled 459 hours

FEEDBACK AND PHOTOS

It was magic! We loved it. We all really pushed ourselves out of our comfort zones and laughed so much whilst we enjoyed the activities. Everyone is so kind. Nothing is too much trouble. We love being able to do everything together as a family instead of being split up all the time. It's a very very special place.

Bendrigg has allowed our group to gain confidence, build friendships, but most of all challenge what is possible, push boundaries and find out what they can actually achieve.

Adapted and accessible outdoor activities as well as patient, kind and knowledgeable instructors meant that no matter what, everyone was able to participate. The whole course was something special and I'm very grateful to have been a part of it.

FEEDBACK AND PHOTOS

Exceptional. The most inclusive, heart-warming and humbling experience for both children and staff.

The facilities were amazing and I have to say I haven't felt this relaxed for a very long time. This is just what we needed.

I think it's like coming home for many of our children and volunteers.

Incredible experience! The students enjoyed every aspect and pushed themselves to their limits and beyond. Students grew in confidence and achieved things they never imagined. They learnt invaluable independence skills like clearing tables and self-care.

To have a fully accessible and inclusive holiday where there are NO BARRIERS was mentally so relaxing.

FUNDRAISING STANDARDS

Legal *Open* *Honest* *Respectful*

Donors to Bendrigg Trust can be assured that we comply with the regulatory standards for fundraising. **We are voluntarily registered with the Fundraising Regulator** and are committed to the Fundraising Promise and comply with all the relevant standards set out in the **Code of Fundraising Practice**. Our Business Development Manager is a member of the **Chartered Institute of Fundraising**.

Our fundraising effort involves encouraging donations and gifts from individuals, running and supporting fundraising events, engaging with corporate partners and applying for grants from Charitable Trusts and Foundations. These **fundraising activities are organised and managed by our in-house fundraisers with one external professional fundraiser engaged in November 2022 to support our fundraising efforts.**

We encourage any individual, business or third-party, fundraising, on our behalf, to inform us of their fundraising activities and also adhere to the **Code of Fundraising Practice**.

We have an **Ethical Fundraising and Donations Acceptance Policy** which seeks to cover the ethical issues and social responsibility within fundraising.

We respond to all complaints within 10 working days. Complaints are dealt with in-line with our Fundraising Complaints Procedure as outlined in our Ethical Fundraising Policy. All complaints are dealt with by our Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and our trustees are informed of those which are serious. **We received zero complaints about our fundraising in 2022.**

We have published our **Safeguarding Policy** on our website. We are also signed up to the **Fundraising Preference Service** to enable individuals to opt out from receiving fundraising communications from us. **We received zero requests from this service last year.**

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

LOOKING FORWARDS

We now look to the future. In 2023 we continue working towards our 'bounce back' plan seeking to:

TO RETURN TO PRE PANDEMIC OPERATING LEVELS, DELIVERING HIGH QUALITY, OUTDOOR EDUCATION COURSES.

Including...

- Work with 3,800 people annually on our residential courses
- Achieve at at least 4 out of 5 stars for overall performance from visitor feedback
- Residential volunteers back to pre-pandemic levels of 175 placements per year

TO RETURN TO A POSITION OF FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY.

Including...

- Maintaining an unrestricted general fund surplus during the 2023 financial year
- Provide £85,000 of sponsorship funding annually to ensure that Bendrigg can be accessible to people facing financial hardship
- To review current practices and make recommendations to Trustees on being more operationally efficient with the resources we have

TO ENSURE THAT BENDRIGG'S RESOURCES CONTINUE TO MEET VISITOR'S EXPECTATIONS AS A LEADER IN THE FIELD.

Including...

- Follow through with an essential internal and external maintenance plan with all the buildings
- Undertake an evaluation of staff job satisfaction and look to improve on this by the end of 2023
- To consult with visitors and staff around activity development and have a new strategic plan

TO DEVELOP OUR LONG-TERM STRATEGIC PLANS AS WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE.

Including...

- Consultation process with all Bendrigg's stakeholders which will inform the strategic plan
- A clear, defined and well-evidence 2024-2029 organisational strategy for Bendrigg

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Board of Trustees is sensitive to potential risks to which the charity may be exposed.

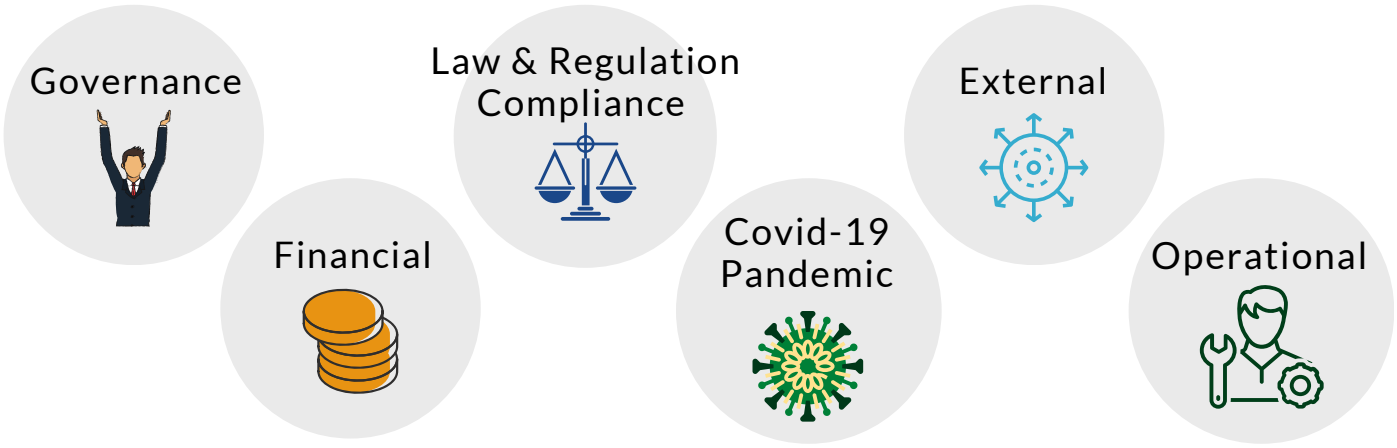
Risk Register

The management of risk by Bendrigg Trust is based upon a Risk Register ('the Register') which has been in use since February 2017. The Register is kept under active consideration by the Centre Director and is reviewed every 6 months by the Risk Register Committee, which consists of the Centre Director and up to 3 Trustees. The last bi-annual review of the Register was on 14th February 2023.

Responsibilities

The Risk Committee reports to the Trustees in Council. Risk Management is ultimately the responsibility of all Trustees. It is the Trustees duty (assisted by the Risk Committee) to identify risks, to devise systems for managing those risks (or ensure that proper systems have been devised) and to monitor these systems to ensure that they are being put into effect.

The risks considered in the register are considered under six headings:



Public Benefit

From 2008, the Charities Act has required all charities to meet the legal requirement that its aims are for the public benefit. For this to be true there must be an identifiable benefit and the benefit must be to the public or a section of the public.

The Trustees are satisfied that the aims and objectives of the charity, and the activities reported on in its annual report to achieve those aims, meet these principles.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Treasurers Report
The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) reports a total surplus of £106,007 for the year ended 31 December 2022 (2021: deficit of £86,914); this is made up from an unrestricted surplus of £212,351 and a restricted funds deficit of £106,344. The overall surplus was added to the reserves brought forward of £3,673,763, to give total reserves at the balance sheet date of £3,779,770.

We are pleased to be able to report this overall surplus in our unrestricted activities in 2022, in spite of some ongoing challenges during the year as we continued to recover from the effects of the Covid pandemic but then encountered significant inflationary cost pressures. Our client and donor income has improved considerably, from £923,000 in 2021 to £1,420,000 in 2022, an overall increase of just under £500,000. Having said this our income in 2022 was much assisted by the inclusion of two exceptional items with a combined value of £347,000; the first of these resulted from the settlement of a business interruption insurance claim and the second from the disposal of a small property. Without these two non-recurring items our income for the year would have been closer to £1,073,000 and we would have been reporting a significant overall deficit for the year.

The Balance Sheet at 31 December confirms net assets of £3,779,000 (2021: £3,673,000), with net current assets of £659,000 (2021: £419,000) and net cash balances of £865,000 (2021: £822,000). The cash balances are mostly held for unrestricted purposes, with £762,000 held as unrestricted funds and £103,000 relating to restricted projects, and these are stated after the repayment in April 2022 of a £250,000 'Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan (CBIL)'. The overall cash position provides Bendrigg with robust financial resilience as we face into some of the challenges that lie ahead in 2023. The Balance Sheet also shows the carrying value of our property and other fixed assets at £3,120,000, most of which are funded by restricted capital funds.

The Cash Flow Statement provides the detail of the cash movements during the year to 31 December, showing that the overall cash position strengthened significantly in 2022 due to the effects of the exceptional income items and after the repayment of the CBIL loan facility.

Overall the Financial Statements reflect a robust position after another year of recovery and with the added benefit of some non-recurring income. The Bendrigg management team have again worked tirelessly to enable the organisation to return to pre pandemic levels of occupancy and their ongoing efforts will ensure that the organisation can return to a surplus making position as soon as possible.

Continued...

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Going Concern
The Trustees and Management Team are concerned that the Charity is likely to incur ongoing Unrestricted General Fund deficits in the short to medium term future; in spite of the return to pre pandemic levels of income generation and site occupancy, our cost base has risen significantly due to inflationary and other cost pressures. We do not believe that the expected level of deficit gives rise to concern about the ongoing assumption of Going Concern, in part due to the resilience of our balance sheet and cash reserves and in part due to the work that is currently being undertaken to address the deficit position. As a result the Council are satisfied that the assumption of Going Concern remains entirely valid.

Reserves Policy
The Reserves Policy, which is reviewed and approved by the Council on an annual basis, sets out an assessment of an appropriate level of free reserves after restrictions and designations.

The Trustees have again considered the Reserves Policy at 31 December 2022, taking full account of the range of risks that face the organisation and as captured in our updated Risk Register. In determining the target level of General Fund reserves the Council have paid close attention to certain key risks; in particular these include the ongoing deficits that the charity expects to incur in the short term future. This risk-based approach to determining our policy has resulted in a revised target level of free reserves of £600,000. It is also worth noting that this revised target level of reserves also equates to approximately six months of operating costs, compared to the four months of operating costs we carried prior to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Kim Parry LVO
Treasurer

GOVERNANCE, STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution
Bendrigg Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee (01396557), incorporated on 27 October 1978 and registered as a charity on 15 February 1979.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which contains the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed in accordance with its Articles of Association. The subscribers are referred to as Members. In the event of the company being wound up, the Members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £5.

The principle objective of the charity is to provide high quality courses for disabled and disadvantaged people. It aims to promote inclusion, encourage independence and build self-confidence through the use of residential experience and the safe provision of adventurous activities delivered by dedicated, qualified staff.

Trustees, Recruitment and Induction
Bendrigg Trust recognises that a robust, independent and effective Board of Trustees is essential if the charity is to achieve its objects.

New Trustees are invited to provide a CV and meet the Centre Director and the Chair of the Trustees. Those without background knowledge of Bendrigg are given a tour and invited to attend Council and/or Management Committee meetings before they commit themselves. The aim is to have a varied and diverse Trustee Board with a mix of skills that match Bendrigg's needs.

After being elected, a new Trustee is provided with the main documents which set out the operational framework of the charity including the Memorandum and Articles, Business Plan and Financial Statements. Many Trustees make frequent visits to Bendrigg, in some cases at least weekly, giving rise to an easy and informal relationship with the Centre Director, the rest of the staff and other Trustees.

The Directors of the Company are also Trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the Company's Articles are known as Trustees and make up the Council.

Under the Articles, the Trustees are elected to serve a period of three years. Of the elected Trustees, one third retire every year and are eligible for re-election. Those Trustees retiring are those who have been longest in office since their last election.

GOVERNANCE, STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational Structure and Governance
The Council meets bimonthly (although during the pandemic, were meeting on a monthly basis) and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. Sub-committees consider the detail and report to the Council.
Sub-committees are as follows:

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

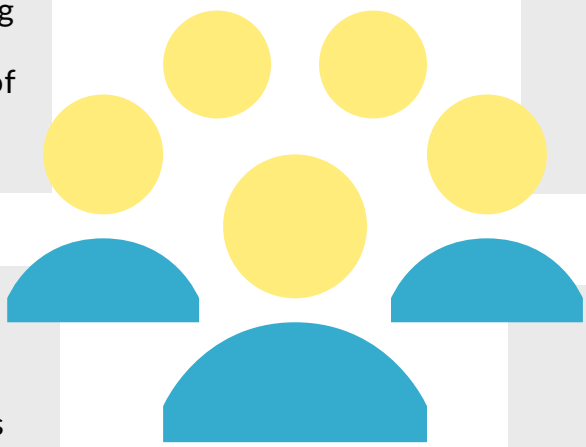
Meeting as and when required to oversee any major capital building project

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Overseeing the marketing and fundraising plans, policies and procedures of the centre

BENDRIGG ALTERNATIVE COMMITTEE

Dedicated to the Bendrigg Alternative scheme for offenders



RISK REGISTER COMMITTEE

Overseeing the charity's Risk Register

HR COMMITTEE

Overseeing all Human Resource matters including disciplinary issues

APPEALS COMMITTEE

Determining any appeal from a decision of the HR committee and resolving any grievance raised under the staff grievance procedure

Further to the sub-committees, working groups are also formed to oversee specific projects for a set period of time. Working groups active in 2022 included:

STRATEGIC AND BUSINESS PLAN WORKING GROUP

Responsible for reviewing and writing a new five year business and strategic plan

TRUSTEE STEERING GROUP

Considering finance, health and safety, activities, insurance, buildings and grounds

BENDRIGG DISABILITY ADVISORY GROUP

Meeting as and when required to advise the Trust on disability matters

IT AND TELECOMS WORKING GROUP

Overseeing the IT and telephone infrastructure

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also Directors of Bendrigg Trust for the purposes of Company Law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounts Standards and Applicable Law). Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the income and of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to :

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements, on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

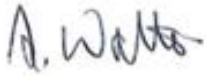
Auditor
MHA Moore and Smalley are deemed to be re-appointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Each of the persons who is a Trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:
• so far as they are aware there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
• each Trustee has taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a Trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information.

Approval
By approving the Trustees report the Trustees are also approving the strategic report in their capacity as company directors.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 23rd June 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Nicholas Liley
Secretary & Centre Director



Adrian Walter
Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Bendrigg Trust for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise of the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2022, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities, and the responsibilities of the Trustees, with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report (incorporating the Directors' Report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and sufficient accounting records have not been kept by the charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing a strategic report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 22, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- enquiries with the board about any known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud;
- challenging assumptions and judgements made by the board in their significant accounting estimates;
- auditing the risk of fraud in revenue by way of cut off testing, including testing deferral of income for future bookings, aw well as transactional testing to obtain evidence that income is complete and recognised in the correct accounting period;
- an evaluation of the risk management override of controls and subsequent testing, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness; and
- an evaluation of the charitable company's internal control environment.

Because of the industry in which the charity operates, we identified the following areas as those most likely to have a material impact on the financial statements: Health and Safety, including meeting the requirements of the Adventure Activities Licensing Authority; employment law, and compliance with the UK Companies Act and Charities Act.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (continued)

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

04/07/2023

Jenny McCabe
Senior Statutory Auditor
For and on behalf of MHA Moore and Smalley
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

Priory Close
St Mary's Gate
Lancaster
LA1 1XB

Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating the income and expenditure account)

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
		£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	**198,828**	**168,654**	**367,482**	423,733
Investments	4	**3,753**	**-**	**3,753**	212
Charitable activities	5	**702,205**	**-**	**702,205**	363,900
Other	6	**347,108**	**-**	**347,108**	135,449
Total		**1,251,894**	**168,654**	**1,420,548**	923,294
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	**48,409**	**-**	**48,409**	41,654
Charitable activities	8	**1,126,086**	**140,046**	**1,266,132**	968,554
Total		**1,174,495**	**140,046**	**1,314,541**	1,010,208
Net (expenditure)/ income before transfers		**77,399**	**28,608**	**106,007**	(86,914)
Transfer between funds	10, 20	**134,952**	**(134,952)**	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**212,351**	**(106,344)**	**106,007**	(86,914)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		**422,975**	**3,250,788**	**3,673,763**	3,760,677
Total funds carried forward		**635,326**	**3,144,444**	**3,779,770**	3,673,763

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all recognised gains and losses in the year.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 30 to 45 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 December 2022

		2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		**3,120,302**		3,254,482
Current assets					
Stock		**12,595**		11,111	
Debtors	13	**11,019**		12,946	
Cash at bank and in hand		**865,021**		822,043	
		888,635		846,100	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	**(229,167)**		(426,819)	
Net current assets			**659,468**		419,281
Total assets less current liabilities			**3,779,770**		3,673,763
Net assets			**3,779,770**		3,673,763
Funds:					
Restricted funds	16		**3,144,444**		3,250,788
Unrestricted funds	18		**635,326**		422,975
Total funds			**3,779,770**		3,673,763

These accounts were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on the 23rd June 2023 and are signed on their behalf by:

Adrian Walter
Chair

Kim Parry LVO
Treasurer

Company Registration Number: 01396557

Cash Flow Statement

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£
Cash generated in operating activities	**175,496**	48,397
Cashflows from investing activities:		
Investment income	**3,753**	212
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	**125,317**	-
Purchase of fixed assets	**(11,588**	(62,830)
Cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities	**117,482**	(62,618)
Cashflows from financing activities	**(250,000)**	-
Payment of loan	**-**	250,000
Receipt of loan		
Cash provided by/ (used in) financing activities	**250,000**	250,000
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**42,978**	235,779
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	**822,043**	586,264
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**865,021**	822,043

Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cashflow from operating activities

Net movement in funds	**106,007**	(86,914)
Profit on sale of assets	**(118,394)**	-
Investments income received	**(3,753)**	(212)
Depreciation	**113,112**	115,954
Increase in stocks	**(1,484)**	(3,830)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**1,927**	17,414
Increase in creditors (excluding loan)	**52,348**	5,985
Net cash generated in operating activities	**175,496**	48,397

Components of cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and in hand	**865,021**	822,043
	865,021	822,043

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2022

1 Accounting policies

Legal form

Bendrigg Trust is a registered charity and a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006, incorporated in England and Wales. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £5 per member of the Charity.

The registered office of the Charity, the nature of its operations and its principal activities are all detailed in the Charity administrative details of these financial statements.

Basis of preparation

Bendrigg Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The particular accounting policies adopted by the Trustees are described below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees consider the charity to have a sufficient level of working capital and have made an assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements. There are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income

Donations and legacies are included in the accounts on a cash received basis or where there is a certainty of receipt and the amount is quantifiable. Grants and donations in respect of specific projects are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they are receivable and are credited to restricted reserves.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2022

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Investment income is credited to the statement of financial activities in the period in which it becomes receivable.

Income from charitable activities is recognised in the period to which it relates.

Other income includes income from insurance claim receipts and the sale of tangible assets which are recognised upon legal entitlement to the Charity.

Government grants and CJRS (Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme) claims are recognised in the period to which they relate.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis in the expense categories required by the SORP. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Costs are further allocated between the activities undertaken on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Charitable activities expenditure includes costs incurred in the delivery of the Charity's activities and services. It includes both direct costs, including staff costs, that are incurred in the delivery of the activities and services and indirect costs which are required to support the delivery of the charitable objects.

Costs of raising funds include those costs in relation to the Charity's operations which are used to generate further income which is integral to the Charity in meeting its charitable objectives. It includes direct costs and also indirect costs which have been allocated based on an estimated share relating to fundraising costs.

Fixed assets

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

Freehold property	-	2% straight line per annum
Leasehold property	-	4% straight line per annum
Motor vehicles and trailers	-	25% reducing balance
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	10%/20% straight line per annum
Sports installations	-	10% straight line per annum

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making allowance for obsolete and slow moving stocks.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2022

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Debtors and creditors within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable and payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is a basic financial asset and includes cash in hand and deposits held on call with banks.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds - General funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds - Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds - Restricted funds arise where there is a donor-imposed restriction on the use of the funds, or the funds have arisen in response to an appeal for a specified purpose.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution scheme. Contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Taxation

HM Revenue & Customs considers Bendrigg Trust to be a charity and therefore they are entitled to exemption from tax afforded by Sections 478-489 of the Corporation Taxes Act 2010 to the extent that income is applied exclusively for charitable purposes.

Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2022

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price and are subsequently carried at amortised cost. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Financial assets are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that the estimated future cash flows have been affected. The impairment loss is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the company transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, are initially recognised at transaction price, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised. Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Key assumptions, judgements and estimates

In the opinion of the Trustees, there have been no significant judgements made in the process of applying the above accounting policies. There have been no key assumptions concerning future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2022

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	**Total 2022**	Total 2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Staff sponsorship	-	18,000	**18,000**	32,265
Project donations	-	56,156	**56,156**	41,933
General donations	198,828	-	**198,828**	327,467
Specific donations	-	32,486	**32,486**	8,500
Sponsored courses	-	62,012	**62,012**	13,568
	198,828	**168,654**	**367,482**	423,733
Total 2021	*327,467*	*96,266*	*423,733*	

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	**Total 2022 £**	Total 2021 £
Bank interest receivable	**3,753**	-	**3,753**	212
	3,753	-	**3,753**	212
Total 2021	*212*	-	*212*	

5 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	**Total 2022 £**	Total 2021 £
Course fees	677,816	-	**677,816**	350,370
Other charitable activities	24,389	-	**24,389**	13,530
	702,205	-	**702,205**	363,900
Total 2021	*363,900*	-	*363,900*	

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2022

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
CJRS income	-	-	**-**	135,449
Insurance claim receipt	228,714	-	**228,714**	
Proceeds from sale of asset	118,394	-	**118,394**	
	347,108	-	**347,108**	135,449
Total 2021	*135,449*	-	*135,449*	

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Telephone	633	-	**633**	495
Direct fundraising costs	4,642	-	**4,642**	4,055
Freelance instructors fee	1,200	-	**1,200**	-
Staff costs	41,934	-	**41,934**	37,104
	48,409	-	**48,409**	41,654
Total 2021	*41,654*	-	*41,654*	

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2022

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**Total 2022**	Total 2021
	£	**£**	**£**	£
Goods for resale	4,514	-	**4,514**	5,206
Rates and water	3,302	-	**3,302**	1,522
Light and heat	42,739	-	**42,739**	27,232
Repairs and maintenance	81,423	-	**81,423**	36,613
Insurance	15,702	-	**15,702**	14,523
Motor vehicle expenses	25,257	-	**25,257**	14,956
Telephone	2,532	-	**2,532**	1,981
Provisions and household	86,888	-	**86,888**	52,596
Sundry expenses	9,956	21,099	**31,055**	7,071
Outdoor equipment	5,976	-	**5,976**	4,625
Staff training	12,371	-	**12,371**	8,311
Advertising and sponsorship	9,791	-	**9,791**	3,043
Bank charges	1,796	-	**1,796**	2,084
Printing, post and stationery	11,605	-	**11,605**	23,646
Freelance instructors fees	43,735	-	**43,735**	26,248
Audit and professional fees	9,609	-	**9,609**	6,934
IT software and consumables	14,092	-	**14,092**	-
Entry fees	2,142	-	**2,143**	1,222
Subscriptions	3,732	-	**3,732**	3,583
Indemnity insurance	435	-	**435**	1,012
Wages and salaries	551,697	85,747	**637,444**	522,134
National insurance	23,931	22,341	**46,272**	29,874
Pension cost	24,015	10,859	**34,874**	28,687
Depreciation	113,112	-	**113,112**	115,954
Impairment of leasehold	25,733	-	**25,733**	-
	1,126,086	**140,046**	**1,266,132**	968,554
Total 2021	*870,932*	*97,622*	*968,554*	

Support costs are allocated entirely to charitable activities in both the current and prior period.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2022

9 Net income/(expenditure)

	2022 £	2021 £
Net income is stated after charging:		
Staff pension contributions	**36,849**	30,379
Auditors' remuneration		
- audit of the financial statements	**5,500**	5,250
Depreciation of tangible assets	**113,112**	115,954
- owned by the Charity		

10 Fund transfers

A transfer is made annually in respect of unrestricted depreciation charges in the year which relate to restricted asset funds of £109,219

Further details of fund transfers are included in Note 20.

11 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and the cost of key management personnel

Total staff costs were as follows	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	**674,332**	547,165
Social security costs	**49,343**	40,255
Pension costs	**36,849**	30,379
	760,524	617,799

Particulars of employees:

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Administrative staff	**11**	9
Tutorial staff	**15**	13
Maintenance staff	**1**	1
Catering and domestic staff	**7**	7
	34	30

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2022

11 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and the cost of key management personnel (continued)

No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000 during the current or prior year.

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel, as determined by the Charity, is £194,927 (2021: £180,379) during the current period.

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The contributions paid into the scheme in respect of eligible employees for the year ended 31 December 2022 amounted to £36,849 (2021: £30,379).

No Trustees received any remuneration during the current or prior period. No Trustee received any expenses for their role as Trustees in the current or prior period.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Property £	Leasehold Property £	Motor Vehicles & trailers £	Fixtures Fittings & equipment £	Totals £
Cost					
At 1 January 2022	4,184,940	76,456	280,182	593,868	5,135,446
Additions	3,000	-	-	8,588	11,588
Disposals	(7,686)	-	(2,750)	-	(10,436)
At 31 December 2022	**4,180,254**	**76,456**	**277,432**	602,456	**5,136,598**
Depreciation					
At 1 January 2022	1,059,416	47,665	180,015	593,868	1,880,964
Charge for the year	83,724	3,058	25,042	1,288	113,112
Impairment	-	25,733	-	-	25,733
Eliminated on disposal	(763)	-	(2,750)	-	(3,513)
At 31 December 2022	**1,142,377**	**76,456**	**202,307**	**595,156**	**2,016,296**
Net book value At 31 December 2022	**3,037,877**	**-**	**75,125**	**7,300**	**3,120,302**
At 31 December 2021	3,125,524	28,791	100,167	-	3,254,482

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2022

12 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

The freehold at Bendrigg Lodge was transferred from the Mary Kinross Trust on 12 March 1985 as a gift. The freehold is not included in the financial statements as an asset but has a substantial market value.

The freehold at Fell End was transferred from the trustees of Kirkbie Kendal School on the 7th July 1999 for the sum of £100. This freehold property has been disposed of during the financial year and therefore the asset is not included in the financial statements as at 31 December 2022.

The freehold property reported above, having a net book value of £3,037,877, relates to the capitalised cost of property developments (including Acorn House) that have taken place on the Bendrigg site subsequent to the original gift of Bendrigg Lodge.

A 25 year lease on Greenslack was agreed in April 2006 and this is the only leasehold held by the Trust. During the year the charity has impaired the netbook value of the leasehold property on the basis that it intends to terminate the lease.

13 Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	358	4,100
Prepayments	10,661	3,982
VAT recoverable	-	4,864
	11,019	12,946

14 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

		2022	2021
		£	£
Trade creditors		24,466	22,788
Taxation and social security		10,901	-
Bank loan		-	250,000
Other creditors		2,241	2,562
Accruals		29,596	5,569
Deferred income	Note 15	161,963	145,900
		229,167	426,819

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2022

15 Deferred income

	2022	2021
	£	£
Balance brought forward	**145,900**	139,218
Course fees received in advance	**147,861**	87,467
Release of deferred income	**(131,798)**	(80,785)
	161,963	145,900

16 Restricted funds: Current year

	Note	At 1 January 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds						
Restricted funds income	**17**	73,971	168,654	(140,046)	-	**102,579**
Restricted funds capital		3,176,817	-	-	(134,952)	**3,041,865**
Total funds		**3,250,788**	168,654	**(140,046)**	**(134,952)**	**3,144,444**

Restricted funds: Prior year

	At 1 January 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
Restricted funds income	137,888	96,266	(97,622)	(62,561)	**73,971**
Restricted funds capital	3,237,734	-	-	(60,917)	**3,176,817**
				-	
Total funds	**3,375,622**	**96,266**	**(97,622)**	**(123,478)**	**3,250,788**

Restricted capital funds are made up of incoming resources given specifically to acquire fixed assets, as reduced over the useful economic life of those assets in line with their depreciation - £3,067,598 (2021: £3,176,817).

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2022

17 Restricted income funds: Current year

	At 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2022 £
Climbing club	8,760	11,580	(8,315)	-	12,025
Sponsored Courses	35,504	62,012	(79,899)	-	17,617
Outdoor Equipment	1,450	12,614	(4,714)	-	9,350
Canoes	-	16,486	-	-	16,486
Sensory Room	560	-	-	-	560
Tube Slide	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Trainee Coordinator	16,611	15,000	(16,611)	-	15,000
Trainee - Training	960	3,000	(3,960)	-	-
BA Co-ordinator	-	15,000	(6,250)	-	8,750
Hidden Disabilities Project	10,126	-	(10,126)	-	-
Fundraising Database	-	-	-	-	-
'Someone Like Me' Project	-	31,962	(10,171)	-	21,791
Restricted income funds	**73,971**	**168,654**	**(140,046)**	-	**102,579**

Restricted funds: Prior year

	At 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2021 £
Climbing club	-	**13,102**	(4,342)	-	**8,760**
Sponsored Courses	72,106	**13,568**	(50,170)	-	**35,504**
Outdoor Equipment	6,074	**3,500**	(8,124)	-	**1,450**
Disability Aids	183	**-**	(183)	-	**-**
Sensory Room	560	**-**	-	-	**560**
Minibus	54,394	**8,500**	(333)	(62,561)	**-**
Trainee Coordinator	-	**30,265**	(13,654)	-	**16,611**
Trainee - Training	-	**2,000**	(1,040)	-	**960**
Family Rooms	3,925	**-**	(3,925)	-	**-**
Hardship Fund	646	**-**	(646)	-	**-**
Hidden Disabilities Project	-	**11,206**	(1,080)	-	**10,126**
Fundraising Database	-	**2,500**	(2,500)	-	**-**
Renewable Energy Study	-	**11,625**	(11,625)	-	**-**
Restricted income funds	**137,888**	**96,266**	**(97,622)**	**(62,561)**	**73,971**

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2022

17 Restricted income funds (continued)

Climbing Club: funds used to support an inclusive climbing club which allows young people of all abilities to learn to climb in a safe, supported and fun environment.

Sponsored Courses: enables bursaries to be given to some groups who without it would not be able to afford to come to Bendrigg.

Outdoor Equipment: enables specific pieces of equipment to be purchased.

Disability Aids: enables specific disability aids to be purchased.

Sensory Room: funding received enabled the sensory room to be upgraded.

Minibus: to provide for a new minibus.

Trainee Co-ordinator: to fund a post which supervises the work and the development of trainee tutors.

Trainee - Training: to support training courses for our trainee tutors.

Family Rooms: funding received to enable some bedrooms to be used as family living space.

Hardship Fund: funding received to top-up staff salaries when required during the pandemic.

Hidden Disability Project: funding to create 15 social story books and videos aimed at people with autistic spectrum disorder and other hidden disabilities.

Fundraising Database: grant received to cover the cost of installing a new fundraising database.

Renewable Energy: grant received from the Rural Community Energy Fund to undertake a Renewable Energy Feasibility Study on the Bendrigg site.

Canoes: to fund a new fleet of canoes.

Tube Slide: to fund the building of two new tube slide huts which will incorporate a built-in hoisting system.

BA Co-ordinator: to fund a co-ordinator post for the Bendrigg ALternative Scheme which is a scheme providing opportunities for offenders, or those at risk of offending, to work alongside the groups who visit Bendrigg.

'Someone Like Me' Volunteer Project: to support the volunteer programme with a specific focus on increasing the number of volunteers with a disability.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2022

18 Unrestricted income funds: Current year

	At 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2022 £
General Funds	422,975	1,251,894	(1,174,495)	134,952	**635,326**
Unrestricted funds	**422,975**	**1,251,894**	**(1,174,495)**	**134,952**	**635,326**

Unrestricted income funds: Prior year

	At 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2021 £
Designated Funds					
Designated Funds	-	-	-	-	-
General Funds	385,055	827,028	(912,586)	123,478	**422,975**
Unrestricted funds	**385,055**	**827,028**	**(912,586)**	**123,478**	**422,975**

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2022

19 Analysis of fund transfers

	Total £
Annual transfer in respect of restricted fixed asset funds	134,952
Total transfers	**134,952**

20 Analysis of net assets between funds: Current year

	Tangible fixed assets £	Cash £	Net current assets excl. cash £	Long term liabilities £	Total £
Restricted funds	3,041,865	102,579	-	-	3,144,444
General funds	78,437	762,442	(205,553)	-	365,326
Total funds	**3,120,302**	**865,021**	**(205,553)**	**-**	**3,779,770**

Analysis of net assets between funds: Prior year

	Tangible fixed assets £	Cash £	Net current assets excl. cash £	Long term liabilities £	Total £
Restricted funds	3,176,817	73,971	-	-	3,250,788
General funds	77,665	748,072	(402,762)	-	422,975
Total funds	**3,254,482**	**822,043**	**(402,762)**	**-**	**3,673,763**

21 Operating lease commitments

At 31 December 2022, the total of the Charity's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2022	2021
Amounts payable:		
Within 1 year	**3,172**	788
Between 1 and 5 years	**4,004**	3,743
	7,176	4,531

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31st December 2022

22 Contingencies

The charity received lottery grants totalling £243,364 during the financial years 1999 and 2000 to fund the development of improvements to the accommodation in Bendrigg Lodge and also a grant of £200,000 between 2007 and 2008 towards the construction of the Kinross Building. The charity may not dispose of these buildings without prior written permission of the lottery board, nor use the buildings as security for a loan. This restriction shall be in force for 80 years from the date of the grants.

23 Control and related party transactions

The charity was under the control of the Board of Trustees who are also directors for the purposes of company law in both the current and prior period.

The charity has a very close relationship with The Bendrigg Support Trust. The Support Trust was established for the purpose of supporting the work of the Bendrigg Trust. A revenue grant of £20,000 (2021: £20,000) was received during the year. Mr J Holmes, Mr T Lowe and Miss R Hodgson, Trustees, are also Trustees of the Bendrigg Support Trust along with an independent trustee, Mr R Brownson.

The charity also has a close relationship with The Mary Kinross Charitable Trust through an influential member who is also on the Bendrigg Alternative Committee. Total grants received during the year total £100,000 (2021: £50,000). Of these grants, £45,000 was for restricted purposes with the balance continuing to be given to use towards general expenses of the charity.

During the year the charity incurred costs of £435 (2021: £1,012) relating to indemnity insurance for the trustees.

There were no outstanding balances with related parties at 31 December 2022 or 31 December 2021.

24 Company Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee. In event of the company being wound up or dissolved, each member undertakes to contribute such amounts as is required, not exceeding £5, for payment of any debts or liabilities.

REFERENCES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity name: Bendrigg Trust
Charity Registration number: 508450
Company Registration number: 01396557
Registered office: Bendrigg Lodge, Old Hutton, Kendal LA8 0NR

Trustees:
The Trustees who served the company during the period were as follows:

Adrian Walter, Chair of Trustees
Kim Parry LVO, Treasurer
Rachael Hodgson
Kay Foster
Shelagh McGregor
Jeremy Prall
Tim Lowe
Judy Rayner
John Holmes MBE
Brian McDonough
Peter Bates
Tom Hibbert
Anne Fleck

Senior Management Team
Company Secretary and Centre Director: Nicholas Liley
Business Development Manager: Sarah Garman
Activities Manager: Sam Litten
Finance and HR Manager: Gill Smith
Facilities Manager: Jonny Wolfendale

Patrons:
Sir Chris Bonington CVO CBE DL
Claire Hensman, Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria
Jamie Andrew
Karen Darke

Auditor: MHA Moore & Smalley, Priory Close, St Mary's Gate, Lancaster, Lancashire, LA1 1XB
Bankers: National Westminster Bank, 10 Elephant Yard, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4LZ
COIF Charity Funds, CCLA, Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4ET

Institute for Outdoor Learning
Adventure for ALL
Special Interest Group

Quality Badge awarded by
Council for Learning Outside the Classroom

ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES
AALA
LICENSING AUTHORITY

BENDRIGG TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 508450

Accounts

BENDRIGG TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

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The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 December 2021. This report includes the requirements of a directors' report in accordance with company law.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

A YEAR OF TWO HALVES

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

With the country once again in full lockdown we entered 2021 with a great degree of uncertainty about what the coming year would hold for us. However, as the months progressed it became obvious that our aim of being able to reopen in the summer would be fulfilled: on Monday 22nd June, after fourteen months of closure, our doors finally reopened. And 2021 has proved to be, despite one or two inevitable setbacks (as an example, Storm Arwen and the havoc wreaked on our woodland – now being cleared by contractors and volunteers – and destruction of our Teepee), an extraordinarily positive year for Bendrigg.

Our reopening in the week of 22nd June was heralded with a visit by the BBC and Tim Farron, MP for the constituency of Westmorland and Lonsdale. We are especially indebted to Tim who has been so supportive of Bendrigg and the outdoor sector, as a whole, during the pandemic. Despite the complexities facing us during the year, we completed a Renewable Energy Feasibility Study which will certainly feature in our future strategic planning. Other initiatives of note include the setting up of a Disability Advisory Group, representing a variety of stakeholders, which has met remotely on several occasions. Most significantly, the financial prediction at the beginning of the year of a deficit of circa £150,000 was turned into a small surplus by December: huge thanks go to all of our donors, supporters, auditors and the superb financial management of the Bendrigg Team.

Once again, we applaud the professionalism and support of all of our staff team. Despite a further five months of furlough, their loyalty remained outstanding and huge positivity was displayed when they returned. This has been an exceptionally challenging year for them with, for example, the ongoing issues involving compliance with the comprehensive covid measures and inevitable group cancellations. On behalf of all the trustees, I say, “Thank you. You really do not know how deeply you are appreciated.” In addition, we give huge thanks to all our volunteers and our funders: without you, we would quite simply not be able to operate.

Our thanks go to Clare Millington who stepped down as a trustee at the 2021 AGM. In addition, thank you to all trustees as your ongoing commitment to Bendrigg continues: we were able to adapt from full Teams Meetings to a hybrid version from September with some trustees able to attend on site while retaining Teams on the ‘big screen’ for those not able to travel. This has been another highly demanding year but your commitment has played a vital role in facilitating the success that Bendrigg has achieved.

A further development in 2021 has a key part to play: restructuring of the Management Team is now in place. Given the enormity of events and their impact on Bendrigg during the last two years, we have the opportunity to assess our current situation, priorities and challenges. In turn this will lead us to consider our strategy and business planning for the future: these are exiting times.

Feedback from groups visiting Bendrigg in 2021 has been outstanding: they have, without exception stated how much Bendrigg has been needed – how important it has been to come back and reconnect with the outdoors and other people. In the words of one staff member, “What a wonderful, magical time.”

None of the above would be possible without the superb contribution of all of our stakeholders. From another visiting staff member, “I would just like to express what an amazing group of people who run your trust are.” I agree: and to you all, as Chairman, I simply say, “Thank you.”

It is indeed the needs of our visitors that are our priority. And with the truly exceptional leadership of our Director, Nick Liley, Bendrigg can surely look forward to ‘magical times’ as we enter 2022 and consider the future.

Rachael Hodgson, Chairman

MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

OUR MISSION

To **promote inclusion**, **encourage independence** and **build self-confidence** through the provision of **adventurous activities**

OUR VISION

An **inclusive society** where **everyone is equal**

OUR VALUES

Our 6 core values are at the heart of everything we do

PEOPLE

OUTDOOR LEARNING

INNOVATION

SOLUTIONS NOT PROBLEMS

OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT

SAFETY/RISK BENEFIT

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

At Bendrigg Trust, we understand the importance of empowering disabled people with the attitudes, skills and behaviours they need to make positive decisions in their lives. Ultimately this will enable them to thrive in their education, at home and socially, throughout their lives. We do this through:

RESIDENTIAL EXPERIENCE

We provide **accessible accommodation** for people of all abilities to enjoy **a residential experience** with their families, friends and peers

LIFE SKILLS

People are encouraged to do things for themselves in a safe environment

INDEPENDENCE

This generates a sense of responsibility and purpose leading to increased sense of independence

SOCIAL SKILLS

Individuals live alongside and work with others as part of a team

RELATIONSHIPS

Helps to build positive relationships and develop social skills helping to reduce loneliness

ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES

We offer a range of **adventure activities** which are **adapted using specialist equipment** so that even people with the most complex needs can experience them

OUTDOORS

Exposure to new experiences in the great outdoors

WELLBEING

Freedom and space to connect with nature and it's mood boosting impact

CHALLENGE

Learning to embrace uncertainty achieving more than they believe themselves capable of

CONFIDENCE

A sense of achievement and accomplishment

AWARENESS BUILDING

We provide opportunities for people to be **involved with our work** through volunteering schemes. We also provide training and consultancy services for disability awareness

CONSULTANCY

Training and educating people about inclusion, disabilities and the use of adaptive equipment

INCLUSION

Educating others to build a more inclusive society where everyone is equal

VOLUNTEER

Giving people the opportunity to give back and working alongside people with additional needs

COMMUNITY

Bringing people together to bridge the disability gap and help to reduce loneliness

Strategically, we aim to :

- **Be financially sustainable**
- **Exhibit effective governance & inspirational leadership**
- **Develop our staff and deliver excellence**
- **Be at the forefront of activity delivery for people with disabilities**
- **Continuously improve safety standards**
- **Maintain excellence in the Bendrigg facilities**

KEY OBJECTIVES FOR 2021

Reopen our doors to residential visitors in the summer of 2021 after 14 months of closure due to the Covid-19 pandemic	✓ Met	Bendrigg reopened its doors to residential groups in late June 2021 after being closed for over 14 months. Various Covid-secure measures were implemented to ensure the safety of visitors, including limiting capacity.
Continue to ensure the financial security of Bendrigg throughout the pandemic through stringent control of expenditure and strategic fundraising activities	✓ Met	The original cautious budget forecast a £150,000 deficit for the year. Thanks to stringent cost control and support from our donors and supporters we were able to finish the year with a £29,040 surplus before depreciation.
Carry out a feasibility study to create a more energy efficient and sustainable future for the Trust	✓ Met	Thanks to grant funding we were able to commission a feasibility study for on-site renewable energy.
Develop a Theory of Change model and produce a revised Strategic Plan	Partially met	Various stakeholders have been consulted to start building a draft Theory of Change model and a Strategic Plan Working Group has been created to begin this process in 2022.
Set up a Disability Advisory Group for Bendrigg Trust	✓ Met	A Disability Advisory Group has been created with members from various stakeholder groups.
Continue to support National Governing Bodies with their inclusive adventure offerings, including developing a new climbing disability awareness booklet	Partially met	A new Climbing for All booklet in conjunction with the BMC is due to be published in 2022.
Achieve a revenue income target from visitor fees of £318,461	✓ Exceeded	Thanks to increased demand for our services following the pandemic, fee income was exceed by £45,439
Achieve a fundraising target of £492,189 for the year	✓ Exceeded	The continuation of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme as well as support from new and existing funders meant that fundraised income was £66,993 above target.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

2021 AT A GLANCE

REOPENING

The Covid pandemic meant that Bendrigg was closed to residential visitors for over 14 months. On the 22nd June 2021, we welcomed our first residential groups back to Bendrigg. This significant milestone was covered by BBC North West News and local MP, Tim Farron, came to Bendrigg to lend his support after being such a strong voice for the 'Save Outdoor Education' campaign throughout the pandemic.

> *"Bendrigg never disappoints. It's such a special centre with incredible staff. Don't change anything!"*

PROTECTING JOBS

It's our people that make Bendrigg so special. During the pandemic, a significant concern for many people was job security. Thanks to Government funding and stringent internal governance, we were able to protect jobs whilst we were closed. This in turn, has enabled us to 'bounce back' once we were able to reopen our doors in June 2021.

> *"It was all excellent, Bendrigg is so inclusive, we never thought some of the things could be done."*

ACHIEVING A SURPLUS

There was such uncertainty as we entered 2021 as to how much longer the pandemic would affect our services and what support would be forthcoming, that we were cautiously predicting an £150,000 deficit for the year. We are therefore delighted to report a £29,040 surplus for the year before depreciation. This is thanks to the demand from our visitors, to return in greater numbers and more quickly than predicted, as well as fundraising success with existing and new funders and supporters.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

2021 AT A GLANCE

NEW MINIBUS

The Hartley Trust granted us £65,000 towards a new minibus with grant payments spanning both 2020 and 2021. By agreement, Bendrigg delayed purchasing the vehicle until the centre reopened in 2021. Delivery of the new, fully accessible vehicle was taken in Autumn 2021, increasing the size of our fleet to 7.

> *As a family lockdown hit us very hard. This was just what we needed to show us that we can start having fun again.*

RENEWABLE ENERGY FEASIBILTY STUDY

Thanks to funding from the Rural Community Energy Fund via the Local Energy North West Hub, Bendrigg was able to commission a feasibility study looking at the various options of reducing our carbon footprint. This study looked at the technology available as well as planning, finance and legal issues and produced a report detailing possible options for Bendrigg to consider. As well as identifying some short term solutions, the report will help inform issues in the next strategic plan.

> *The most accessible place we have ever been and the most inclusive. Keep doing what you're doing here, it makes such a difference to young people's lives.*

SUPPORTING FAMILIES

Throughout 2021 Bendrigg adapted to the ever-changing restrictions and guidance. When able, we opened up our grounds for free exclusive access for shielding families. During the summer we offered free day activities for those who had been isolating for so long and before our residential services reopened, families were able to hire our accessible accommodation for self-catering breaks.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

2021 AT A GLANCE

NICAS

In 2021, Bendrigg became a National Indoor Climbing Award Scheme (NICAS) accredited provider. NICAS is a UK-wide scheme designed to promote climbing development and accredit individual achievements on indoor/artificial climbing walls. This is a great opportunity for members of the Bendrigg Climbing Club to progress their skills and to work towards, and receive, a nationally recognised award.

> *NICAS has been a great asset to offer regular climbers at our climbing club. It gives them specific skills to focus on and help them grow as climbers and also in confidence of their own ability. Those signed up for the scheme are really enjoying working through the criteria and achieving specific goals along the way to gaining their awards.*
>
> **Vicky Binks - Bendrigg Tutor**

DISABILITY ADVISORY GROUP

In 2021 we successfully launched a new Bendrigg Disability Advisory Group. The group is made up of Bendrigg visitors, staff and trustees and its purpose is to help advise and guide the organisation moving forwards. We have already had a number of meetings which have helped to guide the Bendrigg services and projects in 2021.

HIDDEN DISABILITIES PROJECT

In 2021 we embarked on our Hidden Disabilities Project to help ease the anxieties of people with learning disabilities, communication difficulties & autism. The four part project has seen us develop a range of resources including a guided tour & action pack, giving people more details about our facilities to help put them at ease. Progress for this project has been delayed by the pandemic but we are already seeing more enquiries as a result of what we have achieved so far.

GUIDED TOUR

ACTION PACK

COMMUNICATION RESOURCES

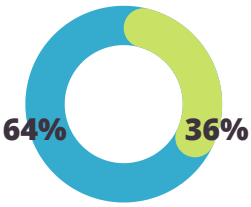
LD OPEN COURSE

2021 SUMMARY

Due to government restrictions and lockdowns as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, we had to adapt our charitable activities throughout 2021. We weren't able to offer our residential courses until half way through the year, so we developed new services which continued to address the needs of our visitors, at a time when they needed us the most. We are delighted that we were still able to provide services for so many in 2021.

2202
Total visitors

1407 Clients



795 Leaders

129 Wheelchair users

56 Residential visits

86 Day activities

People who accessed our services in 2021

noticed improvements in...

- **96%** Increased confidence & self-esteem
- **93%** Greater independence
- **90%** Improved physical & mental well-being
- **96%** Felt more included
- **93%** Improved social skills

rated their overall experience 4.6/5

> *One of our full-time wheelchair users, when on the swing, said that it made her feel free, without pain and not disabled. Such a powerful experience.*

> *It's due to yourselves that our pupils have a chance to grow.*

VOLUNTEERS

Since we've re-opened for residential visits in June 2021 we have been supported by 144 volunteers who have contributed to everything from residentials to maintenance and grounds support.

> I'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has volunteered at Bendrigg in 2021. It was a monumental effort to reopen after such a long period of closure and a special thank you must go to our maintenance volunteers who have continued to be a huge support through this time. We were also delighted to welcome a number of longer term volunteers who supported us with domestic duties and projects throughout the year.
>
> Kate McCallum – Volunteer Co-ordinator

We were supported by

144

volunteers

at Bendrigg in 2021

ALLIANCE MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL PROJECT

For several years now Bendrigg has been selected for partnership with the AMBS not-for-profit consultancy project. In September 2021 the students undertook a comprehensive analysis of the volunteer programme to look at how we could increase the numbers of volunteers signing up and ensure the volunteer programme was being seen as a positive project. We also wanted to see if there was a way that the benefits of volunteering could be increased by both the volunteers themselves, and Bendrigg Trust. The students surveyed a number of volunteers and identified a high satisfaction rate with key comments being: working with different people from various backgrounds, exceptional friendliness and support of the Bendrigg staff, excellent food and accommodation facilities. They also made several recommendations for marketing campaigns to attract more volunteers & inspired the trust to look at a "revamp" of the volunteer scheme which we look forward to developing in 2022.

BENDRIGG ALTERNATIVE SCHEME

Due to the pandemic and restrictions within the prison services, we were unable to restart our Bendrigg Alternative Scheme in 2021. We are incredibly proud of the scheme and are looking forward to having it 'back up and running' in 2022.

FEEDBACK AND PHOTOS

Thank you so much for our amazing stay. I sometimes forget how amazing my daughter is and this holiday has reminded me of it. It was wonderful to be able to relax without fear of being judged.

The only thing that stops me is me!

Louise's anxiety and mood was at an all-time low and as a family lockdown has hit us very hard. This weekend was just what we needed to show us that we can start having fun again and it was great to see Louise smiling and making friends. It has given us the confidence boost we all needed.

I was able to do things I never thought I could.

2021 FUNDRAISING ACHIEVEMENTS

Ordinarily, we would see costs for staffing and other unavoidable core costs covered by a large proportion of income from our residential services. However, as we remained closed for half the year, much of this income was lost. Therefore, fundraising has been paramount to the survival of Bendrigg throughout the pandemic and the Bendrigg fundraising team has worked incredibly hard to make up for the additional loss of income .

It is worth noting that Bendrigg doesn't ordinarily receive Government funding, but in 2021 we received £135,449 towards staffing costs through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS). Without this funding Bendrigg would have had to consider redundancies or use up a large proportion of our reserves to retain our highly skilled staff team, leaving the charity in a vulnerable position going forward.

2021

Total funds raised £559,182

Course Income £363,900

2020

Total funds raised £647,100

Course Income £162,680

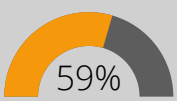
£559,182

raised through fundraising in 2021

Where this money was spent

£327,467

General Funds to support our **charitable activities and unavoidable running costs**

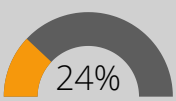


£82,698

Specific funding for **equipment, staff, capital, IT and other projects**

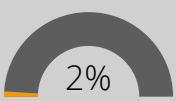
£135,449

Specific funding claimed for **staffing** (CJRS)



£13,568

To use for **group & individual sponsorship** for those unable to afford our services



GRANT FUNDING: TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS

There is no doubt that, once again, funding from Charitable Trusts and Foundations has been incredibly important for Bendrigg. We are grateful to all of our funders for their continued understanding and flexibility in terms of their grants to us. We would particularly like to thank the Mary Kinross Charitable Trust, Bendrigg Support Trust and Cumbria Community Foundation whose long-term support is greatly appreciated.

We give thanks to all of our funders including:

1 Life to Live
The 29th May 1961 Charity
The Alchemy Foundation
Arnold Clark Community Fund
Baily Thomas Charitable Fund
Bendrigg Support Trust
Cumbria Community Foundation
Drapers' Charitable Fund
The Joseph Strong Frazer Trust
Garfield Weston Foundation
The Gene Aid Trust
The Edward Gostling Foundation
The Hartley Charitable Trust
Homelands Charitable Trust
Local Energy North West Hub
Marsh Charitable Trust
Mary Kinross Charitable Trust
P F Charitable Trust
POM Charitable Trust
The Frieda Scott Trust
ScottishPower Foundation
The Souter Charitable Trust
Sir John Fisher Foundation
St. James's Place Charitable Foundation
YWCA Kendal

Fantastic funding from Bendrigg. Henry has been withdrawn and anxious over the past year but this has really boosted his confidence again. It's been lovely. Without the funding we really would have struggled to find the money to come and therefore we are really grateful for everyone raising funds*

*name changed to remain anonymous

Our sponsorship fund helps to subsidise our services so that people who are facing financial hardship are still able to access our services.

LEGACIES AND IN MEMORY FUNDING

Bendrigg has touched the lives of so many people: it is truly a special place where friends and family often continue to commemorate the life of a loved one through a legacy and 'in memory' donations. We are truly grateful to all those who choose to donate in this way in the past and in 2021.

CORPORATE AND ORGANISATIONAL SUPPORT

Despite organisations facing another year of incredible hardship, we were fortunate to be supported by a number of corporate and organisational partners, both old and new. Through financial contributions as well as gifts or services in kind, the support we receive from the community is humbling and we are grateful to everyone who chooses to support us in this way. Special thanks to:

Cicerone Press
The Roofbox Company
Amphigean
Tree Top Treks
Cunninghams Outdoors
The Rum Shack
Simply Moving and Sleeping
Windermere and Ambleside Lions
Breedon Group
B&Q Kendal
Think Recycling
Asda Kendal
Sealy
Homebase Kendal
Upper Eden Rotary

REBOOT CAMPAIGN

In 2021 in particular, the business community rallied around Bendrigg for our 'Reboot' campaign to get Bendrigg back up and running again after so much time with our doors closed. From donations to divans, blinds to bedding and skips to sandpaper - so many companies helped Bendrigg to find its feet once more.

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

An enormous thank you must go to the many individual donors who have kept Bendrigg going over the past year. The part that this support plays in changing many people's lives for the better cannot be underestimated. Together, all of our individual donors make a huge difference and it is a simple fact that Bendrigg would not be where it is today without these wonderful people. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Thank you!

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

When lockdown measures began to ease, many people took up the challenge to raise funds for Bendrigg, more than doubling our normal funds from events. A huge array of physical challenges were undertaken by our supporters including the **Keswick to Barrow Walk**, **London Marathon**, **Great North Run** as well as personal challenges such as '**A Dip A Day**' and '**Brightening Up Our Spirits**'. Thank you to all involved in these incredible feats of endurance and generosity.

The Big Give Christmas Challenge

The Big Give Christmas Challenge has become a regular feature in our fundraising calendar and 2021 was our **fifth year** taking part. We set ourselves our most ambitious target yet – £30,000 – as we knew the need for our services was great. Over the **7 day challenge** our supporters raised a **staggering £34,239** including gift aid. Thank you to everyone who donated, shared and supported this event.

FUNDRAISING STANDARDS

Integrity *Transparency* *Honesty*

Donors to Bendrigg Trust can be assured that we comply with the regulatory standards for fundraising. **We are voluntarily registered with the Fundraising Regulator** and are committed to the Fundraising Promise and comply with all the relevant standards set out in the **Code of Fundraising Practice**. Our Business Development Manager is a member of the **Chartered Institute of Fundraising**.

Our fundraising effort involves encouraging donations and gifts from individuals, running and supporting fundraising events, engaging with corporate partners and applying for grants from Charitable Trusts and Foundations. These **fundraising activities are organised and managed by our in-house fundraisers with no external professional or commercial fundraisers used**. We encourage any individual, business or third-party fundraising, on our behalf, to inform us of their fundraising activities and also adhere to the **Code of Fundraising Practice**.

Our website outlines our **Ethical Fundraising Policy** which seeks to cover the ethical issues and social responsibility within fundraising.

We respond to all complaints within 10 working days. Complaints are dealt with in-line with our Fundraising Complaints Procedure as outlined in our Ethical Fundraising Policy. All complaints are dealt with by our Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and our trustees are informed of those which are serious.

We have published our **Safeguarding Policy** on our website. We are also signed up to the **Fundraising Preference Service** to enable individuals to opt out from receiving fundraising communications from us. **We received zero requests from this service last year.**

Code of Fundraising Practice

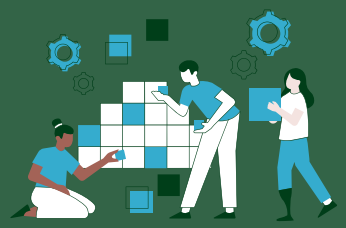
Our Fundraising Policy

Our Safeguarding Policy

LOOKING FORWARDS

As we emerge from the pandemic and a long period of closure, we now look to the future. In 2022 we plan to:

CONSOLIDATE OUR DELIVERY



- Rebuild and develop the Bendrigg staff team back to pre pandemic levels
- Review the Bendrigg activity offer and explore new activities
- Continue our project to develop our provision for people with hidden disabilities

PLAN & STRATEGISE

- Develop a new Business Plan to drive Bendrigg forwards for the next two years
- Complete the Bendrigg Theory of Change model
- Catch up on essential remedial work at Bendrigg Trust
- Develop a longer term Strategic Plan for Bendrigg

BUILD FINANCIAL STABILITY

- Continue our fundraising efforts and achieve £312.5k for the year
- Achieve £75k in fundraised sponsorship funding to help fund visitor course fees
- Rebuild our occupancy levels and achieve £734k in course fee income
- Achieve an overall deficit of (no more than) £35k

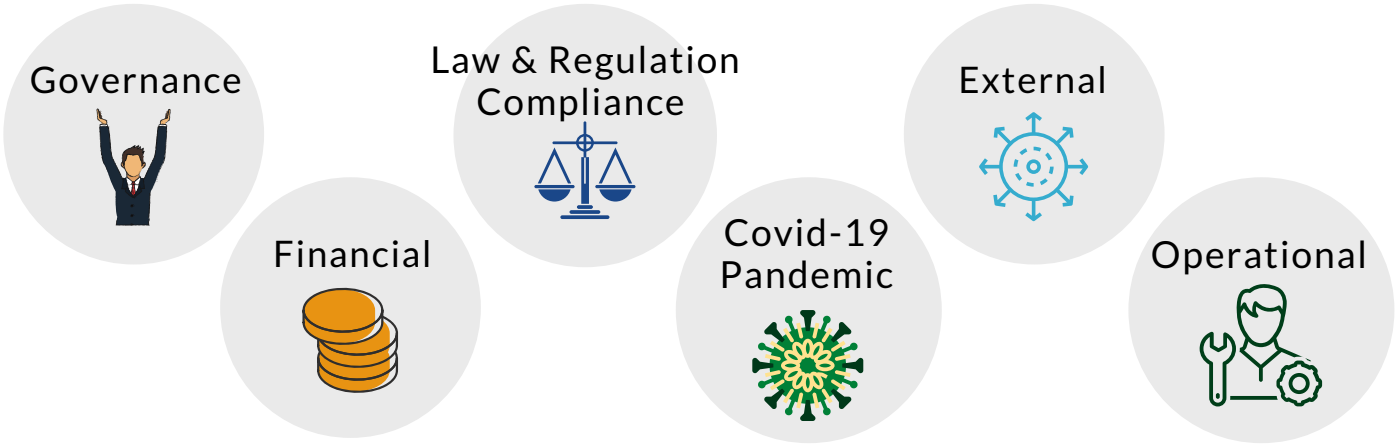
RISK MANAGEMENT

The Board of Trustees is sensitive to potential risks to which the charity may be exposed.

Risk Register
The management of risk by Bendrigg Trust is based upon a Risk Register ('the Register') which has been in use since February 2017. The Register is kept under active consideration by the Centre Director and is reviewed every 6 months by the Risk Register Committee, which consists of the Centre Director and up to 3 Trustees. The last bi-annual review of the Register was on 14th January 2022.

Responsibilities
The Risk Committee reports to the Trustees in Council. Risk Management is ultimately the responsibility of all Trustees. It is the Trustees duty (assisted by the Risk Committee) to identify risks, to devise systems for managing those risks (or ensure that proper systems have been devised) and to monitor these systems to ensure that they are being put into effect.

The risks considered in the register are considered under six headings:



Risks posed by the Covid-19 Pandemic

The most significant risk to Bendrigg, posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, remains financial. As a result, this is being closely monitored by the Trustees and steps are being put in place to mitigate these risks.

Whilst retaining staff has been a high priority for Bendrigg during the pandemic, the Trust did see a small number of staff depart in 2020 and 2021. During the period of closure, the decision was taken to delay replacing staff as a financial defensive measure. Since reopening, recruitment for certain roles, such as Tutors and Domestic Assistants has been difficult. However, following a number of mitigating steps taken by Trustees in early 2022, recruitment has improved. Recruitment remains an active risk on the Risk Register.

2022
The Trustees have recognised the financial risks associated with the 2022 energy and 'cost of living' crisis, and the potential impact this will have on Bendrigg and its visitors. This is being closely monitored by the Trustees and mitigating steps are currently being considered.

Public Benefit
From 2008, the Charities Act has required all charities to meet the legal requirement that its aims are for the public benefit. For this to be true there must be an identifiable benefit and the benefit must be to the public or a section of the public.

The Trustees are satisfied that the aims and objectives of the charity, and the activities reported on in its annual report to achieve those aims, meet these principles.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) for the year ended 31 December 2021 shows a total deficit of £86,914 (2020: deficit of £103,384), made up from an unrestricted surplus of £37,920 and a restricted funds deficit of £124,834. The overall deficit was deducted from the reserves brought forward of £3,760,677, to give total reserves at the balance sheet date of £3,673,763.

We are delighted to be able to report this return to surplus in our unrestricted activities in 2021, in spite of another very challenging year, during which Bendrigg was still dealing with the ongoing effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Bendrigg site remained closed to residential clients until late June, meaning another year of reduced income from our normal charitable activities; down from £734,840 in 2019 to £363,900 in 2021 (2020: £162,680). To offset this ongoing reduction in client income we continued to receive outstanding support from our donors and supporters through the year, for which we are immensely grateful; with donor income up from £403,857 in 2020 to £423,733 in 2021. The Government's 'Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme' (CJRS) also continued to play an important role, contributing a further £135,449 towards the costs of our staff team in the early part of the year. The return to residential course delivery, together with superb support from our donors and the Government's CJRS scheme, has served to enable the organisation to return to surplus sooner than expected. Our initial budgets for the year had suggested a potential deficit of £150,000, so it is hugely encouraging to see the progress made since the re-opening of the site and the resulting unrestricted surplus at year end.

The Balance Sheet at 31 December confirms net assets of £3,673,763, with net current assets of £419,281 (2020: £484,489) and net cash balances of £822,043 (2020: £586,264). It should be emphasised that this cash position is temporarily increased by £250,000, this being the value of the short term 'Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan (CBIL)' that was drawn down in April 2021; this facility was repaid in April 2022, within the initial interest free period, and our unrestricted cash balance have therefore now returned to more normal levels. It is also important to emphasise that the majority of the cash balance relates to unrestricted funds, with £748,072 held as unrestricted and £73,971 held for restricted purposes (see note 21, page 47); this cash position continues to provide Bendrigg with good financial resilience for the further challenges that we face in 2022. The Balance Sheet also shows the carrying value of our property and other fixed assets, at £3,254,482, most of which are funded by restricted capital funds.

The Cash Flow Statement provides the detail of the cash movements during the year to 31 December, showing that the overall cash position strengthened significantly in 2021, due to the draw-down of the CBIL loan facility in particular. If the CBIL facility is excluded from the Statement, then net cash reduced by just over £14,000, due to restricted fund expenditure only.

Overall the Financial Statements reflect a robust position after another challenging but improving year. The Bendrigg management team have worked tirelessly to enable a return to trading surplus over the year, and their efforts place the organisation in a strengthening position at the year end.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Going Concern
Prospects for the next financial year are cautiously positive, in terms of client demand and donor support, but we are wary of the effects of the war in Ukraine and the wider economic challenges in the country that result from rapid inflation. We expect costs to rise therefore, while we are still recovering to pre-pandemic levels of site occupancy and income generation, and we expect this combination of factors to result in a small trading deficit in the year ahead. Having said this, we start the year with substantial unrestricted cash balances and we are confident that the assumption of Going Concern remains entirely valid, based upon a range of risk scenarios that have been considered for 2022 and early 2023.

Reserves Policy
Free reserves available for use by the Charity are deemed to be those that are realisable, minus funds where the uses are 'restricted' or otherwise 'designated' for particular purposes. This calculation thus excludes funds of £3.2million invested in property and other fixed assets that will continue to be used in the day-to-day running of the charity.

As a matter of policy, each year the Trustees review the value of the reserves retained in the form of investments, cash and cash equivalents not held for restrictive purposes or designated projects. The Board considers the Charity's exposure to major risks, in terms of their likely impact on its income sources and planned expenditure in the short to medium term, as well as assessing the best way to mitigate such risks. With income, the major risk is from a decline in course fees or donor income, particularly due to the worsening economic situation and other factors leading to reduced bookings and donations.

In previous years we have established a target range for free reserves, based upon holding an amount equivalent to at least four months' worth of normal expenditure. Where funds exceeded the reserve requirement, we considered these to be 'free reserves', available for use on other unrestricted projects or similar. Given the emerging economic uncertainties, and also given the ongoing potential for a resurgence in Covid-19, we will continue to adopt an alternative and more cautious approach, whereby all of our unrestricted funds are re-purposed entirely towards enabling the Trust to overcome any ongoing financial challenges in the year ahead. As a result, our entire unrestricted funds balance of £422,975 remains re-purposed for the next 12 month period at least, as are all available unrestricted cash balances. Our normal Reserves Policy will therefore remain suspended until such time as the Trustees consider it appropriate and sensible for this to be re-instated.

GOVERNANCE, STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution
Bendrigg Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 27 October 1978 and registered as a charity on 15 February 1979.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which contains the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed in accordance with its Articles of Association. The subscribers are referred to as Members. In the event of the company being wound up, the Members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £5.

The principle objective of the charity is to provide high quality courses for disabled and disadvantaged people. It aims to promote inclusion, encourage independence and build self-confidence through the use of residential experience and the safe provision of adventurous activities delivered by dedicated, qualified staff.

Trustees, Recruitment and Induction
Bendrigg Trust recognises that a robust, independent and effective Board of Trustees is essential if the charity is to achieve its objects.

New Trustees are invited to provide a CV and meet the Centre Director and the Chairman of the Trustees. Those without background knowledge of Bendrigg are given a tour and invited to attend Council and/or Management Committee meetings before they commit themselves. The aim is to have a varied and diverse Trustee Board with a mix of skills that match Bendrigg's needs.

After being elected, a new Trustee is provided with the main documents which set out the operational framework of the charity including the Memorandum and Articles, Business Plan and Financial Statements. Many Trustees make frequent visits to Bendrigg, in some cases at least weekly, giving rise to an easy and informal relationship with the Centre Director, the rest of the staff and other Trustees.

The Directors of the Company are also Trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the Company's Articles are known as Trustees and make up the Council.

Under the Articles, the Trustees are elected to serve a period of three years. Of the elected Trustees, one third retire every year and are eligible for re-election. Those Trustees retiring are those who have been longest in office since their last election.

GOVERNANCE, STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational Structure and Governance
The Council meets bimonthly (although during the Pandemic, were meeting on a monthly basis) and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. Sub-committees consider the detail and report to the Council.
Sub-committees are as follows:

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

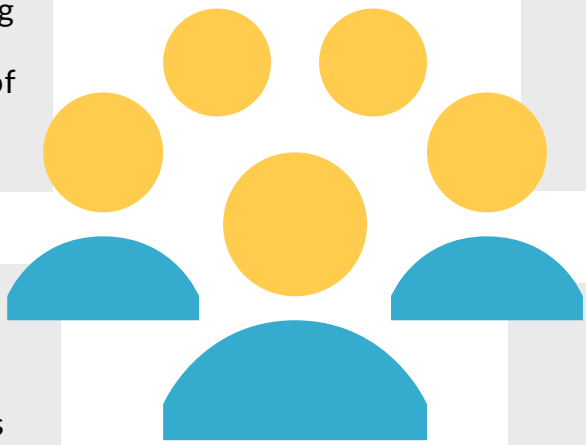
Meeting as and when required to oversee any major capital building project

FUNDRAISING AND MARKETING COMMITTEE

Overseeing the marketing and fundraising plans, policies and procedures of the centre

BENDRIGG ALTERNATIVE COMMITTEE

Dedicated to the Bendrigg Alternative scheme for offenders



RISK REGISTER COMMITTEE

Overseeing the charity's Risk Register

HR COMMITTEE

Overseeing all Human Resource matters including disciplinary issues

APPEALS COMMITTEE

Determining any appeal from a decision of the HR committee and resolving any grievance raised under the staff grievance procedure

Further to the sub-committees, working groups are also formed to oversee specific projects for a set period of time. Working groups active in 2021 included:

STRATEGIC AND BUSINESS PLAN WORKING GROUP

Responsible for reviewing and writing a new five year business and strategic plan

TRUSTEE STEERING GROUP

Considering finance, health and safety, activities, insurance, buildings and grounds

BENDRIGG DISABILITY ADVISORY GROUP

Meeting as and when required to advise the Trust on disability matters

IT AND TELECOMS WORKING GROUP

Overseeing the IT and telephone infrastructure

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

STAFF

The day-to-day running of Bendrigg lies with the Centre Director and through him, the Senior Management team. The Trustees are grateful to all members of staff for their continued support during another challenging year. Bendrigg Trust seeks to be an employer of choice and reviews on an annual basis the level of remuneration and other benefits awarded to staff. In 2021 Bendrigg undertook a more detailed benchmarking exercise with other similar organisations and made adjustments were it was felt necessary. As a result of this, all staff are now paid at least the Real Living Wage.

"Our family enjoyed the best most inclusive experience we have ever had. The staff made a good time better still!"

Pay Policy for Senior Staff

Bendrigg Trust's approach to paying senior staff is to appropriately reward staff for the work they do. It recognises the need to ensure value for money for the charity, balanced with the need to recruit and retain staff. The Board of Trustees is responsible for defining the policy and deciding on the salaries of the Centre Director and Senior Managers and all salaries are reviewed on an annual basis.

"A huge thank you to all the staff who have made this such a magic weekend - not only the staff supporting our team but the fabulous kitchen staff who cooked such delicious food. We can't think of anything you guys could do to make the experience better."

VOLUNTEERS

The Trustees recognise the extremely valuable contribution made by volunteers and wish to place on record their thanks for their commitment. Volunteering at Bendrigg covers many areas of work including activity delivery, office administration, domestic duties, grounds and building maintenance and much more. The list is endless. No amounts are included in the financial statements to reflect the value of the work undertaken by our volunteers.

{We} were absolutely blown away by the way Ed was able to engage, grade and adapt his approach with each and every student in the group; enabling them to achieve things that many of the staff never thought the young people would be able to do. He was teaching the children science, design technology, environmental science, geography and team work. One of the teachers commented that he'd got more out of one of the children in one hour than they had ever seen in the entire year he had been with them. The most magical moment was one of the students turning round as he was carrying a spade saying "Miss I did it. This is my first real job and I love it!"

Staff and students with complex needs from Underlay Garden School volunteering as part of their work experience programme

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also Directors of Bendrigg Trust for the purposes of Company Law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounts Standards and Applicable Law). Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the income and of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to :

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements, on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditor
MHA Moore and Smalley are deemed to be re-appointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Each of the persons who is a Trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:
• So far as they are aware there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
• Each Trustee has taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a Trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information.

Approval
By approving the Trustees report the Trustees are also approving the strategic report in their capacity as company directors.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 26th May 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Nicholas Liley
Secretary

Rachael Hodgson
Chair

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of Bendrigg Trust for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise of the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2021, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion
We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern
In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities, and the responsibilities of the Trustees, with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report (incorporating the Directors' Report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and sufficient accounting records have not been kept by the charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing a strategic report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 25, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- enquiries with the board about any known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud;
- challenging assumptions and judgements made by the board in their significant accounting estimates, in particular in relation to the future financial performance of the company;
- an evaluation of the risk management override of controls and subsequent testing, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness; and
- an evaluation of the charitable company's internal control environment.

Because of the industry in which the charity operates, we identified the following areas as those most likely to have a material impact on the financial statements: Health and Safety, including meeting the requirements of the Adventure Activities Licensing Authority; employment law, and compliance with the UK Companies Act and Charities Act.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (continued)
Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Jenny McCabe

Jenny McCabe
Senior Statutory Auditor
For and on behalf of MHA Moore and Smalley
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

Priory Close
St Mary's Gate
Lancaster
LA1 1XB

26th May 2022

Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating the income and expenditure account)

For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
		£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	**327,467**	**96,266**	**423,733**	403,857
Investments	4	**212**	**-**	**212**	2,488
Charitable activities	5	**363,900**	**-**	**363,900**	162,680
Other	6	**135,449**	**-**	**135,449**	243,243
Total		**827,028**	**96,266**	**923,294**	812,268
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	**41,654**	**-**	**41,654**	32,526
Charitable activities	8	**870,932**	**97,622**	**968,554**	883,576
Total		**912,586**	**97,622**	**1,010,208**	916,102
Net (expenditure)/ income before transfers		**(85,558)**	**(1,356)**	**(86,914)**	(103,834)
Transfer between funds	10, 20	**123,478**	**(123,478)**	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**37,920**	**(124,834)**	**(86,914)**	(103,834)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		**385,055**	**3,375,622**	**3,760,677**	3,864,511
Total funds carried forward		**422,975**	**3,250,788**	**3,673,763**	3,760,677

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all recognised gains and losses in the year.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 33 to 48 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2021

		2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		**3,254,482**		3,307,606
Current assets					
Stock		**11,111**		7,281	
Debtors	13	**12,946**		30,360	
Cash at bank and in hand		**822,043**		586,264	
		846,100		623,905	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	**(426,819)**		(139,416)	
Net current assets			**419,281**		484,489
Total assets less current liabilities			**3,673,763**		3,792,095
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15		-		(31,418)
Net assets			**3,673,763**		3,760,677
Funds:					
Restricted funds	17		**3,250,788**		3,375,622
Unrestricted funds	19		**422,975**		385,055
Total funds			**3,673,763**		3,760,677

These accounts were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on the 26th May 2022 and are signed on their behalf by:

Rachael Hodgson .....
Rachael Hodgson
Chair

Kim Parry .....
Kim Parry
Treasurer

Company Registration Number: 01396557

Cash Flow Statement

As at 31 December 2021

	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£
Cash generated in operating activities	**48,397**	23,785
Cashflows from investing activities·		
Investment income	**212**	2,488
Purchase of fixed assets	**(62,830)**	(1,350)
Cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities	**(62,618)**	1,138
Cashflows from financing activities		
Receipt of loan	**250,000**	-
Cash provided by/ (used in) financing activities	**250,000**	-
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**235,779**	24,923
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	**586,264**	561,341
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**822,043**	586,264

Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cashflow from operating activities

Net movement in funds	**(86,914)**	(103,834)
Investments income received	**(212)**	(2,488)
Depreciation	**115,954**	127,207
Decrease in stocks	**(3,830)**	(2,355)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**17,414**	(23,040)
Increase in creditors (excluding loan)	**5,985**	28,295
Net cash generated in operating activities	**48,397**	23,785

Components of cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and in hand	**822,043**	586,264
	822,043	586,264

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

1 Accounting policies

Legal form

Bendrigg Trust is a registered charity and a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006, incorporated in England and Wales. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £5 per member of the Charity.

The registered office of the Charity, the nature of its operations and its principal activities are all detailed in the Charity administrative details of these financial statements.

Basis of preparation

Bendrigg Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The particular accounting policies adopted by the Trustees are described below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees consider the charity to have a sufficient level of working capital and have made an assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements. There are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income

Donations and legacies are included in the accounts on a cash received basis or where there is a certainty of receipt and the amount is quantifiable. Grants and donations in respect of specific projects are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they are receivable and are credited to restricted reserves.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Investment income is credited to the statement of financial activities in the period in which it becomes receivable.

Income from charitable activities is recognised in the period to which it relates.

Government grants and CJRS (Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme) claims are recognised in the period to which they relate.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis in the expense categories required by the SORP. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Costs are further allocated between the activities undertaken on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Charitable activities expenditure includes costs incurred in the delivery of the Charity's activities and services. It includes both direct costs, including staff costs, that are incurred in the delivery of the activities and services and indirect costs which are required to support the delivery of the charitable objects.

Costs of raising funds include those costs in relation to the Charity's operations which are used to generate further income which is integral to the Charity in meeting its charitable objectives. It includes direct costs and also indirect costs which have been allocated on the following basis:

Telephone costs –20% Centre Director's salary –10% Marketing & Fundraisers' salary –50%

Fixed assets

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

Freehold property	-	2% straight line per annum
Leasehold property	-	4% straight line per annum
Motor vehicles and trailers	-	25% reducing balance
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	10%/20% straight line per annum
Sports installations	-	10% straight line per annum

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making allowance for obsolete and slow moving stocks.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Debtors and creditors within one year
Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable and payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash is a basic financial asset and includes cash in hand and deposits held on call with banks.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds - General funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds - Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds - Restricted funds arise where there is a donor-imposed restriction on the use of the funds, or the funds have arisen in response to an appeal for a specified purpose.

Pensions
The Charity operates a defined contribution scheme. Contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Taxation
HM Revenue & Customs considers Bendrigg Trust to be a charity and therefore they are entitled to exemption from tax afforded by Sections 478-489 of the Corporation Taxes Act 2010 to the extent that income is applied exclusively for charitable purposes.

Financial instruments
The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Basic financial assets
Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price and are subsequently carried at amortised cost. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Financial assets are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that the estimated future cash flows have been affected. The impairment loss is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the company transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity.

Basic financial liabilities
Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, are initially recognised at transaction price, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised. Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty
In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Key assumptions, judgements and estimates
In the opinion of the Trustees, there have been no significant judgements made in the process of applying the above accounting policies. There have been no key assumptions concerning future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Staff sponsorship	-	32,265	**32,265**	-
Project donations	-	41,933	**41,933**	10,800
General donations	327,467	-	**327,467**	248,362
Specific donations	-	8,500	**8,500**	54,061
Sponsored courses	-	13,568	**13,568**	90,634
	327,467	**96,266**	**423,733**	403,857
Total 2020	*248,242*	*155,615*	*403,857*	

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest receivable	**212**	-	**212**	2,488
	212	-	**212**	2,488
Total 2020	*2,488*	-	*2,488*	

5 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Course fees	350,370	-	**350,370**	152,367
Other charitable activities	13,530	-	**13,530**	10,313
	363,900	-	**363,900**	162,680
Total 2020	*162,680*	-	*162,680*	

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
CJRS income	135,449	-	**135,449**	243,243
	135,449	-	**135,449**	243,243
Total 2020	*243,243*	-	*243,243*	

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Telephone	495	-	**495**	466
Direct fundraising costs	4,055	-	**4,055**	3,362
Staff costs	37,104	-	**37,104**	28,698
	41,654	-	**41,654**	32,526
Total 2020	*32,526*	-	*32,526*	

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**Total 2021**	Total 2020
	£	**£**	**£**	£
Goods for resale	5,206	-	**5,206**	1,720
Rates and water	1,522	-	**1,522**	1,129
Light and heat	27,232	-	**27,232**	26,228
Repairs and maintenance	36,613	-	**36,613**	19,484
Insurance	14,523	-	**14,523**	16,533
Motor vehicle expenses	14,956	333	**15,289**	9,492
Telephone	1,981	-	**1,981**	1,862
Provisions and household	52,596	-	**52,596**	28,660
Sundry expenses	7,071	29,164	**36,235**	19,587
Outdoor equipment	4,625	-	**4,625**	2,777
Staff training	8,311	-	**8,311**	4,036
Advertising and sponsorship	3,043	-	**3,043**	4,284
Bank charges	2,084	-	**2,084**	1,867
Printing, post and stationery	23,646	-	**23,646**	12,301
Freelance instructors fees	26,248	-	**26,248**	2,005
Audit and professional fees	6,934	-	**6,934**	7,344
Entry fees	1,222	-	**1,222**	177
Subscriptions	3,583	-	**3,583**	1,913
Indemnity insurance	1,012	-	**1,012**	1,012
Wages and salaries	460,879	61,255	**522,134**	526,893
National insurance	26,369	3,505	**29,874**	37,846
Pension cost	25,322	3,365	**28,687**	29,219
Depreciation	115,954	-	**115,954**	127,207
	870,932	**97,622**	**968,554**	883,576
Total 2020	*835,636*	*47,940*	*883,576*	

Support costs are allocated entirely to charitable activities in both the current and prior period.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

9 Net income/(expenditure)

	2021	2020
	£	£
Net income is stated after charging:		
Staff pension contributions	**30,379**	30,515
Auditors' remuneration		
- audit of the financial statements	**5,250**	5,100
Depreciation of tangible assets		
- owned by the Charity	**115,954**	127,207

10 Fund transfers

During the current and prior year certain restricted income funds saw expenditure incurred in excess of the income received and transfers of £271 were made from unrestricted funds in order to cover such shortfalls.

A transfer is also made annually in respect of unrestricted depreciation charges in the year which relate to restricted asset funds £122,093.

Further details of fund transfers are included in Note 20.

11 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and the cost of key management personnel

Total staff costs were as follows	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	**547,165**	551,959
Social security costs	**40,255**	40,182
Pension costs	**30,379**	30,515
	617,799	622,656

Particulars of employees:

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Administrative staff	**9**	9
Tutorial staff	**13**	13
Maintenance staff	**1**	1
Catering and domestic staff	**7**	7
	30	30

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

11 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and the cost of key management personnel (continued)

No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000 during the current or prior year.

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel, as determined by the Charity, is £180,379 (2020: £159,816) during the current period.

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The contributions paid into the scheme in respect of eligible employees for the year ended 31 December 2021 amounted to £30,379 (2020: £30,515).

No Trustees received any remuneration during the current or prior period. No Trustee received any expenses for their role as Trustees in the current or prior period.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Property £	Leasehold Property £	Motor Vehicles & trailers £	Fixtures Fittings & equipment £	Totals £
Cost					
At 1 January 2021	4,184,940	76,456	217,352	593,868	5,072,616
Additions	-	-	62,830	-	62,830
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2021	**4,184,940**	**76,456**	**280,182**	**593,868**	**5,135,446**
Depreciation					
At 1 January 2021	975,717	44,607	164,080	580,606	1,765,010
Charge for the year	83,699	3,058	15,935	13,262	115,954
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2021	**1,059,416**	**47,665**	**180,015**	**593,868**	**1,880,964**
Net book value At 31 December 2021	**3,125,524**	**28,791**	**100,167**	**-**	**3,254,482**
At 31 December 2020	3,209,223	31,849	53,272	13,262	3,307,606

The freehold at Bendrigg Lodge was transferred from the Mary Kinross Trust on 12 March 1985 as a gift. The freehold is not included in the financial statements as an asset but has a substantial market value.

The freehold at Fell End was transferred from the trustees of Kirkbie Kendal School on the 7th July 1999 for the sum of £100. This freehold is not included in the financial statements as an asset and has a limited market value.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

12 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

The freehold property reported above, have a net book value of £3,125,524, relates to the capitalised cost of property developments (including Acorn House) that have taken place on the Bendrigg site subsequent to the original gift of Bendrigg Lodge.

A 25 year lease on Greenslack was agreed in April 2006 and this is the only leasehold held by the Trust.

13 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	4,100	1,544
Other debtors	-	25,867
Prepayments	3,982	2,949
VAT recoverable	4,864	-
	12,946	30,360

14 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

		2021	2020
		£	£
Trade creditors		22,788	4,195
Taxation and social security		-	21,647
Bank loan		250,000	-
Other creditors		2,562	355
Accruals		5,569	5,419
Deferred income	Note 16	145,900	107,800
		426,819	139,416

15 Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

		2021	2020
		£	£
Deferred income	Note 16	-	31,418
		-	31,418

16 Deferred income

	2021	2020
	£	£
Balance brought forward	139,218	102,802
Course fees received in advance	87,467	103,331
Release of deferred income	(80,785)	(66,915)
	145,900	139,218

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

17 Restricted funds: Current year

	Note	At 1 January 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2021
		£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds						
Restricted funds income	**18**	137,888	96,266	(97,622)	(62,561)	**73,971**
Restricted funds capital		3,237,734	-	-	(60,917)	**3,176,817**
Total funds		**3,375,622**	**96,266**	**(97,622)**	**(123,478)**	**3,250,788**

Restricted funds: Prior year

	Note	At 1 January 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2020
		£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds						
Restricted funds income	**18**	53,880	155,615	(47,940)	(23,667)	**137,888**
Restricted funds capital		3,325,544	-	-	(87,810)	**3,237,734**
					-	
Total funds		**3,379,424**	**155,615**	**(47,940)**	**(111,477)**	**3,375,622**

Restricted capital funds are made up of incoming resources given specifically to acquire fixed assets, as reduced over the useful economic life of those assets in line with thier depreciation £3,176,817 (2020: £3,237,734).

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

18 Restricted income funds: Current year

	At 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2021 £
Climbing club	-	**13,102**	(4,342)	-	**8,760**
Sponsored Courses	72,106	**13,568**	(50,170)	-	**35,504**
Outdoor Equipment	6,074	**3,500**	(8,124)	-	**1,450**
Disability Aids	183	**-**	(183)	-	**-**
Sensory Room	560	**-**	-	-	**560**
Minibus	54,394	**8,500**	(333)	(62,561)	**-**
Trainee Coordinator	-	**30,265**	(13,654)	-	**16,611**
Trainee - Training	-	**2,000**	(1,040)	-	**960**
Family Rooms	3,925	**-**	(3,925)	-	**-**
Hardship Fund	646	**-**	(646)	-	**-**
Hidden Disabilities Project	-	**11,206**	(1,080)	-	**10,126**
Fundraising Database	-	**2,500**	(2,500)	-	**-**
Renewable Energy Study	-	**11,625**	(11,625)	-	**-**
Restricted income funds	**137,888**	**96,266**	**(97,622)**	**(62,561)**	**73,971**

Restricted funds: Prior year

	At 1 January 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2020 £
Climbing Club	4,452	-	(165)	(4,287)	**-**
Fundraising & Marketing Post	1,432	-	(1,432)	-	**-**
Sponsored Courses	18,997	90,634	(38,353)	828	**72,106**
Outdoor Equipment	10,234	2,500	(2,207)	(4,453)	**6,074**
Staff Clothes	-	120	(100)	(20)	**-**
Disability Aids	183	-	-	-	**183**
Sensory Room	560	-	-	-	**560**
Minibus	333	54,061	-	-	**54,394**
Trainee Coordinator	16,861	-	(1,954)	(14,907)	**-**
Scottish Power Foundation	828	-	-	(828)	**-**
Family Rooms	-	5,800	(1,875)	-	**3,925**
Hardship Fund	-	2,500	(1,854)	-	**646**
Restricted income funds	**53,880**	**155,615**	**(47,940)**	**(23,667)**	**137,888**

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

18 Restricted income funds (continued)

Climbing Club: funds used to support an inclusive climbing club which allows teenagers of all abilities to learn to climb in a safe, supported and fun environment.

Fundraising and Marketing Post: supports the cost of our Senior Fundraising & Marketing Officer to oversee the voluntary income generation of the charity.

Sponsored Courses: enables bursaries to be given to some groups who without it would not be able to afford to come to Bendrigg.

Outdoor Equipment: enables specific pieces of equipment to be purchased.

Disability Aids: enables specific disability aids to be purchased.

Sensory Room: funding received enabled the sensory room to be upgraded.

Minibus: to provide for a new minibus.

Trainee Co-ordinator: to fund a post which supervises the work and the development of trainee tutors.

Trainee - Training: to support training courses for our trainee tutors.

Family Rooms: funding received to enable some bedrooms to be used as family living space.

Hardship Fund: funding received to top-up staff salaries when required.

Hidden Disability Project: funding to create 15 social story books and videos aimed at people with autistic spectrum disorder and other hidden disabilities.

Fundraising Database: grant received to cover the cost of installing a new fundraising database.

Renewable Energy: grant received to undertake a Renewable Energy Feasibility Study on the Bendrigg site.

Scottish Power Foundation: to fund specific activities around our 'Adventure For All' programme including sponsorship funds, creating funding resources for visitors and showcasing our work through inspirational films.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

19 Unrestricted income funds: Current year

	At 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2021 £
General Funds	385,055	827,028	(912,586)	123,478	**422,975**
Unrestricted funds	**385,055**	**827,028**	**(912,586)**	**123,478**	**422,975**

Unrestricted income funds: Prior year

	At 1 January 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2020 £
Designated Funds					
Designated Funds	-	-	-	-	-
General Funds	485,087	656,653	(868,162)	111,477	**385,055**
Unrestricted funds	**485,087**	**656,653**	**(868,162)**	**111,477**	**385,055**

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

20 Analysis of fund transfers

	Total £
Transfers to cover shortfalls on funds	(271)
Annual transfer in respect of restricted fixed asset funds	123,749
Total transfers	**123,478**

21 Analysis of net assets between funds: Current year

	Tangible fixed assets £	Cash £	Net current assets excl. cash £	Long term liabilities £	Total £
Restricted funds	3,176,817	73,971	-	-	3,250,788
General funds	77,665	748,072	(402,762)	-	422,975
Total funds	**3,254,482**	**822,043**	**(402,762)**	-	**3,673,763**

Analysis of net assets between funds: Prior year

	Tangible fixed assets £	Cash £	Net current assets excl. cash £	Long term liabilities £	Total £
Restricted funds	3,236,078	139,544	-	-	3,375,622
Designated funds	-	-	-	-	-
General funds	71,528	446,720	(101,775)	(31,418)	385,055
Total funds	**3,307,606**	**586,264**	**(101,775)**	**(31,418)**	**3,760,677**

22 Operating lease commitments

At 31 December 2021, the total of the Charity's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2021	2020
Amounts payable:		
Within 1 year	**788**	189
Between 1 and 5 years	**3,743**	-
	4,531	189

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

23 Contingencies

The charity received lottery grants totalling £243,364 during the financial years 1999 and 2000 to fund the development of improvements to the accommodation in Bendrigg Lodge and also a grant of £200,000 between 2007 and 2008 towards the construction of the Kinross Building. The charity may not dispose of these buildings without prior written permission of the lottery board, nor use the buildings as security for a loan. This restriction shall be in force for 80 years from the date of the grants.

24 Control and related party transactions

The charity was under the control of the Board of Trustees who are also directors for the purposes of company law in both the current and prior period.

The charity has a very close relationship with The Bendrigg Support Trust. The Support Trust was established for the purpose of supporting the work of the Bendrigg Trust. A revenue grant of £20,000 (2020: £nil) was received during the year. Mr J Holmes, Mr T Lowe and Miss R Hodgson, Trustees, are also Trustees of the Bendrigg Support Trust along with an independent trustee, Mr R Brownson.

The charity also has a close relationship with The Mary Kinross Charitable Trust through an influential member who is also on the Bendrigg Alternative Committee. Total grants received during the year total £50,000 (2020: £34,300): permission continues to be given to use these towards general expenses of the charity.

During the year the charity incurred costs of £1,110 (2020: £1,012) relating to indemnity insurance for the trustees.

There were no outstanding balances with related parties at 31 December 2021 or 31 December 2020.

25 Subsequent events

After the balance sheet date, but before the approval of the accounts, the Charity was notified of a successful claim on its insurance for business interruption during the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020. A receipt is expected of approximately £228,700 to cover the shortfall in income due to the impact of restrictions.

26 Company Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee. In event of the company being wound up or dissolved, each member undertakes to contribute such amounts as is required, not exceeding £5, for payment of any debts or liabilities.

REFERENCES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity name: Bendrigg Trust
Charity Registration number: 508450
Company Registration number: 01396557
Registered office: Bendrigg Lodge, Old Hutton, Kendal LA8 0NR

Trustees:
The Trustees who served the company during the period were as follows:

Rachael Hodgson, Chairman
Adrian Walter, Vice Chairman
Kim Parry LVO, Treasurer
Kay Foster (appointed 28 January 2021)
Clare Millington (resigned 27 May 2021)
Shelagh McGregor
Jeremy Prall (appointed 28 January 2021)
Judy Rayner
John Holmes MBE
Brian McDonough
Peter Bates
Tom Hibbert
Anne Fleck
Tim Lowe

Company Secretary: Nicholas Liley

Patrons:
Sir Chris Bonington CVO CBE DL
Claire Hensman, Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria
Jamie Andrew
Karen Darke

Auditor: MHA Moore & Smalley, Priory Close, St Mary's Gate, Lancaster, Lancashire, LA1 1XB

Bankers: National Westminster Bank, 10 Elephant Yard, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4LZ
COIF Charity Funds, CCLA, Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4ET

AAIA ADVENTUREMARK

AHOEC
GOLD STANDARD

DofE

Institute for Outdoor Learning
Adventure for ALL
Special Interest Group

Quality Badge awarded by
Council for Learning Outside the Classroom

ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES
AALA
LICENSING AUTHORITY

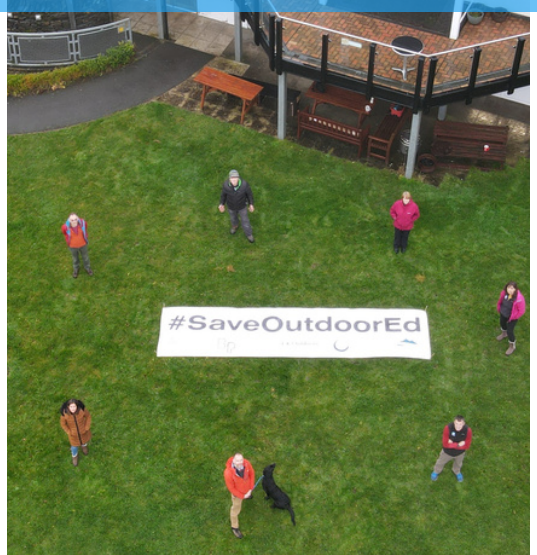
BENDRIGG TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 508450

Accounts

BENDRIGG TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020



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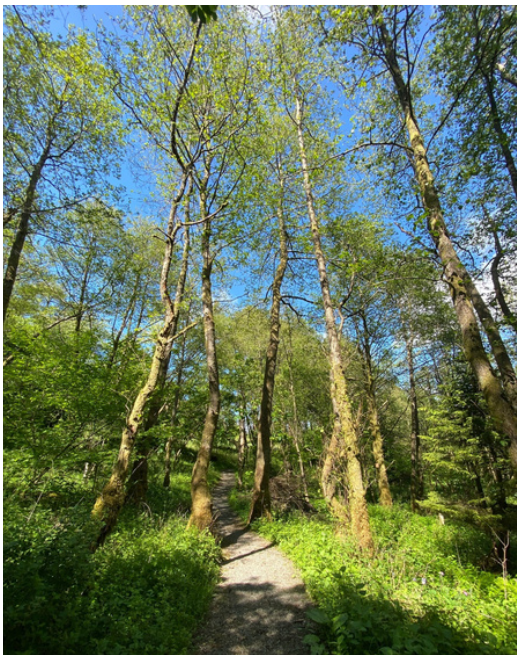


CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Rachael Hodgson
Chairman

We entered 2020 in an immensely positive manner holding our first Engagement Day, including representatives from all stakeholders in Bendrigg, as we 'brainstormed' ideas for our future in every aspect of our organisation. As we progressed into March, the pandemic took hold: we had no concept of the enormity of the challenges that would face Bendrigg – and the world – throughout the rest of the year and into 2021.

Yet the Bendrigg spirit has flourished throughout this time – amongst staff, trustees, visitors, funders and supporters – and is helping to drive us through this crisis. Also, we cannot express the depth of our thanks to all of our funders who have donated so generously throughout this period. They, along with the Governments furlough scheme and the astute financial management provided by our senior staff, trustees and auditors, are ensuring that Bendrigg can look forward with confidence to the summer of 2021 when we open our doors - and beyond.

Our great thanks go to all of our staff team who have remained so positive and supportive despite the majority being on furlough for the greater part of the year and to our Principal, Nick Liley who has kept staff updated on developments in monthly Teams Meetings. Again, on behalf of everyone at Bendrigg, I express our immense gratitude to all of our funders: your generosity throughout 2020 is truly beyond measure.

Our deep thanks go to Simon Drummond-Hay who has served as a trustee for over 16 years: his dedication and contribution to Bendrigg has been second to none. We are delighted that Kay Foster and Jeremy Prall will formally become trustees in 2021: they have both already given a great amount of time to Bendrigg as volunteers. To all of our trustees, a deep thank you: 2020 has been an exceptionally demanding year which has necessitated significantly more of their time including additional meetings, both formal and informal – albeit all on Teams.

As we progress through the spring of 2021 we are able to look to the future. Feedback from the Engagement Day in January 2020 is now a part of our strategic planning: we look forward with hope and aspirations - reflecting the depth of support and trust given to Bendrigg by all of our stakeholders and, of key importance, the hugely professional and inspirational leadership of our Principal, Nick Liley.

As we reflect on the enormity of events in 2020 to all of you we give a heartfelt, "Thank you". We are now in a position where we can offer all that Bendrigg has to provide to those who need this more than ever before.

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020. This report includes the requirements of a directors' report as required by company law.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

OUR MISSION

To **promote inclusion**, **encourage independence** and **build self-confidence** through the provision of **adventurous activities**

OUR VISION

An **inclusive society** where **everyone is equal**

OUR VALUES

SOLUTIONS NOT PROBLEMS — Everyone is different. With a flexible approach, we adapt & encourage everyone to achieve their potential.

PEOPLE — We listen & empathise; working together to support & value everyone for the part they play.

OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT — We value our natural environment. Together with our visitors, we foster a sense of appreciation & environmental awareness.

OUTDOOR LEARNING — We believe in the long term benefits of outdoor learning & the essential part it plays in the growth & development of our visitors.

INNOVATION — As a specialist centre, we are forward thinking, pioneering & continually developing to ensure we remain a leader in our field.

SAFETY/RISK BENEFIT — Everyone's wellbeing is paramount in everything we do & we believe in the benefits of adventure & learning to manage risk.

OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES

At Bendrigg Trust, we understand the importance of empowering disabled people with the attitudes, skills and behaviours they need to make positive decisions in their lives. Ultimately this will enable them to thrive in their education, at home and socially, throughout their lives. We do this through:

Residential Experience

Research has shown that residentials:

- impact on relationships between peers, as well as between staff and students
- develop resilience, self-confidence and well-being
- improve engagement with learning, behaviour and being prepared for transitions into new environments

Social Inclusion

Social inclusion involves making meaningful connections and participating in fulfilling activities. Supportive adults outside the home can foster trust and act as gatekeepers for the future. Research shows that feeling socially included can reduce loneliness, increase happiness and improve mental and physical health.

Inclusive Adventure

Adventure provides opportunities for individuals to respond to challenge and uncertainty. When positively experienced, this encourages them to embrace, rather than avoid, challenge and uncertainty in the future. Research confirms that adventure in natural environments improves outcomes such as self-efficacy, resilience and well-being.

Strategically, we aim to :

- **Be financially sustainable**
- **Exhibit effective governance & inspirational leadership**
- **Develop our staff and deliver excellence**
- **Be at the forefront of activity delivery for people with disabilities**
- **Continuously improve safety standards**
- **Maintain excellence in the Bendrigg facilities**

KEY OBJECTIVES FOR 2020

Continue to deliver programmes of life enhancing and stimulating personal development courses to our visitors and achieve occupancy of 8,795 bed nights in the Lodge and Acorn House.	Partially met	The bed night occupancy achieved in 2020 was 1,332. This consisted of 22 group residentials between January and March for a total of 469 people. The Covid-19 pandemic stopped any further residential visits for the rest of the year.
Provide volunteer placements for offenders or those at risk of offending through the Bendrigg Alternative Scheme	Partially met	Despite only running for 3 months, 7 placements supporting 5 individuals were organised in 2020.
Strive to improve the current financial position of the Trust by achieving a budget surplus	Not met	Due to the effects of the pandemic, the expected £1,500 budgeted surplus was not met and like many charities we saw a deficit for the year.
Build a 5-year strategy by liaising with stakeholders to help shape the future of Bendrigg and inform the creation of a long-term business strategy	Partially met	Over 70 stakeholders came together in January to have their say in the future of Bendrigg. Unfortunately the creation of a long-term business strategy was delayed by the pandemic but is expected to continue in 2021.
Achieve a revenue income target from visitor fees of £833,728	Not met	Visitor income was heavily impacted by the pandemic and was £670,000 lower than expected. This is a loss of over 80%
Achieve a fundraising target of £463,000 for the year	Exceeded	We exceeded our fundraising target by £184,000 for the year. This was only possible thanks to Government grants and the continued support of our funders and supporters.

ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

2020 AT A GLANCE

ENGAGEMENT DAY

In January we invited several stakeholders together to share feedback and ideas to help shape the future of Bendrigg. There were 7 key focus points all based around our core values - Environment, Innovation, Keeping The Magic Alive, Financial Sustainability, Who Are We For, Community Engagement & Cultural Journey. By focusing our discussions around key areas for development, we are now able to develop future plans, both short and long term, based on this collaborative feedback.

> ***Over the years I have attended many, many events similar to the one you held yesterday, however, I have to say I have never attended one with such passion, such commitment or such enthusiasm.Yesterday for me showed the true "magic" of Bendrigg.***
>
> Kelly Piper, Leisure For All Manager

CLIMBING FESTIVAL

In January Bendrigg hosted a climbing festival for people with learning disabilities. The weekend long festival was the first of its kind in the UK and saw 13 participants take on various climbing challenges at Bendrigg's climbing wall and Kendal climbing wall. We had several GB Paraclimbers volunteer for the weekend working alongside the Bendrigg Tutors and they provided inspirational talks and presentations for the group.

> ***We couldn't fault anything! The festival was a perfect mix of climbing, learning different skills and about different climbing grips. Having pro climbers talk and spend time with us has been amazing. They were so passionate and encouraging.***
>
> Ash & Ryan - Climbing Festival Participants

STAYING CONNECTED

Throughout the pandemic we have kept in touch with our visitors. Whether that be to rearrange group bookings, to carry out market research to direct our future plans and services, or through social media, our blog and e-newsletter. We have worked hard to keep people informed about what services we can offer, what safety measures we are putting in place and signposting people to helpful resources and news articles.

ADAPTED SERVICES

Bendrigg had to close its doors to residential visitors in March due to the pandemic. Although our regular services could not run, we worked hard to put safety measures in place for when we could reopen. After hearing how desperate families were for a safe outdoor space, we quickly adapted and opened our grounds for families and support bubbles to access. We also provided full and half days of adventure activities when restrictions lifted further.

> ***We took part in the archery, bike riding and we used the tube slide. We had a great day, not just my disabled daughter, but also my other two children who were shielding to keep their sister safe. It was a lovely treat after a very tough few months and great fun was had by all..***
>
> Nicola Elson - Family Day Activities

WINTER WONDERLAND

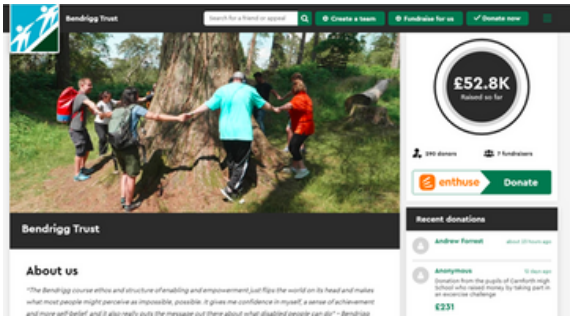
Our grounds access days were in such high demand in the summer and with another Christmas lockdown looking likely, we wanted to host a Christmas themed event where people could come and enjoy a festive trail around our grounds. Our yurt was dressed up as a "Santa's grotto" with a Bendrigg Elf presenting a gift to each child.

> ***"It is extremely important for our family to have access to safe outdoor space, especially as we have been so restricted since lockdown. It was wonderful seeing my son being able to run through the woodland areas, leading the way and giving him some independence."***
>
> Andrew, Julia & Lucas - Event Attendees

CAMPAIGN TO SAVE OUTDOOR EDUCATION

In October 2020 UK Outdoors launched the Save Outdoor Education Campaign. The campaign was initially for Government to allow school residentials to go ahead, but as the second wave of the pandemic struck it became apparent that without government funding, many outdoor centres would not survive. The focus then shifted to asking for sector specific funding and support.

Read more on our blog.



NEW IT SERVICES

Thanks to funding from Cumbria Chamber of Commerce, we were able to make some improvements to our website in early 2020 including new integrated fundraising and donation pages, an impact calculator and improvements to our Search Engine Optimisation (SEO). Through the year, as the extent of the pandemic became apparent and the need for home-working increased, we appointed an external IT company to support our growing IT needs.

> *For all the incredible work you all do at Bendrigg - very inspirational and life-changing for so many! Special shout out to Beth, little legend, huge heart combined with her adventurous spirit makes Bendrigg such a memorable place.*
>
> Fiona Coleman - Resilience Campaign supporter

RESILIENCE CAMPAIGN

As the UK entered lockdown the first lockdown, we launched our first ever emergency appeal for funds. The future was, and still is, uncertain for many small charities but thanks to the amazing generosity of our supporters our Resilience Campaign raised over £36,500 in just 4 weeks. These funds helped to cover our unavoidable costs in the first few months of the lockdown and we are grateful to everyone who donated.

> *Just wanted to support a fabulous trust. I know first hand the brilliant work you do. As a retired teacher countless pupils and their families I used to work with have benefitted from the "Bendrigg Experience".*
>
> Dafydd Evans - Resilience Campaign supporter

HIDDEN DISABILITIES STAFF TRAINING

From January to March 2020 our staff took part in a variety of training focusing on 'Hidden Disabilities'. This included Makaton training for 13 staff members as well as a training afternoon with a Mum of twins with hidden disabilities. We hope to continue improving our services for people with Hidden Disabilities throughout 2021 and beyond.

ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising has been paramount to the survival of Bendrigg Trust throughout the pandemic. As we have not had any income from residential courses since March 2020, the Bendrigg fundraising team has worked incredibly hard to make up for the resulting loss of income. This has included:

Hiring a Trusts and Foundations Officer *to cover maternity leave and fill the need for additional grant applications*

Creating a fundraising working group *to research and collate information about trusts and foundations to apply for funding*

Our Fundraising and Marketing Officer worked full time *throughout the pandemic to carry out all other vital fundraising tasks*

Bridget Moss joined the team in October 2020 as maternity cover for our Senior Fundraising & Marketing Officer. Bridget has brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to the team at a vital time for our small charity and has quickly become part of the Bendrigg Family.

There is no doubt that funding from charitable Trusts and Foundations has been incredibly important for Bendrigg this year. **We are grateful to all of our funders for their understanding and flexibility in terms of their grants to us.** We would particularly like to thank the **ScottishPower Foundation, Mary Kinross Charity Trust** and **Bendrigg Support Trust** whose continuing support is much appreciated. Whilst our normal operations and projects were unable to proceed, many funders allowed us to unrestrict their funding and use the funds to ensure the survival of Bendrigg. **Without this trust and commitment from funders, Bendrigg may not have been able to continue. No words can express our gratitude to our funding partners for believing in the importance of our work.**

Here are a number of our successful applications from this year :

ScottishPower Foundation grant for our innovative Hidden Disabilities project

Sport England Community Emergency Fund to help us cover part of our core costs

Cumbria County Council Short Breaks funding to provide day activities for local families

Cumbria Chamber of Commerce Funding for upgrades to website and IT systems

An enormous thank you must go to the many individual donors who have kept Bendrigg going over the past year. We have seen our regular donors not only stick with us through difficult and uncertain financial times but also increase their giving. Individuals, both known and new to Bendrigg, have supported our fundraising campaigns either through their own donations or by fundraising on our behalf. Individuals have also chosen to remember their loved ones with 'In Memory' donations to Bendrigg or by leaving a donation in their Will. It is a simple fact that Bendrigg might not be here without these wonderful people who together, make a huge difference to our work. Thank you.

ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

FUNDRAISING

Although many of our fundraising events were suspended or cancelled due to the pandemic, we still saw huge support through our digital fundraising campaigns.

ONLINE CAMPAIGNS

The Resilience Campaign

In March 2020 we launched an online Resilience Campaign in response to the inevitable loss of income due to the pandemic. It is our most successful online fundraiser to date with donations amounting to over £36,000 in just 4 weeks. These funds enabled us to keep a small team of vital staff working to plan for the future, fundraise and work towards our Covid Good to Go status.

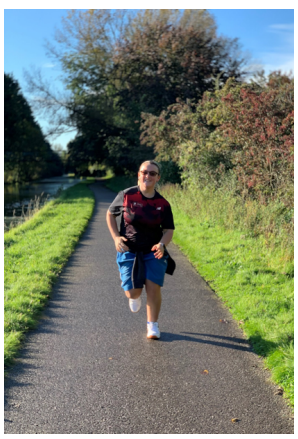
The Big Give Christmas Challenge

After the success of the Resilience Campaign earlier in the year, we were unsure if individuals would be able to give again during our Big Give Christmas Challenge, as many faced hardship themselves due to the pandemic. We set ourselves a target of £10,000 but over the 7 day challenge raised a staggering £24,153 with gift aid. In early 2020 we were also awarded the first prize of £3,000 for our 2019 campaign.

theBigGive
CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE
1—8 DECEMBER 2020

VIRTUAL EVENTS

Many fundraising events went 'virtual' in 2020 and we are grateful to all of our supporters who took part in events such as the 2.6 challenge, virtual London Marathon and the virtual Great North Run 'Solo'. Each individual taking part rose to the challenge and raised vital funds in difficult circumstances.



the 2.6 challenge
Save the UK's Charities

GREAT RUN SOLO

CORPORATE SUPPORT

Despite organisations facing an unprecedented year of hardship, we were fortunate to be supported by a number of corporate and organisational partners, both old and new.

Special thanks must go to Cicerone Press, who donated £7,000 during the year; the Roofbox Company for their continued financial and gift in kind support; and the Saunders Lakeland Mountain Marathon for supporting Bendrigg for the first time.

CICERONE

SAUNDERS

THE ROOF BOX COMPANY

FUNDRAISING STANDARDS

Integrity

Transparency

Honesty

Donors to Bendrigg Trust can be assured that we comply with the regulatory standards for fundraising. **We are voluntarily registered with the Fundraising Regulator** and are committed to the Fundraising Promise and comply with all the relevant standards set out in the **Code of Fundraising Practice**. Our Senior Fundraising & Marketing Officer is a member of the **Chartered Institute of Fundraising**.

Our fundraising effort involves encouraging donations and gifts from individuals, running and supporting fundraising events, engaging with corporate partners and applying for grants from Charitable Trusts and Foundations. These **fundraising activities are organised and managed by our in-house fundraisers with no external professional or commercial fundraisers used**. We encourage any individual, business or third-party fundraising, on our behalf, to inform us of their fundraising activities and also adhere to the **Code of Fundraising Practice**.

Our website outlines our **Fundraising Policy** which sets out measures to protect the public, including vulnerable people, from unreasonable intrusion, unreasonably persistent approaches or undue pressure. This policy also includes our Complaints Policy which clearly explains how an individual can complain. **We received one complaint in the 2020 financial year regarding the ethics of fundraising during a pandemic. This complaint was dealt with in-line with our Complaints Policy.**

We respond to all complaints within 10 days. Complaints are dealt with in-line with our fundraising Complaints Policy. Serious complaints are escalated to our Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and Trustees so they can consider lessons learnt.

We have published our **Safeguarding Policy** on our website. We are also signed up to the **Fundraising Preference Service** to enable individuals to opt out from receiving fundraising communications from us. **We received zero requests from this service last year.**

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Code of Fundraising Practice

Our Fundraising Policy

Our Safeguarding Policy

LOOKING FORWARD

The Engagement Day at the beginning of 2020 was key to us gaining an insight from various stakeholders in order to plan and prepare for the future. With the pandemic affecting the outdoor education sector particularly hard, Bendrigg will continue to develop and adapt in order to tackle the challenges faced by disabled people.

At the end of 2020 we cautiously made plans for 2021 knowing that the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic would continue to be felt for many years. Although the future remains uncertain, Bendrigg remains hopeful that we will weather the storm and continue to provide accessible adventures now and in the future. We hope to continue with any delayed projects in 2022.

In 2021 we plan to:

Still on track

- Reopen our doors to residential visitors in the summer of 2021 after a long period of closure
- Set up a Disability Advisory Group for Bendrigg Trust
- Continue to ensure the financial security of Bendrigg Trust throughout the pandemic
- Develop a Theory of Change model and produce a revised Strategic Plan
- Develop new resources to support people with hidden disabilities
- Carry out a feasibility study to create a more energy efficient and sustainable future for the Trust
- Continue to support National Governing Bodies including developing a new "Climbing for All" booklet

Delayed

- Develop Bendrigg activities to provide new challenges
- Improve our 'Oakwood' building including upgraded accommodation for staff and accessible toilet block
- Start consultation on our next big capital campaign, the refurbishment of the main Lodge
- Develop our climbing club by becoming NICAS registered

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustee Board is sensitive to potential risks to which the charity may be exposed.

Risk Register
The management of risk by Bendrigg Trust is based upon a Risk Register ('the Register') which has been in use since February 2017. The Register is kept under active consideration by the Principal and is reviewed every 6 months by the Risk Register Committee, which consists of the Principal and up to 3 Trustees.

The last bi-annual review of the Register was on 25th January 2021. This included specific focus on the risks posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, this being an addition to the Register being made in March 2020.

Responsibilities
The Risk Committee reports to the Trustees in Council. Risk Management is ultimately the responsibility of all Trustees. It is the Trustees duty (assisted by the Risk Committee) to identify risks, to devise systems for managing those risks (or ensure that proper systems have been devised) and to monitor these systems to ensure that they are being put into effect.

The risks considered in the register are considered under five headings:

Governance

Financial

Law & Regulation Compliance Risk

External

Operational

Covid-19 Pandemic
In addition to the above sections, recent events required a review of the risks posed by the Covid-19 crisis. The Register remains under active review during the Covid-19 pandemic by Trustees and the Bendrigg Trust's management team.
The Trust is following Government legislation and guidelines on an ongoing basis to ensure it is meeting standards of best practice. The health and welfare of staff, volunteers and visitors is of the utmost priority. The significant risk to Bendrigg Trust posed by the Covid-19 pandemic remains financial, therefore, the financial implications of the crisis are being closely monitored by the Trustees and steps are being put in place to mitigate these risks.

Public Benefit
From 2008, the Charities Act has required all charities to meet the legal requirement that its aims are for the public benefit. For this to be true there must be an identifiable benefit and the benefit must be to the public or a section of the public.

The Trustees are satisfied that the aims and objectives of the charity, and the activities reported on in its annual report to achieve those aims, meet these principles.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) for the year ended 31 December 2020 shows an all funds deficit of £103,834 (2019: surplus of £33,458), made up from an unrestricted deficit of £100,032 and a restricted deficit of £3,802. The total deficit was deducted from the reserves brought forward from previous years of £3,864,511, to give total reserves at the balance sheet date of £3,760,677.

The all funds deficit has resulted from an inevitably difficult year, during which Bendrigg has been responding to the many challenges presented by the ongoing effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. Most fundamentally, the Bendrigg site has been closed to residential clients for most of the year under review, meaning a very significant reduction in income from our normal charitable activities, down from £734,840 in 2019 to £162,680 in 2020. To offset this huge reduction in client income we have continued to receive outstanding support from our donors and supporters through the year, for which we are immensely grateful. In addition the Government's 'Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme' (CJRS) has also played a very significant role, contributing £243,000 towards the costs of our staff team while they have been on furlough leave. This combination of incredible support from our donors and very welcome CJRS grant income has served to protect the organisation from a level of deficit that would otherwise have been much more damaging to our longer term sustainability.

The Balance Sheet at 31 December confirmed net assets of £3,760,677, with net current assets of £484,489 (2019: £431,048) and net cash balances of £586,264 (2019: £561,341). It is important to emphasise that the majority of the cash balance related to unrestricted funds, with £446,720 held as unrestricted and £139,544 held for restricted purposes (see note 21, page 41); this cash position provides the organisation with good financial resilience for the uncertainties that we will continue to encounter during the year ahead. The Balance Sheet also shows the carrying value of our property and other fixed assets, at £3,307,606, most of which are funded by the restricted capital funds.

The Cash Flow Statement provides the detail of the cash movements during the year to 31 December, showing that the overall net cash position has strengthened slightly during the course of this difficult period. Given the large deficit in the Statement of Financial Activities this positive cash change during the year might seem anomalous, though this is explained by the large non-cash depreciation charge that is expensed in the SoFA but added back for the purpose of the Cash Flow Statement. This positive year on year movement also serves to re-emphasise the huge role played by our donors and the CJRS during an extremely challenging period.

Overall the Financial Statements reflect a relatively robust position after such a difficult year; and in particular our unrestricted cashflows have been more resilient than we might have anticipated at the beginning of the pandemic, in large part due to the generosity of our supporters and the extent of the support made available by Government, and also as a result of the lifting of various donor restrictions during the year. We should also emphasise the immense effort and hard work undertaken by the Bendrigg management team over the last year, as this has clearly made a very significant contribution to the financial position at the end of the period. We are also very grateful to the team at Moore & Smalley, our auditors, for their support and guidance over the year.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Going Concern

The early part of the new financial year has continued to prove challenging, with ongoing restrictions in force and with some considerable remaining uncertainty about the timing of a return to pre-pandemic operating capacities. Bendrigg has done well to resist the worst effects of the pandemic so far, but there are still some significant challenges that lie ahead. It is in this context that the management team and trustees have successfully applied for a Government-backed Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme facility from NatWest Bank, with a view to these funds being drawn-down and held as a reserve fund. This facility will only be utilised with the express approval of the Board and will not form part of the day to day unrestricted cashflow of the organisation.

Reserves Policy

Free reserves available for use by the Charity are deemed to be those that are realisable, minus funds whose uses are restricted or else designated for particular purposes. The calculation thus excludes funds of £3.6million invested in property and other fixed assets that will continue to be used in the day-to-day running of the charity.

As a matter of policy, each year the Trustees review the value of the reserves retained in the form of investments, cash and cash equivalents not held for restrictive purposes or designated projects. The Board considers the Charity's exposure to major risks, in terms of their likely impact on its income sources and planned expenditure in the short to medium term, as well as assessing the best way to mitigate such risks. With income, the major risk is from a decline in course fees, particularly due to the continuing economic situation and other factors leading to reduced bookings and donations.

Given the circumstances that have developed since the Balance Sheet date, the Trustees have had to re-consider their normal approach to the consideration of the Reserves Policy. In previous years we have established a target range for free reserves, based upon holding an amount equivalent to at least four months' worth of normal expenditure. Where funds exceeded the reserve requirement, we considered these to be 'free reserves', available for use on other unrestricted projects or similar. In the current Covid-19 circumstances, we have decided to adopt an alternative approach, for the duration of the effects of the pandemic, where all of our unrestricted funds (including any designated funds) are re-purposed entirely towards enabling the Trust to overcome the financial effects of the pandemic. As a result our entire unrestricted funds balance of £385,055 are now re-purposed to our Covid-19 response, as are all available cash balances. Our normal Reserves Policy will therefore remain suspended until such time as the Trustees consider it appropriate and sensible for this to be re-instated.

If our normal Reserves Policy were to be applied as at 31 December, we would be reporting that we were carrying around 4 months of operating cost cover at the balance sheet date.

GOVERNANCE, STRUCTURE & MANAGEMENT

Constitution

Bendrigg Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 27 October 1978 and registered as a charity on 15 February 1979.

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which contains the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed in accordance with its Articles of Association. The subscribers are referred to as Members. In the event of the company being wound up, the Members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £5.

The principal objective of the charity is to provide high quality courses for disabled and disadvantaged people. It aims to promote inclusion, encourage independence and build self-confidence through the use of residential experience and the safe provision of adventurous activities delivered by dedicated, qualified staff.

Trustees, Recruitment and Induction

Bendrigg Trust recognises that a robust, independent and effective Board of Trustees is essential if the charity is to achieve its objects.

New Trustees are invited to provide a CV and meet the Principal and the Chairman of the Trustees. Those without background knowledge of Bendrigg are given a tour and invited to attend Council and/or Management Committee meetings before they commit themselves. The aim is to have a varied and diverse Trustee Board with a mix of skills that match Bendrigg's needs.

After being elected, a new Trustee is provided with the main documents which set out the operational framework of the charity including the Memorandum and Articles, business plan and financial statements. Many Trustees make frequent visits to Bendrigg, in some cases at least weekly, giving rise to an easy and informal relationship with the Principal, the rest of the staff and other Trustees.

The Directors of the Company are also Trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the Company's Articles are known as Trustees and make up the Council.

Under the Articles, the Trustees are elected to serve a period of three years. Of the elected Trustees, one third retire every year and are eligible for re-election. Those Trustees retiring are those who have been longest in office since their last election.

Organisational Structure & Governance
The Council meets quarterly (although during the Pandemic, were meeting on a monthly basis and more recently every two months) and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. Sub-committees consider the detail and report to the Council.
Sub-committees are as follows:

RISK REGISTER COMMITTEE

Overseeing the charity's Risk Register.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Considering finance, health and safety, activities, insurance, buildings and grounds.

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

Meeting as and when required to oversee any major capital building project.

APPEALS COMMITTEE

Determining any appeal from a decision of the HR committee and resolving any grievance raised under the staff grievance procedure.

HR COMMITTEE

Overseeing all Human Resource matters including disciplinary issues.

FUNDRAISING & MARKETING COMMITTEE

Overseeing the marketing and fundraising plans, policies and procedures of the centre.

BENDRIGG ALTERNATIVE COMMITTEE

Dedicated to the Bendrigg Alternative scheme for offenders.

Further to the sub-committees, working groups are also formed to oversee specific projects for a set period of time. Working groups active in 2020 included:

FUNDRAISING WORKING GROUP

Supporting the Fundraising Team with trusts and foundations fundraising.

STRATEGIC & BUSINESS PLAN WORKING GROUP

Responsible for reviewing and writing a new five year business and strategic plan.

IT & TELECOMS WORKING GROUP

Overseeing the IT and telephone infrastructure.

Staff
The day-to-day running of Bendrigg lies with the Principal and through him, the Senior Management team. The Trustees are grateful to all members of staff for all their support during a particularly difficult year. Bendrigg Trust seeks to be an employer of choice and reviews on an annual basis the level of remuneration and other benefits awarded to staff.

Pay Policy for Senior Staff
Bendrigg Trust's approach to paying senior staff is to appropriately reward staff for the work they do. It recognises the need to ensure value for money for the charity, balanced with the need to recruit and retain staff. The Board of Trustees is responsible for defining the policy and deciding on the salaries of the Principal and Senior Managers and all salaries are reviewed on an annual basis.

"The commitment and passion that every single staff member at Bendrigg Trust portrays is an absolute privilege to witness. To see the impact this organisation has upon the children and young adults that have the opportunity to experience this wonderful environment is overwhelmingly special. Every single member of staff goes that extra mile to ensure my role as Project Leader is made as easy as possible and that the children and young people achieve a huge amount whilst having the time of their lives."

Rebecca Hargreaves, Phab National Projects Manager

Volunteers
The Trustees recognise the extremely valuable contribution made by volunteers and wish to place on record their thanks for their commitment. Volunteering at Bendrigg covers many areas of work including activity delivery, office administration, domestic duties, grounds and building maintenance and much more. The list is endless. No amounts are included in the financial statements to reflect the value of the work undertaken by our volunteers.

“It really has expanded my mind and widened my heart. My week there was incredible and I met some amazing young people, making memories that will stay with me for the rest of my life. All the staff were brilliant, friendly and so helpful when I asked them anything. I cannot express the enjoyment my short week at Bendrigg brought me. I feel like I gained more from my stay than I gave, as I learned and grew so much as a person. I would love to return and hopefully contribute more and more each time."

Former Residential Volunteer

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also Directors of Bendrigg Trust for the purposes of Company Law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounts Standards and applicable law). Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the income and of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to :

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements, on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditor
MHA Moore and Smalley are deemed to be re-appointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Each of the persons who is a Trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:
• So far as they are aware there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
• Each Trustee has taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a Trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information.

Approval
By approving the Trustees report the Trustees are also approving the strategic report in their capacity as company directors.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Nicholas Liley
Secretary

Rachael Hodgson
Chair

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Bendrigg Trust for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise of the Statement of Financial Position, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2020, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events of conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the chartable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' report (incorporating the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and

- the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and sufficient accounting records have not been kept by the charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or

- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or

- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or

- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

- the Trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing a strategic report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 19, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- Enquiries with the board about any known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud;
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by the board in their significant accounting estimates, in particular in relation to provisions and future performance of the company in light of the impact of Covid-19;
- An evaluation of the risk management override of controls and subsequent testing, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness; and
- An evaluation of the charitable company's internal control environment.

Because of the industry in which the client operates, we identified the following areas as the most likely to have a material impact on the financial statements: Health and Safety, including meeting the requirements of the Adventure Activities Licensing Authority; employment law, and compliance with the UK Companies and Charities Act.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (continued)
Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Jenny McCabe
Senior Statutory Auditor
For and on behalf of MHA Moore and Smalley
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

Priory Close
St Mary's Gate
Lancaster
LA1 1XB

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Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating the income and expenditure account)

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
		£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	**248,242**	**155,615**	**403,857**	405,741
Investments	4	**2,488**	**-**	**2,488**	2,872
Charitable activities	5	**162,680**	**-**	**162,680**	734,840
Other	6	**243,243**	**-**	**243,243**	119
Total		**656,653**	**155,615**	**812,268**	1,143,572
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	**32,526**	**-**	**32,526**	40,369
Charitable activities	8	**835,636**	**47,940**	**883,576**	1,069,745
Total		**868,162**	**47,940**	**916,102**	1,110,114
Net (expenditure)/ income before transfers		**(211,509)**	**107,675**	**(103,834)**	33,458
Transfer between funds	10	**111,477**	**(111,477)**	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**(100,032)**	**(3,802)**	**(103,834)**	33,458
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		**485,087**	**3,379,424**	**3,864,511**	3,831,053
Total		**385,055**	**3,375,622**	**3,760,677**	3,864,511

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all recognised gains and losses in the year.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 27 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2020

		2020		2019	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		**3,307,606**		3,433,463
Current assets					
Stock		**7,281**		4,926	
Debtors	13	**30,360**		7,320	
Cash at bank and in hand		**586,264**		561,341	
		623,905		573,587	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	**(139,416)**		(142,539)	
Net current assets			**484,489**		431,048
Total assets less current liabilities			**3,792,095**		3,864,511
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15		**(31,418)**		-
Net assets			**3,760,677**		3,864,511
Funds:					
Restricted funds	17		**3,375,622**		3,379,424
Unrestricted funds	19		**385,055**		485,087
Total funds			**3,760,677**		3,864,511

These accounts were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on the ..... and are signed on their behalf by:

....

Rachael Hodgson — Chair

Kim Parry — Treasurer

Company Registration Number: 01396557

Cash Flow Statement

	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£
Cash generated in operating activities	**23,785**	54,509
Cashflows from investing activities:		
Investment income	**2,488**	2,872
Sale/(purchase) of fixed assets	**(1,350)**	(92,752)
Cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	**1,138**	(89,880)
(Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**24,923**	(35,371)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	**561,341**	596,712
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**586,264**	561,341

Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cashflow from operating activities

Net movement in funds	**(103,834)**	33,458
Investments income received	**(2,488)**	(2,872)
Depreciation	**127,207**	135,073
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	**(2,355)**	(681)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	**(23,040)**	13,891
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	**28,295**	(125,113)
Loss/(gain) on sale of fixed assets	**-**	753
Net cash generated in operating activities	**23,785**	54,509

Components of cash and cash equivalents

Cash in bank and in hand	**586,264**	561,341
	586,264	561,341

The notes on pages 27 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

1 Accounting policies

Legal form

Bendrigg Trust is a registered charity and a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006, incorporated in England and Wales. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £5 per member of the Charity.

The registered office of the Charity, the nature of its operations and its principal activities are all detailed in the Charity administrative details of these financial statements.

Basis of preparation

Bendrigg Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The particular accounting policies adopted by the Trustees are described below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. For the duration of the accounting period and up to the date of approval of the accounts, measures remain in place within society to combat the Covid-19 pandemic. The Trustees consider the charity to have a sufficient level of working capital to see it through the upcoming months and have made an assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements. There are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income

Donations and legacies are included in the accounts on a cash received basis or where there is a certainty of receipt and the amount is quantifiable. Grants and donations in respect of specific projects are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they are receivable and are credited to restricted reserves.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

1

Accounting policies (continued)

Investment income is credited to the statement of financial activities in the period in which it becomes receivable.

Income from charitable activities is recognised in the period to which it relates.

Government grants and CJRS (Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme) claims are recognised in the period to which they relate.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis in the expense categories required by the SORP. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Costs are further allocated between the activities undertaken on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Charitable activities expenditure includes costs incurred in the delivery of the Charity's activities and services. It includes both direct costs, including staff costs, that are incurred in the delivery of the activities and services and indirect costs which are required to support the delivery of the charitable objects.

Costs of raising funds include those costs in relation to the Charity's operations which are used to generate further income which is integral to the Charity in meeting its charitable objectives. It includes direct costs and also indirect costs which have been allocated on the following basis:

Telephone costs –20% Principal's salary –10% Fundraisers' salary –50%

Fixed assets

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

Freehold property	-	2% straight line per annum
Leasehold property	-	4% straight line per annum
Motor vehicles and trailers	-	25% reducing balance
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	10%/20% straight line per annum
Sports installations	-	10% straight line per annum

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making allowance for obsolete and slow moving stocks.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Debtors and creditors within one year
Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable and payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash is a basic financial asset and includes cash in hand and deposits held on call with banks.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds - General funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds - Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds - Restricted funds arise where there is a donor-imposed restriction on the use of the funds, or the funds have arisen in response to an appeal for a specified purpose.

Pensions
The Charity operates a defined contribution scheme. Contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Taxation
HM Revenue & Customs considers Bendrigg Trust to be a charity and therefore they are entitled to exemption from tax afforded by Sections 478-489 of the Corporation Taxes Act 2010 to the extent that income is applied exclusively for charitable purposes.

Financial instruments
The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Basic financial assets
Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price and are subsequently carried at amortised cost. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Financial assets are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that the estimated future cash flows have been affected. The impairment loss is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the company transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity.

Basic financial liabilities
Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, are initially recognised at transaction price, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised. Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty
In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Key assumptions, judgements and estimates
In the opinion of the Trustees' there have been no significant judgements made in the process of applying the above accounting policies. There have been no key assumptions concerning future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Staff sponsorship	-	-	**-**	49,861
Project donations	-	10,800	**10,800**	47,074
General donations	248,242	120	**248,362**	106,379
Specific donations	-	54,061	**54,061**	99,632
Sponsored courses	-	90,634	**90,634**	102,795
	248,242	**155,615**	**403,857**	405,741
Total 2019	*106,379*	*299,362*	*405,741*	

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest receivable	2,488	-	**2,488**	2,872
	2,488	-	**2,488**	2,872
Total 2019	*2,872*	-	*2,872*	

5 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Course fees	152,367	-	**152,367**	713,365
Other charitable activities	10,313	-	**10,313**	21,475
	162,680	-	**162,680**	734,840
Total 2019	*734,840*	-	*734,840*	

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
CJRS income	243,243	-	**243,243**	**-**
Other income	-	-	-	119
	243,243	-	**243,243**	119
Total 2019	119	-	*119*	

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Telephone	466	-	**466**	468
Direct fundraising costs	3,362	-	**3,362**	6,044
Staff costs	28,698	-	**28,698**	33,857
	32,526	-	**32,526**	40,369
Total 2019	*23,779*	*16,590*	*40,369*	

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**Total 2020**	Total 2019
	£	**£**	**£**	£
Goods for resale	1,720	-	**1,720**	5,845
Rates and water	1,129	-	**1,129**	5,767
Light and heat	26,228	-	**26,228**	34,490
Repairs and maintenance	19,484	-	**19,484**	34,769
Insurance	16,533	-	**16,533**	18,997
Motor vehicle expenses	9,492	-	**9,492**	24,495
Telephone	1,862	-	**1,862**	1,867
Provisions and household	28,660	-	**28,660**	95,888
Sundry expenses	15,360	4,227	**19,587**	34,695
Outdoor equipment	2,777	-	**2,777**	5,373
Staff training	4,036	-	**4,036**	8,692
Advertising and sponsorship	4,284	-	**4,284**	6,161
Bank charges	1,867	-	**1,867**	1,218
Printing, post and stationery	12,301	-	**12,301**	11,308
Freelance instructors fees	2,005	-	**2,005**	22,090
Audit and professional fees	7,344	-	**7,344**	5,945
Entry fees	177	-	**177**	2,503
Subscriptions	1,913	-	**1,913**	2,626
Indemnity insurance	1,012	-	**1,012**	969
Wages and salaries	488,115	38,778	**526,893**	546,338
National insurance	35,061	2,785	**37,846**	35,721
Pension cost	27,069	2,150	**29,219**	28,162
Depreciation	127,207	-	**127,207**	135,073
Loss on sale of fixed assets	-	-	**-**	753
	835,636	**47,940**	**883,576**	1,069,745
Total 2019	*896,835*	*172,910*	*1,069,745*	

Support costs are allocated entirely to charitable activities in both the current and prior period.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

9 Net income/(expenditure)

	2020	2019
	£	£
Net income is stated after charging:		
Staff pension contributions	**30,515**	30,404
Auditors' remuneration		
- audit of the financial statements	**5,550**	5,276
Depreciation of tangible assets		
- owned by the Charity	**127,207**	135,073

10 Fund transfers

As a result of Covid restrictions preventing many normal activities from taking place from March 2020 onwards, a number of donors agreed that amounts received that had previously had restrictions attached could be used to fund general expenditure and these amounts have therefore been transferred to unrestricted funds. During the current and prior year certain restricted income funds saw expenditure incurred in excess of the income received and transfers were made from unrestricted funds in order to cover such shortfalls. A transfer is also made annually in respect of unrestricted depreciation charges in the year which relate to restricted asset funds. Further details of fund transfers are included in Note 20.

11 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and the cost of key management personnel

Total staff costs were as follows	2020	2019
	£	£
Wages and salaries	**551,959**	573,888
Social security costs	**40,182**	39,783
Pension costs	**30,515**	30,404
	622,656	644,075

Particulars of employees:

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2020	2019
	No.	No.
Administrative staff	**9**	8
Tutorial staff	**13**	15
Maintenance staff	**1**	1
Catering and domestic staff	**7**	7
	30	31

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

11 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and the cost of key management personnel (continued)

No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000 during the current or prior year.

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel, as determined by the Charity, is £159,816 (2019: £159,536) during the current period.

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The contributions paid into the scheme in respect of eligible employees for the year ended 31 December 2020 amounted to £30,515 (2019: £30,404).

No Trustees received any remuneration during the current or prior period. No Trustee received any expenses for their role as Trustees in the current or prior period.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Property £	Leasehold Property £	Motor Vehicles & trailers £	Fixtures Fittings & equipment £	Totals £
Cost					
At 1 January 2020	4,183,590	76,456	217,352	593,868	5,071,266
Additions	1,350	-	-	-	1,350
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2020	**4,184,940**	**76,456**	**217,352**	**593,868**	**5,072,616**
At 1 January 2020	892,027	41,549	146,324	557,903	1,637,803
Charge for the year	83,690	3,058	17,756	22,703	127,207
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2020	**975,717**	**44,607**	**164,080**	**580,606**	**1,765,010**
Net book value At 31 December 2020	**3,209,223**	**31,849**	**53,272**	**13,262**	**3,307,606**
At 31 December 2019	3,291,563	34,907	71,028	35,965	3,433,463

The freehold at Bendrigg Lodge was transferred from the Mary Kinross Trust on 12 March 1985 as a gift. The freehold is not included in the financial statements as an asset but has a substantial market value.

A 25 year lease on Greenslack was agreed in April 2006 and this is the only leasehold held by the Trust.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

13 Debtors

	2020	2019
	£	£
Trade debtors	**1,544**	1,847
Other debtors	**25,867**	-
Prepayments	**2,949**	5,473
	30,360	7,320

14 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

		2020	2019
		£	£
Trade creditors		**4,195**	19,077
Taxation and social security		**21,647**	15,002
Other creditors		**355**	708
Accruals		**5,419**	4,950
Deferred income	**Note 16**	**107,800**	102,802
		139,416	142,539

15 Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

		2020	2019
		£	£
Deferred income	**Note 16**	**31,418**	-
		31,418	-

16 Deferred income

	2020	2019
	£	£
Balance brought forward	**102,802**	111,187
Course fees received in advance	**103,331**	102,802
Release of deferred income	**(66,915)**	(111,187)
	139,218	102,802

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

17 Restricted funds: Current year

	Note	At 1 January 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2020
		£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds						
Restricted funds income	**18**	53,880	155,615	(47,940)	(23,667)	**137,888**
Restricted funds capital		3,325,544	-	-	(87,810)	**3,237,734**
Total funds		**3,379,424**	**155,615**	**(47,940)**	**(111,477)**	**3,375,622**

Restricted funds: Prior year

	At 1 January 2019 (as restated)	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
Restricted funds income	54,852	199,730	(189,500)	(11,202)	**53,880**
Restricted funds capital	3,300,258	99,632	-	(74,346)	**3,325,544**
				-	
Total funds	**3,355,110**	**299,362**	**(189,500)**	**(85,548)**	**3,379,424**

Restricted capital funds are made up of

a) Incoming resources given specifically to acquire fixed assets, as reduced over the useful economic life of those assets in line with their depreciation - £3,236,078 (2019: £3,322,924)

b) Incoming resources given specifically for the purpose of acquiring fixed assets that are currently being held until sufficient funds have been raised to enable the Trust to commence these capital projects - £1,656 (2019: £2,620)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

18 Restricted income funds: Current year

	At 1 January 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2020 £
Climbing club	4,452	-	(165)	(4,287)	**-**
Bendrigg Alternative	-	-	-	-	**-**
Fundraising & Marketing Post	1,432	-	(1,432)	-	**-**
Sponsored courses	18,997	90,634	(38,353)	828	**72,106**
Outdoor equipment	10,234	2,500	(2,207)	(4,453)	**6,074**
Staff clothes	-	120	(100)	(20)	**-**
Disability aids	183	-	-	-	**183**
Sensory room	560	-	-	-	**560**
Minibus	333	54,061	-	-	**54,394**
Trainee Coordinator	16,861	-	(1,954)	(14,907)	**-**
ScottishPower Foundation	828	-	-	(828)	**-**
Family Rooms	-	5,800	(1,875)	-	**3,925**
Hardship Fund	-	2,500	(1,854)	-	**646**
Restricted income funds	**53,880**	**155,615**	**(47,940)**	**(23,667)**	**137,888**

Restricted funds: Prior year

	At 1 January 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2019 £
Climbing club	2,196	5,008	(2,752)	-	**4,452**
Bendrigg Alternative	(32)	15,000	(15,401)	433	**-**
Fundraising & Marketing Post	14,612	20,000	(33,180)	-	**1,432**
Sponsored courses	17,537	102,795	(106,835)	5,500	**18,997**
Outdoor equipment	12,406	6,000	(3,446)	(4,726)	**10,234**
Staff clothes	898	66	(214)	(750)	**-**
Disability Aids	183	-	-	-	**183**
Sensory room	5,797	-	-	(5,237)	**560**
Artist project	(293)	-	-	293	-
Minibus	1,548	-	-	(1,215)	**333**
Trainee Coordinator	-	16,861	-	-	**16,861**
ScottishPower Foundation	-	34,000	(27,672)	(5,500)	**828**
Restricted income funds	**54,852**	**199,730**	**(189,500)**	**(11,202)**	**53,880**

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

18 Restricted income funds (continued)

Climbing Club: funds used to support an inclusive climbing club which allows teenagers of all abilities to learn to climb in a safe, supported and fun environment.

Bendrigg Alternative Scheme: funds a co-ordinator post for the Bendrigg Alternative scheme which is a scheme providing opportunities for offenders, or those at risk of offending to work alongside disabled people.

Fundraising and Marketing Post: supports the cost of our Senior Fundraising & Marketing Officer to oversee the voluntary income generation of the charity.

Sponsored Courses: enables bursaries to be given to some groups who without it would not be able to afford to come to Bendrigg.

Outdoor Equipment: enables specific pieces of equipment to be purchased.

Disability Aids: enables specific disability aids to be purchased.

Sensory Room: funding received enabled the sensory room to be upgraded.

Artist Project: funding received enabled art projects to take place at the Trust.

Minibus: to provide for a new minibus.

Trainee Co-ordinator: to fund a post which supervises the work and the development of trainee tutors.

ScottishPower Foundation: in 2019 to fund specific activities around our 'Adventure for All' programme including sponsorship funds, creating funding resources for visitors and showcasing our work through inspirational films. In 2020, funding was used for sponsorship, core costs and some training on Hidden Disabilities.

Family Rooms: funding received to enable some bedrooms to be used as family living space

Hardship Fund: funding received to top-up staff salaries when required

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

19 Unrestricted income funds: Current year

	At 1 January 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2020 £
Designated Funds					
Designated Funds	-	-	-	-	**-**
General Funds	485,087	656,653	(868,162)	111,477	**385,055**
Unrestricted funds	**485,087**	**656,653**	**(868,162)**	111,477	**385,055**

In the current Covid-19 circumstances, we continue to adopt an alternative approach to our reserve policy, for the duration of the effects of the pandemic, where all of our unrestricted funds (including any designated funds) are re-purposed entirely towards enabling the Trust to overcome the financial effects of the pandemic.

Unrestricted income funds: Prior year

	At 1 January 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2019 £
Designated Funds					
Designated Funds	11,980	-	-	(11,980)	**-**
General Funds	463,963	844,210	(920,614)	97,528	**485,087**
Unrestricted funds	**475,943**	**844,210**	**(920,614)**	**85,548**	**485,087**

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

20 Analysis of fund transfers

	Total £
Climbing club balance released to unrestricted	4,287
Trainee coordinator balance released to unrestricted	14,907
Transfers to cover shortfalls on funds	(365)
Annual transfer in respect of restricted fixed asset funds	92,648
Total transfers	**111,477**

21 Analysis of net assets between funds: Current year

	Tangible fixed assets £	Cash £	Net current assets excl. cash £	Long term liabilities £	Total £
Restricted funds	3,236,078	139,544	-	-	3,375,622
Designated funds	-	-	-	-	-
General funds	71,528	446,720	(101,775)	(31,418)	385,055
Total funds	**3,307,606**	**586,264**	**(101,775)**	(31,418)	**3,760,677**

Analysis of net assets between funds: Prior year

	Tangible fixed assets £	Cash £	Net current assets excl. cash £	Long term liabilities £	Total £
Restricted funds	3,325,544	53,880	-	-	3,379,424
Designated funds	-	-	-	-	-
General funds	107,919	507,461	(130,293)	-	485,087
Total funds	**3,433,463**	**561,341**	**(130,291)**	-	**3,864,511**

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

22 Operating lease commitments

At 31 December 2020, the total of the Charity's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Amounts payable:		
Within 1 year	**189**	251
Between 1 and 5 years	**-**	189
	189	440

23 Contingencies

The Charity received lottery grants totalling £243,364 during the financial years 1999 and 2000 to fund the development of improvements to the accommodation in Bendrigg Lodge and also a grant of £200,000 between 2007 and 2008 towards the construction of the Kinross Building. The Charity may not dispose of these buildings without prior written permission of the lottery board, nor use the building as security for a loan. This restriction shall be in force for 80 years from the date of the grants.

24 Control and related party transactions

The Charity was under the control of the Board of Trustees' who are also directors for the purposes of company law in both the current and prior period.

The Charity has a very close relationship with The Bendrigg Support Trust. The Support Trust was established for the purpose of supporting the work of the Bendrigg Trust. A revenue grant of £nil (2019: £20,000) was received during the year. Mr J Holmes, Miss R Hodgson and Mr T Lowe, Trustees, are also Trustees of The Bendrigg Support Trust.

The Charity also has a close relationship with The Mary Kinross Charitable Trust (MKCT), through Mrs Fiona Adams, who is a Trust member and who also sits on the Bendrigg Alternative Committee. In 2020, Bendrigg Trust received an unrestricted grant of £34,300 (2019: £65,000) from the MKCT. Mrs Fiona Adams did not receive any fees from the Bendrigg Trust in the year ended 31st December 2020.

During the year the Charity incurred costs of £1,012 (2019: £969) relating to indemnity insurance for the Trustees.

There were no outstanding balances with related parties at 31 December 2020 or 31 December 2019.

25 Company Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee. In the event of the company being wound up or dissolved, each member undertakes to contribute such amount as is required, not exceeding £5, for payment of any debts or liabilities.

REFERENCES & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity name: Bendrigg Trust
Charity Registration number: 508450
Company Registration number: 01396557
Registered office: Bendrigg Lodge, Old Hutton, Kendal LA8 0NR

Trustees:
The Trustees who served the company during the period were as follows:

Rachael Hodgson, Chairman
Adrian Walter, Vice Chairman
Kim Parry LVO, Treasurer
Judy Rayner
Clare Millington
Simon Drummond-Hay(resigned 30 Jul 2020)
Monty Matthews (resigned 30 Jul 2020)
Shelagh McGregor
Tim Lowe
John Holmes MBE
Brian McDonough
Peter Bates
Tom Hibbert
Anne Fleck
Kay Foster (appointed 28 January 2021)
Jeremy Prall (appointed 28 January 2021)

Company Secretary: Nicholas Liley

Patrons:
Sir Chris Bonington CVO CBE DL
Claire Hensman, Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria
Jamie Andrew
Karen Darke

Auditor: MHA Moore & Smalley, Priory Close, St Mary's Gate, Lancaster, Lancashire, LA1 1XB

Bankers: National Westminster Bank, 10 Elephant Yard, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4LZ
COIF Charity Funds, CCLA, Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4ET

bendrigg trust

AAIAC ADVENTUREMARK

AHOEC ASSOCIATION OF HEADS OF OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRES GOLD STANDARD

DofE APPROVED ACTIVITY PROVIDER

Institute for Outdoor Learning Adventure for ALL Special Interest Group

Quality Badge awarded by Council for Learning Outside the Classroom

ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES AALA LICENSING AUTHORITY