

Charity number: 1072335

Company number: 03472165

(England and Wales)

Canals in Hackney Users Group

Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 November 2023

Canals in Hackney Users Group
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**Canals in Hackney Users Group
Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 30 November 2023**

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements for the charitable company for the year ended 30 November 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

To educate the public about inland waterways and in particular to encourage and promote the use of the canal for the benefit of the people of Hackney and the surrounding communities.

To provide in the interests of social welfare facilities for recreation and other leisure time opportunities for the people of Hackney and surrounding communities; being facilities of which those persons have need by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social and economic circumstances; to improve the conditions of life for such persons by promoting their physical, mental and spiritual well-being.

Objectives and aims

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and the supplementary public benefit guidance for charities whose aims include advancing religion when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Significant activities

Activities carried out in this financial period include the following:

Laburnum Boat Club

As well as regular donations to this charity, slalom poles were erected in Kingsland Basin so that they could run an inter club kayak event at May half term 2023.

Children with Voices

We provided goggles hats and swimming costumes for holiday swimming lessons with Children With Voices, a children's charity, in July 2023

Day long musical event

This event was held in April 2023 and was organised in collaboration with Signature brew Haggerston. It raised money for a summer paddling and swimming camp organised by Laburnum Boat Club and also Children With Voices.

Defibrillator Training

We provided free defib training for leeseide canoe centre 8th March 2023 for staff and volunteers.

Clear up days - to remove rubbish from the Basin and the surrounding towpath.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Significant events

Plans for Future Periods

We will continue with our ongoing projects and will also participate in the setting up of a Community Garden on the towpath as part of a Sky Way funding initiative for the Regent's Canal.

Reserves

The reserves policy is that at least 6 months expenditure to be retained as reserves at all times. In this financial period the reserves were comfortably above this level.

Going concern

The trustees are satisfied that the charity will continue to be a going concern for the foreseeable future.

Risk Assessment

The trustees have looked at the risks and are satisfied that steps have been taken to mitigate them.

**Canals in Hackney Users Group
Report of the Trustees Continued
For the year ended 30 November 2023**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Constitution

The Charity's governing documents are its Memorandum and Articles of Association. There are five trustees as listed on page 2. The Charity's constitution is based on the following principles:

Collective decision making. There is no leader, all decisions affecting the basin are made collectively at meetings. We aim for consensus in our decision making but rely on majority democratic votes if there is no consensus. This form of decision making can be slow and cumbersome but it upholds the values of the community that everyone has an equal say.

This system requires that all members are to respect the decision making process and the decisions that are made whether they are in agreement or not.

Tasks, roles and responsibilities are shared out in order to sustain the community. All members of the community are required to contribute their time and energy free of charge to sustain the community.

Governance and management

Decisions are made collectively and by majority at meetings.

Diary dates for meetings are made collectively at each AGM in January for the ensuing year. Members are required to attend at least 4 meetings per year. In addition to the scheduled meetings any member can call an extraordinary meeting at any time. If a member wishes to call an extraordinary meeting, at least two weeks notice is required. All members can put forward any agenda item they wish for a meeting. The agenda is circulated two weeks before the meeting. Any member can add an agenda item at the start of a meeting, although some items require at least two weeks notice e.g. new pet, grievance, sub let request. Quorum level is 6 people. If no consensus is reached majority voting is used to reach a decision. Votes are only counted from those present at the meeting. There are no proxy votes either by mail or email. Minutes of the meeting are circulated to members within two weeks of the date of the meeting.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Charity	Canals in Hackney Users Group
Charity registration number	1072335
Company registration number	03472165
Principal address	11 Allen Road London N16 8SB

Trustees

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Maria Gandy
James Hewson
Darren Coulson
Damian Hall
Richard Metson

Independent examiner

Andrew M Wells FMAAT
Counterculture Partnership LLP
Unit 115 Ducie House
Ducie Street
Manchester
M1 2JW

**Canals in Hackney Users Group
Report of the Trustees Continued
For the year ended 30 November 2023**

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Gandy', written over a dotted line.

Maria Gandy

29 July 2024

Canals in Hackney Users Group
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees
For the year ended 30 November 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 30 November 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiners statement

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 Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.

.....
Andrew M Wells FMAAT
Counterculture Partnership LLP
Unit 115 Ducie House
Ducie Street
Manchester
M1 2JW

29 July 2024

Canals in Hackney Users Group
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 30 November 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	2022 £
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	2	50,825	30,439
Other trading activities		1,755	-
Investments	3	428	12
Other income	4	14,000	-
Total		67,008	30,451
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds		(78)	-
Charitable activities	5/6	(28,203)	(29,491)
Total		(28,281)	(29,491)
Net income		38,727	960
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		66,746	65,786
Total funds carried forward		105,473	66,746

Canals in Hackney Users Group
Statement of Financial Position
As at 30 November 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets			
Debtors	11	497	465
Cash at bank and in hand		108,029	66,701
		108,526	67,166
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(3,053)	(420)
Net current assets		105,473	66,746
Total assets less current liabilities		105,473	66,746
Net assets		105,473	66,746
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted income funds	13	105,473	66,746
Total funds		105,473	66,746

For the year ended 30 November 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

.....
 Maria Gandy
 Trustee

29 July 2024

Canals in Hackney Users Group

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 November 2023

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are included at market value and the revaluation of certain fixed assets and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

Canals in Hackney Users Group meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Going concern

The financial statements are prepared, on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

Funds

The charity maintains a general unrestricted fund which represents funds which are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. Such funds may be held in order to finance both working capital and capital investment.

Designated funds comprise of unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds have been provided to the charity for particular purposes, and it is the policy of the board of trustees to carefully monitor the application of those funds in accordance with the restrictions placed upon them.

There is no formal policy of transfer between funds or on the allocation of funds to designated funds, other than that described above

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the Charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended when there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure.

Taxation

As a registered charity, the company is exempt from income and corporation tax to the extent that its income and gains are applicable to charitable purposes only. Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the company, and is therefore included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2. Income from donations and legacies

	2023	2022
	£	£
Unrestricted funds		
Donations received	50,825	30,439
	50,825	30,439

Canals in Hackney Users Group
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 30 November 2023

3. Investment income

	2023	2022
	£	£
Unrestricted funds		
Bank interest receivable	428	12
	428	12

4. Other income

	2023	2022
	£	£
Unrestricted funds		
Other income	14,000	-
	14,000	-

5. Costs of charitable activities by fund type

	2023	2022
	£	£
Unrestricted funds		
Encouraging use of canal	1,750	150
Support costs	26,453	29,341
	28,203	29,491

6. Costs of charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Support costs				
Encouraging use of canal	1,750	26,453	28,203	29,491

7. Analysis of support costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Encouraging use of canal		
Management	23,584	26,136
Governance costs	2,869	3,205
	26,453	29,341

Canals in Hackney Users Group
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 30 November 2023

8. Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accountancy fees	720	420

9. Trustee remuneration and related party transactions

The charity trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2022:£nil).

No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2022:£nil). The trustees all give freely their time and expertise without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or kind (2022:£nil).

Trustees' expenses represents the payment or reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs totalling £nil (2022:£nil).

There are no related party transactions to disclose for 2023 (2022:none).

10. Comparative for the Statement of Financial Activities

The comparative year values on the Statement of Financial Activities are for unrestricted funds.

11. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts due within one year:		
Prepayments and accrued income	497	465
	497	465

12. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other creditors	2,333	-
Accruals and deferred income	720	420
	3,053	420

Canals in Hackney Users Group
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 30 November 2023

13. Movement in funds

Unrestricted Funds

	Balance at 01/12/2022	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Balance at 30/11/2023
	£	£	£	£
<i>General</i>				
General	66,746	67,008	(28,281)	105,473
	66,746	67,008	(28,281)	105,473

Unrestricted Funds - Previous year

	Balance at 01/12/2021	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Balance at 30/11/2022
	£	£	£	£
<i>General</i>				
General	65,786	30,451	(29,491)	66,746
	65,786	30,451	(29,491)	66,746

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Net current assets / (liabilities)	Net Assets
	£	£
Unrestricted funds		
<i>General</i>		
General	105,473	105,473
	105,473	105,473

Previous year

	Net current assets / (liabilities)	Net Assets
	£	£
Unrestricted funds		
<i>General</i>		
General	66,746	66,746
	66,746	66,746

Canals in Hackney Users Group
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 30 November 2023

15. Company limited by guarantee

Canals in Hackney Users Group is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital.

