

# **FRIENDS OF GYLE PARK (SCIO)**

**Scottish Charity No SC052465**

## **Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements**

**For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

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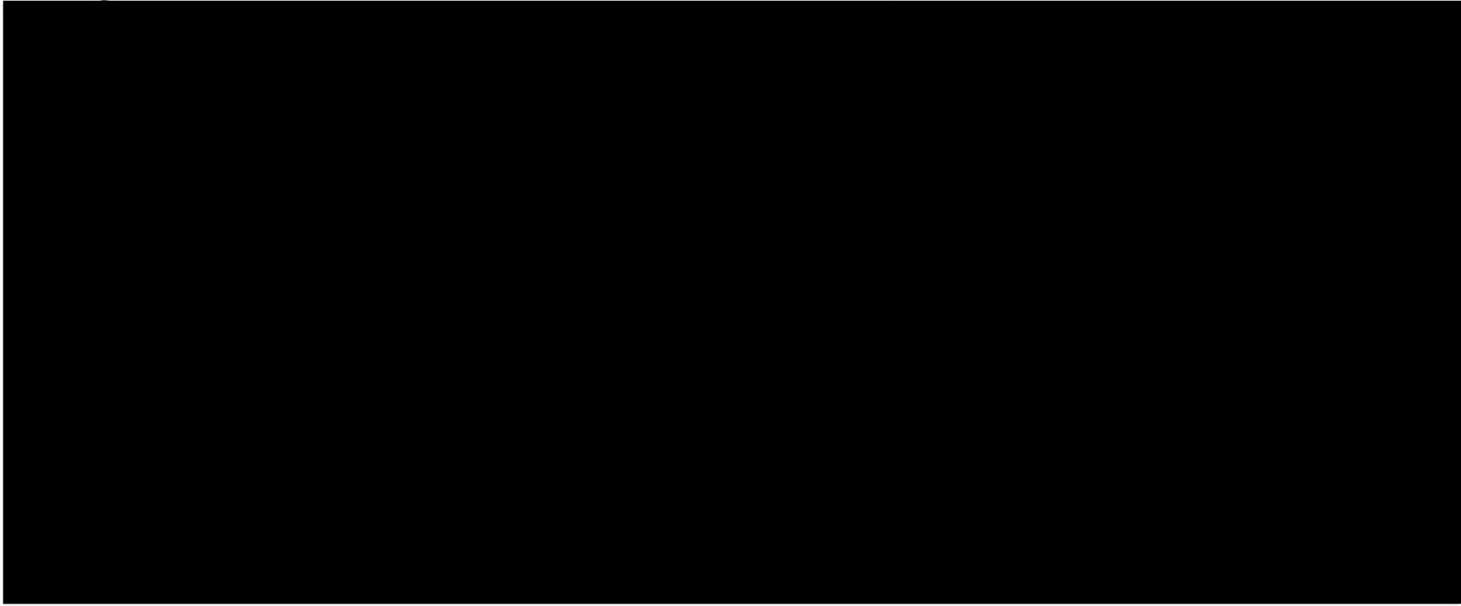
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The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements and the independent examiner's report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024

**Reference & Administrative Information**

**Charity Name** Friends of The Gyle Park (SCIO)

**Charity No** SC052465



**Governing Document:** The group is a Two Tier Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation, with purposes and administration arrangements as set out in our constitution. The group was granted SCIO registration by OSCR on 11/04/2023

**Appointment of Trustees**

Trustees are appointed or reappointed by the members at our Annual General Meeting each year

**Charitable purposes:** to preserve, conserve, protect and improve the environment of the area known as The Gyle Park for the benefit of the public.

**Activities and achievements:**

The inaugural year of FOGP (SCIO) has been a busy one, establishing the organisation and collaborating with Friends of the Gyle Park to implement the Path Improvement Project funded by Paths For All.

The Path Improvement Project is now complete with all the Paths resurfaced, Trees, including the Community Orchard planted, cycle racks, benches and picnic tables installed and very recently the installation of the direction signage.

The completion of the project has made a great improvement to the park with a substantial increase in the number of people using the paths for recreational walking as well as an active travel route for pedestrians and cyclists.

Issues continue with regard to the upgrading work previously carried out by Scottish Water following their work relaying a sewerage pipe system under an area of the park. The reinstatement work has still not been carried out but hopefully this will be done during the summer period. The continuing non availability of a significant area of the park (this is now well over a year) has caused much disruption to the use of the park with a large area fenced off and unable to be used. Completion of this work will greatly assist the efforts of FOGP (SCIO) to develop the variety of usage of the Gyle Park by organised activities and individuals. FOGP (SCIO) continues to liaise with Scottish Water to keep the community informed and maintain a positive relationship.

Road safety and parking continue to be a major issue. Collaboration with the Parks Department and other partners has continued and a number of projects implemented. Other options are still being considered including the road being adopted by City of Edinburgh Council.

The park continues to be well used for a range of purposes including organised sport as well as for physical training by local sports and dance groups for training. The park is also well used as a recreational walking area including by dog walkers.

The park is also an important active travel route and is well used by people on foot or cycling to local amenities, schools and workplaces.

In collaboration with the Park Ranger several bulb planting sessions have been organised for interested volunteers planting around 3,000 bulbs which added a range of colour during the spring.

FOTGP has a team of dedicated volunteers who spend many hours ensuring that the park is kept clean and tidy. We are very grateful to the team and the other individuals who also carry out regular litter picking to keep the park spick and span Many thanks to you all.

The FOGP (SCIO) Facebook Page now has in excess of 1,000 members and is the main method of communication with group members, park users and the local community. The committee has identified a need to further improve its communication and is in the progress of establishing a website.

The Fun Run held in collaboration with Friends of The Gyle Park was very successful and helped to put the organisations on a more secure financial footing.

Representations continue to be made as before to relevant parties, including the Local Councillors, the Culture & Leisure Department's Community Parks Officer and Edinburgh Leisure.

This multi-Agency approach with the above, along with the Community Safety Office, Parks Department, Task Force (grass cutting and park maintenance), Roads Department, and has proven to be beneficial.

The group continues to work closely with the representatives of the CEC to identify and consider possible improvements and developments of Gyle Park.

FOGP continues to have representation on the Corstorphine Community Council which increases the profile of the group and provides opportunities to influence local decisions

Other projects currently being discussed and/or developed are;

- I. Creating a designated Walking Route – This can now be progressed with the provision of extra benches as part of the Path Improvement Project which took into account the possible walking routes.
- II. There has also been increased interest from people wanting to provide a memory bench within the park this has not only increased the number of benches available but creates a profile of identity and a place for families to remember loved ones. There has also been a number of memory trees planted in the park this year.
- III. There is still a feeling that the park lacks points of interest strategically placed throughout the park. Suggestions include providing flower planters that could be looked after by volunteers

#### **Future Plans**

- i. FOGP (SCIO) are currently in discussion with City Of Edinburgh Council Lighting Department on further improvements to the lighting provision within the park.
- ii. Provision of Information Boards where appropriate eg. Community Orchard
- iii. We hope to develop a development plan for the park, this will be done through consultation with members, park users and the local community as well as other partner organisations.
- iv. To hold, or participate in, some fundraising events during the year to help fund the planned projects and core costs of the organisation.

**Trustee remuneration and expenses:** as in the constitution document, no remuneration is paid to any member of the group

**Statement on Reserves Policy** – Currently the FOGP (SCIO) have unrestricted reserves of £1,058

The management committee have discussed ideas for raising additional unrestricted funding.

The Trustees Annual Report was approved by the Trustees on 14 May 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Friends of The Gyle Park (SCIO), registered charity number SC052465

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2024 which are set out on page 7.

**Respective responsibilities of trustee 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) 2005 Act "the 2005 Act" and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) ("the 2006 Regulations"). 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

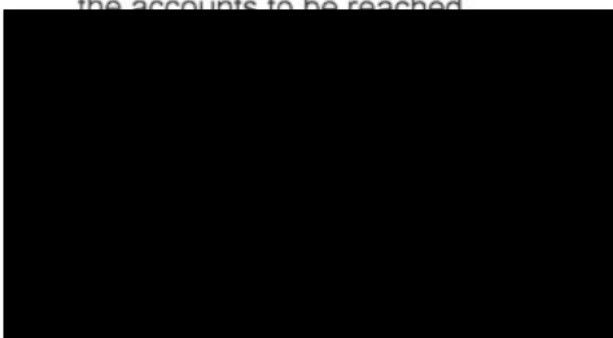
**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 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,  
or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024

**FRIENDS OF GYLE PARK (SCIO) - SC052465  
RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT 2023-24  
FOR PERIOD ENDING 31ST MARCH 2024**

| <b>RECEIPTS</b>                     | Note | Restricted Funds | Unrestricted Funds | Total 2024      |
|-------------------------------------|------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Transfer Balance from FOTGP         | 1    | 3,089.98         | 1,302.52           | 4,392.50        |
| <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>               |      | 3,089.98         | 1,302.52           | 4,392.50        |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>                  |      | Restricted       | Unrestricted       |                 |
| Insurance                           |      |                  | 244.38             | 244.38          |
| <b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>               |      | 0.00             | 244.38             | 244.38          |
| <b>Surplus/Deficit for the year</b> |      | <b>3,089.98</b>  | <b>1,058.14</b>    | <b>4,148.12</b> |

**FRIENDS OF GYLE PARK (SCIO) - SC052465  
STATEMENT OF BALANCES  
FOR PERIOD ENDING 31ST MARCH 2024**

|                                         | Note | Restricted Funds | Unrestricted Funds | Total 2024      |
|-----------------------------------------|------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Funds reconciliation                    |      |                  |                    |                 |
| Cash and Bank Balances at start of year |      | 0.00             | 0.00               | 0.00            |
| Surplus/Deficit at end of year          |      | 3,089.98         | 1,058.14           | 4,148.12        |
| Bank Balances at end of year            |      | 3,089.98         | 1,058.14           | 4,148.12        |
| Cash Balances at end of year            |      | 0.00             | 0.00               | 0.00            |
| Year end Balance                        |      | <b>3,089.98</b>  | <b>1,058.14</b>    | <b>4,148.12</b> |
| Liabilities                             |      |                  |                    |                 |

The notes below form an integral part of these accounts.

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024  
and signed on their behalf by :

**Notes**

1. Donations received from FOTGP

No Fixed Assets are held by the Charity