



**CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

**1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024**

**Alsager and District University of the Third Age**

**1072030**

### **Objectives and Activities**

	Statement of Recommended Practice  (SORP) reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	Educational and recreational activities aimed at improving the physical, mental and social welfare of people in the Alsager and surrounding district who are no longer in full time employment
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 Para 1.19	Operate a variety of classes and group meetings covering both educational and amateur sporting activities. Also, arrange a number of day trips for both educational and recreational purposes. The Charity with a local travel firm also facilitates holidays for members.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees remain aware that the prime objective is to ensure that the senior members in the community of Alsager and District who are no longer in full time employment have the opportunity to remain active and involved in a wide variety of activities, which helps in their wellbeing.

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>The Charity returned from its summer break in early September 2023. The membership, at that stage, was 984 with 58 groups operating. Throughout the year membership has increased and at the end of August 2024 was 1021.</p> <p>Throughout the year we have lost groups due to members declining or leaders retiring but new groups have started. As of the end of August 2024 we had 58 groups functioning.</p> <p>The major activity remains the weekly Charity hub meeting at the Civic Centre and also includes some groups activities along with the unique Talk Time events which attract an average attendance of over 60 members</p>

## Financial Review

	SORP reference	
Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>The Committee set a budget for the year of 2024 with the intention of incurring a deficit of £5,000 to continue to reduce the balance held on reserves. This is in line with the guidance from the Charity Commission to ensure that reserves balances held were not held unnecessarily high.</p> <p>The initial financial results are that the end result is approximately £5,750 which is a slightly larger deficit due to late committee approval to use some of the reserves for external support services and the purchase of some new equipment.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<p>Sufficient funds are held in reserve to ensure that all financial commitments can be met in the event of winding down the Charity.</p> <p>There are no restrictions in place on the proper use of reserves by the Charity. The Committee over the years set the reserves and were originally capped at six months turnover.</p> <p>The previous Committee recognised the times of austerity reduced the yearly membership fee for 2023. The current Committee retained this decision for 2024.</p> <p>This further reduces reserves in 2024 and will be reviewed on an annual basis.</p>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<p>The Committee are aware of the guidance from the Charity Commission that reserves should not be greater than 50% of turnover. The current reserves balance at 31 August 2024 is £17,577 and is 27.5% of the last year's turnover and has been a planned and managed reduction over the last two years.</p>

Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not Applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	None
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

Type of governing document	Para 1.25	Trust Deed
Constitution of the Charity	Para 1.25	Part of National Organisation Third Age Trust

### **Reference and Administrative details**

Charity Name	Alsager and District U3A
Registered Charity Number	1072030
Charity's principal correspondence address	8 Denford Place Church Lawton Stoke on Trent, ST7 3RF

### **Names of the Trustees who manage Alsager & District U3A Charity**

<b>Trustee Name</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>Dates acted</b>	<b>Who Appoints Trustees</b>
Alan Bell	Chair	30/10/2023 – 21/10/2024	Charity AGM 2023
Gaynor Butler	Secretary	06/11/2023 – 21/10/2024	Executive Committee
David Gaston	Vice Chair	06/11/2023 – 21/10/2024	Executive Committee
Celia Hudson	Treasurer	08/01/2024 – 21/10/2024	Executive Committee
Regina Lo	Financial Controller	12/02/2024 – 21/10/2024	Executive Committee
Christine Bell	Trustee	30/10/2023 – 21/10/2024	Charity AGM 2023
Christine Butler Meadows	Trustee	30/10/2023 - 21/10/2024	Charity AGM 2023
Geraldine Dalton	Trustee	30/10/2023 - 21/10/2024	Charity AGM 2023

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how these falls within the custodian charity's objects	None
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	None

## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Alan Bell
Chair
21 October 2024



## Annual Accounts for the Year 2023/2024

### Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

	15,318	2024	2023
	£	£	£
Travel Prepayments	3,536		
Debtors	1,152		
Travel Bank Account & Cash in Hand	3,411		4,145
Main Bank Accounts & Cash in Hand	15,318		21,906
		23,417	26,051
Less Creditors as at 31 August	(1,337)		(124)
Members Receipts in Advance Travel	(2,162)		
Group Receipts in Advance	(2,319)		(2,833)
		(5,818)	(2,957)
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<b>17,599</b>	<b>23,094</b>
<b>General Reserve</b>			
Main Activity Balance Brought Forward		19,094	22,568
Main Activity Deficit for the Year	(5,759)		(5,212)
Savings from Prior Year Creditor Provision		1,594	
Main Activity Surplus (Deficit) for the year	(5,759)		(3,618)
Receipt from Travel Funds	265		145
		(5,495)	(3,474)
Closing Balance		13,599	19,094
<b>Working Capital</b>			
Travel Balance Brought Forward	4,000		4,000
Travel Surplus (Deficit) for the year	265		145
Transfer to the General Reserve	(265)		(145)
Closing Balance		4,000	4,000
<b>Charity Fund Balance</b>		-	
<b>Total Reserves</b>		<b>17,599</b>	<b>23,094</b>

I certify that in my opinion, this account is in agreement with the records submitted and is a true and fair statement thereof.

Independent Examiner  
and Hon. Auditor

*T. D. Smith*

T Smith BFP FCA

*23rd Sept 2024*

Date

On behalf of the Trustees

*Alan Bell*  
A Bell

05/09/2024

Date

Hon. Chair

*Regina Lo*

*R T Simpson*

05/09/2024

Trustee/Accountant

Regina P K Lo

R T Simpson

Date





Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

Alsager & District The University Of The Third Age

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>st</sup> August 2024

Charity no  
(if any)

1072030

Set out on pages

1 and 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 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

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. *Delete [ ] if not applicable.*

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:

T. D. Smith

Date:

5<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024

Name:

Timothy Smith

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body

FCA

(if any):

Address:

**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.**

## Annual Accounts for the Year 2023/2024

### Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ending 31 August 2024

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>				
Annual Enrolment Fee	4,985		5,320	
Class Attendance Fees	48,023		39,587	
Gift Aid	913		863	
Teas and Coffees	426		328	
Donations & Grants Received	155		150	
Sale of Equipment	39		20	
<b>Total Income Main Activities</b>		54,540		46,268
<b>Travel Income</b>		13,434		17,175
<b>Charity Income</b>		2,125		
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>70,099</b>		<b>63,443</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Room Hire & Rentals	39,834		34,495	
Less overprovision in Prior Year	-		(1,594)	
Other Class Costs	8,296		5,861	
Talk Time Fees & Expenses	1,351		1,228	
Other Meetings	874		1,079	
Third Age Trust	5,203		4,861	
Purchase of Equipment	2,051		1,697	
IT Support	1,190		1,068	
Donations Made	290		372	
Postage	462		106	
Stationary & Support Costs	649		558	
Banking Fees	99		91	
Administration	-		64	
<b>Total Main Activity Expenditure</b>		60,299		49,887
<b>Travel Expenditure</b>		13,169		17,030
<b>Charity Expenditure</b>		2,125		
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>75,594</b>		<b>66,917</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficits) Main</b>	(5,759)		(3,619)	
<b>Surplus / (Deficits) Travel</b>	265		145	
<b>Surplus / (Deficits) Charity</b>	-		-	
<b>Surplus (Deficit) for the Year</b>		<b>(5,495)</b>		<b>(3,474)</b>



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Independent  
Examiner and Hon.  
Auditor

T Smith FCA

Date

On behalf of the Trustees

05/09/2024

Hon. Chair

A Bell

Date

*Regina Lo*

*R T Simpson*

05/09/2024

Trustee/Accountant

Regina P K Lo

R T Simpson

Date