

EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 1056708

Details

Other names	THE WENDY HOUSE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1996-07-11
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	River Valley Centre 6 White Horse Drive Emerson Valley Milton Keynes MK4 2AS
Phone	07359777267
Email	evplaygroup@gmail.com
Website	thewendyhouse-mk.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 enhance the development and education of children primarily between the age of two to statutory school age.

Classification

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

Geography

- Buckinghamshire
- Milton Keynes

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£201,395	£196,051	-	-
2023-08-31	£184,012	£181,322	-	-
2022-08-31	£156,936	£157,874	-	-
2021-08-31	£177,473	£164,021	-	-
2020-08-31	£168,718	£167,011	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Sarah Clarke	Chair	2020-01-28
Charlotte Ross		2022-06-20
Luke Andrew Gibbons		2023-05-23
Nicola Kirby		2023-03-07
WENDY JANE CROSS		

EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1056708

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date	
From	01 09 2023	To	31 08 2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP

Other names charity is known by

THE WENDY HOUSE

Registered charity number (if any)

1056708

Charity's principal address

River Valley Centre, 6, White Horse Drive, Emerson Valley,
Milton Keynes

Postcode

MK4 2AS

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Wendy Cross			
2	Amy Lannon			
3	Sarah Clarke	Chair		
4	Aliz Szasz			
5	Natasha Wiggins	Secretary	Until 5/03/2024	
6	Charlotte Ross	Treasurer		
7	Nicola Kirby			
8	Samantha Ardley			
9	Luke Gibbons			
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document <small>(eg. trust deed, constitution)</small>	Constitution (Pre-School Learning Alliance 2011)
How the charity is constituted <small>(eg. trust, association, company)</small>	Trust reapproved on 04/03/24
Trustee selection methods <small>(eg. appointed by, elected by)</small>	Elected by members at AGM and/or co-opted by invitation of the committee

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

<p style="margin: 0;">You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees; • the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works; • relationship with any related parties; • trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

<p>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 by: Offering appropriate play, education and care facilities, family learning, together with the right of parents to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activity of the group, ensuring that opportunities are offered to all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability.</p>

We are able to offer children play, education and care in accordance with Ofsted's Early Years Foundation Stage education and welfare requirements. Primarily this is through renting an appropriate space to provide these requirements and the employment of trained, qualified and experienced staff.

We admit children from families within the local community and the wider area within Milton Keynes from varied family backgrounds.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The playgroup reached capacity with almost all sessions taken by April 2024.

However, it was a challenging year with a greater percentage of 2 years olds No staff changes however our Administrator reduced her hours with a view to retiring in the near future and new Administartor finished her training. Another member of staff finished her SENCO training in March 2024 and another finished her level 4 in summer term 2024

We had another successful trip to Rookery farm on the 2nd May 2024 was well attended with lots of unaccompanied children and our open evening/parent evening was very successful.

The playgroups committee had been in a stage of slight unease during the last couple of years which has lead us to look into changing to a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) which we are looking at going ahead with.

There is an increase in Nursery Grant due to the increase in the hourly rate we received from Milton Keynes Council. Wages costs has also increased. There was a large increase from April 2024 in National Living Wage and we needed more staff on some sessions because of the higher percentage of 2 year olds.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Our policy aims to hold to build and maintain a reserve a total of three working months income. This is to cover for contingencies including, the temporary shortfall in the Autumn term, redundancy, SSP, increases in National Living Wage, pensions. Policy also has to take account of the more than normal increases set by the recent Government and the unknown increases for Nursery Funding and reduction in the birth rate.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	Charlotte Ross	Charlotte Ross
Full name(s)	Charlotte Ross	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Committee member	
Date	5 th June 2025	

EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP T/A THE WENDY HOUSE
RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Income		
Fund raising	150.76	39.09
Milk Grant	242.95	338.30
Fees	24,448.25	37,900.32
Nursery Grant	174,114.53	139,694.96
Bank interest	1,489.64	399.91
Other Funding	948.00	5,639.10
Funds surplus	1.00	
Total	201,395.13	184,011.68
Expenditure		
Rent	10,417.50	6,812.50
Milk	326.89	353.77
Equipment	1,042.07	677.61
Stationery	1,426.21	1,217.97
Other	205.00	0.00
Wages (net)	158,908.17	148,049.66
NI & Tax	9,698.19	7,915.40
Pensions	5,017.36	4,380.43
Beverages	1,571.69	1,482.84
Expenses & Training	243.20	1,814.20
Consumables	1,265.01	2,263.92
Bank charges	149.10	175.00
Treats	700.00	1,409.21
Gifts, etc	921.78	1,398.45
Uniform	643.04	815.63
Memberships inc Insurance	2,580.20	1,885.69
Marketing	369.60	0.00
Telephone	565.99	669.22
Total	196,051.00	181,321.50
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	5,344.13	2,690.18
Opening cash balance	79,546.65	76,856.47
Closing cash balance	97,131.50	79,546.65
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES		
Assets		
Petty cash float	1,365.21	1,338.05
Current account	34,576.96	37,811.34
Reserve account 68752547	51,175.41	50,286.75
Reserve account 81683855	13.92	
Metro bank	10,000.00	
Total Assets	97,131.50	89,436.14
Total Liabilities	12,240.72	9,889.49
Net Assets	84,890.78	79,546.65

Accounts examined by:



C T Wilks FCMA FCCA

19th November 2024



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Emerson Valley Playgroup T/A The Wendy House

On accounts for the year ended

31st August 2024 Charity no (if any) 1056708

Set out on pages

1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's 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 (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
the accounts did 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 attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: [Signature]

Date: 19th November 2024

Name: COLIN THOMAS WINKS

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

FCMA FCCA

Address: SUITE 2, DOUGLAS HOUSE, 32-34 SIMPSON ROAD FENNY STRATFORD MK1 1BA

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Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

NONE

EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1056708

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

		Period start date			Period end date		
From	01	09	2022	To	31	08	2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP

Other names charity is known by THE WENDY HOUSE

Registered charity number (if any) 1056708

Charity's principal address River Valley Centre, 6, White Horse Drive, Emerson Valley,
Milton Keynes

Postcode MK4 2AS

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Wendy Cross			
2	Amy Lannon			
3	Sarah Clarke	Chair		
4	Lyndsay Ali		Until 07/03/23	
5	Aliz Szasz			
6	Natasha Wiggins	Secretary		
7	Charlotte Ross	Treasurer		
8	Nicola Kirby		From 07/03/23	
9	Samantha Ardley		From 23/05/23	
10	Luke Gibbons		From 23/05/23	
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document <small>(eg. trust deed, constitution)</small>	Constitution (Pre-School Learning Alliance 2011)
How the charity is constituted <small>(eg. trust, association, company)</small>	Trust reapproved on 5/03/23
Trustee selection methods <small>(eg. appointed by, elected by)</small>	Elected by members at AGM and/or co-opted by invitation of the committee

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees; • the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works; • relationship with any related parties; • trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them. 	
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Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

<p>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 by: Offering appropriate play, education and care facilities, family learning, together with the right of parents to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activity of the group, ensuring that opportunities are offered to all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability.</p>

We are able to offer children play, education and care in accordance with Ofsted's Early Years Foundation Stage education and welfare requirements. Primarily this is through renting an appropriate space to provide these requirements and the employment of trained, qualified and experienced staff.

We admit children from families within the local community and the wider area within Milton Keynes from varied family backgrounds.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The playgroup had an Ofsted inspection on the 16th January 2023. It had been 5 and a half years since the last inspection. We were pleased to report at the time that the outcome was GOOD. In fact the inspector told us at the feedback that we were a strong good.

The playgroup reached capacity with almost all sessions taken by February 2023. However, it was a challenging year with a greater percentage of 2 years olds that we have seen for some time.

There were a number of staff changes. Two staff left and two new auxiliaries were employed. Two staff members gained their level 3 early years qualification. The outgoing Administrator reduced her hours with a view to retiring in the near future and the incoming Administrator started training to take over the role in March.

We had another successful trip to Rookery farm on the 4th May 2023 and the Open afternoon/evening in May was well attended with over 74% of our families making an appearance.

The playgroups committee had been in stage of slight unease during the year, because the management of the hall was due to be passed over to the local Parish Council. The initial date was in April and then May. We knew that our rent would be substantially increased, and that we would be asked to remove our wall displays. It didn't happen and now won't happen – apparently the terms of the lease that the parish council wanted, couldn't be applied to this hall, and they changed their minds! (The lease wasn't long enough)

There is an increase in Nursery Grant due to the increase in the hourly rate we received from Milton Keynes Council. We also reached capacity sooner than the previous year.

Wages costs has also increased. There was a large increase from April 2023 in National Living Wage and we needed more staff on some sessions because of the higher percentage of 2 year olds.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Our policy aims to hold to build and maintain a reserve a total of three working months income. This is to cover for contingencies including, the temporary shortfall in the Autumn term, redundancy, SSP, increases in National Living Wage, pensions. We carried over a larger than normal surplus from the year 2020 to 2021 - £13452. This was set aside for use during the two subsequent financial years as the starting number of children was much lower than normal, expenditure had increased and we did not anticipate reaching capacity at any time during these academic years and were projecting a loss. The 23/24 year is the same and expenditure will increase again.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

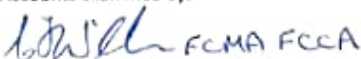
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	Charlotte Ross	Charlotte Ross
Full name(s)	Charlotte Ross	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Committee member	
Date	5 th June 2024	

EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP T/A THE WENDY HOUSE
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Income		
Fund raising	39.09	11.92
Milk Grant	338.30	378.85
Fees	37,900.32	31,910.51
Nursery Grant	139,694.96	123,015.86
Bank Interest	399.91	6.96
Miscellaneous	0.00	1,072.22
CIRS & SSP	0.00	539.56
Other Funding - SEN	5,639.10	0.00
Total	184,011.68	156,935.88
Expenditure		
Rent	6,812.50	6,930.00
Milk	353.77	390.96
Equipment	677.61	1,318.89
Stationery	1,217.97	560.65
Miscellaneous		5,108.49
Wages (gross)	157,122.08	131,034.15
Wages - previous year (gross)	1,174.17	
Employer NI	1,107.39	3,979.58
Employer Pensions	1,882.32	3,844.91
Beverages	1,482.84	1,596.97
Expenses & Training	1,814.20	632.20
Consumables	2,263.92	2,390.76
Bank Charges	175.00	86.45
Treats	1,409.21	
Gifts, etc	1,398.45	
Uniform	815.63	
Memberships inc Insurance	1,885.69	
Telephone	669.22	
Total	182,261.97	157,874.01
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	1,749.71	(938.13)
Opening cash balance	76,856.47	77,794.60
Closing cash balance	78,606.18	76,856.47
STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES		
Assets		
Petty cash float	1338.05	1,586.82
Current Account	37811.34	60,082.81
Reserve Account	50286.75	14,886.84
2nd Reserve Account	CLOSED	300.00
Total Assets	89,436.14	76,856.47
Liabilities		
Autumn term Funding	9889.49	
PAYE (July & August 2023)	940.47	
Total Liabilities	10,829.96	0.00
Net Assets	78,606.18	76,856.47

Accounts examined by:


 C T Wiiks FCMA FCCA

31st October 2023



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Emerson Valley Playgroup T/A The Wendy House

On accounts for the year
ended

31st August 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1056708

Set out on pages

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended *31st August 2023*.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's 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 (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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 attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

C T Wilks FCMA FCCA

Date:

31st October 2023

Name:

C T Wilks

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCMA FCCA

Address:

Colin Wilks & Co Ltd, Suite 2, Douglas House, 32-34 Simpson Road
Fenny Stratford, Milton Keynes MK1 1BA



Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1056708

Accounts



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		Period start date			Period end date		
From	01	09	2021	To	31	08	2022

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EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP

Other names charity is known by

THE WENDY HOUSE

Registered charity number (if any)

1056708

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Milton Keynes

Postcode MK4 2AS

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Wendy Cross			
2	Hannah Klewpatinond	Treasurer	Until 22/06/22	
3	Amy Lannon			
4	Sarah Clarke	Chair		
5	Lyndsay Ali		Until 07/03/23	
6	Aliz Szasz			
7	Natasha Wiggins		From 09/03/22 Secretary 20/06/22	
8	Charlotte Ross	Treasurer	From 20/06/22	
9	Kerry Shephard		Until 01/11/21	
10	Nicola Kirby		From 07/03/23	
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

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- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

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 by:
Offering appropriate play, education and care facilities, family learning, together with the right of parents to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activity of the group, ensuring that opportunities are offered to all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability.

We are able to offer children play, education and care in accordance with Ofsted's Early Years Foundation Stage education and welfare requirements. Primarily this is through renting an appropriate space to provide these requirements and the employment of trained, qualified and experienced staff.

We admit children from families within the local community and the wider area within Milton Keynes from varied family backgrounds.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

At the start of the academic year from September 2021, we were still adhering to Covid rules and guidelines which asked us to produce a management plan in case of an outbreak. We were fortunate that although we had a number of cases for both children and staff, that we did not exceed the number which would have caused us to close for a period of time.

For the first time for a number of years the playgroup did not fill completely during the Spring Term– we were almost at capacity during the Summer Term. We also had a higher percentage of children that were not receiving Government funding and paying fees – we receive more per hour from funding than from fees. Both of these reflect the reduction in income from Grant and the increase in Fee income shown in the accounts.

Because of the difference paid between Government Grant and fees per hour, and also because of the greater percentage of paid sessions this year the Management committee decided to increase both session and lunch fees from January 2023. This is still less than the amount per hour we receive from grant funding. We also decided to increase the request we make for snack and consumable items from the parents once a term – the last time we increase this was about 6 years ago.

There were a number of staff changes. Two new staff are training to gain their level 3 early years qualification.

We had another successful trip to Rookery farm on the 5th May 2022 and the Open afternoon in May was very well attended with over 70% of our families making an appearance.

We were aware that we would end with a net loss at the end of the year and were careful to make savings where we could. We were estimating that the loss would be in the region of £4-5K, but with some efficiencies managed to reduce this to £938. The previous year's surplus will offset this deficit. We are also holding this as we know that we will have a much larger rent bill going forward from April 2023 as the management of the hall is changing then – we haven't yet been informed how much this is going to be, but have been led to believe that it will at least double. We also have the large increase from April 2023 in National Living Wage which will increase wages. The Government funding for childcare is also increasing this April, but is not keeping up with costs.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Our policy aims to hold to build and maintain a reserve a total of three working months income. This is to cover for contingencies including, the temporary shortfall in the Autumn term, redundancy, SSP, increases in National Living Wage, pensions. Adjustment made for year 21/22 and 22/23 to include using 20/21 surplus for forecasted deficits and future rent bill rises.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	Wendy Cross	Wendy Cross
Full name(s)	Wendy Cross	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Committee member	
Date	11 th March 2023	

EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUPO T/AS THE WENDY HOUSE

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st AUGUST 2022

INCOME RECEIPTS	2022	2021
Fund Raising	£11.92	£14.42
Milk Grant	£378.85	£344.60
Fees	£31910.51	£13745.30
Nursery Grant	£123015.86	£153517.51
Bank Interest	£6.96	£1.48
Miscellaneous	£1072.22	£8872.50
CJRS & SSP	£539.56	£977.67

TOTAL RECEIPTS: £156935.88 £177473.48

LESS EXPENDITURE:

Rent	£6930.00	£6557.50
Milk	£390.96	£353.28
Equipment	£1318.89	£2052.77
Stationary	£560.65	£684.24
Miscellaneous	£5108.49	£5966.27
Wages (net)	£131034.15	£132378.37
NI & Tax	£3979.58	£7154.58
Pensions	£3844.91	£3476.80
Beverages	£1596.97	£1313.98
Expenses & Training	£632.20	£416.60
Consumables	£2390.76	£3666.68
Bank charges	86.45	

TOTAL PAYMENTS: £157874.01 £164021.07

NET SURPLUS/(LOSS): (£938.13) £13452.41

Opening Cash Balance	£77794.60	£64342.19
Closing Cash Balance	£76856.47	£77794.60

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Assets

Petty Cash Float	£1586.82	£1389.02
Current Account Bank Balance	£60082.81	£61225.70
Reserve Account	£14886.84	£14879.88
2 nd Reserve Account	£300.00	£300.00

TOTAL ASSETS: £76856.47 £77794.60

TOTAL LIABILITIES £0.00 £0.00

Accounts examined by

John Manners

Date

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts Receipts and Payments Accounts

Report to the trustees/members of EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP T/AS THE WENDY HOUSE

Registered charity number 1056708

On accounts for the year ended 31st AUGUST 2022

Set out on pages AS FOLLOWS

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 43(7) (b) of the 1993 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the 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 (other than that disclosed below*):

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Acthave 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.

* Please delete the words in brackets if they do not apply.

Signed _____ J A MANNERS _____ Date 02/01/2023 _____

Name _____ J A MANNERS _____

Relevant professional qualification or body (if any) _____ ACIB _____

Address _____ 1 Walton Road, Caldecotte, Milton Keynes, MK7 8AE _____

EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1056708

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

		Period start date			Period end date		
From	01	09	2020	To	31	08	2021

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP

Other names charity is known by

THE WENDY HOUSE

Registered charity number (if any)

1056708

Charity's principal address

River Valley Centre, 6, White Horse Drive, Emerson Valley,
Milton Keynes

Postcode MK4 2AS

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Wendy Cross			
2	Nicola Morton	Chair	Until 28/06/21	
3	Hannah Klewpatinond	Treasurer		
4	Kelly Flesher		Until 28/06/21	
5	Amy Lannon			
6	Kerry Shephard		Until 01/11/2021	
7	Sarah Clarke	Chair		
8	Lyndsay Ali			
9	Aliz Szasz		From 28/06/2021	
10				
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution (Pre-School Learning Alliance 2011)
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust reapproved on 09/03/2022
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by members at AGM and/or co-opted by invitation of the committee

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

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Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

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 by:
Offering appropriate play, education and care facilities, family learning, together with the right of parents to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activity of the group, ensuring that opportunities are offered to all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability.

We are able to offer children play, education and care in accordance with Ofsted's Early Years Foundation Stage education and welfare requirements. Primarily this is through renting an appropriate space to provide these requirements and the employment of trained, qualified and experienced staff.

We admit children from families within the local community and the wider area within Milton Keynes from varied family backgrounds.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Sarah Clarke became committee chairperson on the 28th June 2021 when the previous chairperson, Nicola stepped down. We would like to thank Nicola for her service to the group through some very difficult times.

The 2020/21 year was a challenging year. Covid restrictions had to be observed throughout the year, and Government guidelines and advice and help from other organisations such as the local council and the Early Years Alliance were used to help us with the procedures that we used. The children settled well into these at the start of the academic year, and the parents were wonderfully cooperative with the changes that had to be made because of Covid.

During the Covid restrictions and lockdowns the playgroup stayed open to all the children, apart from two weeks in January of 2021, where Covid cases meant we had to close for a period of time. Otherwise we remained open and available, although some parents chose to keep their children at home for a number of weeks during that first half of the Spring Term. This was despite having 4 members of staff unable to work for between 6 to 12 weeks.

During the spring term because of the reduced number of staff available we employed another member of staff. Parents would know her as Sophie Blue. We would have needed another member of staff in the summer term anyway as someone else went on Maternity leave in May. Sultana completed her Early Years Teaching degree during the year supported by Rebecca. We were pleased to be able to do this this knowing that she would be leaving at the end of the academic year to get married and move to another part of the country. Unfortunately Kath our experienced auxiliary also needed to leave at the end of the year at short notice.

The playgroup was almost full with limited sessions by November of 2020. We did release more sessions in the Summer term as we could use our outside space more and to ease demand for sessions.

Finally the summer term saw the group making preparation for the new Early Years Foundation Stage which came into force in September 2021. The staff now have a different approach to making observational records of the children and this means less paperwork and more time spent with the children. The children will each have a learning journey/scrapbook when they leave

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Our policy aims to hold to build and maintain a reserve a total of three months income. This is to cover for contingencies including, the temporary shortfall in the Autumn term, redundancy, SSP, increases in National Living Wage, pensions, COVID-19. Adjustment made for year 21/22 to include using 20/21 surplus for anticipated deficit for the end of August 2022 year.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	Wendy Cross	Wendy Cross
Full name(s)	Wendy Cross	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Committee member	
Date	15 th March 2022	

EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUPO T/AS THE WENDY HOUSE

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31st AUGUST 2021**

INCOME RECEIPTS	2021	2020
Fund Raising	£14.42	£24.10
Milk Grant	£344.60	£316.58
Fees	£13745.30	£19637.00
Nursery Grant	£153517.51	£135491.66
Bank Interest	£1.48	£22.61
Miscellaneous	£8872.50	£9409.32
CJRS & SSP	£977.67	£3817.18

TOTAL RECEIPTS: **£177473.48** **£168718.45**

LESS EXPENDITURE:

Rent	£6557.50	£4819.50
Milk	£353.28	£323.75
Equipment	£2052.77	£1937.51
Stationary	£684.24	£399.22
Miscellaneous	£5966.27	£4797.13
Wages (net)	£132378.37	£133762.68
NI & Tax	£7154.58	£13168.96
Pensions	£3476.80	£3805.86
Beverages	£1313.98	£1201.64
Expenses & Training	£416.60	£785.20
Consumables	£3666.68	£2009.97

TOTAL PAYMENTS: **£164021.07** **£167011.42**

NET SURPLUS/(LOSS): **£13452.41** **£1707.03**

Opening Cash Balance	£64342.19	£62635.16
Closing Cash Balance	£77794.60	£64342.19

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Assets

Petty Cash Float	£1389.02	£902.69
Current Account Bank Balance	£61225.70	£48261.10
Reserve Account	£14879.88	£14878.40
2 nd Reserve Account	£300.00	£300.00

TOTAL ASSETS: **£77794.60** **£64342.19**

TOTAL LIABILITIES **£0.00** **£0.00**

Accounts examined by

John Manners

Date

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts Receipts and Payments Accounts

Report to the trustees/members of EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP T/AS THE WENDY HOUSE

Registered charity number 1056708

On accounts for the year ended 31st AUGUST 2021

Set out on pages AS FOLLOWS

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 43(7) (b) of the 1993 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the 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 (other than that disclosed below*):

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Acthave 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.

* Please delete the words in brackets if they do not apply.

Signed _____ J A MANNERS _____ Date _____ 08/01/2022 _____

Name _____ J A MANNERS _____

Relevant professional qualification or body (if any) _____ ACIB _____

Address _____ 1 Walton Road, Caldecotte, Milton Keynes, MK7 8AE _____

EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1056708

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date	
From	01 09 2019	To	31 08 2020

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP

Other names charity is known by

THE WENDY HOUSE

Registered charity number (if any)

1056708

Charity's principal address

River Valley Centre, 6, White Horse Drive, Emerson Valley,
Milton Keynes

Postcode **MK4 2AS**

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Wendy Cross			
2	Beverley Porritt			
3	Nicola Morton	Chair		
4	Hannah Klewpatinond	Treasurer		
5	Michelle Price		Until 28/01/2020	
6	Kelly Flesher			
7	Amy Lannon			
8	Billie Aldridge		Until 16/07/2020	
9	Kerry Shephard			
10	Sarah Clarke		From 28/01/2020	
11	Lyndsay Ali		From 17/03/2020	
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19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document <small>(eg. trust deed, constitution)</small>	Constitution (Pre-School Learning Alliance 2011)
How the charity is constituted <small>(eg. trust, association, company)</small>	Trust reapproved on 28/01/2020
Trustee selection methods <small>(eg. appointed by, elected by)</small>	Elected by members at AGM and/or co-opted by invitation of the committee

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

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Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

<p>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 by: Offering appropriate play, education and care facilities, family learning, together with the right of parents to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activity of the group, ensuring that opportunities are offered to all children whatever their race, culture, religion, means or ability.</p>

We are able to offer children play, education and care in accordance with Ofsted's Early Years Foundation Stage education and welfare requirements. Primarily this is through renting an appropriate space to provide these requirements and the employment of trained, qualified and experienced staff.

We admit children from families within the local community and the wider area within Milton Keynes from varied family backgrounds.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

2019/2020 was another good year for The Wendy House despite the start of the pandemic restrictions last March.

At the beginning of the Autumn term, we had a well-supported fundraising effort for McMillan, selling cakes and raising £316. Let's hope we can do this again this Autumn

All Early Years settings prepared for a new Ofsted Inspection Framework including us. The changes will hopefully mean that they will look at how we know the children and their outcomes rather than relying more on paperwork. In normal circumstances we would be expecting an inspection this year. Because of COVID-19 everything has been delayed and it's now possible that our inspection could be up to 2023.

In early March the playgroup ran an Open afternoon and evening for the parents. This was very well attended with 63% attendance. Unfortunately, we will not be able to do this again this month, but may have something in the Summer Term.

As we all know COVID-19 became serious in March of last year and the playgroup had no choice but to close on its doors after the 20th March 2019. We were fortunate that we continued to receive our Government funding through to the end of the Summer term, which enabled us to continue to pay the staff team normally. Our lost income from fees allowed two members of staff to be furloughed, with the remainder doing work from home e.g., Facebook ideas and videos, preparation work. Planning and risk assessments took place during May to begin the process of reopening on the 4th June on a part time basis. This was available just to the older children due to start school in September 2020.

Standard fees for a 3-hour session increased to £13 in September 2020 to keep up with increases in the National Living Wage. The playgroup a not-for-profit charity we have and always will endeavour to keep our fees as low as possible.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Our policy aims to hold to build and maintain a reserve a total of three months income. This is to cover for contingencies including, the temporary shortfall in the Autumn term, redundancy, SSP, increases in National Living Wage, pensions, COVID-19.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Fees and Nursery Grant income both down. To be expected when we were not open to new admissions from March and had no fee income during 5 months of the year. One child had additional funding shown the Misc. amount. The rent amount is lower as we were closed for about 8 weeks. Other costs are lower as we were closed and then has fewer children over the remaining Summer weeks.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	Wendy Cross	Wendy Cross
Full name(s)	Wendy Cross	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Committee member	
Date	15 th March 2021	

EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUPO T/AS THE WENDY HOUSE

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31st AUGUST 2020**

INCOME RECEIPTS	2020	2019
Fund Raising	£24.10	
Milk Grant	£316.58	£492.15
Fees	£19637.00	£23430.00
Nursery Grant	£135491.66	£145414.75
Bank Interest	£22.61	£27.72
Miscellaneous	£9409.32	£2154.50
Job Retention Scheme	£3817.18	
TOTAL RECEIPTS:	<u>£168718.45</u>	<u>£171519.12</u>
LESS EXPENDITURE:		
Rent	£4819.50	£6852.00
Milk	£323.75	£477.81
Equipment	£1937.51	£3596.12
Stationary	£399.22	£841.44
Miscellaneous	£4797.13	£6120.61
Wages (net)	£133762.68	£129154.24
NI & Tax	£13168.96	£11247.55
Pensions	£3805.86	£2644.92
Beverages	£1201.64	£1586.35
Expenses & Training	£785.20	£837.85
Consumables	£2009.97	£3214.55
TOTAL PAYMENTS:	<u>£167011.42</u>	<u>£166573.44</u>
NET SURPLUS/(LOSS):	<u>£1707.03</u>	<u>£4945.68</u>
Opening Cash Balance	£62635.16	£57689.48
Closing Cash Balance	£64342.19	£62635.16

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Assets

Petty Cash Float	£902.69	£420.57
Current Account Bank Balance	£48261.10	£47058.80
Reserve Account	£14878.40	£14855.79
2 nd Reserve Account	£300.00	£300.00
TOTAL ASSETS:	<u>£64342.19</u>	<u>£62635.16</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£0.00</u>

Accounts examined by

John Manners

Date 29/12/2020

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts Receipts and Payments Accounts

Report to the trustees/members of EMERSON VALLEY PLAYGROUP T/AS THE WENDY HOUSE

Registered charity number 1056708

On accounts for the year ended 31st AUGUST 2020

Set out on pages AS FOLLOWS

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 43(7) (b) of the 1993 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the 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 (other than that disclosed below*):

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Acthave 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.

* Please delete the words in brackets if they do not apply.

Signed _____ J A MANNERS _____ Date _____ 29/12/2020 _____

Name _____ J A MANNERS _____

Relevant professional qualification or body (if any) _____ ACIB _____

Address _____ 1 Walton Road, Caldecotte, Milton Keynes, MK7 8AE _____