



Trustees' Report, 1st January 2020 – 31st December 2020

1. Reference and Administration Details

Oundle Mencap Holiday (hereafter OMH) was accepted as a Company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital (# 5393382) and as a Charity (# 1108908) in 2005 and as a group affiliated to the Royal Mencap Society. At its Annual General Meeting on 10th March 2018 the members voted to change the name of the charity from Oundle School Mencap Holidays to Oundle Mencap Holidays Ltd.

OMH is registered at the address provided below.

At its Annual General Meeting on 8th March 2020 the following were elected by the meeting as OMH officers:-

Chair – Robin Banerjee

Holiday Leader / Registered Manager – Kate Taylor

Secretary – Anna Clish

Responsible Individual – Anna Clish

Treasurer – Ed Barker

Oundle School representative – Robin Banerjee

External Trustee – Jo Floto

Independent Trustee – Michael Gustafson

Invited Parent Rep (2014-20) – Mel Symonds

Elected SH Rep (2019-21) – Olivia Kirkbride

Trustee – Eddie Dove

2. Structure, Governance and Management

OMH is a Charity governed by a constitution and registered as a Company limited by guarantee. Trustees are appointed by a vote of members at the AGM.

OMH is affiliated to the Royal Mencap Society, an arrangement which provides support in the sphere of professional guidance and assessment and expert insurance advice. We greatly value all guidance given to us by the Royal Mencap Society, the Charity Commission and Companies House, and we are actively dedicated to compliance with all their recommendations as well as requirements as a means of attaining and keeping best practice in operating standards. In particular, we plan our activities with careful consideration of the Charities Commission guidance on public benefit (Charities Act 2011, section 17)

In addition, OMH is run in co-operation with Oundle School, Oundle, Northants. The holiday week benefits from the school's support in the provision of accommodation and facilities for the week. Furthermore, the majority of first-time volunteers for the holidays for children are recruited from among school pupils.

OMH also works closely with the Northamptonshire Girl Guides who generously provide equipment and expertise to our camping holiday for young adults, Mencap Outdoors.



3. Objectives and Activities

The objectives of OMH are

- the relief of people with a learning disability in particular by the provision of help and support for them and for their families, dependants and carers, and to promote awareness of learning disabilities for the public benefit; and
- to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for the recreation or other leisure time occupation for people who have need thereof by reason of learning disability with the object of improving their conditions of life.

NB: "learning disability" means any developmental disability of the mind and any associated condition howsoever caused and whether mild, moderate or severe.

The activities carried out in pursuit of these objectives are

- recruitment of young people to take part in week-long residential holidays for children and young people with learning disabilities
- the organisation and running of the holidays for children and young people with learning disabilities

and since 2012:

- recruitment of young people to take part in a long-weekend camping holiday for young adults with learning disabilities
- the organization and running of the camping holiday(s) for adults with learning disabilities

and consequently

- provision of new experiences to children and young people with learning disabilities
- a period of respite for parents, caregivers and siblings of these children and young people
- a new and beneficial experience, learning about disability and charity, for young volunteers

4. Achievements and Performance: OMH Mencap Outdoors 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, OMH were unable to offer a holiday this year.

5. Achievements and Performance: OSMH Summer Holiday 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, OMH were unable to offer a holiday this year.

6. Achievements and performance: other Activities

Despite much of 2020 being affected by COVID 19 restrictions Kate Taylor and Anna Clish underwent Designated Safeguarding Officer training in February and the registered manager Kate Taylor, Gabriella Kirk and Claire Huntingdon undertook a Safety Intervention (formerly MAPPA) refresher course for instructors. Several members of the senior team were able to access online Safety Intervention training. The management team maintained contact with families by coordinating video messages to be sent to holiday makers and their families. Campers shared with each other photographs of their lockdown activities.

7. Financial Review



2020 was an highly unusual year operationally for OMH, and it was also highly unusual from a financial perspective. Three major factors contributed towards a challenging year for our financial position: (1) Running no holidays resulted in no child fees received; (2) Covid curtailed the level of sponsored activity that could be undertaken; and (3) Some donations that would typically come to OMH were re-directed to Covid causes, and this also reduced the effectiveness of our grant fundraising campaigns. Whilst most on-holiday costs were reduced or removed due to the non-operational year, many of the charity running costs remained, surrounding administration, compliance and consultancy.

Consequently, the c. £32,000 of controlled balances at 31st December 2020 was only marginally ahead of the figure one year earlier. This is despite the recognition – outlined in last year’s annual report and in several subsequent Trustees’ meetings – that the charity would hope to be running at a significantly higher level. (For clarity, the financial position of the charity is adequate and liquidity was not under threat at any point). Exiting the year, therefore, the stance of the Trustees remained that it is a priority to boost income in order to prevent deterioration of the financial position. The positive news is that this stance is coming to fruition, as Tessa Stanley-Price has been successful in a number of fundraising ventures early in 2021, and controlled balances in early May were in the region of £55,000 (with no holiday fees received at this date).

2021 will be a year of ensuring that all aspects of our charity are robust in a (post) Covid world, and finances are no different. We view our current position with cautious positivity and will continue to vigorously pursue an enhanced financial position going forward.

Declaration: The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees’ report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees

Signature

Full name: Anna Clish

Position: Trustee

Date: