



**DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC
DISABLED SUPPORTERS' CLUB**

East End Park, Halbeath Road, Dunfermline KY12 7RB

Report & Accounts

1 April 2019 - 31 March 2020

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

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

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 2019 to 31 March 2020 and the first full year of accounts for the SCIO.

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 Trustees who are all long-term Pars supporters.

2 GOVERNANCE

At 1 April 2019, the office-bearers of DADSC were the five Initial Trustees who had signed the documents seeking registration of DADSC as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO), and who had elected from among themselves the following office-bearers:

Chair: Dave Nugent

Treasurer: Roger Hyde

Secretary: John Simpson

Membership Secretary: Timothy Curle

Trustee: Tracey MacFarlane

In accordance with the DADSC Constitution, an Annual General Meeting was held on 29 April 2019, at which the five Initial Trustees were elected as Charity Trustees to form the Board of DADSC. The holders of the various offices were reappointed with no change to those listed above.

3 MEMBERSHIP

Membership of DADSC is not restricted to those with a disability and is open to anyone who sympathises with DADSC's aims. At 1 April 2019, 59 individuals were members, and by the end of the financial year 2019/20 this had increased to 81, although a few were in arrears with their annual membership payments.

It was agreed at the Annual Meeting on 29 April 2019 that the annual membership fee should remain unchanged at £5.

4 ACTIVITIES OF DADSC

4.1 Accessibility

During 2019/20 there was considerable uncertainty surrounding the finances of all football clubs including DAFC, so DADSC appreciates the work done by DAFC to address issues of accessibility at East End Park. However, DADSC believes further improvements are desirable and achievable.

During 2019/20, DADSC's made a major effort to reach agreement with Dunfermline Athletic FC Ltd (DAFC) and the stadium landlords Pars United EEP Ltd (PUEEP) on a practicable and financially viable solution to accessibility issues in the Main Stand – the whole of the first floor is inaccessible to anyone in a wheelchair or with mobility difficulties, and there are accessibility problems on the other floors.

In October 2018 DADSC had sent to DAFC and to PUEEP a detailed and costed Business Plan to provide an internal lift, funded completely by DADSC. This proposal was presented to and considered by the Board of DAFC in July 2019, but their decision was that they could give no assurance that DAFC would be in a position in the foreseeable future to commit to implementing the DADSC proposal, or anything similar.

This was disappointing, however DADSC recognized that DAFC had reasonable concerns. Subsequently, it was agreed with the DAFC Board that wheelchair access to the 1st Floor remained desirable and that DADSC could continue developing proposals and raising funds to that end, provided no commitment by DAFC was inferred.

Separately, in August 2019 DADSC supplied detailed architectural drawings to DAFC for an extension at the matchday viewing box corridor, which would provide improved wheelchair access and an accessible toilet on the Purvis Suite level. As at 31 March 2020 there had been no feedback on this from DAFC.

In late 2019 DAFC commissioned a professional Disability Access Report and Audit, as part of the SPFL licencing requirements. As at 31 March 2020 there had been no information from DAFC to DADSC on what improvements to accessibility the report had recommended, or what the timescales might be for implementation.

4.2 Events and Fundraising

During the first part of the financial year the continuing uncertainty surrounding the proposal for access to the first floor made it inappropriate for DADSC to carry out significant fundraising, particularly from the DAFC fanbase. Towards the end of the financial year the start of the Covid-19 pandemic made it impracticable to hold fundraising events, with the difficulties being compounded by several DADSC members being in the more vulnerable categories. The year was therefore mainly one of consolidation, although a few initiatives were undertaken.

In April 2019 a bucket collection and merchandise sale was held at East End Park, and later that month the DADSC trophies for Player and Young Player of the Year were awarded to Joe Thomson and Matthew Todd. However, it did not prove possible for DADSC to have a presence at the DAFC Open Day in June 2019.

DADSC applied and was chosen to benefit from the Co-op Local Community Fund for the year from October 2019 until October 2020. Plans had been made for joint activities with the Co-op to publicise both their services and DADSC activities (flyers had been printed for use in local Co-op stores and at East End Park) but these plans were all cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Income from this initiative will be seen in next year's financial accounts.

DADSC also joined the easyfundraising scheme, which provides an income to DADSC from online purchases at no cost to the purchaser.

4.3 Awareness

As well as fundraising, DADSC energetically pursued its aim to increase awareness of disability issues, not just among football supporters but in the community at large. The DADSC Facebook page continued to be well-received, with over 1000 followers, and on most days a new meme was published by DADSC, aimed at increasing public awareness of issues around disability and accessibility.

Through the individual efforts of DADSC members Eddie Martin and Drew Main, DAFC held Mental Health Awareness sessions at East End Park, with Eddie being appointed in September 2019 as DAFC's Mental Health Ambassador. This initiative was publicised and supported by DADSC, as was DAFC's training programme for "Dementia Friends" run by Alzheimer Scotland.

DADSC's sponsors awards to the DAFC Player of the Year and Young Player of the Year to keep the activities and aims of DADSC in the public eye, but the 2020 event was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

An interview with the DADSC Secretary was broadcast on the local TV station "That's TV Scotland East", explaining the work done at East End Park to improve accessibility.

4.4 Co-operation

Throughout 2019/20 DADSC representatives continued to play an active and constructive role in meetings of the Scottish Disabled Supporters' Association (SDSA). However, serious personality clashes (none of which involved DADSC) and the resignation from SDSA of some major clubs significantly reduced the effectiveness of SDSA and made its future very uncertain. This is regrettable, and DADSC will continue to urge that there should be a recognized body to represent Scotland's disabled supporters.

DADSC welcomes the increasing recognition in Scottish football of the importance of having a dedicated Disability Access Officer (DAO) at each club. During 2019/20 DADSC enjoyed an excellent working relationship with both of DAFC's DAO's - Lynsey Jones in the first part of the year and then Kenny Cowan (from June 2019).

DADSC maintains close links with the Centre for Access to Football in Europe (CAFE) and was invited to take part in their Week of Action in March 2020, but was unable to do so.

DADSC is a member of the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (No 5197).

5 FINANCES and INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

DADSC is pleased to report that Alan Hogarth MCIBS has again been willing to act as Honorary Independent Examiner for DADSC. The Financial Statement for 2019/20 forms part of this Trustees' Report and Accounts.

As a registered charity, DADSC can reclaim through the UK's Gift Aid scheme the income tax already paid on individuals' donations. The Gift Aid claimed from HMRC for 2019/20 was not received before 31 March 2020 and so is not included in the Financial Statement for 2019/20 – it is expected to be included in the Financial Statement for 2020/21.

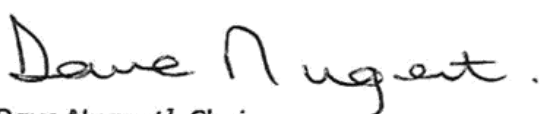
6 SUMMARY

2019/20 has been another difficult year due to the continuing uncertainty about if, how or when full accessibility to the function suites on the 1st Floor at East End Park can be achieved, as directed by the DAFC Supporters' Council in 2014. DADSC will continue its efforts to reach agreement with DAFC on a solution acceptable to all parties.

By the end of 2019/20 it was becoming clear that the Covid-19 pandemic would have a major effect on DADSC, on DAFC, on football and on society in general. This is likely to be impact seriously on what DADSC can achieve in 2020/21.

Despite these problems, DADSC is in a strong position financially, and as far as is practicable, will continue with its work to improve the matchday experiences of disabled supporters of DAFC and increase awareness of disability matters generally among football supporters and in the wider community.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees


[Dave Nugent], Chair

6th October 2020

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Charity Registration No 048550 (Scotland)

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC

DISABLED SUPPORTERS CLUB

East End Park, Halbeath Road, Dunfermline KY12 7RB

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2019 TO 31 MARCH 2020

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC DISABLED SUPPORTERS CLUB

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2019 to 31 MARCH 2020

		Unrestricted Funds	
		2020	2019
	Notes	£	£
<u>Receipts</u>			
Donations	1	704-60	32,340-15
Membership Subscriptions	2	260-00	276-00
Merchandise Sales	3	82-40	60-00
Bucket Collection		662-94	
Total Income		1,709-94	32,676-15
<u>Payments</u>			
Charitable Activities	4	Nil	354-35
Surplus (profit) for the year		1,709-94	32,321-80

Financial Statements

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC DISABLED SUPPORTERS CLUB

Statement of Balances

AS AT 31 MARCH 2020

1. Donations		
	2020	2019
	£	£
Donations (18 July 2018 to 31 March 2019)	-	31,980-15
DAFC Centenary Club	500-00	
John Simpson	69-60	
Keith Brown	61-00	
Dave Clark	44-00	
Unknown Donor	20-00	
David Laming	10-00	
2. Membership Subscriptions	2020	2019
	£	£
Membership Subscriptions	260-00	276-00
3. Merchandise Sales	2020	2019
	£	£
Merchandise Sales	82-40	60-00
4. Charitable Activities	2020	2019
	£	£
Donations	Nil	354-35

Financial Statements

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC DISABLED SUPPORTERS CLUB

Statement of Balances

AS AT 31 MARCH 2020

5. Bank Balance

	2020	2019
	£	£
Bank Treasurers Account	34,031-74	32,321-80

Financial Statements
DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC DISABLED SUPPORTERS CLUB

Statement of Balances

AS AT 31 MARCH 2020

	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Bank and deposit balances		
Bank Balance brought forward	32,321-80	Nil
Payments in year	1,709-94	32,321-80
Bank and deposit balances carried forward	34,031-74	

The Accounts were approved by the Trustees on and signed on their behalf by: -

David Nugent

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Chairperson

Financial Statements

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC DISABLED SUPPORTERS CLUB

Statement of Balances

AS AT 31 MARCH 2020

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 2020 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 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.

Independent examiner's statement.

In the course of 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.



Name: Alan Hogarth

Relevant Professional Qualification/Professional Body: MCIBS

Address: 10 Hatchbank Lane, Kinross, KY13 9LA

Date: 17th September, 2020
