

Strathpeffer & District Community Rowing Club

Scotland · Charity number SC048977

Details

Status	Active
Legal form	SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Registered	2019-01-22
Register	View on the OSCR register

Contact

Address	Bramblewood Munlochy Ross-shire IV8 8PF
Website	strathpefferrowing.co.uk

Activities

Activities: 'It carries out activities or services itself'

Purposes: 'the advancement of public participation in sport'

What the charity does: SDCRC is an all-inclusive club that encourages regular participation from its Members, Youth Members and Associate Members and those who wish to try coastal rowing. The Club aims to include people of all ages, genders and abilities and holds "Come and Try" sessions from its base at Storehouse of Foulis on the Cromarty Firth. As well as at least weekly social rowing sessions there is a focus on competitive team rowing during the regatta season from May-October. Boat building and refurbishment is carried out by a small group of generally retired members who meet two days per week in a leased barn/workshop with the fourth boat now nearing completion. Social events are held every 3-4 months to engender a community spirit and assist with fund raising.

Beneficiaries: 'No specific group, or for the benefit of the community'

Objectives: 4 The Organisation is a non-profit distributing charity whose principal objective is to advance public participation in the sport of coastal rowing by: 4.1 Providing, developing, managing, and promoting the sport of coastal rowing and by supplying all of the equipment needed to try rowing, including the boat, ancillary equipment, personal flotation devices and a safety briefing The public participation is encouraged by offering non-obligatory taster sessions free of charge with the purpose of having them participate in the sport of coastal rowing. In addition, the promotion of the sport among coastal communities in Scotland and elsewhere and to uphold the rules of the sport, in particular those of the Scottish Coastal Rowing Association. 4.2 Providing education, coaching and training through life-long learning in relation to sport, fitness and

related skills to broaden the development of individual capabilities of participants

Geography

- **Main operating location:** Highland
- **Geographical spread:** Wider, but within one local authority area

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-09-30	£13,978	£9,587	-	0
2024-09-30	£7,818	£5,640	-	0
2023-09-30	£6,286	£10,516	-	0
2022-09-30	£10,666	£7,414	-	0
2021-09-30	£10,334	£8,677	-	0
2020-09-30	£7,603	£7,749	-	0

Strathpeffer & District Community Rowing Club

Scotland - Charity number SC048977

Accounts



Strathpeffer and District Community Rowing Club
Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) number 48977

Minutes of Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Wednesday 22 October at 8pm
Strathpeffer Community Centre

Present:

Tor Justad (acting Chair), Bruce Taylor (Treasurer), Sarah Thomson (acting Secretary), Val Hogg, Laura Girvan, Angus MacInnes, Anne Hitchen, John Hitchen, Mark Taylor, Maz Wyllie, Emil Horsia, Gordon Robb, Neil Moscrop, Mike Hogg, Silvija Wilde, Sally Kershaw, Pamela McLelland, Fi Chalmers, Robert Greenwood, Andy Wilcox, Iain Law, Michael Dickerson, Kate Heathcote, Anna Myeshkova, Nicola Williamson, Trish Richard, Rod Richard, Marcus Thomson, Averil Milligan, Wendy Kerr, Sarah Nicholas, Kylie Blandford, Renate Jephcott (via zoom).

1. Welcome and apologies received - Angus MacInnes

Apologies were received from:

Alan Mackintosh, Andy Paterson, Anji Soutar, Hannah Moneagle, Andrew Rose, Jo Newton, Roni Smith, Sam Crisp, Lizbeth Collie, Moses Choinka.

Angus opened the meeting by welcoming those present and explaining that, following the resignation of the Chair of the SDCRC, the board had agreed that a neutral party should chair the AGM proceedings and that this should be Tor Justad. Tor is the founder of the club and without him and his guidance there would be no SDCRC. Tor has always put the best interests of the club at the heart of all his dealings as a past Chair and Trustee.

Brian Fraser

Before beginning the official business of the evening, Angus gave a tribute to Brian Fraser, who died in August.

Brian was an enthusiastic member of the club and an active boat builder who travelled from Boat of Garten to join the build team at the barn despite challenging weather conditions. He attended the world rowing championships at Stranraer where he and his wife Carol supported the club and enjoyed the conviviality and hospitality. Carol visited the barn recently to see the Wemyss skiff he was working on and expressed an interest in attending the launch of the boat when that takes place.

2. Minutes of AGM held on 29 October 2024.

Proposed: Sarah Thomson; Seconded Robert Greenwood.
Minutes were approved. No matters arising.

3. Appointment of Tor Justad as temporary Chair.

Angus handed over to Tor, who promised to give a steady hand to the tiller and keep things on an even keel throughout the evening. He also promised not to make any more puns about sailing...
(Please see attached statement from Tor).

4. Treasurer's report - Bruce Taylor (Treasurer)

Bruce outlined the main financial highlights (previously distributed via email to all members) and explained that the club's finances are in good shape, with membership up by 22% and the bank balance up by a healthy £4,390. He particularly thanked the students at Invergordon Academy for representing our club in the Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) and donating the resultant £3,000 grant to us so that we can create a better boat shelter at the Storehouse. Tor added that these accounts are the best he's seen for any of the charitable organisations he has been involved with and he thanked Bruce for his hard work and clarity of explanation.

Proposed: Marcus Thomson; seconded: Sylvia Wilde.
Finance report was approved.

5. Chair's report - Moses Choinka (ex Chair)

(see attached Chair's report).

6. Amendment to clause 10.3 in the club's constitution (Marcus Thomson)

Marcus explained the background to this amendment and took questions from members. It is an anomaly that was caused by adopting a constitution used before the club was incorporated. The club's incorporation means that there is now no need for Holding Trustees. Members of the Board are responsible for holding and managing the club's assets and finances. This is merely a tidying up exercise.

Proposed: Rod Richard; Seconded: Trish Richard
The amendment was approved unanimously.

7. Resolution (Marcus Thomson)

Marcus introduced the idea behind this resolution. The club has now grown to over 100 members and management of its various activities is becoming increasingly difficult. The suggestion is to create a system of subcommittees to take the pressure off the board. There is no need to change the constitution; the board already has the power to delegate power to sub-committees.

Marcus cited two advantages of this resolution:

- a) it takes pressure off the board and spreads the work load, and
- b) It is more democratic as it will enable more people to get involved at a sub-committee level and have a closer connection to the board and the running of the club

This is not a new idea - plenty of other clubs operate in this way. Marcus referred the idea to Anji Soutar (who has a wealth of club experience) and she confirmed this is the case. The final structure is of course up to the new board, but suggested committees might be:

Membership & safeguarding,
Introduction of new members & social rowing
Boat building & repairing,
Fundraising,

Regattas & competitive rowing

Nicola, a long time board member, raised a question about time commitment and felt that some members have more time than others to fulfil their roles. Iain agreed that being on the board is hard work and that this idea might help those who are not able to commit to a board role. He suggested that if members are time-pressed, a role on a sub-committee would take away some of the pressure and allow the member to help out in a supportive team.

Tor agreed that the introduction of subcommittees would spread the workload.

Emil asked who would be on the sub-committees. Marcus suggested that this would be up to people to offer their time in whichever committee they could best help.

Maz advised that she has experience of this way of working on several boards and that regular reporting from the sub-committees back to the board is a good way of bringing people in.

John said he has no problem with the resolution because it works with the constitution as it currently stands. He queried the requirement for people to express an interest within 21 days of the AGM and Marcus explained that it would be helpful to vote for the heads of the various sub-committees at tonight's meeting.

Nicola asked if it could be left to the board to decide who heads up the various sub-committees and Sylvija wondered if the matter should be referred to the 70+ members NOT present, so that they could be involved. Marcus said that was a possibility but everyone had received the AGM papers prior to the meeting and he felt that it would be preferable to get all board members voted in tonight.

Averil suggested that the 9 board member roles should be assigned this evening but that the sub-committee members could be managed via the usual channels.

She suggested that the new membership process could involve encouraging people to join a sub-committee they can help with. Nicola endorsed the idea that each board member should represent the head of a sub-committee.

Maz suggested that the board could wait until after the AGM to find the committee members.

Proposed: Averil Milligan; Seconded: Val Hogg
The resolution was voted in by a majority.

8. Election of Trustees and office bearers for 2025/2026 season

Those present were asked to support the election of the following board members who stood unopposed as follows:

Office holders:

Chair	Tor Justad
Vice-Chair	Rod Richard
Secretary	Marcus Thomson
Treasurer/Membership*	Bruce Taylor

* Bruce offered to include membership as part of his treasurer role as it was felt that membership secretary would have been too onerous to be included with safeguarding.

Five trustee positions were available as heads of the following proposed sub-committees:

Safeguarding
Boat building and repair
Fundraising
Training/competitive rowing
Events and expeditions

Sarah Nicholas suggested that there could be 10 people on the board to spread the workload and Nicola confirmed that there have been 10 in the past. Marcus explained that increasing the number

of board members would require a resolution to change the constitution. The constitution currently says there can't be more than 9 board members.

The following 9 people were standing for the remaining 5 trustee positions:

Moses Choinka, Laura Girvan, Robert Greenwood, Iain Law, Angus MacInnes, Alan Mackintosh, Anna Myeshkova, Andy Paterson, Nicola Williamson.

After some discussion, it was agreed to allow 5 votes to each member present in the room and everyone wrote down their 5 chosen names. Counting was conducted out of the room by Kylie Blandford, Anne Hitchen, Mark Taylor and Maz Wyllie.

The 5 new board members were then announced by Tor as follows:

Moses Choinka,

Laura Girvan,

Robert Greenwood,

Iain Law,

Angus MacInnes,

Tor gave thanks on behalf of all the members to past members for their work on the board.

9. AOB

A. Anne and John Hitchen and Anna Myeshkova Management of the mixed U17 crew for the World Championships 2025.

Tor explained that detailed discussion on this topic has to be held away from the AGM and that any comments this evening should contain absolutely no reference to named individuals.

Tor emphasised that the club should take safeguarding very seriously and that lessons have and will be learned from this hugely

impactful procedural error. Meetings will be held with the concerned parties as soon as possible, taking advice from people qualified to deal with these issues. He invited John and Anne Hitchen and Anna Myeshkova to add their comments.

John would like the committee to address significant issues with regard to rule compliance at regattas and trust in the integrity of role holders. In particular, he would like to bring to the attention of the members the failures in safeguarding and welfare of vulnerable groups within the club. John explained that his prime concern is the way that the board has handled the matter since questions began to arise about the age of the individual in the Under 17 boat. Tonight is the first time he has heard a recognition from the board that they are accountable and take responsibility for the matter. He feels it has taken too long for a board member to state: “we have failed as a club”. Anne Hitchen added her concerns about the lack of communication and the silence from board members on the issue. She said it has been traumatic waiting for replies. Laura said that (as previous committee member) she has dealt with communications from St Ayles Skiff International (SASI) and Scottish Coastal Rowing Association (SCRA) by passing these on to relevant board members. Laura has recorded a timeline which will be helpful for investigations. There was discussion around the room about accountability and the challenges of social media. Tor agreed that a club code or policy for the use of social media would also be helpful going forward.

Anna echoed the Hitchen’s comments about not being able to have this conversation until tonight and emphasised that she is still waiting for a response from the board concerning the matter.

Tor agreed that it has been an unacceptable wait for an official statement from the board and that, as soon as the new board start work, this important matter will take priority.

B. 1. (Andy Paterson) A committee/builder agreed process for boat modification - to avoid unnecessary work and time out of the water.

B. 2. (Andy Paterson) Racing squad/crew selection clarification

- to ensure no one who qualifies for a crew on age and physical ability is excluded from training and potential selection.

Tor said that the new sub-committee system would address all these concerns and he hoped that Andy would want to join one or more of the new sub-committee groups.

C (Anji Soutar) - general skiff availability at weekends

Anji asked if one skiff could be made available for general use, especially at weekends, and if more notice could be given before rowing events so that new members could join in.

Tor repeated his view that he felt this matter would be resolved by the formation of the new sub-committees.

D. Statement from new member (Maz Wyllie)

Maz joined the club 8 months ago and wished to outline her experiences as a new member of SDCRC, which had not been positive. **The statement that Maz read out is attached to these minutes.**

10. Summing up and conclusion of meeting (Tor Justad)

Tor thanked Maz for her statement and concluded the meeting by emphasising that the toxic elements highlighted by her (namely: envy, ego and insecurity) do indeed need to be carefully managed and that the new board would strive to make the very necessary and urgent changes to take the club forward in a positive way. Tor thanked members for attending and giving up their time to attend.

The meeting concluded at 10.15pm.

Strathpeffer & District Community Rowing Club

Scotland - Charity number SC048977

Accounts

Charity Number: SC048977

**STRATHPEFFER & DISTRICT
COMMUNITY ROWING CLUB**

ACCOUNTS

For the Year Ended 30th September 2024

STRATHPEFFER & DISTRICT
COMMUNITY ROWING CLUB

ACCOUNTS

For the Year Ended 30th September 2024

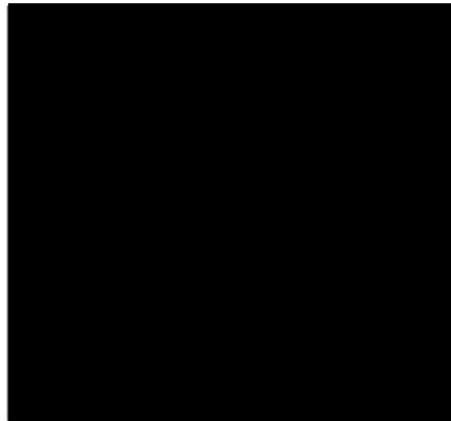
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STRATHPEFFER & DISTRICT
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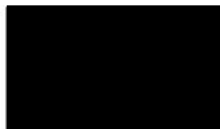
ACCOUNTS

For the Year Ended 30th September 2024

Trustees



Principal Contact Address



Independent Examiner



Leggatts Accountants Ltd
Accountants & Tax Advisors
Kempfield Court
Dingwall
IV15 9RT

Registered Charity Number

SC048977

Contact & Social Media



Website: strathpefferrowing.co.uk
Facebook: [facebook.com/Strathpeffer Community Rowing](https://facebook.com/StrathpefferCommunityRowing)

**Trustees' Report
For the year ended 30 September 2024**

The trustees are pleased to present our report and accounts for the charity for the year ended 30th September 2024.

Organisation

The Strathpeffer and District Community Rowing Club is a Scottish Charity (registered with OSCR 22/1/2019) run by a Board of up to 10 Trustees which is informed by Social and Fund-Raising Subgroups

The Board is supported by volunteers who help in many ways including building skiffs, towing the skiff to regattas, family fun day, social events, fund-raising and running the Club's own regatta

The Club's governing document is its Constitution which governs the Club's activities and a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation) regulated by OSCR (Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator).

Appointment and Induction of Trustees

A person will not be eligible for election or appointment to the Board unless he/she is a Full Member of the Organisation.

Any nominated individual who wishes to become a Charity Trustee must sign a written application for Charity Trusteeship.

The application will then be considered by the Board at its next Board meeting. The Board may, at its discretion, refuse to admit any person or nominated individual to Charity Trusteeship.

Trustees are inducted to ensure consistency and awareness and includes providing OSCR Guidance for Trustees and ensuring the understanding of Trustees duties and responsibilities.

Objects of the Charity, principal activities of the Charity

The organisation is established for charitable purposes only, and in particular, its principal objective is to advance public participation in the sport of coastal rowing.

The area which the organisation shall operate (in this constitution referred to as the 'Area of Benefit') shall be The Highlands and the surrounding areas.

The organisation shall promote (but not promote exclusively) its activities and delivery operations to people within the 'Area of Benefit', defined as 'anyone'. These people will be the organisation's beneficiaries.

**Trustees' Report (cont')
For the year ended 30 September 2024**

Activities

As its main raison d'etre, SDCRC continues to be an all-inclusive club that encourages regular participation from its Members. Youth Members and Associate Members and those who wish to try coastal rowing. The Club aims to include people of all ages, genders and abilities and holds "Come and Try" sessions from its base at Storehouse of Foulis on the Cromarty Firth. As well as at least weekly social rowing sessions there is a focus on competitive team rowing during the regatta season from May - October. Social events are held bi-annually in Strathpeffer.

The Strathpeffer & District Community Rowing Club had a busy seventh year with numerous achievements and activities. The volunteer Board of Trustees effectively managed the club, while dedicated volunteers built high-quality Skiffs, including adding a Ness Yoal to the fleet.

Membership increased by 27% in terms of numbers and income.

On the competitive front, the rowing team had a successful year, winning their own regatta and performing well in various competitions at Golspie, Ullapool and Cromarty. The 60's womens' team notably excelled due to consistent training since Spring 2023.

Additionally, club members contributed significantly to the North & West Team during the annual Loch Tummel Sprints, though it was the North East Region that won the shield this year.

The Club also maintained their tradition of the New Year's Day row, with open rows continuing throughout the year.

Successful fundraising events were held at Christmas (disco/ceilidh), a Quiz Night in April and our own Regatta in June.

Future Plans

The Club has committed to building a further boat, a Wemyss Skiff, being a "picnic class" rowing boat for two rowers.

A new rowing club is being established in Alness and they have started to build a skiff. Meantime, the members are invited to join our club for rowing experience and training. Members of Invergordon Sailing Club, who accommodate our Ness Yoal, also row with the Club, adding a mutual exchange of interest as well as useful numbers to our membership and crews. Greater youth membership continues to be developed with Invergordon Academy.

The Skiff Worlds competition will be held in Stranraer in July 2025. Team training events are already underway with an expectation of a good level of participation at this large scale event.

The Board ensures that the unrestricted reserves are sufficient to cover fixed annual costs (such as insurance) and the designated reserves relate to funding received for specific Club expenditure.

**Trustees' Report (cont')
For the year ended 30 September 2024**

Finances

The Club ends the year in a healthy financial position and reserves ensure the Club can meet any unforeseen expenditure.

The Club ended the year with a surplus of £2,178 (2023 deficit - £4,230) which includes designated and unrestricted reserves.

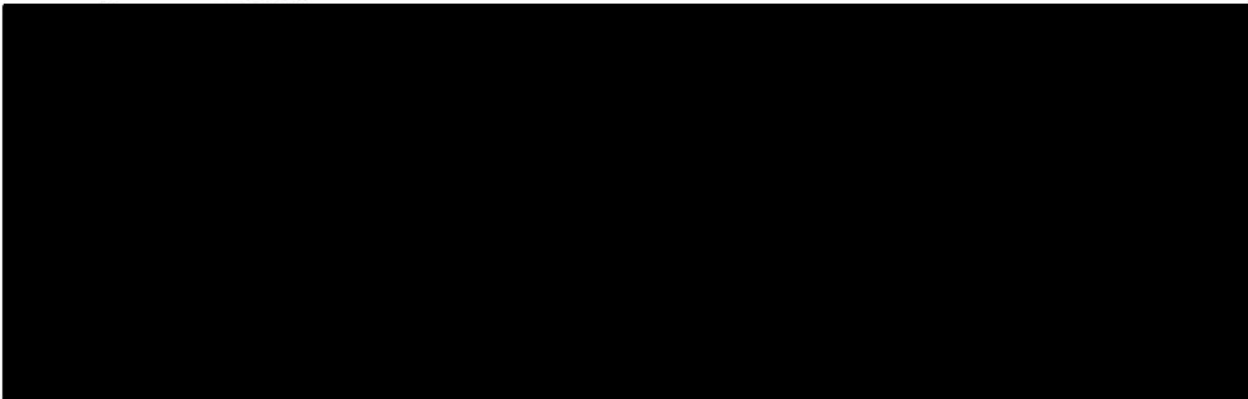
The Board ensures that the unrestricted reserves are sufficient to cover fixed annual costs (such as insurance) and the designated reserves relate to funding received for specific Club expenditure.

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they had regard to the OSCR public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance was relevant.

Approval

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on
and signed on its behalf



Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of Strathpeffer & District Community Rowing Club

I report to the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2024, which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

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 Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 ("the 2005 Act") and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) ("the 2006 Regulations). The charity's 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 as required under section (44)(1)© 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 the course of my examination 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 Regulations, and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 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.



Leggatts Accountants Ltd
Accountants & Tax Advisors
Kempfield Court
Dingwall
IV15 9RT

Date: 12 May '25

**Statement of Receipts and Payments
For the year ended 30th September 2024**

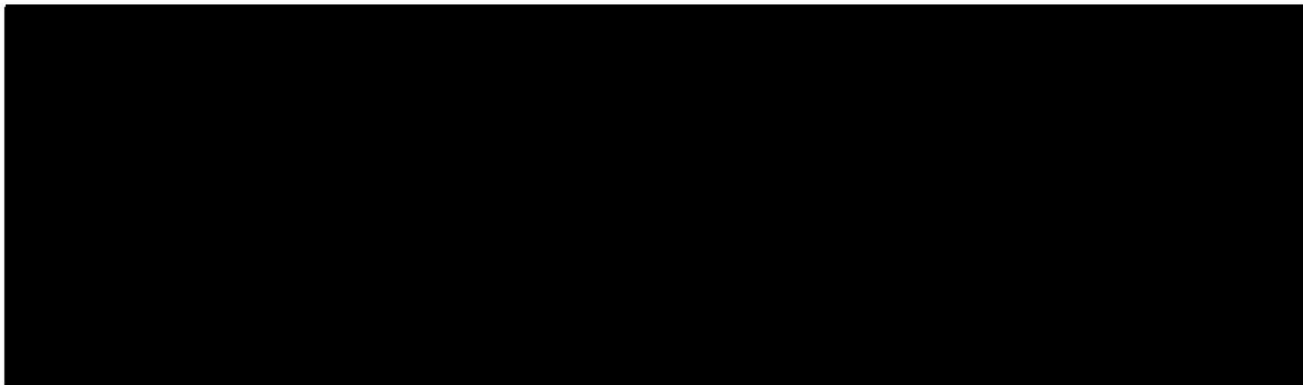
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Receipts					
Memberships		2,860	-	2,860	2,300
Donations		700	-	700	-
Grants		-	1,711	1,711	2,382
Fundraising		1,670	-	1,670	1,283
Sales of Club Wear		877	-	877	321
Total Receipts		6,107	1,711	7,818	6,286
Payments					
Activities	3	5,310	-	5,310	10,201
Independent Examination Fee		330	-	330	315
Total resources expended		5,640	-	5,640	10,516
Surplus/(Deficit) for year		467	1,711	2,178	(4,230)

Statement of Balances as at 30th September 2024

	30/09/2024 £	30/09/2023 £
Cash Funds		
Cash & Bank Balances as at beginning of the year	3,582	7,812
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	2,178	(4,230)
Total Cash Funds	<u>5,760</u>	<u>3,582</u>
Other Assets		
Skiffs & Equipment Net Book Value	4,393	4,363
Trailers Net Book Value	426	844
Office/Store Net Book Value	-	719
Tools & Other Equipment Net Book Value	283	377
Stocks of Club Wear	-	100
	<u>5,102</u>	<u>6,403</u>
Liabilities		
Provision for Accounts Preparation	330	324
	<u>330</u>	<u>324</u>

Approval

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on
and signed on its behalf



**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30th September 2024**

1. Accounting Policies

a. Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are prepared under the receipts and payments basis.

b. Asset Capitalisation

Items of equipment costing in excess of £100 for permanent use by the charity are capitalised in the balance sheet and depreciation is applied at a straight line rate of 20% on cost for showing the net book value in the statement of balances.

2. Payments and Committee Members

No remuneration payments have been made to committee members for undertaking their duties. Reimbursement of expenses made on behalf of the organisation have been made on presentation of suitable receipt documentation.

3. Activities

	Year Ending 30/09/2024	Year Ending 30/09/2023
Skiff Build/Maintenance Costs	-	803
Capital Expenditure	780	5,186
Equipment Costs	357	628
Rent Paid	1,296	1,244
Electricity & Heating Oil	57	120
Insurance	1,203	988
Memberships	240	240
Volunteer & Travel Costs	-	45
Regatta, Events & Launch Expenses	461	774
Club Wear Costs	889	108
Miscellaneous Costs	27	65
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	5,310	10,201
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