Natural Kirklees

Charity number 1174259

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 September 2019

Natural Kirklees

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for the year ended 30 September 2019

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Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service

Natural Kirklees

Trustees' report for the year ended 30 September 2019

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates
Timothy Duke	Chair	
Joan Vevers	Secretary	
Mary Kenworthy	Treasurer	
Peter Turner		Deceased 7 October 2019
Robert Barraclough		Resigned 29 November 2018
Edwin Day		
Christine Senior		Appointed 29 March 2019

Charity number

The charity was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales, number 1174259, on 15 August 2017.

Principal address

The Depot
Beaumont Park
Huddersfield
HD4 7AS

Bankers

Yorkshire Bank PLC
40 New Street
Huddersfield
HD1 2BT

Accountants

West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service
Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) formed on 15 August 2017.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Natural Kirklees

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 30 September 2019

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

1. To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment in Kirklees by promoting biological diversity.
2. To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.
3. To aid our member groups in their aims regarding parks and open space regeneration and maintenance to allow better access and educational opportunities for the general public.

The charity's main activities

Umbrella organisation for volunteer groups in Kirklees promoting conservation and biodiversity. Providing free insurance and tool share for groups working on Kirklees green spaces.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular giving help and support to the 104 member volunteer groups who work tirelessly to improve their green space, hold events to raise funds and most importantly bring the local community together. The final outcome is £1,000,000 in volunteer time improving green spaces and looking after the environment, conservation, education and guidance on working practices, grants, exercise, fresh air, good company and a healthy feeling.

Achievements and performance

We currently have 104 volunteer groups on the Natural Kirklees website directory, 68 of these have taken up the insurance scheme and a growing number of them use the tool stores in both locations on a regular basis.

Quarterly meetings are held to bring groups together, to discuss common problems and hopefully resolve problems by liaising with the Kirklees volunteer co-ordinators. We usually have an activity or related speakers at the meetings to encourage attendance and relevance. We have had several member groups come and share their activities and achievements, further demonstrations with a seasonal theme are planned. Wildlife sightings are reported and discussed.

This year our Gala took a new direction, under the banner of GGG2019 (Great Green Get together) we held a two day food and drink festival encompassing a volunteer thank you event run by Volunteering Kirklees and the NK networking and showcasing event. Whilst all this was going on the food and drink festival brought together local food outlets and artisan craft stalls with a green theme. We hand sorted all the rubbish produced over the two days and were proud to have recycled over 60%. A thank you lunch is provided for the volunteers and members, feedback from this year's event was very positive and we hope to build on the theme for the 2020 event.

As a thank you to Huddersfield Live who were a great help in the organising of the Gala we agreed to produce a "Quiet space" at the Huddersfield Food and Drink Festival. This was two 9m square areas which we covered in astroturf, on which we constructed four planters and with the help of S2R (Support to Recovery) planted up with flowers and grasses. We put picnic benches and tables and chairs on the turf for people to use to escape the hustle and bustle of the festival. The area was so successful that we had to ask people to leave at the end of the day so we could pack away!

The Kirklees Volunteer Co-ordinators are a great help to groups being the first point of contact with the Parks team. They arrange work days for local companies and individuals who volunteer under the corporate responsibility provision.

Peace Pit Poly Tunnel Group run by S2R and volunteer co-ordinator is very busy now growing plants for parks, green spaces and schools. Volunteers meeting each week to plant seeds, prick out plants and vegetables. The entry for the Harrogate Spring Flower Show was a very good example of council staff and volunteers working together to achieve a Silver Gilt Medal and the Newby Cup. There is a possibility of an entry into the next show in 2020.

We continue to improve the website and get information to groups by newsletters or on the news section of the website and social media. The use of the website increases steadily as it is a useful tool for member groups and we plan to make the site more interactive in the coming year to enable us to include Bioblitz information.

Natural Kirklees

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 30 September 2019

Achievements and performance (continued)

Our training programme around walkover surveys and intent to train our own group of specialists with the help of our existing Naturalists has got off to a slow start but half a dozen surveys have been completed. We are looking at revamping the programme in early 2020 to make it easier to run.

We are in the process of putting together a Skills Register which will enable us to help members who are possibly lacking in a certain skill and allow us to keep abreast of the wealth of skills and knowledge held by our Member Groups.

The Future.

We are running a collaborative venture between ourselves River Holme Connections and Kirklees Council to try and eradicate invasive plant species such as Himalayan Balsam, Giant Hogweed and especially Japanese Knotweed on our member sites. This activity on this will be governed by the growing season of the particular plant but we have already treated two sites in the last month.

We will introduce the Natural Kirklees small grants scheme in 2020. This will be a small pot of funding that we can distribute amongst member groups who will bid for help for their projects.

We are also looking to encourage our member groups to take part in the "In Bloom" scheme which we hope will encourage pride in local areas and the possibility of forming local growing groups.

Financial review

The net receipts for the year were £8,878, all relating to restricted funds.

Reserves policy

The charity's free cash reserves at the year end were nil.

The charity has no formal reserves policy. All project funds are restricted and the group have no liabilities beyond the running of the funded activities.

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees:

Signed: ..... Date: 13/11/19

Name MARY KENWORTHY (Trustee)

Natural Kirklees

Receipts and payments account

for the year ended 30 September 2019

	Notes	2019 Unrestricted funds £	2019 Restricted funds £	2019 Total funds £	2018 Total funds £
Receipts					
Grants	(2)	-	23,000	23,000	-
Donations		250	-	250	50
Total receipts		250	23,000	23,250	50
Payments					
Insurance		-	7,165	7,165	6,508
Tool store		-	727	727	1,129
Website		-	377	377	351
Publicity		-	180	180	372
Events and activities		250	5,457	5,707	-
Accounting		-	216	216	-
Total payments		250	14,122	14,372	8,360
Net receipts / (payments)		-	8,878	8,878	(8,310)
Cash fund balances brought forward		-	22,665	22,665	30,975
Cash fund balances carried forward	(3)	-	31,543	31,543	22,665

Natural Kirklees

Statement of assets and liabilities

as at 30 September 2019

	2019 Unrestricted	2019 Restricted	2019 Total	2018 Total
Cash funds	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank	-	31,543	31,543	22,665
Total cash funds	-	31,543	31,543	22,665

Assets retained for the charity's own use
Computer, printer and accessories

Liabilities	£
Accounts preparation	252
	252

Approval of the accounts

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on

Date: 13/11/2019

Signed: ..... (Trustee)

Name MARY KENWORTHY

Natural Kirklees

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 30 September 2019

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The trustees have taken advantage of section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Taxation

As a registered charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

Natural Kirklees

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 30 September 2019

2 Grants and donations

	2019 Unrestricted funds	2019 Restricted funds	2019 Total funds	2018 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Kirklees Council	-	20,000	20,000	-
Kirklees Council (Knotweed)	-	3,000	3,000	-
Voluntary Action Kirklees	250	-	250	-
Donations	-	-	-	50
	250	23,000	23,250	50

3 Restricted funds

	Balance b/f	Incoming	Outgoing	Balance c/f
	£	£	£	£
Kirklees Council	22,665	20,000	14,122	28,543
Kirklees Council (Knotweed)	-	3,000	-	3,000
	22,665	23,000	14,122	31,543

Fund name	Purpose of restriction
Kirklees Council	Towards the costs of insurance, tool share scheme, website, publicity and promotional events.
Kirklees Council (Knotweed)	Towards the costs of Japanese Knotweed eradication.

4 Trustee expenses

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

5 Trustee remuneration and benefits

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.