



Registered Scottish Charity No. SC033394

Trustees Annual Report and Accounts **for the year ending 31 December 2023**

Trustees

Nick Bengé – chairperson.

Bruce Angus

Karen Edwards

Simon Gillam

Gill Harris (retired 8 March 2023)

Michael Roe

Lynn Whitehead

Trustees are usually appointed or reappointed by members at the AGM. Trustees receive no remuneration and claimed no expenses during the period other than routine re-imbursment of secretarial expenses.

Contact Address

20 Cammo Crescent, Edinburgh EH4 8DZ

Charitable Purposes

Friends of Cammo's charitable purposes concern the advancement of environmental protection and improvement, education, health, community development, and heritage.

Background

Friends of Cammo is governed according to its Constitution which outlines the Friends objectives as follows -

- a) to preserve and enhance the amenity of Cammo Estate for the benefit of the public and;
- b) to advance the education of the public in the scenic, historical, architectural, landscape and ecological qualities of the said Estate.

In furtherance thereof, but not otherwise, the Friends shall :

1. liaise with the Land Manager, for the time being the City of Edinburgh Council and
2. seek to provide all relevant facilities.

Review of Activities 2023

The main activities of Friends of Cammo in 2023 comprised :

- Committee members and other volunteers continued to work to improve the park, including developing signage, litter picking, woodchip moving, wildflower cutting, mulching, tree maintenance and clearing overgrown vegetation.
- We initiated and managed repair work and projects, such as maintaining the wetland inlet and outlet pipes, repairing the stream banks and repairing holes in the perimeter walls.
- We planted wildflowers, trees and willow whips next to the stream and wetland. We also created small pools and waterfalls in the stream, to reduce erosion.
- More bird boxes were put up, and are being well used.
- To improve biodiversity and protect trees, we distributed Christmas trees, logs and brash.
- Woodchips were spread on paths and areas used by the Forest Kindergarten.
- Wildflower areas were cut and the resulting arisings were used to mulch the young trees.
- We maintained the bee hives and cleared and planted two areas to provide more food for the bees. Unfortunately, it was a poor year for bees and we were without a bee keeper for five months from early summer. so no honey was produced this year.
- After clearing vegetation and mulching around the native fruit trees in the walled garden orchard, we had another good crop of apples, made available to members and others.
- We continue to replace failures from the 2800 trees planted by contractors in 2022.
- We staffed the Lodge as a visitor centre on Sunday afternoons throughout the year.
- The Facebook page and website was regularly updated with pictures, reports and events.
- Development of a new website is almost complete.
- We liaised with park users to ensure that events do not leave a legacy of litter or damage.
- We commented on any Planning Applications which may affect Cammo Estate.
- Cammo Management Group, established to improve liaison between the Council, Friends of Cammo and other main park users, now meets every second month

The Trustees would like to thank the many volunteers who helped with the above activities - without them the above achievements would not have been possible.

Financial Review 2023

Friends of Cammo had general funds of £5,381 at the year-end a decrease of £683. Restricted funds did not move during the year and were £215 at the year-end.

Charitable activities are achieved through the support and time of Trustees and individual members. Grant income will continue to be sought prior to commitment of future projects.

Receipts during the period amounted to £2,940 comprising subscriptions of £1,190, donations of £1,167, gift aid of £461 and booklet sales of £122. There were no larger than normal donations this year and, as no honey was produced, there were no honey related donations.

Payments for the year amounted to £3,623 of which £1,458 was spent on trees and wildflowers, £551 was bee related expenditure, £196 was refunded for 2022 expenditure on the Lodge, £153 was spent on information posters, £125 was spent on bird boxes, website upgrade and fees were £771, insurance costs were £667 and secretarial costs were £94.

Payments exceeded receipts by £683 and Friends of Cammo ended the period with a credit bank balance of £5,596.

At 31 December 2023 the charity had unrestricted general funds of £5,381 (sufficient to cover running costs for the following year) and restricted funds were £215 for information panels. The charity owns a small marquee, five barbeques, related equipment and bee keeping outfits.

Friends of Cammo

Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Year ending 31 December 2023 £	Year ending 31 December 2022 £
Receipts		
Grants received	0	0
Subscriptions	1190	1115
Donations	1167	3994
Gift Aid received	461	580
Receipts from fundraising activities :		
- events	0	0
- booklet sales	122	148
Total Receipts	2940	5837
Payments		
Payments for fundraising activities :		
- events	0	0
Payments for charitable activities :		
- trees and wildflowers	1458	877
- bee equipment and supplies	551	673
- lodge expenditure – reimbursed 2023	-196	196
- information panels and posters	153	202
- rustic bench and installation	0	990
- bird boxes	125	403
- high visibility jackets	0	240
Governance costs :		
- website upgrade and fees	771	21
- insurance	667	631
- secretarial	94	271
Total Payments	3623	4504
Surplus/(Deficit)	-683	1333
 Statement of Balances		
Bank Balance b/f	6279	4946
Bank Balance c/f	5596	6279
General Funds	5381	6064
Restricted Funds	215	215
Total funds	5596	6279
There are no other balances.		

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf

Name: Lynn Whitehead

Date: 18th February 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Friends of Cammo

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on page 3.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. 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 seeks 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 view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Callum Towns

Date: 18th February 2024

Independent Examiner

5 Strathalmond Green
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