

IPSWICH OPPORTUNITY GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1012778

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1992-07-09

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 15 Ashton Close
Ipswich
IP2 9XY

Phone 07746580132

Email ips.opportunitygp@btinternet.com

Website www.ipswichopportunitygroup.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF PRE-SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN WHO HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS BY REASON OF THEIR ADDITIONAL NEED, PARTICULARLY BY THE PROVISION OF SAFE AND SATISFYING GROUP PLAY FACILITIES.

Activities: Support for families of pre-school children with additional needs. 3 sessions a week held at the Salvation Army Hall, 558 Woodbridge Road, Ipswich. Appropriate play activities for pre-school children with a wide range of additional needs. Support for parents/carers.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- Suffolk

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£50,088	£28,554	-	-
2024-03-31	£15,773	£26,525	-	-
2023-03-31	£27,082	£22,603	-	-
2022-03-31	£20,212	£23,107	-	-
2021-03-31	£17,156	£12,689	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Sandra Davy	Chair	2022-03-09
ANNE GREEN		2014-06-16
Bryony Goodchild		2023-10-09
Christine Elizabeth Futter		2024-10-07
Claire Michelle Rush		2022-01-18
Clara Jacobs		2024-10-07
Jacqui Cawkwell-East		2025-10-06
Louise Elizabeth Harman		2023-10-09
MAURA FLATMAN		
STEPHANIE NEWTON		2014-06-16
VAL HOWE		2014-06-16

IPSWICH OPPORTUNITY GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1012778

Accounts

IPSWICH OPPORTUNITY GROUP
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON 6th OCTOBER 2025 at the SALVATION ARMY HALL, WOODBRIDGE ROAD

Present: Cheryl King, Val Howe, Chris Futter, Anne Green, Sandra Davy, Jacqui Cawkwell-East, Bryony Goodchild, Rachel Hill, Maura Flatman, Chris Southwell, Claire Rush, Nicola Murdoch,

Apologies: Liz Boyle, Andrea Pittock, Anna Davies, Robert Crozier, Carina Sewell, Sanchia Brandreth, Gemma Knipe, Stephanie Newton, Clare Brook, Louise Harman, Clara Jacobs, Barbara Hughes, Anna Hughes

The notes from the previous AGM were proposed as a true record by Sandra Davy and seconded by Val Howe.

Matters Arising

Nothing arising.

Policies

No changes to policies, reviewed and new logo being applied to documents.

New website will require cyber security policy. Chris Southwell (SCC- AU) offered template policy.

Chairpersons Report – Sandra Davy

This is my first year as Chair and I would like to thank all the trustees for their help and support. We have a very strong committee and all meetings have been able to go ahead as planned. A new logo has been designed and we have been working hard on a new website which should go live in January. Special thanks to Louise and Chris for their hard work.

There have been ups and downs throughout the year. Highlights have included seeing the children thrive and move onto successful school placements. Another highlight particularly for me was seeing every child contribute to the painting of our Hare for the St Elizabeth Trail. Introduction of Sensory Stories by Nicola Murdoch have been a success.

The staff and volunteers have, as always given their “All” to support the children and their families. Thanks to everyone for providing such a happy welcoming atmosphere in every session. Caroline Cummings has moved on and we are fortunate to have appointed Gemma Knipe.

The downs have been unsuccessful bids to Children in Need and the NHS pathway bid. Both involved very detailed bids. But we are in a better financial position than this time last year and other Grant applications have been successful. Thanks to Activities Unlimited (AU) for their continued support. However, ongoing fundraising continues to be priority.

There have been no safeguarding issues this year and staff volunteers and Trustees have all completed safeguarding training.

Numbers attending some sessions are low. This has become an issue since school placements now start at the beginning of the Autumn term rather all year round. Hopefully, through our contacts, leaflets and the new website, this issue will be resolved. Ideally, we would like to appoint a parent liaison worker but this will be dependent upon adequate funding.

Treasurers Report - Bryony Goodchild

Total Income: £50,088.08

Total Expenditure: £28,553.99

Closing Balance at Year End: £31,194.08

Our financial year up from April 2024 until March 2025 was a much healthier financial year than the previous one, with our income exceeding our expenditure by £21,534.09. This figure combined with the surplus brought forward from last year of £9,659.99 left us with an opening balance for our current financial year of £31,194.08.

I would like to thank Activities Unlimited for their ongoing support, and for helping us with extra funds when we were in need. I would also like to thank all our donors listed in your account packs.

We have been successful in several of our grant applications, and again you can see these listed in your account packs.

We have had a number of fundraisers and are very grateful to everyone who contributed in any way.

Finally, I'd like to thank Anna Hughes for examining our accounts again. She has indicated that she is happy to continue to do so but that at some time in the future she is planning to pass on the role to her son who is also an accountant.

Any questions

No questions or concerns raised.

Acceptance of Accounts

The accounts were proposed as a true record by Bryony Goodchild and seconded by Claire Rush.

Co-ordinators Report

I feel that I have managed to step back a bit this year thanks to the support of the staff, volunteers, and Trustees. Thank you to Nic who has taken on the role of Lead Playleader. Sessions are running smoothly, the team work so well together even though we have had another change of playleader, Caroline left in May and Gemma joined us in June but it seems like she has been with us longer as she has fitted in so well!

Thank you to all the staff and volunteers for planning and running such successful sessions. Feedback from parents is very positive. The music therapy sessions in October/November were very popular. Also, the Hare that we were able to decorate for the Hospice trail thanks to Greater Anglia sponsorship was a great group activity.

Thank you also to the Trustees who have taken some of the admin tasks on, helping with reducing my involvement and not feeling so overwhelmed with admin. Next aim is to get the new website set up which will be fantastic!

Resignation of current committee

Nomination and Election of Officers and Committee

The nomination of officers is as follows:

Chairperson - Sandra Davy

Proposed by Cheryl King

Seconded by Claire Rush

Vice Chairperson – Chris Futter

Proposed by Claire Rush

Seconded by Rachel Hill

Treasurer – Bryony Goodchild

Proposed by Sandra Davy

Seconded by Jacqui Cawkwell-East

Secretary - Jacqui Cawkwell-East

Proposed by Claire Rush

Seconded by Val Howe

Committee Members

Louise Harman

Clara Jacobs

Maura Flatman

Stephanie Newton

Claire Rush

Anne Green

Val Howe

Proposed by Rachel Hill

Seconded by Sandra Davy

Any Other Business

Chris Southwell AU – offered to advertise Trustee roles and promotion of fundraisers on their social media. Also, opportunity to apply for capital funding for equipment and additional storage (subject to SA approval).

Update on Activities Unlimited offer from Chris Southwell – parent, sibling and provider training.
Upgraded holiday accommodation in Fritton.

Claire Rush to update leaflet now logo is finalised.

Discussions around referral routes – Framlingham and Bergholt Wards at Ipswich Hospital, Facebook support groups.

Date of next AGM:

Monday 5th October 2026 – 7.30pm

Date of next committee meeting:

Monday 17th November 2025 – 9.30am

IPSWICH OPPORTUNITY GROUP

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31 March 2025

Income	2024-25	2023-24	Payments	2024-25	2023-24
Grants			People		
Garrett Foundation Newsquest (RF Music Therapy)	1000.00		Salaries	21900.40	21351.06
Funding from Suffolk Community Foundation through BirkettsFund (RF Rent)	1980.00		Payroll Services	856.15	663.60
SCC AU Grant	17000.00	9000.00	Training	783.68	332.14
HHGET Grant	5000.00		DBS Checks	74.00	24.00
Bailey Thomas	5000.00				
Garfield Weston Foundation	3000.00				
VARRIERJONES Foundation Grant	5000.00				
YAPP	3000.00				
The Archer Trust	1500.00				
Donations			Other direct costs of running the Groups		
Wonderful	175.00	796.70	Hall Hire	1980.00	1980.00
Donation Cotton Club	2200.00		Taxi transport	526.56	884.52
Give as you Live	168.09	518.43	Equipment	376.81	192.51
Donations in memory of Roger Seaman	0.00	754.87	Music Therapy	1000.00	
Mazars Charitable Trust	0.00	1000.00	Snacks and Activities	138.82	221.22
Donations in memory of Paul Quantrill	0.00	750.00			
Donat Donations for Safeguarding Training	120.00		Administrative Costs		
Other Donations	1425.34	489.36	Telephone	80.00	40.00
Fundraising			Insurance	396.35	542.63
Spring Fayre	113.50		Membership Fees SAFE	60.00	50.00
Sale of Tomato Plants	83.00		Ofsted	0.00	0.00
Quiz Night	431.00		Miscellaneous	346.22	208.65
Concert	40.00		ICO Registration	35.00	35.00
Summer Concert	231.00				
Xmas Craft Stall	221.60		Costs of Fundraising		
Brook Inn Coffee Mornings	172.55	331.14	Concert Hall Hire		
Christmas Concert	268.71				
Craft Stall	65.00	369.20			
Sale of Christmas Cards	0.00	79.00			
ITFC Collection	0.00				
Brighton Marathon Sponsorship	0.00	75.00			
Gift Aid	213.10				
Other income			Total Costs	28553.99	26525.33
Voluntary Attendance Fees	1469.00	1459.20			
Bank Interest	161.19	150.85			
Bank Compensation	50.00				
Surplus/(deficit)				21534.09	(10751.58)
	<u>50088.08</u>	<u>15773.75</u>		<u>50088.08</u>	<u>15773.75</u>



Bryony Goodchild
Hon. Treasurer



Anna Hughes AIA
Independent Examiner

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Ipswich Opportunity Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Ipswich Opportunity Group for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The trustees of the Ipswich Opportunity Group are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

I report in respect of my examination accounts, carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination, to which in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Anna Hughes, ACA

Brook Farm, Days Road, Capel St Mary, Suffolk, IP9 2LB

27 June 2025

IPSWICH OPPORTUNITY GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1012778

Accounts

Trustee reports at AGM on 9th October 2023

Chairperson's Report

2022 to 2023 has actually been our first full year of opening since Covid, as we reopened in June 2021. The group continues to be busy and doing well, with a waiting list. Thank you to Cheryl, the staff, and volunteers old and new for all their hard work which makes the group such a success and which we know our families value.

Financially we are in a healthier position than last year but finances are always tight and we are grateful for our donors and to those who have fundraised for us to enable us to keep going in this our I think 32nd year,

I'd like to thank all the trustees for their support and commitment. We have met regularly. Policies were updated and reviewed. We made the decision to withdraw from Ofsted as our current shorter hours since Covid were not matching Ofsted guidelines.

Safeguarding is always a priority for us. This year we have had issues of concerns raised to us, not relating to issues in group, and they were handled appropriately.

Staffing is always tight. Last year we welcomed a new staff member, Amy, and we are pleased that Lisa is back doing more hours. We have arranged more cover for Cheryl on Monday morning to free her up for admin and trustee's meetings.

Thank you again to everyone who has enabled us to have another successful year and we look forward to the next one.

Treasurer's Report

Our financial year up to March 2023 shows a surplus of £4472.

I would like to thank Activities Unlimited for their continued support and all our donors – individuals, clubs and companies. We would not exist without them! These are all listed in your accounts packs.

I must also thank Helen Offord for raising funds for us by running the Brighton Marathon.

We have been able to do some fundraising this year and are very grateful to everyone who contributed in any way.

Thankyou to Anna Hughes for examining our accounts again this year. She has indicated that she is happy to do so again next year.

IPSWICH OPPORTUNITY GROUP

Voluntary Donations
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Anne Green	30.00
D King	20.00
Marie Poselippi	45.00
G Andrews	25.00
S & A Woolley	50.00
J Suckling	5.00
G Hunt	20.00
D Markham	500.00
CAF	110.00
Amazon Smile	74.84
	<hr/>
	879.84
	<hr/>

IPSWICH OPPORTUNITY GROUP

Petty Cash Account
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Opening Balance
Cash in

Expenditure

Snacks	87.41
Cleaning	59.57
Equipment	36.86
Stationery	56.75
Activities	59.67
PPE	7.98

Balance carried forward 31 March 2023

£

3.88

350.00

353.88

308.24

45.64

IPSWICH OPPORTUNITY GROUP

Analysis of Miscellaneous Expenditure
for the year ended 31 March 2023

	2021/22	2022/23
Stationery Postage and Ink	85.26	155.23
PPE	104.63	7.98
Snacks and Cleaning	91.65	146.98
Activities and Crafts	14.04	59.67
Christmas Gifts	14.61	0.00
Job Advertisement	75.00	0.00
	<u>385.19</u>	<u>369.86</u>
Snacks and Activities	74.51	147.08
Miscellaneous	310.68	222.78
	<u>385.19</u>	<u>369.86</u>

IPSWICH OPPORTUNITY GROUP

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31 March 2023

<i>Income</i>	2022/23	2021/22	<i>Payments</i>	2022/23	2021/22
Grants			People		
Suffolk County Council	9000.00	4000.00	Salaries	16876.97	17031.12
Ipswich Borough Council Suffolk Community Restart Fund		513.35	JRS Grant Overclaim		229.35
HMRC JRS Scheme		2192.58	Payroll Srevices	432.00	515.00
			Training	481.58	361.50
			DBS Checks	24.00	52.00
Donations			Other direct costs of running the Groups		
Mid Suffolk HOPS		10000.00	Hall Hire	1980.00	1815.00
Archant Community Tokens		174.56	Taxi transport	655.20	534.12
Ganzoni Charitable Trust	2000.00		Equipment	299.85	1499.52
R S Brownless Charitable Trust	200.00		Music Therapy	750.00	
Varrier Jones Foundation Grant	5000.00		Snacks and Activities	147.08	74.51
Masonic Charitable MCF	4000.00		Administrative Costs		
Mazars Charitable Trust	1000.00		Telephone	40.00	40.00
Give As You Live	147.67		Insurance	518.54	503.70
Wonderful	225.00		Membership Fees SAFE	50.00	50.00
Donations in memory of Paul Quantrill	260.00		Ofsted	50.00	50.00
Ipswich Golf Club	1725.00	1599.10	Miscellaneous	222.78	310.68
Capel Cheetahs - Run		50.00	ICO Registration	35.00	35.00
Other Donations	879.84	397.40	Bank Charges		5.40
Donations for Safeguarding Training	120.00		Costs of Fundraising		
Fundraising			Concert Hall Hire	40.00	
Tomato Plant Sales	80.00	57.00			
Brook Inn Coffee Mornings	169.90	210.00			
Sale of Christmas Cards	93.29				
ITFC Collection	281.33				
Craft Stall	206.50				
Christmas Concert	327.15				
The Fundraising Company Ltd		12.70			
Voluntary Attendance Fees	1336.95	759.60			
Other Income					
First Aid Training Discount		32.40			
Gift Aid		208.01			
Bank Interest	28.90	5.49			
			Total Costs	22603.00	23106.90
Excess of Income over Expenditure				4478.53	-2894.71
	<u>27081.53</u>	<u>20212.19</u>		<u>27081.53</u>	<u>20212.19</u>

Val Howe
Hon. Treasurer

Anna Hughes ACA
Independent Examiner

IPSWICH OPPORTUNITY GROUP

Accumulated Surplus
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Surplus brought forward from 31 March 2022
(Opening balances £15929.16 + £3.88

Plus Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2023

£

Represented by:-

Co-operative Bank Account

Investment in Britannia Building Society Saver Account

Petty Cash

£

15933.04

4478.53

20411.57

14839.46

5526.47

45.64

20411.57

IPSWICH OPPORTUNITY GROUP

Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the year ended 31 March 2023

CASH FUNDS

Co-operative Bank Account
Britannia Building Society Saver Account
Petty Cash

ASSETS

Equipment

Tables
Chairs
Various toys
Safety mats
Safety Gate
Digital camera
Storage boxes
Parent library
Mobile phone
Easel
Folding exercise mat
Standing frame
Musical instruments
Therapy bench
Bubble tube
Light cube
Support chair
Books
Door alarm
Fan
Laptop
Laminator
Shredder
Projector
Fibre optic lights
UV torch
KiddiSynk
Mirrored Soft Play Den

TOTAL

£

14839.46

5526.47

45.64

20411.57

20411.57

IPSWICH OPPORTUNITY GROUP

Notes for Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

Restricted Funds

Fund	Outstanding (spent this year)
Jessie's Fund For Music Therapy	750.00
Port Community Fund For Transport and Training	420.98

IPSWICH OPPORTUNITY GROUP

Petty Cash Analysis

Date	Snack	Cleaning	Equip	Stationery	Activities	Gifts	PPE	TOTAL
4/2/2022					8.25			8.25
4/26/2022		8.75						8.75
5/7/2022					11.85			11.85
5/9/2022							3.99	3.99
5/9/2022					2.29			2.29
5/10/2022			4.41					4.41
5/10/2022		4.00	12.00					16.00
5/10/2022				7.50				7.50
5/10/2022					1.50			1.50
5/10/2022			4.00					4.00
5/19/2022			6.00					6.00
5/26/2022		2.99						2.99
6/5/2022	4.99							4.99
6/11/2022				2.00				2.00
6/21/2022		7.27		0.79			3.99	12.05
6/28/2022	2.50							2.50
7/14/2022					3.99			3.99
7/14/2022	1.19	5.47						6.66
7/19/2022				5.44				5.44
8/8/2022	2.00	2.90						4.90
8/9/2022	2.74							2.74
8/13/2022					7.95			7.95
8/24/2022	3.25				3.00			6.25

8/25/2022		1.99		1.30	3.29
9/2/2022	2.88				2.88
9/4/2022			3.50		3.50
9/4/2022		1.65			1.65
9/15/2022	2.09				2.09
9/16/2022			5.00		5.00
9/25/2022	3.45				3.45
9/27/2022		1.99	1.49		3.48
9/27/2022				2.00	2.00
10/2/2022	2.38		1.49		3.87
10/6/2022	2.68		4.75		7.43
10/14/2022	2.50				2.50
11/3/2022	1.80				1.80
11/5/2022			1.00		1.00
11/8/2022	2.00				2.00
11/17/2022	1.25	4.93			6.18
11/17/2022	3.60				3.60
11/18/2022				6.25	6.25
11/29/2022				4.00	4.00
12/2/2022	2.35				2.35
12/8/2022				2.50	2.50
1/6/2023	8.93			2.00	10.93
1/11/2023			6.95		6.95
1/17/2023			10.00		10.00
1/22/2023	4.10				4.10
1/22/2023	4.82				4.82
2/19/2023	3.35				3.35
2/20/2023	0.90	2.75			3.65
2/22/2023	8.35	5.00			13.35
3/7/2023	5.55	2.90			8.45
3/8/2023			7.65		7.65
3/12/2023	2.51		4.20		6.71

Petty Cash Analysis

3/22/2023	5.25				1.50			6.75
3/25/2023		6.98			1.29			8.27
3/26/2023			5.44					5.44
Total	87.41	59.57	36.86	56.75	59.67	0.00	7.98	308.24

Petty Cash Analysis

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Ipswich Opportunity Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Ipswich Opportunity Group for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The trustees of the Ipswich Opportunity Group are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

I report in respect of my examination accounts, carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination, to which in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Anna Hughes, ACA

Brook Farm, Days Road, Capel St Mary, Suffolk, IP9 2LB

21 August 2023