

Bill Quay Community Farm Association

A charity registered in England & Wales
Registration no: 1146471

Registered Company no: 07810458

Financial Statements and Trustees' Report

1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018

Legal and Administrative Information

Name: **Bill Quay Community Farm Association**

Reg'd Charity No: 1146471
Company No: 07810458

Structure: Registered Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee

Governing document: Memorandum and articles incorporated 14/10/2011 as amended by special resolution registered at Companies House on 08/03/2012.

Trustees: Chair Jennifer Wood
 Ryan Perry
 Hannah Davis
 Amelia Magistrali

Trustees are appointed by the existing trustees.

Address: Bill Quay Farm
 Hainingwood Terrace
 Bill Quay
 Gateshead
 NE10 0TE

Bank: Unity Trust Bank
 9 Brindley Place
 Birmingham
 B1 2HB

Independent Examiner: Mark Thompson
 42 Lesbury Road
 Newcastle
 NE6 5LB

Bill Quay Community Farm Association – Annual Trustees Report 2017/18

Chair's report

At Bill Quay Community Farm this year, we are celebrating our 32nd year. Unique within the borough, the farm continues to be a valued free facility to its community, providing recreational, educational and volunteering opportunities for over twenty-thousand visitors each year! We're proud of the development of our therapeutic activities this year, where we are privileged to witness the positive effects that can be achieved through the outdoors, interactions with animals, and a nurturing environment. Visitors, clients, students and volunteers have engaged in a variety of farming, education, therapeutic activities, cafe and community events.

However, in our fifth year of operating independently of the local authority, the challenge of self sustainability in an increasingly competitive environment has become problematic. In November 2017, the board reluctantly concluded that the operating model of the farm was at risk of being financially unsustainable, and sought to explore options that would allow the farm to continue to exist, retaining as many of the objectives of the charity as possible, while securing the farm for years to come. We are grateful to Gateshead Council for their support in this endeavour. Whilst there may be uncertain times ahead for the Association, we are hopeful for the future of the farm. The success of our programmes and activities, hard work of the staff and volunteers teams and support of the community provide a solid base to attract more experienced, larger and more financially secure organisations, and we hope that this is the start of another, different, but positive chapter for Bill Quay Community Farm.

In the meantime, it's been a busy year.....

Wellbeing and Therapeutic Programme

Our Therapeutic programme which began just last year, has diversified and grown, with some very positive results. In this financial year we have worked with mental health charities to deliver two level one accredited courses to unemployed adults who are in recovery from mental illness. Our focus has been to support and assist participants to improve their overall well-being as well as develop their skills so that they can move closer towards further training or employment. Through our education programmes, we have been successful in progressing 100% of the programme's participants into either employment or regular volunteering, where they can continue to build their confidence and skills.

Since beginning our Therapeutic Farming programme, it has become evident that mental health is something that affects everyone and not just those who are accessing NHS mental health services. We have also discovered that through bringing different user groups together at the farm we can educate the wider community about the nature and the effects of mental illness and disability upon the lives of individuals. With this in mind, over the summer our therapeutic officer delivered a series of 'Wellness Events' These events were open to all members of the community as well as our clients at the farm. The Summer events showcased respected wellness tools such as Mindfulness, whilst we also delivered educational wellness workshops focussing on the efficacy of herbs in relaxation, and the benefits that being active can provide in staying well. In terms of being active, the farm's therapeutic programme was able to introduce new mothers and fathers to Baby Yoga! an activity that can promote bonding in a parent-child relationship.

During this financial year Bill Quay Farm delivered eight Wellness community events and through this, we were successful in reaching over 240 individuals

Throughout this year our therapeutic programme has delivered a drop-in activity each Wednesday. We have carried out activities focussing on art, horticulture and growing food as well as supporting individuals to learn about the practical elements associated with Animal Care.

As well as a regular drop in Wednesday session, we have also provided a more structured programme to specific groups and individuals who have reached a transitional point in their recovery from mental illness. Through our therapeutic pathways we have helped individuals to build their skills through routes such as peer support, regular volunteering and educational pursuits.

Community Events and activities

This year our community events have continued to focus upon teaching our young visitors how they can best care for animals, whether those animals be exotic pets or seventy-kilogram livestock! Our most popular event by far is our 'Meet the Small Animals' activity during which children can interact and learn all about the care essentials associated with animals such as bearded dragons, chinchillas and the humble but ever popular rabbit.

However, in addition to raising awareness of the husbandry of both farm and exotic animals, we have also begun to offer opportunities for individuals to address and care for their own mental well-being. Through the farm's therapeutic programme, we have hosted several 'Wellness' open days throughout the year. During our open days, community members are invited to sample various holistic approaches to therapy such as Indian Head Massage, Mindfulness sessions and the healing properties of Mother Nature!

In total, over 2017-18 the farm has delivered over fifty community events as well as being host to four larger scale community fun days.

Animals and farm

Bill Quay Farm is best known for its rare and indigenous livestock; in this year, we have once again retained our status as a Rare Breed Survival Trust approved Farm Park. The farm continues to be home to many native species of livestock breeds including the vulnerable Tamworth Pig, and the endangered Bagot Goat. Other livestock kept on the farm include three breeds of sheep, two breeds of chicken and the rare Pilgrim Goose.

This year, we were successful in securing Lottery funding in order to design and create a new living space for our three Pilgrim Geese. The project was a fairly mammoth task, but through this development, we were able to engage with several groups within the community.

In designing and preparing the ground for the new paddock our staff worked with a group of young people, many of whom were at risk of being NEET (not in education, employment or training). During the construction phase, farm staff supported trainees to erect fencing and create a new wetland area for the birds. The end of this fantastic project was celebrated with a community open day, during which over 500 people were able to enjoy watching the geese move into their new custom-built paddock.

In addition to livestock, Bill Quay Community Farm is home to several small mammal and reptile species, all of our smaller residents are rehomed by us from rescue centres, and we continue to promote the need to support these centres and to educate visitors in how best to care for these pets.

Food and Farm produce

As an active working farm, meat and egg production is both an important income stream, and a key element of our education and engagement with the public. We produce rare breed, high welfare lamb and pork products and eggs, both for sale through our farm visitor centre, and in partnership with local food businesses who care about the quality and provenance of their meat. Although rare breeds grow less quickly and to a lower weight than commercial breeds, animals like our Hebridean sheep and Tamworth pigs are particularly well suited to the conditions in Gateshead's only community farm. Importantly, they provide high quality meat with huge ethical advantages compared to supermarket meat – from living conditions to food miles, conservation to flavour.

The organisation also continued to work with volunteers and the community to use the farm's allotment to grow a good deal of vegetable produce, including salad, a selection of brassicas and potato varieties.

Volunteers

The volunteering programme at Bill Quay Farm is always very popular and this year was no different. In the year 2017-18, we are proud to boast that we were able to support 2489 hours of volunteer hours, which equates to 404 days. The help that Bill Quay Community Farm receives from volunteers is invaluable to our survival as a charity. Through the farm's volunteer programme, we offer routes of progression as well as development opportunities, in this year we were able to develop the skills of four volunteers through providing them with a volunteer officer role: a role that carries with it some supervisory responsibilities. We were also able to offer certified Flock Health training to eighteen of our volunteers this year, something that we hope will help individuals to improve their CVs and aid them in their pursuit of employment opportunities.

The farm visitor centre is now in its second year of operation, supported solely by volunteers. This has been a wonderful resource, providing an informative interface between the farm and the public, as well as an income stream, selling farm produce, as well as donated items and snacks.

Partnership

As a small independent charity, with a special and unique site, we really value interactions with other organisations who can strengthen our offer through partnership. One organisation who have been active at the farm this year are ReCoCO, and their pioneering therapeutic peer support and education approach has informed and supported the development of our own therapeutic approach. We are delighted that they also engaging by bringing groups to the farm.

We were also lucky to welcome the brilliant Urban Bakery to the farm for a period, running the cafe at the farm with tasty, thoughtful and high quality products keeping visitors happy and well catered for.

Money, staffing and governance

At Bill Quay Community Farm Association, we have a dedicated Board of Trustees who have continued to guide and oversee the decisions of the organisation throughout this financial year. Jennifer Wood has led the organisation as Chair since the creation of the charity in 2011. Also on our board we are lucky to have members who are not only skilled in the field of agriculture but also in our specialism; the conservation of rare breed livestock; Hannah Davis, Amelia Magistrali and Ryan Perry.

Since last year, Bill Quay has been delivering a Therapeutic Farming programme as well as continuing to deliver community education. In order to deliver our diverse and exciting programmes our staff team is made up of one Therapeutic Farming Officer as well as a Farming Education Officer, we also rely on our wonderful team of volunteers who are pivotal to the continued success of Bill Quay Community Farm.

The staff team this year have yet again dedicated themselves to the farm with the kind of passion and responsibility that we are so grateful for as a small charity. Particular thanks to the farm manager, Kelly Anderson.

During this financial year, we have been very lucky to have received financial support from several beneficiaries. Such support has enabled the delivery of a diverse range of projects. Our beneficiaries have included the Big Lottery as well as Northern Rock and Gateshead Housing Association. We are also grateful to the direct support of our valued community who continue to give their very generous donations, particularly the Friends of Bill Quay Farm, whose commitment to regular support has been invaluable.

Trustees' Responsibilities in relation to Financial Statements

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 1993.

Matters pertaining to the Companies Act 2006

For the year ended 31 March 2018 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to the accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

Signed:  Chair, on behalf of Trustees

Print name:

Jennifer Wood

Date: 21/9/18

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

**Report to the
trustees of**

Bill Quay Community Farm Association

**On accounts for
the year ended**

31 March 2018

Charity no 1146471

Set out on pages

7 to 9.

**Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and
examiner**

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act),
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act), and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of
independent
examiner's
statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 seeking 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 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 trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
 - proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act); and
 - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act; 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:



Date: 26 July 2018

Name: Mark Thompson
Address: 42 Lesbury Road
Newcastle
NE6 5LB

Bill Quay Community Farm Association
Statement of Financial Activities
1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018

	notes	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2018 Total £	2017 Total £
Incoming resources					
Grants	(2)	67,205	1,000	68,205	74,703
Donations			17,040	17,040	12,312
Houghall Income				0	24,370
Friends of the Farm			6,362	6,362	5,421
Placements				0	0
Café Sales			3,184	3,184	36,518
Livestock Sales			4,852	4,852	18,392
Rental & Generated Income			9,072	9,072	429
Events and hire			5,721	5,721	8,152
Other Income			352	352	4,340
Bank interest			9	9	12
Total incoming resources		67,205	47,592	114,797	184,649
Resources expended					
Salaries		53,840	9,927	63,767	85,362
Contracting, Cleaning and Services		4,062	5,192	9,254	9,209
Livestock Maintenance		4,210	14,890	19,100	16,043
Training, Travel & Administration		5,496	7,891	13,387	8,463
Tools, Equipment, Repairs & Maintenance		3,815	2,793	6,608	16,917
Utilities & Insurance		6,129	8,465	14,594	15,790
Cafe costs		49	581	630	14,902
Livestock Meat Preparation		245	2,638	2,883	3,430
Livestock Purchase			56	56	1,292
Farm Shop Stock			1,571	1,571	
Depreciation				0	1,064
Audit and accounting	(3)		600	600	600
Events and hire expenses		416	42	458	2,135
Promotion & Marketing		180		180	0
Volunteer Expenses		1,424	12	1,436	499
Total resources expended		79,866	54,658	134,524	175,706
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		(12,661)	(7,066)	(19,727)	8,943
Gross transfers between funds				0	0
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		(12,661)	(7,066)	(19,727)	8,943
Other recognised gains/(losses)		0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		(12,661)	(7,066)	(19,727)	8,943
Total funds brought forward		23,420	12,817	36,237	27,294
Total funds carried forward		10,759	5,751	16,510	36,237

Bill Quay Community Farm Association

Balance Sheet

31 March 2018

	2018 £	2018 £	2017 £	2017 £
notes				
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets		0		0
Current assets				
Debtor				
Cash at bank and in hand:				
Deposit account	13,062		35,768	
Current account	4,048		1,069	
Cash				
	<u>17,110</u>		<u>36,837</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (4)	<u>(600)</u>		<u>(600)</u>	
Net current assets		16,510		36,237
Total assets less current liabilities		16,510		36,237
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year		0		0
Net Assets at 31 March 2017		<u>16,510</u>		<u>36,237</u>
Represented By:				
Restricted Funds	10,759		23,420	
Unrestricted Funds	<u>5,751</u>		<u>12,817</u>	
		<u>16,510</u>		<u>36,237</u>

For the period ending 31/03/2018 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors responsibilities:

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance
a) with section 476, of the Companies Act 2006

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting
b) records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small
c) companies regime.

Signed J Wood Position Chair
Print Name Jennifer Wood
Date 21/9/2018

Bill Quay Farm Community Association

Notes to the accounts, 2018

1. Accounting policies

Basis of accounts

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) (effective 1 January 2015) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006

Bill Quay Farm meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

2. Grants received	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £
The Tudor Trust	25,000		25,000
Fresh Ideas Fund	23,185		23,185
Cooperative Grant (1)	2,202		2,202
Cooperative Grant (2)	4,130		4,130
LA7	7,188		7,188
Gateshead Housing Company	5,000		5,000
Marks and Spencer's Spark Something Good	500		500
Catherine Cookson		1,000	1,000
Total grants received	67,205	1,000	68,205

3. Costs of financial services

A fee of £600 will be paid for the independent examination of these accounts.

4. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

Independent examination fee **600**

5. Restricted Funds	at 1/4/17 £	Received £	Spent £	at 31/3/18 £
Fresh Ideas Fund	10,362	23,185	22,971	10,576
Cooperative Grant (1)		2,202	2,202	0
Cooperative Grant (2)		4,130	4,130	0
Tudor Trust		25,000	25,000	0
LA7		7,188	7,188	0
LEAF	10			10
Local Councillor Fund	163			163
Gateshead Housing Company	0	5,000	5,000	0
Awards For All	5,273		5,273	0
J P Morgan	423		423	0
The Joicey Trust	10			10
Marks and Spencer's Spark Something Good		500	500	0
The Rothley Trust	881		881	0
Community Foundation (Northern Powergrid)	2,010		2,010	0
Community Foundation (Brown Ale Fund)	4,288		4,288	0
Total	23,420	67,205	79,866	10,759

Related party transactions

There were no significant transactions between the project and any related parties during the period. No

Trustees and Staff

No Trustees were remunerated or received expenses payments.

The average no. of staff employed was 3 full time, 2 part time.

The Salary costs for the year were **63767**