

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE

England & Wales · Charity number 1093189

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2002-07-29

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

Contact

Address Dorothy Parkes Centre
Church Road
Smethwick
B67 6EH

Phone 01215582998

Email admin@dorothyparkes.org

Website www.dorothyparkes.org

Activities

Objects: (1) PROMOTE THE BENEFIT OF THE INHABITANTS OF SMETHWICK, SANDWELL AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD ("THE BENEFICIARIES") WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RACE OR OF POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS OR OTHER OPINIONS, BY ASSOCIATING TOGETHER THE SAID INHABITANTS AND THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND HEALTH AUTHORITIES, VOLUNTARY AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN A COMMON EFFORT TO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND TO PROVIDE FACILITIES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR ADVANCEMENT, RECREATION AND LEISURE-TIME OCCUPATION WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS AND QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THE SAID BENEFICIARIES.(2) ESTABLISH, OR SECURE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE, CHURCH ROAD, SMETHWICK, BIRMINGHAM AND TO MAINTAIN AND MANAGE THE SAME (WHETHER ALONE OR IN CO-OPERATION WITH ANY LOCAL AUTHORITY OR OTHER PERSON OR BODY) FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE BENEFICIARIES IN FURTHERANCE OF THESE OBJECTS.(3) PROMOTE SUCH OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES AS MAY FROM TIME TO TIME BE DETERMINED.

Activities: An award-winning community centre based in Smethwick, West Midlands, providing an inclusive place of welcome & opportunity, bringing people & organisations together in a spirit of friendship & equality, enabling our local community to thrive. Addressing local issues including poor physical, mental health, obesity, & social isolation by providing/hosting a range a groups, activities, and services.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Amateur Sport, Economic/community Development/employment, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** SMETHWICK, SANDWELL AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD
- Sandwell

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£299,264	£377,844	-	-
2024-03-31	£357,548	£315,176	-	-
2023-03-31	£261,952	£282,723	-	-
2022-03-31	£315,134	£268,862	-	-
2021-03-31	£198,428	£128,999	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
JULIE MARY McKIRDY		2016-07-21
Jodie Andrews		2022-05-24
Louise Johnson		2022-09-20
Paul Leonard Martin		2016-07-21
Ravi Harsh		2023-08-01
Rev Sara Moore		2023-11-28
STAN WILLIETS		
Zaida Sauda Nembhard		2022-07-19

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1093189

Accounts



DOROTHYPARKES

Community Centre

**THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1093189

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charitable Incorporated Organisation: Conversion dated 14th February 2022

Registered Charity Number: 1093189

Chair: Mr P Martin

Trustees: Mrs J Andrews
Mr R Harsh
Mr D R Ingram
Mrs L Johnson
Miss J K Jones
Ms J Mckirdy
Rev S Moore
Mrs Z Nembhard
Mr A Singh Resigned 01/10/2024
Mr S Williets

Registered Office: The Dorothy Parkes Centre
Church Road
Smethwick
West Midlands
B67 6EH

Bankers: HSBC
168 Warstone Lane
Birmingham
B18 6NP

Independent Examiner: Mrs A Madden
Curo Chartered Accountants

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Board present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

I am delighted to once again write a brief report as an introduction to the Trustee's Report and Financial Statements, this time for the year ended 31st March 2025. Time passes so very quickly; it seems only yesterday that I compiled a similar report for 2024. Yet so much has happened at the DPC, so many good things in that year. Anyone visiting the DPC, receiving the welcome of those who work there, enjoying the company of others, and using the services the Centre offers can only be grateful for the vision of those from Old Church who saw the need for such a Centre and generated the finance to launch it some twenty-five years ago. Anyone visiting the Centre can only be grateful for those who now together - staff and volunteers, Trustees and professional advisers, Centre users and Centre supporters, those who make the DPC a place of vibrancy, energy, enthusiasm, commitment and service. A place of which we all are so very proud.

It is a delight to record our continuing steps in growing the Centre, growing in ambition and delivery to serve increasing numbers of users across diverse projects and services. The Centre currently offers its resources to some forty-seven groups per week including nineteen groups supported directly by the DPC. The Centre is home to some twenty-four projects. Based on continuing consultation with Centre users, we know they all value the resources of the Centre, the qualities of the Centre, the safe space that the Centre offers.

The bright, shiny kitchen installed through the generosity of Global's Make Some Noise has become a key resource, used regularly to support those hoping to develop their cooking skills and adopt a healthier eating style. It is so encouraging to see the active link between the activities in the kitchen and the committed work of Paul and Usha and the volunteers at the DPC Community Allotment. And then there is Dottie's Community Fridge supporting with free food some fifty people a week. We are pleased to note that the Conifers Day Nursery that provides a significant community asset has been using parts of the DPC space for some six years. We look forward to a rewarding on-going arrangement.

On behalf of the Trustees, I thank Jodie Griffiths as Centre Manager and Christina Murray for their skill and enthusiasm, for keeping the Centre as busy as it is. I thank Trudi for her ever-smiling welcome, Ashley and Carl for being always available, and Nicola for keeping the place shiny. I thank them for their flexibility in challenging times. And I thank over thirty Volunteers for all that they do. Without them, there would be no DPC as we know it now.

Tessa Taylor retired this year. We are grateful for her professional support over many years in maintaining the financial records of the Centre.

It is important to record, as I did last year, that the Centre has no turn-to source of cash. The DPC receives no regular funding from the Church of England, from Old Church nor from Sandwell Council or other local and national bodies. As such, the DPC is dependent on monies granted from charitable bodies and other sources of funds and on using its own resources, principally the hiring out of the Centre halls and meeting

rooms. The funds we receive pay for the projects for which they are given including the salaries of the staff, and the overheads of running the Centre including the continual refurbishment and improvement that is needed to satisfy the needs of our users.

A detailed outline of the activities of the Dorothy Parkes Centre together with the sources of funds and their uses is provided in the pages that follow. The financial year 2024/25 has been challenging, not least because income and expenditure rarely fit neatly into the accounting year. The DPC has recently partnered with The Funded Team to ensure that our bids for charitable and other funds become increasingly successful.

2025 marks the twenty-fifth year of the Dorothy Parkes Centre, a community asset that has grown in range and ambition to be unrecognisable when compared with the activities in 2000. Nothing stands still. We continue to rely on Rob for his sharp strategic mind, his engaging leadership and his commitment to the Centre. And yes, Rob received the High Sheriff Award this year in recognition of his exceptional community contributions. I'm sure that he will agree that this award was received on behalf of the Centre as a whole.

I commend this Report to you. It is a record of good things, of twenty-five years of service to Smethwick and beyond.

Paul Martin (Chair)

TRUSTEES

The Trustees are responsible for the administration and management of the Centre and are Trustees for the purposes of Charity Law. The Trustees who served during the period are set out above in the Legal and Administrative Information and are collectively known as the Board of Trustees.

Paul Martin has remained as Chair, and we have had one resignation this year, Amardeep Singh, in October 2024. We wish Amardeep well and we thank him for his service to the Dorothy Parkes Centre.

No remuneration was paid to any Trustee.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY

The principal object of the Dorothy Parkes Centre (DPC) is to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Smethwick, Sandwell, and the neighbourhood by associating together with the Local Authorities and Health Authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for advancement, recreation, and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions and quality of life.

ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

The Dorothy Parkes Centre attracts an average of 950 visit per week. It is a Centre informed by the community being served. There are regular consultations and engagements through open days, social media, and a user-friendly website. We host quarterly 'Community Voice' meetings which bring together key members of our local community to help shape the future of our Centre.

The DPC secured funding this year for new projects which included Community Fridge, Nature Buddies, BoxClever, Winter Warm Packs, Together We Cook, Soup and Social, Storytelling and Rainbow Health and

Wellness. We secured extension and continuation funding for our Older People provision, Art for Wellbeing and Loss Matters. The DPC hosted a celebration event for the opening of our renovated kitchen thanks to funding from Global's Make Some Noise, a celebration for service users 90th and 100th birthdays, and hosted free Family Law and Wills Clinics in partnership with Talbots Law Solicitors. The regular fundraisers included Raffles, Prize Bingo, Indoor Car Boot Sales, Craft Fayres, Summer and Christmas Fayres.

The DPC funded activities and projects which took place at various points throughout the year included:

Community Allotment	Community Litter Pick	Gentle Yoga
Knitting & Crochet	Nature Buddies	Gentle Exercise
Art Works for Wellbeing	Community Offer	Afternoon Tea
Loss Matters	Places of Welcome	Sandwell Welcoming Spaces
Jewellery Making	Fun Fit	Community Cinema/Theatre
Winter Warm Packages	Art in Bloom	Chatty Café
Fun Fit	Storytelling	BoxClever
Community Fridge	Community Mile	Rainbow Health & Wellness
Family Law Clinic	Wills & Estates Clinic	Grief Kind Space

External groups and activities which have been held at the Centre throughout the year include:

Taekwondo	CMJ Studios	GKR Karate
Sandwell MBC - Polling	Sandwell Childrens Trust	Sandwell Parents for Disabled Children
PB Fitness	Kumon Tutoring	Sew with Kim
Girls Friendly Society	Potters House Church	Sandwell MBC Council Surgeries
NHS Mental Health Support	Let's Talk Hope	Slimming World
Good Afternoon Club	Smethwick Heritage	Ghanaian Groups
Your Health Sandwell	Digi-Comm	Loveworld Smethwick
Living Well Taking Control	Cocaine Anonymous	Inspiring Fitness
Citizens Advice	Next Gen Takeover Club	

Providing the wide range of activities, events, projects and services listed above helps us in our aim to continue the legacy of Miss Dorothy Parkes (1644 – 1727) and provide opportunities to bring people and organisations together in a spirit of friendship and equality, enabling our local community to thrive and enjoy a better quality of life.

CENTRE DEVELOPMENTS

Our Business Plan, which is a working document, has provided a focus, asking where we are currently and where we strive to be as an organisation after five years and beyond. The Centre aspires to:

- promote the **acceptance** by all of all, an inclusive, all-embracing community.
- increase the **visibility** of all, thinking particularly of those communities that can be overlooked in the grand plans.
- rejoice in **diversity** and develop the instincts of **gratitude** and **celebration**.
- encourage individuals and groups to create a sense of **belonging**.
- nurture **learning** and a proper sense of **education**.

Food Provision

This year, we placed a strong emphasis on developing a distinctive and impactful approach to food provision. While recognising the valuable role played by local foodbanks and food pantries in addressing food poverty, our focus has been on education, skills, and sustainable access to healthy food. By linking our Community Allotment with our newly established kitchen, we have been able to offer a programme that combines practical cooking skills with the use of fresh, homegrown produce.

Generous funding from Global's Make Some Noise enabled us to install a modern, fully accessible kitchen and deliver ten, six-session cooking courses for adults and families, supporting a total of 76 participants. The sessions were facilitated using produce from our Community Allotment and fresh ingredients sourced through a local food surplus initiative. Building on this success, we secured additional grants from charitable trusts to deliver targeted courses for people living with diabetes, individuals who were unemployed, and young families.

Our kitchen is now recognised as one of the leading training facilities in the area. It has been hired by the local NHS community team to deliver cooking classes for people affected by mental health conditions, and by Sandwell Parents for Disabled Children to run holiday cooking sessions.

In January, we launched the Community Fridge project — the first and, to date, only Community Fridge in Sandwell. Supported by start-up funding from Hubbub and the Heart of England – Birmingham & Black Country Fund, we purchased the fridge, established a regular supply of food via FareShare, and began distributing surplus food free of charge to those who could use it. The fridge is also regularly stocked with fresh produce from our Community Allotment.

In its first six months, the Community Fridge supported over 1,110 people and prevented 1.9 tonnes of good-quality food from going to waste, making a tangible difference both environmentally and socially.

Awards and Recognition

In 2024–25, the Dorothy Parkes Centre was honoured to receive several prestigious awards, recognising both our community impact and our commitment to the wellbeing of our team.

Community Impact Awards

High Sheriff Awards – Two members of our team were formally recognised for their outstanding dedication:

Robert Bruce, CEO, for transforming the Centre into a vital community hub.

Christeen Morton, volunteer, for providing essential bereavement support through the Loss Matters programme.

ASDA Community Diamond Award – Presented in recognition of our exceptional contribution to supporting the local community.

Organisational and Workplace Excellence

We recognise that a healthy, valued, and well-supported team is essential to sustaining our impact. This year, we achieved the following milestones:

Trusted Standard Level One Accreditation – Trusted Standard is delivered by The Growth Company and is the only UK quality standard designed to help third sector organisations operate more effectively and efficiently. The Centre was described as *“A very well-run organisation led by a strong trustee board and a charismatic CEO. The dedicated staff and volunteer team provide a safe and warm welcome to residents in a well-equipped and comfortable community centre. The team clearly understands the needs of their local community and provides a wide range of services and activities to all ages that help to improve their health, wellbeing and community cohesion. It was very easy to award the Dorothy Parkes Centre the Level One quality mark and the centre's efficiency in preparing for the assessment made the process a very enjoyable experience”*.

Living Wage Employer – As an accredited Living Wage Employer, we are voluntarily going above and beyond the government minimum wage and taking a stand to ensure all our employees earn a wage which is enough to live on. This reaffirms our commitment to fairness, equity, and social responsibility.

Thrive at Work Bronze Level Award – This is a recognition level within the Thrive at Work program, demonstrating our commitment to employee health and wellbeing. It signifies that we are taking steps to provide information and resources that support employees in making healthy choices. The Bronze level focuses on awareness and information, with actions including research into local activities and promoting healthy lifestyles.

Partnerships

This year saw the conclusion of our formal partnerships with St Albans Community Association and Singlepoint Plus following the successful completion of the Community Offer and Rewire projects. While these collaborations came to a natural close, we have been proud to establish a range of new partnerships that have brought innovative projects to life, including:

William Wilson Turner Foundation & Food for Thought CIC – Soup & Social
Breathing Space Therapeutic Services – Nature Buddies
Talbots Law Solicitors – Family Law Clinic & Wills, Probate & Estates Clinic
BoxClever Mentoring – BoxClever
Wolverhampton LGBT+ and Bearwood Rainbow Social – Rainbow Health and Wellness
Sue Ryder and Bearwood Community Hub – Grief Kind Space
Creative Black Country – Storytelling
The Recovery College – Together We Cook

We deeply value the impact that partnership working brings, enabling us to deliver high-quality services that respond to the needs of our community. We extend our sincere thanks to all our formal partners for their commitment and collaboration.

In addition, we have continued to work closely with a wide range of organisations on a more informal basis, strengthening community networks and extending our reach. We are grateful to: Black Country Touring, Friends of Thimblemill Brook, Bearwood Allotments, SCIPS, Litterwatch Sandwell, Sandwell Council of Voluntary Organisations, Smethwick Police, Sandwell Council, Conifers Day Nursery, Smethwick Old Church, Powered by CAN, Incredible Surplus, FareShare Midlands, and Uplands Manor Primary School for their support and shared dedication to making a difference.

Membership

We remain members of Communities in Sync, a dynamic partnership of quality health, social care and well-being providers working together to improve the lives of people in the local community and we are now members of The Cyber Resilience Centre for the West Midlands. In November 2024 they carried out an Internal Vulnerability Assessment which came back as 'healthy'.

Uplands Manor

We have continued to sub-let the facilities at Uplands Manor Primary School during out of school hours. This is a great arrangement for both parties and means that local community groups can hire out the sports hall, playing fields, and/or Multi-Use Gaming Areas during evenings and weekends. This is another example of a way in which we have tried to diversify our sources of income.

MAINTENANCE OF THE BUILDING

All annual checks including the moveable walls service, PAT testing, emergency lighting, hot water urn, fire equipment/alarm, intruder alarm, gas safety certificate & pest control services have been carried out with any remedial actions completed.

The biggest area of development has been in the kitchen. The old kitchen has been completely stripped out and a new, bright, modern, accessible kitchen has been installed. It is more efficient and has been future proofed. The development also saw the introduction of a small café area in the foyer which means that the kitchen now has more privacy for cooking courses.

The hall and foyer have been decorated, and 14 new tables have been purchased for the hall and four tables for the meeting room. There is a maintenance plan in place, and subject to funding, we would like to renovate our toilets. Conifers Day Nursery has expressed an interest in developing the small rear car park and extending their outdoor provision into this area.

VOLUNTEERS

The Board of Trustees extends their thanks to all the volunteers who support the staff team to deliver the service seven days a week. There is a strong team of volunteers all of whom support the Centre in many ways. This year, volunteers have been recruited and supported by our Projects Manager, Christina. In total, 35 volunteers have supported the Centre in the last year.

We created a positive link with Neighbourly and participated in their volunteer Christmas card and letter writing campaign which successfully brought festive cheer to our beneficiaries during the holiday season, helping to combat loneliness and isolation. We received a total of 514 cards and letters.

At our Centre, we are proud to take on and support work experience placements. This year, we have had five placements from local high schools and colleges. Each placement spends a week with us, learning different roles and gaining a food hygiene certificate via our training provider, valid for three years.

STAFFING

The Dorothy Parkes Centre is supported by a dedicated team of ten staff, including three full-time members. The team is led by Chief Executive Officer Robert Bruce, supported by:

Jodie Griffiths – Centre Manager
 Christina Murray – Projects Manager
 Trudi Blake – Administrator
 Vince Nelson, Ashley Green, and Carl Harris – Caretakers
 Nicola Nolan – Cleaner
 Paul Randall – Community Allotment Plot Lead
 Usha Chopra – Community Allotment Plot Assistant

The Board of Trustees extends its sincere thanks to the entire staff team for their commitment, professionalism, and dedication to serving the local community.

During the year, we welcomed two new colleagues. Christina Murray joined us in April 2024 as Projects Manager, a post made possible through funding from the National Lottery. This role has quickly become pivotal in managing our existing programmes and in developing and leading new initiatives. Carl Harris also joined in April 2024 to provide caretaker cover and has continued to be an invaluable member of the team.

We also said farewell to two valued colleagues. Fionnuala O'Brien, our Community Navigator for four years, left following the conclusion of the project she led. Tessa Taylor, our Bookkeeper for a decade, retired in April 2025. We are deeply grateful to both for their exceptional service, commitment, and professionalism, and we wish them the very best for the future.

FINANCIAL REPORT
Charitable Trust Funding

None of the work carried out at the Dorothy Parkes Centre would be possible without the generous support of the following grant-making Charitable Trusts and businesses who all supported our Centre between April 2024 and March 2025:

The Grimmitt Trust	Goodenough Charitable Trust	The Saintbury Trust
Global's Make Some Noise	Cole Charitable Trust	Lord Austin Trust
Baron Davenport's Charity	George Henry Collins	The G.J.W Turner Trust
The Limoges Trust	Harborne Parish Lands Charity	Hubbub
SCVO - V2030 Main Grant	The Recovery College	The National Lottery
Heart of England - Harry Payne Fund	W.E.Dunn Trust	SCVO Sports Grant Fund
ASDA – Grassroots Grant	Geoff Hill Charitable Trust	The Bob Willis Fund
The Roger & Douglas Turner Trust	Sandwell Welcoming Spaces	Hopkins/Sayer Charities
The Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust	The Chance Trust	The Rowlands Trust
Community Matters Fund	The Grantham Yorke Trust	Sir John Sumner
Heart of England - Birmingham & Black Country Fund		Richard Kilcuppes Charity

The financial position at the end of 2024/25 was a deficit of £78,580.

During the financial year, the Dorothy Parkes Centre secured a total income of £299,264, including £180,514 in unrestricted funds and £118,750 in restricted funding.

Income from charitable activities totalled £132,852, representing an increase of £10,757 compared to the previous year. The income from charitable activities equates to 44.39% of our total income, compared to 34.15% last year and demonstrates our commitment to diversify our income and to not be wholly reliant on grant income.

Room hire contributes to just over a third of our total income (£101,216), kitchen sales increased to £3,999, donations and user contributions £17,433, our own fundraising £8,730 and £1,474 from photocopying and other income.

Reserves Policy

The Charity has no guaranteed source of long-term income and hence aims to maintain reserves at the level required to fund a minimum of three months operations without additional charitable income. The merit of this policy has been seen in the past and we are attempting to rebuild our reserves to the desired level over the next three years. The balance held in unrestricted funds on 31st March 2025 was £78,419. A further £30,563 was held in restricted funds.

ORGANISATION

The Charity is governed by a Board of Trustees, which delegates certain decisions to Trustees, Sub-committees, or Employees. The Charity employs a Chief Executive Officer who has delegated authority to take day-to-day decisions on the running and management of the Charity and to act as manager of other employees of the Centre. The Chief Executive Officer reports to the Board at each Board meeting.

Risk Management

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and have established systems intended to mitigate those risks. These include:

- The operation of a scheme of delegation of decision-making between the Board, any subgroups of the Board set up for specific purposes, and the Chief Executive Officer.
- The monitoring and review of operational decisions at Board meetings, which take place six times a year, now supported by a regular report.
- The monitoring and review of monthly management accounts by the Board.
- The maintenance of policies and procedures governing the key areas of activity and financial decision-making are reviewed and updated on an annual basis.
- The requirement for two named signatories to sign cheques/approve bank payments on behalf of the Centre.
- The existence of contracts and service level agreements to govern working arrangements with our most significant partner organisations.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The DPC strives to have a positive impact on people's lives, and this is central to the priorities for the next five years. To meet the growing needs of the community in these challenging times, over the next five years the DPC aspires to:

- maintain an income of £250,000 per year with modest increase year by year through restricted and unrestricted grants and trading activities
- develop relationships with charitable sources that would allow a degree of long-term security in planning

To meet the growing needs of the community in these challenging times, the DPC will work to:

- maximise the use of resources – cash, buildings, facilities, staff and volunteers, experience, and knowledge to the benefit of the community.
- maximise the impact through beneficial relationships with others in the sector and with those that have appropriate resources.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 14 to 20.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

 *Anna Madden*

Name: Anna Madden 20110128,

Other relevant professional qualification or body: FCA

Address: Curo Chartered Accountants, Curo House, Greenbox, Weston Hall Road, Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, B60 4AL

Date:

Across a range of activities, the DPC strives to achieve the following:

- 1) to be one of the best places to work in Sandwell
- 2) to grow and expand services
- 3) to make key contributions to the community and environment
- 4) to drive through transformational improvements in our services
- 5) to be a flagship community centre in Sandwell

There are plans to further improve facilities within the Centre and to strengthen and increase staffing capacity. Our community will need support with the cost-of-living crisis. We will continue to consult with our community and local providers to ensure that we are offering as much support as possible.


STATEMENT OF BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the charity and of its financial position at the end of that year. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are responsible and prudent;
- State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and with applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in existence.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for the safeguarding of the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 30th SEPTEMBER 2025, following approval of the annual accounts by the Board of Trustees on 30th SEPTEMBER 2025, and signed on its behalf by;


.....
Date... 12.10.25

Mr Paul Martin (Chair)

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES, TO 31.03.2025**

Incoming Resources		2024/25			2023/24
	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
Voluntary Income		46,427	118,750	165,177	235,313
Charitable Activities	8	132,852	-	132,852	122,095
Bank Interest	4	1,235	-	1,235	140
Total Incoming Resources		180,514	118,750	299,264	357,548
Expenditure					
	Notes				
Cost of generating funds		3,033	-	3,033	3,124
Charitable Activities		221,821	152,240	374,061	311,327
Governance Costs		750	-	750	725
Total Expenditure		225,604	152,240	377,844	315,176
Surplus/(Deficit) for year		(45,090)	(33,490)	(78,580)	42,372
Gross transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		123,509	64,053	187,562	145,190
Add surplus/(deficit)		(45,090)	(33,490)	(78,580)	42,372
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Total funds carried forward	11	78,419	30,563	108,982	187,562

Details of incoming resources and resources used are given in the Notes to the Financial Statements.


**THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
BALANCE SHEET
As at 31.03.2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Prior Year 2024
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	5	4,850	-	4,850	3,287
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	6	22,426	-	22,426	32,987
Cash at bank & in hand	10	23,764	72,559	96,323	170,393
Total current assets		46,190	72,559	118,749	203,380
LIABILITIES					
Creditors - amounts falling Due within one year	7	14,617	-	14,617	19,105
Total net current assets		31,573	72,559	104,132	184,275
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
NET ASSETS		36,423		108,982	187,562
Reserves					
Unrestricted				78,419	123,509
Restricted	11			30,563	64,053
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS				108,982	187,562

The Trustees consider that the charity is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that members have not required the charity to obtain an audit.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of the accounts.

Approved by the Trustees of the Dorothy Parkes Centre on 2nd SEPTEMBER 2025, and signed on behalf of the board:-


Mr Paul Martin (Chair)

Date: 14.10.25

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ending 31st March 2025.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the Charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£). The financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The Charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the statement of recommended practice for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

Income and Expenditure Account

The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) on page 13 of these accounts is also the Income and Expenditure account. The Company has no unrealised gains or losses and consequently the net income and expenditure for the year is the same as the net movements of funds as shown in the SoFA.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SoFA on an accruals basis when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Where restrictions are placed on incoming resources by the donor these are placed in restricted funds.

Since the charitable purposes of the Centre are based on running a community centre at the Dorothy Parkes Centre to promote activities promoting healthy living in mind, body and spirit, it has been decided that income generated from the use of the Centre for such activities should be classified as incoming resources from charitable activities and that this represents the most appropriate accounting policy.

Voluntary income consists of grants received or receivable. Grant applications are made to a wide range of funding bodies by the Chief Executive Officer.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they are allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

As the charitable objects of the Dorothy Parkes Centre include managing and administering the Centre, we consider that the majority of our costs, other than those which fall specifically under other expenditure categories under SORP (FRS 102), should be categorised as costs of charitable activities. These include the costs of maintaining the Centre and the salary costs of Centre staff as well as the costs of pursuing particular projects at the Centre. It is considered that this represents the most appropriate accounting policy for the disclosure of these transactions.

Governance costs include legal costs, the costs of preparing our annual accounts, the cost of independent examination and the costs of board and committee meetings. Although it is no longer a requirement under SORP (FRS 102) to show governance costs separately they have been shown in the SoFA as a matter of transparency and for the benefit of funders.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at historical cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives, at the following rates,

Computer equipment	33% p/a of cost
Office equipment	25% - 100% p/a of cost
Leasehold improvements	14.3% p/a of cost

Equipment purchased for a specific project is depreciated over the planned or expected life of the project.

Depreciation is charged from the year in which the asset is acquired. See Note 5.

Debtors

Grants receivable are recognised when the Centre has met the conditions required to receive the grant but have not yet received the associated cash at the end of the financial year.

Creditors

Customer security bonds represent amounts paid by those hiring rooms at the Centre. These amounts are repayable if the customer adheres to the agreed conditions of their room hire.

Deferred income represents amounts of cash received by the Centre in relation to grants awarded to the Centre for activities in future years.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in accordance with the charitable objects of the charity.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for specific purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific restricted fund. The aim and use of each material restricted fund is set out in Note 11, detailed analysis of movement of funds.

Funds are transferred from restricted to unrestricted funds to reflect the cost of tangible fixed assets purchased in full or in part from unrestricted funds. The net book value of the tangible fixed assets is held within the unrestricted funds. No such transfers have been made in the current year.

The Charity has no endowment funds.

2. INCOME

Income is attributable solely to continuing operations and derives from one activity, that of charitable activity within the Dorothy Parkes Centre.

3. OPERATING SURPLUS

This is stated after charging depreciation on owned assets of £2,602 in 2024/25 (2,185 in 2023/24).

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

£1,235 investment income was earned in 2024/25, £140 in the preceding year.

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

(Equipment)

Cost

At 1st April 2024	47,042
Additions	4,214
Disposals	-
At 31st March 2025	<u>51,256</u>

Accumulated depreciation

At 1st April 2024	43,755
Charge for the year	2,651
Disposals	-
At 31st March 2025	<u>46,406</u>

Net book value at 31st March 2024 3,287

Net book value at 31st March 2025 **4,850**

6. DEBTORS

Amounts falling due within one year

	31st March 2025	31st March 2024
Trade debtors	16,694	22,734
Grants receivable	-	-
Taxation	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	5,732	10,253
	<u>22,426</u>	<u>32,987</u>

7. CREDITORS

Amounts falling due within one year

	31st March 2025	31st March 2024
Customer security bonds	-	-
Taxation and social security	10,740	3,849
Trade creditors	377	2,855
Deferred income	3,500	10,918
Receipts in advance		1,483
	<u>14,617</u>	<u>19,105</u>

8. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024/25	2023/24
Kitchen sales	3,999	3,671
Room hire	101,216	107,417
Fundraising	8,730	10,104
Donations/User Contributions	17,433	-
Photocopying & Other Income	1,474	-
Sundry recharges	-	903
	<u>132,852</u>	<u>122,095</u>

9. RESOURCES EXPENDED

Resources expended include the following:-

Independent examiner's fee	750
Staff costs, including both salaried and agency staff:-	
Gross wages and salaries	152,142
Employers' National Insurance contributions	10,141
Employers' pension contributions	3,847

The average number of employees during 2024/25 was 4 full-time and 8 part-time employees. Staffing levels were consistent throughout the year.

10. CASH HELD ON BEHALF OF THIRD PARTIES

None.

11. RESTRICTED FUNDS

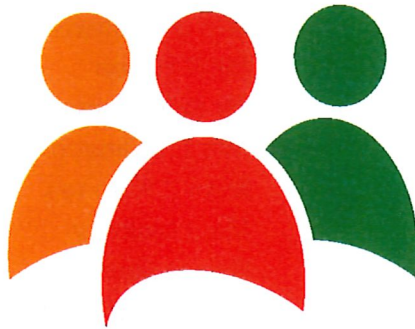
Detailed analysis of movement of funds for the year ended 31st March 2025

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfer between funds	Closing balance
Youth Work	2,440	5,586	6,508		1,518
BoxClever	-	7,446	2,400		5,046
Maintenance Fund	543	-	460		83
CIL Fund	477	-	477		-
Care Packages	471	989	1,460		-
Community Green Grant	4,254		4,254		-
Community Fridge	-	8,000	2,815		5,185
Community Offer	12,134	24,542	36,676		-
Youth - Uplands	1,843	-	1,843		-
Kitchen	(1,738)	54,500	52,762		-
LGBTQ+ Rainbow Health	-		112		(112)
National Grid	-	4,187	4,187		-
Places of Welcome	296	-	468	(172)	-
Elderly Projects	-	4,000	3,828	172	-
Welcoming Spaces	1,100	500	1,600		-
Rewire	3,468	-	3,468		-
Sandwell Community Hubs (Allotment)	28,765	-	17,897		10,868
Bob Willis Fund (Loss Matters)	5,000	-	25		4,975
Art for Wellbeing	-	1,000	1,000		-
Story Telling Project	-	3,000	-		3,000
Art in Bloom	5,000	5,000	10,000		-
	64,053	118,750	152,240	-	30,563

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1093189

Accounts



DOROTHYPARKES

Community Centre

**THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1093189

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charitable Incorporated Organisation: Conversion dated 14th February 2022

Registered Charity Number: 1093189

Chair: Mr P Martin

Trustees: Mrs J Andrews
Mr R Harsh appointed 01/08/23
Mr D R Ingram
Mrs L Johnson
Miss J K Jones
Ms J Mckirdy
Rev S Moore appointed 28/11/23
Mrs Z Nembhard
Mr A Singh
Mr S Williets

Registered Office: The Dorothy Parkes Centre
Church Road
Smethwick
West Midlands
B67 6EH

Bankers: HSBC
168 Warstone Lane
Birmingham
B18 6NP

Independent Examiner: Mrs A Madden
Curo Chartered Accountants

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Board present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

I am delighted to write a brief report as an introduction to the Trustee's Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024. As Chair of Trustees for only a little over two years, I am aware that I am following a committed number of previous Chairs and Trustees who have supported the work of the Dorothy Parkes Centre, encouraging and offering advice to those members of staff and volunteers who have made the DPC what it has become over some twenty-four years. Anyone visiting the DPC, receiving the welcome of those who work there, enjoying the company of others, and using the services the Centre offers can only be grateful for the vision of those at Old Church who saw the need for such a Centre and generated the finance to launch it.

I welcome to the Board the Reverend Sara Moore, Vicar of Old Church since July 2023. It was a previous Incumbent of Old Church who took the initiative to develop the church hall into the Dorothy Parkes Centre. The Centre management acts independently of the church in the day-to-day running of the Centre yet that link between Old Church and the Dorothy Parkes Centre is the foundation on which the successful Centre has been created. I thank all the Trustees for their generous commitment of time, drawing on rich experience and insight.

Whilst this Report is strictly of what happened in the year to the end of March 2024, in its activities the real world rarely follows the accounting year. It is important to record, as I did last year, that the Centre has no turn-to source of cash, available in a crisis. The DPC receives no regular funding from the Church of England, from Old Church nor from Sandwell Council or other local and national bodies. As such, the DPC is very largely dependent on monies granted from charitable bodies and other sources of funds and on using its own resources, principally the hiring out of the Centre halls and meeting rooms. The funds we receive pay for the projects for which they are given including the salaries of the staff, and the overheads of running the Centre including the continual refurbishment and improvement that is needed to satisfy the needs of our users. The Trustees acknowledge with gratitude the work of the staff, as well as the large numbers of volunteers who give generously and freely of their time. Without their cheerful enthusiasm and warm welcome to our users and visitors, there would be no Dorothy Parkes Centre.

A detailed outline of the activities of the Dorothy Parkes Centre together with the sources of funds and their uses is provided in the pages that follow. It is a truism to say that we live in difficult times with families and individuals striving to maintain some sort of quality of life in a world where costs rise and many services have become less reliable. Despite the challenges, the accounts for 2024 suggest a significant surplus, redressing the figures of last year. The overall financial stability of the Centre is healthy.

It is a delight to record our continuing steps in moving the Centre to a stronger place in terms of the vision for the future and a strategy for getting there. I welcome Christina Murray who has joined the Centre as Projects Manager, a position we have hoped to fill for some time, given the ambition of the Centre. Through the generosity of Global's Make Some Noise, the Centre now has a bright, shiny new kitchen, equipped to

support classes of those wishing to develop their healthy eating and kitchen skills. The kitchen has been a long-held aspiration, using the produce of the Centre Allotment Project and elsewhere to enhance community experience and provide interactive fun sessions to teach the whole family how to cook healthy meals from scratch. The Community Kitchen is a great Centre resource. I thank all those – staff and Centre users, for their patience in coping with the disruption that was the consequence of building and installation work. We are pleased to note that the Conifers Day Nursery that provides a significant community asset has been using parts of the DPC space for some seven years. We look forward to a rewarding, on-going arrangement.

And because nothing stands still and we are now thinking about what will come next, the Centre continues to rely on Rob for his sharp strategic mind and engaging leadership.

I commend this Report to you. It is a record of good things.

Paul Martin (Chair)

TRUSTEES

The Trustees are responsible for the administration and management of the Centre and are Trustees for the purposes of Charity Law. The Trustees who served during the period are set out above in the Legal and Administrative Information and are collectively known as the Board of Trustees.

Paul Martin has remained as Chair, and we have welcomed new Trustee Reverend Sara Moore. The Trustees have a wealth of skills, knowledge, experience and we have youth and diversity, increasing the strength and depth of our Board and making it a fair representation of the community we serve.

No remuneration was paid to any Trustee.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY

The principal object of the Dorothy Parkes Centre (DPC) is to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Smethwick, Sandwell, and the neighbourhood by associating together with the Local Authorities and Health Authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for advancement, recreation, and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions and quality of life.

ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

The Dorothy Parkes Centre attracts an average of 750 people per week. It is a Centre informed by the community being served. There are regular consultations and engagements through open days, social media, and a user-friendly website. There is a regular meeting of a Support and Development Group made up of local stakeholders.

The DPC secured funding this year for new projects which included Community Care Packages, Warm Welcome Space, Anticipatory Care Project, Your Health Matters, Winter Warm Packages, and Art in Bloom. We secured extension funding for our Loss Matters and Community Offer projects to continue into 2024. The DPC hosted big events celebrating the King's Coronation, welcoming Shakespeare's First Folio to Smethwick for the first time ever, and Where We Grow at our Community Allotment. We took our Art Group and Places of Welcome group on a number of day trips. We were able to host free Family Law

Clinics in partnership with Talbots Law Solicitors and ran some of our regular fundraisers including Bingo, Indoor Car Boot Sales, Summer and Winter Fayres and Ladies Fashion Show.

The DPC funded activities and projects which took place at various points throughout the year included:

Community Allotment	Community Litter Pick	Yoga
Knitting & Crochet	Gentle Yoga	Gentle Exercise
Art Works for Wellbeing	Youth Club/N-Gage	Nature Buddies
School Uniform Giveaway	Community Offer	Afternoon Tea
Loss Matters	Places of Welcome	Community Care Packages
Warm Welcome Space	Jewellery Making	Community Cinema/Theatre
Your Health Matters	Anticipatory Care Project	Winter Warm Packages
Art in Bloom	Cosy Communities	Chatty Café
Fun Fit	Basic Writing Skills	

External groups and activities which have been held at the Centre throughout the year include:

Taekwondo	CMJ Studios	GKR Karate
Polling Station	Women and Theatre	Make Good Art
PB Fitness	Kumon Tutoring	Sew with Kim
Steps to Work	Girls Friendly Society	Council Surgeries
NHS Mental Health Support	Let's Talk Hope	Slimming World
Good Afternoon Club	Smethwick Heritage	Ghanaian Groups
Police Surgeries	Your Health Sandwell	Digi-Comm
Baby, Birth & Beyond	Loveworld Smethwick	Living Well Taking Control

Providing the wide range of activities, events, projects and services listed above helps us in our aim to continue the legacy of Miss Dorothy Parkes and provide opportunities to bring people and organisations together in a spirit of friendship and equality, enabling our local community to thrive and enjoy a better quality of life.

CENTRE DEVELOPMENTS

Our Business Plan, which is a working document, has provided a focus, asking where we are currently and where we strive to be as an organisation after five years and beyond. The Centre aspires to:

- promote the **acceptance** by all of all, an inclusive, all-embracing community.
- increase the **visibility** of all, thinking particularly of those communities that can be overlooked in the grand plans.
- rejoice in **diversity** and develop the instincts of **gratitude** and **celebration**.

- encourage individuals and groups to create a sense of **belonging**.
- nurture **learning** and a proper sense of **education**.

The focus for us and our new projects this year has been around providing support due to the cost-of-living crisis. We have issued 226 free Community Care Packages supporting 311 adults and 214 children. The packages have included essential hygiene products such as toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, shower gel, sanitary products, and handwash, as well as cleaning products such as washing up liquid, surface cleaner, toilet gel, toilet rolls and black sacks. We gave out 100 Winter Warm Packs, which include radiator bleed keys, electric throw blankets, draft excluders and flasks, so supporting people in keeping warm and reducing energy costs. The Anticipatory Care Project provided six months of free proactive healthcare and support targeted at people of all ages living with frailty, multiple long-term conditions and/or complex needs so helping them to stay independent and healthy for as long as possible at home, in the place they call home or in their local community. We supported a total of 141 people through this project.

In July 2023, our Youth Club project came to an end after four years of funding from BBC Children in Need; the project supported over 200 children in its final year. It is a project which is very much needed in our area and we are working hard with consultations and discussions with potential key partners and funders to help us set up another youth provision. The N-Gage Youth Club for 5–11-year-olds and Nature Buddies sessions have continued and have supported 300 families.

Community Allotment & Kitchen

There has been some significant progress at the allotment and in the kitchen and this has allowed us to expand our provision in these areas in 2024 - 25. The allotment now has a pond, a vertical growing wall, wildflower area and composting station, so helping to increase the biodiversity on the plot. There has been so much activity on this project over the last twelve months and we thank the 42 volunteers who contributed 1,100 hours to the project. In total there have been 666 beneficiaries including school children from two local primary schools and one high school. In addition, there have been families through Nature Buddies, Apna Wellness Sikh community group, Sandwell Children's Trust Youth Justice Service, three local businesses, residents and staff from 'Achieve Together', a local residential care home. Two creative arts projects have taken place including Where We Grow and Black Country-Green Futures. The allotment enables people to learn and connect with nature and produce in a fun and engaging way. It can help with rehabilitation, increase confidence, physical and mental health and self-esteem.

Funding from Global's Make Some Noise for a new community kitchen was confirmed in June 2023 and received in April 2024. The installation took place in May-June and the kitchen officially opened on 3rd July 2024. We have Family Cooking Courses scheduled for Summer 2024 and Adult Cooking Courses in Autumn/Winter 2024. There are exciting plans for an extensive food provision at Dorothy Parkes Centre which links our allotment and kitchen with the use of fresh organic produce and surplus food to create healthy meals on a budget and reduce the environmental impact of food waste.

Recognition

The Centre was not selected to receive the King's Award for Voluntary Service, which was extremely disappointing. However, the National Assessment Committee stressed that the very fact that we were nominated independently for this honour shows how highly local people think of us; the Committee was impressed by our substantial achievements in supporting our local community. The Centre was recognised at the Smethwick Community Awards for our contribution to Smethwick and one of our long serving volunteers, Andrew Johnson, received the Volunteer of the Year Award.

Our Community Allotment project was nominated for the Community Award at the West Midlands Combined Authority Environment Awards and in December it received national recognition when awarded

the Best Community Garden of the Year by ITV gardener, David Domoney. David visited the plot and presented us with a cheque for £1,000. The award featured in a centre page spread in the Daily Express.

Partnerships

We have continued to work in formal partnership with St Albans Community Association delivering the Community Offer in Smethwick and with Singlepoint Plus and Breathing Space Therapeutic Services delivering Rewire. We remain keen on working with other local providers and developing positive relationships with many organisations across the Borough. We would like to thank Bearwood Community Hub, Black Country Touring, Friends of Thimblemill Brook, Bearwood Allotments, SCIPS, Litterwatch Sandwell, Sandwell Council of Voluntary Organisations, Smethwick Police, Sandwell Council, Conifers Day Nursery, Smethwick Old Church, Powered by CAN, Incredible Surplus and Uplands Manor Primary School for working together with us and helping us to reach more members of our local community.

In December we became members of Communities in Sync, a dynamic partnership of quality health, social care and well-being providers working together to improve the lives of people in the local community, as we look to create impactful and cost-effective partnership projects in Sandwell. In December, our membership of Sandwell Community Hubs ceased when they were wound up.

Efficiency

We continue to make positive progress in our quest to become a more efficient organisation. We had solar panels installed thanks to Utilita as part of their Solar for Schools and Community Buildings initiative and the anticipated energy savings over a 25-year lifespan is £25,750. We are becoming less reliant on paper and our new kitchen is modern and energy efficient. We are composting tea bags and food waste and have piloted an 'Upcycling' project using items that would have otherwise gone to landfill. We can now pay bills and invoices online rather than via cheque, which is now more secure, efficient and cost effective. We continue to work on a plan to make the Centre as energy efficient as possible.

Uplands Manor

We have continued to sub-let the facilities at Uplands Manor Primary School during out of school hours. This is a great arrangement for both parties and means that local community groups can hire out the sports hall, playing fields, and/or Multi-Use Gaming Areas during evenings and weekends. This is another example of a way in which we have tried to diversify our sources of income.

MAINTENANCE OF THE BUILDING

All annual checks including the moveable walls service, PAT testing, emergency lighting, hot water urn, fire equipment/alarm, intruder alarm, gas safety certificate & pest control services have been carried out with any remedial actions completed.

The biggest area of development has been in the kitchen. The old kitchen has been completely stripped out and a new, bright, modern, accessible kitchen has been installed. It is more efficient and has been future proofed. The development also saw the introduction of a small café area in the foyer which means that the kitchen now has more privacy for cooking courses.

There is a maintenance plan in place, and subject to funding, we would like to renovate our toilets and decorate the halls and foyer. Conifers Day Nursery has expressed an interest in developing the small rear car park and extending their outdoor provision into this area.

VOLUNTEERS

The Board of Trustees extends their thanks to all the volunteers who support the staff team to deliver the service seven days a week. There is a strong team of volunteers all of whom support the Centre in many ways. This year, volunteers have been recruited and supported by our Community Navigator, Fionnuala. In total, 45 volunteers have supported the Centre in the last year.

At our Centre, we are proud to take on and support work experience placements. This year, we have had three placements from local high schools. Each placement spends a week with us, learning different roles and gaining a food hygiene certificate via our training provider, valid for three years.

STAFFING

The team has remained relatively stable this year and each member of staff continues to complete all mandatory training, receiving support via regular support meetings. In September we achieved the Thrive at Work Foundation award, and we are now close to achieving the Bronze award. This demonstrates that we understand the importance of good health (including mental health) and wellbeing, and the ways in which these may affect productivity and performance at work in general. We have appropriate ways of communicating this with staff including noticeboards and newsletters. These are in addition to a safe working environment which facilitates employees making healthy choices.

In April 2024, we recruited a Projects Manager, Christina Murray. This is a new role at the Centre and a new addition to the Senior Leadership Team. This is now a key role for us, managing our existing projects whilst developing and leading new projects. The role includes the evaluation and monitoring of existing projects and community consultation around potential new projects. The Board of Trustees felt that the time was right to introduce this role on an initial six-month basis with a view to the role developing and salary costs being covered within the respective budgets of each project. The staff departures in the last year were our three Youth Workers, Nicky Pinnock, Haleema Kousar, and Karl Blick who were made redundant when the Youth Club project ended.

There are 12 members of staff at the Dorothy Parkes Centre including four full time staff members. The team is led by the CEO, Robert Bruce, who is supported by Jodie Griffiths (Centre Manager), Christina Murray (Projects Manager), Trudi Blake (Administrator), Fionnuala O'Brien (Community Navigator), Tessa Taylor (Bookkeeper), Vince Nelson, Ashley Green and Carl Harris (Caretakers), Nicola Nolan (Cleaner), Paul Randall (Community Allotment Plot Lead) and Usha Chopra (Community Allotment Plot Assistant). The Board of Trustees would like to thank the staff team for their continued commitment to providing a service to the local community.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Charitable Trust Funding

None of the work carried out at the Dorothy Parkes Centre would be possible without the generous support of the following grant-making Charitable Trusts and businesses who all supported our Centre between April 2023 and March 2024:

SCVO Vision 2030 Coronation Grant
SCVO Vision 2030 Health Event
Baron Davenport's Charity
Lord Austin Trust
Harborne Parish Lands Charity
SCVO - V2030 Main Grant
Creative Black Country - Seed Fund

Community Green Grants
Cole Charitable Trust
George Henry Collins
Global's Make Some Noise
SCVO Vision 2030 Digital Survey
SCVO - Anticipatory Care Fund
SCH Capacity Building Fund

The Saintbury Trust
Richard Kilcuppes
The G.J.W Turner Trust
The Limoges Trust
The Grimmitt Trust
British Gas
The Cultivation Street

Recovery College - Pilot Project	Enfinium Community Fund	W.E.Dunn Trust
ASDA - Empowering Local Communities	Geoff Hill Charitable Trust	The Bob Willis Fund
Creative Lives - Know Your Neighbourhood	The Roger & Douglas Turner Trust	The National Lottery
Sandwell Welcoming Spaces 2023-24	Community Matters Fund	
Heart of England - Inclusive Communities Fund		

The financial position at the end of 2023/24 was a surplus of £42,372.

£357,548 was secured during this financial year. £181,309 of this funding was for core costs and £176,239 was restricted funding. Income gained from a combination of private and community room hire was £107,417, an increase of £14,569 on last year. We gained £3,671 from kitchen sales, which was an increase on last year's amount of £662. There was an increase of £1,780 in our own fundraising income compared to last year. We are still committed to organising more fundraising events and raising more funds for the Centre this year.

Reserves Policy

The Charity has no guaranteed source of long-term income and hence aims to maintain reserves at the level required to fund a minimum of three months operations without additional charitable income. The merit of this policy has been seen in the past and we are attempting to rebuild our reserves to the desired level over the next three years. The balance held in unrestricted funds on 31st March 2024 was £123,509. A further £64,053 was held in restricted funds.

ORGANISATION

The Charity is governed by a Board of Trustees, which delegates certain decisions to Trustees, Sub-committees, or Employees. The Charity employs a Chief Executive Officer who has delegated authority to take day-to-day decisions on the running and management of the Charity and to act as manager of other employees of the Centre. The Chief Executive Officer reports to the Board at each Board meeting.

Risk Management

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and have established systems intended to mitigate those risks. These include:

- The operation of a scheme of delegation of decision-making between the Board, any subgroups of the Board set up for specific purposes, and the Chief Executive Officer.
- The monitoring and review of operational decisions at Board meetings, which take place six times a year, now supported by a regular report.
- The monitoring and review of monthly management accounts by the Board.
- The maintenance of policies and procedures governing the key areas of activity and financial decision-making are reviewed and updated on an annual basis.
- The requirement for two named signatories to sign cheques/approve bank payments on behalf of the Centre.
- The existence of contracts and service level agreements to govern working arrangements with our most significant partner organisations.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The DPC strives to have a positive impact on people's lives, and this is central to the priorities for the next five years. To meet the growing needs of the community in these challenging times, over the next five years the DPC aspires to:

- maintain an income of £250,000 per year with modest increase year by year through restricted and unrestricted grants and trading activities
- develop relationships with charitable sources that would allow a degree of long-term security in planning

To meet the growing needs of the community in these challenging times, the DPC will work to:

- maximise the use of resources – cash, buildings, facilities, staff and volunteers, experience, and knowledge to the benefit of the community.
- maximise the impact through beneficial relationships with others in the sector and with those that have appropriate resources.

Across a range of activities, the DPC strives to achieve the following:

- 1) to be one of the best places to work in Sandwell
- 2) to grow and expand services
- 3) to make key contributions to the community and environment
- 4) to drive through transformational improvements in our services
- 5) to be a flagship community centre in Sandwell

There are plans to further improve facilities within the Centre and to strengthen and increase staffing capacity. Our community will need support with the cost-of-living crisis. We will continue to consult with our community and local providers to ensure that we are offering as much support as possible.

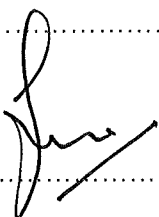
STATEMENT OF BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the charity and of its financial position at the end of that year. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are responsible and prudent;
- State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and with applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in existence.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for the safeguarding of the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 24.09.24, following approval of the annual accounts by the Board of Trustees on 24.09.24, and signed on its behalf by;

.....

Date..... 24.09.24

Mr Paul Martin (Chair)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 13 to 19.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Anna Madden

Relevant professional qualification or body: FCA

Address: Curo Chartered Accountants, Curo House, Greenbox, Weston Hall Road, Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, B60 4AL

Date: 30/9/24

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES, TO 31.03.2024

Incoming Resources		2023/24			2022/23
	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
Voluntary Income		59,074	176,239	235,313	156,058
Charitable Activities	8	122,095	-	122,095	105,792
Bank Interest	4	140	-	140	102
Total Incoming Resources		181,309	176,239	357,548	261,952
Expenditure					
	Notes				
Cost of generating funds		3,124	-	3,124	2,135
Charitable Activities		161,626	149,701	311,327	279,963
Governance Costs		725	-	725	625
Total Expenditure		165,475	149,701	315,176	282,723
Surplus/(Deficit) for year		15,834	26,538	42,372	(20,771)
Gross transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		107,675	37,515	145,190	165,961
Add surplus/(deficit)		15,834	26,538	42,372	(20,771)
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Total funds carried forward	11	123,509	64,053	187,562	145,190

Details of incoming resources and resources used are given in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

**THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
BALANCE SHEET
As at 31.03.2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Prior Year 2023
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	5	3,287	-	3,287	5,472
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	6	32,987	-	32,987	14,350
Cash at bank & in hand	10	106,340	64,053	170,393	133,957
Total current assets		139,327	64,053	203,380	148,307
LIABILITIES					
Creditors - amounts falling Due within one year	7	19,105	-	19,105	8,589
Total net current assets		120,222	64,053	184,275	139,718
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
NET ASSETS		123,509	64,053	187,562	145,190
Reserves					
Unrestricted				123,509	107,675
Restricted	11			64,053	37,515
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS				187,562	145,190

The Trustees consider that the charity is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that members have not required the charity to obtain an audit.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of the accounts.

Approved by the Trustees of the Dorothy Parkes Centre on 24.09.24, and signed on behalf of the board:-

Mr Paul Martin (Chair)

Date: 24.09.24

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ending 31st March 2024.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the Charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£). The financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The Charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the statement of recommended practice for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

Income and Expenditure Account

The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) on page 13 of these accounts is also the Income and Expenditure account. The Company has no unrealised gains or losses and consequently the net income and expenditure for the year is the same as the net movements of funds as shown in the SoFA.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SoFA on an accruals basis when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Where restrictions are placed on incoming resources by the donor these are placed in restricted funds.

Since the charitable purposes of the Centre are based on running a community centre at the Dorothy Parkes Centre to promote activities promoting healthy living in mind, body and spirit, it has been decided that income generated from the use of the Centre for such activities should be classified as incoming resources from charitable activities and that this represents the most appropriate accounting policy.

Voluntary income consists of grants received or receivable. Grant applications are made to a wide range of funding bodies by the Chief Executive Officer.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they are allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

As the charitable objects of the Dorothy Parkes Centre include managing and administering the Centre, we consider that the majority of our costs, other than those which fall specifically under other expenditure categories under SORP (FRS 102), should be categorised as costs of charitable activities. These include the costs of maintaining the Centre and the salary costs of Centre staff as well as the costs of pursuing particular projects at the Centre. It is considered that this represents the most appropriate accounting policy for the disclosure of these transactions.

Governance costs include legal costs, the costs of preparing our annual accounts, the cost of independent examination and the costs of board and committee meetings. Although it is no longer a requirement under SORP

(FRS 102) to show governance costs separately they have been shown in the SoFA as a matter of transparency and for the benefit of funders.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at historical cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives, at the following rates,

Computer equipment	33% p/a of cost
Office equipment	25% - 100% p/a of cost
Leasehold improvements	14.3% p/a of cost

Equipment purchased for a specific project is depreciated over the planned or expected life of the project.

Depreciation is charged from the year in which the asset is acquired. See Note 5.

Debtors

Grants receivable are recognised when the Centre has met the conditions required to receive the grant but have not yet received the associated cash at the end of the financial year.

Creditors

Customer security bonds represent amounts paid by those hiring rooms at the Centre. These amounts are repayable if the customer adheres to the agreed conditions of their room hire.

Deferred income represents amounts of cash received by the Centre in relation to grants awarded to the Centre for activities in future years.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in accordance with the charitable objects of the charity.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for specific purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific restricted fund. The aim and use of each material restricted fund is set out in Note 11, detailed analysis of movement of funds.

Funds are transferred from restricted to unrestricted funds to reflect the cost of tangible fixed assets purchased in full or in part from unrestricted funds. The net book value of the tangible fixed assets is held within the unrestricted funds. No such transfers have been made in the current year.

The Charity has no endowment funds.

2. INCOME

Income is attributable solely to continuing operations and derives from one activity, that of charitable activity within the Dorothy Parkes Centre.

3. OPERATING SURPLUS

This is stated after charging depreciation on owned assets of £2,185 in 2023/24 (2,416 in 2022/23).

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

£140 investment income was earned in 2023/24, £102 in the preceding year.

**5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS
(Equipment)**

Cost

At 1st April 2023	47,042
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31st March 2024	<u>47,042</u>

Accumulated depreciation

At 1st April 2023	41,570
Charge for the year	2,185
Disposals	-
At 31st March 2024	<u>43,755</u>

Net book value at 31st March 2023 5,472

Net book value at 31st March 2024 **3,287**

6. DEBTORS

Amounts falling due within one year

	31st March 2024	31st March 2023
Trade debtors	22,734	9,082
Grants receivable	-	-
Taxation	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	10,253	5,268
	<u>32,987</u>	<u>14,350</u>

7. CREDITORS	31st March 2024	31st March 2023
Amounts falling due within one year		
Customer security bonds	-	-
Taxation and social security	3,849	2,934
Trade creditors	2,855	3,940
Deferred income	10,918	1,000
Receipts in advance	1,483	715
	<u>19,105</u>	<u>8,589</u>

8. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2023/24	2022/23
Kitchen sales	3,671	3,009
Room hire	107,417	92,848
Fundraising	10,104	8,324
Sundry recharges	903	1,611
	<u>122,095</u>	<u>105,792</u>

9. RESOURCES EXPENDED

Resources expended include the following:-

Independent examiner's fee	725
Staff costs, including both salaried and agency staff:-	
Gross wages and salaries	134,580
Employers' National Insurance contributions	4,303
Employers' pension contributions	2,292

The average number of employees during 2023/24 was 3 full-time and 7 part-time employees, including agency staff. We lost three part time staff in August when the youth club finished.

10. CASH HELD ON BEHALF OF THIRD PARTIES

The Centre currently holds balances in its bank accounts on behalf of one community group. The amount held at 31st March 2024 was £0 (£268 at 31st March 2023).

11. RESTRICTED FUNDS

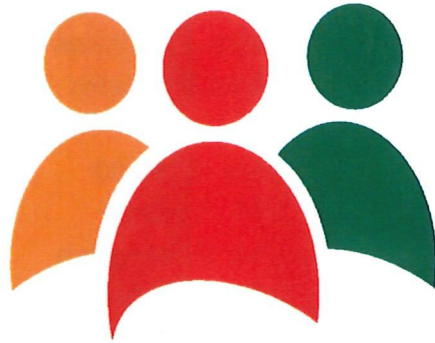
Detailed analysis of movement of funds for the year ended 31st March 2024

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfer between funds	Closing balance
Youth Work Support	2,440	-	-	-	2,440
BBC Children in Need	8,740	-	8,740	-	-
Maintenance Fund	543	-	-	-	543
CIL Fund	477	-	-	-	477
Elderly Projects	-	800	800	-	-
Care Packages	-	2,966	2,495	-	471
Community Green Grant	-	26,477	22,223	-	4,254
Community Offer	14,638	48,215	50,719	-	12,134
Art for Wellbeing	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
Bereavement	252	-	252	-	-
Youth - Uplands	2,023	-	180	-	1,843
Baby Brunch	(448)	1,465	1,017	-	-
Kitchen	-	500	2,238	-	(1,738)
Places of Welcome	611	-	315	-	296
Cosy Communities	250	352	602	-	-
Loss Matters 23	4,170	-	4,170	-	-
SCIPS digital grant	422	-	422	-	-
Welcoming Spaces	-	3,300	2,200	-	1,100
Rewire	3,397	8,268	8,197	-	3,468
Coronation Event	-	500	500	-	-
Anticipatory Care Grant	-	25,000	25,000	-	-
Your Health Matters	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Loss Matters (RC)	-	2,336	2,336	-	-
Creative Black Country	-	850	850	-	-
National Grid	-	9,945	9,945	-	-
Sandwell Community Hubs	-	28,765	-	-	28,765
Bob Willis Fund	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Health Event	-	500	500	-	-
Art in Bloom	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
	37,515	176,239	149,701	-	64,053

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1093189

Accounts



DOROTHYPARKES

Community Centre

**THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1093189

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charitable Incorporated Organisation: Conversion dated 14th February 2022

Registered Charity Number: 1093189

Chair: Mr P Martin

Trustees:

Mrs J Andrews	appointed 24/05/22
Mrs S Broster	appointed 20/09/22
	resigned 06/12/22
Ms G Gould	resigned 30/06/23
Mr R Harsh	appointed 01/08/23
Mr D R Ingram	
Mrs L Johnson	appointed 20/09/22
Miss J K Jones	
Ms J Mckirdy	
Mrs Z Nembhard	appointed 19/07/22
Mr A Singh	appointed 20/09/22
Mr S Williets	

Registered Office: The Dorothy Parkes Centre
Church Road
Smethwick
West Midlands
B67 6EH

Bankers: HSBC
168 Warstone Lane
Birmingham
B18 6NP

Independent Examiner: Mrs A Madden
Curo Chartered Accountants

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Board present their annual report and financial statements of the charity 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 accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

I am delighted to write a brief report as an introduction to the *Trustee's Report and Financial Statements* for the year ended 31st March 2023. As Chair of Trustees only since January 2022, I am aware that I am following a committed number of previous Chairs who have offered their services freely and willingly to the Dorothy Parkes Centre, leading it since its formation some twenty-three years ago. Anyone visiting the DPC, receiving the welcome of those who work and use the services, and becoming aware of the qualities of the place can only be grateful for the vision of those who saw the need for such a Centre and generated the finance to launch it. I welcome to the Board new Trustees, Stella Broster, Ravi Harsh, Louise Johnson, Zaida Nembhard, and Amardeep Singh. I am grateful for the experience and insights that they are pleased to share. It is a sadness that Stella Broster has been forced to resign from the Board due to her other extensive commitments. We also regret the loss to the Board of Gill Gould, at one time its Vice-chair, who has resigned having moved from the area. I thank them both for their time, effort, and commitment whilst serving as Trustees.

Whilst this Report is strictly of what happened in the year to the end of March 2023, in its activities the real world rarely follows the accounting year. I have felt flexible to note what is important. It is important to record, as I did last year that the Centre has no turn-to source of cash, available in a crisis. The DPC receives no regular funding from the Church of England, from Old Church nor from Sandwell Council or other local and national bodies. There is a reserve fund but one that grows slowly from year to year through prudent book-keeping. As such, the DPC is entirely dependent on monies granted from charitable bodies and other sources of funds and using its own resources, principally the hiring out of the Centre halls and meeting rooms. The funds we receive pay for the projects for which they are given including the salaries of the staff, and the overheads of running the Centre including the continual refurbishment and improvement that is needed to satisfy the needs of our users. The Trustees acknowledge with gratitude the work of the staff, as well as the large numbers of volunteers who give generously and freely of their time. Without their cheerful enthusiasm and warm welcome to our users and visitors, there would be no Dorothy Parkes Centre.

A detailed outline of the activities of the Dorothy Parkes Centre together with the sources of funds and their uses is provided in the pages that follow. It is a truism to say that we live in difficult times with an economy adjusting to Brexit or not, a community adjusting to Covid or not, and families and individuals striving to maintain some sort of quality of life in a world where costs rise, and many services have become less reliable. It is perhaps not surprising then that the Annual Accounts show an excess in its Annual Budget of expenditure over income in 2022-23, In some ways, this is probably a hang-over from the tremors of managing the Centre through a pandemic. The overall financial stability of the Centre is not under threat. And we will do better next year.

It is a delight to record our first steps in moving the Centre to a stronger place in terms of the vision for the future and a strategy for getting there. I congratulate Jodie on her appointment as Centre Manager, a

position that we have long needed but are only now sufficiently confident to make. Jodie takes on the role of maintaining the high quality of resource offered by the Centre, the management and maintenance of all that the Centre makes available inside its door – and elsewhere. We look to the time when we will recruit a Project and Activities Manager – even if that is not the title, looking to our growing liaisons outside the walls and to projects and activities still in the minds of others and where the DPC would be perfectly equipped to contribute. And as none of these things stands still, we will continue to rely on Rob for his sharp strategic mind and engaging leadership.

The Dorothy Parkes Centre contributes as best it can to the health and well-being of its community – all its users and all those who commit their time and energy as members of staff, as Trustees, as volunteers across a range of projects. It should be said again – we are all exceedingly grateful to those who contribute to the presence of the Dorothy Parkes Centre in Smethwick for without committed, enthusiastic contributions, there would be nothing to report, no Dorothy Parkes Centre.

I commend this Report to you. It is a record of good things.

Paul Martin (Chair)

TRUSTEES

The Trustees are responsible for the administration and management of the Centre and are Trustees for the purposes of Charity Law. The Trustees who served during the period are set out above in the Legal and Administrative Information and are collectively known as the Board of Trustees.

Paul Martin has remained as Chair and we have welcomed new Trustees Stella Broster, Ravi Harsh, Louise Johnson, Zaida Nembhard, and Amardeep Singh. The new Trustees have added a wealth of skills, knowledge, experience as well as youth and diversity, increasing the strength and depth of our Board and making it a better representation of the community we serve. Stella Broster and Gill Gould have resigned this year and we thank them both for their time, effort, and commitment whilst serving as Trustees.

No remuneration was paid to any Trustee.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY

The principal object of the company is to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Smethwick, Sandwell, and the neighbourhood by associating together with the Local Authorities and Health Authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for advancement, recreation, and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions and quality of life.

ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

The Dorothy Parkes Centre (DPC) attracts an average of 750 people per week. It is a Centre informed by the community being served. There are regular consultations and engagements through open days, social media, and a user-friendly website. There is a regular meeting of a Support and Development Group made up of local stakeholders.

The DPC secured funding this year for new projects which included Your Health Matters, Cosy Communities, Chatty Cafe, Rewire, and Community Mile. We secured one year extension funding for our

Youth Club, Loss Matters and Community Offer projects. The DPC hosted big events celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and then mourning the loss of Queen Elizabeth II by showing a live viewing of the funeral, the latter receiving national press coverage. The DPC funded activities and projects which took place at various points throughout the year, and these include:

Community Allotment	Community Litter Pick	Yoga
Knitting & Crochet	Gentle Yoga	Gentle Exercise
Art Works for Wellbeing	Youth Club	Nature Buddies
School Uniform Giveaway	Community Offer	Afternoon Tea
This Girl Can	Loss Matters	Places of Welcome
Community Mile	Jewellery Making	Community Cinema/Theatre
Science Shows	Baby Brunch	Your Health Matters
Rewire	Cosy Communities	Chatty Café

Basic English Writing Skills

External groups and activities which have been held at the Centre throughout the year include:

Taekwondo	CMJ Studios	GKR Karate
Polling Station	Women and Theatre	Reiki
PB Fitness	Kumon Tutoring	Sew with Kim
Steps to Work	Sandwell BEAM	Girls Friendly Society
NHS Mental Health Support	Let's Talk Hope	Slimming World
Good Afternoon Club	Smethwick Heritage	Centre Spot Football
Ghanaian Groups	My Body Belongs to Me	Fit Steps
Council Surgeries	Police Surgeries	Everyone Health
Baby, Birth & Beyond	Loveworld Smethwick	Chroma Therapies
Meditation	Digi-Comm	Sandwell Lions Prostate Testing

Living Well Taking Control

CENTRE DEVELOPMENTS

In 2022/23 we completed the Pilotlight360 programme and as a result recruited five new Trustees, strengthened our staffing structure, and developed a five-year Business Plan. The Business Plan has provided a focus, asking where we are currently and where we strive to be as an organisation after five years and beyond. The Centre aspires to:

- promote the **acceptance** by all of all, an inclusive, all-embracing community.
- increase the **visibility** of all, thinking particularly of those communities that can be overlooked in the grand plans.

- rejoice in **diversity** and develop the instincts of **gratitude** and **celebration**.
- encourage individuals and groups to create a sense of **belonging**.
- nurture **learning** and a proper sense of **education**.

The focus for us and our new projects this year has been around social interaction and healthy lifestyles. Your Health Matters and the Community Mile are both based around physical activity, so increasing social interaction and learning together about the positive impact of a healthy lifestyle. Cosy Communities and Chatty Café (which was mentioned by Ben Shepherd on Good Morning Britain) focus more on informal ways of getting to know people naturally with the bonus of Cosy Communities including elements of arts and crafts which can be replicated at home.

Recognition

We were delighted to be part of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games celebrations which included being recognised as a 'Bostin Place' with 'Bostin People' in Sandwell. We were equally delighted to be nominated for The Conservation Volunteers Heroes Awards 2022 and receive the award for Community Network Group of the Year for the work on our Community Allotment Plot. The project was also nominated for the Community Award at the West Midlands Combined Authority Environment Awards. The Centre has been nominated for the Queens Awards for Voluntary Services and the outcome will be known later in 2023.

Partnerships

We have continued to work in formal partnership with St Albans Community Association delivering the Community Offer in Smethwick and with Singlepoint Plus and Breathing Space Therapeutic Services delivering Rewire. We remain keen on working with other local providers and developing positive relationships with many organisations across the borough. We would like to thank North Smethwick Development Trust, Femtinos, Bearwood Community Hub, Black Country Touring, Friends of Thimblemill Brook, Bearwood Allotments, SCIPS, Benson Community Project, Litterwatch Sandwell, Sandwell Council of Voluntary Organisations, Smethwick Police, Sandwell Council, Conifers Day Nursery, Warley Woods Community Trust, New Beginnings, Smethwick Old Church and Uplands Manor Primary School for working together with us and helping us to reach more members of our local community.

Efficiency

We continue to make positive progress in our quest to become a more efficient organisation. This year we upgraded our Sage Accounts software to improve our accounting and invoices processes and we improved our card payment procedures. We continue to take online bookings and payments and, linked in with our Customer Relationship Management system and Electronic Point of Sale System, we are becoming more efficient and less reliant on paper.

Uplands Manor

We have continued to sub-let the facilities at Uplands Manor Primary School during out of school hours. This is a great arrangement for both parties and means that local community groups can hire out the sports hall, playing fields, and/or Multi-Use Gaming Area during evenings and weekends. This is another example of a way in which we have tried to diversify our sources of income.

MAINTENANCE OF THE BUILDING

Thanks to funding from The Rowlands Trust, we installed a new PA system in our hall. This was a much-needed resource and has enabled us to offer a high-quality sound system for our community groups, private hirers, and events/conferences. This improves our room hire offer with resources appropriate to a professional venue.

We have reached an agreement with Utilita as part of their Solar for Schools and Community Buildings to have solar panels installed at our Centre. The installation will take place in August and the anticipated energy savings over a 25-year lifespan is £25,750.

Our Community Allotment project has expanded, and we now have a second plot in partnership with the allotment committee. In May 2023 we received a Community Green Grant from the West Midlands Combined Authority which will allow us to continue the project for another year and increase the biodiversity on the Community Plot by installing a pond, a wildflower area, and a vertical green wall. We have had support from businesses such as LV Insurance and Colas Ltd, providing staff for volunteer days helping us to develop and maintain our plots.

In 2023 we had our five-year periodic electrical installation check alongside all annual checks including the moveable walls service, PAT testing, emergency lighting, hot water urn, fire equipment/alarm, intruder alarm, gas safety certificate & pest control services.

In June 2023, we were thrilled to hear that we had been successful in application for support from Global's Make Some Noise appeal and as a result, we will be able to fund the installation of a new kitchen. This will provide a safe and accessible facility for us to deliver cooking classes, using produce from our Community Allotment plot.

VOLUNTEERS

The Board of Trustees extend their thanks to all the volunteers who support the staff team to deliver the service seven days a week. There is a strong team of volunteers all of whom support the Centre in many ways. This year, volunteers have been recruited and supported by our Community Navigator, Fionnuala. In total, 32 volunteers have supported the Centre in the last year.

At our Centre, we are proud to take on and support work experience placements. This year, we have had five placements from local high schools, colleges, and universities. Each placement spends a week with us, learning different roles and gaining a food hygiene certificate via our training provider, valid for three years.

STAFFING

There was a major change in our staffing structure this year with the creation of a Centre Manager role. The Board has seen this position to be key to the delivery of long-term plans of the Centre, to ensure the continuing growth of the Centre. It is an appointment long overdue. Our Centre Manager is responsible for the day-to-day running of the Community Centre, allowing our CEO to focus on the Business, Strategic, and Finance areas of our organisation. Jodie Griffiths, our Administrator, was promoted to Centre Manager following a successful application and Trudi Blake was successful in her application to take on the vacant Administrator role, following several months helping as a volunteer at the Centre. In June 2023 we welcomed Usha Chopra to the team as Community Allotment Plot Assistant, supporting Paul Randall, our Allotment Plot Lead. This post was created thanks to funding from the West Midlands Combined Authority.

There are 13 members of staff at the Dorothy Parkes Centre including three full time staff members. The team is led by the CEO, Robert Bruce, who is supported by Jodie Griffiths (Centre Manager), Trudi Blake (Administrator), Fionnuala O'Brien (Community Navigator), Tessa Taylor (Bookkeeper), Vince Nelson & Ashley Green (Caretakers), Nicola Nolan (Cleaner), Nicky Pinnock (Senior Youth Worker), Haleema Kousar, Karl Blick (Youth Workers), Paul Randall (Community Allotment Plot Lead) and Usha Chopra (Community Allotment Plot Assistant).

This year we said goodbye to Jabeen Nabi (Youth Worker), and we will soon be losing the remaining members of our Youth Club team, Nicky Pinnock, Haleema Kousar, and Karl Blick when our Youth provision finishes. We wish them all every success in their future endeavours and thank them for their service at Dorothy Parkes Centre.

All staff are up to date with their training, covering First Aid, Fire Marshal, Safeguarding Adults, Safeguarding Children, Food Safety, Health & Safety, Data Protection and Equality and Diversity. The Board of Trustees would like to thank the staff team for their continued commitment to providing a service to the local community.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Charitable Trust Funding

None of the work carried out at the Dorothy Parkes Centre would be possible without the generous support of the following grant-making Charitable Trusts and businesses who all supported our Centre between April 2022 and March 2023:

Richard Kilcuppes	Heart of England - Arts Council	BBC Children in Need
Magic Little Grant	Sandwell Healthy Lifestyle	Harborne Parish Lands
Lord Austin Trust	Arnold Clark Community Fund	ASDA
SCVO Positive Mental Health	Social Care Support Network	The Limoges Trust
SCVO Commonwealth Grant	Garfield Weston	B2022 Small Grant
Geoff Hill Charitable Trust	The National Lottery - Awards for All	Sir John Sumner
The Grimmitt Trust	SCVO Covid-19 Community Recovery	SCIPS – DigiComm
The Rowlands Trust	The Roger & Douglas Turner Trust	SCVO Vision 2030
Power to Change	Creative Black Country - Cosy Communities	The W. E. Dunn Trust

The financial position at the end of 2022/23 was a deficit of £20,771.

£261,952 was secured during this financial year. £157,387 of this funding was for core costs and £104,565 was restricted funding. Income gained from a combination of private and community room hire was £92,848, an increase of £22,586 on last year which was impacted by Covid. We gained £3,009 from kitchen sales, which was an increase on last years amount of £1,134 due to an increase in footfall following the end of Covid restrictions. There was an increase of £4,313 in our own fundraising income compared to last year. We are still committed to doing more fundraising events and raising more funds for the Centre this year.

Reserves Policy

The Charity has no guaranteed source of long-term income and hence aims to maintain reserves at the level required to fund one year's operations without additional charitable income. The merit of this policy has been seen in the past and we are attempting to rebuild our reserves to the desired level over the next three years. The balance held in unrestricted funds on 31st March 2023 was £107,675. A further £37,515 was held in restricted funds.

ORGANISATION

The Charity is governed by a Board of Trustees, which delegates certain decisions to Trustees, Sub-committees, or Employees. The Charity employs a Chief Executive Officer who has delegated authority to take day-to-day decisions on the running and management of the Charity and to act as manager of other employees of the Centre. The Chief Executive Officer reports to the Board at each Board meeting.

Risk Management

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and have established systems intended to mitigate those risks. These include:

- The operation of a scheme of delegation of decision-making between the Board, any subgroups of the Board set up for specific purposes and the Chief Executive Officer.
- The monitoring and review of operational decisions at Board meetings, which take place six times a year, now supported by a regular report.
- The monitoring and review of monthly management accounts by the Board.
- The maintenance of policies and procedures governing the key areas of activity and financial decision-making are reviewed and updated on an annual basis.
- The requirement for two named signatories to sign cheques on behalf of the Centre.
- The existence of contracts and service level agreements to govern working arrangements with our most significant partner organisations.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The DPC strives to have a positive impact on people's lives, and this is central to the priorities for the next five years. To meet the growing needs of the community in these challenging times, over the next five years the DPC hopes to:

- maintain an income of £250,000 per year with modest increase year by year through restricted and unrestricted grants and trading activities
- develop relationships with charitable sources that would allow a degree of long-term security in planning

To meet the growing needs of the community in these challenging times, the DPC will work to:

- maximise the use of resources – cash, buildings, facilities, staff and volunteers, experience, and knowledge to the benefit of the community.
- maximise the impact through beneficial relationships with others in the sector and with those that have appropriate resources.

Across a range of activities, the DPC strives to achieve the following:

- 1) to be one of the best places to work in Sandwell
- 2) to grow and expand services
- 3) to make key contributions to the community and environment
- 4) to drive through transformational improvements in our services
- 5) to be a flagship community centre in Sandwell

There are plans to further improve facilities within the Centre and to strengthen and increase staffing capacity. Our community will need support with the cost-of-living crisis. We intend on consulting with our community and local providers to ensure that we are offering as much support as possible.

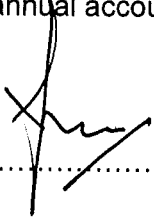
STATEMENT OF BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the charity and of its financial position at the end of that year. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are responsible and prudent;
- State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and with applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in existence.

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

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 26th September 2023, following approval of the annual accounts by the Board of Trustees on 26th September 2023, and signed on its behalf by;



.....

Date..... 26.09.23

Mr Paul Martin (Chair)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

I report to the Charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 12 to 18.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

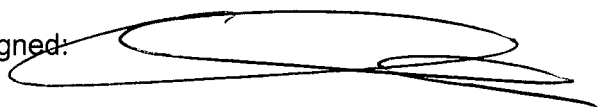
Independent examiner's statement

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 130 of the 2011 Act;
or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Anna Madden 11/10/23

Relevant professional qualification or body: FCA

Address: Curo Chartered Accountants, Curo House, Greenbox, Westonhall Road, Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, B60 4AL

Date:

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES, TO 31.03.2023

Incoming Resources	Notes	2022/23			2021/22
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
Voluntary Income		51,493	104,565	156,058	239,006
Charitable Activities	8	105,792	-	105,792	76,033
Bank Interest	4	102	-	102	95
Total Incoming Resources		157,387	104,565	261,952	315,134
Expenditure					
	Notes				
Cost of generating funds		2,135	-	2,135	115
Charitable Activities		146,848	133,115	279,963	268,172
Governance Costs		625	-	625	575
Total Expenditure		149,608	133,115	282,723	268,862
Surplus/(Deficit) for year		7,779	(28,550)	(20,771)	46,272
Gross transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		97,181	68,780	165,961	119,689
Add surplus/(deficit)		7,779	(28,550)	(20,771)	46,272
Transfer between funds		2,715	(2,715)	-	-
Total funds carried forward	11	107,675	37,515	145,190	165,961

Details of incoming resources and resources used are given in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

**THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
BALANCE SHEET
As at 31.03.2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Prior Year 2022
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	5	5,472	-	5,472	2,416
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	6	14,350	-	14,350	17,855
Cash at bank & in hand	10	96,442	37,515	133,957	154,832
Total current assets		110,792	37,515	148,307	172,687
LIABILITIES					
Creditors - amounts falling Due within one year	7	8,589	-	8,589	9,142
Total net current assets		102,203	37,515	139,718	163,545
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
NET ASSETS		107,675	37,515	145,190	165,961
Reserves					
Unrestricted				107,675	97,182
Restricted	11			37,515	68,780
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS				145,190	165,962

The Trustees consider that the charity is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that members have not required the charity to obtain an audit.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of the accounts.

Approved by the Trustees of the Dorothy Parkes Centre on 26th September 2023, and signed on behalf of the board:-

Mr Paul Martin (Chair)

Date: 26.09.23



THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ending 31st March 2023.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the Charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£). The financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The Charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the statement of recommended practice for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

Income and Expenditure Account

The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) on page 12 of these accounts is also the Income and Expenditure account. The Company has no unrealised gains or losses and consequently the net income and expenditure for the year is the same as the net movements of funds as shown in the SoFA.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SoFA on an accruals basis when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Where restrictions are placed on incoming resources by the donor these are placed in restricted funds.

Since the charitable purposes of the Centre are based on running a community centre at the Dorothy Parkes Centre to promote activities promoting healthy living in mind, body and spirit, it has been decided that income generated from the use of the Centre for such activities should be classified as incoming resources from charitable activities and that this represents the most appropriate accounting policy.

Voluntary income consists of grants received or receivable. Grant applications are made to a wide range of funding bodies by the Chief Executive Officer.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they are allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

As the charitable objects of the Dorothy Parkes Centre include managing and administering the Centre, we consider that the majority of our costs, other than those which fall specifically under other expenditure categories under SORP (FRS 102), should be categorised as costs of charitable activities. These include the costs of maintaining the Centre and the salary costs of Centre staff as well as the costs of pursuing particular projects at the Centre. It is considered that this represents the most appropriate accounting policy for the disclosure of these transactions.

Governance costs include legal costs, the costs of preparing our annual accounts, the cost of independent examination and the costs of board and committee meetings. Although it is no longer a requirement under SORP

(FRS 102) to show governance costs separately they have been shown in the SoFA as a matter of transparency and for the benefit of funders.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at historical cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives, at the following rates,

Computer equipment	33% p/a of cost
Office equipment	25% - 100% p/a of cost
Leasehold improvements	14.3% p/a of cost

Equipment purchased for a specific project is depreciated over the planned or expected life of the project.

Depreciation is charged from the year in which the asset is acquired. See Note 5.

Debtors

Grants receivable are recognised when the Centre has met the conditions required to receive the grant but have not yet received the associated cash at the end of the financial year.

Creditors

Customer security bonds represent amounts paid by those hiring rooms at the Centre. These amounts are repayable if the customer adheres to the agreed conditions of their room hire.

Deferred income represents amounts of cash received by the Centre in relation to grants awarded to the Centre for activities in future years.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in accordance with the charitable objects of the charity.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for specific purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific restricted fund. The aim and use of each material restricted fund is set out in Note 11, detailed analysis of movement of funds.

Funds are transferred from restricted to unrestricted funds to reflect the cost of tangible fixed assets purchased in full or in part from unrestricted funds. The net book value of the tangible fixed assets is held within the unrestricted funds. No such transfers have been made in the current year.

The Charity has no endowment funds.

2. INCOME

Income is attributable solely to continuing operations and derives from one activity, that of charitable activity within the Dorothy Parkes Centre.

3. OPERATING SURPLUS

This is stated after charging depreciation on owned assets of £2,416 in 2022/23 (£960 in 2021/22).

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

£102 investment income was earned in 2022/23, £95 in the preceding year.

**5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS
(Equipment)**

Cost

At 1st April 2022	41,570
Additions	5,472
Disposals	-
At 31st March 2023	<u>47,042</u>

Accumulated depreciation

At 1st April 2022	39,154
Charge for the year	2,416
Disposals	-
At 31st March 2023	<u>41,570</u>

Net book value at 31st March 2022	<u>2,416</u>
Net book value at 31st March 2023	<u>5,472</u>

6. DEBTORS

Amounts falling due within one year

	31st March 2023	31st March 2022
Trade debtors	9,082	13,158
Grants receivable	-	-
Taxation	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	5,268	4,697
	<u>14,350</u>	<u>17,855</u>

7. CREDITORS**31st March 2023****31st March 2022**

Amounts falling due within one year

Customer security bonds	-	-
Taxation and social security	2,934	2,905
Trade creditors	3,940	3,636
Deferred income	1,000	1,693
Receipts in advance	715	908
	<u>8,589</u>	<u>9,142</u>

8. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**2022/23****2021/22**

Kitchen sales	3,009	1,134
Room hire	92,848	70,262
Fundraising	8,324	4,011
Sundry recharges	1,611	626
	<u>105,792</u>	<u>76,033</u>

9. RESOURCES EXPENDED

Resources expended include the following:-

Independent examiner's fee	625	600
Staff costs, including both salaried and agency staff:-		
Gross wages and salaries	151,807	132,054
Employers' National Insurance contributions	4,803	3,477
Employers' pension contributions	2,490	1,971

The average number of employees during 2022/23 was 3 full-time and 10 part-time employees, including agency staff. Staffing levels were consistent throughout the year.

10. CASH HELD ON BEHALF OF THIRD PARTIES

The Centre currently holds balances in its bank accounts on behalf of one community group.

The amount held at 31st March 2023 was £268 (£268 at 31st March 2022).

11. RESTRICTED FUNDS

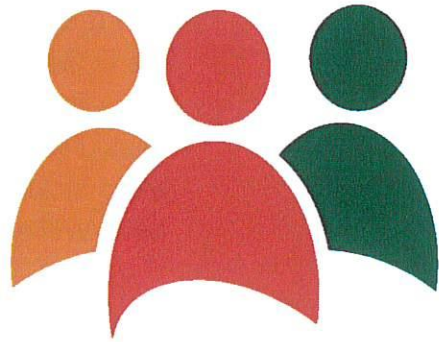
Detailed analysis of movement of funds for the year ended 31st March 2023

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfer between funds	Closing balance
Youth Work	2,440	-	-		2,440
BBC Children in Need	4,040	33,041	28,341		8,740
Maintenance Fund	-	3,258	-	2,715	543
CIL Fund	477	-	-		477
Elderly Projects	-	3,267	3,267		-
Science Shows	12,023	-	12,023		-
Allotment Project	2,602	-	2,602		-
This Girl Can	4,092	-	4,092		-
Loss Matters	2,083	-	1,831		252
Baby Brunch	4,912	1,488	6,848		(448)
Youth - Uplands	5,000	-	2,977		2,023
Sandwell Healthy Lifestyle	4,764	2,500	7,264		-
Places of Welcome	987	1,162	1,538		611
Community Offer	25,360	34,574	45,296		14,638
Cosy Communities		1,407	1,157		250
Loss Matters 23		4,170			4,170
SCIPS digital grant		802	380		422
Jubilee fund		10,745	10,745		-
Rewire project		8,151	4,754		3,397
	68,780	104,565	133,115	2,715	37,515

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1093189

Accounts



DOROTHYPARKES

Community Centre

**THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1093189

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charitable Incorporated Organisation: Conversion dated 14th February 2022

Registered Charity Number: 1093189

Chair: Mr P Martin – appointed 18/01/22

Trustees: Mrs J Andrews – appointed 24/05/22
Rev'd D Buckley – resigned 18/01/22
Ms G Gould
Mr D R Ingram
Miss J K Jones
Ms J Mckirdy
Mr S Williets

Registered Office: The Dorothy Parkes Centre
Church Road
Smethwick
West Midlands
B67 6EH

Bankers: HSBC
148, High Street
Harborne
Birmingham B17 9PN

Independent Examiner: Ms A Madden
Curo Chartered Accountants

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Board present their annual report and financial statements of the charity 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 accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

I am delighted to write a brief report as an introduction to the *Trustee's Report and Financial Statements* for the year ended 31st March 2022. As Chair of Trustees only since January this year, I should record my thanks and that of all the Trustees and those associated with the Centre for the committed work of the Reverend Deb Buckley who, for many years, combined the roles of Vicar of Old Church and Chair of the Board, helping to steer the Centre through the early trials of expanding its activities and then the challenges of the pandemic. We are exceedingly grateful also to Sian Smith who recorded the meetings of the Board, providing coherence to our discussions. We also acknowledge with gratitude the contributions of David Eynon who was a Trustee of the Centre since its establishment. We mourn his loss. We are grateful to Gill Gould who, whilst remaining a member of the Board, relinquished her role as Deputy Chair in January.

I remind myself that this is a Report up to the end of March 2022. Yet many other things have happened since then and some at least would be appropriate to record.

The Centre has no regular funding from the Church of England, from Old Church nor from Sandwell Council or other local and national bodies. As such, it is entirely dependent on monies granted from charitable bodies and other sources of funds and through the use of its own resources, principally the hiring out of the Centre halls and meeting rooms. The funds we receive pay for the projects for which they are given including the salaries of the staff, meet the salaries of the permanent staff, and the overheads of running the Centre including the continual refurbishment and improvement that is needed to satisfy the needs of our users. The Trustees acknowledge with gratitude the work of Rob Bruce as CEO, the members of staff and those who join us for particular projects, as well as the large numbers of volunteers who give generously and freely of their time. Without them, there would be no Dorothy Parkes Centre. Without their cheerful enthusiasm and warm welcome to our users and visitors, there would be no Dorothy Parkes Centre. We need also to ensure a source of funds – a reserve, to carry us through those unexpected times such as the pandemic or when the boiler gives up.

A detailed outline of the activities of the Dorothy Parkes Centre together with the sources of funds and their uses is provided in the pages that follow. In these very difficult times as the pandemic subsides but then returns and as our political leadership remains uncertain, it is excellent to note that 2021-22 produced a surplus of £46,000, money that will be invaluable

in ensuring the continuation of the Centre. This surplus is due largely to the work of our CEO who has been skilful in identifying sources of funding and writing convincing applications. This task will become increasingly important – and difficult in the austere times that are coming. We are grateful to our funders, our stakeholders, our partners, and all those who speak out for the Centre in the political arena. It was good to see a mention of the Centre activities in a recent edition of the *Guardian* newspaper.

Our bid for funds has been enhanced by the award early last year of a Trusted Charity accreditation, an indication of the efficient and appropriate way in which the Centre is managed. We have also benefitted immensely from an award from the Weston Charity – achieved against serious competition, for access to the *Pilotlight* programme. This has allowed the Centre to benefit from high-level management advice, drawing on wide experience in the charitable and for-profit world. The Dorothy Parkes Centre is close to 'full' in its use of resources – both staff and premises. As such, the future of the Centre will depend vitally on the making of appropriate strategic decisions including finding ways of working with others to meet the almost limitless needs of our users. We look forward to agreeing a Business Plan for the Centre that encapsulates the mission of the DPC, a vision for the future, and appropriate ways of achieving this.

As an aspect of the development of a Business Plan, although falling outside the period of the Annual Report, I am delighted to welcome new members to the *Board of Trustees* - Jodie Andrews, Stella Broster, Louise Johnson, Zaida Nembhard, and Amardeep Singh. We are exceedingly grateful also to Lynne Howard who provides an efficient record of our activities, not only to the Board but to the specialist committees concerned with Governance and Finance. We are truly grateful for the varied experience that each brings to the Board, for their freely given commitment of time and enthusiasm, as to all the members of the Board. The Centre has converted to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), a status appropriate to the Dorothy Parkes Centre and one that allows the continued contribution of all who wish it well.

The Dorothy Parkes Centre looks forward to contributing to the health and well-being of its community – all its users and all those who commit their time and energy as members of staff, as Trustees, as volunteers across a range of projects. It should be said again – we are all exceedingly grateful to those who contribute to the presence of the Dorothy Parkes Centre in Smethwick for without committed, enthusiastic contributions, there would be nothing to report, no Dorothy Parkes Centre.

Paul Martin (Chair)

TRUSTEES

The Trustees are responsible for the administration and management of the Centre and are Trustees for the purposes of Charity Law. The Trustees who served during the period are set out above in the Legal and Administrative Information and are collectively known as the Board of Trustees.

The Reverend Deb Buckley served as Chair from October 2014 and resigned on 18th January 2022. Paul Martin then became Chair and Jodie Andrews became a Trustee on 24th May 2022.

No remuneration was paid to any Trustee.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY

The principal object of the company is to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Smethwick, Sandwell, and the neighbourhood by associating together with the Local Authorities and Health Authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for advancement, recreation, and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions and quality of life.

ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

In April 2021, the Centre was reopened following a third national lockdown. A comprehensive risk assessment was carried out to ensure that we operated safely, and the community responded by coming to take part in activities they had missed. The Centre worked hard throughout the year in securing funding for new projects which included Women Only Fitness Classes, Science Shows, Baby Brunch and Community Play Plot. Dorothy Parkes Centre funded activities and projects which took place at various points throughout the year, and these include:

Community Allotment	Community Litter Pick	Yoga
Knitting & Crochet	Gentle Yoga	Gentle Exercise
Art Works for Wellbeing	Youth Club	Allotment Play Plot
School Uniform Giveaway	Community Offer	Afternoon Tea
This Girl Can	Loss Matters	Places of Welcome
Floristry Courses	Jewellery Making	Community Cinema
Science Shows	Baby Brunch	Your Health Matters

External groups and activities which have been held at the Centre throughout the year include:

Taekwondo	CMJ Studios	GKR Karate
Polling Station	Fit Steps	Glow Beatz
PB Fitness	Kumon Tutoring	Sew with Kim

Steps to Work	Bright Minds Tutoring	Girls Friendly Society
NHS Mental Health Support	Let's Talk Hope	Slimming World
Good Afternoon Club	Smethwick Heritage	Centre Spot Football
Pentecost Church	National Teaching & Advisory Service	
Manoj Yoga	JTL Training	Ghanaian Groups
Council Surgeries	Police Surgeries	Everyone Health

CENTRE DEVELOPMENTS

In February 2022, the Dorothy Parkes Centre formally converted to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), adopting a foundation model constitution. This had been our intention for a couple of years but was delayed due to COVID. The constitution is now fit for purpose and better represents our organisation as it is today.

In May 2021 we were informed that we were a Weston Charity Awards winner and as a result we received a £6,500 unrestricted grant and ten months support from a team of Pilotlighters. This support has proved to be invaluable in helping us work on our business and strategic planning and in recruiting new Trustees and seeing through the transition of a new Chair of the Board of Trustees.

In March 2021 we received official notice that we had achieved Trusted Charity Level One Accreditation. This recognises the excellent work we do as a third sector organisation in England and our effective and efficient operational management. The Trusted Charity Standard is owned by the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) and delivered by The Growth Company. It is the only UK quality standard designed to help third sector organisations operate more effectively and efficiently.

In May 2022, we were informed that our National Lottery Partnerships Community Fund application had been successful. This means that we can proceed in delivering a new project, Rewire, in partnership with SinglePoint Plus and Breathing Space Therapeutic Services. We aim to launch the two-year project in September 2022 and hope that it will bring many benefits to primary school aged children and their families around post COVID recovery.

In May 2021 we reached an agreement with Uplands Manor Primary School to sub-let their facilities during out of school hours. This has been a great arrangement for both parties and means that local community sports groups can hire out the sports hall, playing fields, and/or Multi-Use Gaming Area during evenings and weekends. This is another example of a way in which we have tried to diversify our sources of income.

We have continued to build and develop partnerships and positive relationships with local organisations. We would like to thank St Albans Community Association, North Smethwick Development Trust, Femtinos, Bearwood Community Hub, Black Country Touring, Go Play

Sandwell, Friends of Thimblemill Brook, Bearwood Allotments, SinglePoint Plus, Breathing Space Therapeutic Services, Benson Community Project, Living Memory Project, Sandwell Council of Voluntary Organisations, Smethwick Police, Sandwell Community Hubs, Conifers Day Nursery, Smethwick Old Church and Uplands Manor Primary School for working together with us and helping us to reach more members of our local community.

MAINTENANCE OF THE BUILDING

Thanks to funding from the FCC Communities Foundation, we were able to install new UPVC windows throughout our Centre. These replaced the old timber windows and as well as looking good and being more secure, they will also be more energy efficient. Funding from Sandwell Council's Community Infrastructure Levy Fund allowed us to purchase new tub chairs for our foyer area and new chairs for our meeting room. This has been a real asset for us as more and more people start using our foyer again. The chairs in the Meeting Room, which are more comfortable than those previously, have helped create a warmer, pleasant environment for groups such as Loss Matters.

We have reached an agreement with Utilita as part of their Solar for Schools and Community Buildings, to have solar panels installed at our centre. The talks and the planning have been in motion for over twelve months, but this has now been approved by our Board and the installation will take place later this year. The anticipated energy savings over 25-year lifespan is £25,750.

In August 2021, after many years of appeals and campaigns to Sandwell Council, and a successful Better Streets Fund application, traffic lights were installed on a dangerous junction outside our Centre. We were delighted with this as the previous set up was dangerous for all pedestrians, encouraged speeding and resulted in several road traffic collisions. We were extremely concerned that there would be, at some point, a fatality so we were extremely pleased that our persistence had paid off and since the lights were installed, the speeding has reduced significantly, and members of our local community can use the junction much more safely.

Our Community Allotment has seen some significant changes over the course of the year which has made it safer, more accessible and maximised the use of growing space. This year's growing season will undoubtedly be our best in terms of produce. We are extremely grateful for the support we have received from WATES, Bridges Construction, and Arnold Laver in helping with free materials and labour at various points throughout the year.

All annual checks including the moveable walls service, PAT testing, emergency lighting, hot water urn, fire equipment/alarm, intruder alarm, gas safety certificate & pest control services have been completed.

VOLUNTEERS

The Board of Directors extend their grateful thanks to all the volunteers who support the staff team to deliver the service seven days a week. There is a strong team of volunteers who all support the Centre in many ways. This year, volunteers have been recruited and supported

by our Community Navigator, Fionnuala. In total, 32 volunteers have supported the Centre in the last year.

At our Centre, we are proud to take on and support work experience placements. This year, we have had five placements from local high schools, colleges, and universities. Each placement spends a week with us, learning different roles and they gain a food hygiene certificate via our training provider which they keep for three years,

STAFFING

There are 12 members of staff at the Dorothy Parkes Centre including three full time staff members. The team is led by the CEO, Robert Bruce, who is supported by Jodie Griffiths (Administrator), Fionnuala O'Brien (Community Navigator), Tessa Taylor (Bookkeeper), Vince Nelson & Ashley Green (Caretakers), Nicola Nolan (Cleaner), Nicky Pinnock (Senior Youth Worker), Jabeen Nabi, Haleema Kousar, Karl Blick (Youth Workers) and Paul Randall (Community Allotment Plot Lead). This year we said goodbye to Hugo Clarke (Youth Worker) and Karen Palmer (Community Allotment Project Coordinator). We wish them both every success in their future endeavours and thank them for their service at Dorothy Parkes Centre.

All staff are up-to-date with training covering First Aid, Fire Marshal, Safeguarding Adults, Safeguarding Children, Food Safety, Health & Safety, Data Protection and COVID-19 Infection, Prevention and Control. The Board of Directors would like to thank the staff team for their continued commitment to providing a service to the local community.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Charitable Trust Funding

None of the work carried out at the Dorothy Parkes Centre would be possible without the generous support of the following grant-making Charitable Trusts and businesses who all supported our Centre between April 2021 and March 2022:

Ratcliff Foundation	Millennium Point Charitable Trust
Weston Charity Awards	Arnold Clark Community Fund
Power to Change - Community Business Renewal Fund	Lord Austin Trust
Groundwork UK - Comic Relief Capacity Building Grants	This Girl Can Community Fund
The National Lottery - Awards for All	Power to Change - Powering Up
Harborne Parish Lands Charity	The WATES Group
FCC Communities Foundation	Sandwell MBC - CIL Fund
SCVO Vision 2030 Community Mental Health Grant	Goodenough Charitable Trust
Cole Charitable Trust	W.E.Dunn Trust
George Henry Collins	Baron Davenport's Charity
The Grimmitt Trust	The Limoges Trust
The Saintbury Trust	Sir John Sumner
The Roger & Douglas Turner Trust	Geoff Hill Charitable Trust
The Rowlands Trust	Black Country Consortium
The G.J.W Turner Trust	W.A. Cadbury Trust
SCVO Vision 2030 Grant	The Grantham Yorke Trust
BBC Children in Need	Arnold Laver
Sandwell MBC – Community Offer	Bridges Construction Limited

The financial position at the end of 2021/22 was a surplus of £46,272.

£239,006 was secured during this financial year. £88,130 of this funding was for core costs and £150,876 was restricted funding. Income gained from a combination of private and community room hire was £70,262, an increase of £44,541 on last year which was severely impacted due to COVID-19. We gained £1,134 from kitchen sales, which was an increase on last years amount of £110 but wasn't at full capacity again due to COVID-19. There was an increase of £1,487 in our own fundraising income compared to last year. We are still committed to doing more fundraising events and raising more funds for the Centre this year.

Reserves Policy

The Charity has no guaranteed source of long-term income and hence aims to maintain reserves at the level required to fund one year's operations without additional charitable income. The merit of this policy has been seen in the past and we are attempting to rebuild our reserves to the desired level over the next three years. The balance held in unrestricted funds at 31st March 2022 was £97,182. A further £68,780 was held in restricted funds.

ORGANISATION

The Charity is governed by a Board of Trustees, which delegates certain decisions to Trustees, Sub-committees, or Employees. The Charity employs a Chief Executive Officer who has delegated authority to take day-to-day decisions on the running and management of the Charity and to act as manager of other employees of the Centre. The Chief Executive Officer reports to the Board at each Board meeting.

Risk Management

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and have established systems intended to mitigate those risks. These include:

- The operation of a scheme of delegation of decision-making between the Board, any subgroups of the Board set up for specific purposes and the Chief Executive Officer.
- The monitoring and review of operational decisions at Board meetings, which take place six times a year, now supported by a regular report.
- The monitoring and review of monthly management accounts by the Board.
- The maintenance of policies and procedures governing the key areas of activity and financial decision-making are reviewed and updated on an annual basis.
- The requirement for two named signatories to sign cheques on behalf of the Centre.
- The existence of contracts and service level agreements to govern working arrangements with our most significant partner organisations.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

We have recently completed the support programme with Pilotlight as part of the Weston Charity Awards. Our intentions are to use the support to help us create a 5-year strategic and business plan and understand the resources we need and how we expect to generate income/funding. We want to be confident about our future after the next five years. We want to ensure that we recruit new Trustees, with skills gaps addressed and ensuring that tasks,

roles, and responsibilities are clear.

There are plans to further improve facilities within the Centre and to strengthen and increase staffing capacity. Our community will need support in this post COVID world and with the cost-of-living crisis. We intend on consulting with our community and local providers to ensure that we are offering as much support as possible. The launch of the Rewire project in September 2022 will be the first new project of the year and we will work hard to create new projects and ensure that current projects which are due to end can become sustainable.

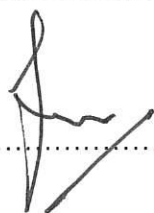
STATEMENT OF BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the charity and of its financial position at the end of that year. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are responsible and prudent;
- State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and with applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in existence.

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

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 20th October 2022, following approval of the annual accounts by the Board of Trustees on 23rd October 2022, and signed on its behalf by;



.....

Date.....20.10.22.....

Mr Paul Martin (Chair)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

I report to the Charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022 which are set out on pages 12 to 18.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

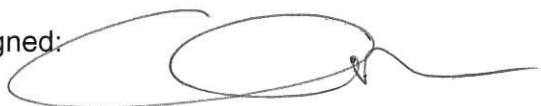
Independent examiner's statement

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 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Anna Madden 27/10/22

Relevant professional qualification or body: FCA

Address: Curo Chartered Accountants, Curo House, Greenbox, Westonhall Road, Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, B60 4AL

Date:

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES, TO 31.03.2022**

Incoming Resources		2021/22			2020/21
	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
Voluntary Income		88,130	150,876	239,006	167,905
Charitable Activities	8	76,033	-	76,033	30,363
Bank Interest	4	95	-	95	160
Total Incoming Resources		164,258	150,876	315,134	198,428
Expenditure					
	Notes				
Cost of generating funds		115	-	115	363
Charitable Activities		121,538	146,634	268,172	128,111
Governance Costs		575	-	575	525
Total Expenditure		122,228	146,634	268,862	128,999
Surplus/(Deficit) for year		42,030	4,242	46,272	69,429
Gross transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		55,151	64,538	119,689	50,260
Add surplus/(deficit)		42,030	4,242	46,272	69,429
Total funds carried forward	11	97,181	68,780	165,961	119,689

Details of incoming resources and resources used are given in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

**THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
BALANCE SHEET
As at 31.03.2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Prior Year 2021
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	5	2,416	-	2,416	462
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	6	17,855	-	17,855	9,740
Cash at bank & in hand	10	86,052	68,780	154,832	114,072
Total current assets		103,907	68,780	172,687	123,812
LIABILITIES					
Creditors - amounts falling Due within one year	7	9,142	-	9,142	4,585
Total net current assets		94,767	68,780	163,545	119,227
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
NET ASSETS		97,181	68,780	165,961	119,689
Reserves					
Unrestricted				97,182	55,151
Restricted	11			68,780	64,538
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS				165,961	119,689


For the year ending 31st March 2022, the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

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

Approved by the Trustees of the Dorothy Parkes Centre on 20th October 2022, and signed on behalf of the board:-


Mr Paul Martin (Chair)

Date: 20.10.22

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ending 31st March 2022.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the Charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The Charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the statement of recommended practice for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

Income and Expenditure Account

The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) on page 13 of these accounts is also the Income and Expenditure account. The Company has no unrealised gains or losses and consequently the net income and expenditure for the year is the same as the net movements of funds as shown in the SoFA.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SoFA on an accruals basis when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Where restrictions are placed on incoming resources by the donor these are placed in restricted funds.

Since the charitable purposes of the Centre are based on running a community centre at the Dorothy Parkes Centre to promote activities promoting healthy living in mind, body and spirit, it has been decided that income generated from the use of the Centre for such activities should be classified as incoming resources from charitable activities and that this represents the most appropriate accounting policy.

Voluntary income consists of grants received or receivable. Grant applications are made to a wide range of funding bodies by the Chief Executive Officer.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they are allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

As the charitable objects of the Dorothy Parkes Centre include managing and administering the Centre, we consider that the majority of our costs, other than those which fall specifically under other expenditure categories under SORP (FRS 102), should be categorised as costs of charitable activities. These include the costs of maintaining the Centre and the salary costs of Centre staff as well as the costs of pursuing particular projects at the Centre. It is considered that this represents the most appropriate accounting policy for the disclosure of these transactions.

Governance costs include legal costs, the costs of preparing our annual accounts, the cost of independent examination and the costs of board and committee meetings. Although it is no longer a requirement under SORP (FRS 102) to show governance costs separately they have been shown in the SoFA as a matter of transparency and for the benefit of funders.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at historical cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives, at the following rates,

Computer equipment	33% p/a of cost
Office equipment	25% - 100% p/a of cost
Leasehold improvements	14.3% p/a of cost

Equipment purchased for a specific project is depreciated over the planned or expected life of the project.

Depreciation is charged from the year in which the asset is acquired. See Note 5.

Debtors

Grants receivable are recognised when the Centre has met the conditions required to receive the grant but have not yet received the associated cash at the end of the financial year.

Creditors

Customer security bonds represent amounts paid by those hiring rooms at the Centre. These amounts are repayable if the customer adheres to the agreed conditions of their room hire.

Deferred income represents amounts of cash received by the Centre in relation to grants awarded to the Centre for activities in future years.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in accordance with the charitable objects of the charity.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for specific purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific restricted fund. The aim and use of each material restricted fund is set out in Note 11, detailed analysis of movement of funds.

Funds are transferred from restricted to unrestricted funds to reflect the cost of tangible fixed assets purchased in full or in part from unrestricted funds. The net book value of the tangible fixed assets is held within the unrestricted funds. No such transfers have been made in the current year.

The Charity has no endowment funds.

2. TURNOVER

Turnover is attributable solely to continuing operations and derives from one activity, that of charitable activity within the Dorothy Parkes Centre.

3. OPERATING SURPLUS

This is stated after charging depreciation on owned assets of £960 in 2021/22 (£230 in 2020/21).

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

£95 investment income was earned in 2021/22, £160 in the preceding year.

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

(Equipment)

Cost

At 1st April 2021	38,656
Additions	2,914
Disposals	-
At 31st March 2022	<u>41,570</u>

Accumulated depreciation

At 1st April 2021	38,194
Charge for the year	960
Disposals	-
At 31st March 2022	<u>39,154</u>

Net book value at 31st March 2021 462

Net book value at 31st March 2022 **2,416**

6. DEBTORS

Amounts falling due within one year

	31st March 2022	31st March 2021
Trade debtors	13,158	5,472
Grants receivable	-	-
Taxation	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	4,697	4,268
	<u>17,855</u>	<u>9,740</u>

7. CREDITORS	31st March 2022	31st March 2021
Amounts falling due within one year		
Customer security bonds	-	-
Taxation and social security	2,905	1,312
Trade creditors	3,636	2,273
Deferred income	1,693	1,000
Receipts in advance	908	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	9,142	4,585

8. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	2021/22	2020/21
Kitchen sales	1,134	110
Room hire	70,262	25,721
Fundraising	4,011	2,524
Sundry recharges	626	2,008
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	76,033	30,363

9. RESOURCES EXPENDED

Resources expended include the following:-

Independent examiner's fee	600	600
Staff costs, including both salaried and agency staff:-		
Gross wages and salaries	132,054	78,713
Employers' National Insurance contributions	3,477	1,769
Employers' pension contributions	1,971	1,351

The average number of employees during 2021/22 was 3 full-time and 10 part-time employees, including agency staff. Staffing levels were consistent throughout the year.

10. CASH HELD ON BEHALF OF THIRD PARTIES

The Centre currently holds balances in its bank accounts on behalf of one community group.

The amount held at 31st March 2022 was £268 (£268 at 31st March 2021).

11. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Detailed analysis of movement of funds for the year ended 31st March 2022

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing balance
Youth Work	3,085	-	645	2,440
BBC Children in Need	13,921	26,350	36,231	4,040
Maintenance Fund	447	18,538	18,985	-
CIL Fund	-	3,260	2,783	477
Elderly Projects	-	4,086	4,086	-
CRM Software	-	1,000	1,000	-
Energy Efficiency	1,042	-	1,042	-
Science Shows	-	20,000	7,977	12,023
Allotment Project	18,005	715	16,118	2,602
Creative Arts Fund	4,642	-	4,642	-
This Girl Can	-	10,000	5,908	4,092
Loss Matters	-	6,000	3,917	2,083
Baby Brunch	-	4,912	-	4,912
Youth - Uplands	-	5,000	-	5,000
Sandwell Healthy Lifestyle	-	4,764	-	4,764
Places of Welcome	-	1,500	513	987
Community Offer	23,396	44,751	42,787	25,360
	<hr/> 64,538	<hr/> 150,876	<hr/> 146,634	<hr/> 68,780

There were no transfers between funds

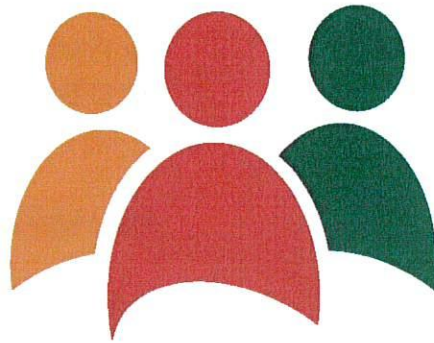
THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1093189

Accounts

04088772 (ENGLAND AND WALES)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1093189



DOROTHYPARKES

Community Centre

**THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
DIRECTORS' AND TRUSTEES' REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

COMPANY NUMBER: 04088772 (England & Wales)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1093189

CHAIR: Rev'd Debra Buckley

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES: Mr D E Eynon – resigned 25/08/21
Mr D R Ingram
Miss J K Jones
Ms G Gould
Mr S Williets
Ms J McKirdy
Mr P Martin
Mr D Burgess – resigned 25/08/21

COMPANY SECRETARY: Ms J McKirdy

REGISTERED OFFICE: The Dorothy Parkes Centre
Church Road
Smethwick
West Midlands
B67 6EH

BANKERS: HSBC
148, High Street
Harborne
Birmingham B17 9PN

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER: Ms A Madden
Curo Chartered Accountants

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE

DIRECTORS' AND TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Board present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

TRUSTEES

The trustees are responsible for the administration and management of the Centre and are directors for the purposes of company law and trustees for the purposes of charity law. The trustees who served during the period are set out above in the legal and administrative information and are collectively known as the Board of Directors.

Members of the charitable Company guarantee to contribute to the amount not exceeding £1 each to the assets of the company in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees as at 31st March 2021 was 16.

Rev'd Deb Buckley was elected as chair in October 2014 and has served during the year under review. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of Smethwick Old Church has the power, under the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Centre, to appoint up to five other directors. The trustees of the Chapelry of Smethwick may nominate one member. Up to five other directors may be elected by members of the Company and up to three members may be co-opted by a decision of the Board.

Damian Burgess served as a trustee throughout the year and resigned on 25th August 2021 and David Eynon, a long standing and passionate trustee, passed away in August 2021.

No remuneration was paid to any trustee.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY

The company was formed to oversee the charitable activities taking place in The Dorothy Parkes Centre and is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The principal object of the company is to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Smethwick, Sandwell, and the neighbourhood by associating together the said inhabitants and the local authorities and health authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for advancement, recreation, and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions and quality of life.

ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

In March 2020, the Centre was forced to close because of the COVID-19 outbreak and the enforced lockdown. The Centre followed Government guidance throughout the year and reopened, when safe to do so, and closed, during the periods of lockdown. As a result, several the regular activities taking place at the Centre were impacted with some groups remaining on hold and others choosing not to return.

The Dorothy Parkes Centre team were adaptable to the situation and went on to provide services and activities virtually, including online Youth Club sessions, Floristry Courses, Art Workshops, Virtual Cream Tea, Online Theatre, and a Telephone Befriending Service. Activities and projects which were able to take place at various points throughout the year include:

Community Allotment Plot	Community Litter Pick	Youth Club
Knitting & Crochet	Gentle Yoga	Baby Ballet
Art Works for Wellbeing	Taekwondo	Slimming World
Yoga	Zumba Gold	Extend Exercise
CMJ Studios	GKR Karate	Place of Welcome
Polling Station	School Uniform Giveaway	Play Plot
Fit Steps	Glow Beatz	PB Fitness
Kumon Tutoring	Community Offer	Sewing

CENTRE DEVELOPMENTS

A real positive this year was the development of partnerships with local organisations and the ability to work together and support people when most in need. We would like to thank St Albans Community Association, Bearwood Community Hub, Black Country Touring, Go Play Sandwell, Friends of Thimblemill Brook, Sandwell Community Hubs, Conifers Day Nursery, Smethwick Old Church and Uplands Manor Primary School for working together with us and helping us to reach more members of our local community.

The work carried out by Pilotlight UK as part of the Unlocking Insights programme was invaluable as it included stakeholder analysis, staff skills audit, and a SWOT analysis which has helped the board think about the future, in a post COVID world, and how the Centre can be most effective in supporting our local community.

The Centre has been completing a Self-Assessment as part of the Trusted Charity Level One accreditation scheme. Trusted Charity is a flexible and outcome-focused quality standard designed to help charities operate more effectively and efficiently. The deadline for this is 1st August 2021 and so far over 600 pieces of evidence have been submitted covering 11 quality areas including governance, managing people, working with others, and managing money.

MAINTENANCE OF THE BUILDING

The periods in lockdown have enabled us to secure funds to invest in improving the look of the Centre. The halls, foyer, and doors have all been painted, there is new carpet in the foyer, new internal and external fire doors and new LED lighting has been installed throughout the Centre. All cast iron guttering has been replaced with plastic and the underfloor heating system in the nursery can now be controlled remotely via smart controls. We have some new storage units, and we have funding applications pending which, if successful, will allow us to install new UPVC windows throughout the Centre and purchase new furniture for the foyer and meeting room areas.

The annual checks including the moveable walls service, PAT testing, emergency lighting, hot water urn, fire equipment/alarm, intruder alarm, gas safety certificate & pest control services have all taken place.

Work has recently begun on making the notoriously dangerous junction outside the Centre safer. This is something the Centre has been campaigning for, over several years and is happening as a result of the Centre securing funds via the Better Streets Fund. The works include the installation of new traffic signals with pedestrian crossing facilities which will control traffic through the junction and improve safety and access for the public.

VOLUNTEERS

The Board of Directors extend their grateful thanks to all the volunteers who support the staff team to deliver the service seven days a week. There is a strong team of volunteers who all support the Centre in many ways. This year, volunteers have been recruited and supported by our Community Navigator, Fionnuala. In total, 42 volunteers have supported the Centre in the last year.

STAFFING

The Centre's staff team has increased and there are now thirteen employees in total, led by the CEO, Robert Bruce. Robert is supported by a team consisting of Jodie Griffiths (Administrator), Fionnuala O'Brien (Community Navigator), Tessa Taylor (Bookkeeper), Vince Nelson & Ashley Green (Caretakers), Nicola Nolan (Cleaner), Nicky Pinnock (Senior Youth Worker), Jabeen Nabi, Hugo Clarke, Haleema Kousar, & Karl Blick (Youth Workers) and Karen Palmer (Community Allotment Project Coordinator). Fionnuala, Hugo, and Haleema, were all new to the team this year and we said goodbye to Ayesha Hussain who left her post as Youth Worker.

All staff are up-to-date with training covering First Aid, Fire Marshal, Manual Handling, Safeguarding Adults, Safeguarding Children, COSHH, Food Safety, Health & Safety, Data Protection and COVID-19 Infection, Prevention and Control.

The Board of Directors would like to thank the staff team for their continued commitment to providing a service to the local community.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Charitable Trust Funding

None of the work carried out at the Dorothy Parkes Centre would be possible without the generous support of the following grant-making Charitable Trusts:

Heart of England - Coronavirus Resilience Fund	Eric Vincent Trust
Sport England - Community Emergency Fund	Lord Austin Trust
Cole Charitable Trust	The Saintbury Trust
VINCI Foundation COVID-19 Funding	The G.J.W Turner Trust
Power to Change Emergency Trading Income Support Scheme	The Limoges Trust
The National Lottery - Coronavirus Community Support Fund	The Jarman Trust
South Staffs Water - Pebble Fund	Postcode Local Trust
Goodenough Charitable Trust	SCVO Vision 2030 Grant
Utilita	Richard Kilcuppes
Goodenough Charitable Trust	Bishop's Charitable Trust
Arnold Clark Community Fund	Ratcliff Foundation
Power to Change - Community Business Renewal Fund	Lord Austin Trust
The National Lottery - Awards for All	Weston Charity Awards
Harborne Parish Lands Charity	
Groundwork UK - Comic Relief Capacity Building Grants	

The Centre has also benefitted from the following:

The Wates Group – Materials and labour at our Community Allotment Plot
Power to Change - Powering Up – Business and Strategic Planning Support
Pilotlight UK – Unlocking Insights – Professional Business Support
Bridges Construction Limited – Materials and labour at our Community Allotment Plot
Lovell Homes – Materials and labour at our Community Allotment Plot

The financial position at the end of 2020/21 was a surplus of £69,429.

£167,905 was secured during this financial year. £77,434 of this funding was for core costs and £90,471 was restricted funding. Income gained from room hire was £25,721, a decrease of £42,062 on last year due to the impact of COVID-19 on community group & private room hire which was severely impacted. We gained £110 from kitchen sales, which was a big decrease on last year of £3,862, again due to COVID-19. There was a decrease of £2,518 in our own fundraising income compared to last year. However, we are pleased to have raised £2,524 via online raffles and a sponsored run to help support the Centre during a challenging time. We are still committed to do more fundraising events and raise more funds for the Centre.

Reserves Policy

The charity has no guaranteed source of long-term income and hence aims to maintain reserves at the level required to fund one year's operations without additional charitable income. The merit of this policy has been seen in the past and we are attempting to rebuild our reserves to the desired level over the next three years. The balance held in unrestricted funds at 31st March 2021 was £55,151. A further £64,538 was held in restricted funds.

ORGANISATION

The charity is governed by a Board of Directors, which delegates certain decisions to directors, groups of directors or employees. Members who are not Directors may attend the Annual General Meeting and may vote on matters discussed at the meeting.

The Company employs a Chief Executive Officer who has delegated authority to take day-to-day decisions on the running and management of the Company and to act as manager of other employees of the Centre. The Chief Executive Officer reports to the Board at each board meeting.

Risk Management

The trustees have reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and have established systems intended to mitigate those risks. These include:

- The operation of a scheme of delegation of decision-making between the Board, any subgroups of the Board set up for specific purposes and the Chief Executive Officer.
- The monitoring and review of operational decisions at Board meetings, which take place six times a year, now supported by a regular report.
- The monitoring and review of monthly management accounts by the Board.
- The maintenance of policies and procedures governing the key areas of activity and financial decision-making are reviewed and updated on an annual basis.
- The requirement for two named signatories to sign cheques on behalf of the Centre.
- The existence of contracts and service level agreements to govern working arrangements with our most significant partner organisations.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The Centre has recently been a Weston Charity Award Winner for 2021/22 and as a result will receive ten months support based around developing a business and strategic plan for 2022 - 2025 which will ensure the organisation is sustainable and has ambitions for growth. Funding from Groundwork UK - Comic Relief Capacity Building Grants, has enabled us to purchase a new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system. This will allow us to work more efficiently and safely in terms of data protection and will help us communicate better with stakeholders and produce impact, quality, and monitoring reports.

We have recently secured funds which will allow us to deliver new projects such as Free Women's Only Fitness Classes and Free Science Workshops for primary school children during school holidays. We are hoping to convert a pilot bereavement support project for adults into a longer-term project, subject to funding and likewise a COVID-19 Recovery Programme for two years in partnership with local providers to support primary school aged children around mental health and behavioral challenges in a post COVID-19 world. If successful, these will bring the number of projects directly delivered by Dorothy Parkes Centre to 19.

We are looking to recruit new board members in the next year and have carried out a board skills audit to help us identify any gaps in skillsets so we can then target the most appropriate areas. We also want our board to better represent the community we serve and be more diverse.

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE

DIRECTORS' AND TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

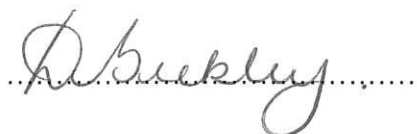
STATEMENT OF BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the charity and of its financial position at the end of that year. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are responsible and prudent;
- State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and with applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in existence.

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

This report was approved by the Board of Directors on 1st October 2021, following approval of the annual accounts by the Board of Directors and trustees on 1st October 2021, and signed on its behalf by;

.....

Date...5th October 2021

Rev'd Debra Buckley (Chair)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2021 which are set out on pages 10 to 16.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

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

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Name: Anna Madden



Relevant professional qualification or body: FCA

Address: Curo Chartered Accountants, Curo House, Greenbox, Westonhall Road, Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, B60 4AL

Date: 7/10/21

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES, TO 31.03.2021

Incoming Resources		2020/21			2019/20
	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
Voluntary Income		77,434	90,471	167,905	95,007
Charitable Activities	8	30,363	-	30,363	78,018
Bank Interest	4	160	-	160	160
Total Incoming Resources		107,957	90,471	198,428	173,185
Expenditure					
	Notes				
Cost of generating funds		363	-	363	1,106
Charitable Activities		73,190	54,921	128,111	174,589
Governance Costs		525	-	525	600
Total Expenditure		74,078	54,921	128,999	176,295
Surplus/(Deficit) for year		33,879	35,550	69,429	(3,110)
Gross transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		21,272	28,988	50,260	53,370
Add surplus/(deficit)		33,879	35,550	69,429	(3,110)
Total funds carried forward	11	55,151	64,538	119,689	50,260

Details of incoming resources and resources used are given in the Notes to the financial Statements.

**THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE
BALANCE SHEET
As at 31.03.2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021	Prior Year 2020
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	5	462	-	462	-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	6	9,740	-	9,740	8,702
Cash at bank & in hand	10	49,534	64,538	114,072	46,782
Total current assets		59,274	64,538	123,812	55,484
LIABILITIES					
Creditors - amounts falling Due within one year	7	4,585	-	4,585	5,224
Total net current assets		54,689	64,538	119,227	50,260
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
NET ASSETS		55,151	64,538	119,689	50,260
Reserves					
Unrestricted				55,151	21,272
Restricted	11			64,538	28,988
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS				119,689	50,260

For the year ending 31st March 2021, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

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

Approved by the Trustees of the Dorothy Parkes Centre on 1st October 2021, and signed on behalf of the board:-



Revd. Debra Buckley (Chair)

Date: 5th October 2021

THE DOROTHY PARKES CENTRE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ending 31st March 2021.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income and Expenditure Account

The Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) on page 10 of these accounts is also the Income and expenditure account. The company has no unrealised gains or losses and consequently the net income and expenditure for the year is the same as the net movements of funds as shown in the SoFA.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SoFA on an accruals basis when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Where restrictions are placed on incoming resources by the donor these are placed in restricted funds.

Since the charitable purposes of the Centre are based on running a community centre at the Dorothy Parkes Centre to promote activities promoting healthy living in mind, body and spirit, it has been decided that income generated from the use of the Centre for such activities should be classified as incoming resources from charitable activities and that this represents the most appropriate accounting policy.

Voluntary income consists of grants received or receivable. Grant applications are made to a wide range of funding bodies by the Chief Executive Officer.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they are allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

As the charitable objects of the Dorothy Parkes Centre include managing and administering the Centre, we consider that the majority of our costs, other than those which fall specifically under other expenditure categories under SORP (FRS 102), should be categorised as costs of charitable activities. These include the costs of maintaining the Centre and the salary costs of Centre staff as well as the costs of pursuing particular projects at the Centre. It is considered that this represents the most appropriate accounting policy for the disclosure of these transactions.

Governance costs include legal costs, the costs of preparing our annual accounts, the cost of independent examination and the costs of board and committee meetings. Although it is no longer a requirement under SORP (FRS 102) to show governance costs separately they have been shown in the SoFA as a matter of transparency and for the benefit of funders.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at historical cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives, at the following rates:-

Computer equipment	33% p/a of cost
Office equipment	25% - 100% p/a of cost
Leasehold improvements	14.3% p/a of cost

Equipment purchased for a specific project is depreciated over the planned or expected life of the project.

Depreciation is charged from the year in which the asset is acquired. See Note 5.

Debtors

Grants receivable are recognised when the Centre has met the conditions required to receive the grant but have not yet received the associated cash at the end of the financial year.

Creditors

Customer security bonds represent amounts paid by those hiring rooms at the Centre. These amounts are repayable if the customer adheres to the agreed conditions of their room hire.

Deferred income represents amounts of cash received by the Centre in relation to grants awarded to the Centre for activities in future years.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in accordance with the charitable objects of the charity.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for specific purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific restricted fund. The aim and use of each material restricted fund is set out in Note 11, detailed analysis of movement of funds.

Funds are transferred from restricted to unrestricted funds to reflect the cost of tangible fixed assets purchased in full or in part from unrestricted funds. The net book value of the tangible fixed assets is held within the unrestricted funds. No such transfers have been made in the current year.

The charity has no endowment funds.

2. TURNOVER

Turnover is attributable solely to continuing operations and derives from one activity, that of charitable activity within the Dorothy Parkes Centre.

3. OPERATING SURPLUS

This is stated after charging depreciation on owned assets of £230 in 2020/21 (£0 in 2019/20).

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

£160 investment income was earned in 2020/21, £160 in the preceding year.

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (Equipment)

Cost

At 1st April 2020	37,964
Additions	692
Disposals	-
At 31st March 2021	<u>38,656</u>

Accumulated depreciation

At 1st April 2020	37,964
Charge for the year	230
Disposals	-
At 31st March 2021	<u>38,194</u>

Net book value at 31st March 2020	-
Net book value at 31st March 2021	<u>462</u>

6. DEBTORS

Amounts falling due within one year

	31st March 2021	31st March 2020
Trade debtors	5,472	4,112
Grants receivable	-	-
Taxation	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	4,268	4,590
	<u>9,740</u>	<u>8,702</u>

7. CREDITORS

Amounts falling due within one year

	31st March 2021	31st March 2020
Customer security bonds	-	-
Taxation and social security	1,312	2,322
Trade creditors	2,273	1,954
Deferred income	1,000	-
Receipts in advance	-	948
	4,585	5,224

8. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2020/21	2019/20
Kitchen sales	110	3,972
Room hire	25,721	67,783
Fundraising	2,524	5,042
Sundry recharges	2,008	1,221
	30,363	78,018

9. RESOURCES EXPENDED

Resources expended include the following:-

Independent examiner's fee	600	600
Staff costs, including both salaried and agency staff:-		
Gross wages and salaries	78,713	89,117
Employers' National Insurance contributions	1,769	1,603
Employers' pension contributions	1,351	1,067

The average number of employees during 2020/21 was 3 full-time and 8 part-time employees, including agency staff. Staffing levels varied through the year.

10. CASH HELD ON BEHALF OF THIRD PARTIES

The Centre currently holds balances in its bank accounts on behalf of one community group.

The amount held at 31st March 2021 was £268 (£268 at 31st March 2020).

11. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Detailed analysis of movement of funds for the year ended 31st March 2021

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing balance
Youth Work	3,651	-	(566)	3,085
BBC Children in Need	7,640	24,832	(18,551)	13,921
Maintenance Fund	500	1,250	(1,303)	447
Energy Efficiency	1,042	-	-	1,042
Allotment Project	8,498	20,204	(10,697)	18,005
Creative Arts Fund	964	5,498	(1,820)	4,642
Community Offer	6,693	38,687	(21,984)	23,396
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	28,988	90,471	(54,921)	64,538

There were no transfers between funds