

Southton Smallholding SC053778
Trustees Report
13 November 2024 to 30 November 2025

Purpose

Southton Smallholding exists to offer therapeutic work to adults with a learning disability (LD) and adults recovering from a mental health issues. It is a Horticultural Project and open throughout the year from Tuesday to Friday each week from 09:30-15:30. We close from mid-December to mid-January but staff continue throughout except for normal holidays.

History

Southton was originally part of a larger charity for some 25 years but had been self-financing for the last 15 years. OSCR granted them their own charitable status on 13 November 2024 as a SCIO. This first report therefore also covers the period 13 to 30 Nov 2024 which forms part of the former charities report covering 1 Dec 2023 to 30 Nov 2024.

Staff

Southton Smallholding employees 3 members of staff.

CEO & Secretary to the Board – 3 days a week

Horticultural Team Leader (HTL) – 4 days a week

Deputy HTL – 4 days per week

The HTL and Deputy are in attendance 4 days a week and the CEO attends 2 days at the Smallholding and 1 day a week working from home on administration and management. When the HTL or Deputy are on holiday/absent one of the regular volunteer's steps in to cover their absence; expenses are paid.

Volunteers

The Smallholding relies on regular, good quality volunteers to function at full capacity. We are fortunate to have up to 10 regular volunteers who offer a range of skills to compliment paid staff allowing everyone to participate as fully as they are able. They also offer the skill set needed to carry out building, maintenance and repair works to enhance the facilities. Two new volunteers with gardening experience have joined us towards the end of our year.

Team Members

The Smallholding currently has 20 Adults with a LD who attend between ½ day and 4 days each week depending on their assessed needs. Those who need personal care or extra support are accompanied by a carer or PA. This year we have increased our Team Members to a maximum of 9 on any one day. This is the Smallholding operating at full capacity.

Main Income

The vast majority of our income comes from the Local Authority (LA) under the Self-Directed Support (SDS) scheme for those assessed as having additional support needs. The amount we can ask per person per day is agreed with the Health & Social Care Partnership with whom we have an agreed Service Specification; both are reviewed annually. The LA set the amount at the beginning of their FY (April). The aim of this income is to cover staff salaries and employment costs.

Horticultural Aspect

The Smallholding enjoys a large area of ground for growing vegetables and has 5 plastic covered poly tunnels and 2 smaller hard-shell tunnels, one of which can be heated. This allows for growing all year round. Outside garden beds are of 2 standard sizes and are rotated on a 5-year organic cycle with at least one main bed set aside for each year. A no-dig system is operated with up to 20 tonnes of bought in locally sourced compost added each year. Growing from seed and potting up uses an inhouse mix of peat free and coir compost.

Vegetable Box Scheme

From March to November, the Smallholding prepares a weekly vegetable box (two weekly at the beginning of the season) from the produce grown that is left in a convenient place on the estate for customers to collect. Box customers sign up for a minimum of 1 -year and pay a monthly standing order for all 12 months. This evens out the income for the charity. This income along with our Plant Sale income covers the cost of running the horticultural project and the cost of maintaining our animals. There are currently 15 box customers.

Annual Plant Sale and Open Day

On the First Saturday of each May the Smallholding opens its doors to family, friends and the general public to show the project and sell vegetable plants. This year we raised just over £4000 – our highest amount to date. The Smallholding enjoys much support from the local community.

Grants

The Smallholding relies on Grant Funding for new project work and applied for and was awarded 2 grants this year. The first from *The Screwfix Foundation* for £5000 to repair and replace the main corrugated metal roof over the Bothy and tools storage area. Part of this was spent covering the extension to the tools storage area but the grant was paid after the good weather had finished. The main part of the roof is planned for replacement in Spring 2026. We have until end August 2026 to use the grant.

The second grant is from *Baily Thomas Charitable Fund* for refurbishment of the tool storage areas, mainly, to replace the loose stone surface with concrete slabs.

The grant of £3,000 has been awarded but at the end of the FY has yet to be paid and will be carried forward into next year. There will be 12 months to use the grant and complete the works, which are currently on going.

Animals

The Smallholding retains animals for therapeutic reasons. There are 2 Alpacas, 2 goats, 1 pig, 1 goose and a small flock of hens whose eggs compliment the vegetable boxes.

Operating Site

The Smallholding operates on Blackruthven Farm under a '*Licence to Occupy*' for zero rent. In exchange for this the Smallholding supplies the kitchen of the Retreat Centre, on the same estate, with fresh vegetable produce. The estate owns the buildings but the Smallholding maintain them and extends where necessary, with approval. Electricity for the Smallholding is metered off the estate supply and billed separately to the Smallholding. Water is also

supplied to the Smallholding from the estate. The Smallholding qualifies for the Scottish Water discount at no charge for a Charity with a turnover under £200,000. (50% discount up to £300,000).

Reserve Policy

It is planned to build up a reserve account holding 3-6 months salary costs over the next 2 years.

Board of Trustees

The Smallholding Board of Trustees meets quarterly to receive written reports from the CEO and HTL, financial reports and to discuss a published agenda. Minutes are distributed to Board trustees and all staff.

John A Leggat
Chair of Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John A Leggat', is written over the printed name and title. The signature is stylized with large, sweeping loops.

Receipts & Payments Accounts


From: To:	13 Nov '24 30 Nov '24	1 Dec '24 30 Nov '25	1 Dec '24 30 Nov '25	13 Nov '24 30 Nov '25	1 Dec '23 30 Nov '24
	Unrestricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL Funds	Last Year
RECEIPTS					Not Applicable
Gift Aid	-	500	-	500	First Year Return
Laing Trust	-	1,200	-	1,200	
Team Contribution (PKC)	-	83,999	-	83,999	
Screwfix Foundation	-	-	5,000	5,000	
Sales Vegetable Boxes	-	3,722	-	3,722	
Sales Other	-	20	-	20	
Refunds	-	289	-	289	
Open Day & Plant Sale	-	4,194	-	4,194	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	0	93,923	5,000	98,923	

PAYMENTS	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL Funds	Last Year
Crafts	20	20	-	40	Not Applicable
Equipment & Repairs	249	11,918	978	13,145	First Year Return
Health & Safety	328	1,051	-	1,379	
Horticultural	13	3,267	-	3,280	
Team Expenses	307	972	-	1,280	
Livestock	15	1,900	-	1,915	
Office	0	1,227	-	1,227	
Utilities	144	2,070	-	2,215	
Vehicles	0	1,366	-	1,366	
Bank Charges	12	176	-	188	
Employment Costs	247	75,237	-	75,483	
Charitable Donation	-	150	-	150	
TOTAL PAYMENTS	1,336	99,354	978	101,669	-

NET Balance	-1,336	-5,431	4,022	-2,745	-
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Cash Funds at	13 Nov '24			22,121	Not
Cash Funds at	30 Nov '25			19,375	Applicable

Assets	0	0	0	0	-
Liabilities	0	0	0	0	-



Trustee Signature

J. LEGGAT

Name

25/3/26

Date

APPENDIX 3



		Independent examiner's report on the accounts V2							
Report to the trustees/members of	Charity name	SOUTHTON SMALL HOLDINGS							
Registered charity number	SC	053778							
On the accounts of the charity for the period	Period start date	Day	Month	Year	to	Period end date	Day	Month	Year
		01	12	2024			30	11	2025
Set out on pages	(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)								
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) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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 2006 Accounts 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 [other than that disclosed on the attached page*]								
	1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.								
Signed**:	J F Bole						Date: 4/3/26.		
Name:	JANE F. BATHO								
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	40 YEARS AS ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT.								
Address:	25 BULSHAMMIL ROAD PERTH PH1 1LU								

*Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply. If the words do apply, set out those matters which have come to your attention on the following page.

**OSCR will accept digital or typed signatures.