

# Community Moorings Scotland

## Trustees' Annual Report

November 2022 to October 2023



## Charity contact information

Community Moorings Scotland

Scottish Charity Number: SC047877

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## Charity Trustees

The table below includes a list of all Trustees for the period covered by this report, and the date they left if they were not in post for the whole year.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Office bearer</b>	<b>Changes in the period Nov 2022- Oct 2023</b>
Kristina Nitsolova	Chair	
Ian Law		
Jen Ewan	Secretary	Secretary since August 2023
Christine McKay		Vice Chair until March 2023
Alastair Martin		Treasurer until June 2023
Andrew Flockhart		Secretary until July 2023
Reuben Chesters	Treasurer	Joined in July 2023

## Objectives and activities

Community Moorings Scotland's purposes are:

- 1) The advancement of community development, in furtherance of which:
  - the organisation will develop a network of small, non-profit community owned mooring sites on the canals and inland waterways of Scotland;
  - these sites will serve as hubs for the diverse and dispersed Canal Community, at which Canal Boat residents, recreational boaters, commercial boaters and members of the general public can come together by the water to live, work, relax, volunteer together and learn; and
  - through these sites the Canal Community will take responsibility for its own future and gain the autonomy needed to do so.
  
- 2) The advancement of education and the advancement of heritage, in furtherance of which the organisation will:
  - run free training sessions, open to all, on boat maintenance and fit-out, safe boat handling and canal navigation, and manual skills associated with building and maintaining mooring infrastructure; and
  - run free educational sessions, open to all, on the history, natural history and culture of the canals.
  
- 3) The provision of recreational facilities, in furtherance of which the organisation will provide:
  - mooring facilities including leisure and visitor moorings at each community-owned mooring site; and
  - attractive resting places at the community-owned mooring sites open to all canal users, including walkers, cyclists, canoeists and boaters.

Our aim is to contribute to a thriving future for Scotland's canal network and community – that includes those living on or near water, those who enjoy the waterways for leisure or sport, those who are passionate about the heritage and environmental significance of the canals, and many more.

The period covered by this report (to 31 October 2023) represents a full year of trading for the organisation with the moorings having been allocated since May 2022. Our main focus for this period included improvement of the site, securing planning permission for residential moorings and creating a visual identity for the organisation.

## Structure, governance and management

### Type of governing document

Community Moorings Scotland is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Our governing document is a Constitution which can be accessed at [communitymoorings.com/about-us/](https://communitymoorings.com/about-us/)

### Trustee recruitment and appointment

In the past year three Trustees left the Board and one member was appointed to the Board in the capacity of a Treasurer. The Board remains very operational, as has been the case since the incorporation of the organisation, which requires significant time commitment from Trustees. Due to Trustees' other commitments the Board has had to focus on certain aspects of Community Moorings' remit over others - for example site-specific priorities over outreach and engagement - during the reporting period.

We would encourage those with an interest in furthering Community Moorings' aims and objectives to consider playing an active role in the running of the organisation, or aspects of its remit which they are most passionate about. Please contact the Board if you wish to find out more and discuss.

## Achievements and performance

Developments since the last Trustees' Annual include:

- Withdrawing of planning permission application for 5 residential moorings following feedback from the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and re-submitting an amended application for 2 residential moorings in October 2023 - the maximum number HSE would not object to. This development has implications for the original vision for our pilot site as the number of residential boats that can be accommodated is significantly reduced. However, this presents some new opportunities that the Board will be exploring going forward.
- Our waiting list reaching 20 applications, the majority of which are for residential moorings. Understanding the level of demand for different types of moorings will help inform the approach to new sites, when the appropriate time to embark on such projects comes.
- Carrying out a brand development exercise thanks to support from Community Enterprise's Accelerate programme resulting in the creation of the Community Moorings Scotland brand identity. This process helped us reflect on how we communicate the organisation's aims and objectives which is important when it comes to raising awareness not only about our organisation but about the importance of Canals to our environment, heritage and culture.
- Making improvements to the site such as drainage and vegetation

management and planning future improvements to make it better for those using the site on a daily basis as well as visitors.

- Continuing to engage with conversations about the future development of a derelict golf course by the Forth and Clyde Canal in the North West part of Glasgow for a community farm and moorings as part of a multi stakeholder project. Community engagement activities included a visit by a group of local to the golf course site residents and organisations to our pilot site to provide better understanding of the proposal for incorporating moorings in the plan for repurposing the golf course for a new use.

The Board would like to thank everyone who has supported Community Moorings' activities in the period covered by this report.

## Financial review

### Income and expenditure

This was our first full financial year of trading at our Orchard Bank Mooring site. In the financial year we generated £19,981 in income from rental of moorings at the site while incurring expenditure of £7,076. Our profit and loss for the financial year is given below. Please note at point of writing this is provisional and is yet to be reviewed by our accountant.

Gross trading receipts consist primarily of mooring fees, but also contains electricity bill payments from boaters using electricity. CMS pays Narrowboat Farm for electricity at the same rate, so electricity forms an equivalent part of gross trading payments, subject to timing differences in meter readings.

In addition to electricity, gross trading payments also includes hire of machinery for path improvements, insurance, waste collection, subscriptions to a financial package (Xero) and membership of the Inland Waterways Association (allowing access to IWA insurance rates).

Legal and planning costs are shown and this year included costs associated with planning for residential moorings at Orchard Bank.

## Profit and Loss - (Provisional unreviewed figures)

For the year ended 31 October 2023

Cash Basis

<b>Account</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Turnover</b>		
Electricity - income	1,276.71	94.86
Membership	553.00	541.00
Mooring fees	19,981.38	12,069.10
Other Revenue	0.00	1,932.72
<b>Total Turnover</b>	<b>21,811.09</b>	<b>14,637.68</b>

### Cost of Sales

Direct Costs - NBF	1.00	0.00
<b>Total Cost of Sales</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>21,810.09</b>	<b>14,637.68</b>
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### Administrative Costs

Audit & Accountancy Fees	157.44	113.07
Bank Fees	543.06	327.16
Electricity	1,341.15	0.00
Electricity maintenance ex bollards	0.00	822.00
General Expenses	115.90	0.00
Insurance	1,086.22	688.72
Landing stage maintenance	83.62	0.00
Landside maintenance	1,293.09	465.00
Legal & Planning Expenses	1,408.80	3,056.50
Marketing - Events	112.03	0.00
Repairs & Maintenance	0.00	39.61
Subscriptions & Memberships	0.00	108.00
Waste Collection	934.92	499.16
<b>Total Administrative Costs</b>	<b>7,076.23</b>	<b>6,119.22</b>

<b>Operating Profit</b>	<b>14,733.86</b>	<b>8,518.46</b>
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### Other Income

Grants	1,000.00	0.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

<b>Profit on Ordinary Activities Before Taxation</b>	<b>15,733.86</b>	<b>8,518.46</b>
<b>Profit after Taxation</b>	<b>15,733.86</b>	<b>8,518.46</b>

## Statement of the charity's reserves and balance

We started this financial year with a balance of £12,656 and at the end of October 2023 this had increased to £28,391. It's anticipated that much of these reserves will be spent on site development in the financial year 2023-24. We don't currently have a reserves policy but this is something which the board will explore in financial year 2023-24.

## Details of any deficit or surplus

The previous trading year generated a surplus of £15,735. The charity has no debts.

## Donated facilities and services

We did not donate any facilities or services during the year.

## Annual accounts

The full annual accounts will be prepared for submission to Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) by the due date set with support from our accountant. Draft financial submission for OSCR is attached.

## Future plans

Our focus for 2023-4 is formalising and securing long-term access rights to the site beyond the initial short-term agreement between Community Moorings and Narrowboat Farm. Pending this we will continue to make improvements to the moorings at Orchard Bank including adding services and facilities along the bank to meet the needs of leisure, commercial and residential boaters alike.

We would like to create more opportunities to bring people together to learn about the heritage and history of our Canals, about boating and a lower impact lifestyle. We will do this by holding events and workshops and taking part in events and activities organised by others.

## Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:



Print name: Kristina Nitsolova

Designation: Chair

Date: 11.05.2024