

# FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

England & Wales · Charity number 1109671

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 2005-05-25

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

## Contact

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**Address** 28 Steppingley Road  
Flitwick  
Bedford  
MK45 1AJ

**Phone** 01525714948

**Email** [info@flitwickeagles.org](mailto:info@flitwickeagles.org)

**Website** [www.flitwickeagles.org](http://www.flitwickeagles.org)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF BOYS AND GIRLS REGARDLESS OR RACE, ABILITY OR SOCIAL BACKGROUND FROM THE TOWN OF FLITWICK AND SURROUNDING AREAS BY THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES, IN PARTICULAR FOR PLAYING FOOTBALL, SO AS TO ENCOURAGE THEIR PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT.

**Activities:** The Charity's objects ("the objects") are to advance the education of boys and girls regardless of race, ability or social background from the town of Flitwick and surrounding areas by the provision of facilities and opportunities, in particular for playing football, so as to encourage their physical development.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Amateur Sport
- **Who:** Children/young People

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** FLITWICK AND SURROUNDING AREAS
- Bedford
- Central Bedfordshire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-05-31	£167,623	£158,131	-	-
2024-05-31	£165,628	£159,589	-	-
2023-05-31	£128,380	£148,695	-	-
2022-05-31	£129,385	£119,823	-	-
2021-05-31	£70,559	£48,458	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Geoff Springall</b>	Chair	2016-09-01
CHARLIE GAZELEY		
Colin Giggle		
IAN MULLIGAN		
Ian Dunne		2023-06-14
Lynda Gazeley		
Paul Jenkins		2021-09-01
Roger Gallucci		2025-01-06

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

England & Wales - Charity number 1109671

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# Accounts

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# Flitwick Eagles Football Club

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Founded 1986

Registered Charity : 1109671



CHARTER STANDARD  
COMMUNITY CLUB

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 MAY 2025

2024-25 SEASON

[www.flitwickeagles.org](http://www.flitwickeagles.org)

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2025**

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**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2025**

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Trustees

Geoff Springall (Chairman) Ian Mulligan

Melvyn Gazeley (Secretary) Colin Giggie

Roger Gallucci (Treasurer) Paul Jenkins

Lynda Gazeley Ian Dunne

Independent Examiner

Mr P Fenn  
Mercer & Hole LLP  
The Pinnacle  
170 Midsummer Boulevard  
Milton Keynes  
MK9 1BP

Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc  
111 High Street  
Bedford  
MK40 1NJ

Registered Charity Number

1109671

Principal Address

Flitwick Football Centre  
Amphill Road  
Flitwick  
Bedfordshire  
MK45 1BA

## **Trustees' Report 2024-2025**

The Trustees present their Annual Report with the Financial Statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 May 2025.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Trust's Deed and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

### **Objectives of the Charity**

The charity was established by a constitution adopted on 10 April 2005 and was registered on 25 May 2005.

The objectives of the Charity are to advance the educational and physical development of boys and girls living in Flitwick and the surrounding area, regardless of race, ability or social background by the provision of sports facilities and opportunities to participate in sport and in particular football.

The trustees meet four times a year and review our charitable purpose, to ensure that the club offers both the facilities and the opportunities to all children in the local community. This is demonstrated not only by the teams that represent the club on a Saturday and Sunday but also the diversity of sessions we are able to offer across the board, from those first starting out in our Eaglets sessions to our adult Ladies side and our wider community activities, including vets and walking football.

### **Review of the development, activities and achievements of the charity**

#### **Club Development**

The club continues to grow with over 50 teams and 700 playing members competing throughout the season with great representation throughout local leagues on both Saturdays and Sundays in youth levels and in Ladies senior football. With the club now in it's 40th year it is clear to see the growth from the first few teams calling Hinksley Road their home ground to what we have at our disposal now. The football centre has provided a base where teams, volunteers and parents can interact and has the potential to be a great social setting for the local community.

We now have over 50 teams and well over 100 volunteers, the lifeblood of any grassroots sports club, from the trustees that oversee the good governance of the club to those running teams. Compliance of all volunteers with the FAs requirements is a great testament to our people but even greater testament to Lynda Gazeley who works extremely hard to maintain this high standard within the club.

The trustees continue to review the club policies and where necessary develop new club policies to ensure that we continue to cater for the local community whilst providing a safe and friendly environment for all.

#### **Facilities and equipment**

The Flitwick Football Centre continues to set the standards in the local footballing community, the biggest and best and all run by volunteers, incredible! The 2024/25 season was the second with our

## FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

### YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2025

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own AGP facility, meaning that much of the clubs training requirement as well as game play can be catered for “in house”. The investment Flitwick Eagles made, alongside partners including Central Beds Council, the Football Foundation and Flitwick Town has meant that the money the club paid for external facilities, now has a circular effect with some being re-invested into our own facilities and not elsewhere. The AGP has proven to be a fantastic facility, one that once again set us apart from the rest. There’s a great deal of works also associated with the AGP, with a manual driven machine required to drive across the surfaces a number of times a week, another example of the unseen work that keeps the place ticking over.

The grass pitches remain a real example of where good and dedicated volunteers can strive to provide excellence. It really is wonderful to see our pitches in use each weekend with proud players and their families representing our club. The club is indebted to Colin Giggle and Melvyn Gazeley for their unmatched hard work maintaining our wonderful home. This is the third year of having our own tractor, meaning that even more of the maintenance work has been undertaken in house. The pitches are rested from May to September to allow for maintenance and for new grass to grow, unlike previous years the summer was particularly wet and therefore provided ideal conditions for the grass to grow. In this respect we have been lucky but we must learn from previous dry summers where the playing surface suffered. The club are keen to support initiatives to improve the facilities and are committed to provide funds to support in the installation of an irrigation system. We are in regular conversation with the FA regarding additional funding for the purchase of a system that will keep the full field watered. This remains a high priority. Whilst we had a great number of our teams training at the football centre, we still had to supplement it with training on the 3G at Redborne School and indeed the demand on matchdays for our pitches has meant the hire of grass pitches at the school too. The use of both facilities has enabled greater flexibility in delivering effective training sessions. We must cater for all age groups, with suitable training slots and times, some teams having to be flexible with their expectations. Our own AGP provides us opportunity to think innovatively and provide even more opportunity to play football to a wider audience in the community.

We have remained with our local equipment provider in Prestige Sportswear, who provide us with everything from cones and balls to our traditional Royal Blue and White striped kits. On the whole supply has been good, but for a club of our size, with the demand for equipment that we have we must always make sure our needs are being met.

### Growth and Retention

Our membership remains stable. With over 50 teams, we have over 700 playing members in the club. We also have many satellite activities supporting the wider community outside of the structured weekend leagues with Eaglets, Ladies, Veterans and Walking football. This was the sixth season that the Eaglets sessions were held on a Sunday morning at the Flitwick football centre. These sessions have been very well attended with over 60 children regularly attending, this allows the 3–6-year-olds the opportunity to experience the club at the weekends, something that we hope embeds them into the club for years to come. A clear area of concern for the club is a loss of players to other clubs due to the perceived better opportunities that can receive elsewhere. We are committed to providing the opportunities our members want within our own club. The 2025/26 season has seen the re-introduction of our Men’s development side, a side made up of last year’s U18s.

### Raising Standards and Addressing Abusive Behaviour

We continue to encourage good behaviour both on and off the pitch. We continue to ensure our coaches and managers hold the necessary qualifications, and despite the growth of participation within the club, these high standards have been maintained.

The introduction of ID cards several seasons ago for all coaches and managers displaying names and FAN numbers is an added safeguard in place at the club, one that sets a standard within the county. The FAs codes of conduct for coaches, players and parents are embedded within the club, and we will not tolerate non-compliance. The club supports initiatives such as, silent support weekends and were the first to introduce mandatory matchday delegates for each match, an initiative now implemented by some of our local leagues. Once more showing the clubs influence, maintaining high standards and developing further good practice.

### Running the Game Effectively

It was the clubs third year of using the online payment management system, Spond to register and collect our monthly fees. Spond notifications are sent to members at the start of each month that a payment is required, meaning that payments can't be forgotten. In addition, Spond can also be used by teams to organise fixtures, training and other events and has proven very intuitive.

The financial management of the club continues to be first class. With a significant player roster, efficient collection of fees and good control of expenditure has continued to provide a solid foundation for the club. Ian Mulligans 15 years as treasurer set out the good practices to manage finances effectively – an important attribute for any prospective funding body.

Roger Gallucci stepped into the role of club treasurer during the season with the transition from Ian Mulligan the previous incumbent of the role being absolutely seamless. Thank you, Roger.

### Development of human resources

We continued to develop new coaches through the FA Introduction to coaching course, the successor to the FA Level 1 course, providing learners with an introduction to coaching in the game, including Safeguarding and basic first aid requirements. All coaches within the club maintain their qualifications and we are also able to support those coaches who have the desire to develop further, which can be financially subsidised by the club.

A number of our playing members have also shown an interest in refereeing, and this has helped to supplement the growing need for officials at the weekend, with many leagues struggling to find sufficient resource. This has proven invaluable as the demand for referees has grown and the number of willing young officials has sadly declined. We have a volunteer pool of approximately 100 Coaches and Managers who help out on a regular basis and a large number of parents / carers with a willingness to support. It is important that we encourage this number as the services we provide continue to grow and the demands and expectations of our members increase.

### Marketing and Public Relations

We make use of the WhatsApp messaging service to convey important information through the team managers, we have also relied on managers to convey important messages about events etc. within their teams. Spond should be a way for the club to communicate directly with our members going forward. The club has a higher presence now on social media, with Facebook updated with some club announcements and Instagram in use across a number of teams. The clubs website is now in the care of someone who is able to update on an annual basis but also able to update on an ad hoc basis as and when required.

### Football in the Community

Eaglets (introductory sessions for 3–6-year-olds) continue to be popular sessions with numbers remaining high year on year. These sessions are held at the football centre on Sunday mornings and are a great opportunity for parents to socialise and for the children to experience the club on a “matchday”. The sessions are very well attended and longer term we may benefit from additional sessions being facilitated. These sessions are also a great opportunity for aspiring young coaches, current and former players from the club to get involved, an additional opportunity for those associated with the club to gain invaluable experience, not just coaching football but all the other skills that brings with it. In addition, walking football and veterans' football are very well attended with regular sessions being held. The veterans' sessions are enjoyed by many of our volunteers. We tested running regular holiday sessions during the school holidays and feel this is another great opportunity for the club that will also benefit the local community.

### Social Activities

Off field and outside of match days it is acknowledged that we need to develop the social side of the club. We had a great social calendar prior to the Covid lockdowns, and we've not been able to re invigorate this back to where it was. There have been activities booked that have been cancelled due to support. With next year being the clubs 40th anniversary I am hopeful we can drive the support needed to celebrate this great milestone in style.

### Tournament

We hosted our annual boys pre-season tournament at the football centre for the ninth time. This again proved to be successful, although on a slightly smaller scale. The tournament is a solid fundraising event for the club and the football centre, the preparation for the weekend has become increasingly labour intensive and it's important that we get more volunteers embedded into the preparation going forward. It was our seventh year of using the Eventbrite system to enable teams to book their places on to the tournament. This was managed very well, as always by Peter Hagan despite Peter resigning from this role within the club two years prior and emphasises the need for new volunteers for these roles. We were pleased to host the girls only end of season tournament in May. We lost the event from our calendar during the AGP build last season and that was extremely disappointing, as this is a key feature of the clubs calendar and extremely important in the development of the girls sides within the club, and to assist their transition into our senior Ladies side.

## FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2025

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### Presentations

The end of season presentations were held at the football centre at the end of season. These once again proved to be great social events and the club were pleased to hold them in a format that the playing members and their families could enjoy.

### Public benefit

The Trustees consider that the main activities of the Charity detailed in the objects above are for the public benefit and have given due regard to the Charities Commission guidance on public benefit.

### Trustees

The trustees continue to ensure the club is operating on a sound base. The group met four times through the year and the Trustees who served during the period were:

Geoff Springall (Chairman)	Lynda Gazeley (Welfare Officer)
Melvyn Gazeley (Secretary)	Peter Hagan (resigned 16 February 2026)
Ian Mulligan (Treasurer to 5 January 2025)	Colin Giggle
Ian Noble (resigned 16 February 2026)	Paul Jenkins
Ian Dunne	Roger Gallucci (Treasurer, 6 January 2025 on)

### Risk assessment

In accordance with the guidelines in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) the trustees have considered the major risks affecting the charity and have taken steps to mitigate these as far as possible.

### New trustee appointments and training

New trustees receive information on the charity in respect of its mission, charitable objectives, charitable activities and structure. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events that will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

The trustees have regard to the need for any specialist skills which individuals bring to the charity.

### Reserves policy

The trustees regard it as important to retain an adequate level of reserves to meet operating costs over the summer period relating to the provision of training facilities and the annual maintenance programme for the football pitches. The Trustees have currently set a minimum level for general reserves of £25,000. This will be reviewed again during the 2026 year to ensure that the level is sufficient to meet any additional maintenance required from increased usage and inflationary cost increases for materials and services purchased.

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2025**

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**Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and so the financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis.

**Summary**

On behalf of the trustees, I would again like to thank everyone has volunteered and contributed to making Flitwick Eagles a club to be proud of.

*Geoff Springall*

Geoff Springall  
Chairman

17<sup>th</sup> February 2026

## FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2025

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### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Flitwick Eagles Football Club (the Charity) for the year ended 31 May 2025.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity 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 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:-

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 disclosure 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

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 in accordance with section 130 of the Charities 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 in respect of 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 in my opinion have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*P Fenn*

**Philip Fenn FCA FCCA**

Mercer & Hole LLP

The Pinnacle

170 Midsummer Boulevard

Milton Keynes, MK9 1BP

17<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2025**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2025  
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
<b>Income from:</b>			
Memberships & donations		55,523	37,050
Charitable Activities	2	108,285	127,722
Investment income	3	1,252	854
Other		2,563	2
<b>Total Income</b>		167,623	165,628
 <b><u>Expenditure</u></b>			
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	4	10,757	9,526
Charitable activities and other expenses	5	147,374	150,063
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		158,131	159,589
 Total funds brought forward at 1 June			
		78,492	72,453
 Net income/(expenditure)			
		9,492	6,039
 Total funds carried forward at 31 May			
		87,984	78,492

The notes on pages 11 to 14 form part of these Financial Statements.

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

All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2025**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MAY 2025**

	Notes	31 May 2025 £	31 May 2024 £
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	6	11,281	-
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>110,227</u>	<u>118,939</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		121,508	118,939
Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)	7	(33,524)	(40,447)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>87,984</u>	<u>78,492</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<u><u>87,984</u></u>	<u><u>78,492</u></u>
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>			
Unrestricted general funds	9	37,984	38,492
Unrestricted designated funds	9	50,000	40,000
Restricted funds		-	-
<b>Total Funds of the Charity</b>		<u><u>87,984</u></u>	<u><u>78,492</u></u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 17th February 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

*R Gallucci*

.....  
R Gallucci FCCA  
Treasurer

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**1. Accounting policies**

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

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

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 Section 1A, from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the organisation is small.

**1.1 Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds comprise accumulated surpluses and deficits on general funds. They are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees of the charity in furtherance of the general charitable objectives. Designated funds are unrestricted funds that the Trustees have designated or allocated for identifiable future expenditure. Restricted funds are amounts for specific purposes as defined by the donor.

**1.2 Income**

Incoming resources represents donations, subscriptions, subsidies, sponsorship, grant funding and other income. Income is only recognised once it has been received and voluntary donations are recognised on receipt where the donation relates to the current accounting period.

**1.3 Expenditure**

Expenditure incurred on activities falling directly within one cost category have been recognised as such. Items of expenditure which involve more than one category have been allocated on a reasonable and consistent basis.

**1.4 Capital expenditure**

Items under £100 are not capitalised. Items over this level are assessed individually before a decision is made regarding whether they should be capitalised. Donated assets are recognised at their monetary value, as estimated by the trustees, when received and are capitalised at this value. In certain cases, where title to an asset is restricted so that it has either no or little net value to the charity, the trustees' policy is that the item should not be capitalised in the accounts.

**1.5 Debtors**

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Cont'd**

**1.6 Creditors and provisions**

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

**1.7 Financial Instruments**

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

**1.8 Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. In making this assessment, the Trustees have reviewed the income and cash flow forecasts of the Charity and concluded that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

**2. Income from Charitable Activities**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	£	£
Football training	80,994	98,780
Football tournaments	18,147	19,321
Community activities	9,144	9,621
	<u>108,285</u>	<u>127,722</u>

**3. Investment income**

Investment income comprises bank interest totalling £1,252 (2024: £854)

**4. Expenditure on Raising Funds**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	£	£
Tournament costs	6,523	5,058
Prizes and social events	3,541	3,690
Stationery & adverts	693	778
	<u>10,757</u>	<u>9,526</u>

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB****YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2025****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Cont'd****5. Expenditure on Charitable Activities**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Training and playing facilities	81,499	60,434
Equipment	35,575	26,681
Affiliation and League fees	5,811	5,599
Match officials	12,965	11,414
Tournament fees	-	103
Coaching	2,115	1,010
Trophies and prizes	4,317	4,682
Pitch maintenance & improvements	1,020	36,000
Repairs and maintenance	-	80
IT system charges	4,072	4,038
Administration costs	-	22
Independent examiners fee	-	-
	<u>147,374</u>	<u>150,063</u>

**6. Debtors**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Inland Revenue Gift Aid	10,403	-
Other debtors and prepayments	878	-
	<u>11,281</u>	<u>-</u>

**7. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Creditors	20,000	36,000
Accruals and deferred income	13,524	4,447
	<u>33,524</u>	<u>40,447</u>

Accruals relate to operating costs incurred for which purchase invoices were not issued at the year-end date.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Cont'd**

**8. Related Parties**

Flitwick Eagles Football Club is a member of Flitwick Together, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registration number 1157451 that holds the lease to the Flitwick Football Centre. Flitwick Eagles Football Club has the right to appoint Member Trustees to Flitwick Together CIO and Lynda Gazeley and Ian Mulligan are currently Trustees of both Flitwick Eagles Football Club and Flitwick Together CIO.

A donation of £nil (2024: £nil) was made by the charity during the year to Flitwick Together CIO to assist with the purchase of pitch maintenance equipment. No amounts were owed to, or due from Flitwick Together CIO at the year-end (2024: £nil).

The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited operates the Flitwick Football Centre on behalf of Flitwick Together CIO. Melvyn Gazeley is currently a Trustee of Flitwick Eagles Football Club and a director of The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited.

Flitwick Eagles Football Club paid rent for the hire of facilities during the year of £74,000 (2024: £50,000) from The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited on an arm's length basis. No amounts were owed to, or due from The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited at the year-end (2024: £nil).

**9. Funds**

All assets and liabilities are held as unrestricted funds, although £50,000 of the unrestricted funds have been designated by the trustees in respect of the maintenance and improvement of the training and playing facilities, which are soon expected to need substantial expenditure in view of the high levels of usage.

There are no restricted funds.

**10. Reserves policy**

The charity has a policy of holding an adequate level of general reserves to meet operating costs over the summer 'pre-season' period and have therefore set a minimum level for unrestricted general funds of £25,000. This will be reviewed annually to ensure that the level is sufficient to ensure the long-term stability of the charity.

**11. Remuneration to Trustees for services**

None of the Trustees received any remuneration or reimbursement for expenses in respect of their services as a Trustee during the year.

**12. Control**

The Charity is controlled by the trustees.

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

England & Wales - Charity number 1109671

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# Accounts

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# Flitwick Eagles Football Club

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Founded 1986

Registered Charity : 1109671



CHARTER STANDARD  
COMMUNITY CLUB

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 MAY 2024

2023-24 SEASON

[www.flitwickeagles.org](http://www.flitwickeagles.org)

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2024**

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**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2024**

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Trustees

Geoff Springall (Chairman)

Lynda Gazeley

Melvyn Gazeley (Secretary)

Peter Hagan

Ian Mulligan (Treasurer)

Colin Giggle

Ian Noble (Vice Chairman)

Paul Jenkins

Ian Dunne (appointed 14 June 2023)

Independent Examiner

Mr P Fenn  
Mercer & Hole LLP  
The Pinnacle  
170 Midsummer Boulevard  
Milton Keynes  
MK9 1BP

Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc  
111 High Street  
Bedford  
MK40 1NJ

Registered Charity Number

1109671

Principal Address

Flitwick Football Centre  
Amphill Road  
Flitwick  
Bedfordshire  
MK45 1BA

## **Trustees' Report 2023-2024**

The Trustees present their Annual Report with the Financial Statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 May 2024.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Trust's Deed and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

### **Objectives of the Charity**

The charity was established by a constitution adopted on 10 April 2005 and was registered on 25 May 2005.

The objectives of the Charity are to advance the educational and physical development of boys and girls living in Flitwick and the surrounding area, regardless of race, ability or social background by the provision of sports facilities and opportunities to participate in sport and in particular football.

The trustees meet four times a year and review our charitable purpose, to ensure that the club offers both the facilities and the opportunities to all children in the local community. This is demonstrated not only by the teams that represent the club on a Saturday and Sunday but also the diversity of sessions we are able to offer across the board, from those first starting out in our Eaglets and Fledglings sessions to our adult Ladies side and our wider community activities, including vets and walking football.

### **Review of the development, activities and achievements of the charity**

#### **Club Development**

This was our ninth season in the football centre. A facility all at Flitwick Eagles are proud to call our home, the centre has become increasingly important to the local community.

The club continues to grow with over 50 teams and 700 playing members competing in the season with great representation throughout local leagues on both Saturdays and Sundays in youth levels and in Ladies senior football.

With the club now in its 38th year it is clear to see the growth from the first few teams calling Hinksley Road their home ground to what we have at our disposal now. The football centre has provided a base where teams, volunteers and parents can interact and has the potential to be a great social setting for the local community. We now have over 50 teams and well over 100 volunteers, the lifeblood of any grassroots sports club, from the trustees that oversee the good governance of the club to those running teams. Compliance of all volunteers with the FAs requirements is a great testament to our people but even greater testament to Lynda Gazeley who works extremely hard to maintain this high standard within the club.

The trustees continue to review the club policies and where necessary develop new club policies to ensure that we continue to cater for the local community whilst providing a safe and friendly environment for all.

## FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2024

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### Facilities and equipment

The Flitwick Football Centre continues to set the standards in the local footballing community, the biggest and best and all run by volunteers - incredible! The 2023/24 season included a major milestone as we obtained agreement for the construction of our own AGP facility, meaning that much of the clubs training requirement as well as game play can be catered for "in house". The investment Flitwick Eagles made, alongside partners including Central Beds Council, the Football Foundation and Flitwick Town has meant that the money the club paid for external facilities, now has a circular effect with some being re-invested into our own facilities and not elsewhere. The AGP has proven to be a fantastic facility, one that once again set us apart from the rest and who owe huge thanks to Cliff Simmonds who led the project and committed a huge amount of time to ensure it went smoothly.

The grass pitches remain a real example of where good and dedicated volunteers can strive to provide excellence. It really is wonderful to see our pitches in use each weekend with proud players and their families representing our club and we are indebted to Colin Giggle and Melvyn Gazeley for their unmatched hard work maintaining our wonderful home. This is the second year of having our own tractor, meaning that even more of the maintenance work has been undertaken in house.

The pitches are rested from May to September to allow for maintenance and for new grass to grow, unlike previous years the summer was particularly wet and therefore provided ideal conditions for the grass to grow. In this respect we have been lucky but we must learn from previous dry summers where the playing surface suffered. We must re-focus on the need for an irrigation system, previous research has enabled us to understand what would be available to us and the associated costs and this must remain a high priority.

Whilst we had a great number of our teams training at the football centre, we still had to supplement it with training on the 3G at Redborne School. The surface for this had been poorly maintained but in the summer of 2024 was replaced and is now of a similar standard to that of the club. We have ceased the use of the 3G at the Leisure Centre. The use of both facilities has enabled greater flexibility in delivering effective training sessions. We must cater for all age groups, with suitable training slots and times, some teams having to be flexible with their expectations. Our own AGP provides us opportunity to think innovatively and provide even more opportunity to play football to a wider audience in the community. With a Ladies only 16+ Friday night session just the start.

We have remained with our local equipment provider in Prestige Sportswear, who provide us with everything from cones and balls to our traditional Royal Blue and White striped kits. On the whole supply has been good, but for a club of our size, with the demand for equipment that we have we must always make sure our needs are being met.

### Growth and Retention

Our membership levels continue to increase. With over 50 teams, we have over 700 playing members in the club. We also have many satellite activities supporting the wider community outside of the structured weekend leagues with Eaglets, Fledglings, Frame, Ladies, Veterans and Walking football.

## FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

### YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2024

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This was the sixth season that the Eaglets sessions were held on a Sunday morning at the Flitwick football centre. These sessions have been very well attended with up to 50 children regularly attending and allowing the 3–6-year olds the opportunity to experience the club at the weekends, something that we hope embeds them into the club for years to come. In addition, we've re-established our Fledglings session for girls under the age of 9 with a consistent number of players participating each week.

#### Raising Standards and Addressing Abusive Behaviour

We continue to encourage good behaviour both on and off the pitch. We continue to ensure our coaches and managers hold the necessary qualifications, and despite the growth of participation within the club these high standards have been maintained.

The introduction of ID cards a number of seasons ago for all coaches and managers displaying names and FAN numbers is an added safeguard in place at the club, one that sets a standard within the county. The FAs codes of conduct for coaches, players and parents are embedded within the club and we will not tolerate non-compliance. The club supports initiatives such as, silent support weekends and were the first to introduce mandatory matchday delegates for each match, an initiative now implemented by some of our local leagues. Once more showing the clubs influence, maintaining high standards and developing further good practice.

#### Running the Game Effectively

It was the clubs second year of using the online payment management system, Spond to register and collect monthly fees. This replaced a more traditional paper system that relied on a couple of intensive signing on weekends and the setting up of standing orders. Spond notifies our members at the start of each month that a payment is required, meaning that payments can't be forgotten. In addition, Spond can also be used by teams to organise fixtures, training and other events and has proven very intuitive.

Ian Mulligan's leadership of the financial management of the club continues to be first class. With a significant turnover, his management of the collection of fees and the control of expenditure has continued to provide a solid foundation for the club. Under Ian's stewardship the club has demonstrated its ability to manage finances effectively – an important attribute for any prospective funding body.

Our finances are structured in such a way that we have sufficient capital reserves to maintain the charity through unforeseen events. There is no clearer demonstration of the strong footing the club is on than the investment of £35,000 towards a new AGP facility at the football centre and our commitment to invest in an irrigation system. Whilst we have made small changes to our subscriptions, the increases to our members have been minimal.

This would seem an appropriate place to also acknowledge and appreciate the great work undertaken over some 15 years by Mr Ian Mulligan, club treasurer. Ian has been a fantastic servant to the club and at the end of this season stepped down from his role, however, will remain a trustee of the club as well as fulfilling a similar role with Flitwick Together and Flitwick Sports CIC. Ian has been

## FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

### YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2024

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instrumental in the development of the club over the years, including the move to the football centre and various other projects along the way. Thank you Ian.

#### Development of human resources

We continued to develop new coaches through the FA Level 1 coaches course, providing learners with an introduction to coaching in the game, including Safeguarding and basic first aid requirements. All within the club maintain their qualifications. We are also able to support those coaches who have the desire for further development, which can potentially be financially supported by the club.

A number of our playing members have also shown an interest in refereeing, and this has helped to supplement the growing need for officials at the weekend, with many leagues struggling to find sufficient resource. This has proven invaluable as the demand for referees has grown and the number of willing young officials has sadly declined.

We have a volunteer's pool of approximately 100 Coaches and Managers who help out on a regular basis and a large number of parents / carers with a willingness to support. It is important that we encourage this number as the services we provide continue to grow and the demands and expectations of our paying members increase.

#### Marketing and Public Relations

We make use of the WhatsApp messaging service to convey important information through the team managers, we have also relied on managers to convey important messages about events etc. within their teams. Spond should be a way for the club to communicate directly with our members going forward. The club has a higher presence now on social media, with Facebook and Twitter regularly updated with club news. The club website is now in the care of someone who is able to update on an annual basis but also able to update on an ad-hoc basis as and when required. To be truly up to date there is a reliance on team coaches to provide information, including team photos and there is still much room for improvement with regard to this.

#### Football in the Community

Eaglets (introductory sessions for 3-6 year olds) continue to be popular sessions with numbers remaining high year on year. This was the third season of the clubs Fledglings sessions, a girls only session catering for under 9 year olds. Both of these sessions are held at the football centre on Sunday mornings and are a great opportunity for parents to socialise and for the children to experience the club on a "matchday". The sessions are very well attended and longer term we may benefit from additional sessions being facilitated. These sessions are also a great opportunity for aspiring young coaches, current and former players from the club to get involved, an additional opportunity for those associated with the club to gain invaluable experience, not just coaching football but all of the other skills that brings with it.

In addition, walking football and veterans' football are very well attended with regular sessions being held. The veterans' sessions are enjoyed by many of our volunteers. We've had a super first year with a Friday night, ladies only session being held, opening up the club to all ages (16+) and all abilities, this session continues to grow in popularity.

#### Social Activities

## FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

### YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2024

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Off field and outside of match days it is acknowledged that we need to develop the social side of the club. Much of this shortfall can be attributed to the Covid-19 pandemic and the impact of social distancing. However, we have a great facility that could be used in so many ways and a captive audience for whom we could offer more. We must also look to re-invigorate our social committee to ensure social events are organised and well attended.

#### Tournament

We hosted our annual boys pre-season tournament at the football centre for the eighth time. This again proved to be very successful, generating a solid profit for the club. We returned to the format employed prior to Covid, with over 150 teams in attendance over the weekend, all attending enjoyed the event with lots of positive feedback being received, however, as always a few instances of poor behaviour were also experienced. The tournament was a solid fundraising event for the club and the football centre, the preparation for the weekend has become increasingly labour intensive and it's important that we get more volunteers embedded into the preparation going forward. It was our sixth year of using the Eventbrite system to enable teams to book their places on to the tournament. This was managed very well, as always by Peter Hagan.

We were pleased to re-introduce the girls only end of season tournament in May, following its cancellation the year before due to the work on the AGP. It was incredibly important that this happened and we are very pleased that it returned as successful as ever, this is a key feature of the club calendar and extremely important in the development of the girls side of our club, and the subsequent growth into our senior Ladies side.

#### Presentations

The end of season presentations were held at the football centre at the end of season. These once again proved to be great social events and the club were pleased to return to a format that the playing members and their families could enjoy.

#### Public benefit

The Trustees consider that the main activities of the Charity detailed in the objects above are for the public benefit and have given due regard to the Charities Commission guidance on public benefit.

#### Trustees

The trustees continue to ensure the club is operating on a sound base. The group met four times through the year and the Trustees who served during the period were:

Geoff Springall (Chairman)	Lynda Gazeley (Welfare Officer)
Melvyn Gazeley (Secretary)	Peter Hagan
Ian Mulligan (Treasurer)	Colin Giggle
Ian Noble (Vice Chairman)	Paul Jenkins
Ian Dunne (appointed 14 June 2023)	

### Risk assessment

In accordance with the guidelines in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) the trustees have considered the major risks affecting the charity and have taken steps to mitigate these as far as possible.

### New trustee appointments and training

New trustees receive information on the charity in respect of its mission, charitable objectives, charitable activities and structure. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events that will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

The trustees have regard to the need for any specialist skills which individuals bring to the charity.

### Reserves policy

The trustees regard it as important to retain an adequate level of reserves to meet operating costs over the summer period relating to the provision of training facilities and the annual maintenance programme for the football pitches. The Trustees have currently set a minimum level for general reserves of £20,000. This will be reviewed again during the 2025 year to ensure that the level is sufficient to meet any additional maintenance required from increased usage and inflationary cost increases for materials and services purchased.

### Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and so the financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis.

### Summary

On behalf of the trustees, I would again like to thank everyone has volunteered and contributed to making Flitwick Eagles a club to be proud of.

*G Springall*

Geoff Springall  
Chairman

6<sup>th</sup> January 2025

## FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2024

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### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Flitwick Eagles Football Club (the Charity) for the year ended 31 May 2024.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity 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 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:-

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 disclosure 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

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 in accordance with section 130 of the Charities 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 in respect of 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 in my opinion have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*P Fenn*

#### Philip Fenn ACA FCCA

Mercer & Hole LLP

The Pinnacle

170 Midsummer Boulevard

Milton Keynes, MK9 1BP

7<sup>th</sup> January 2025

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB****YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2024****STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2024  
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
<b>Income from:</b>			
Memberships & donations		37,050	34,240
Charitable Activities	2	127,722	93,731
Investment income	3	854	409
Other		2	-
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>165,628</b>	<b>128,380</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>			
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	4	9,526	7,786
Charitable activities and other expenses	5	150,063	140,909
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>159,589</b>	<b>148,695</b>
Total funds brought forward at 1 June		72,453	92,768
Net income/(expenditure)		6,039	(20,315)
Total funds carried forward at 31 May		<b>78,492</b>	<b>72,453</b>

The notes on pages 11 to 14 form part of these Financial Statements.

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

All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2024**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MAY 2024**

	Notes	31 May 2024 £	31 May 2023 £
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	6	-	18,729
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>118,939</u>	<u>56,010</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		118,939	74,739
Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)	7	(40,447)	(2,286)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>78,492</u>	<u>72,453</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<u><u>78,492</u></u>	<u><u>72,453</u></u>
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>			
Unrestricted general funds	9	38,492	32,453
Unrestricted designated funds	9	40,000	40,000
Restricted funds		-	-
<b>Total Funds of the Charity</b>		<u>78,492</u>	<u>72,453</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 6th January 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

*I Mulligan*

.....  
I Mulligan ACMA  
Treasurer

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**1. Accounting policies**

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

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

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 Section 1A, from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the organisation is small.

**1.1 Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds comprise accumulated surpluses and deficits on general funds. They are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees of the charity in furtherance of the general charitable objectives. Designated funds are unrestricted funds that the Trustees have designated or allocated for identifiable future expenditure. Restricted funds are amounts for specific purposes as defined by the donor.

**1.2 Income**

Incoming resources represents donations, subscriptions, subsidies, sponsorship, grant funding and other income. Income is only recognised once it has been received and voluntary donations are recognised on receipt where the donation relates to the current accounting period.

**1.3 Expenditure**

Expenditure incurred on activities falling directly within one cost category have been recognised as such. Items of expenditure which involve more than one category have been allocated on a reasonable and consistent basis.

**1.4 Capital expenditure**

Items under £100 are not capitalised. Items over this level are assessed individually before a decision is made regarding whether they should be capitalised. Donated assets are recognised at their monetary value, as estimated by the trustees, when received and are capitalised at this value. In certain cases, where title to an asset is restricted so that it has either no or little net value to the charity, the trustees' policy is that the item should not be capitalised in the accounts.

**1.5 Debtors**

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Cont'd**

**1.6 Creditors and provisions**

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

**1.7 Financial Instruments**

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

**1.8 Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. In making this assessment, the Trustees have reviewed the income and cash flow forecasts of the Charity and concluded that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

**2. Income from Charitable Activities**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Football training	98,780	72,082
Football tournaments	19,321	11,291
Community activities	9,621	10,358
	<u>127,722</u>	<u>93,731</u>

**3. Investment income**

Investment income comprises bank interest totalling £854 (2023: £409)

**4. Expenditure on Raising Funds**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Tournament costs	5,058	3,340
Prizes and social events	3,690	3,583
Stationery & adverts	778	863
	<u>9,526</u>	<u>7,786</u>

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB****YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2024****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Cont'd****5. Expenditure on Charitable Activities**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Training and playing facilities	60,434	56,630
Equipment	26,681	26,875
Affiliation and League fees	5,599	5,254
Match officials	11,414	11,177
Tournament fees	103	252
Coaching	1,010	1,617
Trophies and prizes	4,682	9,877
Pitch maintenance & improvements	36,000	28,000
Repairs and maintenance	80	454
IT system charges	4,038	-
Administration costs	22	773
Independent examiners fee	-	-
	<u>150,063</u>	<u>140,909</u>

During the prior year a £20,000 contribution was made towards the costs of the installation of all-weather playing facilities, funds which had been designated by the Trustees for the maintenance and improvement of playing surfaces.

**6. Debtors**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Inland Revenue Gift Aid	-	16,079
Subscriptions	-	2,650
	<u>-</u>	<u>18,729</u>

**7. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Creditors	36,000	-
Accruals and deferred income	4,447	2,286
	<u>40,447</u>	<u>2,286</u>

Accruals relate to operating costs incurred for which purchase invoices were not issued at the year-end date.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Cont'd**

**8. Related Parties**

Flitwick Eagles Football Club is a member of Flitwick Together, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registration number 1157451 that holds the lease to the Flitwick Football Centre. Flitwick Eagles Football Club has the right to appoint Member Trustees to Flitwick Together CIO and Lynda Gazeley and Ian Mulligan are currently Trustees of both Flitwick Eagles Football Club and Flitwick Together CIO.

A donation of £nil (2023: £8,000) was made by the charity during the year to Flitwick Together CIO to assist with the purchase of pitch maintenance equipment. No amounts were owed to, or due from Flitwick Together CIO at the year-end (2023: £nil).

The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited operates the Flitwick Football Centre on behalf of Flitwick Together CIO. Melvyn Gazeley is currently a Trustee of Flitwick Eagles Football Club and a director of The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited.

Flitwick Eagles Football Club paid rent for the hire of facilities during the year of £50,000 (2023: £24,000) from The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited on an arm's length basis. No amounts were owed to, or due from The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited at the year-end (2023: £nil).

**9. Funds**

All assets and liabilities are held as unrestricted funds, although £40,000 of the unrestricted funds have been designated by the trustees in respect of the maintenance and improvement of the training and playing facilities, which are soon expected to need substantial expenditure in view of the high levels of usage.

There are no restricted funds.

**10. Reserves policy**

The charity has a policy of holding an adequate level of general reserves to meet operating costs over the summer 'pre-season' period and have therefore set a minimum level for unrestricted general funds of £20,000. This will be reviewed annually to ensure that the level is sufficient to ensure the long-term stability of the charity.

**11. Remuneration to Trustees for services**

None of the Trustees received any remuneration or reimbursement for expenses in respect of their services as a Trustee during the year.

**12. Control**

The Charity is controlled by the trustees.

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

England & Wales - Charity number 1109671

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# Accounts

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# Flitwick Eagles Football Club

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Founded 1986

Registered Charity : 1109671



## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 MAY 2023

2022-23 SEASON

[www.flitwickeagles.org](http://www.flitwickeagles.org)

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023**

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**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023**

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Trustees

Geoff Springall (Chairman)

Lynda Gazeley

Melvyn Gazeley (Secretary)

Peter Hagan

Ian Mulligan (Treasurer)

Colin Giggle

Ian Noble (Vice Chairman)

Paul Jenkins

Ian Dunne (appointed 14 June 2023)

Independent Examiner

Mr P Fenn  
Mercer & Hole LLP  
The Pinnacle  
170 Midsummer Boulevard  
Milton Keynes  
MK9 1BP

Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc  
111 High Street  
Bedford  
MK40 1NJ

Registered Charity Number

1109671

Principal Address

Flitwick Football Centre  
Amphill Road  
Flitwick  
Bedfordshire  
MK45 1BA

## **Trustees' Report 2022-2023**

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The charity was established by a constitution adopted on 10 April 2005 and was registered on 25 May 2005.

The objectives of the Charity are to advance the educational and physical development of boys and girls living in Flitwick and the surrounding area, regardless of race, ability or social background by the provision of sports facilities and opportunities to participate in sport and in particular football.

The trustees meet four times a year and regularly review our charitable purpose, to ensure that the club offers both the facilities and the opportunities to all children in the local community to participate in sport. This is demonstrated not only by the teams that represent the club on a Saturday and Sunday but also the diversity of sessions we are able to offer from those first starting out playing football to our adult ladies side and our wider community activities.

### **Review of the development, activities and achievements of the charity**

#### **Club Development**

This was our eighth season in the football centre. A facility all at Flitwick Eagles are proud to call our home, the centre has become increasingly important to the local community.

The club continues to grow with over 50 teams and 700 playing members competing in the season with great representation throughout local leagues on both Saturdays and Sundays in youth levels and in Ladies senior football.

The football centre has provided a base where teams, volunteers and parents can interact. In its 35th year the club were once again awarded England Football accreditation. With a club the size of Flitwick Eagles, with over 50 teams and in the region of 90 coaches and managers to achieve this status is once again a huge achievement. Compliance of all volunteers with the FA requirements is a great testament to our people but even greater testament to Lynda Gazeley who works extremely hard to maintain this high standard within the club.

The trustees continue to review the club policies and where necessary develop new club policies to ensure that we continue to cater for the local community whilst providing a safe and friendly environment for all.

## FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

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### Facilities and equipment

The Flitwick Football Centre continues to set the standard in the local footballing community. We began discussions to site a new ATP 3G pitch on our site, building work for this beginning in April 2023 and available for use in time for the new football season in September. We continue to put great effort into providing our teams with the very best facilities and the grass pitches remain a great example of where good, dedicated volunteers can strive to provide excellence. It really is wonderful to see our pitches in use each weekend with proud players and their families representing our club.

The club is indebted to Colin Giggie and Melvyn Gazeley for their unbridled hard work maintaining our wonderful home. In fact, the past year has seen them undertaking even more maintenance than before, as access to a small tractor and associated grass cutting equipment has meant that grass cutting is now undertaken “in house”.

The pitches are rested from May to September to allow for maintenance and for new grass to grow, unlike previous years the summer was particularly wet and therefore provided ideal growing conditions. In this respect we have been lucky, but we must learn from previous dry summers where the playing surface suffered. We must re-focus on the need for an irrigation system, previous research has enabled us to understand what would be available to us and the associated costs and this must remain a high priority.

This was the clubs ninth year of training on the 3G pitches at Redborne School and our sixth on the leisure centre 3G pitches. The use of both facilities has enabled greater flexibility in delivering effective training sessions. We must cater for all age groups, with suitable training slots and times, some teams having to be flexible with their expectations. The summer of 2023 saw the delivery of an all weather ATP, 3G facility on our own site. Contributions from ourselves, the Football Foundation, Central Beds Council and Flitwick Town FC making this possible. Whilst this caters for the majority of the clubs required training capacity, there is still a need to supplement this with the existing facilities, although there is much better availability for other local teams. Whilst the season is new, we hope our state-of-the-art facility will provide all year round access to football to both our playing members and the wider community. It also provides us the opportunity to think innovatively and provide even more opportunity to play football to a wider audience in the community, with a Ladies only 16+ Friday night session being just the start.

This year we have changed kit manufacturer to Umbro, supplied through our long standing kit supplier Prestige Design and Workwear. The new kit is a modern style but keeps the traditional blue and white stripes that the club is known for.

### Growth and Retention

Our membership levels continue to increase. With over 50 teams, we have over 700 playing members in the club. We also have many satellite activities supporting the wider community outside of the structured weekend leagues with Eaglets, Fledglings, Frame, Ladies, Veterans and Walking football.

This was the fifth season that the Eaglets sessions were held on a Sunday morning at the Flitwick football centre. These sessions have been very well attended and allowed the 3 to 6 year olds the

opportunity to experience the club at the weekends, something that we hope embeds them into the club for years to come. In addition, we've re-established our Fledglings session for girls under the age of 9 with a consistent number of players participating each week.

### Raising Standards and Addressing Abusive Behaviour

We continue to encourage good behaviour both on and off the pitch. We continue to ensure our coaches and managers hold the necessary qualifications, and despite the growth of participation within the club these high standards have been maintained and our expectations in these areas are going up.

The introduction of ID cards a few seasons ago for all coaches and managers, displaying their names and FAN numbers is an added safeguard in place at the club, one that sets a standard within the county. The FA codes of conduct for coaches, players and parents are embedded within the club and we will not tolerate non-compliance. The club supports initiatives such as, silent support weekends and in fact will be looking to introduce Matchday delegates for each home game for each team in the new season. Again, signalling the intent of Flitwick Eagles FC to not only maintain high standards but also to continue to raise the bar not only locally but nationally.

### Running the Game Effectively

We continued with the registration process as in previous years with a signing on weekend. With over 700 members it is not possible to complete all signings on in one weekend and therefore a couple of additional signing on mornings and the flexibility to make signings on an ad-hoc basis proved necessary. This is a very labour-intensive period of time for the club, with great pressure on a small number of volunteers to get this over the line. We need to explore online options in the future.

Ian Mulligan's leadership of the financial management of the club continues to be first class. With a significant turnover, collection of fees and the control of expenditure he has continued to provide a solid foundation for the club. Under Ian's stewardship the club has demonstrated its ability to manage finances effectively – an important attribute for any prospective funding body.

### Development of human resources

We continued to develop new coaches through the FA Level 1 coaches course, providing learners with an introduction to coaching in the game, including Safeguarding and basic first aid requirements. All within the club maintain their qualifications. We are also able to support those coaches who have the desire to further development, this can be financially supported by the club.

A number of our playing members have also shown an interest in refereeing, and this has helped to supplement the clubs growing need for officials at the weekend. This has proven invaluable as the demand for referees has grown and the number of willing young officials has sadly declined.

We have a volunteer's pool of approximately 90 Coaches and Managers who help out on a regular basis and a large number of parents / carers with a willingness to support. It is important that we encourage this number as the services we provide continue to grow and the demands and expectations of our paying members increase.

### Marketing and Public Relations

We make use of the WhatsApp messaging service to convey important information through the team managers, we also rely on managers to convey important messages about events etc. within their teams. The club has a higher presence now on social media, with Facebook and Twitter regularly updated with club news. The club's website is now in the care of someone who is able to update on an annual basis but also able to update on an ad-hoc basis as and when required. To be truly up to date there is a reliance on team coaches to provide information, including team photos and we hope that this will become better now.

### Football in the Community

Eaglets (introductory sessions for 3 to 6 year olds) continue to be popular sessions with numbers remaining high year on year. This was the second season of the club's Fledglings sessions, a girls only session catering for under 9 year olds. These sessions are held at the football centre on Sunday mornings and are a great opportunity for parents to socialise and for the children to experience the club on a "matchday". The sessions are very well attended and in the longer term may benefit from additional sessions being facilitated. These sessions are also a great opportunity for aspiring young coaches and players from within the club to assist.

In addition, walking football and veterans' football are very well attended and regular sessions. The veterans' sessions are enjoyed by many of our volunteers. We also hope to establish a Ladies only Friday night session that will again open up all Flitwick Eagles FC have to offer to a new audience.

### Social Activities

Off field and outside of match days it is acknowledged that we need to develop the social side of the club. Much of this shortfall can be attributed to the Covid-19 pandemic and the impact of social distancing. However, we have a great facility that could be used in so many ways and a captive audience for whom we could offer more. We must also look to re-invigorate our social committee to ensure social events are organised and well attended.

### Tournament

We hosted our annual boys pre-season tournament at the football centre for the seventh time. This again proved to be very successful. We returned to the format employed prior to Covid, with over 150 teams in attendance over the weekend, all those attending enjoyed the event, with lots of positive feedback received. The tournament was a solid fundraising event for the club and the football centre, but the preparation for the weekend has become increasingly labour intensive and it's important that we get more volunteers embedded into the preparation for this going forward. It was our fifth year of using the Eventbrite system to enable teams to book their places on to the tournament. This was managed very well, as always by Peter Hagan.

Unfortunately, the girls end of season tournament was cancelled, this was due to the construction work being undertaken at the football centre installing the new 3G. This was deeply disappointing for all at the club as we are yet to establish this event as a regular in the football calendar. Rest assured this is a high priority for the Trustees going forward.

## FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

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### Presentations

The end of season presentations were held at the football centre at the end of season. These once again proved to be great social events and the club were pleased to return to a format that the playing members and their families could enjoy.

### Public benefit

The Trustees consider that the main activities of the Charity detailed in the objects above are for the public benefit and have given due regard to the Charities Commission guidance on public benefit.

### Trustees

The trustees continue to ensure the club is operating on a sound base. The group met four times through the year and the Trustees who served during the period were:

Geoff Springall (Chairman)	Lynda Gazeley
Melvyn Gazeley (Secretary)	Peter Hagan
Ian Mulligan (Treasurer)	Colin Giggle
Ian Noble (Vice Chairman)	Paul Jenkins
	Ian Dunne (appointed 14 June 2023)

### Risk assessment

In accordance with the guidelines in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) the trustees have considered the major risks affecting the charity and have taken steps to mitigate these as far as possible.

### New trustee appointments and training

New trustees receive information on the charity in respect of its mission, charitable objectives, charitable activities and structure. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events that will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

The trustees have regard to the need for any specialist skills which individuals bring to the charity.

### Reserves policy

The trustees regard it as important to retain an adequate level of reserves to meet operating costs over the summer period relating to the provision of training facilities and the annual maintenance programme for the football pitches. The Trustees have currently set a minimum level for general reserves of £20,000. This will be reviewed again during the 2024 year to ensure that the level is sufficient to meet any additional maintenance required from increased usage and inflationary cost increases for materials and services purchased.

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023**

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**Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and so the financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis.

**Summary**

On behalf of the trustees, I would again like to thank everyone has volunteered and contributed to making Flitwick Eagles a club to be proud of.

*G Springall*

Geoff Springall  
Chairman

13<sup>th</sup> November 2023

## FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

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### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Flitwick Eagles Football Club (the Charity) for the year ended 31 May 2023.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity 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 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:-

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 disclosure 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

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 in accordance with section 130 of the Charities 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 in respect of 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 in my opinion have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*P Fenn*

**Philip Fenn ACA FCCA**  
Mercer & Hole LLP  
The Pinnacle  
170 Midsummer Boulevard  
Milton Keynes, MK9 1BP

15<sup>th</sup> November 2023

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB****YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023****STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023  
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds 2022 £</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
<b>Income from:</b>			
Memberships & donations		34,240	31,720
Charitable Activities	2	93,731	97,660
Investment income	3	409	5
Other		-	-
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>128,380</b>	<b>129,385</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>			
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	4	7,786	7,142
Charitable activities and other expenses	5	140,909	112,681
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>148,695</b>	<b>119,823</b>
Total funds brought forward at 1 June		92,768	83,206
Net income/(expenditure)		(20,315)	9,562
Total funds carried forward at 31 May		<b>72,453</b>	<b>92,768</b>

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these Financial Statements.

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

All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MAY 2023**

	Notes	31 May 2023 £	31 May 2022 £
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	6	18,729	14,630
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>56,010</u>	<u>83,838</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		74,739	98,468
Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)	7	(2,286)	(5,700)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>72,453</u>	<u>92,768</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<u>72,453</u>	<u>92,768</u>
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>			
Unrestricted general funds	9	32,453	37,768
Unrestricted designated funds	9	40,000	55,000
Restricted funds		-	-
<b>Total Funds of the Charity</b>		<u>72,453</u>	<u>92,768</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 13th November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

*I Mulligan*

.....  
I Mulligan ACMA  
Treasurer

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**1. Accounting policies**

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

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

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 Section 1A, from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the organisation is small.

**1.1 Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds comprise accumulated surpluses and deficits on general funds. They are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees of the charity in furtherance of the general charitable objectives. Designated funds are unrestricted funds that the Trustees have designated or allocated for identifiable future expenditure. Restricted funds are amounts for specific purposes as defined by the donor.

**1.2 Income**

Incoming resources represents donations, subscriptions, subsidies, sponsorship, grant funding and other income. Income is only recognised once it has been received and voluntary donations are recognised on receipt where the donation relates to the current accounting period.

**1.3 Expenditure**

Expenditure incurred on activities falling directly within one cost category have been recognised as such. Items of expenditure which involve more than one category have been allocated on a reasonable and consistent basis.

**1.4 Capital expenditure**

Items under £100 are not capitalised. Items over this level are assessed individually before a decision is made regarding whether they should be capitalised. Donated assets are recognised at their monetary value, as estimated by the trustees, when received and are capitalised at this value. In certain cases, where title to an asset is restricted so that it has either no or little net value to the charity, the trustees' policy is that the item should not be capitalised in the accounts.

**1.5 Debtors**

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Cont'd

**1.6 Creditors and provisions**

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

**1.7 Financial Instruments**

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

**1.8 Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. In making this assessment, the Trustees have reviewed the income and cash flow forecasts of the Charity and concluded that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

**2. Income from Charitable Activities**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£	£
Football training	72,082	79,422
Football tournaments	11,291	10,188
Community activities	10,358	8,050
	<u>93,731</u>	<u>97,660</u>

**3. Investment income**

Investment income comprises bank interest totalling £409 (2022: £5)

**4. Expenditure on Raising Funds**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£	£
Tournament costs	3,340	4,582
Prizes and social events	3,583	1,612
Stationery & adverts	863	948
	<u>7,786</u>	<u>7,142</u>

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB****YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Cont'd****5. Expenditure on Charitable Activities**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Training and playing facilities	56,630	49,887
Equipment	26,875	27,675
Affiliation and League fees	5,254	3,718
Match officials	11,177	9,285
Tournament fees	252	280
Coaching	1,617	730
Trophies and prizes	9,877	5,203
Pitch maintenance & improvements	28,000	15,000
Repairs and maintenance	454	196
Administration costs	773	707
Independent examiners fee	-	-
	<u>140,909</u>	<u>112,681</u>

During the year a £20,000 contribution was made towards the costs of the installation of all-weather playing facilities, funds which had been designated by the Trustees for the maintenance and improvement of playing surfaces.

**6. Debtors**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Inland Revenue Gift Aid	16,079	14,630
Subscriptions	2,650	-
	<u>18,729</u>	<u>14,630</u>

**7. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Accruals and deferred income	2,286	5,700
	<u>2,286</u>	<u>5,700</u>

Accruals relates to operating costs incurred for which purchase invoices were not issued at the year-end date.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Cont'd**

**8. Related Parties**

Flitwick Eagles Football Club is a member of Flitwick Together, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registration number 1157451 that holds the lease to the Flitwick Football Centre. Flitwick Eagles Football Club has the right to appoint Member Trustees to Flitwick Together CIO and Lynda Gazeley and Ian Mulligan are currently Trustees of both Flitwick Eagles Football Club and Flitwick Together CIO.

A donation of £8,000 (2022: £ Nil) was made by the charity during the year to Flitwick Together CIO to assist with the purchase of pitch maintenance equipment. No amounts were owed to, or due from Flitwick Together CIO at the year-end (2022: £nil).

The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited operates the Flitwick Football Centre on behalf of Flitwick Together CIO. Melvyn Gazeley is currently a Trustee of Flitwick Eagles Football Club and a director of The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited.

Flitwick Eagles Football Club paid rent for the hire of facilities during the year of £24,000 (2022: £17,000) from The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited on an arm's length basis. No amounts were owed to, or due from The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited at the year-end (2022: £nil).

**9. Funds**

All assets and liabilities are held as unrestricted funds, although £40,000 of the unrestricted funds have been designated by the trustees in respect of the maintenance and improvement of the training and playing facilities, which are soon expected to need substantial expenditure in view of the high levels of usage. £20,000 was expended during the year from designated funds towards the installation costs of all-weather playing facilities.

There are no restricted funds.

**10. Reserves policy**

The charity has a policy of holding an adequate level of general reserves to meet operating costs over the summer 'pre-season' period and have therefore set a minimum level for unrestricted general funds of £20,000. This will be reviewed annually to ensure that the level is sufficient to ensure the long-term stability of the charity.

**11. Remuneration to Trustees for services**

None of the Trustees received any remuneration or reimbursement for expenses in respect of their services as a Trustee during the year.

**12. Control**

The Charity is controlled by the trustees.

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

England & Wales - Charity number 1109671

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# Accounts

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# Flitwick Eagles Football Club

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Founded 1986

Registered Charity : 1109671



CHARTER STANDARD  
COMMUNITY CLUB

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 MAY 2022

2021-22 SEASON

[www.flitwickeagles.org](http://www.flitwickeagles.org)

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022**

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**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022**

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Trustees

Geoff Springall (Chairman)

Lynda Gazeley

Melvyn Gazeley (Secretary)

Peter Hagan

Ian Mulligan (Treasurer)

Colin Giggle

Ian Noble (Vice Chairman)

Paul Jenkins

Independent Examiner

Mr P Fenn  
Mercer & Hole LLP  
Silbury Court  
420 Silbury Boulevard  
Central Milton Keynes  
MK9 2AF

Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc  
111 High Street  
Bedford  
MK40 1NJ

Registered Charity Number

1109671

Principal Address

Flitwick Football Centre  
Amphill Road  
Flitwick  
Bedfordshire  
MK45 1BA

## **Trustees' Report 2021-2022**

The Trustees present their Annual Report with the Financial Statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 May 2022.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Trust's Deed and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

### **Objectives of the Charity**

The charity was established by a constitution adopted on 10 April 2005 and was registered on 25 May 2005.

The objectives of the Charity are to advance the educational and physical development of boys and girls living in Flitwick and the surrounding area, regardless of race, ability or social background by the provision of sports facilities and opportunities to participate in sport and in particular football.

The trustees meet four times per year and regularly review our charitable activities to ensure that the club offers both the facilities and opportunities to all children in the local community to participate in sport. This is demonstrated not only by the teams that represent the club on a Saturday and Sunday but also the diversity of sessions we are able to offer from those first starting out to our adults side and our wider community activities.

### **Review of the development, activities and achievements of the charity**

#### **Club Development**

This was our eighth season in the football centre. A facility all at Flitwick Eagles are proud to call our home, the centre has become increasingly important to the local community and provides a base where teams, volunteers and parents can interact.

In its 34th year the club were once again awarded FA Chartered Standard status. To achieve this again is a huge achievement for a club the size of Flitwick Eagles, because we have over 50 teams and somewhere in the region of 90 coaches and managers to monitor. That all of our volunteers are compliant with FA requirements is a great testament to them, but even greater testament to Lynda Gazeley who works extremely hard to maintain this high standard within the club.

The club continues to grow with over 50 teams competing in the season with great representation throughout local leagues on both Saturdays and Sundays in youth levels and in Ladies senior football. The trustees continue to review policy to ensure that we cater for the local community and ensure a safe and friendly environment for all.

#### **Facilities and equipment**

The Flitwick Football Centre is the envy of all visiting teams. The pitches and centre are a super example of what can be achieved with determination and hard work. It is a great pleasure to see the pitches in use every Saturday and Sunday with the girls, boys and ladies teams.

## FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

### YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

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The club is indebted to Colin Giggle who, as a volunteer spends a huge amount of his own time maintaining our wonderful home, helping to ensure that the pitches look great each week. The pitches are rested from May to September to allow for maintenance and for new grass to grow. As with previous years, the summer was particularly dry and hot and rainfall was minimal. The club increasingly appreciate the need for an irrigation system to cope with these conditions and have completed research to help us understand what options are available to us and the associated costs as progressing this remains a high priority.

This was our ninth year of training on the 3G pitches at Redborne Upper School and our fifth on the Flitwick Leisure Centre 3G pitches. The use of both facilities has enabled greater flexibility in delivering effective training sessions. We cater for all age groups with suitable training slots and times, so some teams have to be flexible with their expectations despite the range of venues.

Discussions have begun this season with the FA and Central Bedfordshire Council about installing a 3G all-weather facility at Flitwick Football Centre. This would provide year-round access to football and a fantastic state of the art facility for our members and the wider community.

The high standards of football kit and equipment has been maintained, but our preferred kit manufacturer Mitre have sadly recently announced that they will no longer be manufacturing clothing, so an alternative kit supplier is in the process of being identified.

#### Growth and Retention

Our membership levels continue to increase. With over 50 teams, we have over 600 playing members in the club. We also have many satellite activities supporting the wider community outside of the structured weekend leagues with Eaglets, Fledglings, Frame, Veterans and Walking football.

This was the third season that the Eaglets sessions were held on a Sunday morning at the football centre. These sessions have been very well attended and allow 3- to 6-year-olds the opportunity to experience the club at the weekends, something that we hope embeds them into the club for years to come. We were also really excited to bring back our Fledglings session for girls under the age of 9.

#### Raising Standards and Addressing Abusive Behaviour

Reflecting on last season, it was the first since the COVID-19 pandemic not to be interrupted by enforced breaks. We continue to enforce good practice with regards to behaviour, both on and off the pitch, however, we have been aware of a noticeable rise in poor behaviour since the Covid interruptions, leading to the formation of a Disciplinary Committee to investigate any complaints.

We continue to ensure our coaches and managers hold the necessary qualifications, ensuring, despite the growth of the club that high standards are maintained. The introduction of ID cards a few seasons ago for all coaches, displaying names and FAN numbers is an added safeguard in place at the club, one that sets a standard within the county. The FA's code of conduct for coaches, players and parents is embedded within the club and abusive behaviour of any kind will not be tolerated. The club strongly supports FA initiatives such as, silent support weekends to improve the experience for our players.

### Running the Game Effectively

We continued with the registration process as in previous years with a signing-on weekend. With over 600 members it is not possible to complete all player signings in one weekend and an approach allowing additional signing-on mornings and the flexibility to make signings on an ad-hoc basis has proven successful.

Our Treasurer Ian Mulligan's leadership of the financial management of the club continues to be first class. With a significant turnover, collection of fees and control of expenditure under his stewardship has continued to provide a solid foundation for the club, helping us to demonstrate that we have the ability to manage our finances effectively – an important attribute for any prospective funding body.

### Development of human resources

We continued to develop new coaches through the FA Level 1 coaching course, together with training in Safeguarding and basic First Aid requirements and monitor this to ensure that all within the club maintain their qualifications. We also support further development of coaches and their qualifications, with a structured approach to paying for the courses.

A number of the playing members have also shown an interest in refereeing, and this has helped to supplement the clubs growing need for officials at the weekend. This has proven invaluable, because as the demand for referees has grown, the number of willing young officials has sadly dwindled. We are strong supporters of young and new referees and greatly appreciate their role in football.

We have a volunteer's pool of approximately 90 Coaches and Managers who help out on a regular basis and a large number of parents / carers with a willingness to support.

### Marketing and Public Relations

We make use of the WhatsApp messaging service to convey important information through the team managers, we also rely on managers to convey important messages within their teams. The club has a higher presence now on social media, with Facebook and Twitter regularly updated with club news. The volunteer who originally set up and maintained the club website unfortunately left the club and so our access to the website to enable us to update it was restricted for a time. This situation has now been resolved and going forward an arrangement has been made to ensure this valuable resource is properly maintained.

### Football in the Community

Eaglets (introductory sessions for 3–6-year-olds) continue to be popular sessions. This season also saw the re-introduction of our Fledgling sessions, catering for girls under 9 years of age, ably coached by Lauren Thompson. Both sessions are held at the football centre on Sunday mornings and are a great opportunity for parents to socialise and for the children to experience the club on a "matchday". The sessions are very well attended and in the longer term we may benefit from additional sessions being facilitated. These sessions are also a great opportunity for aspiring young coaches from within the club to assist. In addition, walking football and veterans' football have regular sessions that are very well attended. The veterans' sessions are also enjoyed by many of our volunteers.

### Social Activities

Off the field and outside of match days it is acknowledged that we need to develop the social side of the club. Much of the shortfall in activity can be attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact of social distancing. However, we have a great facility that could be used in so many ways and a captive audience for whom we could offer much more than we do currently. Looking forward we intend to re-invigorate our social committee to ensure social events are organised and well attended.

### Tournament

We hosted our annual boys pre-season football tournament at the football centre for the sixth time. This proved to be very successful and generated valuable income for the club. The event was reduced in numbers due to the Covid pandemic and level of confidence about such events, but we still welcomed over 85 teams across the weekend. We continued to use the FA fulltime system to record progress through the tournament, whilst it is labour intensive in the lead up to the tournament it once again proved to be successful and met with approval from participating managers, coaches and spectators. It was our fourth year of using the Eventbrite system to enable teams to book their places on to the tournament. This was managed very well, with no overbooking of places. Without question we operate at a very high level when it comes to organising tournaments and our reputation in this field continues to grow.

Following the Covid pandemic we were once again able to host the girls only end of season tournament in May 2022. Using the same formula that we apply to our well-established boy's tournament we will continue to grow and establish this in the coming years. Whilst still in its infancy we attracted 60 teams and are establishing a strong reputation as a quality girls tournament.

### Presentations

The end of season presentations were carried out at the football centre at the end of season. These once again proved to be great social events and the club were pleased to return to a format that the playing members and their families could enjoy.

### Public benefit

The Trustees consider that the main activities of the Charity detailed in the objects above are for the public benefit and have given due regard to the Charities Commission guidance on public benefit.

### Trustees

The trustees continue to ensure the club is operating on a sound base. The group met four times through the year and the Trustees who served during the period were:

Geoff Springall (Chairman)	Lynda Gazeley
Melvyn Gazeley (Secretary)	Peter Hagan
Ian Mulligan (Treasurer)	Colin Giggle
Ian Noble (Vice Chairman)	Paul Jenkins

### Risk assessment

In accordance with the guidelines in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) the trustees have considered the major risks affecting the charity and have taken steps to mitigate these as far as possible.

### New trustee appointments and training

New trustees receive information on the charity in respect of its mission, charitable objectives, charitable activities and structure. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events that will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

The trustees have regard to the need for any specialist skills which individuals bring to the charity.

### Reserves policy

The trustees regard it as important to retain an adequate level of reserves to meet operating costs over the summer period relating to the provision of training facilities and the annual maintenance programme for the football pitches. The Trustees have currently set a minimum level for general reserves of £20,000. This will be reviewed again during the 2023 year to ensure that the level is sufficient to meet any additional maintenance required from increased usage and inflationary cost increases for materials and services purchased.

### Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and so the financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis.

### Summary

On behalf of the trustees I would like to thank everyone has volunteered and contributed to making Flitwick Eagles a club to be proud of.

*G Springall*

Geoff Springall  
Chairman

28<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## **FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022**

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### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Flitwick Eagles Football Club (the Charity) for the year ended 31 May 2022.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The Charity 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 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:-

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of Independent Examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 disclosure 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**

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 in accordance with section 130 of the Charities 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 in respect of 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 in my opinion have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*P Fenn*

**Philip Fenn ACA FCCA**

Mercer & Hole LLP

Silbury Court

420 Silbury Boulevard

Central Milton Keynes, MK9 2AF

28<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB****YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022****STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022  
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds 2021 £</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
<b>Income from:</b>			
Memberships & donations		31,720	30,040
Charitable Activities	2	97,660	40,496
Investment income	3	5	23
Other		-	-
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>129,385</b>	<b>70,559</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>			
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	4	7,142	1,085
Charitable activities and other expenses	5	112,681	47,373
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>119,823</b>	<b>48,458</b>
Total funds brought forward at 1 June		83,206	61,105
Net income/(expenditure)		9,562	22,101
Total funds carried forward at 31 May		<b>92,768</b>	<b>83,206</b>

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these Financial Statements.

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

All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MAY 2022**

	Notes	31 May 2022 £	31 May 2021 £
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	6	14,630	9,380
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>83,838</u>	<u>101,906</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		98,468	111,286
Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)	7	(5,700)	(28,080)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>92,768</u>	<u>83,206</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<u>92,768</u>	<u>83,206</u>
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>			
Unrestricted general funds	9	37,768	23,206
Unrestricted designated funds	9	55,000	60,000
Restricted funds		-	-
<b>Total Funds of the Charity</b>		<u>92,768</u>	<u>83,206</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 28th January 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

*I Mulligan*

.....  
I Mulligan ACMA  
Treasurer

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**1. Accounting policies**

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

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

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 Section 1A, from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the organisation is small.

**1.1 Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds comprise accumulated surpluses and deficits on general funds. They are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees of the charity in furtherance of the general charitable objectives. Designated funds are unrestricted funds that the Trustees have designated or allocated for identifiable future expenditure. Restricted funds are amounts for specific purposes as defined by the donor.

**1.2 Income**

Incoming resources represents donations, subscriptions, subsidies, sponsorship, grant funding and other income. Income is only recognised once it has been received and voluntary donations are recognised on receipt where the donation relates to the current accounting period.

**1.3 Expenditure**

Expenditure incurred on activities falling directly within one cost category have been recognised as such. Items of expenditure which involve more than one category have been allocated on a reasonable and consistent basis.

**1.4 Capital expenditure**

Items under £100 are not capitalised. Items over this level are assessed individually before a decision is made regarding whether they should be capitalised. Donated assets are recognised at their monetary value, as estimated by the trustees, when received and are capitalised at this value. In certain cases, where title to an asset is restricted so that it has either no or little net value to the charity, the trustees' policy is that the item should not be capitalised in the accounts.

**1.5 Debtors**

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Cont'd

**1.6 Creditors and provisions**

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

**1.7 Financial Instruments**

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

**1.8 Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. In making this assessment, the Trustees have reviewed the income and cash flow forecasts of the Charity and concluded that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

**2. Income from Charitable Activities**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	£	£
Football training	79,422	34,965
Football tournaments	10,188	-
Community activities	8,050	5,531
	<u>97,660</u>	<u>40,496</u>

Income from football training and football tournaments reduced in the prior year due to the curtailment of activities due to the mandatory and voluntary restrictions that were applied relating to the Covid-19 pandemic.

**3. Investment income**

Investment income comprises bank interest totalling £5 (2021 : £23)

**4. Expenditure on Raising Funds**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	£	£
Tournament costs	4,582	-
Prizes and social events	1,612	82
Stationery & adverts	948	1,003
	<u>7,142</u>	<u>1,085</u>

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB****YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Cont'd****5. Expenditure on Charitable Activities**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Training and playing facilities	49,887	25,593
Equipment	27,675	10,885
Affiliation and League fees	3,718	1,218
Match officials	9,285	5,222
Tournament fees	280	-
Coaching	730	480
Trophies and prizes	5,203	3,202
Pitch renovation & irrigation	15,000	-
Repairs and maintenance	196	118
Administration costs	707	655
Independent examiners fee	-	-
	<u>112,681</u>	<u>47,373</u>

Expenditure on training and playing facilities was reduced in the prior year due to mandatory and voluntary restrictions that were applied by the facility operators relating to the Covid-19 pandemic.

During the year a £15,000 contribution was made towards the costs of a survey regarding the proposed installation of pitch irrigation and all-weather playing facilities, expenditure regarding which funds have been designated by the Trustees.

**6. Debtors**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Inland Revenue Gift Aid	14,630	9,380
	<u>14,630</u>	<u>9,380</u>

**7. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Accruals and deferred income	5,700	28,080
	<u>5,700</u>	<u>28,080</u>

Accruals relates to operating costs incurred for which purchase invoices were not issued at the year-end date. In the prior year, accruals and deferred income primarily related to football training fees that were paid in advance by members and deferred due to the curtailment of activities due to the mandatory and voluntary restrictions that were applied relating to the Covid-19 pandemic.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Cont'd**

**8. Related Parties**

Flitwick Eagles Football Club is a member of Flitwick Together, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registration number 1157451 that owns the lease to the Flitwick Football Centre. Flitwick Eagles Football Club has the right to appoint Member Trustees to Flitwick Together CIO and Lynda Gazeley and Ian Mulligan are currently Trustees of both Flitwick Eagles Football Club and Flitwick Together CIO.

Costs of £ Nil (2021: £ Nil) were recharged to the charity by Flitwick Together CIO in respect of repair and maintenance costs during the year. No amounts were owed to, or due from Flitwick Together CIO at the year-end (2021: £nil).

The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited operates the Flitwick Football Centre on behalf of Flitwick Together CIO. Melvyn Gazeley is currently a Trustee of Flitwick Eagles Football Club and a director of The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited.

Flitwick Eagles Football Club paid rent for the hire of facilities during the year of £17,000 (2021: £17,000) and purchased equipment of £nil (2021: £nil) from The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited on an arm's length basis. No amounts were owed to, or due from The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited at the year-end (2021: £nil).

**9. Funds**

All assets and liabilities are held as unrestricted funds, although a further £10,000 of the unrestricted funds have been designated this year by the trustees in respect of the maintenance and improvement of the training and playing facilities, which are expected to need substantial expenditure in the near future in view of the high levels of usage. £15,000 was expended during the year as a contribution towards the costs of a survey regarding the proposed installation of pitch irrigation and all-weather playing facilities.

There are no restricted funds.

**10. Reserves policy**

The charity has a policy of holding an adequate level of general reserves to meet operating costs over the summer 'pre-season' period and have therefore set a minimum level for unrestricted general funds of £20,000. This will be reviewed annually to ensure that the level is sufficient to ensure the long-term stability of the charity.

**11. Remuneration to Trustees for services**

None of the Trustees received any remuneration or reimbursement for expenses in respect of their services as a Trustee during the year.

**12. Control**

The Charity is controlled by the trustees.

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

England & Wales - Charity number 1109671

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# Accounts

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# Flitwick Eagles Football Club

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Founded 1986

Registered Charity : 1109671



CHARTER STANDARD  
COMMUNITY CLUB

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 MAY 2021

2020-21 SEASON

[www.flitwickeagles.org](http://www.flitwickeagles.org)

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021**

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**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021**

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Trustees

Geoff Springall (Chairman)	Lynda Gazeley
Melvyn Gazeley (Secretary)	Peter Hagan
Ian Mulligan (Treasurer)	Colin Giggle
Ian Noble (Vice Chairman)	Paul Jenkins

Independent Examiner

Mr P Fenn  
Mercer & Hole Chartered Accountants  
Silbury Court  
420 Silbury Boulevard  
Central Milton Keynes  
MK9 2AF

Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc  
111 High Street  
Bedford  
MK40 1NJ

Registered Charity Number

1109671

Principal Address

Flitwick Football Centre  
Amphill Road  
Flitwick  
Bedfordshire  
MK45 1BA

## **Trustees' Report 2020-2021**

The Trustees present their Annual Report with the Financial Statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 May 2021.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Trust's Deed and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

### **Objectives of the Charity**

The charity was established by a constitution adopted on 10 April 2005 and was registered on 25 May 2005.

The objectives of the Charity are to advance the educational and physical development of boys and girls living in Flitwick and the surrounding area, regardless of race, ability or social background by the provision of sports facilities and opportunities to participate in sport and in particular football.

The trustees meet periodically and regularly review our charitable activities to ensure that the club offers both the facilities and opportunities to all children in the local community to participate in sport. This is demonstrated by the diverse range of teams, players and helpers associated with the club and our wider involvement in community activities and strong relations with local schools.

### **Review of the development, activities and achievements of the charity**

#### **Club Development**

This was our seventh season in the football centre. We are all extremely proud of the centre and all realise how important the venue has become for the local community. It's importance was no more apparent than over the past year after football was curtailed in early March 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. With the country going into lockdown and all non-essential contact and travel banned, football fell victim with leagues voided and cup competitions barely off of the ground, the escape for many families to football at the weekends and training during the week was taken away. The feedback received from our players and parent group reinforced how important this was to them all.

One of the most satisfying aspects of the pandemic was seeing the brilliant behaviour of our young players. They showed how quickly they could adapt to the situation, in many cases demonstrating maturity and camaraderie that was well beyond their ages.

The club continues to grow with over 50 teams competing during the season with great representation throughout local leagues on Saturdays and Sundays in both boys' and girls' football.

It was with some sadness that we again said goodbye to players from our under 18 teams, some of whom have been with the club since age 7 and with great regret we were again not able to give them the farewell that they deserved and which we as a club and I am certain the parent group, would have liked.

## FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

### YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

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The football centre has provided a base where teams, volunteers and parents can interact. In its 35<sup>th</sup> year the club were again proud to be awarded FA Charter Standard status. With a club the size of Flitwick Eagles this takes a great deal of effort, in particular from Lynda Gazeley who works hard to ensure compliance throughout the club. All volunteers representing the club must ensure all FA rules are understood and followed and are responsible for ensuring their qualifications remain in date.

The trustees continue to review policy to ensure we cater for the local community and ensure a safe and friendly environment for all. We are also very proud to have a flourishing girl's section at the club and are committed to developing this further.

#### Facilities and equipment

The Flitwick Football Centre is the envy of all visiting teams. The pitches and football centre are a super example of what can be achieved with determination and hard work. It is a great pleasure to see the pitches in use on Saturdays and Sundays with girls, boys and ladies enjoying playing football.

The club is indebted to Colin Giggie who, as a volunteer spends a great deal of his time maintaining our wonderful home and because of him, the pitches look great each week. The pitches are normally rested from May to September to allow for maintenance and for new grass to grow, however, the pandemic ended last season earlier than usual in mid-March, so they were then rested until we introduced summer training a little earlier than usual under the social distancing rules. As with previous years the summer was again dry and hot and therefore rainfall was minimal. The club appreciates that there is a requirement to invest in a permanent irrigation system to ensure this isn't left to chance and we will be pursuing the options available that will enable us to introduce this.

This was our eighth year of training on the 3G pitches at Redborne Upper School and our fourth on the Flitwick Leisure Centre 3G pitches. Access to these facilities and the school venues we use for summer training has been impacted due to Covid-19 restrictions, which led to an increased use of the pitches at the Football Centre for training, which in turn increased wear and tear on the pitches. The trustees are mindful that football has become a year-round sport for many of our members, with teams wishing to train well beyond the traditional end of season and so a suitable solution needs to be found to accommodate this change in demand.

Despite the impact of Covid-19, the reduction in expenditure on pitch hire and close control of expenditure on football kits and equipment have enabled us to make a surplus whilst maintaining the high standards of football kit and equipment in use.

#### Growth and Retention

Our membership levels continue to increase. With approximately 53 teams, we now have over 600 playing members in the club. We also have many satellite activities supporting the wider community outside of the structured weekend leagues, including Eaglets, Veterans and Walking football.

This was the second season that the Eaglets sessions were held on a Sunday morning at the football centre. These sessions have been very well attended and they allow 3 to 6 year old children the opportunity to experience the match day experience at the weekend, something that we hope will embed them into the club for years to come.

## FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

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### Raising Standards and Addressing Abusive Behaviour

Operating from one site provides an environment where high standards of conduct are both expected and normal. Flitwick Eagles continue to ensure that all of those involved in coaching within the club have the necessary qualifications and safeguarding checks in place. The introduction of ID cards for all coaches, that display names and FAN numbers is an added safeguard in place at the club, one that sets a standard within the county. Codes of conduct for coaches, players and parents are embedded within the club and abusive behaviour of any kind will not be tolerated.

### Running the Game Effectively

We continued with the registration process as in previous years with a signing on weekend. With over 600 members it was not possible to complete all signings on in one weekend and we therefore provided some additional signing on mornings and the flexibility of signing on players on an ad-hoc basis has also proven successful.

Ian Mulligan, our Treasurers', leadership of the financial management of the club continues to be top class. Facing significant challenges from the Covid-19 pandemic, his management of the collection of subscriptions and control of expenditure proved invaluable to the club and has been especially important under the uncertainty of pandemic conditions. Under Ian's stewardship the club has demonstrated its ability to manage finances very effectively – an important attribute both for club members and prospective funding bodies in ensuring that the club is sustainable.

### Development of human resources

We continue to develop new coaches through Level 1 and maintain qualifications throughout the club. We also support further development of coaches and their qualifications, with a structured approach to paying for the courses. In addition, we are proud to host a number of FA CPD sessions throughout the season at the football centre, sessions that are always well attended by Flitwick Eagles coaches.

A number of the playing members have also shown an interest in refereeing, and this has helped to supplement the growing need for officials at the weekend. We are strong supporters of young and new referees and greatly appreciate their role in football.

We currently have a volunteer pool of over 70 Coaches and Managers who help on a regular basis and a large number of parents / carers who have a willingness to volunteer and help out with the myriad of tasks that need completing to keep the club and match days operating.

### Marketing and Public Relations

We make use of the WhatsApp messaging service to convey important information through the team managers. We also rely on managers to convey important messages about events to their players and parents. The club has a higher presence now on social media, with Facebook and Twitter being regularly updated with club news.

## FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

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### Football in the Community

Eaglets continue to be popular sessions, with positive feedback received from many parents on their children's enjoyment of the sessions. In addition, walking football, veterans and SEN football are very well attended regular sessions and as a bonus, the veteran's sessions are enjoyed by many of our coaches and volunteers.

### Social Activities

Social activities have obviously been severely impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and social distancing restrictions, but it is acknowledged that off pitch and outside of match days we need to work on developing the social side of the club. We have a great facility and a wide audience that gives us a great opportunity to widen participation. We intend to re-invigorate our social committee to ensure social events are organised and by improving our ability to communicate with members it is hoped that we can increase engagement and ensure social events are well attended.

### Tournament

Our annual boys pre-season tournament held each year in late August or early September was cancelled in 2020 in view of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and social distancing restrictions. This returned in autumn 2021, but on a much smaller scale in view of the social distancing restrictions.

Unfortunately, with great regret we were also unable to hold our girl's end of season tournament in May 2021, although we intend to re-establish this event as soon as possible to promote and support girl's football.

### Presentations

End of season presentations were held by those Teams who wished to have them in the summertime, only once Covid restrictions allowed and in accordance with government guidelines.

### Public benefit

The Trustees consider that the main activities of the Charity detailed in the objects above are for the public benefit and have given due regard to the Charities Commission guidance on public benefit.

### Trustees

The trustees continue to ensure the club is operating on a sound base. The group met four times during the year and the Trustees who served during the period were:

Geoff Springall (Chairman)	Lynda Gazeley
Melvyn Gazeley (Secretary)	Peter Hagan
Ian Mulligan (Treasurer)	Colin Giggle
Ian Noble (Vice Chairman)	Paul Jenkins

## FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

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### Risk assessment

In accordance with the guidelines in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) the trustees have considered the major risks affecting the trust and have taken steps to mitigate these as far as possible.

### New trustee appointments and training

New trustees receive information on the charity in respect of its mission, charitable objectives, charitable activities and structure. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events that will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

The trustees have regard to the need for any specialist skills which individuals bring to the charity.

### Reserves policy

The trustees regard it as important to retain an adequate level of reserves to meet operating costs over the summer period relating to the provision of training facilities and the annual maintenance programme for the football pitches. Since there is minimal income during this period the Trustees have currently set a minimum reserves level of £20,000. This will be reviewed during the 2022 year to ensure that the level is sufficient to meet unforeseen costs and reflects any additional maintenance required from increased usage and cost increases for materials and services purchased.

### Going concern

On January 29th 2020, the World Health Organization's Emergency Committee (WHD) declared that the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak was a "public health emergency of international interest". The effects of the coronavirus pandemic on the UK population and economy have been significant.

The effects of the pandemic continued to impact the operations of the charity during the year ended 31 May 2021 and since the year end date. At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future given the actions available to the Trustees to mitigate the potential impact of the pandemic and connected matters on the charity.

### Summary

On behalf of the trustees, I would like to thank everyone who has volunteered or supported the club, as you have all contributed to making Flitwick Eagles a club to be proud of.

*G Springall*

Geoff Springall  
Chairman

25<sup>th</sup> February 2022

## **FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021**

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### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Flitwick Eagles Football Club (the Charity) for the year ended 31 May 2021.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The Charity 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 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:-

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of Independent Examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 disclosure 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**

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 in accordance with section 130 of the Charities 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 in respect of 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 in my opinion have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*P Fenn*

**Philip Fenn ACA FCCA**  
Mercer & Hole Chartered Accountants  
Silbury Court  
420 Silbury Boulevard  
Central Milton Keynes, MK9 2AF

28<sup>th</sup> February 2022

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021  
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds 2021 £</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds 2020 £</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
<b>Income from:</b>			
Memberships & donations		30,040	26,315
Charitable Activities	2	40,496	73,153
Investment income	3	23	101
Other		-	-
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>70,559</b>	<b>99,569</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>			
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	4	1,085	5,063
Charitable activities and other expenses	5	47,373	84,399
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>48,458</b>	<b>89,462</b>
Total funds brought forward at 1 June 2019		61,105	50,998
Net income/(expenditure)		22,101	10,107
Total funds carried forward at 31 May 2020		<b>83,206</b>	<b>61,105</b>

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these Financial Statements.

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

All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MAY 2021**

	Notes	31 May 2021 £	31 May 2020 £
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	6	9,380	5,000
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>101,906</u>	<u>58,105</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		111,286	63,105
Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)	7	(28,080)	(2,000)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>83,206</u>	<u>61,105</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<u>83,206</u>	<u>61,105</u>
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>			
Unrestricted general funds	9	23,206	21,105
Unrestricted designated funds	9	60,000	40,000
Restricted funds		-	-
<b>Total Funds of the Charity</b>		<u>83,206</u>	<u>61,105</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 25th February 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

*I Mulligan*

.....  
I Mulligan ACMA  
Treasurer

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**1. Accounting policies**

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

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

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 Section 1A, from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the organisation is small.

**1.1 Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds comprise accumulated surpluses and deficits on general funds. They are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees of the charity in furtherance of the general charitable objectives. Designated funds are unrestricted funds that the Trustees have designated or allocated for identifiable future expenditure. Restricted funds are amounts for specific purposes as defined by the donor.

**1.2 Income**

Incoming resources represents donations, subscriptions, subsidies, sponsorship, grant funding and other income. Income is only recognised once it has been received and voluntary donations are recognised on receipt where the donation relates to the current accounting period.

**1.3 Expenditure**

Expenditure incurred on activities falling directly within one cost category have been recognised as such. Items of expenditure which involve more than one category have been allocated on a reasonable and consistent basis.

**1.4 Capital expenditure**

Items under £100 are not capitalised. Items over this level are assessed individually before a decision is made regarding whether they should be capitalised. Donated assets are recognised at their monetary value, as estimated by the trustees, when received and are capitalised at this value. In certain cases, where title to an asset is restricted so that it has either no or little net value to the charity, the trustees' policy is that the item should not be capitalised in the accounts.

**1.5 Debtors**

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Cont'd

**1.6 Creditors and provisions**

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

**1.7 Financial Instruments**

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

**1.8 Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. In making this assessment, the Trustees have reviewed the income and cash flow forecasts of the Charity and concluded that taking into account the possible impact of COVID-19 on activities, the mitigating actions that can be taken to control costs and the ability of the Charity to raise additional funds, that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

**2. Income from Charitable Activities**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	£	£
Football training	34,965	58,535
Football tournaments	-	11,350
Community activities	5,531	3,268
	<u>40,496</u>	<u>73,153</u>

Income from football training and football tournaments reduced due to the curtailment of activities due to mandatory and voluntary restrictions that were applied relating to the Covid-19 pandemic.

**3. Investment income**

Investment income comprises bank interest totalling £23 (2020 : £101)

**4. Expenditure on Raising Funds**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2020</b>
	£	£
Tournament costs	-	3,753
Prizes and social events	82	116
Stationery & adverts	1,003	1,194
	<u>1,085</u>	<u>5,063</u>

**FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB****YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Cont'd****5. Expenditure on Charitable Activities**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Training and playing facilities	25,593	48,256
Equipment	10,885	19,661
Affiliation and League fees	1,218	5,182
Match officials	5,222	5,871
Tournament fees	-	55
Coaching	480	1,860
Trophies and prizes	3,202	2,000
Community activities	-	911
Repairs and maintenance	118	15
Administration costs	655	588
Independent examiners fee	-	-
Donations	-	-
	<u>47,373</u>	<u>84,399</u>

Expenditure on training and playing facilities was reduced due to the temporary withdrawal of third-party facilities due to mandatory and voluntary restrictions that were applied by the facility operators relating to the Covid-19 pandemic.

**6. Debtors**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Inland Revenue Gift Aid	9,380	5,000
	<u>9,380</u>	<u>5,000</u>

**7. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Accruals and deferred income	28,080	2,000
	<u>28,080</u>	<u>2,000</u>

Accruals and deferred income relates to football training fees that were paid in advance by members and deferred due to the curtailment of activities due to the mandatory and voluntary restrictions that were applied relating to the Covid-19 pandemic.

## **FLITWICK EAGLES FOOTBALL CLUB**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021**

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### **8. Related Parties**

Flitwick Eagles Football Club is a member of Flitwick Together, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registration number 1157451 that owns the lease to the Flitwick Football Centre. Flitwick Eagles Football Club has the right to appoint Member Trustees to Flitwick Together CIO and Lynda Gazeley and Ian Mulligan are currently Trustees of both Flitwick Eagles Football Club and Flitwick Together CIO.

Costs of £ Nil (2020: £ Nil) were recharged to the charity by Flitwick Together CIO in respect of repair and maintenance costs during the year. No amounts were owed to, or due from Flitwick Together CIO at the year-end (2020: £nil).

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Cont'd**

The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited operates the Flitwick Football Centre on behalf of Flitwick Together CIO. Melvyn Gazeley is currently a Trustee of Flitwick Eagles Football Club and a director of The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited.

Flitwick Eagles Football Club paid rent for the hire of facilities during the year of £17,000 (2020: £17,000) and purchased equipment of £nil (2020: £nil) from The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited on an arm's length basis. No amounts were owed to, or due from The Flitwick Sports Community Interest Company Limited at the year-end (2020: £nil).

### **9. Funds**

All assets and liabilities are held as unrestricted funds, although a further £20,000 of the unrestricted funds have been designated this year by the trustees in respect of the maintenance and improvement of the training and playing facilities, which are expected to need substantial expenditure in the near future in view of the high levels of usage.

There are no restricted funds.

### **10. Reserves policy**

The charity has a policy of holding an adequate level of general reserves to meet operating costs over the summer 'pre-season' period and have therefore set a minimum level for unrestricted general funds of £20,000. This will be reviewed annually to ensure that the level is sufficient to ensure the long-term stability of the charity.

### **11. Remuneration to Trustees for services**

None of the Trustees received any remuneration or reimbursement for expenses in respect of their services as a Trustee during the year.

### **12. Control**

The Charity is controlled by the trustees.