

23-09-2024, Fauldhouse



Foreign Communities of Alba
ASSOCIATION

FCA Association (SCIO) - SC052771
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<https://fcaassociation.org>

Foreign Communities of Alba - Trustees' Annual Report for the period: 2023-2024

23-08-2023 — 23-08-2024

Names of the trustees on the date of approval of Trustees' Annual Report

1. Gustaw Karol Fit - Chairperson / Treasurer
2. Anna Bogumiła Nosal - Vice Chairperson / Secretary
3. Magdalena Rozmysłowska - Vice Chairperson

Names of all other charity trustees during the period, if any, (for example, those who resigned part way through the financial period):

N/A

Structure, governance and management:

Type of governing document: Constitution; The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (a SCIO). It was registered in its current legal form on 23 August 2023. It has a two tier structure.

Trustee recruitment and appointment:

The management committee, which regularly meets on Facebook Messenger and one Tuesday of each month in person, are the charity's trustees and the CEO. Membership of the management committee is open to all members or anyone with sufficient qualifications. To allow for some continuity of the committee it is also open to interested members of the community or our business partners. Trustees are elected at the annual general meeting which is held in May. There must be a minimum of three and a maximum of eight trustees.

Charitable purposes

Our mission

Enabling social engagement and cultural integration of ethnic minorities in Scotland through sport, recreational, cultural and social events and activities.

Our key strategy pillars

The advancement of public participation in sport, by (but not limited to) running football training and forming teams to compete in local leagues; organizing hiking and trekking groups and excursions; other sporting activities as directed by the membership

The organization of recreational activities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended, including social activities for families; community events and events to celebrate the many ethnic backgrounds represented in our communities

* The advancement of public participation in non-profit, charitable movements and general activation and integration of ethnic minorities in Scotland, through lectures, joint events, volunteering, encouragement to entrepreneurship and building a shared support platform.

*Since 2024, we also offer life, legal and material assistance to members of said communities through our BPO project.

*Pending constitution update

Summary of the main activities in relation to these subjects

The FCA Association organized multiple successful community events. The main activities are regular football meetings in Bathgate and hiking trips. These two activities promote an active and healthy lifestyle and we had about 300-400 members of the public participate in a year.

Among the recreational activities organized this year, we count:

- *GOCC 2024 Edinburgh*

We have provided a socializing and recreational platform to around 3000 people of Polish, Scottish and other origins. We have received many recommendations and opened a few separate projects which address mental health, poverty, wellness and are targeted at removing social isolation. Fundraising about £27,000.00 for GOCC Poland.

- *Hiking Winter Skills Project*

Providing better winter hiking skills to decrease the risk of fatalities while hiking. This project helped to train 5 individuals. 4 of them coming from the public (not members) on the back of a publicly announced contest.

- *Mapa Event*

As part of this project, we have delivered a historical path for children with attractions, a sports area with chess and volleyball, helped to coordinate the whole event, provided a debate oversight and offered volunteering opportunities for at least 15 people. The event was visited by about 1000 guests from various communities in Scotland.

- *Connected by the Map Youtube channel cooperative*

A captivating journey where our passion for history, culture, and stories brings Poles and Scots together. Our first episode is now live, and we can't wait for you to explore the wonders of Scotland with us. Discover the unique places and events that connect our Polish and Scottish histories. Let's celebrate our shared heritage and build new connections along the way! We plan to release one episode every month or two! Look for places and events that connect us and build our shared Polish and Scottish history.

- *LLAMA project pilot (Life, Legal and Material Assistance)*

As part of this project, we have:

- Assisted 10 individuals in legal cases ranging from home problems down to sending ashes of their loved ones back to their home country
- Prepared 10 packages for Easter for families in need
- Had a discussion with the Consulate General to expand the project, including 'round table' meetings of various Polish organizations and multiple other activities, receiving a very positive opinion to build this project further
- Participated in mental health of young people conference to upskill the members of our organization and find ways to leverage our activities to positively impact wellbeing and mental

Achievements and Performance

We have supported various charitable activities. We really foster the spirit of social integration through sports, outdoor activities like camping, and walks in scenic locations. Additionally, we partnered with platforms like Neighbourly to expand volunteer opportunities and emphasize rural social enterprises, highlighting sustainable development and community involvement. The demand on our services is high, we had four, thousand+ people events organized the last financial year, are looking forward to further developments and are very proud of our work.

Financial review

Our main source of funding remains donations and grants (we also apply for Polish government grants). We do not plan to dramatically change this the next financial year and want to continue so that all of our activities can be accessed without tickets. We have a healthy P&L balance, allowing us to pay for all of our engagements timely. We plan to run a few fundraising events next year for more causes we plan to support (like The Great Polish Map of Scotland).

Reserves policy

The trustees' policy is to retain 3 months worth of normal running costs in order to meet commitments and to cover any unexpected expenditure. Our standing costs are currently about £900.00, but mainly related to football pitch hire, which can be canceled without a cancellation fee. We plan to keep our charity without any long-term payment or subscription commitment, until we reach a point where we believe we should invest in a community space.

Plans for future period

Our main goal is to open a community centre for Polish-Scottish integration. We are actively looking for partners. But 2025 will be more about building the charity's visibility and increasing the social impact, so that we can build more trust into bigger partners and start cooperating with them.

Signed by

Gustaw Fit — COO and Chairman of the Trustee Board

Jarosław Jopek — CEO

Julia Anna Nosal — Vice-Chairman of the Trustee Board

Magdalena Rozmysłowska — Vice-Chairman of the Trustee Board

Addendum for the Accounts document

1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (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. The trustees maintain a single unrestricted fund for the day-to-day running of the club.

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