CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1122021

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

THE CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Name:	Constable Country Childcare
Charity Registered Number:	1122021
Address of Principal Office:	c/o Pengarth, Church Lane, Brantham. Manningtree Essex. CO11 1QD

Trustees:

The Trustees who served during the year and to the date of this report were:-

Chairman	Revd Canon Stephne van der Toom (retired: 30 April 2023) Dr Jane Pavitt (appointed 30 April, 2023)
Treasurer	Mr Michael JD O'Brien Mr James Harward Mrs HayleyAherne Mrs Gill Mitchell
Clerk to the Charity:	Mr Michael JD O'Brien
Bankers:	Barclays Bank plc; Metro Bank plc
Auditor.	J Mullane Services Limited, 30 Ravens Avenue, Halstead , Essex. CO9 1YA

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

a. Governing Document

Constitution dated 21 February, 2017

b. Methods adopted for recruitment and appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Constitution. Some appointments are ex-officio. As vacancies for Trustees arise applications are sought from potential candidates known to the Trustees and other suitable local people. Applicants are then considered by the Trustees and appointments made by resolution of the Trustees and ratified at the Annual meeting.

c. Policies and Procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New Trustees are briefed by the Clerk and the existing Trustees on the history and activities of the Charity. They are provided with a copy of the Charity Commission publication "The Essential Trustee" detailing their responsibilities and providing guidance on being a Trustee. The new Trustee(s) is/are provided with a copy of the Charity Scheme and the latest independently examined accounts and minutes.

d. Organisational Structure of the Charity

The day-to-day executive management of the Charity is delegated by Trustees to a Management Committee, comprising appropriately qualified individuals. The chairman of that committee is a Trustee, (and the appointed Treasurer). The other members of the Management Committee are the Charity's Group Manager, and HR Manager. The Management Committee reports to the Board of Trustees, and may co-opt other suitably qualified individuals from time to time as necessary. e. Related Parties

The only related party transactions are employment related and included in the notes to these accounts. f. Statement of Major Risks

Through the employment of professional advisors, and by delegation of the management of the Charity to appropriately professionally qualified members of the Management Committee, the Trustees seek to ensure that all of the Charity's management and decision making processes take full account of, and comply with relevant legislation and regulatory controls.

CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (CONTINUED)

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Objects of the Charity are:

(1) To provide the necessary facilities for the daily care, recreation and education of children, during school hours, and out of school
hours and throughout holidays, in the villages of Brantham and East Bergholt in the county of Suffolk, and in surrounding areas accessible to the facilities provided by the Charity, including and serving the surrounding areas of North Essex, and South Suffolk.

(2) To advance the education and training of the persons in the provision of such care, education and recreational facilities.

(3) To achieve all of the above within a caring Christian ethos.

These activities are considered to be for the public benefit and in running the Charity the Trustees have regard for the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

Application of Income
All income received, from whatever source, is applied in full to the running of the charity, and to the achievement of the Charity's aims.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Annual Report:

As Chair of Trustees of Constable Country Childcare, for the second time in this role, I am very happy to report on another very successful year for our busy Charity

The year 2023 saw the Charity now evidently clear of the after effects of the Covid 19 pandemic, as well as operating near to capacity, and in some cases at capacity. Following successful bidding for the opportunity to operate the vacant site in the grounds of the Stratford St Mary Primary School, as this report is being prepared we are in the process of planning to site a brand new building on the former ABC Playgroup site, which it is hoped will be operational in 2025.

Thanks in no small part to the dedication, and hard work of our staff, our turnover for the third year running exceeded £1 million, at £1.77 million, and I am pleased to say that Mr James Mullane of J Mullane Services Limited continues to act for our Charity as our auditor for 2023, which will be the final year of his appointment. The Charity has remained in surplus, and after provisions, and transfers to reserves we are pleased to report a surplus of £469,632.

It is a declared policy of the Trustees that after making appropriate provisions for unforeseen contingencies, that the Charity's reserve funds should be utilized for providing improvements to fabric and facilities for our children and staff, and be applied to significant provision of additional space and facilities for existing, and future users of the Charity's services, with a newly determined emphasis on providing additional space and facilities specifically designed to provide for children with special needs. Our plans for 2024, and 2025 will see a large part of the Charity's reserves being invested in new buildings, and the acquisition of the freehold of the Charity's first setting, St Michael's Preschool and Playgroup – the Institute at Rectory Lane, Brantham, is a high priority

Trustees are also determined to hold sufficient reserves to enable the Charity to meet anticipated committed outgoings for a period of up to 12 months in the event of a reduction, or loss of income in the event of any contingency. During 2022 the executive team continued a prolonged and ongoing search for new accommodation units, with little tangible success, but I am pleased to report that in the early stages of 2023 Trustees were successful in negotiations with the PCC of St Michael's Brantham, in securing agreement to purchase the freehold of The Institute - the original setting for the Charity's precursor provision named St Michael's Pre-school and Playgroup – which operated for many decades from the 1960s.

CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (CONTINUED)

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Annual Report (continued):

Throughout the year our staff worked tirelessly under (at times) difficult circumstances. Much work and dedication went into the effort required to occupy the additional space at the Cherry Blossom Childrens' Centre, and staff are regularly operating in sessions at most settings where we are working at capacity within the limits laid down by OFSTED. The fact that we survived another year, showing an increase in turnover, and also maintaining a surplus is testimony to the efforts of our Staff and Management Team. We face further challenges as we are aware that Government plans increases in the eligibility for Early Years funding for 2 year old children, and babies, added to which we see the prospect of further increases in demand for our services from the now very evident building work on two large residential developments in East Bergholt. The story of our Charity is, indeed, one of an Early Years provider delivering its mission of excellence in affordable childcare provision, within a caring Christian ethos, which would appear to be very much in demand.

Now that our East Bergholt setting has doubled its space availability, (all of which appears to have been fully utilized), the Management Team has determined that in the next planning cycle our main objective should be consolidation in our current position and configuration, not least due to significant challenges experienced across the sector in recruitment of suitable numbers of qualified staff. Despite this caveat, The Executive continues to seek opportunities to acquire more premises in order to meet the anticipated demand created as result of Government policy, as well as the future potential demand indicated by local residential developments.

The report last year on possible acquisition of the site/building of ABC Pre-school at Stratford St Mary proved to be abortive, and the site still remains inoperative as an Early Years setting. With the approval of the Charities Commission, the former Trustees of ABC Pre-school very generously passed to us the cash balance, and some equipment, for which we are very grateful, and the cash will be shown in the accounts for 2023. The site is still vacant, and the Management Team awaits initiative from Suffolk County Council, whereupon we still aspire to use that site as a fifth setting for our Charity.

Our Charity is justifiably proud of our OFSTED ratings, with all our settings rated "Outstanding" or "Good". In addition, those settings with a "Good" rating also have "Outstanding" elements. We recognise the professionalism of our Management Team, and Staff in those settings for their efforts in achieving such distinction in our quality of provision.

The Trustees delegate the day-to-day executive management of our Charity to a very capable Management Team chaired by our Treasurer, Michael O'Brien and our settings are under the inspirational leadership of Group Manager, Hayley Aherne, who is ably assisted by our Office Manager/Personnel Manager, Rebecca Finch. Unfortunately, during the early part of 2022, our longest serving member of staff, and Hayley Aherne's deputy, Karen Mason, resigned due to ill health. The Board of Trustees, and the staff are extremely grateful to Karen for the loyal and inspirational service she provided over many years, and we wish her well in her retirement.

The Management Team keeps Trustees fully informed at all times of any matters arising, and our continuing success is down to their leadership, and the hard work and dedication of our Staff, now routinely numbering in excess of 55 each month.

Careful budgeting and management of resources has enabled us to expand the Charity's operation, and to continuously update, and upgrade the fabric of our settings along with the toys and learning equipment which are vital to our mission, and the Trustees are grateful to all the Staff for their immensely hard work. Trustees and the Management Team are committed to apply the Charity's resources to continue to invest in improved facilities, and seek to recruit and retain skilled and competent staff to facilitate excellence in our service delivery. Our current reserves are testament to the success of our Charity, and its workforce over many years, and it also demonstrates that the Management Team have the resources to acquire the much needed additional accommodation just as soon as suitable premises become available.

CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (CONTINUED)

Annual Report (continued):

During 2019, the Trustees approved the setting up of a hardship fund (initially resourced with a general reserve fund of £5,000) and it is intended that the fund be available to alleviate hardship of parents and/or staff. It is further testimony to the caring Christian ethos that has been a founding principle of our Charity since its inception. We are grateful to God to be able to continue to provide this service to our local community.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Charity's financial position is as set out in the attached accounts and is considered satisfactory.

Reserves Policy

The Charity's policy on reserves is to maintain sufficient reserves to enable the Charity to continue to achieve its principal objectives, and to maintain a high level of quality equipment and learning materials, and to maintain a safe and high quality environment for our children's care and learning. It is also necessary to make appropriate provisions for contingencies. During the year 2022, the Charity made further transfers to the building fund in anticipation that future expenditure especially on provision of space and facilities designed to make provision for children with special needs. The Charity's reserves at the financial year end are in a very healthy state and trustees hope to build on this firm foundation in future years to achieve our continuing goals and mission. As each year proceeds, further provision of funding will be made to the building fund, due to heavy demand locally for our provision of early Years Childcare, and those resources have been deployed to meet continuing demand for the charity's service provision. It is expected that contributions will be maintained in the future depending on the resources available, and ongoing assessment of future demand. Trustees are also determined to hold sufficient reserves to enable the Charity to meet anticipated committed outgoings for a period of up to 12 months in the event of a reduction or loss of income in the event of any contingencies.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The Trustees are keenly aware of the growing community and the need to provide additional childcare spaces to support families moving to the area, as well as meeting substantially increased demand resulting from Government policy in increasing the funding of Early Years places. The management team will continue to seek additional premises, exploring the opportunities provided by the vacant site at Stratford St Mary and any other facilities that may become available. The Charity maintains a healthy cash reserve to enable the trustees to act swiftly should something suitable become available.

Dr Jane Pavitt
Chairman of Trustees, Constable Country Childcare
September, 2024

CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (CONTINUED)

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities In England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Sorp 2019 (FRS102);
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charily and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and, hence, for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Approved by the Trustees on: 15/9/24

and signed on their behalf by: .....

Dr Jane Pavitt, Chairman

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Constable Country Childcare (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows, and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2023, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charity operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the ability of the charity to continue to operate as a going concern providing childcare and the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context are summarised as the Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage.

We identified that the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be the existence and valuation of debtors. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included sample testing of amounts received post year end and enquiries of management where amounts remain unpaid.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the FRC's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/library/standards-codes-policy/audit-assurance-and-ethics/auditors-responsibilities-for-the-audit/. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

J Mullane Services Limited
30 Ravens Avenue
Halstead
Essex
CO9 1YA

Incorporating St Michael's with Brooklands Young Explorers, Cherry Blossom Nursery and Stutton Seals

Summary Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted				Restricted		TOTAL	
		General Fund		New Building Fund		Building Fund			
		2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £	2023 £	2022 £
Income & Endowments from:									
Charitable Activities	2	1,770,581	1,290,814					1,770,581	1,290,814
Expenditure on:									
Charitable Activities	3	1,286,419	1,099,402	9,006	8,859	5,524	5,524	1,300,949	1,113,785
Net Income		484,162	191,412	(9,006)	(8,859)	(5,524)	(5,524)	469,632	177,029
Reconciliation of funds									
Fund balances brought forward		490,319	388,907	558,320	477,179	50,733	56,257	1,099,372	922,343
Transfers between funds			(90,000)		90,000			-	-
Fund balances carried forward		974,481	490,319	549,314	558,320	45,209	50,733	1,569,004	1,099,372

Incorporating St Michael's with Brooklands Young Explorers, Cherry Blossom Nursery and Stutton Seals

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted General Fund 2023 £	Unrestricted General Fund 2022 £	Unrestricted New Building Fund 2023 £	Unrestricted New Building Fund 2022 £	Restricted Building Fund 2023 £	Restricted Building Fund 2022 £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Fixed Assets	4	34,840	45,229	274,314	283,320	45,209	50,733	354,363	379,282
Current Assets									
Debtors	6	134,747	92,523					134,747	92,523
Bank balances		120,798	531,316	275,000	275,000			395,798	806,316
Investments		940,927						940,927	
Cash in hand		0	2,660					0	2,660
		1,196,472	626,499	275,000	275,000	-	-	1,471,472	901,499
Less Current Liabilities									
Creditors	7	256,831	181,409					256,831	181,409
Net Current assets		939,641	445,090	275,000	275,000	-	-	1,214,641	720,090
Total Assets Less Current Liabities		974,481	490,319	549,314	558,320	45,209	50,733	1,569,004	1,099,372
Net Assets		974,481	490,319	549,314	558,320	45,209	50,733	1,569,004	1,099,372
Represented By:									
Restricted Fund									
Building Fund						45,209	50,733	45,209	50,733
Unrestricted Funds									
General Fund		974,481	490,319					974,481	490,319
New Building Fund				549,314	558,320			549,314	558,320
		974,481	490,319	549,314	558,320	45,209	50,733	1,569,004	1,099,372

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Michael JD O'Brien, FFA., FIPA., FIAB
Honorary Treasurer

Date 30/9/24

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash provided by operating activities	527,749	224,622
Cash flows used in investing activities		
Purchase of fixed assets	0	(32,017)
Sale of fixed assets	0	0
Purchase of investments	(940,927)	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(413,178)	192,605
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	808,976	616,371
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	395,798	808,976
Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities		
Net income for the year	469,632	177,029
Depreciation charge	24,919	18,158
(Increase)/Decrease in Debtors	(42,224)	(20,761)
Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors	75,422	50,196
Profit/Loss on disposal of assets	0	0
Net cash provided by operating activities	527,749	224,622
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents		
Bank balances	395,798	806,316
Cash in hand	0	2,660
Total cash & cash equivalents	395,798	808,976

CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

Incorporating St Michael's with Brooklands Young Explorers, Cherry Blossom Nursery and Stutton Seals

Summary Financial Statements

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) General Information and Basis of Accounting

Constable Country Childcare is an unincorporated charity registered in England. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are:

(1) To provide the necessary facilities for the daily care, recreation and education of children, during school hours, and out of school hours and throughout holidays, in the villages of Brantham and East Bergholt in the county of Suffolk, and in surrounding areas accessible to the facilities provided by the Charity, including and serving the surrounding areas of North Essex, and South Suffolk.
(2) To advance the education and training of the persons in the provision of such care, education and recreational facilities.
(3) To achieve all of the above within a caring Christian ethos

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated).

b) Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the Charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted Funds are only available to be used for the purpose for which they have been received.

c) Going Concern

The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis as there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue.

d) Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Donations and other voluntary income are reflected in the accounts for the period in which they are received. Donations in kind are recognised by the Charity when received except in the case of services provided free or undervalue by voluntary staff or others which are not reflected in the accounts.

e) Expenditure

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

f) Support Costs

The Charity's governance costs are allocated entirely to running of the childcare centres this being the only activity.

g) Fixed Assets

Improvements to Leasehold Property

These improvements are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation

Improvements to The Institute are depreciated over the term of the lease.
The log cabin is depreciated on a straight line basis over 10 years, this being it's estimated useful life.
Improvements to Woodlands are depreciated over the term of the lease.
The modular building at Stutton is being depreciated to it's residual value over the remaining life of the lease relating to the land it occupies.

Motor Vehicle

Motor vehicles are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation

The motor vehicle is depreciated at 25% on a reducing balance basis.

h) Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

Incorporating St Michael's with Brooklands Young Explorers, Cherry Blossom Nursery and Stutton Seals

Summary Financial Statements

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

i) Creditors and Provisions

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

j) Funds & Reserves

Building Fund

The Building Fund is a restricted fund representing funds received specifically to finance the improvements to the Institute and unrestricted funds allocated to that purpose. The fund is maintained as equal to the carrying value of the Improvements to the Leasehold Property at the Institute, the East Bergholt Baby unit and the Log Cabin and a transfer is made to or from the General Fund to achieve this.

General Fund

The General Fund is unrestricted, represents the general income and expenditure of the Charity and is available for the general purposes of the Charity

New Building Fund

The New Building Fund represents funds allocated for the acquisition and development of premises for a fourth setting and headquarters for the Charity. It is unrestricted but designated.

2 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2023 £	2022 £
Parents Fees	1,139,894	792,252
Early Years Grant Funding	590,240	484,548
Other (apprentice) grants	-	8,601
Donations Fund raising & interest earned	39,544	4,912
Cost of outings/events recovered	-	-
HMRC covid 19 Furlough & sick pay funding	903	501
Total	1,770,581	1,290,814

3 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages & Payroll costs	1,000,689	804,827
Books & Equipment	22,687	39,928
Grants Issued	1,365	-
OFSTED & membership/PLA Ins/MPLC Fees	4,380	6,481
Rent Rates & Room hire	22,782	19,825
Premises Exp/Repair	20,028	24,132
Waste disposal	-	-
Uniforms	2,146	669
Promotion, PR and Advertising	4,388	6,318
Training	4,242	5,270
Electricity & Gas	6,811	5,677
Telephone	3,658	3,469
Materials Consumables & Food	40,506	30,956
Motoring Travel & outings	5,794	5,699
Miscellaneous & Petty Cash Exp	70	13
Donations	-	1,692
Bad debt	18,000	25,000
Abortive Capital Expenditure		
Disposal of assets	-	-
Depreciation of furniture, fixtures and equipment	716	657
Depreciation of Property	15,433	15,286
Depreciation of Motor vehicle	8,770	2,215
Support costs		
Admin Payroll	95,323	94,081
Sundry Admin costs	7,867	6,703
Audit Fee	6,000	6,000
Professional fees	9,294	8,887
	1,300,949.00	1,113,785.00

CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

Incorporating St Michael's with Brooklands Young Explorers, Cherry Blossom Nursery

Summary Financial Statements
Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

4 FIXED ASSETS

	Leasehold Improvements					
	2023					2022
	Log Cabin £	Stutton Modular Building £	The Institute £	Woodlands £	Total £	Total £
Cost						
Brought Forward	9,031	172,402	99,431	150,254	431,118	431,118
Additions					0	0
Disposals					0	0
Carried Forward	9,031	172,402	99,431	150,254	431,118	431,118
Depreciation						
Brought Forward	1,806	9,286	48,698	30,050	89,840	74,554
Charge for year	903	2,996	5,524	6,010	15,433	15,286
Carried Forward	2,709	12,282	54,222	36,060	105,273	89,840
Book Value						
At beginning of year	7,225	163,116	50,733	120,204	341,278	356,564
At end of year	6,322	160,120	45,209	114,194	325,845	341,278
Funded by:						
General Fund	6,322				6,322	7,225
Building Fund		-	45,209	-	45,209	50,733
New Building Fund	-	160,120	-	114,194	274,314	283,320
	6,322	160,120	45,209	114,194	325,845	341,278

	Furniture, fixtures and equipment		Motor Vehicle	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	Max		Max	
Cost				
Brought Forward	3,582	-	49,435	21,000
Additions	-	3,582		28,435
Carried Forward	3,582	3,582	49,435	49,435
Depreciation				
Brought Forward	657	-	14,356	12,141
Charge for year	716	657	8,770	2,215
Carried Forward	1,373	657	23,126	14,356
Book Value				
At beginning of year	2,925	-	35,079	8,859
At end of year	2,209	2,925	26,309	35,079

The furniture fixtures and equipment, and motor vehicles are funded by the General Fund.

Total fixed assets		
At beginning of year	379,282	365,423
At end of year	354,363	379,282

CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

Incorporating St Michael's with Brooklands Young Explorers, Cherry Blossom Nursery and Stutton Seals

Summary Financial Statements

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

5 STAFF COSTS

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was	60	54
The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were:		
Salaries & wages	999,150	820,788
Social Security costs	70,169	58,471
Pension costs	26,693	19,649
	1,096,012	898,908
This total is allocated as follows:		
Wages & Payroll costs	1,000,689	804,827
Admin payroll	95,323	94,081
	1,096,012	898,908

Trustees Remuneration and Key Management Personnel

Trustees are not remunerated or paid expenses for acting as Trustees.
As provided in the constitution the following Trustees are employed by the Charity in the roles shown:
Their salary and benefits were as follows:

	Salary	Social Security Cost	Pension	Total	Total
Hayley Aherne - Group Leader	96,877	12,114	3,875	112,866	93,666
Michael O'Brien - Management Committee Chairman and Treasurer	19,057	1,375	843	21,275	17,232

These, together with the deputy group managers are the key management personnel of the Charity.

Total benefits paid to the deputy group manager(s)	17,756	1,185	707	19,648	17,210

6 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	General Fund £	New Building Fund £	Building Fund £	Total £
Transfers between funds				
To New Building Fund	(90,000)	90,000	-	-
	(90,000)	90,000	-	-
Net Movement in Funds	484,162	(9,006)	(5,524)	469,632
Fund balances brought forward	490,319	558,320	50,733	1,099,372
Fund balances carried forward	884,481	639,314	45,209	1,569,004

Comparatives for movement in funds

	General Fund £	New Building Fund £	Building Fund £	Total £
Transfers between funds				
To New Building Fund	(90,000)	90,000	-	-
	(90,000)	90,000	-	-
Net Movement in Funds	191,412	(8,859)	(5,524)	177,029
Fund balances brought forward	388,907	477,179	56,257	922,343
Fund balances carried forward	490,319	558,320	50,733	1,099,372

CONSTABLE COUNTRY CHILDCARE

Incorporating St Michael's with Brooklands Young Explorers, Cherry Blossom Nursery and Stutton Seals

Summary Financial Statements

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

	2023	2022
7 DEBTORS		
Income debtors	121,818	92,164
Other debtors	0	0
Prepayments	0	359
	121,818	92,523

	2023	2022
8 CREDITORS		
Expenditure creditors	250,831	110,445
Other creditors	6,000	6,000
Deferred Income	0	64,965
	256,831	181,409

9 OPERATING LEASES

The total minimum lease payments falling due over the lease term are as follows:

	Land and Buildings 2023	Land and Buildings 2022
Within 1 year	2,000	2,000
Between 2 and 5 years	8,000	8,000
After 5 years	6,000	8,000
	16,000	18,000

10 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The following related party transactions were carried out during the year:

Mark Aherne, husband of Hayley Aherne, is employed by the charity as is Bethany Aherne, daughter of Hayley Aherne, and Mrs Hannah Fraser, sister of Hayley Aherne, their salaries being as follows:

	Salary	Social Security Cost	Pension	Total	Total
Mark Aherne	41,696	4,477	1,662	47,834	51,079
Bethany Aherne	1,227	0	36	1,264	1,114
Hannah Fraser	15,711	910	471	17,091	16,929