

VILLAGES IN ACTION

England & Wales · Charity number 1086138

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [04171822](#)

Registered 2001-04-12

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

Contact

Address 2
The Triangle
Teignmouth
TQ14 8AU

Phone 01626 912692

Email mair@villagesinaction.co.uk

Website www.villagesinaction.co.uk

Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY IS ESTABLISHED FOR THE PURPOSES OF PROMOTING, MAINTAINING, IMPROVING AND ADVANCING EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC, IN PARTICULAR OF THE COUNTY OF DEVON BY THE PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE ARTS INCLUDING THE PERFORMING, VISUAL, MEDIA, PLASTIC AND/OR WRITTEN ARTS, AND BY EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES TO DEVELOP, ORGANISE, AND SUSTAIN THEIR OWN CULTURAL ACTIVITY AND, IN DOING SO, ENHANCE THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE, ENCOURAGE SOCIAL INCLUSION AND BUILD UP A SENSE OF ENTERPRISE AND SELF-CONFIDENCE

Activities: The support of professional performances and participatory workshops through a network of volunteers in rural communities.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** THE COUNTY OF DEVON
- Devon

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£146,214	£145,268	-	-
2024-03-31	£133,923	£133,572	-	-
2023-03-31	£75,400	£102,141	-	-
2022-03-31	£43,408	£12,632	-	-
2021-03-31	£0	£69	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Claire Elizabeth Marshall		2019-10-15
Grace Laura Plant		2023-03-23
Helen Bovey		2020-07-07
Helen Margaret Gilbert		2022-12-05

VILLAGES IN ACTION

England & Wales - Charity number 1086138

Accounts

Villages in Action
(A company limited by guarantee)
Report and Financial Statements
Year ending 31 March 2025

Charity number: 1086138
Company number: 04171822

Villages in Action

Reference and administrative details

Charity number: 1086138
Company number: 04171822
Registered Office: Combeinteignhead Village Hall, Combeinteignhead, Newton Abbot, TQ12 4RG

Our advisers

Independent Examiner: Rowlands Webster Austin House, 43 Poole Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH4 9DN
Bankers: CAF Bank

Directors and Trustees

The Directors of the Charitable Company (the Charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law. The Trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Key management personnel Villages in Action: Trustees and Directors

Co-Chairs: H Bovey
C E Marshall

Trustees: H M Gilbert
G Plant
R H Sutton (resigned 24 April 2025)
W A Van Der Plank (resigned 24 April 2025)

Secretary: M A George

Key management personnel:

Creative Director: M A George

Villages in Action

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

The Trustees are pleased to present their Annual Trustees' Report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ending 31 March 2025 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' Report and Accounts for Companies Act purposes.

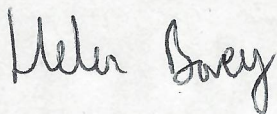
The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Chair's Report

As we close the year, we reflect on the extraordinary work we have done in collaboration with Devon communities, as well as the impact we have had. Whilst the cultural sector continues to face challenges in various forms, the impact of Villages in Action's work has never been needed more to ensure the inclusion and representation of rural voices. We remain committed to providing exceptional creative experiences that inspire, educate, and engage people of all ages who live in Devon's rural communities. We look forward to another year of creative growth, collective action and community inspiration.

This report covers the financial year from April 2024 to March 2025. It reviews our objectives, activities, and governance; our achievements and financial performance during the year; our work with other agencies and organisations; and our future plans for the organisation.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported Villages in Action in this period – our dedicated team of staff and volunteers, our funders, partners, and everyone who has attended our performances, workshops, and events. Your continued support allows us to bring the arts to communities that may otherwise miss out on these invaluable experiences. We look forward to continuing this vital work with you all in 2025.



Helen Bovey & Claire Marshall
Co-Chairs of the Board of Trustees

Villages in Action

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2025 *(continued)*

Our purposes and activities

The Charity is established for the purposes of promoting, maintaining, improving and advancing education of the public, in particular of the County of Devon by the promotion and encouragement of the arts including the performing, visual, media, plastic and/or written arts, and by empowering communities to develop, organise, and sustain their own cultural activity and, in doing so, enhance their quality of life, encourage social inclusion and build up a sense of enterprise and self-confidence.

Public Benefit Statement

The trustees believe that Villages in Action is well-placed to make the most of the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead, and we will continue to take an agile approach to supporting not only our rural communities but the wider cultural sector. We have made organisational commitments to sustainability and climate change; equality, diversity and inclusion and developing an evidence base for cultural and creative impact.

The Board is firmly committed to the principles of public benefit, widening access, diversity and equal opportunities. In shaping their objectives for the year and planning Villages in Action's activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and the importance of demonstrating that Villages in Action fulfils its charitable purposes for the wider good of society. They believe that this report shows clearly that the charity offers a very wide range of support, activities and services to the communities of Devon.

Our core programme delivers activity in three dynamically interdependent strands of work:

1. **PRESENT:** excellent artists present live work (regional, national and international) in isolated rural towns and villages across Teignbridge, East Devon, Mid Devon, South Hams, West Devon, Torbay.
2. **CULTIVATE:** growing participation, cultural confidence & co-creation. Our focus in the last year has been on engagement with the youngest and oldest members of our rural communities through artist residencies working with children and young people and co-created projects including Daytime Seniors arts & health programme in East Devon.
3. **NURTURE:** talent development across all levels of experience through our From Devon With Love festival, rural co-creation residencies and targeted artistic/producer mentorships and training/skills development for Higher Education students.

Villages in Action

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

Achievements and performance

Over the reporting period, the charity delivered a vibrant programme of cultural and participatory work that engaged hard to reach audiences and communities. Key achievements include:

- 2,628 audience attendances at performances and public events, reflecting a strong reach and public interest
- 22,265 digital audiences relating to our Chasing Crockern online exhibition
- 67 performances were staged, showcasing a range of artistic work
- 25 creative participation sessions were hosted with 430 attendances. The sessions provided opportunities for rural residents to engage in culture and creativity on their doorsteps with excellent artists who value the contribution made by rural residents
- 83 artists employed, supporting the creative economy and ensuring high-quality delivery across all projects

These figures demonstrate the charity's continued commitment to artistic excellence, community involvement, and supporting the creative workforce.

Chasing Crockern: A Community-Focused Heritage Project

Chasing Crockern, a 15-month partnership project by Villages in Action and artists Sara Hurley and Lisa Schneidau culminated in March 2025. The project sought to revive and celebrate Dartmoor's rich folklore and heritage. Supported by funding from The National Lottery Heritage Fund and Arts Council England, the project was driven by a vision to engage local communities with their cultural heritage through storytelling, creative workshops, and collaborative arts practices. The project's central theme, "Chasing Crockern," explored Dartmoor's ancient folklore, particularly the mythic figure of Crockern, a legendary character said to be the guardian of the moor.

Community Engagement and Local Impact

A core focus of the project was community involvement, with a wide range of activities designed to bring together people of all ages and backgrounds across Dartmoor. Through a series of storytelling workshops, community story walks, and interviews with local residents, the project brought Dartmoor's traditions and legends to life. These workshops were conducted in schools, local clubs, and senior citizen groups, ensuring that both younger and older generations had the opportunity to engage with the stories that shaped their region.

One significant achievement was the creation of new local tales, where community members contributed their own experiences and imaginings, weaving modern narratives into the ancient folklore of Dartmoor. This intergenerational exchange helped foster a sense of pride in local traditions and a deeper connection to the area's cultural landscape.

Villages in Action

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Storytelling Performances and Tours

A key outcome of the *Chasing Crockern* project was the development and performance of a new storytelling piece, which fused Dartmoor's ancient myths with contemporary themes. Written and performed by our partners, this performance combined traditional oral storytelling techniques with modern interpretations of Dartmoor's legends. The narrative explored themes of place, history, and myth, bringing the spirit of the moor alive through dynamic performances that resonated with both long-time residents and visitors to the area.

In March 2025, the storytelling performance toured across Dartmoor, with six performances held at various venues including local halls and outdoor spaces. The performances were met with rave reviews, with many audience members describing the experience as "lyrical" and "entrancing." The seamless blending of folklore, personal stories, and historical context captivated attendees, leaving a lasting impression of the rich cultural fabric of Dartmoor.

Exhibition and Audio Feature: Bringing Dartmoor to Life

In addition to the storytelling performances, *Chasing Crockern* culminated in an exhibition that explored the question: "What does the spirit of Dartmoor mean to you?" Curated by Monica-Shanta, the exhibition featured a rich array of multimedia artworks, including photography, video, sound clips, and illustrations, all gathered from the project's workshops and community interactions. The exhibition provided a visual and auditory representation of Dartmoor's unique cultural landscape, capturing the voices and perspectives of local residents and visitors alike.

The exhibition also featured an audio piece produced by Kerry Priest of Skylark FM, which encapsulated the project's interviews and collected stories. This 15-minute audio feature allowed listeners to immerse themselves in the personal recollections and reflections of Dartmoor's inhabitants, offering a deeper connection to the land and its myths.

Youth Engagement and Mentorship

One of the project's standout features was its engagement with local youth. Through a mentorship program with Fern Leigh Albert, young photographers were given the opportunity to document Dartmoor's landscapes, capturing the breathtaking natural beauty of the area through their lenses. These photographs were prominently displayed in the exhibition, not only showcasing the talents of young artists but also highlighting their unique perspectives on Dartmoor's cultural heritage. This initiative provided valuable experience for those involved, offering them professional development opportunities and a platform to share their work with new audiences. Photographers Louis West, Daniel Dayment, and Mahni Clear helped document the physical and cultural landscape of Dartmoor with their stunning visual contributions.

Villages in Action

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Beyond the immediate impact of the performances and exhibitions, the project has left a lasting legacy in the communities it touched. By fostering a renewed appreciation for Dartmoor's folklore and offering new platforms for creative expression, *Chasing Crockern* has strengthened local identities, deepened connections to the land, and ensured that Dartmoor's stories continue to be passed down in the oral tradition.

Financial review

Unrestricted Funds

Villages in Action had an operating surplus of £946 in 2024-25 (2023-24: £351) and this has increased unrestricted reserves which stand at £11,312 (2024: £10,366) and continues the year-on-year increase in reserves in line with our Reserves Policy.

The principal sources of income were grants, donations and box office income.

We received a project grant from Arts Council England, and this along with a number of other grants has enabled our work to continue.

Our fixed cost base is low – we employ two part time members of staff and rent office space in Combeinteignhead Village Hall. The majority of our costs are associated with our charitable activities and this gives assurance to our funders and donors that their grants and donations go directly towards the vital work of Villages in Action and reaches more beneficiaries each year.

Cash reserves at the end of the year are lower than the previous year due to timing of activities in the year, with a large amount of activity in March 2025. Our cash flow forecasts remain positive for the coming year.

Restricted Funds

In the current year we were successful in attracting restricted project funds of £35,069:

- **Heritage Lottery Fund** – a grant of £22,000 to support the Chasing Crockern project.
- **Teignbridge District Council** – a grant of £10,264.
- **East Devon Council** – a grant of £2,805.

All funds were spent at the year end.

Villages in Action

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

Financial review (continued)

Investment powers and policy

The Trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of running Villages in Action, have kept available funds in an interest-bearing deposit account and seek to achieve a rate on deposit which matches or exceeds inflation as measured by the retail prices index.

Reserves policy and going concern

In the long term, the Trustees believe that significantly excessive levels of general funds are unjustified; however, Villages in Action should build and maintain a general reserve in relation to any fluctuations in income or unforeseen expenditure that may become necessary in the future. The Board have agreed that three month's operating costs should be held as a reserve. Operating costs are defined as total unrestricted expenditure excluding costs of raising funds. The general fund currently stands at £11,312, representing just over two month's operating costs. Over the next twelve months we expect reserves to increase slightly to achieve the target of three month's operating costs.

Funding has been confirmed from Arts Council England (April – September) and East Devon Council (April – March) and a further application has been submitted to Arts Council England for continued project funding from October. In addition, a full programme of activity is planned which will generate income from box office receipts.

We continue to seek new funding partners and have been successful at increasing funds to support our core work in 2024-25. Future plans will see a focus on income diversification including increased donations and private sponsorship.

The Trustees therefore believe it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

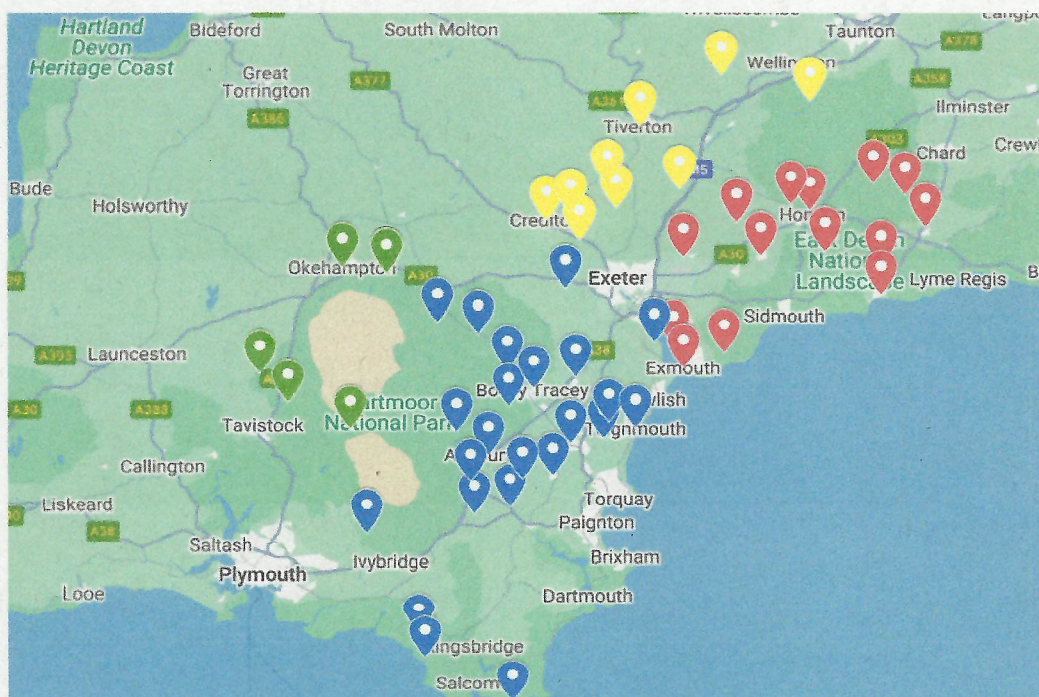
Villages in Action

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

Plans for future periods

Looking ahead to the next year Villages in Action will continue to redefine rural touring across Devon by deepening cultural engagement, fostering artist development, and strengthening community resilience. Building on our integrated approach of co-creation, performance, and participation, we aim to bring high-quality, diverse work to rural spaces, ensuring that underrepresented voices are amplified. Over the next year, we will deliver over 65 live performances, embed rural residencies, and expand initiatives for young people, older adults, and families. Our collaborative hubs will empower local co-curators, while national and international partnerships will broaden the range of experiences we offer, challenging traditional touring models and enriching Devon's cultural life.

Future growth will also focus on strengthening organisational resilience and diversifying income streams through new partnerships with non-arts sectors. By amplifying the social benefits of our events, testing hybrid audience models, and investing in capacity building across our network, we aim to broaden and diversify our audiences while improving long-term sustainability. Our evolving board will bring new perspectives and expertise, supporting a strategic vision that integrates creative innovation, community wellbeing, and environmental responsibility. As we navigate a changing cultural landscape, we remain committed to championing local talent, expanding inclusive programming, and positioning Devon as a vibrant hub for creative exploration and community connection.



Villages in Action Network Map

Villages in Action

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Villages in Action is a registered charity (No 1086138) and a company (No 04171822) limited by guarantee. The governing documents of Villages in Action are its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The company was incorporated on 2 March 2001 and registered as a charity on 12 April 2001. The Trustees of the Charitable Company guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the Charity in the event of winding up.

Appointment, induction and training of trustees

Trustees retire after three years by rotation. These Trustees may offer themselves for re-appointment. All new trustees are recruited via a thorough process. Candidates are interviewed by a panel of trustees and if appropriate recommended to the Board for appointment. New Board members undertake a series of induction meetings with the Board Chair, Creative Director and Finance Manager and staff and a comprehensive induction pack is provided. Board wide training is arranged as required.

Organisation

The Trustees ensure the accuracy and timeliness of all financial reporting information through the work of its Board which reviews all financial information, the development of business systems and procedures and progress on income generation and fundraising strategies. The Board, which meets on a quarterly basis develops and monitors the Finance Control Procedures Policy and Risk Register. In addition, it reviews operational risks in relation to employment issues as well as keeping abreast of changes in employment law and developing relevant policies. The Board also reviews Health & Safety Policy and procedures as well as Safeguarding Policy and procedures.

In terms of service quality, all individual projects undertaken by the organisation are subject to risk assessment, monitoring and evaluation procedures. Reports are made quarterly to the Trustees.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work as Trustees with the Charity. 2 Trustees, Wendy Van Der Plank and Helen Gilbert, were engaged on a freelance basis for various projects throughout the year.

Any connection between a Trustee or Senior Manager of Villages in Action with a production company, contracted actor, performer or exhibitor must be disclosed to the full Board of Trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. Villages in Action has a Conflict of Interests Policy and Register of Interests.

Villages in Action

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

Structure, Governance and Management (continued)

Pay policy for senior staff

The Directors, who are Villages in Action's Trustees, consider themselves and the Creative Director (as listed on page 1) to be the key management personnel in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating Villages in Action on a day-to-day basis. All Directors give of their time freely and no Director received remuneration for being a Director/Trustee in the year. Details of related party transactions are disclosed in note 11 to the accounts.

Salaries are benchmarked against market rates for all staff. The pay of the senior staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with inflation and at the same rate as all other staff.

Villages in Action

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the Villages in Action for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing a Trustees' Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that Villages in Action will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of Villages in Action and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of Villages in Action and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

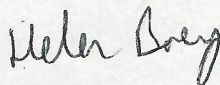
The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on Villages in Action's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Statement as to disclosure to our independent examiners:

In so far as the Trustees are aware at the time of approving our Trustees' Annual Report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the independent examiner in connection with preparing their report, of which Villages in Action's independent examiner is unaware, and
- the Trustees, having made enquiries of fellow directors and Villages in Action's independent examiner that they ought to have individually taken, have each taken all steps that she is obliged to take as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information.

By order of the Board of Trustees
H Bovey & C E Marshall (Co-Chairs)



17 July 2025

Villages in Action

Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

Independent Examiner's report to the members of Villages in Action

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

Independent examiner's 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 charity as required by section 386 of the Companies Act 2006.
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a true and fair view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements 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 financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

M L Rowlands

CTA FMAAT ATT(Fellow)
For and on behalf of Rowlands Webster
Austin House
43 Poole Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH4 9DN

Date: 17 July 2025

Villages in Action
Statement of Financial Activities
(including the Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ending 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Income					
<i>Donations and legacies</i>					
Donations	3	209	-	209	75
<i>Income from charitable activities:</i>					
Artistic programme	4	110,852	35,069	145,921	133,777
Investment income	5	84	-	84	71
Total income		111,145	35,069	146,214	133,923
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	6	110,199	35,069	145,268	133,572
Total expenditure		110,199	35,069	145,268	133,572
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds for the year		946	-	946	351
Reconciliation of funds					
Total Funds brought forward		10,366	-	10,366	10,015
Total funds carried forward		11,312	-	11,312	10,366

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.
The notes on pages 15 to 23 form an integral part of the financial statements.

**Villages in Action
Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2025**

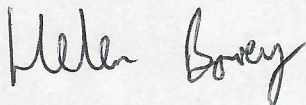
	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Current assets			
Debtors	13	1,323	2,578
Cash at bank and in hand		35,644	59,155
Total Current Assets		36,967	61,733
Liabilities			
Creditors falling due within one year	14	(14,093)	(4,276)
Net Current assets		22,874	57,457
Deferred income	15	(11,562)	(47,091)
Net assets		11,312	10,366
The funds of the Charity:			
Unrestricted general funds	16	11,312	10,366
Total charity funds		11,312	10,366

Registered Company No: 04171822

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

These financial statements were approved by the members of the Board and authorised for issue on the 17 July 2025 and are signed on their behalf by:

Signed



Helen Bovey, Co-Chair of Board on behalf of the Trustees

The notes on pages 15 to 23 form an integral part of the financial statements.

Villages in Action

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Villages in Action meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

b) Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required.

c) Judgements and key accounting estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

d) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

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.

The general reserves currently stand at just over two months' operating costs. Villages in Action has budgets in place to increase general reserves to three months operating costs by the end of March 2026.

The Trustees therefore believe it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

Villages in Action

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

e) Income recognition policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- the Charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the Charity;
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

Income received in advance of a provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

1. Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

2. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the Charity. Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors 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.

3. Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified as:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of artistic activities undertaken to further the purposes of the Charity and their associated support costs.
- The Charity is not VAT registered, and irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Villages in Action

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

4. Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist Villages in Action's work but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the Charity's artistic programme and participatory activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 7.

5. Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

6. Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

7. Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where Villages in Action has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

8. Financial instruments

Villages in Action only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

9. Pensions

Villages in Action contributes to a group money purchase defined contribution pension scheme operated by NEST. New and existing employees are automatically enrolled into the money purchase scheme unless they have exercised their right to opt out of scheme membership.

Employees joining the money purchase pension scheme operated by NEST, contract directly with the insurance company. Villages in Action makes a matching contribution of 3% (2024: 3%) of salary to this pension scheme and acts as agent in collecting and paying over employee pension contributions.

Villages in Action

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

2. Legal status of the Charity

Villages in Action is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England & Wales, and has no share capital. In the event of Villages in Action being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of Villages in Action.

The registered office address is Combeinteignhead Village Hall, 19 Shaldon Road, Combeinteignhead, Devon, TQ12 4RG. Our main areas of activity are:

- PRESENT: Platforming excellent performance work in Devon's rural spaces
- CULTIVATE: Community participation and co-creation
- NURTURE: Talent development

3. Income from donations

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations	209	-	209	75

Income from donations includes Gift Aid. From time-to-time Villages in Action benefits from the involvement and support of volunteers. In accordance with accounting standards, the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

4. Income from charitable activities

In the year Villages in Action presented a programme of artistic events in rural Devon.

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Grant income: Arts Council England	74,724	-	74,724	44,781
Grant income: National Lottery Awards for All				3,994
Grant income: National Lottery Heritage Fund	-	22,000	22,000	2,152
Grant income: East Devon District Council	10,000	2,805	12,805	10,000
Grant income: Teignbridge District Council	-	10,264	10,264	-
Other grant income	-	-	-	7,340
Income from performances	18,033	-	18,033	13,345
Commissions	6,975	-	6,975	30,557
Services	1,120	-	1,120	21,608
Charitable activities	110,852	35,069	145,921	133,777

Villages in Action

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

5. Investment income

All of Villages in Action's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts.

6. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable activities £
Organisational & Payroll	32,700
Office Overheads	6,192
Activity Costs	87,631
Specialist Funds	4,979
Governance costs (see note 7)	2,467
Support costs (see note 7)	11,299
Total	145,268

Of the £145,268 expenditure in 2024-25 (2024: £133,572), £110,199 was charged to unrestricted funds (2024: £131,420) and £35,069 to restricted funds (2024: £2,152).

Villages in Action

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

7. Analysis of governance and support costs

Villages in Action initially identifies the costs of its support functions. It then identifies those costs which relate to the governance function. Having identified its governance costs, the remaining support costs together with the governance costs are apportioned between the key charitable activities undertaken (see note 6) in the year. Refer to the table below for the basis for apportionment and the analysis of support and governance costs.

Analysis of support and governance costs				
	General support	Governance function	Total	Basis of apportionment
	£	£	£	
Trustee Travel Expenses	-	26	26	Direct
AGM Room Hire	-	200	200	Direct
Salaries, wages and related costs	7,080	1,804	8,884	Staff time
General office costs	3,935	437	4,372	Direct
Accountancy & tax fees	284	-	284	Direct
Total	11,299	2,467	13,766	

8. Net income/(expenditure) for the year

	2025	2024
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Accountancy & tax fees	284	1,584
	284	1,584

9. Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries and wages	27,125	24,042
Social security costs	1,828	1,919
Pension costs	533	500
	29,486	26,461

No employees had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2024: £nil). Pension costs are allocated to activities in proportion to the related staffing costs incurred.

Villages in Action

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel (continued)

The key management personnel of Villages in Action comprise the Trustees and the Creative Director. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £21,420 (2024: £15,063).

The Trustees were not paid or received any other benefits from employment with Villages in Action in the year (2024: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2024: £nil). Payments were made to 1 trustee on a freelance basis for various projects throughout the year and this is disclosed in Note 11.

10. Staff Numbers

The average monthly head count was 2 staff (2024: 2 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees (including casual and part-time staff) during the year was as follows:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Permanent staff including part time staff on permanent basis	2	2

11. Related party transactions

Ms Wendy Van Der Plank and Ms Gilbert, trustees of Villages in Action, were engaged on a freelance basis for various projects throughout the year. Ms Van Der Plank received £836 (2024: £2,034) and Ms Gilbert received £1,575 (2024: £nil).

12. Corporation Taxation

Villages in Action is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

13. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade Debtors	1,227	2,258
Prepayments & accrued income	96	320
	1,323	2,578

Villages in Action

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	6,488	2,060
Accruals	7,271	1,584
Taxation and social security costs	334	632
	14,093	4,276

Deferred income comprises income from projects due to take place post 31 March 2025.

15. Deferred income

	2025	2024
	£	£
Arising from Government Grants	11,562	11,266
Arising from Other Grants	-	35,825
	11,562	47,091

Deferred income is included within:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Shown as Deferred Income on the face of the Balance Sheet	11,562	47,091
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2024	47,091	3,994
Released from previous periods	(47,091)	(3,994)
Resources deferred in the year	11,562	47,091
Deferred Income at 31 March 2025	11,562	47,091

Villages in Action

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025 (continued)

16. Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Balance 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Funds 31 March 2025 £
Designated to ongoing activity	8,900	-	(8,900)	-
General fund	1,466	111,145	(101,299)	11,312
Total	10,366	111,145	(110,199)	11,312

Name of unrestricted fund	Description, nature and purposes of the fund
Designated to ongoing activity	Funds set aside by the trustees for specific purposes.
General fund	The 'free reserves' after allowing for any designated funds.

VILLAGES IN ACTION

England & Wales - Charity number 1086138

Accounts

Charity registration number 1086138

Company registration number 04171822 (England and Wales)

VILLAGES IN ACTION
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

VILLAGES IN ACTION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	H Bovey H M Gilbert C E Marshall G Plant R H Sutton W A Van Der Plank
Secretary	M A George
Charity number	1086138
Company number	04171822
Registered office	Combeinteignhead Village Hall 19 Shaldon Road Combeinteignhead Newton Abbot TQ12 4RG
Independent examiner	Rowlands Webster Limited Austin House 43 Poole Road Bournemouth Dorset England BH4 9DN

VILLAGES IN ACTION

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 4
Independent examiner's report	5
Statement of financial activities	6
Balance sheet	7
Notes to the financial statements	8 - 13

VILLAGES IN ACTION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements 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 financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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).

Objectives and activities

The Charity is established for the purposes of promoting, maintaining, improving and advancing education of the public, in particular of the County of Devon by the promotion and encouragement of the arts including the performing, visual, media, plastic and/or written arts, and by empowering communities to develop, organise, and sustain their own cultural activity and, in doing so, enhance their quality of life, encourage social inclusion and build up a sense of enterprise and self-confidence.

Public Benefit Statement

The trustees believe that Villages in Action is well-placed to make the most of the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead and we will continue to take an agile approach to supporting not only our rural communities but the wider cultural sector. We have made organisational commitments to sustainability and climate change; equality, diversity and inclusion and developing an evidence base for cultural and creative impact.

The Board is firmly committed to the principles of public benefit, widening access, diversity and equal opportunities. In shaping their objectives for the year and planning Villages in Action's activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and the importance of demonstrating that Villages in Action fulfils its charitable purposes for the wider good of society. They believe that this report shows clearly that the charity offers a very wide range of support, activities and services to the communities of Devon.

Introduction to activities

This report covers the financial year from April 2023 to March 2024. It reviews our objectives, activities, and governance; our achievements and financial performance during the year; our work with other agencies and organisations; and our future plans for the organisation

Our core programme delivers activity in four dynamically interdependent strands of work:

- Rural Touring and Participation
- Talent Development
- Co-creative Communities
- Stretch (reach, inclusion and partnership projects)

Villages in Action is a revitalised charity and social enterprise with a renewed board of trustees and a strong and growing staff team. The charity is responsive and agile, and we continually develop new projects and partnerships, seeking opportunities to enhance our sustainability as an organisation and to root ourselves in Devon's changing cultural ecology.

VILLAGES IN ACTION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Achievements and performance

There is a changing landscape when it comes to our live performance programme, and the effects of the tumultuous last 4 years on the sector as a whole has been profound. Notable points of interest are changing audience habits, changes to funding competition and ultimately lower success rates for artists and producing companies involved in the creation of new work that we champion across our network. Despite these challenges and shifts in the usual ways of working, we have been resilient and agile, responding to opportunities to collaborate with regional and local partners to ensure we are delivering a complete live performance programme within rural Devon. Genuine collaboration is at the heart of everything we do, and this year's growth and clarity of purpose is reflective of the organisation becoming deeply embedded in the local cultural ecology. We have collaborated with over 44 co-curators in developing our responsive programme of activity, gathering as a network in person for the first time in 4 years at our new office-base in Combeinteignhead.

Our Agri [Culture] network delivered 33 performances which enjoyed an overall audience number of 1633. Alongside touring performances, visiting artists delivered 21 participatory workshops attended by over 200 participants. 87 individual artists were employed as part of our Touring programme. Highlights of the touring programme include international artists Panta Rei performing in Lustleigh as part of a regional tour with our collaborators who are also members of the National Rural Touring Forum, narrative circus work continues to be platformed through the Circus Around and About project, and in collaboration with the Rural Touring Dance Initiative we have begun to make headway in revitalising support for professional dance practice and performance in rural Devon. We have collaborated with 2 local Holiday Activity Food (HAF) programmes to offer creative engagement opportunities for children and young people experiencing poverty in the school holidays and we have built new relationships with schools, the University of Exeter and other cultural and educational partners to support young creatives' exploration of creative career pathways, to ensure the rural perspective is included. This year has seen the culmination of Village Exchange skill-share projects in East Devon.

As part of our commitment to local artists we have supported 9 Devon-based artists to platform their work-in-progress or 'scratch' performances, encouraging dialogue with audiences who feed into the creative making process. We have hosted 2 multi artform artist residencies in Teignbridge (exploring men's mental health and food security) and we have concluded our Village Exchange project in East Devon working with the oldest and youngest members of our communities, whose engagement in creativity and culture is often stifled by issues of rural access.

Our digital strategy and approach have focused on excluded participants and audiences living in care settings through our ongoing partnership with Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Moretonhampstead Community Development Trust and independent dance artist Clare Parker. ViA has been responsible for the production of over 12 digital works made possible through follow-on funding from UKRI and the partnership have developed a 'ready-for-market' online platform called Zest Active Arts launching for paying subscribers during 2024-2025.

The organisation has become more robust, with the creation of a new role of Programme Coordinator which has provided additional capacity. This role alongside that of Creative Director has moved to PAYE, with a pool of freelance staff supporting targeted activity. This additional capacity has allowed us to focus on the articulation of our Agri [Culture] model (essentially a bespoke approach for each community, working with the local resources including its people, spaces and skills) with a range of networks and stakeholders.

With our continued commitment to sustainable activity, we have had 6-months of CPD support from People & Planet helping us to refine our Environmental Policy & Action Plan, refreshing our development priorities: sustainable practices, communicating sustainability, education & travel.

Our work has been underpinned by 2 Ripple Effect Mapping cycles alongside wider evaluation and more traditional data collection methods (eg. audience and artist surveys and environmental monitoring), which continues to inform our iterative action-led learning approach. Over the past year, we've been listening, observing and asking questions to help us identify common themes: things that are shared concerns for different communities; common challenges or 'roadblocks'; the essential components that help shared plans fall into place with ease. We identified some key themes as a way of focusing our learning about 'what works' in supporting Devon's rural touring and wider cultural development. These may shift as the programme develops and we will be reflecting on these through blogs and wider discussions across the network:

1) It's Personal, 2) Growing & Valuing Skills, 3) Collaboration & Competition, 4) The Rural Perspective and 5) Residencies & Relationships

VILLAGES IN ACTION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Looking forward

During 2023-2024 we have been able to embed models of working and we recognise that bespoke approaches are needed to meet the specific needs of Devon's communities. As always our next steps are shaped by the insights received from all our stakeholders, and we will be building on this way of working. We will reach into rural communities and act as a broker between them and the wider cultural sector in Devon and nationally.

We are excited to be engaging in artist-led initiatives that focus on the rural experience and in collaboration with Dartmoor-based artists, ViA is leading on intergenerational community engagement as part of the Chasing Crockern heritage project and on developing local producing capacity touring work during the performance stage. We are leading on rural community engagement and supporting artist commissioning as part of Exeter Phoenix's Heritage Archive project and we will be collaborating with Alright Mate? on their project which focuses on men's mental health through creativity, again with a focus on rural participants, businesses and audiences. The company will be resident in rural Devon engaging the local community in the R&D of their new car-based performance. Again, ViA is leading on rural community engagement in the development stage and rural touring in the performance stage.

Financial review

Villages in Action generated a total income of £133,923 in the financial year to 31 March 2024 (FY 2022/23: £75,400), a percentage increase of 76%. This growth has occurred despite the ongoing challenges for the arts and culture sector more widely. Despite funding cuts and the resultant changes to audience behaviour following the Covid 19 pandemic, Villages in Action has managed to carve out a course which positively positions the charity as an enabler of cultural participation with community at its core.

Earned income through box office and events came in at £13,345 (FY 2022/23: £8,795). This is a result of increased ticket prices and the re-establishment of a regular programme of performance activity in Devon. With increasing costs across all sectors of the economy, we have been keen to ensure that arts and culture are valued and that ticket prices reflect the value of the work presented, and that audiences don't become overly reliant on fully subsidised ticket prices.

We have flexed our programme and controlled our expenditure in line with the challenges in securing trusts and foundations funding, given the high levels of competition from services supporting communities facing cost of living challenges. Total fundraising through grants and donations was £68,342 and where we have aligned with funding priorities around community cohesion, artist opportunities and access to culture and creativity for all we have had the most success.

Looking forward we recognise that a large proportion of our income comes from Arts Council England project grant funding which is hugely oversubscribed, we will build on the diversification of our income model, by increasing commissions and earned income by increasing attendance in high capacity venues as part of our performance programme.

Reserves

Over this period we have increased our box office and commission income, which has allowed us to increase our reserves to cover two months of ongoing charitable activity (£8900), with an aim to build Reserves to 3 months, as stated in the charity's Reserves Policy.

Structure, governance and management

The company is a registered charity, number 1086138, with effect from 12 April 2001. The governing documents are the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

VILLAGES IN ACTION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

H Bovey

N G Chapman

(Resigned 7 December 2023)

H M Gilbert

C E Marshall

G Plant


R H Sutton

W A Van Der Plank

None of the trustees has 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 Board has the power to appoint additional trustees as it considers fit to do so. Although no specific training is required for new trustees, they are made aware of the useful guidance offered by the Charity Commission and others. Policy decisions are made by the Board at regular meetings.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



H Bovey

Trustee

6 August 2024

VILLAGES IN ACTION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF VILLAGES IN ACTION

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Villages in Action (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity 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 the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (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

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 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting 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 financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Rowlands Webster Limited

Austin House
43 Poole Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH4 9DN
England

Dated: 6 August 2024

VILLAGES IN ACTION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	66,190	2,152	68,342	36,903	5,991	42,894
Charitable activities		65,510	-	65,510	32,506	-	32,506
Investments	4	71	-	71	-	-	-
Total income		<u>131,771</u>	<u>2,152</u>	<u>133,923</u>	<u>69,409</u>	<u>5,991</u>	<u>75,400</u>
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities		131,420	2,152	133,572	96,150	5,991	102,141
Total expenditure		<u>131,420</u>	<u>2,152</u>	<u>133,572</u>	<u>96,150</u>	<u>5,991</u>	<u>102,141</u>
Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds		351	-	351	(26,741)	-	(26,741)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		10,015	-	10,015	36,756	-	36,756
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		<u>10,366</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,366</u>	<u>10,015</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,015</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

VILLAGES IN ACTION

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Current assets					
Debtors	8	2,578		3,577	
Cash at bank and in hand		59,155		16,155	
		<u>61,733</u>		<u>19,732</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(4,276)		(5,723)	
Net current assets			57,457		14,009
Deferred income	10		(47,091)		(3,994)
Net assets excluding pension liability			<u>10,366</u>		<u>10,015</u>
			<u><u>10,366</u></u>		<u><u>10,015</u></u>
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds			10,366		10,015
			<u>10,366</u>		<u>10,015</u>
			<u><u>10,366</u></u>		<u><u>10,015</u></u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 6 August 2024



H Bovey
Trustee

Company registration number 04171822 (England and Wales)

VILLAGES IN ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Villages in Action is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Combeinteignhead Village Hall, 19 Shaldon Road, Combeinteignhead, Newton Abbot, TQ12 4RG.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "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). 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 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.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors 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.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

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.

VILLAGES IN ACTION

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

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

1.6 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.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

VILLAGES IN ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
National Heritage		2,152	2,152			
Other grants	17,415		17,415	14,250		
Arts Council England	44,781	-	44,781	29,158	5,991	32,894
National Lottery Awards for All	3,994	-	3,994	-	-	10,000
	<u>66,190</u>	<u>2,152</u>	<u>68,342</u>	<u>36,903</u>	<u>5,991</u>	<u>42,894</u>

VILLAGES IN ACTION

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

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	71	-
	<u>71</u>	<u>-</u>

5 Trustees

Trustee W Van Der Plank received payment of £2034 for professional services rendered plus expenses incurred. (2022/2023: £2158)

No other trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

6 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Total	2	-
	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>

7 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

8 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	2,258	-
Prepayments and accrued income	320	3,577
	<u>2,578</u>	<u>3,577</u>

VILLAGES IN ACTION

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

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	632	-
Trade creditors	2,060	5,723
Accruals and deferred income	1,584	-
	<u>4,276</u>	<u>5,723</u>

10 Deferred income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Arising from Government Grants	11,266	3,994
Arising from Other Grants	35,825	-
	<u>47,091</u>	<u>3,994</u>

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred income is included within:		
Shown as deferred income on the face of the balance sheet	<u>47,091</u>	<u>3,994</u>
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2023	3,994	-
Released from previous periods	(3,994)	-
Resources deferred in the year	47,091	3,994
Deferred income at 31 March 2024	<u>47,091</u>	<u>3,994</u>

11 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
Designated to ongoing activity	-	8,900	-	8,900
General funds	10,015	122,871	(131,420)	1,466
	<u>10,015</u>	<u>131,771</u>	<u>(131,420)</u>	<u>10,366</u>

VILLAGES IN ACTION

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

11 Unrestricted funds		(Continued)		
Previous year:	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Agriculture	24,506	-	(24,506)	-
SSE	7,500	-	(7,500)	-
General funds	4,750	69,409	(64,144)	10,015
	<u>36,756</u>	<u>69,409</u>	<u>(96,150)</u>	<u>10,015</u>

VILLAGES IN ACTION

England & Wales - Charity number 1086138

Accounts

Charity registration number 1086138

Company registration number 04171822 (England and Wales)

VILLAGES IN ACTION

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

VILLAGES IN ACTION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees H Bovey
N G Chapman
H M Gilbert (Appointed 5 December 2022)
C E Marshall (Appointed 5 December 2022)
G Plant (Appointed 23 March 2023)
R H Sutton
W A Van Der Plank

Secretary M A George

Charity number 1086138

Company number 04171822

Registered office 26 Brunswick Street
Teignmouth
Devon
TQ14 8AF

Independent examiner Rowlands Webster Limited
Austin House
43 Poole Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
England
BH4 9DN

VILLAGES IN ACTION

CONTENTS

	Page	
Trustees' report	1 - 4	
Independent examiner's report	5	
Statement of financial activities	6	
Balance sheet	7	
Notes to the financial statements	8 - 11	

VILLAGES IN ACTION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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).

Objectives and activities

The Charity is established for the purposes of promoting, maintaining, improving and advancing education of the public, in particular of the County of Devon by the promotion and encouragement of the arts including the performing, visual, media, plastic and/or written arts, and by empowering communities to develop, organise, and sustain their own cultural activity and, in doing so, enhance their quality of life, encourage social inclusion and build up a sense of enterprise and self-confidence.

Public Benefit Statement

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

Introduction to activities

Our core programme delivers activity in four dynamically interdependent strands of work:

- Rural Touring and Participation
- Talent Development
- Co-creative Communities
- Stretch (reach, inclusion and partnership projects)

Villages in Action is a revitalised charity and social enterprise with a renewed board of trustees and a strong and growing staff team. The charity is responsive and agile, and we continually develop new projects and partnerships, seeking opportunities to enhance our sustainability as an organisation and to root ourselves in Devon's changing cultural ecology.

VILLAGES IN ACTION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Achievements and performance

The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic continued to be felt by Villages in Action with the staging of productions and performances continuing to experience disruptions due to societal concerns and changing cultural participation habits. Villages in Action delivered 48 performances in 30 venues which enjoyed an overall audience number of 2147. Alongside touring performances, visiting artists delivered 10 participatory workshops attended by 231 participants. 92 individual artists were employed to perform providing over 134 days of employment across the year. Highlights of the touring programme include Just More Production's performance Do What Your Mama Told Yah! building on recent explorations into hosting outdoor circus performances, leading us to develop a year-round public performance programme.

Between April 2022 and March 2023, Villages in Action invested £15,000 directly into 22 Devon-based artists through our From Devon With Love scratch festival and residencies that make up our Talent Development strand of work. We are committed to platforming diverse voices across identity and experience and the festival supported artists from the Global Majority and neurodivergent artists, new to rural contexts. In turn we are seeing an increase in applications from artists with protected characteristics to our main menu of acts.

We have developed 15 digital works alongside a renewed digital strategy and approach. In partnership with Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Moretonhampstead Community Development Trust and Clare Parker, we secured funds from UKRI for a feasibility study, Active Care Homes, a research project bringing virtual music and dance content to care homes across Devon with the aim of increasing activity levels of residents. During this 2022-2023 we secured 13,525 online engagements from usually-excluded digital audiences in care homes through the Active Care Homes platform, with 135 care homes residents taking part as active participants with our participatory digital movement content.

During 2022-2023 we have enabled 3 projects exploring themes relevant to participants across both geographic communities, and those of identity and interest including Village Exchange (memory making, young people and storytelling) in East Devon, Small is Enough (C-19 recovery and connection) in Teignbridge and LGBTQ+ artists in libraries (queer identity in rural communities) across Devon. This has led to the development of a Skillshare model supported by a Community Animator now employed to lead on future co-creation and network activity.

We have created clear roles for co-curators and have onboarded new promoters, co-curators and venues, largely through 1:1 engagement. More recently we have been approached by former volunteers who have been reluctant to get involved over the last 4-5 years. We have embedded our network for the longer-term, empowering a web of community promoters and audiences as the architecture of a sustainable model for ViA.

During the 2022-2023 financial year Villages in Action has embedded robust financial management within the staff and trustee team, undertaken CPD for the Board and staff team including exploring Anti Racism in the Arts and EDI. All the development has been underpinned by a year-long cycle of Ripple Effect Mapping informing our iterative action-led learning approach. Additionally to the 134 days of work for touring artists we have provided 393 days of employment for other creatives who have been brought on board during this period.

By nurturing clusters as drivers of grassroots action we have built a network of hyper-local relevance that also filters into neighbouring villages and towns. Particular developments with the East Devon cluster demonstrates the appetite for embedding creative production within communities able to harness their creativity, skills and confidence.

VILLAGES IN ACTION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Looking forward

During 2022-2023 we have been able to test models of working and how we meet the specific needs of Devon's communities. Ripple Effect Mapping and wider feedback (from audiences, artists and organisations) has affirmed impacts in specific areas, allowing us to shape our next steps accordingly. This includes:

- Development support from ViA that artists have identified has shifted their practice long-term to: develop safe touring for artists' mental health, including with neurodiverse artists; significant shifts in artists' integration of participatory and co-creation processes in the development of new performance work.
- ViA's role in enabling diverse representation across Devon's rural touring, securing new platforms for diverse work, supporting artists and venues. Feedback from communities showed the appetite and excitement for diverse artists and perspectives, and this has built co-curators' confidence to host work in future.

We have enabled new networks that will be key to maintaining momentum going forward. This includes:

- A new supportive leadership network emerging from Social School of Entrepreneurs (Dartington). Through this, ViA Creative Director is convening regional leads to develop work across creative engagement with climate adaptation and food security initiatives.
- A grassroots 'Village Exchange' network supporting skills development and community-driven priorities. This is already diversifying the voices inputting into ViA, including for example, relationships between amateur and subsidised culture in rural communities.

Financial review

The charity finances include a variety of income sources including Arts Council England project grant funding to develop our Agri[Culture] programme which was in full swing by April 2022 having undergone a period of organisational development. East Devon District Council provided an annual core funding grant as well as a smaller portfolio of funding from trusts and foundations. Earned income from commissions and box office income from events further bolstered the finances and ability to operate despite the ongoing challenges within an ongoing transformation of the wider cultural sector.

Statement

The trustees believe that Villages in Action is well-placed to make the most of the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead and we will continue to take an agile approach to supporting not only our rural communities but the wider cultural sector. We have made organisational commitments to sustainability and climate change; equality, diversity and inclusion and developing an evidence base for cultural and creative impact.

The Board is firmly committed to the principles of public benefit, widening access, diversity and equal opportunities. In shaping their objectives for the year and planning Villages in Action's activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and the importance of demonstrating that Villages in Action fulfils its charitable purposes for the wider good of society. They believe that this report shows clearly that the charity offers a very wide range of support, activities and services to the communities of Devon.

Structure, governance and management

The company is a registered charity, number 1086138, with effect from 12 April 2001. The governing documents are the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

VILLAGES IN ACTION

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

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:


H Bovey	
N G Chapman	
H M Gilbert	(Appointed 5 December 2022)
C E Marshall	(Appointed 5 December 2022)
G Plant	(Appointed 23 March 2023)
R H Sutton	
W A Van Der Plank	
D J Buckroyd	(Resigned 5 December 2022)
C G Devenish	(Resigned 5 December 2022)

None of the trustees has 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 Board has the power to appoint additional trustees as it considers fit to do so. Although no specific training is required for new trustees, they are made aware of the useful guidance offered by the Charity Commission and others. Policy decisions are made by the Board at regular meetings.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

R H Sutton
Trustee



31 August 2023

VILLAGES IN ACTION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF VILLAGES IN ACTION

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Villages in Action (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity 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 the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (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

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 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting 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 financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Rowlands Webster Limited

Austin House
43 Poole Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH4 9DN
England

Dated: 31 August 2023

VILLAGES IN ACTION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	Notes	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	36,903	5,991	42,894	43,408	-	43,408
Charitable activities		32,506	-	32,506	-	-	-
Total income		69,409	5,991	75,400	43,408	-	43,408
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities		96,150	5,991	102,141	12,632	-	12,632
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	1,254	(1,254)	-
Net (expenditure)/income for the year/							
Net movement in funds		(26,741)	-	(26,741)	32,030	(1,254)	30,776
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		36,756	-	36,756	4,726	1,254	5,980
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		10,015	-	10,015	36,756	-	36,756

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

VILLAGES IN ACTION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	Notes	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	36,903	5,991	42,894	43,408	-	43,408
Charitable activities		32,506	-	32,506	-	-	-
Total income		69,409	5,991	75,400	43,408	-	43,408
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities		96,150	5,991	102,141	12,632	-	12,632
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	1,254	(1,254)	-
Net (expenditure)/income for the year/							
Net movement in funds		(26,741)	-	(26,741)	32,030	(1,254)	30,776
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		36,756	-	36,756	4,726	1,254	5,980
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		10,015	-	10,015	36,756	-	36,756

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

VILLAGES IN ACTION

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets			
Debtors	7	3,577	-
Cash at bank and in hand		16,155	37,436
		<u>19,732</u>	<u>37,436</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>(5,723)</u>	<u>(680)</u>
Net current assets		14,009	36,756
Deferred income	9	<u>(3,994)</u>	<u>-</u>
Income funds			
Unrestricted funds			
Designated funds	10	-	32,006
General unrestricted funds		<u>10,015</u>	<u>4,750</u>
		<u>10,015</u>	<u>36,756</u>
		<u>10,015</u>	<u>36,756</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2023.

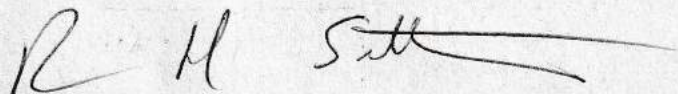
The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 31 August 2023

R H Sutton
Trustee



Company registration number 04171822

VILLAGES IN ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Villages in Action is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 26 Brunswick Street, Teignmouth, Devon, TQ14 8AF.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "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). 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 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.

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.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

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.

VILLAGES IN ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

1.6 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.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Unrestricted funds	Total Restricted funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Other grants				14,250
Arts Council England	26,903	-	26,903	29,158
National Lottery Awards for All	10,000	5,991	5,991	-
	<u>36,903</u>	<u>5,991</u>	<u>42,894</u>	<u>43,408</u>

4 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

VILLAGES IN ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

5 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Total	-	-

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

6 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

7 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Prepayments and accrued income	3,577	-

8 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	5,723	680

9 Government grants

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deferred income is included within:		
Shown as deferred income on the face of the balance sheet	3,994	-
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2022	-	-
Resources deferred in the year	3,994	-
Deferred income at 31 March 2023	3,994	-

VILLAGES IN ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

10 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds		Resources expended	Balance at 31 March 2023
	Incoming resources	Balance at 1 April 2022		
	£	£	£	£
Agriculture	24,506	24,506	(24,506)	-
SSE	7,500	7,500	(7,500)	-
	<u>32,006</u>	<u>32,006</u>	<u>(32,006)</u>	<u>-</u>

11 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).

VILLAGES IN ACTION

England & Wales - Charity number 1086138

Accounts

Charity registration number 1086138

Company registration number 04171822 (England and Wales)

VILLAGES IN ACTION
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

VILLAGES IN ACTION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

H Bovey
D J Buckroyd
N G Chapman
C G Devenish
R H Sutton
W A Van Der Plank

Secretary

C E Marshall

Charity number

1086138

Company number

04171822

Registered office

26 Brunswick Street
Teignmouth
Devon
TQ14 8AF

Independent examiner

Rowlands Webster Limited
Austin House
43 Poole Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
England
BH4 9DN

VILLAGES IN ACTION

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 2
Independent examiner's report	3
Statement of financial activities	4
Balance sheet	5
Notes to the financial statements	6 - 8

VILLAGES IN ACTION

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "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).

Objectives and activities

The Charity is established for the purposes of promoting, maintaining, improving and advancing education of the public, in particular of the County of Devon by the promotion and encouragement of the arts including the performing, visual, media, plastic and/or written arts, and by empowering communities to develop, organise, and sustain their own cultural activity and, in doing so, enhance their quality of life, encourage social inclusion and build up a sense of enterprise and self-confidence.

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

Achievements and performance

The Locomotor project, funded by Arts Council England, was delivered by the Cornish rural touring scheme Carn to Cove (C2C), part of the Creative Kernow organisation, under the ViA brand. In 2018 C2C set out to respond to both the imminent collapse of the mature ViA network and to opportunities that new partners and models could offer to improve sustainability, diversity and quality. The legacy of the rural touring programme delivery in Devon has been to secure the future of ViA, reinvigorating a valuable network of volunteers and delivering a coherent plan for a thriving rural performance having consulted widely with key stakeholders and tested new models of working together. We have also secured ongoing financial commitment from Local Authorities to the arts sector in Devon.

Over the final 6 months of the Locomotor project, the ViA team became more independent from C2C and, when the Arts Council England funding for the AgriCULTURE project was confirmed in January 2022, ViA was able to bring the management of activity back to Devon.

ViA is extremely grateful for C2C's continued support, allowing rural touring to continue in Devon.

Since January 2022 the focus has been on reinvigorating the charity with a new staff team, renewed Board of Trustees and a new 2022 – 2025 Business Plan. The company policies have been reviewed and updated and systems and processes put in place including Quickbooks accounting software and Eventotron arts management system. An external accountant has also been instructed to assist with year end accounts.

With these systems in place, the charity is in a much stronger position to gain momentum in its activities and is rebuilding the artist and promoter database to enable events to be programmed across the rural parts of Devon.

Financial review

The finances of Villages in Action are growing steadily with more fundraising applications in the pipeline. Successful grants have been received from Arts Council England, East Devon District Council, SSE Devon Enterprise Group. Unrestricted funds stood at £36,756 at 31 March 2022.

Of these unrestricted funds, £32,006 is designated to project delivery in 2022/23.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated 02 March 2001.

VILLAGES IN ACTION

VILLAGES IN ACTION

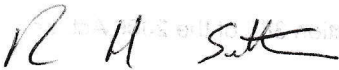
TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

H Bovey
D J Buckroyd
N G Chapman
C G Devenish
R H Sutton
W A Van Der Plank

None of the trustees has 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.



R H Sutton
Trustee

Date: 23rd June 2022

VILLAGES IN ACTION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF VILLAGES IN ACTION

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Villages in Action (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity 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 the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (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

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 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting 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 financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Rowlands Webster Limited

Austin House
43 Poole Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH4 9DN
England

Dated:

VILLAGES IN ACTION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	43,408	-	43,408	-	-
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	12,632	-	12,632	-	-
Other	-	-	-	69	69
Total expenditure	12,632	-	12,632	69	69
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers	30,776	-	30,776	(69)	(69)
Gross transfers between funds	1,254	(1,254)	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds	32,030	(1,254)	30,776	(69)	(69)
Fund balances at 1 April 2021	4,726	1,254	5,980	4,795	6,049
Fund balances at 31 March 2022	36,756	-	36,756	4,726	5,980

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

VILLAGES IN ACTION

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		37,436	5,980
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	5	(680)	-
Net current assets		<u>36,756</u>	<u>5,980</u>
Income funds			
Restricted funds		-	1,254
Unrestricted funds			
Designated funds	6	32,006	-
General unrestricted funds		<u>4,750</u>	<u>4,726</u>
		<u>36,756</u>	<u>4,726</u>
		<u>36,756</u>	<u>5,980</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on



R H Sutton
Trustee

Company registration number 04171822

VILLAGES IN ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Villages in Action is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 26 Brunswick Street, Teignmouth, Devon, TQ14 8AF.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "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). 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 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, [modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value]. 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.

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.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

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.

VILLAGES IN ACTION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

1.6 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.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

4 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Total	-	-

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

5 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	680	-

VILLAGES IN ACTION

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

6 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds		Movement in funds	
	Incoming resources £	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Agriculture	-	-	24,506	24,506
SSE	-	-	7,500	7,500
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,006</u>	<u>32,006</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,006</u>	<u>32,006</u>

7 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2021 - none).