



Supporting Outdoor Learning at Benmore for All Young People

FRIENDS OF BENMORE OUTDOOR CENTRE
[SCIO – Two Tier]

Charity number SC048918

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2025

The Trustees are pleased to submit their report on the activities of the charity for the year ending 31st December 2025.

Introduction

We are a registered charity in Scotland independent of the City of Edinburgh Council which operates Benmore Outdoor Education Centre at Dunoon, Argyll & Bute. We are still a fledgling charity but trying hard to increase our activity through raising funds and making awards to enhance the learning experience of young people visiting Benmore.

The charity was constituted as a Two Tier organisation on 18th December 2018. However, as yet, our only members are the Trustees.

Charity's principal address:

c/o 17 Marchburn Drive
Penicuik
Midlothian EH26 9HE

Objectives

- The objectives of the charity are to enhance the learning experience of young people visiting Benmore Outdoor Centre through:
- assisting children and young people from across Scotland who might otherwise have difficulty in accessing a high-quality residential experience at Benmore Centre
- enhancing the provision of a programme of outdoor and environmental activities to engage, develop and educate children and young people attending the Centre
- facilitating training for volunteers to ensure that children and young people from across Scotland gain maximum benefit from Benmore based outdoor activities
- the provision of recreational activities, or the organisation of recreational activities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended, by:

- supporting Benmore Centre in the provision of recreational activities for families, clubs and societies, members of the local community and others, to promote a healthy lifestyle and protection of the environment by facilitating training for volunteers
- the advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science, by:
- contributing, as appropriate, to the upkeep of the Grade B listed Benmore House to maintain its historical and architectural importance.

Trustees

The Trustees who served at any time during the year to 31st December 2025 were as follows:

Roger Scrutton (Chair) (2027)

Alice Brown (2028)

Dorothy Hilsley (2028)

Andrew Beveridge (2026)

William French (2026)

Angela Kerr (2027)

The year of termination of their current term of office is shown in brackets. Trustees are required to seek renewal of their appointment every three years. Roger Scrutton was re-appointed Trustee and Chair during 2024. The appointment of the Chair is reviewed annually. And Alice Brown and Dorothy Hilsley were re-appointed as Trustees during 2025. Applications for new Trustees are invited as and when required and appointments are made with regard to their experience and skills relevant to our objectives. Trustees Andrew Beveridge and Angela Kerr live in the vicinity of Benmore Outdoor Centre and provide an important link with the local community of Dunoon.

Type of governing document

A Constitution in the form of one document.

Summary of the main activities and achievements in 2025

We received a significant donation of £15k during 2025 from the City of Edinburgh Council, ring-fenced for awards to needy families whose children are attending a residential outdoor education week at Benmore with their school. We raised £926 through fundraising.

We made a further application to trust funds for money to install a floating pontoon at the canoe and kayak station at Lock Eck to facilitate access to craft for young people with mobility difficulties visiting at Benmore or from the local community, but the application was unsuccessful. We intend to continue to apply for funds for this project.

Otherwise, in 2025 we continued to establish further essential operating policies, such as Environmental Protection Policy, which are hosted on the City of Edinburgh Council 'experienceoutdoors' website, since we do not, as yet, have sufficient funds to launch our own website.

Governance

Trustees met remotely by Teams twice during 2025.

We are continuing a discussion with some very prominent people local to Dunoon with the aim of appointing Patrons.

Financial review

As mentioned above, there were few financial transactions in 2025.

Our bank balance at the end of 2025 stood at £17022.

How our charity delivers Public Benefit

It is our intention that all our charitable activities focus directly or indirectly on enhancing the experience of young people visiting Benmore Centre for outdoor adventure and learning, to appreciate the value of the natural environment and our need to sustain it. These will further focus on those young people who need the greatest support.

Future developments

Up to now we have pursued a *modus operandi* of applying to sources of funds for the support of capital projects, e.g. for easier access to craft at Loch Eck, so far without success. We will continue with this with greater collaboration with the local community, but also try to grow and diversify our funding sources so that we have flexibility to respond to a range of applications to support activities that meet our declared objectives and deliver public benefit. We expect expenditure to increase significantly in 2026 in response to applications from needy families for financial support for their child to attend Benmore Centre, and, in collaboration with the Centre, we have significantly improved our grant application process.

As a Two-Tier SCIO we will again consider the benefits of opening up the charity to members other than the Trustees.

Report approved by Trustees 1st September 2026 and signed on their behalf by:



Roger Antony Scrutton (Chair)

Date: 13th September 2026

Financial statement for the Year ending 31st December 2025

Starting balance		£ 1096.18
Income	City of Edinburgh Council	£ 15000.00
	Fundraising activity	£ 926.00
Expenditure		Nil
Ending balance		£17022.18

This Financial statement was approved by Trustees on 1st September 2026 and signed on their behalf by:



Roger Antony Scrutton (Chair)

Date.....13th September 2026

Attachment: Bank Statement for 2025

Your account statement

Issue date: 31 December 2025



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FRIENDS OF BENMORE CENTRE (SCIO)
DR SCRUTTON
17 MARCHBURN DRIVE
PENICUIK
MIDLOTHIAN
EH26 9HE



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BX2 1LB

Call us on: 0345 300 0268 (from UK)
+44 131 549 8724 (from Overseas)

Visit us online: www.bankofscotland.co.uk

Your branch: THE DIRECT BUSINESS

Sort code: 80-22-60 Account number: 18774669

BIC: BOFSGBS1SDP

IBAN: GB13 BOFS 8022 6018 7746 69

CHARITY ACCOUNT

FRIENDS OF BENMORE CENTRE (SCIO)

Our records indicate that your business is eligible for FSCS
deposit protection.
Further details can be found on the Useful Information page.

Account summary

Balance On 01 Dec 2025	£16,096.18
Total Paid In	£926.00
Total Paid Out	£0.00
Balance On 08 Dec 2025	£17,022.18

Account activity

Date	Payment Type	Details	Paid In (£)	Paid Out (£)	Balance (£)
01 Dec 25		STATEMENT OPENING BALANCE			16,096.18
08 Dec 25	FPI	R SCRUTTON FUNDRAISING 2025 400000001683850239 110919 10 08DEC25 20:28	926.00		17,022.18
08 Dec 25		STATEMENT CLOSING BALANCE	926.00	0.00	17,022.18

The "Details" column in your statement shows the date that a Debit Card payment went into or came out of your account only if that happened on a weekend or a Bank Holiday.

Payment types:

FPI - Faster Payment

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To explore our hub visit bankofscotland.co.uk/not-for-profits or scan the QR code.



Friends of Benmore Outdoor Centre

Scottish Charity: SC048918

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2025 which are set out on page 4

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity 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 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 Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept 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, of the statement of accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025, 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 Accounts Regulations, and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts 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.

Leslie Dalgleish, MCBI
7 Silverburn Drive,
Penicuik
Midlothian
EH26 9AQ


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Date 20/9/26