

BARCOMBE PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1027947

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1993-11-04

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

Contact

Address Barcombe Village Hall
Barcombe Mills Road
Barcombe
Lewes
BN8 5BH

Phone 07845937254

Email barcombeplaygroup@yahoo.co.uk

Website www.barcombeplaygroup.co.uk

Activities

Objects: The aims of the Pre-school are to enhance the development and education of children primarily under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups and by:(a) offering appropriate play, education and care facilities, family learning and extended hours groups, together with the right of parents to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of such groups, ensuring that such groups offer opportunities for all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability;(b) encouraging the study of the needs of such children and their families and promoting public interest in and recognition of such needs in the local areas;(c) Instigating and adhering to and furthering the aims and objects of the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

Activities: To provide affordable child care to a high and national standard

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- East Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£94,995	£85,489	-	-
2024-07-31	£70,661	£79,014	-	-
2023-07-31	£88,491	£69,496	-	-
2022-07-31	£78,368	£64,150	-	-
2021-07-31	£69,576	£62,031	-	-
2020-07-31	£70,737	£63,685	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Amy Nussey		2020-10-15
Angela Carter		2025-10-13
Bryn Murphy		2025-10-13
Emma Heathcote		2023-11-23
Hannah Jacobs		2025-10-13
Kirsten Shanks		2025-10-13
Laura Corbishley		2020-10-15
MIRIAM AUSTIN		

BARCOMBE PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1027947

Accounts

BARCOMBE PLAYGROUP

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION

The Trustees present their Annual Report, together with the financial statements of the Charity, for the year ending 31st July 2025.

Review of the Activities and Achievements:

Barcombe Playgroup was open for 38 weeks (term time) from 9:00am to 2:45pm Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, and 9:00am to 12:30pm Tuesday and Friday.

The number of children who can attend the Playgroup at any one time remains at 25.

Constitution and Objectives:

Barcombe Playgroup is constituted under a trust deed and is a registered Charity, number 1027947. The principle office address is Barcombe Playgroup, Barcombe Village Hall, Barcombe Mills Road, BN8 5BH.

Learning:

The Charity's objectives for the Playgroup are to enhance the development and education of children under statutory school age, by providing a safe and secure play-based environment, where children are actively involved in their learning.

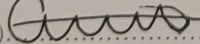
Organisation:

The Trustees who served during the year are:

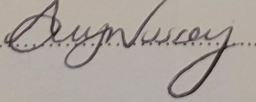
Emma Stroude - Chair - 16 October 2018
Amy Nussey - Secretary - 15 October 2020
Daniel Miles - Treasurer - 14 October 2021
Mim Austin - 12 March 2011
Angela Carter - 17 October 2024
Laura Corbishley - 15 October 2020
Claire Stevenson - 14 October 2021
Emma Heathcote - 23 November 2023

Trustees are appointed by the Board of Trustees.

For and on behalf of the Trustees:

Mrs Emma Stroude (Chair) 

Dated: 30/04/25

Mrs Amy Nussey (Secretary) 

Dated: 30/04/26

Barcombe Playgroup
Charity Number: 1027947

Receipts and Payments for the year to 31 July 2025

	<u>31-Jul-25</u>	<u>31-Jul-24</u>
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
Early Years Education Grants	£74,076	£47,877
Parental Fees	£19,334	£21,079
Fundraising Income	£43	£83
Outings and Entertainment	£170	£195
T-shirts/sweatshirts/bags	£32	£18
Photographs/xmas cards	£0	£0
Interest	£1,334	£1,409
Donation	£5	£0
Total Receipts	£94,995	£70,661
	£0.00	£0.00
<u>PAYMENTS</u>		
Staff Costs	£60,133	£52,905
Rent on Village Hall	£8,775	£8,459
PAYE / NIC	£906	£450
Outings and Entertainment	£2,646	£2,274
Payroll	£225	£420
Toys and Equipment	£1,473	£9,647
Advertising	£255	£238
Gifts	£20	£35
Photos/xmas cards	£0	£0
Internet/Website/Phone	£174	£204
Admin Expenses	£1,236	£0
Staff Entertainment	£350	£321
Food and Supplies	£1,573	£982
AGM / Accountant's /Website gift	£288	£0
Bank Charges	£60	£60
Fundraising Costs	£0	£53
Amazon Prime	£108	£98
T-shirts/Sweatshirts/Bookbags	£193	£207
Ofsted Registration	£35	£35
Other	£4,277	£0
Sum up fees	£0.00	£0
Staff Training	£1,792	£1,765
Insurance and Membership of PSLA	£971	£861
Total Payments	£85,489	£79,014
	£0.00	£0.00
Surplus for the year	£9,505	-£8,353
	£0.00	£0.00

Barcombe Playgroup
Charity Number: 1027947

Balance Sheet as at 31 July 2025

Balance B/f	£90,270	£98,623
Surplus for the year	£9,505	-£8,353
Balance C/f	£99,775	£90,270

Represented By: -

Current Account CAF (inc. pending transactions)	£40,419	£ 35,007
Savings Account	£59,250	£ 54,692
Cash in Hand	£107	£ 571
	£99,776	£90,270

Signed.....
Chair Person

Date:.....

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Barcombe Playgroup charity number 1027947

I report on the accounts of Barcombe Playgroup for the year ended 31 July 2025, which comprise the Receipts and Payments accounts, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Charities Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with 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 130 of the Charities Act ;and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 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:Robert Peck

Qualification:FCCA

Address:21 Grantham Bank, Barcombe, Lewes, BN8 5DJ

Date:25 September 2025

BARCOMBE PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1027947

Accounts

BARCOMBE PLAYGROUP

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION

The Trustees present their Annual Report, together with the financial statements of the Charity, for the year ending 31st July 2024.

Review of the Activities and Achievements:

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The number of children who can attend the Playgroup at any one time remains at 25.

Constitution and Objectives:

Barcombe Playgroup is constituted under a trust deed and is a registered Charity, number 1027947. The principle office address is Barcombe Playgroup, Barcombe Village Hall, Barcombe Mills Road, BN8 5BH.

Learning:

The Charity's objectives for the Playgroup are to enhance the development and education of children under statutory school age, by providing a safe and secure play-based environment, where children are actively involved in their learning.

Organisation:

The Trustees who served during the year are:

Emma Stroude - Chair - 16 October 2018
Charlotte Marler - Secretary - 14 October 2021
Daniel Miles - Treasurer - 14 October 2021
Mim Austin - 12 March 2011
Polly Thom - 16 October 2018
Laura Corbishley - 15 October 2020
Amy Nussey - 15 October 2020
Claire Stevenson - 14 October 2021
Emma Heathcote - 23 November 2023

Trustees are appointed by the Board of Trustees.

For and on behalf of the Trustees:

Mrs Emma Stroude (Chair) E. Stroude.....

Dated: 17/3/2025

Mrs Charlotte Marler (Secretary) C. Marler.....

Dated: 17/3/2025

Barcombe Playgroup
Charity Number: 1027947

Receipts and Payments for the year to 31 July 2024

RECEIPTS

	<u>31-Jul-24</u>	<u>31-Jul-23</u>
Early Years Education Grants	£47,877	£63,687
Parental Fees	£21,079	£23,487
Fundraising Income	£83	£171
Outings and Entertainment	£195	£592
T-shirts/sweatshirts/bags	£18	£51
Photographs/xmas cards	£0	£0
Interest	£1,409	£504
Donation	£0	£0
Total Receipts	£70,661	£88,491
	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£0.00</u>

PAYMENTS

Staff Costs	£52,905	£48,729
Rent on Village Hall	£8,459	£8,906
PAYE / NIC	£450	£444
Outings and Entertainment	£2,274	£2,826
Payroll	£420	£198
Toys and Equipment	£9,647	£1,378
Advertising	£238	£135
Gifts	£35	£79
Photos/xmas cards	£0	£0
Internet/Website/Phone	£204	£184
Admin Expenses	£0	£362
Staff Entertainment	£321	£657
Food and Supplies	£982	£1,440
AGM / Accountant's /Website gift	£0	£0
Bank Charges	£60	£60
Fundraising Costs	£53	£0
Amazon Prime	£98	£106
T-shirts/Sweatshirts/Bookbags	£207	£426
Ofsted Registration	£35	£35
Other	£0	£1,550
Sum up fees	£0.00	£8
Staff Training	£1,765	£435
Insurance and Membership of PSLA	£861	£1,528
Total Payments	£79,014	£69,496
	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£0.00</u>
Surplus for the year	-£8,353	£18,996
		<u>£0.00</u>

Barcombe Playgroup
Charity Number: 1027947

Balance Sheet as at 31 July 2024

Balance B/f	£98,623	
Surplus for the year	<u>-£8,353</u>	£79,627
Balance C/f	£90,270	£18,996
		<u>£98,623</u>
Represented By: -		
Current Account CAF (inc. pending transactions)	£35,007	£44,784
Savings Account	£54,692	£53,373
Cash in Hand	£571	£467
	<u>£90,270</u>	<u>£98,624</u>

Signed Ec Stroude
Chair Person

Date: 05/11/24

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Barcombe Playgroup charity number 1027947

I report on the accounts of Barcombe Playgroup for the year ended 31 July 2024, which comprise the Receipts and Payments accounts, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for my examination work.

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Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name:Robert Peck
Qualification:FCCA
Address:21 Grantham Bank, Barcombe, Lewes, BN8 5DJ
Date:16 October 2024

BARCOMBE PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1027947

Accounts

BARCOMBE PLAYGROUP

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Laura Corbishley - 15 October 2020
Amy Nussey - 15 October 2020
Claire Stevenson - 14 October 2021
Emma Heathcote - 23 November 2023

Trustees are appointed by the Board of Trustees.

For and on behalf of the Trustees:

Mrs Emma Stroude (Chair) *E Stroude*
Dated: 11/11/2024

Mrs Charlotte Marler (Secretary) *C Marler*
Dated: 11/11/2024

Barcombe Playgroup
Charity Number: 1027947

Receipts and Payments for the year to 31 July 2023

	<u>31-Jul-23</u>	<u>31-Jul-22</u>	
RECEIPTS			
Early Years Education Grants	£63,687	£45,027	
Parental Fees	£23,487	£31,775	
Fundraising Income	£171	£920	
Outings and Entertainment	£592	£594	
T-shirts/sweatshirts/bags	£51	£14	
Photographs/xmas cards	£0	£10	
Interest	£504	£29	
Donation	£0	£0	
Total Receipts	£88,491	£78,368	0
	<u>£0.00</u>		
PAYMENTS			
Staff Costs	£48,729	£49,433	
Rent on Village Hall	£8,906	£8,933	
PAYE / NIC	£444	£1,529	
Outings and Entertainment	£2,826	£1,280	
Payroll	£198	£576	
Toys and Equipment	£1,378	£550	
Advertising	£135	£321	
Gifts	£79	£251	
Photos/xmas cards	£0	£248	
Internet/Website/Phone	£184	£227	
Admin Expenses	£362	£0	
Staff Entertainment	£657	£144	
Food and Supplies	£1,440	£118	
AGM / Accountant's /Website gift	£0	£112	
Bank Charges	£60	£96	
Fundraising Costs	£0	£92	
Amazon Prime	£106	£81	
T-shirts/Sweatshirts/Bookbags	£426	£77	
Ofsted Registration	£35	£35	
Other	£1,550	£26	
Sum up fees	£8.24	£12	
Staff Training	£435	£10	
Insurance and Membership of PSLA	£1,528	£0	
Total Payments	£69,496	£64,150	0
	<u>£0.00</u>		
Surplus for the year	£18,996	£14,218	0

Barcombe Playgroup
Charity Number: 1027947

Balance Sheet as at 31 July 2023

Balance B/f	£79,627	£65,409
Surplus for the year	<u>£18,996</u>	£14,218
Balance C/f	£98,623	£79,627

Represented By: -		
Current Account CAF (inc. pending transactions)	£44,784	£39,235
Savings Account	£53,373	£40,067
Cash in Hand	£467	£326
	<u>£98,624</u>	<u>£79,628</u>

Signed: EC Stroude Date: 28-11-23
Chair Person
EMMA STROWE

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Barcombe Playgroup charity number 1027947

I report on the accounts of Barcombe Playgroup for the year ended 31 July 2023, which comprise the Receipts and Payments accounts, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

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Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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Name:Robert Peck

Qualification:FCCA

Address:21 Grantham Bank, Barcombe, Lewes, BN8 5DJ

Date:19 November 2023

BARCOMBE PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1027947

Accounts

Barcombe Playgroup Trustees Annual Report

Report of the Trustee for the year ending 31st August 2022

Our Playgroup

We are a small village playgroup set in the heart of rural Sussex, who provides both education and childcare for children aged 2-5 years.

We are based in Barcombe Village Hall, East Sussex, with a dedicated, enclosed outdoor space surrounded by fields.

Our aim is to nurture our pre-school children's development through play and we are very fortunate to be based in an area where we can regularly engage the children with the nature around them.

Our Team

We currently have 5 members of staff working with our children at Barcombe Playgroup. Last year we began the term with 32 children registered to attend Playgroup, which increased to 38 children by Christmas and we continue to operate at full capacity.

Our Playgroup follows the early year's foundation curriculum framework and has the ethos of children learning through play. We are also members of the Early Years Alliance.

Each child is assigned a keyworker at enrolment. Parents are then free to discuss any concerns and achievements with the key worker, or another member of our team as required.

Learning journals are made for every child each year and these are readily available for parents, guardians or carers to take home throughout the year.

Our aim is to provide a safe learning environment for the children with as much outdoor play as possible and a warm, friendly and open environment for the parents and carers of each child.

Our Trustee

Our Trustees consist of the Playgroup Supervisor and parents/carers of the playgroup, who have had or currently have children at Barcombe Playgroup. Our Trustees, give up their time and are keen to ensure the future success and longevity of our Playgroup.

All parents/carers are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting held in October to become part of the Committee.

It is a voluntary commitment, and anyone is eligible to become a member. We only ask that Trustees are able to attend at least 2 out of the 3 meetings held each year.

Trustees are elected at our Annual General Meeting in October and are then able to help run Playgroup over the coming year.

All our Trustees are DBS and Ofsted registered and comply with the Charities Commission Trustee Act.

Our Year (August 2021 - August 2022)

It has been wonderful to be able to welcome children to Playgroup without any restrictions in place. The children have had an excellent year. This year regular visits were made by Miss Eaglen, the Reception year teacher from Barcombe Church of England Primary School, one of the local feeder schools. Not only did she attend Playgroup, but the children have been using the Sports Hall at Barcombe Primary School nearly every Wednesday morning, over the past year.

This really helps with transitioning children from Playgroup to School, as they have already made some connections with their next move.

Our excellent staff help make this possible by walking all the 2-5 year olds, 20 minutes through the village to school, even in the rain. We have continued to be invited to the School's Key Stage 1 nativity production in December, which enables further experiences within the school environment.

Often our Playgroup children have siblings at school, so it can be very exciting for all involved to see the Playgroup children entering the school playground!

We have had visits from Universal Dance throughout the year with Mrs Lloyd. The children have a fantastic experience moving, dancing and singing along to music. This helps their balance and co-ordination and they are always very excited when they know it is a 'dance day'. We have also been lucky enough to welcome some new visitors into Playgroup (including a Music Teacher and local Farmer) and have also enjoyed visits to 'Wild About Barcombe' and local areas where the children have been able to experience Foraging. We even had a visit to the local Fire Station - excitement levels were high!

Regular baking sessions, art and craft sessions have been undertaken throughout the year, with fantastic homemade gifts and crafts for Christmas, Easter, Mother's Day and Father's Day brought home by the children.

Towards the end of the summer term, we had a Playgroup family outing to a local farm, Blackberry Farm, where the children were able to hold small animals, have

tractor rides and feed the larger animals at the farm. The weather was beautiful and they all had a fantastic day.

To end our year, we held our annual Playgroup BBQ on the grounds of the Barcombe Village Hall. It is a lovely way to end our year at Playgroup and to say our farewells to those children moving on to school.

At the end of the summer term, we said goodbye to staff member Jon Richards, who had worked at Barcombe Playgroup for 10 years. Jon is now a Teaching Assistant at Barcombe Primary School. We quickly filled his position and are very pleased to have Jess Austin on board. She is already a huge asset to the team whom the children are already incredibly fond of.

Our accounts have once again remained healthy this year, enabling us to keep fundraising activity to a minimum. We do, however, always ensure our presence at local events (such as school fairs and village fun days) to raise awareness and join in with village life. It has been agreed that some expenditure will take place to update Playgroup resources and equipment.

Our Finances

Our accounts as prepared are for the year ending 31st July 2022.

This year Barcombe Playgroup made a profit of £14,000.00. The accounts have been audited and submitted with this report to the Charities Commission.

We also have a reserve account, which contains £53,202.00. This allows for two terms wages, one full year of rent and a 5% contingency, in the event of unprecedented circumstances.

Overview

It has been a brilliant year. We are grateful to have been able to run Playgroup without any restrictions and it is clear that the children have once again benefited from the wonderful rural location of our Playgroup and the hard work and dedication provided by Mim and her Team.

The Committee would like to thank the Playgroup Supervisor and her staff, who continue to work tirelessly throughout the year ensuring a safe, fun and nurturing environment.

Emma Stroude
Chairperson

Barcombe Playgroup
Charity Number: 1027947

Receipts and Payments for the year to 31 July 2022

	<u>31-Jul-22</u>	<u>31-Jul-21</u>
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
Early Years Education Grants	£45,027	£42,024
Parental Fees	£31,775	£26,953
Fundraising Income	£920	£151
Outings and Entertainment	£594	£0
T-shirts/sweatshirts/bags	£14	£61
Photographs/xmas cards	£10	£377
Interest	£29	£4
Donation	£0	£5
Total Receipts	<u>£78,368</u>	<u>£69,576</u>
<u>PAYMENTS</u>		
Staff Costs	£49,433	£50,029
Rent on Village Hall	£8,933	£8,517
PAYE / NIC	£1,529	£476
Outings and Entertainment	£1,280	£0
Payroll	£576	£360
Toys and Equipment	£550	£342
Advertising	£321	£208
Gifts	£251	£123
Photos/xmas cards	£248	£0
Internet/Website/Phone	£227	£178
Staff Entertainment	£144	£0
Food and Supplies	£118	£504
AGM / Accountant's /Website gift	£112	£40
Bank Charges	£96	£82
Fundraising Costs	£92	£0
Amazon Prime	£81	£80
T-shirts/Sweatshirts/Bookbags	£77	£73
Ofsted Registration	£35	£36
Other	£26	£0
Sum up fees	£12	£0
Staff Training	£10	£348
Insurance and Membership of PSLA	£0	£637
Total Payments	<u>£64,150</u>	<u>£62,031</u>
Surplus for the year	<u>£14,218</u>	<u>£7,545</u>

Barcombe Playgroup
Charity Number: 1027947

Balance Sheet as at 31 July 2022

Balance B/f	£65,409	£57,864
Surplus for the year	<u>£14,218</u>	<u>£7,545</u>
Balance C/f	<u>£79,627</u>	<u>£65,409</u>
 Represented By: -		
Current Account CAF (inc. pending transactions)	£39,235	£25,343
Savings Account	£40,067	£40,041
Cash in Hand	<u>£326</u>	<u>£25</u>
	<u>£79,628</u>	<u>£65,410</u>

Signed.....
Chair Person

Date:.....

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Barcombe Playgroup charity number 1027947

I report on the accounts of Barcombe Playgroup for the year ended 31 July 2022, which comprise the Receipts and Payments accounts, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Charities Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with 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 130 of the Charities Act ;and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 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:Robert Peck

Qualification:FCCA

Address:21 Grantham Bank, Barcombe, Lewes, BN8 5DJ

Date:30 October 2022

BARCOMBE PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1027947

Accounts

Barcombe Playgroup Trustees Annual Report

Report of the Trustee for the year ending 31st August 2021

Our Playgroup

We are a small village playgroup set in the heart of rural Sussex, who provides both education and childcare for children aged 2-5 years.

We are based in Barcombe Village Hall, East Sussex, with a dedicated, enclosed outdoor space surrounded by fields.

Our aim is to nurture our pre-school children's development through play and we are very lucky to be based in an area where we can regularly engage the children with the nature around them.

Our Team

We currently have 5 members of staff working with our children at Barcombe Playgroup. Last year we began with 25 children registered to attend Playgroup and we are now at full capacity.

Our Playgroup follows the Early Year's Foundation curriculum framework and has the ethos of children learning through play. We are also members of the Early Years Alliance.

Each child is assigned a Keyworker at enrolment and they are then free to discuss any concerns with the Keyworker, or another member of our team as required.

Learning journals are made for every child each year and these are readily available for parents, guardians or carers to take home throughout the year.

Our aim is to provide a safe learning environment for the children with as much outdoor play as possible and a warm, friendly and open environment for the parents and carers of each child.

Our Trustees

Our Trustees consist of the Playgroup Supervisor and parents/carers of the Playgroup, who have had or currently have children at Barcombe Playgroup. Our Trustees give up their time and are keen to ensure the future success and longevity of our Playgroup.

All parents/carers are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting held in October to become part of the Committee.

It is a voluntary commitment and anyone is eligible to become a member. We only ask that Trustees are able to make at least 2 out of the 3 meetings held each year.

Trustees are elected at our Annual General Meeting in October and are then able to help run Playgroup over the coming year.

All our Trustees are DBS and Ofsted registered and comply with the Charities Commission Trustee Act.

Our Year (August 2020 - August 2021)

We started the year in line with government restrictions meaning staff were required to regularly lateral flow test. We ensured thorough cleaning/sanitising and removed some of our higher risk activities such as Playdoh & baking. We changed our drop off and pick up procedures to ensure parents/carers were able to socially distance outside on the grass area and asked that packed lunches were provided in wipeable lunchboxes. Unfortunately we were unable to make any of our usual visits to the village Sports Hall, nor were we able to welcome any outside visitors including the reception teacher - Mrs Whittle. We are very proud to say that we did not have any cases of Covid-19 and were able to keep Playgroup open for the full year. This is absolutely down to the commitment and dedication of the Playgroup staff members, which we are all hugely thankful for.

We welcomed back 25 children and have since been operating at full capacity. With this in mind, and alongside the challenges of Covid-19, we took the decision to suspend any fundraising activities.

Our accounts are looking healthy and our intention is to resume some fundraising activities to provide a small amount of additional income, which will be used to pay for specific items as requested and verified by Playgroup staff and committee members.

At the end of the Summer term, we said goodbye to Liz Rumary - Deputy Supervisor, who made the tough decision to retire after 25+ years. Liz was a huge asset to the Playgroup team, who will be sorely missed. Jess Shoesmith (an existing member of the team) has been appointed to the role of Deputy Supervisor.

As Coronavirus restrictions were lifted, we took the decision to host an end of term picnic, which was a fantastic way to celebrate those children moving on to school, Liz's retirement and of course the overall success of Playgroup in what was another uncertain and challenging year.

As the children return to Playgroup in September, we will reintroduce the activities and events that have been on hold for so long now, including Barcombe

C of E School and Sports Hall visits and the higher risk activities associated with Coronavirus restrictions. Indoor pick up and drop offs will also be reintroduced.

We will also be welcoming a change to Early Years Foundation Stage Framework (EYFS).

The key messages about the reforms include:

- ✓ Reducing practitioner/teacher workload and needless paperwork to allow for more quality time and interactions with the children.
- ✓ Improving the outcomes of all children and addressing/reducing the disadvantage gaps.
- ✓ The importance of workforce knowledge and professional development to inform assessments. Reflect upon the need to assess every child's development against 'check lists', saving formal steps of assessment for when they are necessary.
- ✓ Making early learning goals clearer and more aligned to Y1 curriculum.

Our parents/carers have been informed and advised that whilst the quality of the education provided will not change, there will be fewer physical observations and assessments recorded. Instead, professional judgement will be used to assess the children's development during the daily interactions.

This year has been another incredible journey for all the staff and parents of Playgroup and yet again, the children have been resilient and adaptable, taking every change in their stride.

Our Finances

Our accounts as prepared are for the year ending 31st July 2021.

This year Barcombe Playgroup made a profit of £7,545.00. The accounts have been audited and submitted with this report to the Charities Commission.

We also have a reserve account, which contains £40,000. This allows for two terms wages, one full year of rent and a 5% contingency, in the event of unprecedented circumstances.

Overview

After another unusual year, we are grateful to have been able to remain open, despite the ongoing presence of Covid-19. We have been brought closer as a team and a community and are ready to see what next year has in store for us.

As always, the children showed true resilience and shone brightly.

The Committee would like to thank the Playgroup Supervisor and her staff, who worked tirelessly throughout the year and ensured we were ready to re-open Playgroup in a safe and friendly environment for all.

Emma Stroude
Chairperson

Barcombe Playgroup
Charity Number: 1027947

Receipts and Payments for the year to 31 July 2021

	<u>31-Jul-21</u>	<u>31-Jul-20</u>
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
Early Years Education Grants	£42,024	£55,655
Parental Fees	£26,953	£13,898
Fundraising Income	£151	£1,139
Photographs/xmas cards	£377	£33
Other	£0	£0
Donation	£5	£15
T-shirts/sweatshirts/bags	£61	£130
Deposit A/c Interest	£4	£37
Total Receipts	<u>£69,576</u>	<u>£70,907</u>
 <u>PAYMENTS</u>		
Staff Costs	£50,029	£49,502
Rent on Village Hall	£8,517	£5,834
PAYE / NIC	£476	£835
Toys and Equipment	£342	£5
Outings and Entertainment	£0	£203
Fundraising Costs	£0	£35
Other	£80	£92
Insurance and Membership of PSLA	£637	£630
Photos/xmas cards	£0	£0
Payroll	£360	£330
Advertising	£208	£273
AGM / Accountant's /Website gift	£40	£73
Gifts	£123	£53
Internet/Website/Phone	£178	£251
T-shirts/Sweatshirts/Bookbags	£73	£130
Bank Charges	£82	£60
Ofsted Registration	£35	£35
Food and Supplies	£504	£207
Stationery and Postage	£0	£6
Staff Training	£348	£230
Total Payments	<u>£62,031</u>	<u>£58,783</u>
Surplus for the year	<u>£7,545</u>	<u>£12,124</u>

Barcombe Playgroup
Charity Number: 1027947

Balance Sheet as at 31 July 2021

Balance B/f	£57,864	£45,740
Surplus for the year	<u>£7,545</u>	<u>£12,124</u>
Balance C/f	<u>£65,409</u>	<u>£57,864</u>
 Represented By: -		
Current Account CAF (inc. pending transactions)	£25,343	£17,774
Savings Account	£40,041	£40,037
Cash in Hand	<u>£25</u>	<u>£53</u>
	<u>£65,410</u>	<u>£57,864</u>

Signed.....
Chair Person

Date:.....

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Barcombe Playgroup charity number 1027947

I report on the accounts of Barcombe Playgroup for the year ended 31 July 2021, which comprise the Receipts and Payments accounts, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Charities Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

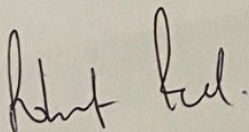
Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

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2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Name:Robert Peck

Qualification:FCCA

Address:21 Grantham Bank, Barcombe, Lewes, BN8 5DJ

Date:26 September 2021

BARCOMBE PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1027947

Accounts

Barcombe Playgroup Trustees Annual Report

Report of the Trustee for the year ending 31st August 2020.

Our playgroup.

We are a small village playgroup set in the heart of rural Sussex, who provides both education and childcare for children aged 2-5years.

We are based in Barcombe Village Hall, East Sussex, with a dedicated, enclosed outdoor space for our children, surrounded by fields.

Our aim is to nurture our pre-school children's development through play and we are very lucky to be based in an area where we can regularly engage the children with the nature around them.

Our Team

We have 6 members of staff working with our children at Barcombe playgroup. Last year we started with 25 children registered to attend playgroup, which increased to 45 by Christmas 2019.

Our playgroup follows the early year's foundation curriculum framework and has the ethos of children learning through play. We are also members of the pre-school learning alliance.

Each child is assigned a keyworker at enrolment and they are then free to discuss any concerns with the key worker, or another other member of our team as required.

Learning journals are made for every child each year and these are readily available for parents, guardians or carers to take home throughout the year.

Our aim is to provide a safe learning environment for the children with as much outdoor play as possible and a warm, friendly and open environment for the parents and carers of each child.

Our Trustee

Our trustee consist of the Playgroup Supervisor and parents of the playgroup, who have had or currently have children at Barcombe Playgroup. Our Trustee, give up their time and are keen to ensure the future success and longevity of our playgroup.

All parents are invited to attend the Annual General meeting held in October to become part of the committee.

It is all voluntary commitment and anyone is eligible to become a member. We only ask that trustee must be able to make at least 2 out of the 3 meetings held each year.

Trustees are elected at our annual general meeting in October and then able to help run playgroup over the coming year

All our trustee are DBS and Ofsted registered and comply with the charities commission trustee act.

Our year.

Well, what a year we have had! We started our year with reduced number of children and conscious that we had also made a financial loss in the previous year.

Our aims for the year were to increase the number of children attending our playgroup and also to try and raise some money to keep our rural playgroup running.

Barcombe playgroup fundraising committee was developed to help facilitate the fund raising process. Cake sales were arranged and at Christmas time we had a very successful Christmas raffle and sold hand painted wrapping paper and gift tag made by the children.

The children over the winter term had enjoyed regular visits to our local school sports hall, Barcombe Church of England Primary School, where they were able to visit the local school setting and regularly meet Mrs Whittle, the reception class teacher. This helps facilitates the transition of children from playgroup to school, so they become familiar with the school they may attend over a gradual period of time.

Our playgroup staff walk the children to and from school for this outing every Wednesday. All 2-4 year olds walk 20 minutes through the village to the school, even in the rain. We have also continued to be invited to the schools key stage one nativity production in December, which enables further experiences within the school environment.

The children often have siblings at school, so it can be very exciting for all involved to see Barcombe playgroup entering the school playground!

We also continued to have fortnightly visits from Universal Dance throughout the year with Mrs Lloyd. The children have a fantastic experience of moving, dancing and singing along to music. This helps their balance and coordination and they are always very excited when they know it is a 'dance day'.

Regular baking sessions, art and craft sessions have been undertaken throughout the first 6 months of the year, with fantastic homemade gifts and crafts regularly coming home.

Our Christmas party was a huge hit with all the children, who had a fantastic time with their friends.

Over the Christmas holidays, two sets of parents donated and installed a new outdoor pirate ship for playgroup, for which we are very thankful.

We started the New Year full of hope and excitement, with new ideas for fundraising emerging, especially for around Easter time.

Whilst life initially continued as normal, we were soon struck with the enormity of the Coronavirus. We took the decision in line with department of education and government's advice to close playgroup on 20th March 2020. We had only one child with two key worker parents, who had other childcare in place – so we were able to close playgroup.

Whilst it was heart-breaking for all concerned, all parents and staff understood the decisions made. Staff were sent home on full pay and no parental fees were collected during the time we were closed.

Mrs Lloyd provided dance sessions via Zoom for any children who wanted to join and families kept in close contact with playgroup via the private closed facebook group.

At the end of May 2020, we made the decision, in line with the local primary school to re-open playgroup in the middle of June 2020.

Staff were all asked if they would be prepared to come back to work and thankfully everyone returned.

PPE, cleaning facilities and hand gel was provided for all, but facemasks were not required at that time.

Polices were written and we introduced stagger drop off times with children kept in two bubbles as per the guidance from the Department of Education. Luckily we have two separate rooms at playgroup and lots of outdoor space – so our bubbles were relatively easy.

Initially, it was the children who would be transiting to primary school who attended for the first week. An apprehensive start occurred on the 15th June but most of the children returned and were happy to be back.

The following week, any child whose parents wanted them to return to playgroup came back. Older children were dropped off at 8.45 with the younger bubble being dropped off at 9am.

This worked incredibly well and the village hall committee, where playgroup is based, gave us sole use of the Hall for the last 6 weeks of the summer term.

We did not run playgroup on Fridays, to allow for a deep clean of the facilities and toys.

We had a great return and all the children were happy to be with their friends again. Although the term was short, it gave everyone the confidence in playgroup being able to run smoothly in such different circumstances. To the credit of the playgroup staff and parents we did not have a single case of Covid 19 over that time.

Sadly were like the rest of the country were unable to have our annual outing and end of term BBQ, but all the children leaving playgroup were warmly wishes off to pastures new!

This year has been an incredible journey for all the staff and parents of playgroup but we have become a stronger community unit for it. The children are the true heroes of our playgroup, who took every change thrown at them in their stride, with a beaming smile on their faces.

Our Finances.

Our accounts as prepared are for the year ending 31st July 2020.

This year Barcombe playgroup made a profit of £7,000. The accounts have been audit and submitted with this report to the charities commission.

This was a combination of increased attendance, funding raising, reduced outgoings due to Covid 19 and the generosity of our Local Village Hall committee, who did not ask us for rent during the closure period and did not charge us rent until September 2020, when we returned for the summer term.

For this we will be eternally grateful. It has meant that we were able to keep Barcombe Playgroup afloat and pay all our staff full wages, even when closed.

We also have a reserve account, which contains £45,740 . This allows for two terms wages, one full year of rent and a 5% contingency, in the event of unprecedented circumstances.

Overview

Our chaotic year has come to a close and brought us closer together, as rural community, than we could have ever thought possible.

The children shone brightly throughout the year and showed their true resilience in the face of change throughout the Spring and Summer of 2020.

I have the upmost respect for the Playgroup supervisor and her staff, who worked tirelessly to ensure we were able to re-open playgroup in a safe and friendly environment for all.

We will return to Playgroup stronger in September 2020, to see what the next year has to offer us!

Helen Button

Chairperson.

Barcombe Playgroup
2019/2020

	Income	Expenditure	Difference	Wages	Pension
August	5,759.15	5,054.81	704.34	5,087.40	48.96
September	4,579.73	7,688.17	-3,108.44	4,286.01	30.98
October	3,250.55	4,446.09	-1,195.54	4,179.40	30.98
November	6,198.48	4,217.91	1,980.57	4,112.90	48.96
December	7,609.72	4,855.69	2,754.03	4,236.07	30.98
January	7,580.37	7,005.83	574.54	4,009.10	23.12
February	6,737.84	4,525.38	2,212.46	4,115.37	27.29
March	7,544.18	9,146.88	-1,602.70	3,976.55	23.12
April	4,989.35	3,937.40	1,051.95	3,976.55	23.12
May	5,182.95	4,024.60	1,158.35	3,976.55	22.64
June	5,546.90	4,760.13	786.77	4,017.20	22.64
July	5,758.05	4,021.98	1,736.07	4,017.20	22.64
	<u>70,737.27</u>	<u>63,684.87</u>	<u>7,052.40</u>	<u>49,990.30</u>	<u>355.43</u>

PAYE PAID IN Sept, Dec, March, June

Bank Balances as of 24th July 2020

CAFCash Account	17,685.21 - this has the wages taken off and the Pension Contributions for Ju
CAFGold Account	<u>40,037.39</u>
	<u>57,722.60</u>

ily.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Barcombe Playgroup charity number 1027947

I report on the accounts of Barcombe Playgroup for the year ended 31 July 2020, which comprise the Receipts and Payments accounts, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

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Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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Name:Robert Peck

Qualification:FCCA

Address:21 Grantham Bank, Barcombe, Lewes, BN8 5DJ

Date:12/10/20.....