CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1/1/2025 Period start date **To 31/12/2025 Period end date**

Charity name: AquaPaddle **Charity registration number: 1194714**

Objectives

The two key objectives of AquaPaddle are:

1. the promotion of community participation in healthy recreation in particular by the provision of facilities for paddle boarding and associated water sports; and
2. to provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare and mental wellbeing for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age infirmity or disability, financial hardship, or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.

Activities, Achievements and Performance

Our focus in 2026/2027:

1. Broaden and strengthen the foundations of AquaPaddle. Paddle UK has provided funding over the last few years to support the set-up of new locations & (in part) develop our IT infrastructure. In 2026 Paddle UK has advised us that after a strategic review they concluded that they were no longer able to provide direct financial assistance to AquaPaddle. They were pleased to have been able to play a part in the significant progress AquaPaddle has made during the last three years, particularly in establishing our presence across Paddle UK affiliated English clubs and promoting safe, accessible paddling for the community. They believe we play an important role in expanding participation opportunities and they appreciate how much engagement and help we have provided in sharing Paddle UK's key content, safety messages, and initiatives in our AquaPaddle newsletter and with our Captains. AquaPaddle will be seeking funding for professionalisation and further growth from alternative funding bodies or sponsors during late 2026 & into 2027.
2. Increase the number of locations where AquaPaddle 5ks are run
3. Increase the number of AquaPaddles run
4. Organise more AquaPaddle BlueSpace activities
5. Increase the number of registered AquaPaddlers
6. Continue to build a strong and mutually beneficial relationship with Paddle UK, the largest body in Britain promoting paddle sport activities
7. Develop relationships & sponsorship arrangements with the wider paddle-sport industry.

AquaPaddle is now the fastest-growing paddle movement in the UK. We provide free, regular, timed 5km social paddles for all abilities and paddle craft, driven by over 45 volunteer teams across more than 70 locations—from Inverness to Cornwall. With nearly 10,000 registered paddlers and a highly engaged weekly newsletter audience of almost 7,000 subscribers, the reach and value of our community are clear.

Beyond our regular events, we host dedicated BlueSpace mental and physical health sessions whenever funding allows. To make our events even more inclusive, we recently appointed an Adaptive Paddler Ambassador and are collaborating with a sponsor to upgrade our timing system. This development will allow 2.5km and 5km events to run side-by-side, creating a unified environment where paddlers of all capabilities can achieve their goals together.

To build on this momentum and reach even more people who would benefit from water-based exercise, we are seeking to attract both able-bodied and adaptive paddlers across the UK to experience the life-changing benefits of time on the water.
We are now looking to transition AquaPaddle to a more sustainable, professional footing. Securing a small team of dedicated full and part-time staff will be pivotal to expanding our reach. The intention is to seek professional advisory capability on a paid basis to facilitate improved marketing and other technical support to adapt our organisational structure to support operations on a Nationwide scale

1. The Board of Trustees formally met 4 times in 2025. In addition, monthly operational management meetings continued and were well attended.
2. The AquaPaddle website continued to be improved and promoted through social media helping to grow the number of members and participants. The website allows those interested in participating in AquaPaddle 5kms to register as a user, obtain an AquaPaddle registration number and to register on a specific AquaPaddle 5km event. The web-based 5k AquaPaddle timing tool continues to perform well.
3. All governance and operational documents were completed, reviewed and approved by the Trustees. The finances of AquaPaddle were organised on Xero accounting software, with Donations collected via Stripe & paid promptly into our bank account.
4. In 2025 AquaPaddle provided the following BlueSpace sessions:
    a. In early August 2025 we ran a session in Guildford on the River Wey with Surrey Young Carers. They learned essential skills like controlling their boards, entering and exiting the water, and working together in team challenges, including forming a "snake of boards." By the end of the sessions, all participants were able to stand and confidently navigate their paddleboards. Beyond mastering a new skill, many overcame personal challenges such as fear, anxiety, and nervousness in group settings.

    b. In mid-August 2025, AquaPaddle once again partnered with Surrey Young Carers to offer a BlueSpace Paddleboarding session. The session aimed to foster confidence and well-being by introducing the participants to paddleboarding, allowing them to experience the positive effects of being out on the water and learning a new skill. Working alongside their local Delivery Partner in Thames Ditton, AquaPaddle organized the event for 10 young people, accompanied by their care workers, with a mix of both girls and boys in attendance. The session began with an introduction to the equipment and a focus on safety, followed by engaging warm-up games. Participants were then taught to paddleboard in a safe and fun environment.

    c. Also throughout August 2025, AquaPaddle's Delivery Partner, ELCAN in Newham, ran a series of 6 BlueSpace Paddleboarding sessions for 48 participants in total for Spotlight, London Jaguars and the DOST Centre Charity at their paddle base on the Limehouse Cut, part of the River Lea.

    d. During the 2025 Coaching Season, we ran a total of 8 BlueSpace (Blue Therapy) sessions for a total of 71 individual sessions at 3 locations, with more planned for 2026.
5. In 2025 we increased the number of AquaPaddle locations from 30 to 46.
6. At the 46 AquaPaddle locations we ran a total of 165 AquaPaddle 5ks, in which we had a total of 2,612 registrations with some 1,948 finishers.
7. Through our website we had registered just over 7,572 individuals AquaPaddlers by the end of 2025, an addition of 2111 sign-ups for the year.

Trustee Statement

The trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the charities commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Volunteers

The AquaPaddle Charity is entirely run by volunteers, and its AquaPaddle 5ks are run by volunteers at the various locations. During 2025 nearly 600 volunteers helped to run the charity and run the AquaPaddle events up from just under 400 in 2024.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	At the year-end (31st December 2025) AquaPaddle held a cash balance of £4,817.60.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	No reserves are currently held.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	NIL
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	AquaPaddle is still in its early stages & uses small donations to cover expenses and working with a management team providing their time for free.
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	By December 2025 the contingent loan in relation to the website development has been settled. The majority of the cash used to settle this loan was funding from Paddle UK for new AquaPaddle locations started in 2025.
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	At this stage, there are no concerns about the charity being a going concern.

Structure, Governance and Management

AquaPaddle is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its constitution. AquaPaddle's only voting members are its trustees.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	AquaPaddle
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1194714
Charity's principal address	22 Merton Way West Molesey Surrey KT8 1PQ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Arnold Jager	Chair		
2	Brett Scillitoe			
3	Anthony Wagstaff			

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	
Full name(s)	
Position **(eg Secretary, Chair, etc)**	
Date:	

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
Aquapaddle	1194714

Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	1st Jan '25		31st Dec'25

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Income - Donations - Individuals & Clubs	7,025	-	-	7,025	4,936
Income - Donations - Corporate	400	-	-	400	-
Income - Donations - Charities	200	-	-	200	225
Grant Income - Corporate	9,750	-	-	9,750	7,200
Grant Income - Blue Therapy		-	-	-	
Income - Merchandise	339	-	-	339	315
Long Term Loan - Trustee		-	-	-	
Long Term Loan - Trustee		-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	17,714	-	-	17,714	12,676
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	17,714	-	-	17,714	12,676
A3 Payments					
DC - Delivery Partner Costs (Coaching)	1,780	-	-	1,780	2,020
DC - Kit & Equipment costs	960	-	-	960	199
DC - Commissions (Corp sponsorship)	75	-	-	75	616
IT & Hosting costs	738	-	-	738	130
Telephone & Internet Hosting	149	-	-	149	
Member & subscriber Comms	425			425	
Printing, Stationery	107	-	-	107	197
Travel - National	1,225	-	-	1,225	902
Insurance	1,611	-	-	1,611	1,729
Consulting Fees		-	-	-	-
Marketing costs	540	-	-	540	
Safety Equip - Running costs	1,776	-	-	1,776	400
Forex - Commission / Fees	10	-	-	10	
Merchandise commission & adj		-	-	-	
		-	-	-	
		-	-	-	
		-	-	-	-
Sub total	9,396	-	-	9,396	6,193
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Website Development	3,232	-	-	3,232	4,480
Accruals	4,608	-	-	4,608	
Loan repayments - Trustees	67			67	3,100
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	7,906	-	-	7,906	7,580
Total payments	17,303	-	-	17,303	13,773
Net of receipts/(payments)	411	0	0	411	- 1,097
A5 Transfers between funds	0	0	0	0	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	4,407		0	4,407	5,504
Cash funds this year end	4,818	0	0	4,818	4,407

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B1 Cash funds

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Current A/c	4,818		-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	**4,818**	**-**	**-**
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Website	Unrestricted	18,632	11,720
Marketing & Safety Equipment	Unrestricted	3,466	2,325
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
Long Term Loan - Trustee	Unrestricted	2,200	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval