



Supporting Outdoor Learning at Benmore for All Young People

FRIENDS OF BEMORE OUTDOOR CENTRE
[SCIO – Two Tier]

Charity number SC048918

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2024

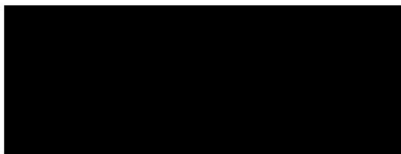
The Trustees are pleased to submit their report on the activities of the charity for the year ending 31st December 2024.

Introduction

We are a registered charity in Scotland independent of the City of Edinburgh Council which operates Benmore Outdoor Education Centre at Dunoon, Argyll & Bute. We are still a fledgling charity but trying hard to increase our activity through raising funds and making awards to enhance the learning experience of young people visiting Benmore.

The charity was constituted as a Two Tier organisation on 18th December 2018. However, as yet, our only members are the Trustees.

Charity's principal address:



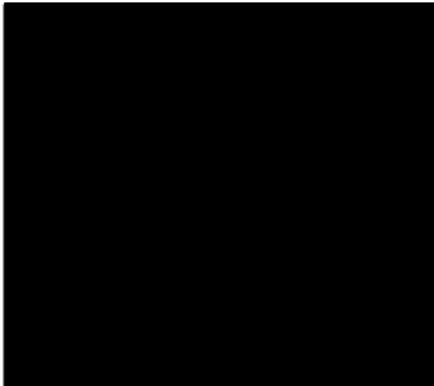
Objectives

- The objectives of the charity are to enhance the learning experience of young people visiting Benmore Outdoor Centre through:
- assisting children and young people from across Scotland who might otherwise have difficulty in accessing a high-quality residential experience at Benmore Centre
- enhancing the provision of a programme of outdoor and environmental activities to engage, develop and educate children and young people attending the Centre
- facilitating training for volunteers to ensure that children and young people from across Scotland gain maximum benefit from Benmore based outdoor activities
- the provision of recreational activities, or the organisation of recreational activities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended, by:

- supporting Benmore Centre in the provision of recreational activities for families, clubs and societies, members of the local community and others, to promote a healthy lifestyle and protection of the environment by facilitating training for volunteers
- the advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science, by:
- contributing, as appropriate, to the upkeep of the Grade B listed Benmore House to maintain its historical and architectural importance.

Trustees

The Trustees who served at any time during the year to 31st December 2024 were



The year of termination of their current term of office is shown in brackets. Trustees are required to seek renewal of their appointment every three years. Roger Scrutton was re-appointed Trustee and Chair during 2024. The appointment of the Chair is reviewed annually. Applications for new Trustees are invited as and when required and appointments are made with regard to their experience and skills relevant to our objectives. Trustees Andrew Beveridge and Angela Kerr live in the vicinity of Benmore Outdoor Centre and provide an important link with the local community of Dunoon.

Type of governing document

A Constitution in the form of one document.

Summary of the main activities and achievements in 2024

We received a significant donation during 2024 from the Asten-Jones Trust when it was dissolved. We made one payment to the Dunoon Grammar School Transition Project as a commitment from the Asten-Jones Trust.

We raised a small amount of money from a fund-raising orienteering event in Dunoon and at Benmore Centre.

We made a further application to the Communities Fund for money to install a floating pontoon at the canoe and kayak station at Lock Eck to facilitate access to craft for young people with mobility difficulties visiting at Benmore or from the local community, but the application was unsuccessful. We intend to continue to apply for funds for this project.

Otherwise, in 2024 we established further essential operating policies, such as Social Media Policy, which are hosted on the City of Edinburgh Council 'experienceoutdoors' website, since we do not, as yet, have sufficient funds to launch our own website.

Governance

Trustees met remotely by Teams twice during 2023 and once face-to-face at Benmore Outdoor Centre.

We are continuing a discussion with some very prominent people local to Dunoon with the aim of appointing Patrons.

Financial review

As mentioned above, there were few financial transactions in 2024.

Our bank balance at the end of 2024 stood at £1096.

We are organising other fund-raising activities for 2025.

How our charity delivers Public Benefit

It is our intention that all our charitable activities focus directly or indirectly on enhancing the experience of young people visiting Benmore Centre for outdoor adventure and learning, to appreciate the value of the natural environment and our need to sustain it. These will further focus on those young people who need the greatest support.

Future developments

Up to now we have pursued a *modus operandi* of applying to sources of funds for the support of capital projects, e.g. for easier access to craft at Loch Eck, so far without success. We will continue with this with greater collaboration with the local community, but also try to grow and diversify our funding sources so that we have flexibility to respond to a range of applications to support activities that meet our declared objectives and deliver public benefit.

As a Two-Tier SCIO we will again consider the benefits of opening up the charity to members other than the Trustees.

Report approved by Trustees 20th August 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



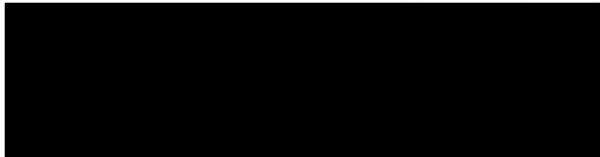
 (Chair)

Date: 22nd August 2025

Financial statement for the Year ending 31st December 2024

Starting balance		£ 222.00
Income	Residual of Asten-Jones Trust	£ 944.00
	Fundraising activity	£ 210.18
Expenditure	For Asten-Jones Trust to Dunoon Grammar School	
		£ 280.00
Ending balance		£1096.18

This Financial statement was approved by Trustees on 20th August 2025 and signed on their behalf by:


(Chair)

Date 22nd August 2025

Attachment: Bank Statement for 2024



TREASURERS ACCOUNT Statement

Printed: 04 August 2025

Friends of Benmore Outdoor Centre (SCIO)

The data shown on your statement was correct at the time of printing. Please remember, this isn't an official bank copy.

DATE	DESCRIPTION	TYPE	IN (£)	OUT (£)	BALANCE (£)
19 Aug 24	000004	CHQ		280.00	1096.18
03 Jun 24	R SCRUTTON FUNDRAISING 600000001360431012 110919 10 03JUN24 21:38	FPI	120.00		1376.18
03 Jun 24	SUMUP PAYMENTS ACC MDD PID551409 MY08V7L7GMP95VOD1X 041401 10 03JUN24 19:06	FPI	40.34		1256.18
28 May 24	SUMUP PAYMENTS ACC MDD PID543618 97RYNR8Y3Q6DEV3KW5 041401 10 28MAY24 17:33	FPI	4.92		1215.84
21 May 24	SUMUP PAYMENTS ACC MDD PID534249 ZLW5NP35DP7QQV14JM 041401 10 21MAY24 16:53	FPI	4.92		1210.92
08 Mar 24	PENICUIK (804829)	DEP	40.00		1206.00
26 Feb 24	PENICUIK (804829)	DEP	944.00		1166.00
03 Jan 23	000002	CHQ		50.00	222.00
06 Jun 22	██████████ 041401 10 06JUN22 17:43	FPI	272.00		272.00

Bank of Scotland plc Registered Office: The Mound, Edinburgh EH1 1YZ. Registered in Scotland no. SC327000.

Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority under Registration Number 169628.

Eligible deposits with us are protected by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). We are covered by the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS). Please note that due to FSCS and FOS eligibility criteria not all business customers will be covered.

For further information about the compensation provided by the FSCS, refer to the FSCS website at www.fscs.org.uk/.

Friends of Benmore Outdoor Centre

Scottish Charity: SC048918

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024 which are set out on page 4

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

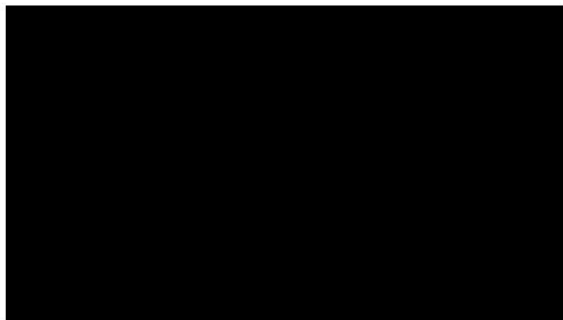
Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept 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 the course of my examination, of the statement of accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023, no matter has come 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 Accounts Regulations, and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have 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.



Date.....23/8/25.....