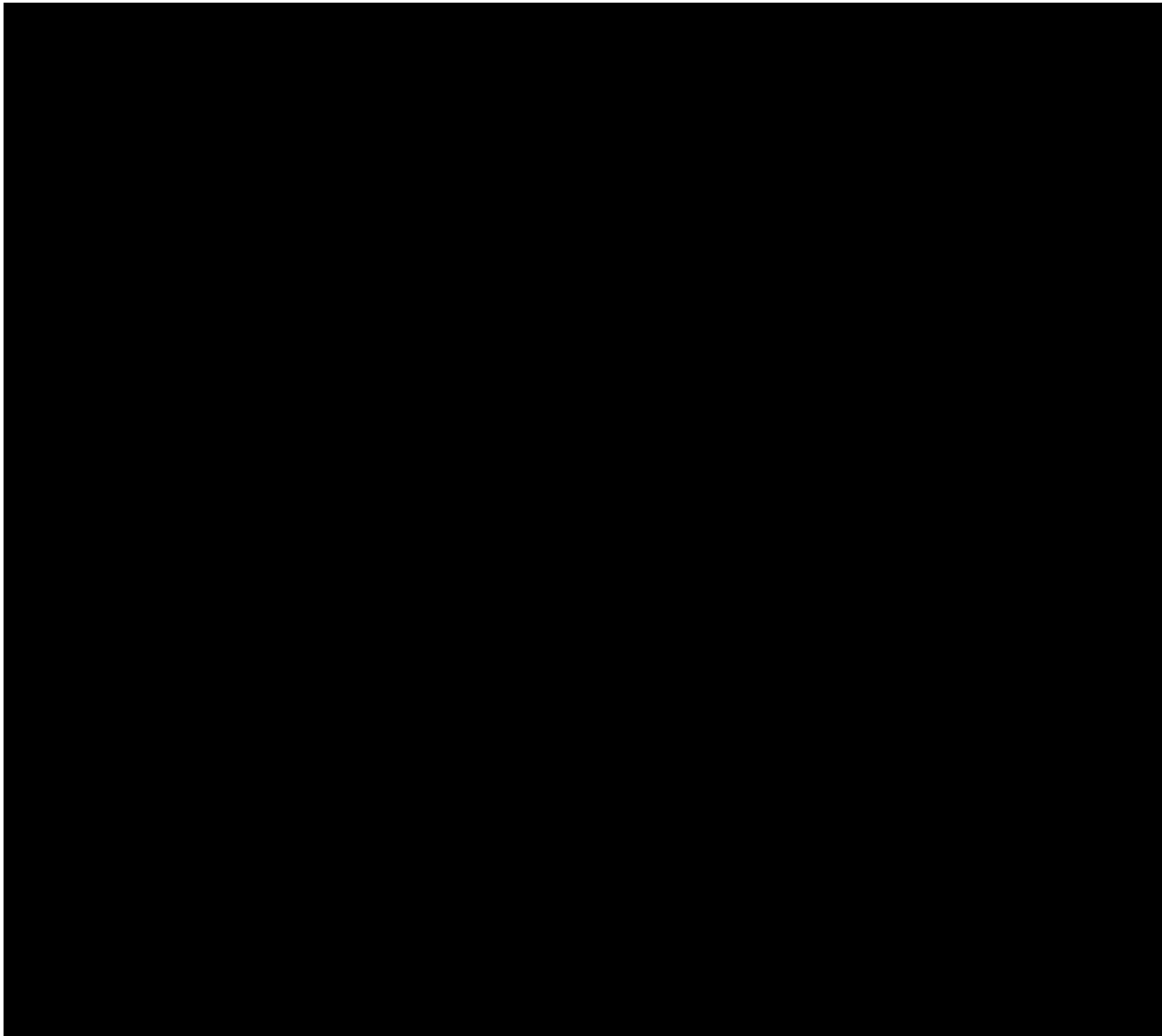


COWIE RURAL ACTION GROUP

Annual Report & Financial Statements

For the year ended

31st August 2024



Scottish Charity No SC045898

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

CONTENTS

Trustees' Annual Report	2 - 7
Independent Examiner's Report	8
Statement of Receipts & Payments	9
Statement of Balances	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 - 14

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

The trustees are pleased to present their report and financial statements together with the independent examiner's report for the year ended 31st August 2024.

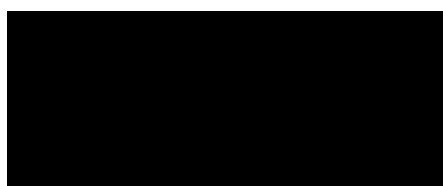
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Name Cowie Rural Action Group (CRAG)

Charity Number SC045898

Principal Address 10 Roundhouse
Cowie
Stirling
FK7 7AX

Current Trustees

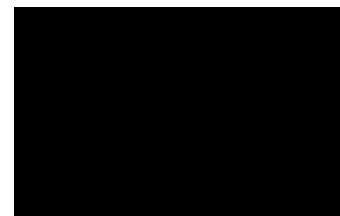


Trustees who resigned during the accounting year



Bankers Royal Bank of Scotland
Unit 22/23
Thistle Shopping Centre
Stirling
FK8 2EA

Independent Examiner



STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The Charity is Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). It is governed by its constitution which was registered with OSCR on the 13th August 2015.

Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are either elected by the membership at the AGM or can be co-opted at other times throughout the year. No employees of the charity will be eligible to be a trustee.

Organisational Structure

The structure of the organisation consists of:-

MEMBERS - who have the right to attend members' meetings (including any annual general meeting) and have important powers under the constitution; in particular, the members appoint people to serve on the board and take decisions on changes to the constitution itself;

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

BOARD - who hold regular meetings, and generally control the activities of the organisation; the board is responsible for monitoring and controlling the financial position of the organisation.

The people serving on the board are referred to as CHARITY TRUSTEES.

Risk Assessment

The Trustees regularly review the risks to which the Group is exposed. They do not consider that there are any substantial risks beyond the liabilities disclosed in the financial statement. CRAG has no employees. It holds public liability insurance.

OBJECTS, ACTIVITIES & VISION

The objects of the charity are

- The advancement of citizenship and community development;
- The provision of recreational facilities and the organisation of recreational activities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for all the residents of Cowie and for members of the public at large.

CRAG's vision is for the Cowie community to have equal access to a wide range of services and community-based activities which will improve the lives of all Cowie residents.

CRAG activities are aligned to five key aims:

- Cowie Community Centre as part of the Main Street should become the attractive heart of the village, with places to meet and connect
- Cowie should be a safe and healthy place in which to live and bring up children, and anti-social behaviour, drug dealing, and vandalism should be tackled more collaboratively
- There should be more opportunities for the whole community, including raising aspirations of children/young people and families
- Improve communications and link up activities
- To be a positive impact on the community, supporting community members pro-actively to identify community needs and helping to bring activities and resources to the community.

CRAG has been instrumental in consulting with the community of Cowie about changes that could be implemented, at local level, to improve the quality of life and the physical activity of the community. In particular, they have encouraged local children and young people to be involved in raising issues and identifying solutions.

ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

CRAG have continued to run a calendar of community events and activities from the community centre, throughout the accounting year.

In January 2024 CRAG took over the management and running of the community centre and made a range of changes to the centre to increase its usage.

During the year CRAG introduced several new initiatives, all of which received positive feedback from the community, and a high participation rate.

- Back on the Rack charity shop selling a whole range of clothing, toys, books and household items has been a huge success.
- Cosy Cup café is a donation café offering a warm space, where all ages can get together for a soup and a blether.
- Community gym, bringing gym to the village, save on travelling costs, plus a pay-as-you go fee to make it affordable and accessible to all.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

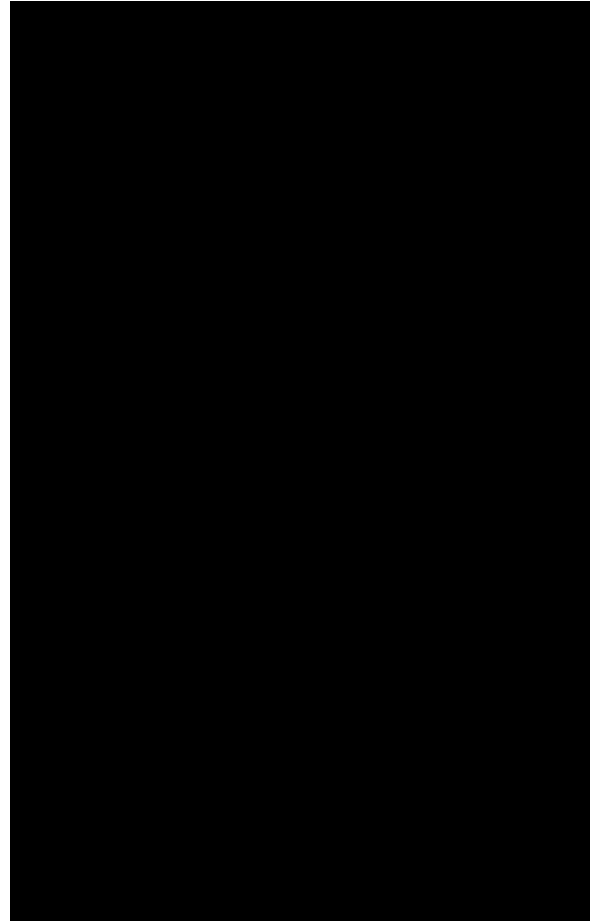
- Table Tennis Over 50s has been another successful event. Bringing people together in the morning to play this sport.
- Munch Bunch Club is a toddler group, allowing mums, dads, grandparents and guardians to bring their toddlers to centre to play, they are also given free snacks.

We continue to maintain our busy year of activities and events, that included -

-
- Over 50's Group: offering information sessions with partner organisations, keep-fit classes and arts and crafts activities; reducing social isolation, and providing a platform for consultation with older residents.
- Cowie Rural Activities Group: offering opportunities to participate in bowling, bingo, lunch meet ups and social events
- Summer Family Programme
- Bicycle Repairs Workshops and Cycle Lessons
- Arts and Crafts
- Rugby
- Football Sessions
- Summer Trips
- Cookery Classes
- Keep Fit
- Dance Camp

The following events also took place over the year.

- Litter Pick
- Cowie 10K
- Summer Programme
- Family Fun Day
- Pumpkin Patch
- November Xmas Lights Switch On
- Breakfast with Santa
- Santa's sleigh round village



Regular monthly Bingo sessions have helped to raise much needed funds to cover some of the costs of running the CRAG Community Centre.

Soup 'n' Blether offers free warm space and a light lunch on a Tuesday and has been well attended.

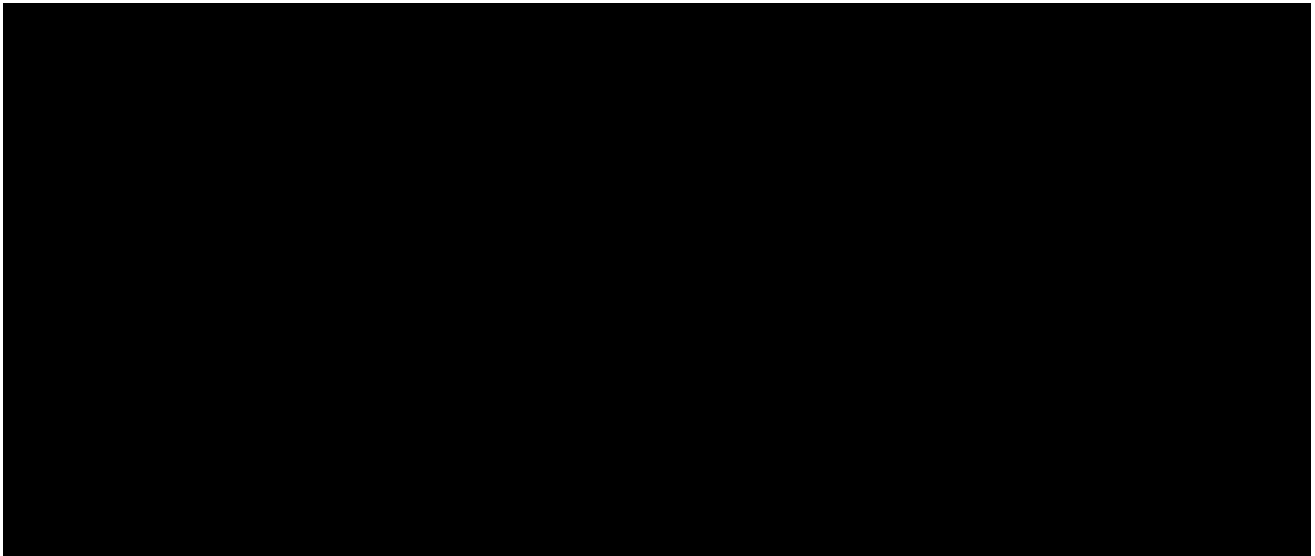
Eat 'n' Play are activities for school children to come straight to the community centre from school, have dinner with other families, play and run off some energy. These continue to be very well attended.

CRAG engages with the community through Facebook, a regular community newsletter,

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

presentations and through local schools. The charity also organised community events and meetings, including consultation events.



CRAG extends its heartfelt gratitude to all the volunteers who contributed their time and effort to the charity throughout the year.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview

Our main source of funding this year has come from funders, local businesses and donations. CRAG would like to thank everyone for their funding contributions which have enabled the charity to provide crucial services and activities that have made such a positive impact to the community of Cowie.

Thanks to the Stirling Council and National Lottery Community Fund for awarding CRAG grants, and Fair Deal Tyres, Westfraser, Lothian Broadband, Cowie Community Enterprise and the many individuals for their kind donations.

Fund Raising

Other funds raised through fundraising activities totalled £11,691. CRAG would like to thank all the volunteers who gave their time and support to running these events and raising these much needed funds through a variety of activities.

Total receipts for the year were £45,444 (2023: £38,734), total payments for the year were £53,857. (2023: £41,801). The charity had a deficit of (£8,412) (2023: (£3,067)). This deficit is due to retrospective funding not received from the UK Prosperity Fund by the year end. This will be received early in the next accounting year.

Reserves Policy

Trustees maintain that they £3,000 for normal day to day running of the charity for a three-month period. Overheads include utility costs, maintenance and admin costs. As of 1st September 2024 there £4,390 (2023: £8,817) in reserves,

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

FUTURE PLANS

CRAG have been in dialogue with Stirling Council about taking on a 25-year lease of the community centre and will review whether to assume ownership through Asset Transfer. This is still being progressed through solicitors and we are hopeful for a completion in early 2025.

CRAG also recognises that the Community Hub, which is also run by Stirling Council in Cowie, provides support and services to the local community and that the services CRAG would provide through the community centre would support, complement, and enhance the Community Hub provision.

In addition, the Community Hub is not suitable for all CRAG activities, some of which require considerable space for children and families, high volume community events and being accessible in the evenings and weekends.

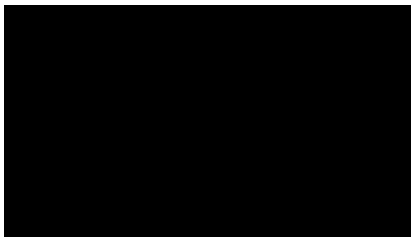
By taking on the lease CRAG aims to:

- maintain their key role in the community.
- grow the membership through active marketing and profile-raising activities, which will help generate interest and create new income streams.
- improve communication and access to facilities for all age groups.
- strengthen the community voice.
- increase and improve activities.
- ensure wider involvement and participation.

To this end, CRAG have completed a feasibility study and developed a business plan this year.

CRAG will continue to look to improve the centre, replacing flooring, outdoor signage, internal heating and energy improvements.

This report was approved by the trustees on 17th March 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

AS AT 31ST AUGUST 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Cowie Rural Action Group

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2024, which are set out on pages 9 to 4.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 ("the 2005 Act") and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) ("the 2006 Regulations"). The trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation (10)(1)(d) of the 2006 Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section (44)(1)(c) of the 2005 Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

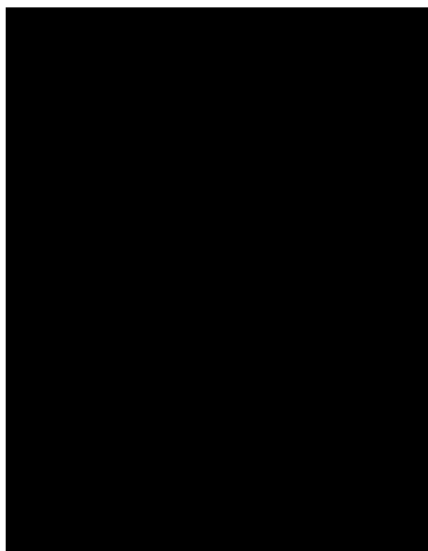
Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter came to my attention:-

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Regulationshave not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS

AS AT 31ST AUGUST 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Donations	5	2,766	-	2,766	9,560
Grants	6	1,440	20,000	21,440	21,030
Fund Raising	7	11,691	-	11,691	7,234
Over 50's Group		-	2,546	2,546	800
Trading Income - Rent		6,851	-	6,851	-
Bank Interest		151	-	151	110
		22,898	22,546	45,444	38,734
Payments					
Fund Raising Costs		169	-	169	141
Governance Costs		250	-	250	100
Cost of Trading	8	15,614	152	15,766	-
Adjustment		3	-	3	-
Charitable Activities	9	7,744	21,114	28,858	30,133
		23,780	21,266	45,047	30,374
Equipment	10	3,526	5,284	8,810	11,427
		27,307	26,550	53,857	41,801
Net movement in funds		(4,408)	(4,004)	(8,412)	(3,067)
Transfers between funds		(20)	20		
Surplus/(Deficit) for year		(4,428)	(3,984)	(8,412)	(3,067)

The Notes on pages 11 to 14 form an integral part of these accounts.

STATEMENT OF BALANCES

AS AT 31ST AUGUST 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Funds Reconciliation		£	£	£	£
Balance as at 01 September 2023		8,817	2,685	11,502	14,569
Surplus/(Deficit) for year		(4,428)	(3,984)	(8,412)	(3,067)
Balance as at 31 August 2024		4,389	(1,299)	3,090	11,502

Bank & Cash Balances

Cash at Bank		3,090	11,502
		<u>3,090</u>	<u>11,502</u>

Other Assets

Skate Park (est)	-	231,946
Outside Gym (est)	-	14,400
2 Defibrillators (est)	-	3,000
Xmas Lights (est)	-	6,522
4 Gazebos (est)	170	259
2 BBQs (est)	250	462
TV (est)	200	315
Music Box (est)	100	176
Cooker and Fridge (est)	300	450
Kitchen Equipment (est)	200	350
2 Microwaves (est)	100	190
2 Vacuums - Henry & Shark (est)	200	300
UK Prosperity Funding to received in the new accounting year	12,000	-

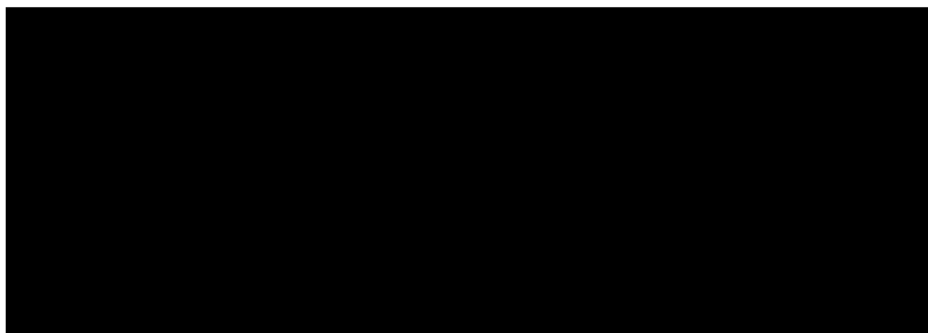
Liabilities

IE Fee	350	250
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CRAG has no other contingent liabilities

The Notes on pages 11 to 14 form an integral part of these accounts.

These accounts were approved by the trustees on 17th March 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

1. Basis of Preparation

These accounts have been prepared on the receipts & payments basis in accordance with:

- (a) The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005
- (b) The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

2. Fund Accounting

- (a) Unrestricted funds are those that can be expended at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the objects of the charity.
- (b) Designated funds are unrestricted funds that the trustees have set aside for particular purposes. The designation is administrative only and does not restrict the trustees' ability to apply the funds. There are no designated funds for the accounting period.
- (c) Restricted funds are those that may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor, or when funds are raised for specific purposes. CRAG operated seven restricted funds during the accounting period (see Note 11).
- (d) The purposes of the funds are shown in Note 12.

3. Taxation

- (a) The charity is not liable to corporation tax or capital gains tax on its charitable activities.
- (b) The charity is not registered for VAT, thus all costs are shown inclusive of VAT charged.

4. Transactions with trustees and related parties

- (a) No remuneration was paid to trustees during the accounting year. (2023: £nil)
- (b) No expenses were reimbursed during the accounting year. (2023: £344.93)
- (c) Trustees do not have indemnity insurance.

5. Donations

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Westfraser - Defibrillator	-	-	-	1,500
Westfraser - Over 50's	-	-	-	500
Westfraser	250	-	250	-
Lothian Broadband	150	-	150	-
Fairdeal Autos	500	-	500	600
I sneddon - Xmas Lights	-	-	-	400
Sapphire Engineering - Xmas Lights	-	-	-	3,500
Cowie Community Enterprises	1,500	-	1,500	-
The Stirling Pizza Company	-	-	-	40
Xmas Buckets	366	-	366	-
Norbord - Over 50's	-	-	-	500
Xmas Lights Donations	-	-	-	2,350
Other Donations	-	-	-	170
	2,766	-	2,766	9,560

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

6. Grants

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Awards for All	-	20,000	20,000	-
Let's Get Together	-	-	-	900
Food Grant 2023 SC	-	-	-	9,530
SC Food Grant	-	-	-	2,500
SC Summer Programme	-	-	-	6,600
Stirling Council Community Grant	1,440	-	1,440	-
Community Pride	-	-	-	1,500
	1,440	20,000	21,440	21,030

7. Fundraising

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Music Event	180	-	180	-
Bingo	7,185	-	7,185	2,705
Charity Shop	838	-	838	-
Table Top Sale	80	-	80	-
Blackpool Trip	525	-	525	-
Fun Day	2,883	-	2,883	1,818
Pumpkin Patch	-	-	-	640
Panto	-	-	-	825
Xmas Lights	-	-	-	174
Breakfast with Santa	-	-	-	982
Other	-	-	-	90
	11,691	-	11,691	7,233

8. Cost of Trading

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Utilities	3,038	-	3,038	-
Insurance	417	-	417	-
Maintenance	12,043	152	12,196	-
Refund	116	-	116	-
	15,614	152	15,766	-

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

9. Cost of Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Rent	-	690	690	2,429
Fun Day	-	-	-	1,795
Summer Events	723	10,269	10,992	5,989
Winter Events	5,073	683	5,756	6,464
Other Events	80	579	659	-
Foodbank	-	-	-	4,543
Consumables	1,201	7,425	8,626	1,721
Entertainment	-	-	-	1,322
Hospitality	-	84	84	572
Marketing	261	983	1,244	535
Admin Costs	406	-	406	305
Training	-	401	401	-
Sessional Work	-	-	-	1,575
Volunteer Expenses	-	-	-	559
Maintenance	-	-	-	1,943
Donation Strathcarron	-	-	-	50
Insurance	-	-	-	331
	7,744	21,114	28,858	30,133

10. Equipment

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Air Fryer	246	-	246	-
Trolley	100	-	100	-
Kitchen Equipment	94	-	94	-
Chairs	-	1,134	1,134	-
Chair Trolley	-	102	102	-
Gym Equipment	-	2,000	2,000	-
Cross Trainer	-	150	150	-
Computer	-	634	634	-
Table Cloths	-	175	175	-
Tables & Table Trolley	2,817	-	2,817	-
Storage containers	34	-	34	81
Xmas Lights	235	-	235	6,522
Gazebos	-	792	792	259
BBQs	-	222	222	462
BBQ Padlocks	-	75	75	-
Exercise Mats	-	-	-	54
Darts, Pool & Games	-	-	-	222
Television	-	-	-	315
Music Box	-	-	-	176
Defibrillators x 2	-	-	-	3,336
	3,526	5,284	8,810	11,427

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

11. Movements in Funds

	As at 31/08/2023	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	As at 31/08/2024
	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>					
General Fund	8,817	22,898	(27,306)	(20)	4,389
<u>Restricted Funds</u>					
Over 50's Group	479	2,546	(1,190)	-	1,835
Awards For All	-	20,000	(11,672)	-	8,328
Food Grant 2023	2,206	-	(2,226)	20	-
UK Prosperity Fund	-	-	(11,462)	-	(11,462)
	2,685	22,546	(26,550)	20	(1,299)
Total Funds	11,502	45,444	(53,856)	-	3,090

12. Purpose of Funds

General Fund	An unrestricted fund that can be expended at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity.
Over 50's Group	Restricted funding raised through donations from Norbord and Westfraser, and through events and activities, to help sustain this group.
SC Food Grant	Restricted funding to be used to bring people together in social environments linked to food growing activities.
Awards for All	Restricted funding cover the cost of equipment, training, events, employability costs, etc. This funding will be received after the year end which explains the deficit in this restricted fund.
UK Prosperity Fund	Restricted funding to cover the cost training, events, employability costs, etc.