



DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC DISABLED SUPPORTERS' CLUB

KDM Group East End Park, Halbeath Road, Dunfermline KY12 7RB

Report & Accounts

1 April 2023 - 31 March 2024

**Dunfermline Athletic Disabled Supporters' Club
is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Registration Number
SC048550**

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 HISTORY and BACKGROUND

Dunfermline Athletic Disabled Supporters' Club (DADSC) was set up in 2007 to organise travel to away games and to give disabled supporters of Dunfermline Athletic a voice, and after a few years where activity was limited, the Club was revived in 2016.

Since 18 July 2018 DADSC has been a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO), Registration No **SC048550**. This Trustees' Report covers the period from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.

Although DADSC and Dunfermline Athletic FC Ltd share a common interest in the activities of Dunfermline Athletic FC (DAFC), DADSC is completely independent of the football club, with its own constitution and governance run by Charity Trustees who are all long-term Pars supporters.

2 GOVERNANCE

At 1 April 2023, the Charity Trustees and office-bearers were as follows, with the office-bearers elected from among themselves:

Chair: Dave Nugent

Treasurer: Roger Hyde

Secretary: John Simpson

Membership Secretary: Timothy Curle

Trustees: Nicola Campbell, David Laming, Eddie Martin

On 28 August 2023, Timothy Curle resigned as a Trustee, but remained as the Membership Secretary (the DADSC Constitution does not require the Membership Secretary to be a Trustee.)

In accordance with the DADSC Constitution (Clause 27), an Annual General Meeting was held on 22 November 2023 in the Boardroom of KDM Group East End Park.

In accordance with the DADSC Constitution (Clause 61), the six remaining Charity Trustees (Nicola Campbell, Roger Hyde, David Laming, Eddie Martin, Dave Nugent, and John Simpson) retired from office. All were willing to stand again for re-election, and it was unanimously agreed that all six should be re-elected. These six Charity Trustees therefore formed the Board of DADSC SCIO at the start of 2023/24.

Three Trustees (Dave Nugent, Roger Hyde and John Simpson) were reappointed to the positions of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary respectively. Timothy Curle was willing to continue as Membership Secretary and was re-appointed to that role.

Following the death of Roger Hyde in January 2024 (see below) Timothy Curle was appointed by the Trustees as Acting Treasurer, a position he held as a non-Trustee until the Trustee Meeting of 3 April 2024, when Timothy was appointed as a Charity

Trustee and as Treasurer, in accordance with the DADSC Constitution (Clauses 60 and 70).

3 MEMBERSHIP

Membership of DADSC is not restricted to those with a disability and is open to anyone who sympathises with DADSC's aims.

As at 31 March 2024 there were 63 fully paid-up members of DADSC, compared with 61 at the start of the year. A further 22 members had not kept their annual membership subscriptions up-to-date, so the Membership Secretary had put processes in place to encourage them to do so, including keeping them on the distribution list for the DADSC Monthly Bulletin. DADSC's revenue from membership subscriptions (£380) declined from the previous year (£460), partly because during 2022/23 some members had paid for several years' membership in advance.

In January 2024, DADSC Treasurer Roger Hyde died suddenly. Roger had been the Treasurer of DADSC since its revival in 2016, and had faithfully and scrupulously looked after DADSC's financial affairs. Earlier in the year DADSC member Bob Barkway had also died. Bob had been a stalwart of not only DADSC but also the Dunfermline Athletic Supporters Club (DASC). Both Roger and Bob had contributed hugely for many years to the work of the supporters' clubs and to Dunfermline Athletic Football Club, and will be sadly missed, both personally and professionally.

It was agreed at the Annual General Meeting on 22 November 2023 that the annual membership fee should remain unchanged at £5.

4 ACTIVITIES OF DADSC

4.1 Accessibility

DADSC appreciates that KDM Group East End Park remains one of the best grounds in Scotland for disabled supporters to watch a match, but DADSC also believes strongly that further improvements are both desirable and achievable - eg the whole of the Main Stand first floor is currently inaccessible to anyone in a wheelchair or with mobility difficulties, and there are similar access problems in other parts of the Main Stand as well as elsewhere in the stadium, notably the North Stand.

These limitations affect supporters, staff and members of the public who have mobility difficulties, and in 2014 the DAFC Supporters' Council set up a Disability Access Group to consider ways of achieving full accessibility in the Main Stand (in particular to the First Floor Function Suites). The work of this Group formed the foundation for DADSC's subsequent fundraising and recommendations to DAFC.

DADSC made detailed proposals to DAFC in October 2018 (access to First Floor) and in August 2019 (accessible toilet for Purvis Suite and hospitality boxes), and it remains DADSC's objective to get the agreement of DAFC Ltd (and the stadium

owners) to make these improvements, as far as is reasonably possible. DADSC aims to provide most or all of the funding required to achieve the improvements, but will always welcome contributions from DAFC or other sources.

DADSC held meetings during 2022/23 with the Chairman of DAFC Ltd, who indicated DAFC's willingness to work with DADSC and others to achieve a mutually-acceptable solution, and to seek the assistance of the stadium sponsors (KDM Group) in the design and management of the work.

The original (2014) estimate of funding required for lift access to the First Floor had been £55,000 and DADSC achieved that target in December 2022. However, with the passage of time and inflationary pressures in the construction industry, it was obvious that a considerably larger sum would be required, and in December 2022 the DADSC Trustees increased DADSC's fundraising target to £75,000, achieved in March 2024.

As well as the invaluable practical help given to DADSC throughout the project by DAFC Director Drew Main, DADSC has been encouraged by the approach of the Chairman of DAFC Ltd, who used his good offices to involve the stadium sponsors (KDM Group Ltd) in the design and management of the work.

During 2023/24, KDM Group spent considerable time (at its own expense) in surveying the stadium and having architects' plans drawn up and costed. The plans make provision for an external lift to give access to Legends and the Rennie Suite, with an accessible toilet in Legends. For practical and cost reasons, access to Charlie D's was not included in the proposal, which was agreed by the DADSC Trustees on 19 February 2024. The DADSC Trustees also gave a commitment to continue fundraising to meet the total cost, which was higher than DADSC's increased target.

The proposal was then formally put by Drew Main to the Board of DAFC Ltd, who agreed it in principle at their 8 April 2024 Board meeting, subject to its being funded in entirety by DADSC. The agreement of the stadium owners would also be required, as would planning and building consents from Fife Council.

4.2 Fundraising

DADSC held a number of significant fundraising activities during 2023/24.

As a member of the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations, DADSC receives regular updates on grant-making bodies, and submits an application for a grant if it is eligible. Most of these applications are unsuccessful (competition is fierce), but in August 2023 DADSC received £3000 from McDonalds in the Community Trust.

DADSC also benefited from personal contacts who are in sympathy with DADSC's aims, and donations were made by CEROC Scotland (£2536), Big Country Trading

Post (£2504), Dundee Dancing Divas (£2510), Inverkeithing Darts League (£150) and a collection at Jim Sneddon's funeral (£317). Bucket collections at Asda stores in Dunfermline raised £593, revenue from the EasyFundraising scheme raised a further £397 and the annual membership subscription fees totalled £380. The "Donate by Text" scheme introduced in 2022/23 raised £144, but its limited appeal and the significant delay in payments reaching DADSC resulted in its no longer being used for fundraising.

The lack of opportunities for sales of dedicated DADSC merchandise was disappointing, but there were several online auctions of donated football shirts and other items which generated further income during the year.

Individual donations to DADSC are an essential part of DADSC's ethos that those in need should be helped by those who can afford to do so, and a number of other individual donations were made during the year, for which DADSC is very grateful - although these are not identified individually in the Financial Statement, DADSC is hugely appreciative of the generosity shown.

Recognising the effect of inflation on DADSC's funds, in April 2023 the Trustees transferred most of DADSC's funds into fixed rate interest-bearing accounts with the Bank of Scotland, thus providing £1549 of income while maintaining the security of the DADSC funds. In addition, Gift Aid from HMRC on personal donations generated £1487 of income for DADSC.

4.3 Events and Disability Awareness

DADSC's activity to raise awareness of disability issues helps achieve a key objective in maintaining DADSC's charitable status.

DADSC and DAFC participated in the 2024 Week of Action run throughout Europe by CAFE (Centre for Access to Football in Europe). At the 5 March 2024 match with Airdrieonians, the core message was the work of The Pars Foundation and local charity Fairway Fife in building the confidence of young people with autism or other learning disabilities. to make them feel less isolated within the community. The centrepiece was a half-time match between teams from The Pars Foundation and Fairway Fife, wearing special t-shirts supplied by DADSC. This was followed by congratulations from the DAFC players and a half-lap of honour before 5000 fans, many of whom described it as the best-ever half-time entertainment. Those who took part were thrilled by the experience and it will have helped their own self-image and confidence.

On 29 April 2023 the DADSC Player of the Year and Young Player of the Year awards (voted on by members) were presented by Dave Nugent and Alistair Carstairs to Kyle Benedictus and Matthew Todd.

The DADSC Facebook page continued to be well-received by over 1200 followers, with a reach for some individual posts of up to 10,000. Each day at 1pm a new meme or post was published, either giving news about DADSC or aiming to increase public awareness of issues around disability and accessibility.

The DADSC Monthly Bulletin issued to all members aims to keep people aware of and involved with what DADSC is doing, and demonstrate transparency in DADSC's affairs.

DADSC continued to support the much-appreciated Match Buddy service to home and away supporters. Effective control of and responsibility for the scheme has now passed to DAFC, and is exercised by DAFC's Disability Access Officer Graham Ross, who has worked hard to recruit and train new Match Buddies.

DADSC has also been represented at several informal meetings held with various supporter groups by the DADC Chairman and management team.

4.4 Co-operation

DADSC is delighted that DADSC Trustee Eddie Martin continued to expand his role as DAFC's Mental Health Ambassador, in particular his work done with The Pars Foundation as well as his other initiatives.

Similarly, Graham Ross (DAFC's Disability Access Officer) has been a good friend of DADSC, playing a big part in the CAFE Week of Action mentioned above. He has also developed links with local organisations and the DAOs of other clubs, as well as providing a go-to point for matchday enquiries from home and travelling supporters.

DADSC is a member of the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (No 5197) and of Fife Voluntary Action

Further afield, DADSC continues to have an excellent relationship with CAFE (Centre for Access to Football in Europe) and the expectation is that DADSC and DAFC will participate in the 2025 Week of Action once the date is announced.

5 EXPENDITURE

Expenditure was kept to a minimum, with most costs incurred on DADSC business being met voluntarily by Trustees and members. Total expenses in 2023/24 were £481, with the only significant costs being transaction charges on donations (£166) and the cost of t-shirts for the CAFE Week of Action (£220), the latter being refunded by CAFE.

6 INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

DADSC thanks Alan Hogarth for his work in previous years as honorary Independent Examiner for DADSC. DADSC is pleased that for 2023/24 Alex Butchart CA has agreed to act as honorary Independent Examiner, and he has signed off the Financial Statement for 2023/24 forming part of this Trustees' Report and Accounts (pages 9-14.)

7 SUMMARY

At the end of 2023/24, DADSC's aim of getting a lift to the First Floor of the Main Stand at KDM Group East End Park seemed closer than ever, thanks to the significant increase in DADSC funds and the practical involvement of KDM Group. Plans had been designed which were agreeable to DADSC, at an estimated cost which, although challenging, was achievable. The support of the DAFC Board, in particular David Cook and Drew Main, had been invaluable, and DADSC looked forward to securing the agreement to the proposals of all interested parties, followed by commencement of work.

DADSC accounts showed a surplus for the year of £17, 512 (a 41.5% increase on the previous year) and DADSC funds in its bank accounts at 31 March 2024 totalled £75,000 (a 30.5% increase on the previous year.) DADSC funds had increased by almost £30,000 in the previous two years, and with significant further funding expected in 2024/25 DADSC was in a strong position financially to support the plans for improvements to accessibility at KDM Group East End Park.

DADSC is deeply grateful for the enormous financial, practical and emotional support given over the years by fans of the Pars and other clubs, by members of the general public and by various grant-making bodies. DADSC will continue to work with all parties to improve the matchday experience of all supporters with a disability, and to improve awareness of disability issues among football supporters and in the community.

The report was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by the Chair:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Nugent." The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

DATE: 28 August 2024

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**PAGES 9-14 (shown as pp1-6 of 6) CONTAIN:
(1) THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 2023/24
AND
(2) THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

Charity Registraion No. 048550 (Scotland)

**DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC
DISABLED SUPPORTERS CLUB**

KDM Group East End Park
Halbeath Road
Dunfermline
Fife
KY12 7RB

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

FOR THE PERIOD 01 APRIL 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC DISABLED SUPPORTERS CLUB

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

FOR THE PERIOD 01 APRIL 2023 to 31 MARCH 2024

		Unrestricted Funds	
	Notes	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
<u>Income</u>			
Donations	1	11,576.07	5,165.57
Grants	2	3,000.00	7,000.00
Membership Fee	3	380.00	460.00
Merchandise	4	2.00	170.00
Other Income	5	3,035.29	0.00
Total Income		<u>17,993.36</u>	<u>12,795.57</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Charitable Activities	6	<u>481.18</u>	<u>415.83</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year		<u><u>17,512.18</u></u>	<u><u>12,379.74</u></u>

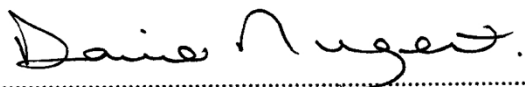
Financial Statements
DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC DISABLED SUPPORTERS CLUB

STATEMENT OF BALANCES

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Bank and Deposit Balances	7		
Bank and Deposit Balances brought forward		57,487.87	45,108.13
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year		17,512.18	12,379.74
Bank and Deposit Balances carried forward		<u>75,000.05</u>	<u>57,487.87</u>

The Accounts were approved by the Trustees on 30th July 2024 and signed on their behalf by:-



.....
Chairperson
David Nugent

Date: 28/8/24

Financial Statements**DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC DISABLED SUPPORTERS CLUB****Statement of Balances****AS AT 31 MARCH 2024**

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
1 Donations		
Big Country Donation	2,504.16	0.00
CEROC Scotland Donation	2,536.00	0.00
Collections	762.32	0.00
Darts League	150.00	0.00
Fundraising	1,413.00	92.50
Kiltwalk	2,150.00	0.00
Other Donations	2,060.59	5,073.07
	<hr/> 11,576.07	<hr/> 5,165.57
2 Grants		
Arnold Clark	0.00	2,000.00
Charities Trust	0.00	1,000.00
Green Hall Foundation	0.00	4,000.00
McDonalds	3,000.00	0.00
	<hr/> 3,000.00	<hr/> 7,000.00
3 Membership Fees		
Membership Fees	<hr/> 380.00	<hr/> 460.00
4 Merchandise Sales		
Merchandise Sales	<hr/> 2.00	<hr/> 170.00

Financial Statements
DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC DISABLED SUPPORTERS CLUB

Statement of Balances

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
5 Other Income		
Gift Aid	1,486.64	0.00
Bank Interest	1,548.65	0.00
	<hr/> 3,035.29	<hr/> 0.00
6 Charitable Activities		
Administration	7.86	27.83
Collection Costs	220.00	138.00
DAFC - Food Gift	0.00	250.00
Fundraising Costs	87.00	0.00
Transaction Charges	166.32	0.00
	<hr/> 481.18	<hr/> 415.83
7 Bank Balances		
Bank of Scotland	74,939.82	57,487.87
Cash in Hand	0.00	0.00
Stripe	60.23	0.00
	<hr/> 75,000.05	<hr/> 57,487.87

Financial Statements

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC DISABLED SUPPORTERS CLUB

Statement of Balances

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

Examiner's report to the Trustees of Dunfermline Athletic Disabled Supporters Club.

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024 which are noted above.

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 (as amended). 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 any 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.

Independent examiner's statement.

During 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.
 - 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.

Alex Butchart
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Name: Alex Butchart CA

Date: 31 August 2024