

# **FRIENDS OF THE RIVER ALMOND WALKWAY**

**Annual report and financial statements**

**For the year ended**

**28 February 2026**



# ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026

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## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026

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The trustees present their report and financial statements together with the independent examiner's report for the year ended 28 February 2026.

### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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**Charity Name** Friends of the River Almond Walkway (also known as FRAW)

**Charity Number** SC045077

**Contact Address** 27 Cammo Grove  
Edinburgh  
EH4 8EX

**Website address** <http://www.friendsoftheriveralmondwalkway.org.uk>

|                         |                  |           |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| <b>Current Trustees</b> | John Kerr        | Chair     |
|                         | Iain Percival    | Secretary |
|                         | Euan Drysdale    | Treasurer |
|                         | George Bee       |           |
|                         | John Crutchfield |           |
|                         | Gordon Dale      |           |

|                                                  |               |                     |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| <b>Other Trustees who served during the year</b> | Isla Browning | Resigned 01/10/2025 |
|                                                  |               |                     |

**Bankers** Royal Bank of Scotland plc  
239 St John's Road  
Edinburgh  
EH12 7XA

**Independent Examiner** Michael Brougham  
3 Lyne Grove  
Crossford  
Dunfermline  
KY12 8YB

### STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

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#### Governing document

The charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation incorporated on 26 August 2014 and governed by its constitution effective from that date.

#### Appointment of trustees

Trustees are appointed at the Annual General Meeting of the charity. In addition, the Board of Trustees may appoint other trustees at any time, subject to there being a minimum of three and a maximum of fifteen trustees.

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## Organisational structure

The organisation consists of members and trustees. Membership is open to any individual who is interested in helping the organisation to achieve its aims. The members are responsible for electing trustees at the organisation's AGM.

The trustees, who meet regularly, are responsible for the day-to-day management and administration of the charity.

## OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

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### Objectives

The purpose of the organisation is to improve, promote and enhance the heritage and the natural environment of the River Almond Walkway, which it seeks to do by:

- promoting the well-being of the residents of the area and working together as residents regardless of age, ethnic origin, ability, sex, belief or political affiliation recognising the value of our many differences;
- involving local people in improving the area; and
- carrying out both environmental improvement and practical conservation, to encourage and support the local population in environmental practice by working with statutory and non-statutory agencies.

### Activities

- We continue to operate work parties, subject to Trustee availability and to carry out smaller scale projects. The objective of these has been
  - to improve access along, and the general condition of, the Walkway
  - to control overgrown areas
  - to improve safety by clearing leaves from paths and steps
  - to remove invasive species to promote the growth of native species.
- Urgent work was carried out by individual committee members
  - using some heavier-duty equipment to clear fallen trees
  - using brush cutting equipment to clear overgrown areas.
- Work was also carried out replacing damaged steps and safety barriers at various locations along the Walkway.

## ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

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- Contact was maintained with our members via newsletters and e-mail messages.
- Our members numbers 178 individuals from 100 households.
- Due to the generosity of our members our financial situation remained in good health.
- We carried out a Leaflet drop of 280 in a drive to recruit new members from the new housing estate at Cammo Meadows and plan further drops to the remainder of the estate.
- The planned additional bench for the site at Peggy's Mill was delivered in June.
- In June also we had a party of 20 students from Erskine Stewarts Melville School who cleared up leaves from steps and re-stained the wildflower fencing as well as collecting rubbish along the walkway.
- At the end of September, the new Fingerposts were delivered to the City of Edinburgh Council and arrangements were made for their siting and erection in January of the New Year.

# TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026

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- Maintenance and improvement in the Community Woodland was continued.
- Liaison and cooperation with other local groups have been maintained and the Cramond Collaborative Group continues to communicate via e-mail and to meet face to face.
- Membership and active participation in the Edinburgh Green Spaces Forum was maintained.
- Our new Website has been launched, and we are arranging for removal of the original which can still be accessed.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

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### Overview

Our principal sources of income continue to be membership fees, donations, associated Gift Aid and grant funding towards specific projects, whereas expenditure is almost entirely in respect of improvement works and projects for the Walkway.

|                                       | 2026           | 2025  |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------|
|                                       | £              | £     |
| Receipts                              | 1,731          | 2,378 |
| Payments                              | 7,696          | 679   |
| <b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</b> | <b>(5,965)</b> | 1,699 |

### Reserves policy

The trustees consider around £1,500 to £2,000 is an appropriate level of reserves to hold to meet the day-to-day running costs of the charity, excluding project costs that are largely grant funded. Reserves at the end of the year were £8,520 (2025: £13,217), which is higher than the target range. Planned additions to the Walkway are expected to cost around £5,000, with a further £1,000 required for website development, which will bring reserves closer to the target range.

## FUTURE PLANS

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- Once the new fingerposts are installed, the uprights will be given 2 coats of wood stain for protection. The remaining old posts will be removed.
- The notice board at the School Brae end of the Walkway needs a new sheet of Perspex as the present has been vandalised with graffiti and was further damaged in removal of same.
- In March the West/North scaffolding flight of the Salvesen steps will be removed to be replaced by a new set of "semi-permanent" steps.
- We will continue to press the City of Edinburgh Council to allow us to purchase a suitable storage unit that can be placed on the Walkway as the current loan of garage space is to become unavailable.

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026

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### APPROVAL

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This report, which has been prepared in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, was approved by the trustees on 04 May 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

*John Kerr*

**John Kerr**

Chair

# **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026

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## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Friends of the River Almond Walkway**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 28 February 2026, which are set out on pages 8 to 10.

### **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 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 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 came 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 Regulationshave 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.

*Michael Brougham*

**Michael Brougham, MCBI FCIE**

3 Lyne Grove  
Crossford  
Dunfermline  
KY12 8YB  
02 June 2026

## STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026

|                                   | 2026           | 2025         |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
|                                   | £              | £            |
| <b>Receipts</b>                   |                |              |
| Donations                         |                |              |
| Membership fees                   | 220            | 226          |
| Other donations                   | 1,511          | 1,519        |
| Gift aid                          | -              | 633          |
| Grants                            | -              | -            |
|                                   | <b>1,731</b>   | <b>2,378</b> |
| <b>Payments</b>                   |                |              |
| Charitable activities:            |                |              |
| Equipment                         | -              | -            |
| Insurance                         | 287            | 275          |
| Subscriptions                     | 30             | 30           |
| Walkway projects                  | 7,217          | 259          |
| Governance Costs:                 |                |              |
| AGM and members meetings          | 122            | 91           |
| Gift for independent examiner     | 40             | 24           |
|                                   | <b>7,696</b>   | <b>679</b>   |
| <b>Surplus/(Deficit) for year</b> | <b>(5,965)</b> | <b>1,699</b> |

The Notes on page 10 form an integral part of these accounts.

## STATEMENT OF BALANCES

AS AT 28 FEBRUARY 2026

|                                | 2026    | 2025   |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------|
|                                | £       | £      |
| <b>Funds reconciliation</b>    |         |        |
| Balance as at 01 March 2025    | 13,217  | 11,854 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) for year     | (5,965) | 1,699  |
| Balance as at 28 February 2026 | 7,252   | 13,553 |
| <b>Bank and cash Balances</b>  |         |        |
| Cash at bank                   | 7,252   | 13,217 |
| Cash in hand                   | -       | -      |
|                                | 7,252   | 13,217 |
| <b>Other Assets</b>            |         |        |
| Gift aid due                   | 335     | -      |
| Tools and equipment            | 1,000   | 1,000  |
|                                | 1,335   | 1,000  |
| <b>Liabilities</b>             |         |        |
| Subscriptions paid in advance  | 67      | -      |

The Notes on page 10 form an integral part of these accounts.

These accounts, which have been prepared in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 were approved by the trustees on 04 May 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

*John Kerr*

**John Kerr**  
Chair

*Euan Drysdale*

**Euan Drysdale**  
Treasurer

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2026

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## 1. Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis in accordance with:

- (a) The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005
- (b) The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

There have been no changes to the basis of preparation or to the previous year's accounts.

## 2. Fund accounting

- (a) Unrestricted funds are those that can be expended at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the objects of the charity.
- (b) Restricted funds are those that may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor, or when funds are raised for specific purposes.

The charity's funds are currently all unrestricted.

## 3. Taxation

- (a) The charity is not liable to corporation tax or capital gains tax on its charitable activities.
- (b) The charity is not registered for VAT thus all costs are shown inclusive of VAT charged.

## 4. Transactions with trustees and related parties

- (a) No remuneration was paid to trustees during the year or in the previous year.
- (b) No expenses were reimbursed to the trustees during the year or in the previous year.
- (c) The charity's insurance policy includes trustee indemnity insurance.
- (d) There were no transactions with related parties during the year or in the previous year.

## 5. Purpose of Funds

|                   |                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Unrestricted fund | A general fund that can be expended at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|