

GT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

England & Wales · Charity number 1069672

Details

Other names THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1998-05-21

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

Contact

Address Farley Park Lodge
Whitehall Road
West Bromwich
B70 0HF

Phone 01215324023

Email gbcf@btconnect.com

Website www.greatbridgecommunityforum.co.uk

Activities

Objects: FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INHABITANTS OF GREAT BRIDGE AND SANDWELL AREA SURROUNDING AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD THEREOF (HEREINAFTER CALLED "THE AREA OF BENEFIT") ARE TO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND TO PROVIDE FACILITIES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR RECREATION AND LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THE SAID INHABITANTS TO ESTABLISH, MAINTAIN AND MANAGE A COMMUNITY CENTRE HEREINAFTER CALLED "THE CENTRE") AND TO MAINTAIN AND MANAGE THE SAME (WHETHER ALONE OR IN COOPERATION WITH ANY LOCAL AUTHORITY OR OTHER PERSON OR BODY)

Activities: Provision of facilities for local community from parent toddler group to elderly groups including Health advice sessions. Our main dealings are within the Great Bridge & surrounding area, but never turn anyone away.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Accommodation/housing, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Amateur Sport, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** GREAT BRIDGE AND SANDWELL AREA AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD
- Sandwell

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£79,986	£64,164	-	-
2024-03-31	£58,507	£90,522	-	-
2023-03-31	£91,548	£113,337	-	-
2022-03-31	£87,704	£75,500	-	-
2021-03-31	£90,666	£63,844	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANTHONY WHITEHOUSE		
BOB PATEL		
JACKIE DAWSON		
LEIGH WHITEHOUSE		
LINDA PASKIN		
MADELINE WHATMORE		
MAGGIE TURNER		
MAUREEN WHITEHOUSE (CHAIR)		

GT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1069672

Accounts

**THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

B Patel
M Whatmore
L Paskin
A Whitehouse
J Dawson
L Whitehouse
M Turner
M Whitehouse

Charity number

1069672

Independent examiner

Xeinadin
Unit 1, Castle Court 2
Castlegate way
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 4RH

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

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THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Structure, governance and management

The trustees who served during the year were:

B Patel
M Whatmore
L Paskin
A Whitehouse
J Dawson
L Whitehouse
M Turner
M Whitehouse

Trustees

The Trustees of the Great Bridge Community Forum have been with us for several years and are committed to helping provide a good, structured service for our local community. They are also the main members of the Management Committee of our base which is Farley Park Lodge.

Objectives and activities

Our basic aims remain what they have always been i.e. to welcome all members of the community with information, expertise and contact with partner organisations where necessary and to provide a safer and friendly environment for all young people.

We continue to build our groups and support our service users. We have seen an increase in numbers at our Place of Welcome and had service users asking us for advice regarding the current cost-of-living crisis. We have been able to signpost them to organisations who can help them during this difficult time. For us, this has highlighted the importance of continuing to grow our Place of Welcome group, encourage the attendance of new members and we aim to develop this further.

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Core Work Programme

Our services for children and young people continue to do well. We have been able to provide 24 sessions (the maximum allowed) of holiday playscheme funded by Sandwell Council's 'Holiday, Activities and Food programme'. This has enabled us to offer children and families opportunities and provisions they may not have been able to access if it weren't for these services. As well as families entitled to benefit related free school meals, we have been able to offer a small number of places to universal families. This has been welcomed by families who are just above the poverty line and need that extra help and support for their children. We are extremely grateful to Sandwell Council and the Department of Education for this funding, as it has given our families memories to last a lifetime. We will be applying for this program next year, we know how important it is to our families.

'Creating a Playable Sandwell' funding gave us the opportunity to provide children activities during the half term holidays. Parent feedback informed us that they rely on our services, during the holidays, to keep the children active and off the streets. The children tell us they feel safe and comfortable at our centre.

We had 2 young volunteers work with us during the holidays giving them experience and input for their C.V's. We have also had 2 more young people approach us regarding volunteering at our children's services to help them with their work experience.

Following on from the Digi-Comm Power up course delivered by SCIPS delivered last year, our trained volunteers have been able to help digitally excluded and disadvantaged individuals including the elderly with help and support. This has been in the form of accessing 'My Sandwell' Sandwell Councils online services to pay bills, report faults or other council matters. The volunteers have said they enjoy helping out digitally excluded members and are proud of the work they do for the community.

Healthy eating and exercise continue to be at the centre of some of our provision. Staff have been trained and are knowledgeable on other issues impacting our community i.e. information of local food banks and how to access them. Staff are also aware of Sandwell Councils website and the information listed on the Route2wellbeing site (warm spaces, help with energy costs etc).

Our volunteers have set up a gentle walking group. This has enabled members of the community to come together and use the facilities Farley Park has for us. They enjoy light refreshments afterwards. This has seen us grow and sustain our membership at our Place of Welcome.

Training for our employees has taken place, where possible, face to face but also online. We continue to be flexible and open to new ideas and ways in which we can serve our community.

We continue to build on our relationship with Sandwell Leisure Trust, SCVO & Newtown Primary School, Older Adult Therapy Services (NHS), Caretech care providers (based in Furnace Parade) and Sandwell Community Information and Participation Service (SCIPS.) Our community development officer continues her work with children and young people, focussed in collaboration with Sandwell Council, in making Sandwell a true Child Friendly Borough. This will make positive changes to enhance the well-being of the entire community. This being one of the Councils focus areas for the next 3 years.

It is important to us to continue to serve as much of our community as possible with new ideas and new opportunities. Many thanks to our supporters and funders who help us to provide these services to our community and enable us to employ local people and thus contribute to our local economy.

Finally, we would like to thank staff for their endless support, enthusiasm and willingness to go the extra mile.

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

On behalf of the board of trustees

M Whitehouse

Trustee

Dated: 29 January 2026

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 5 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- (i) examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- (ii) to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- (iii) 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 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 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:

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - (ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act;have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Xeinadin

Unit 1, Castle Court 2
Castlegate way
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 4RH

Dated: 29 January 2026

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds</u>					
Funding	2	568	-	568	5,041
Grants Receivable	3	-	79,418	79,418	53,466
Total incoming resources		568	79,418	79,986	58,507
<u>Resources expended</u>					
	4				
Charitable activities					
After school and volunteer costs		-	2,550	2,550	12,098
Activities, events and trips		-	14,560	14,560	9,198
Total charitable expenditure		-	17,110	17,110	21,296
Governance costs		21,069	25,985	47,054	69,226
Total resources expended		21,069	43,095	64,164	90,522
Net (expenditure)/income for the year/ Net movement in funds		(20,501)	36,323	15,822	(32,015)
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		27,994	8,849	36,843	68,858
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		7,493	45,172	52,665	36,843

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	7		2,773		3,467
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		51,504		34,877	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>(1,612)</u>		<u>(1,501)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>49,892</u>		<u>33,376</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>52,665</u>		<u>36,843</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds			45,172		8,849
Unrestricted funds			<u>7,493</u>		<u>27,994</u>
			<u>52,665</u>		<u>36,843</u>

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 29 January 2026

M Whitehouse
Trustee

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", issued in March 2005 and the Charities Act 2011.

1.2 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Plant and machinery	33% PA
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	20% PA

2 Funding

	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations and gifts	568	5,041
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

3 Grants Receivable

	2025	2024
	£	£
SMBC	78,818	52,366
Baron Davenports	600	600
SVCO	-	500
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	79,418	53,466
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

4 Total resources expended

	Staff costs £	Depreciation £	Other costs £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Charitable activities					
<u>After school and volunteer costs</u>					
Activities undertaken directly	-	-	2,550	2,550	12,098
Activities, events and trips					
Activities undertaken directly	-	-	14,560	14,560	9,198
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,110</u>	<u>17,110</u>	<u>21,296</u>
Governance costs	26,229	694	20,131	47,054	69,226
	<u>26,229</u>	<u>694</u>	<u>37,241</u>	<u>64,164</u>	<u>90,522</u>

5 Trustees

The trustees do not draw any emoluments from the charity.

6 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Employees	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>

Employment costs

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	<u>26,229</u>	<u>47,648</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

7	Tangible fixed assets			
		Plant and machinery	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
		£	£	£
	Cost			
	At 1 April 2024 and at 31 March 2025	24,787	31,395	56,182
	Depreciation			
	Transfers	296	398	694
	At 1 April 2024 and at 31 March 2025	23,605	29,804	53,409
	Net book value			
	At 31 March 2025	1,182	1,591	2,773
	At 31 March 2024	1,478	1,989	3,467
8	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		2025	2024
			£	£
	Accruals		1,612	1,501
9	Analysis of net assets between funds			
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
		£	£	£
	Fund balances at 31 March 2025 are represented by:			
	Tangible fixed assets	-	2,773	2,773
	Current assets	7,493	44,011	51,504
	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	(1,612)	(1,612)
		7,493	45,172	52,665

GT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1069672

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1069672

**THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

B Patel
M Whatmore
L Paskin
A Whitehouse
J Dawson
L Whitehouse
M Turner
M Whitehouse

Charity number

1069672

Independent examiner

AGS Accountants & Business Advisors Limited
Unit 1
Castle Court 2
Castlegate Way
Dudley
DY1 4RH

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

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THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Structure, governance and management

The trustees who served during the year were:

B Patel

M Whatmore

L Paskin

A Whitehouse

J Dawson

L Whitehouse

M Turner

M Whitehouse

Trustees

The Trustees of the Great Bridge Community Forum have been with us for a number of years and are committed to helping provide a good, structured service for our local community. They are also the main members of the Management Committee of our base which is Farley Park Lodge.

Objectives and activities

Our basic aims remain what they have always been i.e. to welcome all members of the community with information, expertise and contact with partner organisations where necessary and to provide a safer and friendly environment for all young people.

We continue to build our groups and support our service users. We have seen an increase in numbers at our Place of Welcome and had service users asking us for advice regarding the current cost-of-living crisis. We have been able to signpost them to organisations who can help them during this difficult time. For us, this has highlighted the importance of continuing to grow our Place of Welcome group, encourage the attendance of new members and we aim to develop this further.

This year we have been able to provide 24 sessions (the maximum allowed) of holiday playscheme funded by Sandwell Council's 'Holiday, Activities and Food programme'. This has enabled us to offer children and families opportunities and provisions they may not have been able to access if it weren't for these services. We are extremely grateful to Sandwell Council and the Department of Education for this funding, as it has given our families memories to last a life time. We will be applying for this program next year, as it is the final year that this funding will be available from Sandwell Council, under the current Holiday, Activities and Food guidelines and we know how important it is to our families.

'Creating a Playable Sandwell' funding gave us the opportunity to provide children activities during the half term holidays. Parent feedback informed us that they rely on our services, during the holidays, to keep the children active and off the streets. The children tell us they feel safe and comfortable at our centre.

We had 2 young volunteers work with us during the holidays giving them experience and input for their C.V's.

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

We were excited to be approached by two local mums who wanted to run a Stay and Play baby group. This was a great addition to our program for local families who struggled to find an affordable provision. We are looking to build on this group further and apply for funding to support the group.

In January we ran our first Digi-Comm Power up course delivered by SCIPS consisting of face to face digital and confidence building sessions to digitally excluded and disadvantaged individuals including the elderly. The course was supplemented and underpinned by a tablet loan scheme for anyone that needed a device. Three of our volunteers undertook a 'train the trainer' programme enabling them to be guided and supported to deliver the basic digital training to ensure sustainability of support for our community going forward.

Healthy eating and exercise continue to be at the centre of some of our provision. Staff have been trained and are knowledgeable on other issues impacting our community i.e. information of local food banks and how to access them. Staff are also aware of Sandwell Councils website and the information listed on the Route2wellbeing site (warm spaces, help with energy costs etc).

Training for our employees has taken place, where possible, face to face but also online. We continue to be flexible and open to new ideas and ways in which we can serve our community.

We continue to build on our relationship with Sandwell Leisure Trust, SCVO & Newtown Primary School. We have welcomed new partnerships this year which include Older Adult Therapy Services (NHS), Caretech care providers (based in Furnace Parade) and Sandwell Community Information and Participation Service (SCIPS.)

It is important to us to continue to serve as much of our community as possible with new ideas and new opportunities. Many thanks to our supporters and funders who help us to provide these services to our community and enable us to employ local people and thus contribute to our local economy.

Finally we would like to thank staff for their endless support, enthusiasm and willingness to go the extra mile.

On behalf of the board of trustees



M Whitehouse

Trustee

Dated: 20 December 2024

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 4 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- (i) examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- (ii) to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- (iii) 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 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 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:

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - (ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act;have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

AGS Accountants & Business Advisors Limited

Unit 1
Castle Court 2
Castlegate Way
Dudley
DY1 4RH

Dated: 20 December 2024

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds</u>					
Funding	2	5,041	-	5,041	20,861
Grants Receivable	3	-	53,466	53,466	70,687
Total incoming resources		5,041	53,466	58,507	91,548
<u>Resources expended</u>					
Charitable activities					
After school and volunteer costs		-	12,098	12,098	19,739
Activities, events and trips		-	9,198	9,198	18,639
Total charitable expenditure		-	21,296	21,296	38,378
Governance costs		21,578	47,648	69,226	74,959
Total resources expended		21,578	68,944	90,522	113,337
Net expenditure for the year/ Net movement in funds		(16,537)	(15,478)	(32,015)	(21,789)
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		44,531	24,327	68,858	90,647
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		27,994	8,849	36,843	68,858


THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	7		3,467		4,128
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		34,877		68,598	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(1,501)		(3,868)	
Net current assets			<u>33,376</u>		<u>64,730</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>36,843</u>		<u>68,858</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds			8,849		24,327
Unrestricted funds			<u>27,994</u>		<u>44,531</u>
			<u>36,843</u>		<u>68,858</u>

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 20 December 2024


M Whitehouse
Trustee

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", issued in March 2005 and the Charities Act 2011.

1.2 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Plant and machinery	33% PA
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	20% PA

2 Funding

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations and gifts	5,041	20,861

3 Grants Receivable

	2024	2023
	£	£
SMBC	52,366	46,537
Baron Davenports	600	600
SVCO	500	-
Other Grants Receivable	-	23,550
	<u>53,466</u>	<u>70,687</u>

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

4 Total resources expended	Staff costs £	Depreciation £	Other costs £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Charitable activities					
<u>After school and volunteer costs</u>					
Activities undertaken directly	-	-	12,098	12,098	19,739
Activities, events and trips Activities undertaken directly	-	-	9,198	9,198	18,639
	-	-	21,296	21,296	38,378
Governance costs	47,648	661	20,917	69,226	74,959
	47,648	661	42,213	90,522	113,337

5 Trustees

The trustees do not draw any emoluments from the charity.

6 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Employees	5	7
Employment costs	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	47,648	56,856

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

7	Tangible fixed assets			
		Plant and machinery	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
		£	£	£
	Cost			
	At 1 April 2023 and at 31 March 2024	24,787	31,395	56,182
	Depreciation			
	Transfers	164	497	661
	At 1 April 2023 and at 31 March 2024	23,309	29,406	52,715
	Net book value			
	At 31 March 2024	1,478	1,989	3,467
	At 31 March 2023	1,642	2,486	4,128
8	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		2024	2023
			£	£
	Wages Control		-	2,445
	Accruals		1,501	1,423
			1,501	3,868
9	Analysis of net assets between funds			
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
		£	£	£
	Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:			
	Tangible fixed assets	4,128	(661)	3,467
	Current assets	25,447	9,430	34,877
	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(1,581)	80	(1,501)
		27,994	8,849	36,843

GT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1069672

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1069672

**THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

B Patel
M Whatmore
L Paskin
A Whitehouse
J Dawson
L Whitehouse
M Turner
M Whitehouse

Charlty number

1069672

Independent examiner

AGS Accountants & Business Advisors Limited
Unit 1
Castle Court 2
Castlegate Way
Dudley
DY1 4RH

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

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THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Structure, governance and management

The trustees who served during the year were:

B Patel

M Whatmore

L Paskin

A Whitehouse

J Dawson

L Whitehouse

M Turner

M Whitehouse

Trustees

The Trustees of the Great Bridge Community Forum have been with us for a number of years and are committed to helping provide a good, structured service for our local community. They are also the main members of the Management Committee of our base which is Farley Park Lodge.

Objectives and activities

Our basic aims remain what they have always been i.e. to welcome all members of the community with information, expertise and contact with partner organisations where necessary and to provide a safer and friendly environment for all young people.

We have continued to build our groups and support service users following the return to 'normal life' following the Covid-19 outbreak. We have refreshed and updated our Place of Welcome group which is seeing new members and we encourage and aim to develop this further.

The main projects of the Forum i.e. the holiday play scheme and after school club have seen a growth in numbers. Partly helped by the funding received via Sandwell Council's Holiday and Food Activities Fund. We have been able to offer children and families opportunities and provisions they may not have been able access if it weren't for our services. We are hoping to gain further funding to continue this work for the next 3 years. We had 2 new volunteers work with us during the holidays giving them experience and input for their C.V's.

Healthy eating and exercise continue to be at the centre of some of our provision. Staff have been trained and are knowledgeable on other issues impacting our community i.e. information of local food banks and how to access them. Staff are also aware of Sandwell Council's website and the information listed on Supporting Sandwell (warm spaces, help with energy costs etc).

Training for our employees has taken place, where possible, face to face but also online. We continue to be flexible and open to new ideas and ways in which we can serve our community.

We continue to build on our relationship with Sandwell Community Care Trust and Sandwell Children's Trust. We have welcomed new partnerships this year which include Midland Adaptive Boxing, Groundwork West Midlands, and Sandwell Leisure Trust.

It is important to us to continue to serve as much of our community as possible with new ideas and new opportunities. Many thanks to our supporters and funders who help us to provide these services to our community and enable us to employ local people and thus contribute to our local economy.

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

On behalf of the board of trustees



M Whitehouse

Trustee

Dated: 8 January 2024

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 4 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- (i) examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- (ii) to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- (iii) 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 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 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:

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - (ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act;have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

AGS

AGS Accountants & Business Advisors Limited

Unit 1
Castle Court 2
Castlegate Way
Dudley
DY1 4RH

Dated: 19 January 2024

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds</u>					
Funding	2	20,861	-	20,861	27,193
Incoming resources from charitable activities	3	-	70,687	70,687	60,511
Total Incoming resources		20,861	70,687	91,548	87,704
<u>Resources expended</u>					
Charitable activities					
Depreciation		804	-	804	627
After school and other direct costs		-	19,739	19,739	4,214
Activities, events and trips		-	18,639	18,639	3,787
Total charitable expenditure		804	38,378	39,182	8,628
Governance costs		45,727	28,428	74,155	66,872
Total resources expended		46,531	66,806	113,337	75,500
Net (expenditure)/income for the year/ Net movement in funds		(25,670)	3,881	(21,789)	12,204
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		70,201	20,446	90,647	78,443
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		44,531	24,327	68,858	90,647

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		4,129		3,108
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		68,598		88,827	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(3,869)</u>		<u>(1,288)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>64,729</u>		<u>87,539</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>68,858</u>		<u>90,647</u>
income funds					
Restricted funds			24,327		20,446
Unrestricted funds			<u>44,531</u>		<u>70,201</u>
			<u>68,858</u>		<u>90,647</u>

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 19 January 2024



M Whitehouse
Trustee

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", issued in March 2005 and the Charities Act 2011.

1.2 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Plant and machinery	33% PA
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	20% PA

2 Funding

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations and gifts	20,861	27,193
	<u>20,861</u>	<u>27,193</u>

3 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Performance related grants	52,137	23,087
Ancillary trading income	18,550	21,415
Charitable rental income	-	16,009
	<u>70,687</u>	<u>60,511</u>

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

4	Total resources expended	Staff costs £	Other costs £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
	Charitable activities				
	<u>Depreciation</u>				
	Support costs	-	627	804	627
	<u>After school and other direct costs</u>				
	Activities undertaken directly	-	19,739	19,739	4,214
	Activities, events and trips				
	Activities undertaken directly	-	18,639	18,639	3,787
		-	39,182	39,182	8,628
	Governance costs	56,856	17,299	74,155	66,872
		56,856	56,481	113,337	75,500
5	Support costs			2023 £	2022 £
	Depreciation			804	627
				804	627

6 Trustees

The trustees do not draw any emoluments from the charity.

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

7 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Employees	7	6

Employment costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	56,856	52,422

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2022	22,963	31,395	54,358
Additions	1,824	-	1,824
At 31 March 2023	24,787	31,395	56,182
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2022 and at 31 March 2023	23,145	28,908	52,053
Net book value			
At 31 March 2023	1,642	2,487	4,129
At 31 March 2022	-	3,108	3,108

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages Control	2,445	-
Accruals	1,424	1,288
	3,869	1,288

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

10 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	4,129	-	4,129
Current assets	44,271	24,327	68,598
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(3,869)	-	(3,869)
	<u>44,531</u>	<u>24,327</u>	<u>68,858</u>

GT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1069672

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1069672

**THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

B Patel
M Whatmore
L Paskin
A Whitehouse
J Dawson
L Whitehouse
M Turner
M Whitehouse

Charity number

1069672

Independent examiner

AGS Accountants & Business Advisors Limited
Unit 1
Castle Court 2
Castlegate Way
Dudley
DY1 4RH

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

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THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Structure, governance and management

The trustees who served during the year were:

B Patel

M Whatmore

L Paskin

A Whitehouse

J Dawson

L Whitehouse

M Turner

M Whitehouse

Trustees

The structure of our board of trustees remains like that of previous years. We continue to work with associate members e.g., from the Sons of Rest, and St Peters Church Committee & Farley Community Allotment who deliver projects with our children from our Play Scheme.

Objectives and activities

Our basic aims remain what they have always been i.e., to welcome all members of the community with information, expertise and contact with partner organisations where necessary and to provide a safer and friendly environment for all young people.

We reopened our centre in July 2021 and it has been challenging. We have lost some groups but the surviving ones, particularly the children's have gone beyond our expectations.

The main projects of the Forum i.e., the holiday play scheme and after school club reopened in August 2021 and we were delighted with the uptake seeing old and new service users. We had 2 new volunteers work with us during the holidays giving them experience and input for their C.V's.

Training for our employees has taken place, where possible, online, and where applicable we were still able to offer places to other bodies or individuals who would benefit from that training. We continue to be flexible and open to new ideas and ways in which we can serve our community.

Healthy eating and exercise continue to be at the centre of some of our provision. Staff have been trained and are knowledgeable on other issues impacting our community such as information on local food banks and how to access them. Our aim is to continue to educate ourselves on local services that our community need the most.

We continue to look for funding to provide lunches for children during the school holidays. This was a hot topic for government, and we hope that it will be considered for future school holidays.

The welfare and safety of the vulnerable clients at two of our partner organisations, Ryders Green Day Centre, and Sandwell Community Care Trust, following the pandemic, is paramount. This has meant that some of our activities have been put on hold. We continue to communicate and liaise with them to see if our organisation can support them in any way and look forward to working with them again in the very near future.

It is important to us to continue to serve as much of our community as possible with new ideas and new opportunities. Many thanks to our supporters and funders who help us to provide these services to our community and enable us to employ local people and thus contribute to our local economy.

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

On behalf of the board of trustees

M Whitehouse

Trustee

Dated: 27 January 2023

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 4 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- (i) examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- (ii) to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- (iii) 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 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 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:

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - (ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act;have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

AGS Accountants & Business Advisors Limited

Unit 1
Castle Court 2
Castlegate Way
Dudley
DY1 4RH

Dated: 27 January 2023

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds</u>					
Funding	2	27,193	-	27,193	9,900
Incoming resources from charitable activities	3	-	60,511	60,511	80,766
Total incoming resources		27,193	60,511	87,704	90,666
<u>Resources expended</u>					
Charitable activities					
Depreciation	4	-	627	627	634
After school and other direct costs		-	4,214	4,214	2,185
Activities, events and trips		-	3,787	3,787	90
Total charitable expenditure		-	8,628	8,628	2,909
Governance costs		1,080	65,792	66,872	60,935
Total resources expended		1,080	74,420	75,500	63,844
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		26,113	(13,909)	12,204	26,822
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		44,088	34,355	78,443	51,621
Fund balances at 31 March 2022		70,201	20,446	90,647	78,443

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		3,108		2,535
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		88,827		76,714	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(1,288)</u>		<u>(806)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>87,539</u>		<u>75,908</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>90,647</u>		<u>78,443</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds			20,446		34,355
Unrestricted funds			70,201		44,088
			<u>90,647</u>		<u>78,443</u>

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 27 January 2023

M Whitehouse
Trustee

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", issued in March 2005 and the Charities Act 2011.

1.2 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Plant and machinery	33% PA
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	20% PA

2 Funding

	2022	2021
	£	£
Donations and gifts	27,193	9,900

3 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Performance related grants	23,087	19,234
Ancillary trading income	21,415	14,160
Charitable rental income	16,009	47,372
	60,511	80,766

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

4 Total resources expended

	Staff costs £	Other costs £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Charitable activities				
<u>Depreciation</u>				
Support costs	-	627	627	634
<u>After school and other direct costs</u>				
Activities undertaken directly	-	4,214	4,214	2,185
Activities, events and trips				
Activities undertaken directly	-	3,787	3,787	90
	-	8,628	8,628	2,909
Governance costs	52,422	14,450	66,872	60,935
	52,422	23,078	75,500	63,844

5 Support costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Depreciation	627	634
	627	634

6 Trustees

The trustees do not draw any emoluments from the charity.

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

7 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2022	2021
	Number	Number
Employees	6	6

Employment costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	52,422	51,729

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and machinery	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2021 and at 31 March 2022	22,963	31,395	54,358
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2021 and at 31 March 2022	22,963	28,287	51,250
Net book value			
At 31 March 2022	-	3,108	3,108
At 31 March 2021	-	2,535	2,535

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other creditors	-	(220)
Accruals	1,288	1,026
	1,288	806

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

10 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	3,108	-	3,108
Current assets	68,381	20,446	88,827
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(1,288)	-	(1,288)
	<u>70,201</u>	<u>20,446</u>	<u>90,647</u>
	<u><u>70,201</u></u>	<u><u>20,446</u></u>	<u><u>90,647</u></u>

GT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

England & Wales - Charity number 1069672

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1069672

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

Mr Bob Patel
Mrs Madeline Whatmore
Mrs Linda Paskin
Mr Anthony Whitehouse
Mrs Jackie Dawson
Mr Leigh Whitehouse
Mrs Maggie Turner
Mrs Maureen Whitehouse

Charity number

1069672

Independent examiner

AGS Accountants & Business Advisors Limited
Unit 1
Castle Court 2
Castlegate Way
Dudley
DY1 4RH

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

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THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

TRUSTEES REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The structure of our board of trustees still remains similar to that of previous years. We continue to work with associate members e.g., from the Son's of Rest, Ryders Green Day Care Centre and St Peters Church Committee & Farley Community Allotment who deliver projects with our children from our Play Scheme.

This year has been a very mixed year for the Forum with some successes and some disappointments. The COVID-19 pandemic has made it difficult to continue over the last two years. Sandwell M.B.C closed all community centres, and our paid staff were put on furlough. When we were able to return to work all our paperwork was submitted and our returns to the Charity Commission were accepted on time.

Objectives and activities

Our basic aims remain what they have always been i.e. to welcome all members of the community with information, expertise and contact with partner organisations where necessary and to provide a safer and friendly environment for all young people.

We reopened our centre in July 2021 and it has been slow. We have lost some groups but the surviving ones, particularly the children's have gone beyond our expectations.

The main projects of the Forum i.e. the holiday play scheme and after school club reopened in August 2021 and we were delighted with the uptake seeing old and new service users. We had 2 new volunteers work with us during the holidays giving them experience and input for their C.V's.

Training for our employees has taken place, where possible, online and where applicable we were still able to offer places to other bodies or individuals who would benefit from that training. We continue to be flexible and open to new ideas and ways in which we can serve our community.

Healthy eating and exercise continue to be at the centre of some of our provision.

We continue to look for funding to provide lunches for children during the school holidays. This was a hot topic for government and we hope that it will be considered for future school holidays.

Our project with the Ryders Green Day Care Centre is on hold now due to staff absence. As in previous years, securing funding for this service is still proving to be difficult.

Our relationship with Sandwell Community Care Trust continues to strengthen and we have been working closely with one of their managers to provide activities and trips out for their clients whom have various disabilities.

It is important to us to continue to serve as much of our community as possible with new ideas and new opportunities. Many thanks to our supporters and funders who help us to provide these services to our community and enable us to employ local people and thus contribute to our local economy.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Financial review

The Great Bridge Community Forum is fortunate to have a surplus of £78,443 at the period end (2020: £51,621). This surplus will be brought forward into 2022, which will greatly help the community with increased funding for activities and events.

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

TRUSTEES REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Structure, governance and management

The trustees who served during the year were:

Mr Bob Patel

Mrs Madeline Whatmore

Mrs Linda Paskin

Mr Anthony Whitehouse

Mrs Jackie Dawson

Mr Leigh Whitehouse

Mrs Maggie Turner

Mrs Maureen Whitehouse

None of the trustees have any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The Trustees report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Mrs Maureen Whitehouse

Chair person

11 January 2022

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Great Bridge Community Forum (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

AGS Accountants & Business Advisors Limited

Unit 1
Castle Court 2
Castlegate Way
Dudley
DY1 4RH

Dated: 11 January 2022

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Income from:						
Donations and legacies	2	9,900	-	9,900	1,586	1,586
Grants	3	-	80,766	80,766	-	73,853
Total income		<u>9,900</u>	<u>80,766</u>	<u>90,666</u>	<u>1,586</u>	<u>75,439</u>
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	4	1,200	-	1,200	1,200	1,200
Charitable activities	5	-	62,644	62,644	-	79,687
Total resources expended		<u>1,200</u>	<u>62,644</u>	<u>63,844</u>	<u>1,200</u>	<u>80,887</u>
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/						
Net movement in funds		8,700	18,122	26,822	386	(5,448)
Fund balances at 1 April 2020		<u>35,388</u>	<u>16,233</u>	<u>51,621</u>	<u>35,002</u>	<u>57,069</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2021		<u><u>44,088</u></u>	<u><u>34,355</u></u>	<u><u>78,443</u></u>	<u><u>16,233</u></u>	<u><u>51,621</u></u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		2,535		3,169
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		76,713		52,338	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(805)		(3,886)	
Net current assets			75,908		48,452
Total assets less current liabilities			78,443		51,621
Income funds					
Restricted funds			34,355		16,233
Unrestricted funds			44,088		35,388
			78,443		51,621

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 11 January 2022

Mrs Maureen Whitehouse
Trustee

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Great Bridge Community Forum is a charity which aims to offer activities and support to the local community by offering services, activities and support.

1.1 Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", issued in March 2005 and the Charities Act 2011 "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Plant and machinery	33% pa
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	20% pa

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.6 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.8 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.9 Value Added Tax

VAT is not recoverable by the charity, and as such is included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.10 Management & Administration expenditure

Expenditure on management and administration of the charity includes all expenditure not directly related to a charitable activity. This includes all the costs of maintaining and protecting Farley Lodge and running the office premises.

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Donations and gifts	9,900	1,586

3 Grants

	Grants 2021	Grants 2020
	£	£
Services provided under contract	-	7,000
Sales of services by beneficiaries	-	12,100
Performance related grants	19,234	23,153
Ancillary trading income	14,160	10,000
JRS grant funding	47,372	-
Less: deferred income	-	21,600
	<u>80,766</u>	<u>73,853</u>

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

4 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
<u>Management costs</u>	1,200	1,200
	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,200</u>
	<u><u>1,200</u></u>	<u><u>1,200</u></u>

5 Charitable activities

	Admin costs	Admin costs
	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs	51,729	58,331
Depreciation and impairment	634	663
After School and other direct costs	2,185	2,455
Activities, events and trips	90	6,389
Insurance	325	324
Postage and stationery	541	1,059
Telephone	409	802
Consultancy fees.	2,233	1,459
Rates	2,730	4,448
Repairs and maintenance	1,599	3,433
Bank charges	169	324
	<u>62,644</u>	<u>79,687</u>
	<u><u>62,644</u></u>	<u><u>79,687</u></u>

6 Trustees

Amongst the group of trustees, there are two who manage the Forum. The equivalent paid manager and administrator would cost approximately £30,000 pa.

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

7 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
	6	5

Employment costs

	£	£
Wages and salaries	50,956	58,331
Social security costs	773	-
	<u>51,729</u>	<u>58,331</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2020	22,963	30,195	53,158
At 31 March 2021	<u>22,963</u>	<u>30,195</u>	<u>53,158</u>
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2020	22,963	27,026	49,989
Depreciation charged in the year	-	634	634
At 31 March 2021	<u>22,963</u>	<u>27,660</u>	<u>50,623</u>
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>2,535</u>	<u>2,535</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>-</u>	<u>3,169</u>	<u>3,169</u>

THE GREAT BRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Other taxation and social security	(220)	535
Other creditors	-	2,326
Accruals and deferred income	1,025	1,025
	<u>805</u>	<u>3,886</u>

10 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2020 - none).

11 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2021 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	2,535	-	2,535	3,169	-	3,169
Current assets/ (liabilities)	75,908	-	75,908	48,452	-	48,452
	<u>78,443</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>78,443</u>	<u>51,621</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,621</u>