

Friends of Happy Valley Trustee's Report for year ended 31 March 2018

Scottish Charity Number SC044724

Trustees

Joe Horrocks	Stuart Gray
Barbara Scollay	Karen Walker
Ruby Spence	Carol Nicolson
Christine Rendall	Isobel Kennedy
Tony Tramshek	Joe Doyle
Elaine Sutherland	

Contact Address

Upper Bigswell
Stenness
Orkney
KW16 3LA

Governing Document

The charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation and is governed by a SCIO constitution.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is governed by a board of trustees which meets quarterly.

Trustees are appointed in general meetings. Appropriate training and induction is provided in the aims, objectives and procedures of the charity to all new trustees.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Charitable Purposes

The charity's main purposes are:

- To conserve, protect and improve the natural and cultural heritage of the area of land known as Happy Valley, to retain its ethos and uniqueness for public benefit and enjoyment.
- To preserve, sustainably, the natural, man-made and cultural history of this area for the advancement of education of the local and visiting population.
- To promote the care of the trees, plants and wildlife of the area and the responsible and sustainable use of this bio diverse environment, the woodland and other habitats on the land.

Activities and Achievements

The Board of 11 trustees lost 3 existing and appointed 3 new trustees in accordance with the constitution and so has 11 trustees in place. The board has met on 4 occasions since the last AGM.

The Board meetings have included 2 non-voting member representatives of Orkney Islands Council. The Board created three sub groups of trustees with targeted aims -fund raising; heritage; maintenance- that meet out with the main board meetings but report back for significant decision making.

General membership has fallen to 38 reflecting the loss of members who initially did not pay by standing order. The number of visitors to Happy Valley continues to grow.

A competitive quote for the construction and installation of timber steps up the bank at the west end of the burn was accepted and the works completed. Planning for the provision of an improved footpath from the new steps to the car park is under way and the public are already making use of the current grass path providing a new circular walk.

The Board also approved a quote for the provision of a notice board being erected which is now installed to improve information for the visiting public about the site and the charity.

The Board was also consulted on and agreed with the site becoming a Local Nature Reserve. This also involved updating the Management Plan 2017-2021 in which the Board was fully consulted. This confirms the working arrangements between the Friends and Orkney Islands Council.

Trustees Remuneration and Expenses

No trustees received any remuneration from the charity.

Reserves

As a result of the deficit of £4,094 for the year, the charity held unrestricted funds of £2,710 at the year end. The trustees consider that the funds held will enable the charity to continue to operate through the forthcoming year.

On behalf of the trustees

Stuart Gray
Treasurer

18 June 2018