

The Growing Space (Wincanton) Ltd

Company Number 04297947

Charity Number 1090917

Chairman's Report for year ending 31 March 2021

It gives me great pleasure to report on the activities of The Growing Space (GS) for the year to 31 March 2021. This report should be read in conjunction with that of Nick Truman, our Horticultural Worker, which describes the achievements of the year from his perspective.

GS continues in its intended purpose of supporting those individuals experiencing disadvantage or disability with respect to mental health and emotional difficulties (These aims are embedded in the Memorandum of Association drawn up in September 2001 when GS began) Such problems are often hidden and pass unnoticed society and GS provides an invaluable resource to confront and help rectify these issues. Anyone, no matter how fit and healthy, can develop mental health issues, often due to totally unforeseen circumstances. We have a close association with Wincanton Community Venture (The Balsam Centre) sharing resources and some clients.

There were no appointments to, or departures from, the Board this year, the number of Trustees remaining at six.

I would like to sincerely thank our two employees, Nick Truman and Celia Marsh, together with our volunteers, for their dedicated work throughout the year. I'd especially like to thank Nick who has, as always and often single handedly, enthusiastically driven GS forwards in its aims and objectives i.e. helping those with mental health issues build their self esteem and help them, in many cases, on their journeys into the world of work or volunteering. I would also like to thank the Trustees for their work and support for GS through the year.

This was our 5th year with Nick working his reduced contract, currently 30 hours per week divided between Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, with our assistant Celia working on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. However, because of the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic throughout 2020 and 2021 and lockdown this led to very much reduced activity. Nick and Celia were furloughed for 3 months from the end of March 2020. This led to many plans having to be put on hold. However, GS benefited from the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme which funded 80% of salaries and the Covid 29 Small Business Support Grant of 11,000 (re: business rates). The Trustees agreed to make up the employees' salaries to 100%. This has allowed us to maintain our activities as much as possible but leaves Thursdays and Fridays with no therapeutic activities in the garden. As reported 4 years ago, the reduction in hours was unavoidable in order to maintain the viability of GS, largely

due to continued difficulty in attracting funding in these times of austerity; this difficulty has continued.

Part of the Covid 19 Small Business Support Grant was spent on improving the site infrastructure.

Many plants were given to Bruton over the summer of 2020 rather than simply being thrown away.

An exciting new Countywide project, worth over £1million in Somerset, called Open Mental Health (an alliance of local charities) was developed in early 2020 and the Balsam Centre subsequently received a substantial part of this money and have contracted with GS to supply Nick for one day a week (usually Thursdays) to work as an Ecotherapy Worker for one year. This, we hope, will lead to new doors opening to benefit GS.

GS in its own right were successful in obtaining its own grant from Open Mental Health of 9,500 for Social and Therapeutic Horticulture projects. Well done Nick!

Nick and Celia came off furlough at the end of summer 2020 as it was important to re start activities and apply for grants etc. However, because of social distancing rules etc. only 4 clients were allowed on site at any one time. This meant that we had only had 10 adult clients regularly attending GS together with 2 volunteers. However, GS maintained contact with many clients even though they were unable to attend in person. Unfortunately, largely due to the pandemic, there was no work with community groups this year.

Celia Marsh our invaluable Horticulture Assistant remained busy potting up plants etc.

During the year, thanks to the efforts of Nick and Trustee Andy Chilton, the temporary Heras fencing facing the road (which went up after the 'old barn' was demolished) was replaced with a more permanent attractive wooden fence on a concrete base. However, there are still several capital dependant works on site to attend to at some stage in the future when funds allow, e.g. fence posts along the west side of the garden, vegetable beds, paths, water pipes etc.

Financial Summary

Staff pay was increased by 1% from 1st April 2020 after taking into account national average wage inflation and the CPI

Over the year to 31 March 2021, income was 46,951, expenditure 37,446 giving a surplus for the year of 9,505. However, we must be very mindful of the fact that this was an exceptional year in which GS benefited hugely from both the CJRS (furlough) and the Covid 19 Small Business Grant which together provided one third of our income.

Direct Payments, PIPs and session fees were 19,132 compared to 15,695 the previous year. Unfortunately donations were only 450 compared with 4,241. Staff costs were up at 31,575 compared with 27,123

I would like to thank Helen Akerman for compiling the Annual Accounts to 31st March 2021. Also huge thanks to Nick for the bookkeeping work he does when not involved in horticultural activities.

Future Plans

The Open Mental Health initiative which funds Social and Therapeutic Horticulture at GS will form a major part of this year's work, as will the People Plants and Pollinators project which was put on hold this year due to the pandemic. Yeovil College will, we expect, supply us with appropriate SENDIAS clients which will improve our income.

We look forwards to welcoming clients from the Youth Offending Team (under 18's) on Fridays.

PIP clients will continue, we hope, to benefit from GS activities but their attendance can never be guaranteed.

The (expired) lease with the Quakers should hopefully be re-negotiated satisfactorily.

GS has for the past few years been going through many periods of financial uncertainty but, thanks mainly to Nick, has kept going despite the difficulties. I believe the need for what GS has to offer has never been greater than at the present time.

Marcus Fellows (Chair)

10.8.21

Company number: 04297947
Charity number: 1090917

THE GROWING SPACE (WINCANTON) LIMITED

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS

**THE GROWING SPACE (WINCANTON) LIMITED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021
TRUSTEES' REPORT**

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have considered the guidance from the Charity Commission regarding public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities. They are satisfied that the activities undertaken during the year fully meet these requirements.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Policies (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they 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, of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these accounts, 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; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006 and the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of accounts may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

On behalf of the board of trustees



Mr. Mike Rowlands
Trustee

Dated: 13/6/2021

**THE GROWING SPACE (WINCANTON) LIMITED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021
TRUSTEES' REPORT**

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, applicable law and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005.

Structure, governance and management

The charity was incorporated on the 19 September 2001 as company limited by guarantee, registration number 04297947. Following incorporation it was registered with the Charity Commission on the 21 February 2002, registration number 1090917.

The power of appointing new trustees is vested in the trustees. The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, who served during the year were:

Dr Marc Fellows (Chair)
Chris Fenton (Company Secretary)
Andrew Chilton (Treasurer)
Mike Rowlands
Rebecca Thurgood
Helena Groom

Objectives and activities

The charity works in partnership with statutory and third sector organisations to improve and sustain the health and well-being of the population living within a 10 mile radius of Wincanton, Somerset. It provides support for those experiencing disability and / or disadvantage to engage in horticultural and related outdoor activities that enable positive life change. The focus is primarily on improving and sustaining mental health, working with schools to improve children's knowledge and practical experience of food growing, and to counteract the effects of social isolation - building stronger, more resilient individuals and communities.

Achievements and performance

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and associated statutory restrictions, the charity worked with a very limited number of people this year. We focussed on providing services to clients who would otherwise have been severely disadvantaged by having no support from us and to whom we have a statutory obligation to provide services. To the year ending 31 March 2021 the charity worked successfully with 10 adults but no children. 2 Employees were supported by 2 volunteers. The Charity worked with no schools and no community groups, Work with Wincanton's healthy living centre, health visiting teams, mental health teams and other support workers and agencies was severely limited. It focussed on mitigating the effects of lockdowns and social isolation on very vulnerable people. We spent part of our Covid-19 Business Support Grant improving the site infrastructure, including new work benches, plant storage facilities and other improvements that will make the charity more effective in its delivery of services to individuals and communities once the restrictions come to an end.

Financial review

The trustees are confident that the charity has sufficient reserves to enable them to meet their aims

Reserves policy

The trustees aim to build up and sustain a reserve of no more than six months revenue turnover.

**THE GROWING SPACE (WINCANTON) LIMITED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

I report on the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2021, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees (and the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. You also consider that an audit is not required for this year under the Companies Act 2006.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act, follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) of the 2011 Act, and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Helen Akerman

H. Akerman

Dated: 20/10/21

THE GROWING SPACE (WINCANTON) LIMITED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Note	Restricted	2021		2020	
			Unrestricted	Total		
Total incoming resources	2	10,431	36,520	46,951	34,923	
Total resources expended	3	-	-	37,446	-	35,247
Surplus/(Deficit)		10,431	-	926	9,505	- 324
Brought forward balance		-	6,334	6,334	6,658	
Carried forward		<u>£ 10,431</u>	<u>£ 5,408</u>	<u>£ 15,839</u>	<u>£ 6,334</u>	

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

THE GROWING SPACE (WINCANTON) LIMITED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021
BALANCE SHEET
COMPANY NUMBER: 04297947

	2021	2020
Fixed assets		
Property	-	-
Plant and machinery	14	19
Furniture and fittings	51	68
Computer	311	414
	376	501
Current assets		
Cash in hand and at bank	14,995	4,160
Debtors	1,927	2,894
	16,922	7,054
Creditors due within one year		
Creditors	1,459	1,221
Net current assets	15,463	5,833
Total net assets	<u>£ 15,839</u>	<u>£ 6,334</u>
Capital account		
Reserve brought forward	6,334	6,658
(Deficit)/surplus	9,505	- 324
Reserve carried forward	5,408	6,334
Restricted reserve carried forward	10,431	-
Total reserves	<u>£ 15,839</u>	<u>£ 6,334</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 2021. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with the Act; and
- (b) the accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The accounts were approved by the Board on 12th August 2021
M J Fellows

Marc Fellows
Chair

THE GROWING SPACE (WINCANTON) LIMITED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1) Accounting policies

1.1) Basis of accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2) Incoming resources

All income is credited in the statement of financial activities in the period in which it is receivable.

1.3) Depreciation

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

Leasehold property	Over the lease life
Plant and machinery	25% reducing balance
Furniture and fittings	25% reducing balance
Computer	25% reducing balance

2) Analysis of incoming resources

	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
			2021	2020
Donations and fundraising activity				
Penselwood PCC	-	-	-	4,500
Moorland Trust	-	500	500	500
Statutory Authorities	-	-	-	-
Education & Schools (Somerset County Council)	-	-	-	3,450
Direct Payments, PIPs & Session Fees	-	19,132	19,132	15,695
Grants	10,431	-	10,431	6,000
Donations	-	450	450	4,241
Plant sales	-	88	88	528
Bank interest	-	3	3	9
Covid-19 Business grant	-	11,000	11,000	-
CJRS grant	-	5,347	5,347	-
	£ 10,431	£ 36,520	£ 46,951	£ 34,923

3) Analysis of expenses expended

Staff costs	-	31,575	31,575	27,123
Volunteer expenses	-	-	-	17
Training	-	-	-	-
Travelling	-	267	267	503
Clinical supervision	-	-	-	1,067
Utilities	-	492	492	708
Insurance	-	577	577	676
Decking Area Costs	-	-	-	1,053
Plant Sales Area Costs	-	1,793	1,793	1,748
Balsam Gardens Costs	-	436	436	-
Garden Running Costs	-	1,267	1,267	1,180
Administration	-	-	-	723
Rent	-	-	-	-
Teaching & Therapeutic Resources	-	835	835	222
Fees and subscriptions	-	-	-	-
Bank Charges	-	79	79	60
Depreciation	-	125	125	167
	£ -	£ 37,446	£ 37,446	£ 35,247

Liability of Trustees

Every Trustee of the Company undertakes to contribute such amount as required (not exceeding £1) to the Company's assets if it should

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021
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Helen Akerman

H. Akerman

Dated: 20/10/21