

The Field Group (Duddingston) SCIO

Scottish Charity No – SC045240
(incorporated 18 Nov 2014)

Annual Report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

The Field Group (Duddingston) SCIO No – SC045240
Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

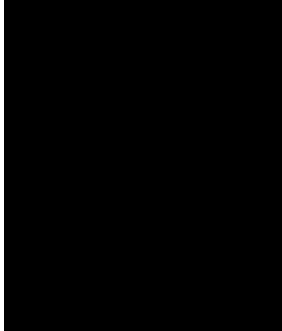
1. Reference and Administrative Information

Charity name: The Field Group (Duddingston)

Charity no: SC045240

Registered Address: 64/3 The Causeway, Edinburgh, EH15 3PZ

Trustees as at 31/3/25:



(Chair)
(Secretary)
(Treasurer)

2. Structure, Governance and Management

2.1 Constitution

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). It was registered in its current legal form on 18 November 2014. The charity was previously an unincorporated association but changed its legal form to a SCIO. The assets (value £0) of the unincorporated association were transferred to the SCIO on 1 August 2012. It has a single tier structure and as such the trustees are the members of the charity.

The charity has income below £250,000 and as such is eligible to prepare its accounts on a Receipts and Payments Basis. The governing document does not require the charity to prepare fully accrued accounts and neither does it require an audit. The Trustees agreed unanimously at the meeting of 2 September 2017, that they required no audit to be carried out.

2.2 Appointment of trustees

The management committee, which normally meets four times a year, are the charity's trustees. Membership of the management committee is open to anyone with some exceptions (see Para 11 of the Constitution). Trustees are elected at the annual general meeting. There must be a minimum of five and a maximum of eleven trustees.

3. Objectives and Activities

3.1 Charitable purposes

The advancement of environmental improvement

The advancement of education

The provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational activities

3.2 Objectives

1. The advancement of environmental improvement, through the creation and management of semi-natural habitats and the sustainable production of fruit and other grown products, and the sustainable use of water and other resources.

2. The advancement of education through workshops, training and peer to peer learning related to the acquisition and sharing of the skills needed to manage semi-natural habitats and orchards with members, other groups and the public.

3. The provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational activities, with the

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object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended, and/or members of the public at large.

3.3 Activities

The group leases a 3.5ha field from City of Edinburgh Council. This is managed for public access and habitat restoration. Local residents, people from further afield and groups of students volunteer to do necessary work including building and maintaining paths, planting trees and mowing the meadow. These work days are social events with open-air lunches, and there is often also informal training. The Measured Walk (completed in 2014), has benches as rest points, which volunteers replace when needed. The Field is also regularly used by the Tiphereth group who volunteer with tidy ups as needed.

4. Achievements and Performance 2024-25

The Field Group activities have some seasonal pattern, with winter being suitable for willow coppicing and tree-planting activities, and early autumn being the time for mowing and for harvesting apples. Other activities may be planned in addition or arise in response to events.

The group ran a basket making workshop in June 2024, which all participants thoroughly enjoyed. Sadly, the tutor who has been the key to holding the events has decided not to run any additional workshops, so that the group will need to upskill in basketmaking or find another tutor in order to run similar events. It will be much less likely to generate a surplus unless the course can be delivered in house, as the tutor has generously not been charging for his time.

Following the earlier plantings of new willows, a major effort was made to weed and mulch between the rows to try to reduce competition and improve survival.

Field Group harvested willow was requested by and provided for an Edinburgh primary school fayre (Bruntsfield) for the second year running, whilst some was also given to the nearby Jock Tamson's Gairden. Craigmillar Community Grows, a Carr Gomm charity project also harvested and used some of the willow for making wreaths.

During summer of 2024, a new approach was applied to retaining water in the pond. Having recognised that the existing liner had torn and was leaking, an additional harder wearing pond liner was decided upon, on top of a layer of sand. This was added during the autumn with help from volunteers - particularly the Edinburgh University group - and has significantly helped to keep the water level up, with only a slightly smaller volume resulting from adding the additional layer. One of the challenges to maintaining the pond has been the number of dogs jumping into it, damaging the liner and the aquatic plants introduced, despite signage requesting that owners control their pets. We added reused chestnut palings in order to discourage encroachment whilst the habitat was being restored.

Besides domestic animals, frogspawn, tadpoles, newts and beetle larvae were seen at the pond as well as a pair of mallard ducks. We have also seen deer in the field on more than one occasion. Whilst the deer add diversity, they may also cause some browsing damage to planted trees, before they mature.

Following on from the survey of older trees undertaken the previous year, Historic Scotland (landowner to the west) required the Field Group to cut back some diseased trees whose boughs were overhanging the stone boundary wall. This work required tree surgeons, who made the trees safe at the end of March 2025 by removing branches and shortening crowns, whilst volunteers

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kept the public away from the work area. The remaining pollarded trees will remain as useful habitat for insects and nesting birds.

Another mature tree fell naturally during May 2024, temporarily blocking the perimeter path near the boundary wall. This was cleared by volunteers, with the branches left nearby to decompose naturally.

The Apple Day in October was very successful this year, with at least 100 attendees sampling the different varieties, and getting an experience of apple juicing and a chance to get the fresh apple juice. The popularity of the event has chiefly spread by word of mouth, with little publicity ahead needed.

5. Financial review

There was an increase in income over the year, largely arising from a successful Apple Day, and fundraising efforts targeted towards the pond upkeep, using the Kofi crowdfunding platform, which surpassed expectations. We benefitted from using the Sumup platform to take cashless payments during Apple Day, although this was not widely taken up. Some income was also raised through text donations, but as this took more than 3 months to clear into the Field Group bank account, we have decided against this option in future.

Expenditure increased substantially due to the required tree surgery. Grant funding was sought to cover this amount, but was not received during the Financial Year, so had to be met from existing balances.

With a decline in some sources of income (sale of willow rods and basket making courses), the group may need to rely more on other income generation, and fundraising from events and local campaigns, remaining mindful not to make too frequent requests to the local community. Grants are also actively sought, although they may carry restrictions that preclude more general expenses.

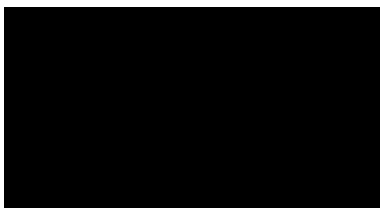
6. Reserves policy

Our basic unavoidable costs include insurance (now £228), and annual rent (currently £50, after rebate). We have to be members of The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) to be eligible for reduced-rate insurance, although we have benefited from a waiver to the TCV subscription since the pandemic. We will need to ensure that there is at least this £280 in reserves each year and should maintain at least £1000 as a contingency reserve - particularly to deal with tree surgery if required.

7. Approval

This Annual Report and Accounts was approved at the AGM on 17th November, 2025.

Signed ...



Date21/11/25

Name: 

Role: Chair of Board of Trustees

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Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds		Total Funds		Year to 31 March 2024
Receipts						
Donations	559	0		559		58
Grants	0	0		0		0
Fundraising	0	407		407		0
Bank interest	0	0		0		0
Receipts from trading	305	0		305		215
Total receipts	864	407		1,271		273
Payments						
Fundraising costs	0	0		0		0
Cost of trading	114	0		114		80
Governance costs	0	0		0		0
Materials & Equipment	23	605		628		0
Hire of equipment	0	0		0		0
Rent	50	0		50		100
Subscriptions	0	0		0		0
Insurance	228	0		228		173
Site Safety	1,450	0		1,450		620
Total payments	1,865	605		2,470		973
Surplus/Deficit for the year	(1,001)	(198)		(1,199)		(700)

Statement of Balances - As at 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds		Total 2024/25		Total 2023/24
Opening cash at bank and in hand	1,622	1,144		2,766		3,466
Surplus /(Deficit) for the year	(1,001)	(198)		(1,199)		(700)
Closing cash at bank and in hand	621	946		1,567		2,766
Other assets - unrestricted funds	0	0		0		0
Liabilities (unrestricted fund)	0	0		0		0

Signed

Date 21/11/2025

Name: [REDACTED]

Role: Chair of Board of Trustees

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Notes to the accounts - for the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and 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. During the year the charity received donations of £559.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes. During the year the charity received restricted funds of £407 for work on the pond, through fundraising. A grant was applied for in December 2024 to cover the tree surgery required by Historic Scotland, and to replace mowing equipment. As the grant was not awarded and remitted until the following year, the tree surgery was recorded against unrestricted funds.

3 Related party transactions

The Group's insurance policy includes Trustee Indemnity Insurance for all its trustees. No other remuneration was paid to the trustees or any connected persons during the year, apart from reimbursement of expenses incurred in buying equipment and materials for project activities.

	Independent examiner's report on the accounts						
Report to the trustees/members of	The Field Group (Duddingston) SCIO						
Registered charity number	SC045240						
On the accounts of the charity for the period	Period start date				Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year	To	Day	Month	Year
	1	April	2024		31	March	2025
Set out on pages	6						
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 (as amended). 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 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. In my opinion, attention should be drawn to the charity's closing unrestricted funds of £621, which is below the minimum level of funds of £1,280 identified in the reserves policy set out in the Trustees' report. As disclosed in the Trustees' report, the charity successfully applied for funding, which was received after the reporting date of 31 March 2025. There are no other matters to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn.						
	Signed:				Date:	30 December 2025	
	Name:						
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):							
Address:							