

The Ridge SCIO  
Annual Accounts 2018-19

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

**For the year ended 5 April 2019**

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements for the year ended 5 April 2019

### **Reference and Administrative Information**

**Charity Name**

The Ridge SCIO

**Charity Number**

SC047116

**Address**

Oriel Cottage, East Links Road, Dunbar, East Lothian EH42 1LT

**Current Trustees**

Kenneth Amabilino	Chair
Robert Bisset	Secretary
Mark Ireland	Treasurer
Siobhan Dunn	appointed 17 January 2019
Liam Ross	appointed 17 January 2019
John Irvine	appointed 17 January 2019

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

### **Constitution**

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (a SCIO). It was registered on 25/1/17. It has a two tier structure and as such the trustees are the members of the charity.

### **Appointment of trustees**

The management committee, which meets every third month, are the charity's trustees.

### **Objectives and Activities**

#### **Charitable purposes**

The prevention or relief of poverty,  
The advancement of education,  
The advancement of health,  
The advancement of citizenship or community development,  
The advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science,  
The relief of those in need by reason of age, ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

#### **Activities**

This is the first year of the Ridge SCIO board having more detailed oversight of the Ridge CIC's activities, and has begun exploring in earnest the potential to reverse some of these functions into the direct control of the Ridge SCIO. Direct activity of the SCIO itself has therefore remained less marked in terms of project delivery. More activity has been undertaken towards taking ownership of assets to secure long-term delivery of charitable aims, via a securely owned site, as well as through development of income-generating end uses of some elements of that site.

In terms of delivery of its charitable aims, the Ridge SCIO supported weekly Volunteering for Health and Wellbeing day in the Backlands Garden, run by the Ridge (Scotland) CIC, providing social contact, skills building opportunities, physical exercise and access to freshly-grown produce for 28 individuals attended weekly Backlands volunteer sessions over the year, with 16 regular volunteers of whom 12 with mental health/addiction issues.

The SCIO oversaw the installation of wifi in the Backlands hut, in support of delivery of the Ridge SCIO's charitable aims via the Ridge (Scotland) CIC's Support Team work including delivery of training to local people in vital digital skills.

The SCIO supported the work of the Ridge Foundations CIC, whose social aims reflect the charitable aims of the Ridge SCIO, centring upon different means to support local people to move from dependency to contribution via training in traditional masonry skills. By offering ongoing support and mentoring, those facing multiple challenges are able to progress via volunteering, to paid work experience and on into paid employment as trainees, with the option to undertake a Modern Apprenticeship in stone masonry. The team are working to restore the boundary walls of the Ridge's Backlands Garden and the eighteenth-century ruined buildings of the Black Bull Close, in the heart of Dunbar's Conservation Area.

During this period, the charity has collaborated with other local groups (Dunbar Parish Church/Dunbar Rotary Club) to deliver a Christmas Day lunch for 47 local people who would otherwise not have been able to do this for themselves or their families, or who would otherwise have spent Christmas alone.

#### **Achievements and Performance**

Thanks to the award of a Scottish Land Fund Stage One grant, the Ridge SCIO has been able to commission a feasibility study/options appraisal in preparation for a Community Asset Transfer of the Backlands Garden/Black Bull Close site. Ownership of this site will give the Ridge secure tenure

to be able to develop the site for the benefit of the wider community through its various programmes and projects, whilst at the same time enhancing its income-generating capacity with a view to long-term sustainability.

The Ridge SCIO has created a new membership, and opened this up to the community:

### **Financial Review**

Of the £4,866 Cooperative Community Grant monies awarded, £4,800 were disbursed in support of provision of a weekly crisis support drop-in provision in the Backlands Garden. The residual £66 will be disbursed with an additional payment from this grant, in the financial year 2019-20.

Dunbar Community Council's £300 grant for installation of wifi in the Backlands hut was disbursed for this purpose.

The Ridge SCIO received £755 donations from a range of sources towards the costs of delivering a community Christmas lunch. £592 of this was spent. The residual £163 has been held over, with agreement of donors, for a potential 2020 Christmas lunch. In the event this does not take place, donors have agreed monies may be used to support other Ridge food projects locally.

Unrestricted donations have been used (£2,700) to support the work of the Ridge Foundations CIC. Of this total, £500 is a loan due to be repaid in financial year 2019-20.

Surplus for the year (£4,292) will be carried forward to support costs of property acquisition in the upcoming year.

### **Reserves Policy**

We endeavour to have 2 months' fixed costs in reserve. This policy will be reviewed annually

### **Plans for future period**

The trustees plan to continue to develop the Ridge SCIO's work to support delivery by the three associated Ridge Social Enterprises (CICs).

Discussions are ongoing regarding the absorption of some of the active functions of the Ridge (Scotland) CIC into the SCIO, since they are not strictly social enterprise activities (eg crisis support, counselling) and would sit more comfortably within a charity.

It is intended that the Ridge SCIO will take ownership via Community Asset Transfer of the Backlands Garden and Black Bull Close buildings currently leased from East Lothian Council by the Ridge (Scotland) CIC.

Acquisition of similarly ruinous adjacent buildings is also under consideration, to allow extension of delivery of activities which support the Ridge SCIO's charitable aims, as well as allowing the generation of sustainable income.

**Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 5 April 2019**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Year ended 5/4/2019</b>
<b>Receipts</b>			
Donations	6,659	755	7,414
Grants	-	5,166	5,166
Fundraising	-	-	-
Bank Interest	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>6,659</b>	<b>5,921</b>	<b>12,580</b>
<b>Payments</b>			
Fundraising costs	-	-	-
Costs of charitable activities	2,895	5,391	8,286
Governance costs	-	-	-
Purchase of equipment	-	-	-
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>2,895</b>	<b>5,391</b>	<b>8,286</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</b>	<b>3,764</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>4,294</b>


Statement of Balances – As at 5 April 2019

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
Opening cash at bank and in hand	-	457	457
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	3,764	530	4,294
Closing cash at bank and in hand	3,764	987	4,751
<b>Bank and Cash Balances</b>			
Bank current account	-	4,751	4,751
Other assets	-	-	-
Liabilities	-	-	-

Name: Kenneth Amabilino 

Chair of Trustees

Date 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019

Name: Mark Ireland 

Treasurer

Date 22/10/19

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Ridge SCIO

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 5 April 2019 which are set out on pages 5 to 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. 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. In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention 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
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met, or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



Name: Clive Chatwin

Relevant Professional qualification/professional body: Institute of Bankers

Address: 56 Kellie Place, Dunbar EH42 1GF

Date: 14 October 2019

## Notes to the accounts – year ending 5 April 2019

### 1. Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations (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.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes.

### 3. Related party transactions

No remuneration was paid to the trustees or any connected persons during the year 2018-2019



## The Ridge SCIO Chairman's Report April 2018- April 2019

The past year has seen The Ridge SCIO prepare itself for the active delivery of its charitable purposes. Three new Trustees have been appointed; a strategic plan has been prepared and a restructuring of its relationship with the CICs is underway.

Our biggest project lies with the feuhold acquisition of the Black Bull Close buildings and Backlands Gardens by the SCIO, via a Community Asset Transfer (CAT). Securing ownership will allow development of the buildings, providing work and training for The Ridge Foundations team, and creating space for core Ridge activities. Other space can be used for income generation, making The Ridge less grant dependent.

In preparation for the CAT, a publicity drive has substantially increased the number of Members, demonstrating community support; and the Constitution has been modified. Grants from the Scottish Land Fund have paid for consultancy help in preparing a strategic plan and options appraisal and, we hope, for the purchase from East Lothian Council.

Structural changes will make the management of The Ridge organisation more efficient. The people working within The Ridge (Scotland) CIC are delivering the charitable purposes, not generating any significant income, so they will be taken on by the SCIO, with the CIC dissolved by April 2020. The Ridge Café will change its name and become an independent social enterprise, although a close relationship will persist, particularly providing the weekly Hungry Hatch meals.

The Ridge Foundations CIC is a fully fledged social enterprise construction company and is likely to continue as a separate entity. The relationship between the SCIO and CIC needs further consideration.

Communication with stakeholders, particularly with funders and East Lothian Council, remain good and feedback suggests the quality of service provision by The Ridge, is well regarded.

Financially, there is little to report as funding has mainly been directed through the CICs. This will change as land and buildings are acquired and as the functions of The Ridge (Scotland) are brought into the SCIO. Appropriate accounting systems are being put in place.

The team around Kate Darrah, our managing director, has been strengthened, and there is more active involvement by individual Trustees, particularly in the management of the Black Bull Close development project and the appraisal of other property opportunities. The management and Board involvement has been broadened to ensure the organisation is more robust for the future.

Kenneth Amabilino  
Chair, The Ridge SCIO

29 August 2019

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes the need for transparency and accountability in financial reporting. The second part of the document provides a detailed overview of the company's financial performance over the past year, including revenue, expenses, and profit margins. The third part of the document outlines the company's strategic goals and objectives for the upcoming year, focusing on growth, innovation, and customer satisfaction. The fourth part of the document discusses the company's commitment to social responsibility and environmental sustainability, highlighting various initiatives and programs in place. The fifth part of the document provides a summary of the company's overall performance and outlook for the future, expressing confidence in the company's ability to achieve its long-term goals.

John Doe  
CEO  
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