

Little Acorns Annual General Meeting 2024

Chairperson's Report

September 2023 – August 2024

We opened this school year in September 2023 with a record number of children attending. 19 2 and 3 year olds and 12 in their final year with us before moving up to Primary School in September 2024. Jenny started in her role as setting supervisor and I took on the role of chairperson ahead of this school year starting. I am so proud of how Jenny has taken on her role as supervisor and she has worked so hard this year to ensure that Little Acorns continues to thrive. I visit the setting regularly and it is lovely to see the children and staff so happy.

The biggest challenge we have faced this year is the building we are in. Evershot Parish hall is now very much showing signs of its age, and this was very apparent, especially in the winter months. We are currently in discussions with the new hall committee and Dorset Council to access any funding we can to improve the facilities we have to use in the hall. The Hall committee are very supportive of continuing to have Little Acorns in the hall and so we will continue to work together to improve the hall for us and all other users in the community.

Fundraising has been quite successful this year with Bags 2 school being organised by Jenny raising £175. The annual Rampisham toy sale raised £119 with Abi, Jenny, Julia and Astrid helping. Debbie organised the smarties challenge for the Easter holidays, raising £95 and Abi and Julia ran the egg throwing competition at Corscombe fete. The fete has kindly donated £302 to Little Acorns following this.

Fees have needed to rise for September 2024 to enable us to continue to provide the service that we do with the costs of utilities and staff wages all rising this year, all families have been made aware of this.

Little Acorns is currently over subscribed with a 2 year waiting list, the committee will continue to think of ways over the coming months to see if we can increase capacity in anyway.

Staff members have stayed the same this year and they are a great team of ladies.

Training that has been completed this year:

Jenny: Sign 100, Mental Health in the Early Years level 2

Laura: PFA, SENCO lvl 3

Julia: understanding autism lvl 2

Jeannie: PFA

Our lovely garden area is being very well used and with the pre-school being full it would be lovely to plan to put some funds into making this space even better for the children. Our thanks go out to kind parents and local tradesmen who have helped with maintenance jobs this year to keep the fence and playhouse safe.

Our links with Stickland's School are fantastic. We continue to attend weekly forest school sessions on a Wednesday with key stage 1, this really helps the school risers in particular to get used to school and the children and teachers. Abi and Jenny have had regular contact with the

Headteacher Miss Adler and Jenny keeps in regular contact with Mrs Will, Reception teacher to ensure the transition to school is smooth for all.

Our financial position is good and we have money ready to improve the setting this year but we are also keeping a buffer to allow for future proofing the longevity of Little Acorns. We have also been very grateful to receive £75 from Halstock Cabinet Makers for our garden play improvements. We have been able to continue to pay staff above national living wage and have been able to add extra activities such as hosting 'the bug man' and in July we have 'Strawberry Jam' a brilliant children's entertainer booked to come in for an end of year party.

In mid-June Jenny was informed Ofsted were coming out to inspect Little Acorns with very little notice. Whilst I cannot say the outcome at this time until the report is published. I can say how proud I am of Jenny and all of the team of ladies that make Little Acorns such a special pre-school. Being a chairperson when you have such a good team of committee and staff is a pleasure and I look forward to seeing what the future holds.

Abigail Warne

Chairperson

June 2024.

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023
for
Little Acorns

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for the Year Ended 31 August 2023**

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Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of

Little Acorns

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 August 2023, which are set out on Pages 2 to 3.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner.

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Roz Barrett
Accountancy Services
61 Prankerds Road
Milborne Port
Sherborne
Dorset
DT9 5BX

Date: 28th June 2024

Little Acorns**Profit and Loss Account
For the Year Ended 31 August 2023**

	31.08.23	31.08.22
	£	£
INCOME		
Fees	70,303.86	45,491.19
Grants	-	1,000.00
Fund Raising	6,328.50	516.83
Donations	177.27	260.50
Interest	-	-
Total Income	76,809.63	47,268.52
EXPENSES		
Wages	46,150.50	52,479.69
Rent and Electricity	7,151.56	5,664.65
Ofsted	50.00	50.00
Insurance	787.42	764.72
Playgroup Materials and Equipment	844.39	877.20
Playgroup Activities	30.00	55.46
Garden Expenses	-	-
Work to School	-	-
Cost of Fund Raising	-	-
Printing, Stationery, Postage and Telephone	290.34	267.20
Sundries	912.56	858.72
Audit and Accountancy	450.00	556.00
Depreciation	769.66	962.07
Capital Grant Expenditure	-	-
Provision for Bad Debts	-	-
Bad Debts Writte Off	-	-
Total Expenses	57,436.43	62,535.71
PROFIT/-LOSS	19,373.20	(15,267.19)

Little Acorns

Balance Sheet 31 August 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible Assets	3,078.63	3,848.28
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors & Prepayments	551.50	1,040.01
Reserve Account	-	-
Current Account	29,459.66	7,140.62
Cash in Hand	122.85	28.15
	<u>30,134.01</u>	<u>8,208.78</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Creditors and Accruals	3,089.10	1,306.73
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>27,044.91</u>	<u>6,902.05</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	30,123.54	10,750.33
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAPITAL AND RESERVES		
Unrestricted Funds	30,123.54	10,750.33
Restricted Funds:		
Building Fund	-	-
Awards for All	-	-
Work to School	-	-
Enrichment	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	30,123.54	10,750.33
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Little Acorns

Statement of Financial Activities Restricted and Unrestricted Funds For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 31/08/23	Total Funds 31/08/22
Incoming resources from generated Funds				
Voluntary Income:				
Donations	177.27		177.27	260.50
Grants receivable	-		-	1,000.00
Activities for generated Funds				
Fees, and other income	76,632.36		76,632.36	46,008.02
Total Incoming resources	<u>£76,809.63</u>	-	<u>£76,809.63</u>	<u>£47,268.52</u>
Resources expended				
Costs of generating funds				
Fundraising trading costs	18.75		18.75	-
Charitable activities	56,967.68		56,967.68	61,979.71
Governance Costs	450.00		450.00	556.00
Transfer of Funds	-		-	-
Total Payments	<u>£57,436.43</u>	-	<u>£57,436.43</u>	<u>£62,535.71</u>
Net expended resources	<u>19,373.20</u>	-	<u>19,373.20</u>	<u>(15,267.19)</u>
Fund balances brought forward				
At 1 st September 2022	<u>10,750.33</u>	-	<u>10,750.33</u>	<u>26,017.52</u>
Fund balances carried forward				
At 31st August 2023	<u>30,123.54</u>	-	<u>30,123.54</u>	<u>10,750.33</u>

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