

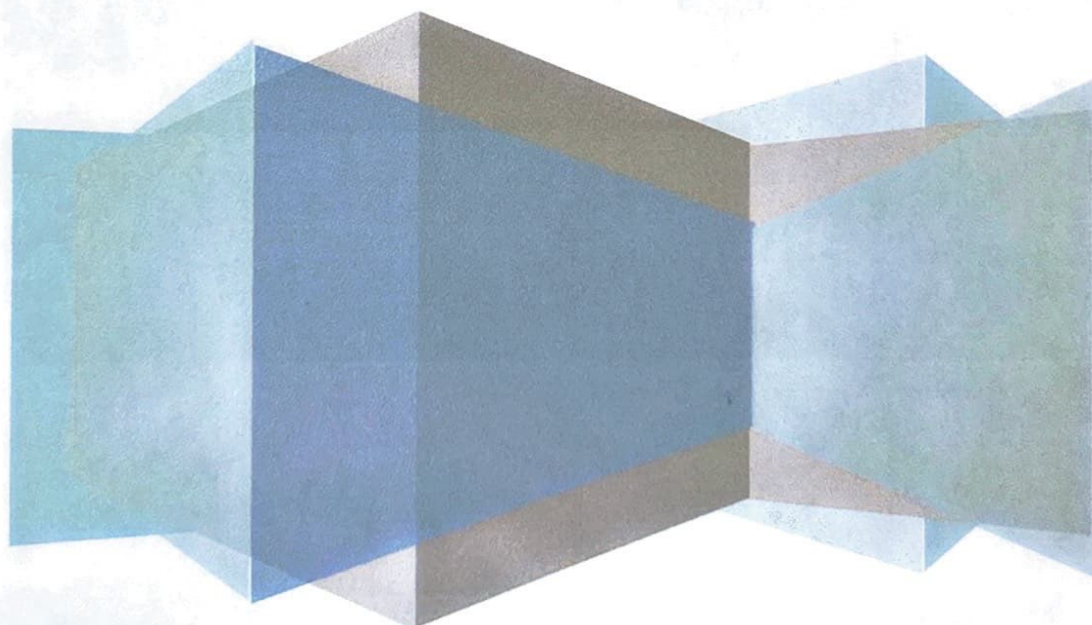
Sustainable Cupar

Scottish Charity number: SC042695

Annual Report & Financial Statements

For Year Ended

31 March 2024



Trustees' Annual Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their Report together with the Financial Statements and the Independent Examiner's Report for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Reference & Administrative Information

Charity Name:	Sustainable Cupar	
Charity No:	SC042695	
Address:	c/o Ladyburn House, Skinners Steps, Cupar KY154DZ	
Current Trustees:	Sarah Davidson, Chair	Jennifer Collins
	Mary Ellen Robertson, Secretary	Alison Milne
	Andrew Collins, Treasurer	Gary Paterson
	Margot Abbott	Gordon Pay
	Norma Alari	
Sub Group Coordinators:	Mary Ellen Robertson	Active Travel
	Alison Milne	Book club
	Sarah Davidson	FAB
	Gordon Pay/Gary Paterson	Town /Energy
Independent Examiner:	Sue Jack, c/o Fife Voluntary Action, Caledonia House, Saltire Centre, Glenrothes KY6 2AL	

Structure Governance & Management

Constitution

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). It is governed by its constitution which was adopted on 28.07.2011. The charity was granted charitable status by OSCR on 27.10.2011.

Appointment of Trustees

The charity's trustees normally meet on a Quarterly basis. Membership of the Charity is open to anyone with an interest in the sustainable future of Cupar. Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting, which is normally held in April. Under the constitution, there must be a minimum of four and not more than twelve elected trustees.

Management

The trustees are responsible for the strategic direction and governance of the Charity, whilst day-to-day running is delegated to the Sub-group Co-ordinators. The Sub-groups normally have monthly meetings and the Sub-group Co-ordinators attend the Trustee meetings to discuss progress and development.

The Trustees are particularly aware of their responsibility for Health and Safety. The Charity also has 3rd party insurance.

Objectives & Activities

Charitable purposes

Sustainable Cupar is a local community group that was set up to help Cupar become a thriving, environmentally friendly town. The group aims to raise awareness of green issues and to promote and support changes to more sustainable lifestyles.

Achievements & Performance

Sustainable Cupar has 242 members and is a prominent voice in the local Community placing regular articles in the Cupar newspapers and referred to by other local organisations.

Sustainable Cupar Active Travel

The group has met regularly throughout the year, with a number of committed members. We have been fortunate to be able to use the premises at Community Voice for the meetings, free of charge.

We ran a Big Wee Cycle for Cupar's Big Weekend on 17th Sept. Good assistance was given by Taycoasters, Greener Kirkcaldy and Community Police to cover the route through the town. Numbers attending were relatively small but lessons were learned which would be useful for another event.

Member Ken Cameron produced a very useful Bus Timetable Leaflet, specifically aimed at members of the public who find online use difficult. This has been widely distributed round Cupar and can also be accessed via the Sustainable Cupar Website.

We took part in a Fife Council consultation run by Arup to look at the feasibility of a Cupar to Guardbridge Active Travel Path, something which has long been advocated by the group.

Recently we contributed, individually & as a group, to Fife Council's Active Travel Strategy Consultation.

Ongoing work has included following the Red Route proposal through Fife Council planning, canvassing Sandylands Road residents about possible actions to ameliorate through traffic, supporting development of Greener Kirkcaldy's Cycling Fridays Campaign, actively contributing to the development of Local Place Plans and trying to discern effective ways to advance the Active Travel agenda in Cupar.

Effective working with Fife Council is an ongoing and pressing issue, not least because funding for Active Travel projects is in the process of shifting from Sustrans to being under the aegis of Area Transport Partnerships and the Local Council. We are following developments with interest.

Sustainable Cupar Book Club

Our book group with 5 regular attenders and up to another 5 sometimes attenders has met once a month in members houses for the last year. Our healthy dialogues around the books leads to an entertaining and educational evening. New members are always welcome. Some of the books we have read over the last year have included:

Top Ten Economic Myths by Stewart McGill; Chums: How a tiny caste of Oxford Tories took over the UK by Simon Kupper; What your Food Ate by Montgomery and Bikle; Earth for All by Dixon-Decleve; The Social Distance Between Us by McGarvey; Grass by Tepper; and Free and Equal by Chandler.

Sustainable Cupar Fruit & Blossom (FAB)

Well, it does not feel like Spring, but despite the weather, FAB has had a busy time – winter fruit trees have been pruned over a couple of days in the community orchard in Jan / Feb. The snowdrops, crocuses and daffodils have been splendid this year in the orchard, with cowslips and fritillaria about to flower, lifting the spirits when you see them. There are plans afoot to improve the seating in the orchard, news on that later in the year.

The wildflower meadows in Cuparmills have steadily taken hold and there are the first signs of the yellow rattle germinating – all good.

Trees have been planted on riverside walk working with Elmwood College students, this was a very successful planting and we also planted two special oak trees, part of the Akin project. The Cupar mills trees are getting established and a few replacement fruit trees were planted. FAB, partnering with Climate Action Fife, have grafted fifty fruit trees for planting in Fife next year.

The community allotment at Elmwood is further developing with planting of the wild edible garden underway. The group are turning their thoughts to making compost heaps now.

Achievements & Performance, continued . . .

Sustainable Cupar Town/Energy

District Heating

There has been some recent progress to report on District heating for Cupar (also known as Heat Networks).

Sustainable Cupar has been actively involved in promoting this for Cupar for over 10 years now.

Community Heat Development Programme

We continue to work with the Scottish Government agency Local Energy Scotland (LES). They have recently launched the Community Heat Development Programme. Because of our previous work, Sustainable Cupar is proceeding straight into Stage 2 of that.

This would be just for another feasibility study, but we can reasonably expect our proposal to score highly against the programme assessment criteria:

'Impact' - reduction of carbon emissions, reduction in long-term operating costs, alignment with Scotland's Just Transition Outcomes, and whether the project offers new insight/learning that would help other communities across Scotland.

'Deliverability' - level of community interest & engagement in the project, the ownership, operation, & maintenance options, and potential delivery options beyond the feasibility support.

We do have a deliverable pilot option that could move on from that. This would involve the Scottish Water treatment plant on the trading estate, and the adjacent beet silo site, and the buildings there. Both the silo site owners and Scottish Water Horizons have worked positively with us on this.

This could provide the nucleus for expansion in that area, and beyond. Fishers Laundry has indicated they would be interested at that stage, potentially being a supplier of heat to the network.

Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES)

Fife Council has at the same time been progressing work on a statutory Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES). They have already identified two potential heat network zones.

Sustainable Cupar's proposal is in the eastern one, that covers the business estates there. There is also a western one based on Bell Baxter, Elmwood, and the Sports Centre.

Cupar North heat network?

Such heat network zones will have a legal status, including in Scotland's fourth National Planning Framework (NPF4), that is now in force.

This may be related to the confirmation in Persimmon's latest planning submission that the Cupar North development, if it were to proceed, will provide energy to meet the residential heating and hot water demand via a heat network.

Persimmon has not really engaged in a meaningful way, yet, with Sustainable Cupar's particular proposal, but it looks like a Cupar heat network, or networks, have taken several significant steps forward this year.

Sustainable Cupar River

SC Trustees were delighted to announce in February 2024 success with the funding for the River Eden development project.

This funding comes from the Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund, managed by NatureScot for our source-to-sea improvement project on the River Eden and Motray Water catchments in Fife, with match funding from Fife Communities Climate Action Network (FCCAN). SC is partners with the Eden Angling Association, Fife Coast and Countryside Trust and members of St Andrews University in the River Eden Sustainability Partnership (RESP).

Achievements & Performance, continued . . .

Sustainable Cupar River, continued . . .

The project will identify key stakeholders, landowners, and land managers in the catchment. It will survey and map data highlighting areas suitable for habitat improvements, such as control of non-native invasive plant species and the creation of bankside woodland. The evidence gathered will help us work with landowners and experts to select the best ways to improve river habitats.

RESP is committed to supporting restored river corridors, rich in biodiversity, free from invasive non-native species, resilient to climate change and connected to the community for well-being and economic benefit.

The funding announcement was made at the RESP River Eden landowner 'Any Questions' event at Letham Village Hall organised to open a vital conversation with local landowners, residents and land managers about how to improve the river. The Eden is currently classified as "poor" by the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA).

This is a beginning of a conversation locally about the best way to improve the river catchment. RESP has begun its work by employing surveyors, who will provide evidence of the state of the river habitats. This project will run for twelve months. At the end of that period, working hand in hand with key partners and local people, plans will evolve about the best next steps to be taken to achieve the goals of an improved river catchment.

The funding will also allow RESP to offer training opportunities for volunteers who would like to get involved. There are lots of projects to get involved in from control of invasive species and tree planting to water quality and invertebrate monitoring.

Activities:

Sustainable Cupar have a number of sub-groups :

- Active Travel
- Book Club
- Natural Environment, including the FAB sub-group
- Town/Energy
- River

Financial Review

Reserves Policy

Much of the income of the charity is from grants for specific projects and is therefore restricted on what it can be used for.

Closing balance for restricted funds:	£	1,358
Red Route	£	-
Moor Road	£	816
River Fund	£	542
General Fund (non-specific or overhead costs)	£	4,692
The trustees' policy is to maintain reserves for 3 months' normal running costs to meet commitments and cover unexpected expenditure.	£	512

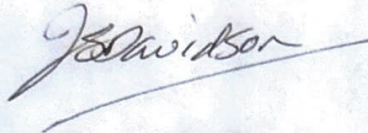
Plans for Future Periods

Our funds have been supported and made more sustainable by an increase in members joining fee which is optional and regular contributions by members to cover payments such as insurance and other fees not normally covered by funding. This has given more certainty and financial stability.

We will continue to obtain funding from relevant organisations to pursue our aims.

Approved by the trustees on the date below and signed on their behalf by:

Signed:



(Chair)

Isabella Sarah Davidson

Date:

09 April 2024

Statement of Receipts & Payments – For Year Ended 31/03/2024

Receipts	Note	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total 2023-2024	Total 2022-2023
Voluntary Receipts					
Grants	4 & 9	11,465	0	11,465	11,883
Fundraising and donations	6	0	4,169	4,169	1,181
Bank interest	5	0	0	0	1
Total Receipts		11,465	4,169	15,634	13,065
Payments					
Cost of Fundraising		0	0	0	0
Cost of Charitable Activities	7	11,337	1,930	13,267	15,395
Governance Costs	8	0	120	120	60
Total Payments		11,337	2,050	13,387	15,455
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		128	2,119	2248	-2390

The Notes on pages 7 & 8 form an integral part of these Accounts

Statement of Balances – As at 31/03/2024

Funds Reconciliation

Opening Cash at Bank & In Hand	3,803	6,193
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	2,248	(2,390)
Closing Cash at Bank & In Hand	6,050	3,803
Bank & Cash Balances	6,050	3,803
Represented by:		
Bank Account	6,050	3,803
Cash in Hand	0	0

Other Assets (Unrestricted Fund)


There are no other Assets

Liabilities (Unrestricted Fund)


There are no other Liabilities

The Notes on pages 7 & 8 form an integral part of these accounts

Approved by the trustees on the date below and signed on their behalf by:-

Chair: 

Isabella Sarah Davidson

Treasurer: 

Andrew C Collins

Date: 09 April 2024

Date: 09 April 2024

Notes to the Accounts – For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts & Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

2 Nature and purpose of funds

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. The trustees maintain a single unrestricted fund for the day-to-day running of the Charity.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes.

3 Related Party Transactions

No remuneration was paid to the trustees.

No travel expenses were paid to any trustees during the year.

	2024		Total 2024	2023		Total 2023
	Restricted	Unrestricted		Restricted	Unrestricted	
4 Grants Received						
Sustrans (Red Route)	9,393		9,393	10,443		10,443
Comm Food Award (FAB)	0		0	1,440		1,440
Fife Comm Fund (River)	1,500		1,500	0		0
NatureScot (River)	572		572	0		0
Total Grants Received	11,465		11,465	11,883		11,883
5 Bank Interest		0	0		1	1
6 Donations		4,169	4,169		1,181	1,181
Total Receipts	11,465	4,169	15,634	11,883	1,182	13,065
7 Cost of Charitable Activities						
Insurance/Legal Fees		232	232		233	233
Sundry Expenditure		0	0		230	230
Meetings/Events	843	475	1,318		191	191
Grant funded (Red Route)	9,393		9,393	12,594		12,594
Calendars		708	708		0	0
FAB plants, etc		293	293		1,081	1,081
Comm Food plants, etc	414		414	1,067		1,067
River equipment	110		110	0		0
River admin	70		70	0		0
River website	48		48	0		0
Printing	460	221	681	0		0
Total Cost of Charitable Activities	11,337	1,930	13,267	13,660	1,735	15,395
8 Governance Costs		120	120		60	60
Total payments	11,337	2,050	13,387	13,660	1,795	15,455

	2023-2024				2022-2023			
	Restricted b/f	new funds	expenditure during year	Restricted c/f	Restricted b/f	new funds	expenditure during year	Restricted c/f
9 Restricted funds								
Sustrans (Red Route)	0	9,393	9,393	0	2151	10,443	12,594	0
Moor Road	816	0	0	816	816	0	0	816
Comm Food Award (FAB)	433	0	433	0	0	1,440	1,007	433
River fund	0	2,072	1,530	542	0	0	0	0
Total	1,250	11,465	11,356	1,358	2,967	11,883	13,600	1250

Independent Examiner's Report
For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Sustainable Cupar

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 3 to 9.

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 ("the 2005 Act") and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) ("the 2006 Regulations"). The charity's trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section (44) (1) (c) of the 2005 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 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 connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 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 Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Regulations have not been met, 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 Sue Jack

Date 9/5/24

Sue Jack B.Sc.(Hon), Cert.Acc.(open)