

**Charity Registration No. 1161554**

**Company Registration No. 08443724 (England and Wales)**

**VETERANS WITH DOGS**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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<b>Trustees</b>	Mrs C Maclellan	
	Mrs S J Pierechod	
	Miss H Campbell	
	Mr M Field	(Appointed 2 August 2020)
	Mr M Bestwick	(Appointed 2 August 2020)
	Mr C R Maclellan	
<b>Charity number</b>	1161554	
<b>Company number</b>	08443724	
<b>Registered office</b>	Basepoint Business Centre Yeoford Way Matford Park Exeter Devon EX2 8LB	
<b>Independent examiner</b>	Mr J L Coombs MA (Cantab) FCA Simpkins Edwards LLP Michael House Castle Street Exeter Devon EX4 3LQ	
<b>Bankers</b>	HSBC Bank Plc Tavistock Branch Bedford Square Tavistock Devon PL19 0AH	

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# VETERANS WITH DOGS

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# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016)

### Objectives and activities

- The training of assistance dogs for current and former service personnel of the British Armed Forces with mental health disabilities.
- Providing training, education and support services for the relief of mental health disabilities with the partnership of dogs.
- Improving quality of life and achieving greater independence by increasing confidence and self-esteem, bringing companionship, a sense of security and increased opportunities for social interaction.
- Develop links and foster partnerships with other organisations who share our aims of supporting Veterans and those promoting responsible dog ownership.
- Implement fundraising and educational initiatives in support of VWD objectives and operations.
- Undertake any such work that the trustees may agree, from time to time, consistent with the overall objectives of the charity.

### Our vision

To improve the quality of life for veterans who are living with mental health disorders with the support and companionship of one of our specially trained assistance dogs via our unique and pioneering programme.

(A Veteran is defined by the Government as any person of any age who has served in the British Armed Forces).

### Our mission statement & philosophy

"To support former members of the British Armed Forces, whose psychological or physical wellbeing may have suffered due to difficult past experiences and challenging life circumstances, via engagement with dogs."

Veterans with Dogs works to support Veterans who are aspiring to increase their general level of functioning and independence by helping them to regain their sense of purpose, (self) worth and engagement with their communities and sense of value to society, helping them develop new skills, revive old ones and realise their potential.

Veterans with Dogs aims to provide a supportive, comfortable environment where people may find an opportunity to socialise with others, capitalise on shared learning experiences, develop their coping strategies, and build new friendships and lasting support networks.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit and in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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### **Achievements and performance**

#### **Embracing digital working**

Digital transition has been a major investment both financially, in time and development, and in staff training throughout this year. Whilst we have been tech-savvy from the outset, we conducted an in-depth review of our technology stack, and more importantly how we could leverage better automation of processes to compliment existing working practises, and to improve managing the increased volumes of data we find ourselves having to process nowadays.

We have made significant efforts to embrace technology to create exciting new virtual ways of working both within the charity and to support our clients and volunteers that will aid our future operations. This included virtual interactive sessions and enrichment activities presented and hosted online.

Designed and implemented aftercare support virtual 'visits' that allowed us to continue to support our assistance dog partnerships. We placed 5 new assistance dogs during the year - a significant achievement given the challenges of the pandemic.

Developed new protocols and policies in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, and introduced many new ways of working within safe, socially acceptable, and legal limits. Where necessary this has included moving training sessions to online platforms and utilising video conferencing and video recording as a means to communicate effectively.

We created virtual activities that enabled us to support and keep connected to clients during lockdown. These included virtual challenges, dog-bingo, and games. This allowed to maintain contact whilst checking-in with clients for welfare purposes.

#### **Paws4Life – a new activity-based service for the wider public**

Improving education comes from our expert understanding of dogs built over many years of experience bringing dogs and people together. Paws4Life encourages people to build a strong bond with their dog based on an understanding of dog behaviour and well-being that will ensure their dog is happy and healthy.

In response to the recognition that not all Veterans are able to have an assistance dog but can still reap the benefits of canine companionship with a pet dog. To address the shortfall in services available to these Veterans we created the Paws4Life service, which is designed to help educate owners whilst providing a means to access wellbeing activities with direct involvement from the Charity.

### **Assistance Dogs**

- 8 puppies brought into the PALS Puppy Programme in 2021.
- 26 dogs in training at the end of 2021.
- 5 dogs newly qualified as assistance dogs throughout the year.
- 331 service deliveries of training and support provided by the charity throughout 2021.
- 150 training sessions delivered directly with clients in 2021.

### **Clients**

- A total of 120 clients receiving support or services from the charity in 2021.

### **Volunteer support**

We have:

- 34 active Approved Trainers providing training and support to our socialisers and clients.
- 18 active fundraising volunteers supporting us.
- 13 Puppy Socialisers giving our puppies the best start in life.

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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### Assistance Dog training in a pandemic

Right throughout the organisation, changes had to be made to all our processes to accommodate lockdown and the emerging pandemic. Our training department underwent a huge change to the normal ways of working and it was imperative that these changes were made rapidly and thoroughly to ensure the safety of our dogs and staff.

Training dogs in a pandemic is not easy but we adapted and managed to find solutions to the problems we faced.

Our training team put together resources demonstrating training techniques to help volunteers and clients keep up with elements of their dogs' training where possible. In addition, we created a new publication "Enrichment Ideas for Your Dog" for volunteers and clients to provide enrichment activities for their dogs when walks were not so plentiful due to restrictions, shielding etc.

We also used virtual platforms to continue to communicate with clients. Obviously, in-person training was not possible during lockdown, so Trainers conducted virtual sessions with their clients and dogs.

Our training team worked with volunteer puppy socialisers to assess which approach and which platform worked best for everyone.

Clients and socialisers were continued to be set training tasks to achieve that they could practise around the home. We asked for videos to be submitted showing the training and then reviewed these videos with virtual meetings being carried out to go through any problems and discuss with each other how they found the challenge. The calls were also a really terrific way for everyone to get together and for us to check on both client and dog welfare, without any intrusive approaches, and this also helped reduce the sense of social isolation that many people felt during lockdown.

When restrictions relaxed a little, our trainers were able to get back to training with clients in-person again. Training sessions required increased hand hygiene measures as normally, many pairs of hands would make contact with the dog. In addition, while dogs do not transmit the Covid-19 virus to humans, they are, nonetheless, a 'surface' and that surface has to be made safe to keep humans safe, so all our dogs had to be thoroughly wiped down before and after training.

Thanks to all the training staff, volunteers and clients who rose to the challenges that 2021 brought, we are extremely grateful for everyone's efforts which enabled us to safely continue to care for and train our dogs during this challenging time.

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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### Community Dogs in 2021

As a face-to-face service, the work of the team was considerably impacted by the pandemic. But very shortly after lockdown began, the team introduced new protocols to keep clients, staff, and dogs safe.

The Team came up with some incredibly creative ways to engage and motivate clients online including dog bingo sessions, virtual dog walks and road safety card games.

When restrictions eased a little, the team were able to work 'in person' again and this included working in new, socially distanced ways and adhering to strict hygiene standards. For our Community Dogs, this meant some extra training, including familiarising them to face masks and visors and the smell of hand sanitiser.

### Developments in Training

In March, we took the opportunity to look at what we could learn from having to work in diverse ways and use that learning to undertake new projects that would help us grow into an even more robust and forward-thinking organisation. Because we have had to work in a far more focused way, what we have learned and implemented organisationally in 2021 would, ordinarily, have taken two or three years to achieve.

The team came up with some incredibly creative ways to engage and motivate clients online including dog bingo sessions, virtual dog walks and road safety card games.

Working online through the pandemic has seen some significant and positive changes for our training team. As a result of some very clever thinking, they were not only able to continue to help clients meet their personal goals and support positive mental wellbeing, but they also now have new ways of working that they will continue to use well into the future.

For example, we are now able to use virtual sessions to help deliver our benefits to more people, regardless of geographical constraints – indeed, during lockdown, one of our clients in Shetland was able to join the online sessions!

### Paws4Life – a new service in 2021

As a charity focussed on making life-changing differences for people with mental health disabilities through the involvement of expertly trained dogs, we believe in the positive and sometimes life-changing difference that dogs can make to people's lives – we see this daily through the impact of our team. But we know that owning a dog is not always easy, it can throw up many questions and challenges, particularly when it comes to understanding their behaviour and how best to train them.

So, we have extended our professional knowledge to a wider audience by introducing a new programme called Paws4Life draws on our expert understanding of our four-legged friends, built over the years of training highly skilled assistance dogs. The aim is to inspire good welfare, supporting and empowering dog owners to enhance their relationship with their dog through practical, accessible, and inclusive advice available both on our website and in person during designated activity days held throughout the Southwest, Midlands and Southeast.

Paws4Life is designed for Veterans who would like to be part of a small group who take part in activity days, and walks, with like-minded individuals with a common connection as an ex-service man or woman.

This is a fantastic opportunity to socialise together and allow the dogs the benefits of enrichment within a group environment. We have staff members on hand to lead the group in a controlled manner and ensure that all dogs remain below threshold and have a positive experience throughout our time together.

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) *FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021*

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### **Fundraising**

All the charity's fundraising is conducted by charity staff and volunteers. Volunteers operate under the careful guidance of staff. The charity does not conduct telephone, door-to-door fundraising or use consultants to carry out fundraising on the charity's behalf.

The charity operates to the code of Fundraising Practice as applied by the Fundraising Regulator. Veterans With Dogs is registered with the Fundraising Regulator.

The charity had no compliance issues in 2021 in terms of meeting the Code of Fundraising Practice.

The charity supports its fundraising volunteers through induction sessions, training, and ongoing support. The charity does not use external fundraisers or commercial participators.

The charity did not receive any complaints regarding fundraising in 2021.

### **With grateful thanks ...**

We receive funding from individuals, corporate partners, trusts and community groups.

We are so grateful for the continued support from many trusts and corporate partners which have helped us continue our vital work during 2021.

Our sincere thanks go to:

- Armed Forces Covenant
- Veterans Foundation
- Headley Foundation
- Shape Services
- Tesco Groundworks
- Sherborne Vale Dog Club
- Pawprint Trading
- RAF Coningsby
- Kong Company
- Morrison Foerster
- Lindum Lodge
- Ancre Somme Association



# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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### Extraordinary Times

2021 was certainly an extraordinary year when all of us faced challenges unlike any we have before. Inevitably, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic caused disruption to Veterans With Dogs' work in every part of the organisation, but it was incredibly heartening to see how everyone connected with the charity, staff, volunteers, clients, and indeed dogs, all rose to the challenges and overcame them in ways that will have a lasting positive impact on our work.

Our top priority throughout the pandemic has been the health, safety and wellbeing of our staff, volunteers, clients, and dogs. Some of the people we support are already clinically vulnerable adults, which necessitated a cautious approach to ensure we protect everyone connected with the charity.

A significant outcome of the pandemic has been the increased recognition of the positive role that dogs can play in our lives. In describing the significant role our dogs play in supporting our clients who can often face social isolation, we used to ask people to imagine what it might feel like not to leave their home for several years; the reality for many of the people we work with before our wonderful dogs start to support them. The pandemic has meant that sadly, many more of us have now experienced first-hand what social isolation really feels like and as such, the power of the human- dog bond has become more important than ever. Dogs give us a reason to go out, help us feel less isolated and always manage to bring a smile to our faces during tough times. The pandemic has brought into sharp focus that the work we do really does make life-changing differences; it enables people to go out safely and with confidence, live more independently and experience far greater social interactions thanks to the support and devotion of our expertly trained dogs.

Many of the challenges are ongoing, not least working face-to-face with the people we support - a vital part of our Assistance Dog services. Government restrictions and our new protocols to ensure we were working safely meant that there were, and still are, limits to what we could achieve in terms of placing assistance dogs and working with people who need our help. Assistance dogs coming through our socialisation and training process were not able to be matched and placed with clients in the same way we have been used to doing.

We did manage some face-to-face work, but the new ways of working made the process incredibly time-consuming. We have had to be very flexible and find solutions quickly to work successfully within the changing landscape of Covid-19 restrictions.

On the plus side, we have learnt a huge amount during the crisis that will serve us well in the future. We have developed new ways of working to enable us to provide a range of virtual services and support to our clients, volunteers, and dogs when they needed it most. During the second lockdown in November some flexible furloughing took place.

These new virtual ways of working have been well-received and will be valuable going forward. We certainly do not want to replace face-to-face meetings, support sessions or workshops but there is a positive place for virtual support where it can deliver help and advice in a more timely and responsive way. This certainly puts us in an exciting position for growing our support for people in the future.

Funding will continue to be a challenge in 2022 but we are so grateful to the many people who have continued to support our work during this challenging time. It was also incredibly heartening to read the messages of support from people who donated over the year. Our fundraising team has worked tirelessly to minimize the loss of revenue in areas such as events and community fundraising and are actively working to engage with new supporters and generate funds, particularly through virtual activities and digital fundraising. Every bit of support given to us now will enable us to continue our work in the long term.

The experiences of the past year have taught us that we are a resilient charity and will continue to rise to all the challenges that come our way. The charity is stronger now than ever thanks to the outstanding work and support of our staff, volunteers and of course our dogs.

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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We will need to maintain contact as much as possible with our donors and continue to expand on digital fundraising as there has already been a 63% drop in cash-direct fundraising activities, and we see this set to increase to a higher figure if the UK government introduces lockdown measures.

The charity is set to see significant challenges throughout the sector over the next financial period and will need to adapt to change quickly in order to survive. Both client needs and fundraising requirements will have to be reviewed and plans put in place to mitigate losses in both parts, with much of the outcome an unknown at this point. It is estimated that the charity sector will lose up to £4 billion in the next few months but the cost could be greater.

It is hoped that the government will provide support for smaller charities and help protect the sector that provides such vital support and services as Veterans With Dogs does. Our beneficiaries have already earned the right to be supported by their country – it remains to be seen if our country will now stand up and be counted when services and support are faced with such a significant threat as the current crisis presents.

Dr Tim Brown, Senior University Teaching Fellow, has explained how the Third Sector and charities in particular have been flooded for requests for help, but may need support themselves to survive.

Tim explains that charities exist to bridge the gap between the public services and the needs of communities in a variety of ways, including providing medical support or research; assisting those in poverty; support families in need; providing mental health support and guidance; providing education; assisting the advancement of sport; protecting the environment and animal welfare; and advancing the arts.

Of the 168,000 charities in the UK, only 0.7% have an income greater than £10 million annually. This leaves over 99% of charities in a very precarious financial position as the overwhelming majority are very small and designed to support a very specific cause and need. That cause and need will continue to exist, even if the charity does not - that is the dilemma.

### Financial review

#### Income

During the year ended 31 March 2021, we received income of £230,356 (2020: £164,699), an increase of £65,657.

#### Expenditure

Charitable activities expenditure amounted to £127,220 (2020: £158,684), a decrease of £31,464.

Costs of raising fund amounted to £891 (2020: £4,004), a decrease of £3,113.

Other costs amounted to £9,861 (2020: £7,193), an increase of £2,668.

#### Fund balances

Unrestricted funds amount to £94,903 (2020: £22,873), an increase of £72,030.

Restricted funds amount to £50,979 (2020: £30,625), an increase of £20,354.

#### Overall position

The combined effect of the above has seen a net surplus of £92,384 (2020: £5,182 deficit).

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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### Reserves policy

#### **Our Beneficiaries**

The beneficiaries of Veterans With Dogs are current and former service personnel of the British Armed Forces with mental health disabilities. Providing training, education and support services for the relief of mental health disabilities with the partnership of dogs.

Our Charity needs to have sufficient reserves to cover the diverse expenditure commitments to our beneficiaries and have ascertained that a minimum of £38,395 reserves needs to be held to ensure the charities future expenditure objectives can be met.

#### **Rationale of the Reserves Policy**

Veterans With Dogs provides lifetime partnerships between Veterans and Assistance Dogs, helping our beneficiaries to lead more independent lives by mitigating the symptoms their disability presents. Our services cover the whole of the UK.

Our Reserves Policy is to maintain sufficient level of reserves to enable and protect normal operating activities to continue over a period of up to 4 months should a shortfall in income occur and to take account of potential risks and contingencies that may arise from time to time. Our current beneficiaries continued support and services are vital to their well being.

Excluded from the Reserves Policy is income associated with:

- Endowment Funds
- Restricted Funds (Earmarked Income)

In order to demonstrate transparency, accountability and sound financial management the Veterans With Dogs Reserves Policy clearly justifies the amount of reserves kept back each year.

#### **Establishing our level of reserve**

The Trustees have reviewed our charities risks and commitments in respect of expenditure, unrestricted income and where appropriate restricted income.

The Trustees have taken into consideration are any external identified potential major risks to income and expenditure during the year under consideration.

A risk assessment has been undertaken for the period 1st April 2020 and the following has been determined using the Risk Identification approach:

- Unrestricted Income: Medium Risk
- Restricted Income: Low Risk
- Expenditure: Low Risk
- External Potential Major Risks:
  - Current lack of diversity and long term income streams
  - Dogs purchased fall ill or fail
  - Fluctuating Charity rent costs
  - Covid Pandemic restrictions on fundraising

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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### Level of reserve required by Veterans With Dogs

Veterans With Dogs should hold in reserve approximately 4 months operating capital which within the current budget period equates to £38,395.

Current Reserves equal £28,820 which represents a shortfall of reserves of £9,575.

We continue to have a sound strategy diversifying our income streams over the next financial year as well as potential forthcoming corporate partnerships which will secure longer term financial stability.

It is the Trustees responsibility to continue to diversify Veterans With Dogs income streams over the coming year, Our reserves target will be met.

It is essential that all current partnerships can be supported should income fall or subsequently that funds be available should additional activity become necessary due to the impact of unforeseen external events on our beneficiaries.

### Reviewing and monitoring the Reserves Policy

This policy will be reviewed at each Trustee meeting and reserve levels adjusted as risk or other factors change. The CEO will present the Trustees with a draft document and supporting details that enables them to make an informed decision about levels of Reserves aligning with the approval and subsequent reviews of our Strategic plan and Operating Budgets.

The Trustees has 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.

### Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee, registered under the Companies Act. The charity is controlled by its governing document and Articles of Association.

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs C Maclellan

Mrs S J Pierrechod

Ms L Skelton

(Resigned 1 July 2020)

Miss H Campbell

Mr M Field

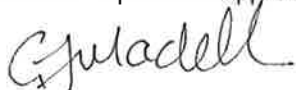
(Appointed 2 August 2020)

Mr M Bestwick

(Appointed 2 August 2020)

Mr C R Maclellan

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



.....  
**Mrs C Maclellan**

Trustee

Dated: .....

15.12.21

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF VETERANS WITH DOGS

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I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Veterans With Dogs (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

The Okehampton office of Simpkins Edwards LLP has been instructed by the Trustees to provide bookkeeping services for the Charity. I have followed the Charity Commission's guidance under direction two to ensure that I provide an objective independent opinion and maintain the appropriate segregation of duties.

#### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



**Mr J L Coombs MA (Cantab) FCA**

for and on behalf of Simpkins Edwards LLP

Michael House  
Castle Street  
Exeter  
Devon  
EX4 3LQ

Dated: .....

*15 December 2021.*

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
<b><u>Income from:</u></b>							
Donations and legacies	3	109,846	88,250	198,096	124,146	38,800	162,946
Charitable activities	4	31,319	-	31,319	213	-	213
Other trading activities	5	941	-	941	1,540	-	1,540
<b>Total income</b>		<b>142,106</b>	<b>88,250</b>	<b>230,356</b>	<b>125,899</b>	<b>38,800</b>	<b>164,699</b>
<b><u>Expenditure on:</u></b>							
Raising funds	6	891	-	891	4,004	-	4,004
Charitable activities	7	80,352	46,868	127,220	150,509	8,175	158,684
Other	8	9,861	-	9,861	7,193	-	7,193
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>91,104</b>	<b>46,868</b>	<b>137,972</b>	<b>161,706</b>	<b>8,175</b>	<b>169,881</b>
<b>Net incoming/ (outgoing) resources before transfers</b>		<b>51,002</b>	<b>41,382</b>	<b>92,384</b>	<b>(35,807)</b>	<b>30,625</b>	<b>(5,182)</b>
Gross transfers between funds		21,028	(21,028)	-	-	-	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds</b>		<b>72,030</b>	<b>20,354</b>	<b>92,384</b>	<b>(35,807)</b>	<b>30,625</b>	<b>(5,182)</b>
Fund balances at 1 April 2020		22,873	30,625	53,498	58,680	-	58,680
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2021</b>		<b>94,903</b>	<b>50,979</b>	<b>145,882</b>	<b>22,873</b>	<b>30,625</b>	<b>53,498</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	12		21,352		2,920
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stocks	13	3,448		2,368	
Debtors	14	7,045		4,200	
Cash at bank and in hand		120,467		54,342	
		<u>130,960</u>		<u>60,910</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	15	<u>(6,430)</u>		<u>(10,332)</u>	
Net current assets			124,530		50,578
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>145,882</u>		<u>53,498</u>
<b>Income funds</b>					
Restricted funds	16		50,979		30,625
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds	17	600		15,000	
General unrestricted funds		<u>94,303</u>		<u>7,873</u>	
			<u>94,903</u>		<u>22,873</u>
			<u>145,882</u>		<u>53,498</u>

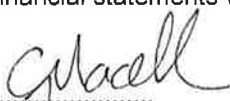
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 15.12.21



Mrs C Maclellan  
Trustee

Company Registration No. 08443724

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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### 1 Accounting policies

#### Charity information

Veterans With Dogs is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Basepoint Business Centre, Yeoford Way, Matford Park, Exeter, Devon, EX2 8LB.

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

#### 1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Grants: See separate policy note 1.9.

#### 1.5 Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.



# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

#### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Plant and equipment	
Fixtures and fittings	20% straight line per annum
Computers	33% straight line per annum
Motor vehicles	20% straight line per annum

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

#### 1.7 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

#### 1.8 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

#### 1.9 Grants

Government grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received or receivable when there is reasonable assurance that the grant conditions will be met and the grants will be received.

Other grants that specify performance conditions are recognised in income when the performance conditions are met. Where a grant does not specify performance conditions it is recognised in income when the proceeds are received or receivable. A grant received before the recognition criteria are satisfied is recognised as a liability.

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

### 3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2021 £	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £	2020 £
Donations and gifts	98,214	-	98,214	90,317	-	90,317
Grants received	2,995	88,250	91,245	25,000	38,800	63,800
Giftaid income	8,637	-	8,637	8,829	-	8,829
	<u>109,846</u>	<u>88,250</u>	<u>198,096</u>	<u>124,146</u>	<u>38,800</u>	<u>162,946</u>

### 4 Charitable activities

	Other revenue 2021 £	Government grants 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Other revenue 2020 £
Other income	<u>220</u>	<u>31,099</u>	<u>31,319</u>	<u>213</u>

### 5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £
Shop income	<u>941</u>	<u>1,540</u>

### 6 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £
<u>Fundraising and publicity</u>		
Other fundraising costs	<u>891</u>	<u>4,004</u>
	<u>891</u>	<u>4,004</u>

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

### 7 Charitable activities

	Charitable Expenditure 2021 £	Charitable Expenditure 2020 £
Staff costs	60,418	53,562
Puppy purchases	12,652	19,226
Admin services	-	325
Trainers' fees and residential costs	6,080	22,780
Travel and subsistence	6,692	5,133
Consultancy and training	6,095	20,240
Registration fees	34	72
Software and IT consumables	6,197	2,285
Volunteers expenses	622	2,781
Shop purchases	273	565
Insurance	2,524	2,135
Telephone	585	292
Postage and stationery	863	2,164
Advertising	1,660	2,865
Sundries	4,562	3,825
Repairs and maintenance	44	562
Subscriptions	267	1,825
Rent and rates	17,652	18,047
	<u>127,220</u>	<u>158,684</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>		
Unrestricted funds	80,352	150,509
Restricted funds	46,868	8,175
	<u>127,220</u>	<u>158,684</u>
<b>For the year ended 31 March 2020</b>		
Unrestricted funds	150,509	
Restricted funds	8,175	
	<u>158,684</u>	

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

### 8 Other

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
Depreciation	3,358	1,491
Accountancy and legal fees	5,248	4,551
Other expenditure	1,255	1,151
	<u>9,861</u>	<u>7,193</u>

### 9 Independent examiner's remuneration

	£	£
Independent examination of the annual accounts	2,260	2,420
	<u></u>	<u></u>
<b>Other services</b>		
All other non-assurance services	1,908	2,118
	<u></u>	<u></u>

### 10 Trustees

During the year, one trustee received reimbursements of expenses totalling £4,332 (2020: £2,610).

### 11 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
	4	3
	<u></u>	<u></u>
<b>Employment costs</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	£	£
Wages and salaries	59,511	52,036
Social security costs	-	688
Other pension costs	907	838
	<u>60,418</u>	<u>53,562</u>

There were no employees who received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 (2020 - none).

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

### 12 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computers £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 April 2020	-	3,770	2,227	1,000	6,997
Additions	788	-	1,083	19,919	21,790
At 31 March 2021	788	3,770	3,310	20,919	28,787
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>					
At 1 April 2020	-	2,735	1,242	100	4,077
Depreciation charged in the year	147	555	796	1,860	3,358
At 31 March 2021	147	3,290	2,038	1,960	7,435
<b>Carrying amount</b>					
At 31 March 2021	641	480	1,272	18,959	21,352
At 31 March 2020	-	1,035	985	900	2,920

### 13 Stocks

	2021 £	2020 £
Finished goods for resale	3,448	2,368

### 14 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Other debtors	4,354	2,317
Prepayments and accrued income	2,691	1,883
	7,045	4,200

### 15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Other taxation and social security	1,981	3,199
Trade creditors	1,665	4,365
Accruals and deferred income	2,784	2,768
	6,430	10,332

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

### 16 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			Movement in funds			
	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 1 April 2020	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Norman Family Trust	800	(800)	-	-	-	-	-
ICAP- Corporate Support donation	35,000	(4,375)	30,625	-	(3,835)	-	26,790
Groundwork UK	3,000	(3,000)	-	-	-	-	-
Veterans Foundation UK	-	-	-	30,000	(15,000)	-	15,000
Awards for All, Lottery	-	-	-	10,000	(8,163)	(1,028)	809
Forthglade UK	-	-	-	5,000	(936)	(4,000)	64
Exeter Chiefs Foundation	-	-	-	10,000	-	(10,000)	-
Armed Forces Covenant	-	-	-	33,250	(18,934)	(6,000)	8,316
	<u>38,800</u>	<u>(8,175)</u>	<u>30,625</u>	<u>88,250</u>	<u>(46,868)</u>	<u>(21,028)</u>	<u>50,979</u>

#### ICAP

The ICAP donation was used to fund residential activity and courses.

#### Veterans Foundation UK

The Veterans Foundation UK donation was used for salary support.

#### Awards for All, Lottery

The Awards for All, Lottery donation was used for reducing isolation.

#### Forthglade UK

The Forthglade UK donation was used for charity vehicle support.

#### Exeter Chiefs Foundation

The Exeter Chiefs Foundation donation was used to purchase the charity vehicle.

#### Armed forces Covenant

The Armed forces Covenant donation was used for the Paws for Life Project.

# VETERANS WITH DOGS

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

#### 17 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds					
	Balance at 1 April 2019	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 1 April 2020	Resources expended	Balance at 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
The Betty Messenger Foundation	8,000	-	(8,000)	-	-	-
Laura Mazzara- Standard Life	-	25,000	(10,000)	15,000	(14,400)	600
	<u>8,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>(18,000)</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>(14,400)</u>	<u>600</u>

#### Standard Life

The Standard Life donation was to fund 2 dogs which have been purchased and socialised. The remaining funds will be for the partnerships to be placed.

#### 18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2021	2021	2021	2020	2020	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2021 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	21,352	-	21,352	2,920	-	2,920
Current assets/ (liabilities)	5,655	118,875	124,530	19,953	30,625	50,578
	<u>27,007</u>	<u>118,875</u>	<u>145,882</u>	<u>22,873</u>	<u>30,625</u>	<u>53,498</u>

## VETERANS WITH DOGS

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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#### 19 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Within one year	15,612	13,634
Between two and five years	15,612	-
	<u>31,224</u>	<u>13,634</u>

#### 20 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2020 - none).