

Registered Charity Number : 1070259

LET US PLAY SCHEME
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2024

BK Plus
Chartered Accountants
Murrills House
48 East Street
Portchester, PO16 9XS

HG/518449/SRW

LET US PLAY SCHEME

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

TRUSTEES

I Wilson
J Cheriton-Gerard
W Rees

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER

1070259

CHARITY ADDRESS

27 The Chantry
Fareham
Hants
PO14 4QG

ACCOUNTANTS & INDEPENDENT
EXAMINERS

BK Plus
Chartered Accountants
Murrills House
48 East Street
Portchester
Hants
PO16 9XS

BANKER

Lloyds Bank
20-24 High Street
Gosport
Hants
PO12 1DE

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

LET US PLAY SCHEME

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees present their annual report along with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Charity's constitution, the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2005, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Structure, governance and management

The Charity is unincorporated and Trustees are appointed in accordance with the guidelines below. Upon appointment Charity Commission guidance is issued to new Trustees.

- 1 Let Us Play Scheme (LUPS) is a parent carer run holiday play scheme for children and young people with profound physical and/or multiple learning difficulties. LUPS was registered with the Charity Commissioners on 29 June 1998, under number 1070259. LUPS is governed by its constitution dated 25 November 2021.
- 2 LUPS is run by a board of Trustees. Trustees are elected at the AGM held no later than six months after the end of financial year. Trustees are made up from parent carers of children and young people who utilise the play scheme and who come from a wide range of backgrounds to ensure the appropriate support can be provided.
- 3 All Trustees are voluntary members of the organisation who get elected by parent carers of the play scheme.
- 4 The committee are made up of parent carers of children and young people who utilise LUPS. The committee attends a meeting bi-monthly, unless prior notice is given. The Trustees and management team are responsible for the day to day running of the play scheme.
- 5 During the running of the scheme we employ staff to work one to one with the children and young people to enable them to explore their environment and reach their potential.

Objectives and activities

The Charity's purpose as set out in the objects, contained in the Charity's governing document, is to provide quality play schemes for children and young people with profound physical and/or multiple learning difficulties. Provision of support to children and young people in a safe secure environment with continual one to one support to enable each child to access and achieve at their own level, whilst providing much needed short breaks to families.

The Charity has determined that it will carry out this purpose through the following aims:

- 1 To provide one to one care and support for children and young people with profound physical and/or multiple learning difficulties.
- 2 To enable the families of children and young people with profound physical and/or multiple learning difficulties receive some well deserved short-breaks over the holiday period.
- 3 To provide young staff with new skills and confidence. Encouraging them to work as a team to provide a high level of support for the children and young people and their families.
- 4 To work closely with Children Services, Education and Health in providing placements on the play scheme for children and young people and families that are in need of assistance.
- 5 To meet the outcomes of the Disabled Children's Act 2014.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Objectives and activities (continued)

Our Charity will achieve these aims through projects which:

- 1 Respond effectively and efficiently to Children Services and Health referrals for the play scheme enabling families to receive a high level of support.
- 2 Form partnerships with existing and new partners who share our aims of encouraging social cohesion and targets those who are socially excluded or hard to reach.
- 3 Mean that we will remain open and transparent.
- 4 Continues to ensure comprehensive training is provided for all Staff who work with Children and young people on LUPS.
- 5 Successfully continue and develop the Shortbreaks provision for Easter and Summer activities.
- 6 Allow LUPS to become more widely recognised for its excellence in dealing with disabled children and young people within the community.
- 7 Increase income by generating more funding options through charities and fund raising events.
- 8 Will investigate ways in which LUPS can continue to be sustainable for the future.
- 9 Keep Charity administration and overhead costs down in order to direct resources towards creative activities for the children and young people.

Achievements and performance

This year we welcomed ten new children and young people to the playscheme. The number of families we support increased from 52 to 61.

The theme for this year's playschemes was Superheroes. All the activities were tweaked so that everyone could take part. We arranged Superhero-themed treasure hunts and various arts and performance events, all of which was very much enjoyed. We were fortunate again with the weather, which is important as it means everyone can get outside in the fresh air and enjoy the outside play equipment.

Sixteen new staff members joined us, and following our comprehensive training programme they were paired up with the children and young people. As always, all the new staff were fantastic, and really embraced the LUPS ethos of having fun.

As previously reported, each year we see an increased demand for our playscheme. On average, annually we welcome ten new children and young people, whereas only one young person leaves (as they have aged-out of our provision). The demand cannot be met with the current level of funding. Our waiting list currently stands at 3.5 years.

LUPS' provision is unique in the local area and is the only short break option for many of our children and young people within the catchment. All the children and young people benefit greatly from playing with their one-to-one play assistants (or two to one if the child needs this level of support) and the interactions work fantastically on developing their skills, wellbeing and communication. Additionally, our staff's personal and professional growth is continually enhanced, developed and supported through working with the children's varied needs.

Charity Development

We are still catching up with the challenges presented during Covid; once again recruitment was our focus for this year and will continue to be through to 2025. A substantial proportion of our staff are students, and so we 'lose' a minimum of ten staff per year as they finish their university course and secure a full-time job. Therefore, we need to ensure we recruit and train at least ten new staff every year.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

As per 2022/23, we were again unable to have a dedicated team building day, which is a shame as really does provide the best opportunity for staff to get to know other members of the team.

The following training session were carried out this year:

- Epilepsy training – 47 Staff
- Gastrostomy – 22 Staff
- Play and Interaction – 22 Staff
- Inclusive language and approach – 46 Staff
- Moving & Handling – 19 staff
- Makaton – 46 Staff
- Safeguarding – 47

Additionally, the management team renewed their Fire Warden certification.

As with all years since our inception in 1986, securing parent carer support in the running of LUPS remains a challenge: we are a parent-led charity, but historically we have struggled to entice parent carers to get involved 'behind the scenes'. However, given that LUPS is for children and young people with complex needs/profound disabilities, it is entirely understandable that many parent carers are unable to join the management team. Whilst the current team are happy to remain for the time-being, their children will eventually age-out of LUPS, and so will move on. Therefore, we do need to ensure new parent carers get involved, whether that be in an officer role, or dipping in and out, as and when they can. Given the ongoing challenge with parent carer support, we will be looking at what other options there are for ensuring LUPS continues to thrive and meet the needs of the ever-growing number of families who need and rely on our support.

We ensure parent carers are invited to all our committee meetings throughout the year and email the minutes thereafter so that they can keep up to date with the running of the playscheme.

We seek parent carer feedback after each summer playscheme, and the responses clearly indicate that LUPS is very much appreciated by the families we support. Staff feedback is welcomed at any time, but we also have an anonymous annual survey for staff, and again, this shows that staff enjoy working at LUPS and feel valued and supported.

LUPS continues to review its delivery to ensure continuous improvements can be identified and implemented to provide the best possible service to our children and their families. The LUPS Leadership team and Trustees provide robust and professional management, which ensures the charity continues to succeed year on year, and consistently delivers the best outcomes for the children and young people attending our playschemes.

Public Benefit

The Charity is committed to working inclusively for the benefit of the whole community by following its Admission and Equality and Diversity policy. We:

1. Remain open and transparent;
2. Ensure the widest possible participation in our Charity play schemes and activities by making our admission and hardship policy well known;
3. Observe equal opportunities practice in recruitment and employment of staff and admission of children.
4. Train and develop staff from the age of 14 providing them with diverse skills they will be able to transfer into whatever career they may wish to pursue. Many of our staff go on to be Doctors/Nurses/Teachers/Support Workers/Social Workers.

The Trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 and given regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Financial Review

LUPS finances whilst healthy, are steadily diminishing. Our reserves have depleted, and now represent approximately 3 weeks running costs. This is in part due to the reduction in grant funding from our primary funder, but also due to increasing costs across the board e.g. insurance cover, premises rental and payroll support costs. This in turn impacts the number of children and families we can help.

As it stands, it is not sustainable to continue running for our usual 4 weeks. We need to explore our options in terms of what can viably be delivered.

As always, Staff wages form the majority of our outgoings, and in order to retain staff, we regularly review our hourly rates so that they are competitive.

Currently, our fundraising is mainly from our LUPS Lottery, which raises approximately £700 per year. Due to the on-going pressure on many people's finances, there continues to be a steady stream of cancellations for the LUPS Lottery. With the ongoing cost of living crisis, we anticipate there being further cancellations.

We were incredibly fortunate to receive donations and fundraising from The Arnold family (to support Queenie's Fund), Sam Creek and sister, FFC via Keith Ashton, Marchwood Power via R Porteous. Sincere thanks to everyone for their support, we appreciate every penny.

LUPS' banking is provided by Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) Bank. The bank supports Charities, and we believe in their ethos and ethics.

Our online fundraising platform is with CAF Donate. This is set up for Gift Aid, and is linked with our bank account.

Reserves policy

The Charity holds no investments so its reserves are made up of cash balances held from time to time. These balances are utilised in the furtherance of the objectives of the Charity and to de-risk the next financial year's availability. The reserves at the year end were £55,143 (2023: £81,191).

Future plans

The Trustees are satisfied that the Charity will generate sufficient income to allow them to undertake projects in the future in accordance with the aims of the governing document.

Risk management

The Trustees have no formal risk management strategy. However in the opinion of the Trustees, by reviewing the underlying accounting records regularly any risks identified by them can be mitigated to an acceptable level.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to Charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, of the Charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- a. select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- b. observe methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- c. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- d. state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- e. prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the Charity will continue in business.

LET US PLAY SCHEME

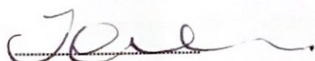
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (CONTINUED)

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website.

Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees on 27/11/24 and signed on their behalf by:


Juliet Gerard
Trustee

LET US PLAY SCHEME

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS TO THE TRUSTEES OF LET US PLAY SCHEME

We report on the Charity's accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 8 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

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

Having been satisfied that the Charity is not subject to an audit under Charity law and is eligible for Independent Examination, it is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Charities Act);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and 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 Examiners Statement

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- (1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - * to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - * to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act; have not been met; or
 - * the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.
- (2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Murrills House
48 East Street
Portchester
Fareham
PO16 9XS

Date: 22/01/2025


Christopher Hession

For and on behalf of BK Plus
Chartered Accountants

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME			
Income from charitable activities			
Parental contributions		9,989	7,260
Grants received		46,160	56,057
Donations			
General donations		1,105	1,497
Lottery donations		1,976	2,220
Bank Interest Received		94	71
Total Incoming Resources		59,323	67,105
EXPENDITURE			
Charitable activities			
Playscheme costs	2	80,818	59,496
Support costs	3	4,553	8,864
Total Resources Expended		85,371	68,360
Net movements in funds		(26,048)	(1,255)
Reconciliation of funds			
Fund balances brought forward at 1 April		81,191	82,446
Fund balances carried forward at 31 March		55,143	81,191

All incoming and outgoing resources derive from continuing activities during the period.

There are no recognised gains or losses other than those dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The notes to the financial statements provide information on movements in the Charity's funds during the year.

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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

		Note	2024 £	2023 £
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at bank and in hand	H1	4	55,143	81,191
			<u>55,143</u>	<u>81,191</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>55,143</u>	<u>81,191</u>
NET ASSETS			<u>55,143</u>	<u>81,191</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY				
Unrestricted funds		5	55,143	81,191
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS			<u>55,143</u>	<u>81,191</u>

The notes at pages 10 to 11 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Board for issue on 27/11/24 by:

(0)


J Gerard
Trustee & Chairperson

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

We report on the Charity's accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 8 to 11.

1 PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**1.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard 1 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement on the grounds that it qualifies as a small Charity.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies under FRS102 and the Charities SORP FRS102 a restatement of comparative items was needed. No restatements were required.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

1.2 FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted funds comprise those funds which the Trustees are free to use for any purpose in the furtherance of the charitable objectives. There are no designated or restricted funds.

1.3 INCOME**Charitable activities**

All incoming resources are recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants

Grants are credited to deferred revenue. Grants towards capital expenditure are released to the statement of financial activities over the expected useful life of the assets. Grants towards revenue expenditure are released to the statement of financial activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

1.4 EXPENDITURE

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 108 (2023- 84)

Support costs

Support costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to accountancy fees together with overhead and support costs.

Charitable activities

Costs of charitable activities include teaching and project fees together with other costs directly associated with the charitable objectives of the Charity.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2	ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE	2024 £	2023 £
	Activities and workshops	-	-
	Wages and salaries	73,796	55,334
	Pensions	-	-
	Materials and equipment	7,022	4,162
		<u>80,818</u>	<u>59,496</u>
3	SUPPORT COSTS	2024 £	2023 £
	Training	1,125	1,296
	Lottery Prizes	-	743
	Insurance	1,126	1,096
	Accountancy fees	2,208	2,505
	PPE and staff uniform	94	3,225
		<u>4,553</u>	<u>8,864</u>
4	CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND	2024 £	2023 £
	Bank current account	<u>55,143</u>	<u>81,191</u>
5	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	2024 £	2023 £
	Balance at 1 April	81,191	82,446
	Net movement in funds	(26,048)	(1,255)
	Balance at 31 March	<u>55,143</u>	<u>81,191</u>
6	TRUSTEES EXPENSES		
	No trustees expenses have been incurred.		