

Appendix 1

Trustee' Annual Report of the Mill of Benholm Enterprise (SCIO) for 2023/24

OSCr

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator

Trustees' Annual Report for the period							
	Period start date				Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	01	04	2023	To	31	03	2024

Reference and administration details

Charity name	Mill of Benholm Enterprise (SCIO)
Other names charity is known by	
Registered charity number	SC 047943
Charity's principal address	Burn House Burn of Benholm Benholm
	Postcode DD10 0HT

Names of the charity trustees on date of approval of Trustees' Annual Report

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Emma Pollock	Chair		
2	Henning Wagner	Vice Chair/Secretary		
3	John Maxwell	Treasurer		
4	Sally Leavey	Minute Secretary		
5	Hannah McGregor			
6	Mary McCaffrey		01/02/2024	

Reference and administration details

Names of all other charity trustees during the period, if any, (for example, those who resigned part way through the financial period)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

Constitution Two Tier SCIO

Trustee recruitment and appointment

Communication with interested members from a continuously growing membership, use of trustee nomination forms and interview, election at AGM or appointment by the board

Objectives and activities

Charitable purposes

To enhance the enjoyment of art and culture on site and in the environs of the Mill of Benholm. To promote and protect the natural heritage. To promote citizenship, community development, and to create volunteering opportunities for the benefit of the community of Benholm, the surrounding area and beyond by delivering a diverse variety of services and initiatives. To provide leisure and recreation facilities within the Mill, the surrounding woods and the wider environment, with the object of improving the health and wellbeing of the people of Benholm and the surrounding area. To advance education and learning by providing workshops, training sessions and courses on the site and in the surrounding woodland

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

The Mill of Benholm is still owned by Aberdeenshire Council, a community asset transfer request has been submitted and was approved by Aberdeenshire Council in January 2024. The focus is now on completing the legal transfer of the site. In Autumn 2023 a License to Work was signed with Aberdeenshire Council to enable the Mill of Benholm Enterprise to prepare the Mill for ownership handover. Preparing fund raising events and submitting funding applications to be ready for the handover. 10 years of hibernation has left the Mill in a sad state.

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the financial period

Working together with Aberdeenshire Council and other partners for a successful Community asset Transfer of the Mill of Benholm

Gathering support from various political parties, with visits from the Scottish Secretary for Rural Affairs, Scottish Shadow Minister for Public Health, Aberdeenshire Council Leader, the local MP and various Councillors, all of them supporting and endorsing the project.

Issuing a joint statement together with Historic Churches Scotland recognising the natural and historic built of Benholm and surrounding area and committing to promote and enhance the area together in partnership.

Engaging with the owner of the Mill Brae Woods to sign a long-term lease for the Mill Brae Woods to enable the local community and visitors alike to enjoy these ancient woods once again.

Volunteers working on site to make access safe and clear the decade worth of vegetation overgrowth

Continuously increasing our social media followship

Engaging with the public and promoting our objectives at the Johnshaven Fish Festival, Open Days (at Benholm Kirk) and a Christmas Carol afternoon.

Christmas Concert was visited by over 250 people

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The trustees have set optimal reserves at £5,000, which equates to approximately 3 months unrestricted expenditure. As of 1st of January 2024, the level of Free Reserves organisations (defined as total general unrestricted funds) stands at over £15,000 thereby exceeding the optimal reserves figure.

Details of any deficit

None

Donated facilities and services (if any)



None

Other optional information

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Henning Wagner	Mary McCaffrey
Position (e.g. Chair)	Chair	Secretary
Date	7/10/2024	7/10/24