KIRKGATE ARTS

England & Wales · Charity number 1126602

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	06632306
Registered	2008-11-06
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Kirkgate Arts Kirkgate Cockermouth CA13 9PJ
Phone	01900 829966
Email	admin@thekirkgate.com
Website	www.kirkgatearts.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROVIDE A FACILITY FOR THE PROVISION AND ENJOYMENT OF THE ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE.TO PROVIDE OR ASSIST IN THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR EDUCATION AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES.TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE INHABITANTS OF COCKERMOUTH AND THE SURROUNDING DISTRICTS BY THE DELIVERY OF (A) AND (B) ABOVE

Activities: Kirkgate Arts celebrates the arts and the creativity, culture and heritage of the communities of Cockermouth and the wider region of West Cumbria. At our venue, the Kirkgate Centre, we bring audiences, participants and diverse professional artists together and provide facilities and support to a wide range of other creative artists, community activities and businesses,

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment, Recreation, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** COCKERMOUTH
- Cumbria

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£596,276	£346,260	£608,070	5
2024-03-31	£361,774	£307,608	-	-
2023-03-31	£290,578	£324,806	-	-
2022-03-31	£240,094	£223,328	-	-
2021-03-31	£173,644	£239,150	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Christine Slater		2024-04-03
John Reynolds		2024-04-03
Michael Billinghurst		2024-02-07
Nichola Nelson-Jones		2026-02-17
Rebecca Claire Skinner		2026-03-01
Robert Higgins		2022-11-22
Sue Cliff		2023-09-13
Susan Moses		2021-02-25

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KIRKGATE ARTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1126602

Accounts

KIRKGATE ARTS

(A CHARITABLE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

Company registration number: 06632306

Charity registration number: 1126602

Lamont Pridmore

KIRKGATE ARTS

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

for the Year ended 31st March 2025

Chair	Mr Robert Higgins
Trustees	Mr Robert Pritchard Mr Andrew Semple (resigned 05.06.24) Mrs Susan Moses Mr Robert Higgins Ms Suzanne Cliff Mr Michael Billinghurst, Treasurer Ms Christine Slater Mr Joe Fagan (appointed 07.08.24) Mr John Reynolds
Company Secretary	Mr Robert Higgins/Mr Duncan Cadge
Principal Office	The Kirkgate Centre Kirkgate Cockermouth Cumbria CA13 9PJ
Company Registration Number	06632306
Charity Registration Number	1126602
Bankers	Cumberland Building Society Cumberland House Castle Street Carlisle Cumbria CA3 8RX

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KIRKGATE ARTS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2025

Introduction

The Trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31st March 2025:

Mr Robert Higgins (Chair)
Mr Michael Billinghurst (Treasurer)
Mr Robert Pritchard
Ms Susan Moses
Ms Suzanne Cliff
Ms Christine Slater
Mr John Reynolds
Mr Joe Fagan

In preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity, the Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005, and the requirements for a Trustees' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

The Trustees have complied with the duty in Section 7 of the Charities Act 2011, giving due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Our income in the year ending 31st March 2025 totalled £596,276 with expenditure of £346,260 incurred during the period. The result for the year was a surplus of £250,016.

Kirkgate Arts and Heritage: Overview

Our Mission and Values

Our **Mission** is to ensure that creative talent is valued, developed and supported with opportunities for all to actively engage with and enjoy the arts, our local heritage and community life.

Our **Values** are

Commitment – our staff and volunteers are dedicated to delivering our mission.
Accessibility – we aim to make arts, heritage and culture accessible and inclusive to all the communities of West Cumbria.
Sustainability – we aim to ensure that the organisation is secure for future generations from both financial and environmental perspective.
Nurturing – we aim to provide an environment that encourages growth, development of skills and confidence and enjoyment for all.

We operate across the geographical area covered by the recently-formed Cumberland Council, an area that includes West Cumbria, where the arts and culture infrastructure is weak compared to other parts of the UK. Per capita spend on arts and culture is among the lowest in the UK and our Mission is to contribute to changing this.

We own and run the Kirkgate Centre, a multi-purpose cultural hub housing a theatre and community centre in Cockermouth, originally built as a school in the 1880s. We also own an adjacent site which used to house the Derwent Athletics Club (demolished in May 2024), which we hope to develop in the coming years to increase our capabilities (please see 'Our Plans for the Future' section later in this report).

We also run an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation, Arts Out West, through which we organise tours of professional performers around Cumberland's village halls, libraries, and community centres. We work with local volunteer promoters to put on shows, exhibitions and workshops which are social as much as cultural. The NPO has recently been extended by the Arts Council from 3 to 4 years, ending in 2027.

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KIRKGATE ARTS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2025

Our 2022-2027 Strategy

Our main strategic aims are:

- To provide high quality arts and heritage events each year;
- To continue to deliver events in community centres across Cumberland;
- To provide facilities for community and social activities and events;
- To continue the improvements of the Kirkgate Centre to improve our operations, earned income, user experience and the reduction of carbon emissions;
- To create facilities for, and improve access to, our local history collection.

Our Staff and Volunteers

The work of our charity is delivered by a small number of staff working alongside a significant number of volunteers. In 2024/25 we had five staff: full-time General Manager and Operations Manager, with part-time Finance and Administration Officer, Community Projects Officer, and Caretaking Assistant.

A team of volunteers operate much of the business, providing box office and front of house staffing, film projection, bar management, oversight of safety and maintenance, programming, office administration, publicity and fundraising. An audit in 2019 showed that volunteers contributed nearly 8,000 hours a year at the Kirkgate Centre, with further substantial input from the volunteer village hall promoters of the Arts Out West programme and the volunteers at community venues participating in other Kirkgate-run projects.

2025 marked our 30th anniversary as an organization; a milestone we would never have made without the dedication of our staff and volunteers.

The Board of Trustees would like to thank all of our staff and volunteers who together make the work of Kirkgate Arts and Heritage possible.

What We did in 2024/25

Programming and projects

Arts and Entertainment

Our arts and entertainment programme continues to develop, with approximately 400 events delivered during 2024/25. **Cinema** is held 3 days a week whilst we have live streaming from the National Theatre whenever it is available. Comedy continues to be a popular part of our offer. Our programme of **music gigs** has been substantially developed. The popular monthly jazz concerts continue, and we also provide a wide programme of music across all genres. These gigs take place both in the auditorium and in the Egremont Room. As well as professional musicians we are pleased to support local artistes as they develop their careers. Our **open mic and Poetry Out Loud** evenings continue to be well supported. In September 2024 we relaunched the open mic as The Sunday Sessions with a Sunday afternoon time slot. This has encouraged a more diverse and larger number of performers to attend.

We also host regular special events such as Fever Drag Cabaret and Singing With the Stars which have expanded our audience appeal into new areas. Wild Zucchinis started to host their world food nights at the center during this year.

Our Monthly Markets and Craft at the Kirkgate initiative which brought crafting classes to the Kirkgate continued. After many years of successful sales of nearly new ladies' clothing under our Cockfrock brand we launched our Kirk Kit sale for the first time in September giving people the opportunity to register to sell outdoor or sporting clothing and equipment.

In My Shoes

This Project is a community heritage project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. It aims to look at the cultural heritage of West Cumbria and give the participants the opportunity to share and celebrate aspects of their own cultural heritage. The project continued for the first 6 months of this year with more diverse programming including Malin Lewis playing at the centre and at Kirksanton village hall, bringing the Half Moon theatre show of Ten In The Bed for a schools performance in the centre and Stolen from God the slave trade song cycle from Reg Meuross with Sutou Susso and Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne. The youth theatre continued their work on origins and belonging and

performed their final peace as part of the Cockermouth Live Festival at the start of July. In August we mounted an exhibition at the centre entitled offcomers which explored the stories of a number of people who ended up living in Cockermouth for diverse reasons. Alongside the exhibition we commissioned some spoken word works from Emma McGordon and Jessie Bins which were performed during the exhibition.

Cooking at the Kirkgate

This project is funded by the National Lottery Community Fund and aims to use our new kitchen facilities to give people access to workshops where they can learn a variety of cooking skills, some of these are very basic and others are more advanced or fun and aimed at families. This project has also paid for the building of two raised beds outside of the centre that were planted by the local pre school. This year the project continued with workshops involving Mayfield 6th form as well as the established monthly sessions. Mayfield were also involved in a project to create labels to mark what is growing in the raised beds.

Brewing Project

We had funding from the Shared Prosperity Fund to carry out a project from the beginning of August to the end of December, celebrating the history of brewing in Cockermouth and surrounding area. The project used research based on the heritage collection and community engagement to develop an exhibition entitled Taste of the Lake District, a series of heritage walks and talks and a terms worth of youth theatre activity ending in a final performance at the centre just before Christmas. The project was very well received by the community, and we got high levels of engagement with all of the activities that were planned during the project.

Arts Out West

This year saw 40 performances delivered in 24 village halls and libraries across Cumberland. The varied programme included two dance shows from the Rural Turing Dance Initiative Shed and Jack and Friends, Theatre By The Lakes wonderful local story Steel, George eggs cooking and comedy show, Opera for the people the singing show that is different every night because the audience choose the set list and Tango Calor the wildly popular tango trio. We worked with Ragged Edge Productions to develop their puppet musical concept which has since toured with Arts Out West and other rural touring scheme. Katy has led on making changes to the administrative systems around Arts Out West to help more efficient running of the scheme. These changes have all been well received by the promotors.

Heritage Group

The Heritage group have continued to meet monthly. A large part of their work is completing family history research on behalf of others and answering local history queries, they have a dedicated Facebook page and contribute a monthly article on a variety of aspects of Cockermouth's history to the Kirkgate Quarter Chronical (our newsletter). In October we restarted our monthly program of guided walks and talks which have included the very popular lost pubs of Cockermouth and Cockermouth before the Romans.

During the first few months of the year the group were still working on the Offcomers Exhibition that celebrated the many journeys to Cockermouth and was part of the In My Shoes Project. They then started work on the brewing exhibition that was mounted in mid-December and was very well received by the public.

We started a monthly reminisces session program. During these informal sessions items from the collection are used as prompts for conversations to encourage discussion about local history topics.

Youth Theatre

The Youth Theatre performed their final piece of the In My Shoes project at Cockermouth Live with the younger group dealing with three traditional migration stories and the older group telling their own tale of siblings separated and the consequences of the separation.

During the autumn term they moved on to working on the Brewing project and developed stories illustrating the history of brewing in the town. The younger group covering traditional legends surrounding brewing and the older group covering the history of Jennings and what it has meant to the town. Both pieces were performed in the centre just before Christmas.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2025

Community and Commercial Events Engagement

Many commercial and community clients hire the Egremont Room and theatre to provide activities. These include Pilates, U3A, Karate, Historic Fencers, The Richmond Fellowship, Cumbria Carers, Sound Wave (Regular users) National Trust and United Utilities, The Highways Agency and Thomas Armstrong (more occasional users).

We are home to Cockermouth Round Table's highly popular annual Beer Festival and are partners in Cockermouth Live!, the town's quirky annual summer weekend of live music and other performances, hosting the headline Friday and Saturday night events. Both festivals took place in 2024. Cockermouth Amateur Dramatics Society used the center for one of their shows during this period.

Upgrades to the Kirkgate Centre

2024/25 saw us embark on the major capital upgrade project funded by the Arts Council with match funding from Shared Prosperity Fund (administered by the Copeland Community Fund) and the Benny Walker Foundation. The following aspects were completed. The auditorium was closed for the first three months of 2025 to allow the work in that space to take place. During that period we continued to program into the Egremont Room

- LED lighting installation throughout the Centre to reduce power consumption;
- Replace auditorium and stage lighting system;
- Create an accessible toilet on the first floor;
- Create a new staff office (staff displaced by accessible toilet);
- Extensive Lift refurbishment and upgrading.

The work to

- Replace auditorium and backstage ventilation system was not completed by the end of the year.

Preparation for Kirkgate Heritage Extension

We submitted an application to the National Heritage Lottery Fund to secure funding for the initial work on the collection and community engagement. The next step would be to commence design work and planning application for a building on the site of the Athletics club. Unfortunately, this application was unsuccessful. A contractor was engaged to demolish the Athletics Club building and to dispose of the asbestos panels forming part of the interior (work carried out May 2024). This work was part-funded by a very generous donation from a private donor.

Thank you

We would like to thank all our funders, donors and supporters for their financial support during the year. In particular we are grateful for a donation from the Foyle Foundation of £15,000 towards operating costs.

Financial performance

During this period we received grants totalling £426,400 , for which the Trustees are extremely grateful. Our commercial income, through room hires and other trading, totalled £140,929. Donations from supporters totalled £20,848.

We ended the year with a net surplus of £250,016.

The finances of the charity are explained in greater detail in the attached annual accounts.

Charity structure, governance, and management

Board of Trustees

Kirkgate Arts and Heritage is managed by a Board of Trustees. The Trustees are also Directors of the company, Kirkgate Arts Limited. During the year the Board met every other month to maintain ongoing work guiding the strategic direction of the business. All decisions regarding corporate governance are made by, and are the responsibility of, the Board of Trustees. A minimum of three and a maximum of ten Trustees are provided for in the incorporation and charity documents. The Board actively encourages supporters to become members of the limited company and attend the AGM to strengthen the organisation and the accountability of the Board.

KIRKGATE ARTS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2025

Trustees are appointed from the local community following a successful interview (and receipt of favourable references if the individuals are unknown to Kirkgate Arts and Heritage). The expectations of the Trustees are clearly documented and, like the staff and volunteers of Kirkgate Arts and Heritage, Trustees follow a clear set of procedures and policies, which are regularly reviewed. Trustees do not receive any benefits.

Structure of sub-committees and working groups

The key Board sub-committees are the Finance Group, People Group, Arts Out West National Portfolio Organisation Collaborative Group (with Highlights) and the Heritage Group. We also have a number of other Groups which are volunteer led and report to the General Manager. These groups include the Communications Group, Operations Group, Film Programming Group, Music Programming Group, Publicity Group and the Safety and Maintenance Group. Others are formed as and when necessary and are time limited.

Main Partner organisations

Kirkgate Arts and Heritage delivers its wide range of activities across Cockermouth and West Cumbria through a network of partnerships and memberships:

Highlights: we work with this rural touring scheme for North/East Cumbria, Northumberland and County Durham with whom Arts Out West forms an Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation consortium.

Village Halls and Community Centres: we deliver Arts Out West in partnership with over 25 village halls and community centres throughout West Cumbria.

National Rural Touring Forum: we are members of this forum representing rural touring schemes, venues, promoters and performers.

Cockermouth Festivals Group: we collaborate with and provide facilities for the team producing the annual Cockermouth Live! music and spoken word weekend.

Helping Hands is a Cumbria wide project that brings together 45 partners from the Arts and Culture sector that aims to increase and diversify the volunteering opportunities available.

Cumbria Family Arts Network: we are a lead organisation in this informal consortium of venues and other bodies in the west of the county working together to promote and develop performances and activities that can be enjoyed across the generations.

Cumberland Library Services: we deliver Arts Out West in partnership with Cumberland Library Services,

Cumbria Arts and Culture Network: we participate in this network involving many of the county's arts and culture organisations, practitioners, educators and other stakeholders in the arts, culture and creative industries sector.

Big Imaginations: this ACE-funded regional initiative supports, promotes and develops theatre for young people through a network of presenting organisations, which we joined in April 2018.

Future Arts Centres : we participate in this UK-wide network of not for profit arts centres across the UK which provides best practice guidance (e.g. carbon neutral operations).

Cockermouth Chamber of Trade: We are an active member of the Chamber of Trade.

We have other mutually supportive relationships with Cockermouth Women's Institute, Cockermouth Civic Trust, Cockermouth Rotary, Cockermouth Round Table, National Trust Wordsworth House and Garden, Rydal Mount (Grasmere), Wordsworth Grasmere, Cockermouth Town Council, Cockermouth and district schools, Eden Poets and local businesses including Fermento Italian Pizzeria and Magic Mountain Pizza.

Financial management

Investment powers

Under the memorandum and articles of association, the charity has the power to make any investment that the Trustees see fit. All available funds are kept in interest bearing deposit accounts, and deposit rates are monitored to maximise the income earned in this way.

Maintenance of reserves

The Trustees have discretionary powers regarding the retention of reserves. The charity's reserves policy was reviewed in August 2024. The policy deals with the cash element of Kirkgate Arts and Heritage's unrestricted funds.

Having assessed the key financial risks, the reserves policy is to hold the funding required for six months' operation, this being the largest of the items identified in the risk assessment. This equates to £50,000.

The policy states: 'In the event that the charity is operating below its desired level of reserves, the Trustees will endeavour to avoid having reserves fall as low as three months operation. Should reserves fall below this level the Trustees will meet to discuss and implement recovery plans to avoid cash flow challenges and the risk of closure.' The policy is subject to annual review.

Policies

The Trustees continually review policies, and adopt new ones as necessary, at appropriate intervals.

Risk management

The charity faces certain operational and business risks which the Trustees manage through regular reviews and mitigation of key risks. Trustees give priority to managing key risks at all board meetings and engage regularly with health and safety issues.

In recognition of the increasing number of upgrade projects, the Board has adopted a Project Risk Register Policy which requires each project to be analysed from a risk perspective at all key stages.

Our plans for 2025/26

2025 will see our 30th anniversary year. We will plan a series of events starting with a picnic afternoon tea in the grounds of Cockermouth castle and include a film festival featuring 30 films one from each of the years that the center has been open all with a Cumbrian connection. We will continue to build on our program making changes to our offer where customer preferences require them.

Freedom

We have been chosen as part of a national project to mark the 80th anniversary of the end of the 2nd World War this funding is from Future arts centers and will be used to create a project that engages the community in thinking about what freedom means to them.

Heritage

The Heritage group will contribute to the Freedom project and there is ambitions to mount an exhibition marking our thirty anniversary year (funding allowing)

We are looking at the strategic direction of the Heritage group in light of the failed attempt to secure funding to move forward with our plans with the Athletics club site. We are engaging in conversations with Jennings about both space on their site that could potentially be used for more accessible storage of the Heritage collection and Jennings heritage ambitions and what part we can play in them.

We will submit further funding applications to major funders for project grants and the required match funding.

Arts out West

We will continue to programme events in community centres across Cumberland.

Further Funding

We will be applying for a major Community Lottery grant for a programme of new community initiatives.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

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

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charitable company will continue in operation.
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP
- state whether applicable United Kingdom accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

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

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

The Trustees consider that the charity is adequately funded to meet its current obligations.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charitable company on 15th October 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



..... Robert Higgins
Chair

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF KIRKGATE ARTS
For the Year ended 31st March 2025

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS 102).

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

Susannah Nixon
Lamont Pridmore

Dated: 15th October 2025

Susannah Nixon
Lamont Pridmore (West Cumbria) Ltd
Milburn House
3 Oxford Street
Workington
Cumbria CA14 2AL

KIRKGATE ARTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the Year ended 31st March 2025

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds Year to 31.03.25 £	Total Funds Year to 31.03.24 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Grants and donations	3	236,173	211,075	-	447,248	225,235
Charitable activities	4	140,929	-	-	140,929	127,117
Investment income	5	3,582	-	-	3,582	3,577
Other income		4,517	-	-	4,517	5,845
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		385,201	211,075	-	596,276	361,774
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Expenditure on charitable activities	6	345,582	-	678	346,260	313,031
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		345,582	-	678	346,260	313,031
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR		39,619	211,075	(678)	250,016	48,743
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Balances brought forward		177,690	178,733	1,631	358,054	309,311
Balances carried forward		217,309	389,808	953	608,070	358,054

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

KIRKGATE ARTS

BALANCE SHEET

at 31st March 2025

	Note	31.03.25 £	£	31.03.24 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		480,570		234,364
Current assets					
Debtors	10	38,068		7,658	
Cash at bank and in hand		137,616		136,536	
		175,684		144,194	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(48,184)		(20,504)	
Net current assets			127,500		123,690
			608,070		358,054
Accumulated funds					
Restricted funds	15		953		1,631
Designated funds	15		389,808		178,733
Unrestricted funds	15		217,309		177,690
Total funds			608,070		358,054

For the year ending 31st March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

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

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on 15th October 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

..... Robert Higgins
Chair

KIRKGATE ARTS

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Year ended 31st March 2025

	Note	31.03.25 £	£	31.03.24 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Movement in funds for the year			250,016		48,743
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items					
Depreciation			7,868		13,202
Investment income			(3,582)		(3,577)
Accrued income			(31,555)		-
			(27,269)		9,625
Working capital adjustments					
Decrease in stocks			-		1,455
Decrease in debtors			1,145		4,304
Increase/(decrease) in creditors			27,680		(56,287)
			28,825		(50,528)
Net cash flows from operating activities			251,572		7,840
Cash flows from investing activities					
Interest income			3,582		3,577
Purchase of tangible fixed assets			(254,074)		(41,037)
Cash (utilised)/provided by investing activities			(250,492)		(37,460)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year			1,080		(29,620)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			136,536		166,156
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year			137,616		136,536

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two years.

KIRKGATE ARTS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year ended 31st March 2025

1 General information

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is The Kirkgate Centre, Kirkgate, Cockermouth, Cumbria, CA13 9PJ.

2 Accounting policies

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

Basis of accounting
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)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Kirkgate Arts 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.

Going concern
The charity continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements and is confident it can continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty
The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis.

Incoming resources
Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies
Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Grants receivable
Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Income received from capital grants, to which the funds have been spent and the corresponding asset capitalised in year, are written down by depreciation over the expected useful life of the asset. The remaining fund balance, in this case 'designated funds', at the year end is the residual value of the capitalised funds and therefore are not actual liquid funds available to the charity.

Investment income
Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Resources expended
All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities
Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Taxation
As a registered charity the company benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from Corporation Tax and Capital Gains Tax.

Tangible fixed assets
Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost.

Depreciation and amortisation
Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
IT and office electronic equipment	Written off over 3 years straight line
Fixtures and fittings	Written off over 5 years straight line
Light and sound equipment	Written off over 7 years straight line

Stocks
Stock is not considered material and so is not disclosed within this years figures.

Trade debtors
Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the Charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors
Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the Charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting
Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Charity.
Designated funds are unrestricted funds are resources set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.
Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

3 Voluntary income: Grants and donations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and legacies				
Donations from individuals	20,848	-	20,848	8,956
Grants, including capital grants				
Grants from government bodies, other charities & local authorities:				
Revenue grants	215,325	-	215,325	216,279
Capital grants – funds spent in year	211,075	-	211,075	-
	447,248	-	447,248	225,235

4 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Membership fees – Arts Out West	690	-	690	1,128
Ticket sales and admissions	93,472	-	93,472	79,369
Venue hire fees	14,207	-	14,207	16,861
Bar sales	32,560	-	32,560	29,759
	140,929	-	140,929	127,117

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Interest receivable on bank deposits	3,582	-	3,582	3,577

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Cost of bar sales	10,153	-	10,153	13,354
Performance fees and licences	106,624	-	106,624	104,637
Heritage Group	-	678	678	381
Wages and salaries	94,036	-	94,036	90,387
Employer national insurance	2,342	-	2,342	2,071
Pension contributions	1,943	-	1,943	1,873
Contract labour	177	-	177	96
Training	1,311	-	1,311	816
Travelling	704	-	704	509
Light, heat & water	10,358	-	10,358	21,253
Insurance	7,132	-	7,132	6,153
Building and equipment maintenance	74,059	-	74,059	33,121
Administration expenses	1,723	-	1,723	1,880
Equipment rental	1,560	-	1,560	1,368
Telephone and fax	1,980	-	1,980	2,016
Advertising and marketing	8,227	-	8,227	8,741
Accountancy fees	8,863	-	8,863	5,486
Computer costs	3,439	-	3,439	2,799
Professional fees	1,038	-	1,038	880
Bank charges	2,045	-	2,045	2,008
Depreciation – fixtures and fittings	75	-	75	131
Depreciation – IT and office electronic equipment	1,332	-	1,332	926
Depreciation – light and sound equipment	1,422	-	1,422	7,103
	340,543	678	341,221	307,989

	Unrestricted Designated Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Depreciation – property	5,039	5,039	5,042
	5,039	5,039	5,042

7 Net outgoing resources for the period

	2025 £	2024 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	7,868	13,202

8 Staff costs and trustees' remuneration

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs include the following:		
Wages and salaries	94,036	90,387
Social security costs	2,342	2,071
Pension costs	1,943	1,873
	98,321	94,331

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed part time and full time during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Total number of staff	5	5

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

None of the trustees received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Integral Features £	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Equipment £	**Total £**
Cost						
At 1 Apr 2024	251,966	–	91,434	27,307	22,634	393,341
Additions	16,727	97,374	138,757	–	1,216	254,074
At 31 Mar 2025	268,693	97,374	230,191	27,307	23,850	647,415
Depreciation						
At 1 Apr 2024	23,160	–	87,954	27,082	20,781	158,977
Charge for the year	5,039	–	1,422	75	1,332	7,868
At 31 Mar 2025	28,199	–	89,376	27,157	22,113	166,845
Carrying amount At 31 Mar 2025	240,494	97,374	140,815	150	1,737	480,570
At 31 Mar 2024	228,806	–	3,480	225	1,853	234,364

The freehold and property was devalued according to a valuation of £190,000 provided in May 2019 by Walton Goodland Chartered Surveyors, 10 Lowther Street, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA3 8DA: this value has been adopted as deemed cost of the assets concerned under FRS 102. Under FRS 102 the company will perform revaluations with sufficient regularity such that the carrying amount does not differ materially from the fair value at the balance sheet date.

10 Debtors

	2025 £	**2024** £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade debtors	1,005	1,194
Prepayments and accrued income	5,508	6,464
Accrued income	31,555	-
	38,068	7,658

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	**2024** £
Trade creditors	37,818	6,268
Taxation and social security	1,634	1,553
Other creditors	3,668	7,802
Accruals	5,064	4,881
	48,184	20,504

KIRKGATE ARTS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year ended 31st March 2025

12 Operating leases

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Not later than 1 year	1,368	1,368
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	-	1,368
	1,368	2,736

13 Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and consequently has no share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

14 Pension scheme

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £1,943 (2024 £1,873).

Contributions totalling £379 (2024: £363) were payable to the scheme at the year end and are included in creditors.

15 Statement of funds

The movement in the year is as follows:

	At 01.04.24	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31.03.25
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted general funds					
General unrestricted fund	177,690	385,201	(345,582)	-	217,309
Total unrestricted funds	177,690	385,201	(345,582)	-	217,309
Unrestricted designated funds					
Property fixed asset reserve	178,733	211,075	-	-	389,808
Total Unrestricted des'ed funds	178,733	211,075	-	-	389,808
Restricted funds					
Heritage – Georgian Fair Group	1,631	-	(678)	-	953
Total restricted funds	1,631	-	(678)	-	953
Total funds	358,054	596,276	(346,260)	-	608,070

15 Funds

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Georgian Fair Group

A donation from the Cockermouth Georgian Fair organising group for heritage related activities.

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	121,364	358,253	953	480,570
Current assets	144,129	31,555	-	175,684
Current liabilities	(48,184)	-	-	(48,184)
	217,309	389,808	953	608,070

KIRKGATE ARTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1126602

Accounts

KIRKGATE ARTS

(A CHARITABLE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

Company registration number: 06632306

Charity registration number: 1126602

Lamont Pridmore

KIRKGATE ARTS

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

for the Year ended 31st March 2024

Chair	Mr Robert Higgins
Trustees	Ms Judith Bennington (resigned 07.06.23) Mr Robert Pritchard Mr Andrew Semple Mrs Susan Moses Ms Helen Hardy (resigned 07.02.24) Mr David Thomas, Treasurer (resigned 07.02.24) Mr Robert Higgins Ms Suzanne Cliff (appointed 13.09.23) Mr Michael Billinghurst, Treasurer (appointed 07.02.24)
Company Secretary	Mr Robert Higgins
Principal Office	The Kirkgate Centre Kirkgate Cockermouth Cumbria CA13 9PJ
Company Registration Number	06632306
Charity Registration Number	1126602
Bankers	Cumberland Building Society Cumberland House Castle Street Carlisle Cumbria CA3 8RX

KIRKGATE ARTS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2024

Introduction

The Trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31st March 2024:

Mr Robert Higgins (Chair)
Mr Michael Billinghurst (Treasurer)
Mr Robert Pritchard
Ms Susan Moses
Ms Suzanne Cliff
Ms Christine Slater
Mr John Reynolds
Mr Joe Fagan

In preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity, the Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005, and the requirements for a Trustees' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

The Trustees have complied with the duty in Section 7 of the Charities Act 2011, giving due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Our income in the year ending 31st March 2024 totalled £361,774 with expenditure of £313,031 incurred during the period. The result for the year was a surplus of £48,743.

Kirkgate Arts and Heritage: Overview

Our Mission and Values

Our **Mission** is to ensure that creative talent is valued, developed and supported with opportunities for all to actively engage with and enjoy the arts, our local heritage and community life.

Our **Values** are

Commitment – our staff and volunteers are dedicated to delivering our mission.
Accessibility – we aim to make arts, heritage and culture accessible and inclusive to all the communities of West Cumbria.
Sustainability – we aim to ensure that the organisation is secure for future generations from both financial and environmental perspective.
Nurturing – we aim to provide an environment that encourages growth, development of skills and confidence and enjoyment for all.

We operate across the geographical area covered by the recently-formed Cumberland Council, an area that includes West Cumbria, where the arts and culture infrastructure is weak compared to other parts of the UK. Per capita spend on arts and culture is among the lowest in the UK and our Mission is to contribute to changing this.

We own and run the Kirkgate Centre, a multi-purpose cultural hub housing a theatre and community centre in Cockermouth, originally built as a school in the 1880s. We also own an adjacent site which used to house the Derwent Athletics Club (demolished in May 2024), which we hope to develop in the coming years to increase our capabilities (please see 'Our Plans for the Future' section later in this report).

We also run an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation, Arts Out West, through which we organise tours of professional performers around Cumberland's village halls, libraries, and community centres. We work with local volunteer promoters to put on shows, exhibitions and workshops which are social as much as cultural. The NPO has recently been extended by the Arts Council from 3 to 4 years, ending in 2027.

Our 2022-2027 Strategy

Our main strategic aims are:

- To provide high quality arts and heritage events each year;
- To continue to deliver events in community centres across Cumberland;
- To provide facilities for community and social activities and events;
- To continue the improvements of the Kirkgate Centre to improve our operations, earned income, user experience and the reduction of carbon emissions;
- To create facilities for, and improve access to, our local history collection.

Our Staff and Volunteers

The work of our charity is delivered by a small number of staff working alongside a significant number of volunteers. In 2023/24 we had five staff: full-time General Manager and Operations Manager, with part-time Finance and Administration Officer, Community Projects Officer, and Caretaking Assistant.

A team of volunteers operate much of the business, providing box office and front of house staffing, film projection, bar management, oversight of safety and maintenance, programming, office administration, publicity and fundraising. An audit in 2019 showed that volunteers contributed nearly 8,000 hours a year at the Kirkgate Centre, with further substantial input from the volunteer village hall promoters of the Arts Out West programme and the volunteers at community venues participating in other Kirkgate-run projects.

Following a rigorous national vetting process, we were awarded the prestigious Kings Award for Voluntary Service in November 2023 in recognition of the efforts of our volunteers (which also includes our staff as they are also volunteers).

The Board of Trustees would like to thank all of our staff and volunteers who together make the work of Kirkgate Arts and Heritage possible.

What We did in 2023/24

Programming and projects

Arts and Entertainment

Our arts and entertainment programme continues to develop, with approximately 400 events delivered during 2023/24. **Cinema** is held 3 days a week whilst we have live steaming from the National Theatre once a month. Our programme of **music gigs** has been substantially developed. The popular monthly jazz concerts continue, and we also provide a wide programme of music across all genres. These gigs take place both in the auditorium and in the Egremont Room. As well as professional musicians we are pleased to support local artistes as they develop their careers. Our **open mic and Poetry Out Loud** evenings continue to be well supported.

We also host regular special events such as Fever Drag Cabaret and Singing With the Stars which have expanded our audience appeal into new areas.

Finally, in 2023 we began our Monthly Markets and our Craft at the Kirkgate initiative which brought taught crafting classes to the Kirkgate.

In My Shoes

This Project is a community heritage project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. It aims to look at the cultural heritage of West Cumbria and give the participants the opportunity to share and celebrate aspects of their own cultural heritage. As well as the work done by the Heritage group and the Youth Theatre this project has also involved six spoken word events in the community. For these events we engaged three spoken word artists to write work that would be performed at six community venues across the area with the hope of inspiring facilitated conversations from the audiences. We also have trained volunteers available to collect oral histories from anyone who wanted to be recorded. The project had a budget to cover some diverse programming. This was planned to start in the autumn with the programming of Faith I Branko but unfortunately due to ill health this show was cancelled. We did however bring the amazing Unbroken dance show to both Dean School and the Kirkgate Centre.

Cooking at the Kirkgate

This project is funded by the National Lottery Community Fund and aims to use our new kitchen facilities to give people access to workshops where they can learn a variety of cooking skills, some of these are very basic and others are more advanced or fun and aimed at families. This project has also paid for the building of two raised beds outside of the centre that were planted by the local pre school.

Allerdale Community Partnership (Community Investment Fund)

This money funded work that we placed into Allerdale Schools alongside the work that we were doing with Arts Out West. In many cases this gave students their first taste of professional performances.

Arts Out West

This year saw an impressive 46 performances delivered in 25 village halls and libraries across Cumberland. The varied programme included the very popular audience-participation based Blue Moon Saloon, developed collaboratively by Ragged Edge and Kirkgate, Every Brilliant Thing, a rural touring performance created by Theatre by the Lake Keswick, and Dracula in Space which transferred from a successful run at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Heritage Group

The Heritage group have continued to meet monthly. A large part of their work is completing family history research on behalf of others and answering local history queries, they have a dedicated Facebook page and contribute a monthly article on a variety of aspects of Cockermouth's history to the Kirkgate Quarter Chronical (our newsletter). We have also continued the well-attended monthly illustrated lectures.
The group have been largely focused this year on their contribution to the In My Shoes project the Heritage Lottery Funded project looking into the cultural heritage of West Cumbria. With some curatorial support the group mounted a very well received exhibition covering the history of shoe manufacturing in Cockermouth from clog manufacture to the closing of Millers shoe factory. They also helped with the development of other aspects of the project as it developed. Once the Millers exhibition was over, we employed a new curator, and the group started work on the second exhibition of the project that would be entitled Offcomers and would celebrating stories of the many journeys to Cockermouth.

Youth Theatre

The Youth Theatre have also spent the year working on the themes associated with the In My Shoes project. The younger group developed a piece entitled "I am not a bear" which explored what it is that makes us, us and how the outside world can influence how we feel about that. The older group spent some time looking into stories from the groups own family history's these stories were then pulled into one piece that looked at the many different places that the people of West Cumbria come from. Both groups initially performed at Cockermouth live and then went on to develop the work further and perform a more complete piece at the centre just before Christmas.

Community and Commercial Events Engagement

Many commercial and community clients hire the Egremont Room and theatre to provide activities. These include Pilates, U3A, Karate, Historic Fencers, The Richmond Fellowship, Cumbria Carers, Sound Wave (Regular users) National Trust and United Utilities, The Highways Agency and Thomas Armstrong (more occasional users).

We are home to Cockermouth Round Table's highly popular annual Beer Festival and are partners in Cockermouth Live!, the town's quirky annual summer weekend of live music and other performances, hosting the headline Friday and Saturday night events. Both festivals took place in 2023.

Upgrades to the Kirkgate Centre

In 2022/23 we received a substantial (£100k) grant from Allerdale Borough Council (ABC) for which we were very grateful. During 2023/24 we completed the upgrades made possible by this grant:

- Replacement of the old gas boilers with a more energy efficient system;
- Installation of commercial catering facilities in the ground floor;
- Upgrading the Kirkgate's fire escapes;
- Replacement of the first floor auditorium windows;
- Installation of a hearing loop;
- Redevelopment of the first floor bar; and
- A number of smaller improvements.

The ongoing refurbishment of our Egremont Room community hall was completed and the new carpet, new chairs, and catering facilities have enabled us to market the space more widely, attracting new hirers and users, including the hosting of wedding events.

Funding Secured for Further Upgrades

We secured a significant grant from the Arts Council to cover 80% of the cost of some much-needed upgrades to the Kirkgate. We also secured match funding for the remaining 20% from the Shared Prosperity Fund (administered by the Copeland Community Fund) and the Benny Walker Foundation. A major improvement plan is planned for 2024/25 (see 'Our Plans for the Future' section later in this report).

Preparation for Kirkgate Heritage Extension

We made significant progress in planning for our National Heritage Lottery Fund grant application with our architects Buttress. A contractor was engaged to demolish the Athletics Club building and to dispose of the asbestos panels forming part of the interior (work carried out May 2024). This work was part-funded by a very generous donation from a private donor.

Thank you

We would like to thank all our funders, donors and supporters for their financial support during the year.

Financial performance

During this period we received grants totalling £216,279 , for which the Trustees are extremely grateful. Our commercial income, through room hires and other trading, totalled £127,117. Donations from supporters totalled £8,956.

We ended the year with a net surplus of £48,743.

The finances of the charity are explained in greater detail in the attached annual accounts.

Charity structure, governance, and management

Board of Trustees

Kirkgate Arts and Heritage is managed by a Board of Trustees. The Trustees are also Directors of the company, Kirkgate Arts Limited. During the year the Board met every other month to maintain ongoing work guiding the strategic direction of the business. All decisions regarding corporate governance are made by, and are the responsibility of, the Board of Trustees. A minimum of three and a maximum of ten Trustees are provided for in the incorporation and charity documents. The Board actively encourages supporters to become members of the limited company and attend the AGM to strengthen the organisation and the accountability of the Board.

Trustees are appointed from the local community following a successful interview (and receipt of favourable references if the individuals are unknown to Kirkgate Arts and Heritage). The expectations of the Trustees are clearly documented and, like the staff and volunteers of Kirkgate Arts and Heritage, Trustees follow a clear set of procedures and policies, which are regularly reviewed. Trustees do not receive any benefits.

Structure of sub-committees and working groups

The key Board sub-committees are the Finance Group, People Group, Arts Out West National Portfolio Organisation Collaborative Group (with Highlights) and the Heritage Group. We also have a number of other Groups which are volunteer led and report to the General Manager. These groups include the Communications Group, Operations Group, Film Programming Group, Music Programming Group, Publicity Group and the Safety and Maintenance Group. Others are formed as and when necessary and are time limited.

Main Partner organisations

Kirkgate Arts and Heritage delivers its wide range of activities across Cockermouth and West Cumbria through a network of partnerships and memberships:

Highlights: we work with this rural touring scheme for North/East Cumbria, Northumberland and County Durham with whom Arts Out West forms an Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation consortium.

Village Halls and Community Centres: we deliver Arts Out West in partnership with over 25 village halls and community centres throughout West Cumbria.

National Rural Touring Forum: we are members of this forum representing rural touring schemes, venues, promoters and performers.

Cockermouth Festivals Group: we collaborate with and provide facilities for the team producing the annual Cockermouth Live! music and spoken word weekend.

Helping Hands is a Cumbria wide project that brings together 45 partners from the Arts and Culture sector that aims to increase and diversify the volunteering opportunities available.

Cumbria Family Arts Network: we are a lead organisation in this informal consortium of venues and other bodies in the west of the county working together to promote and develop performances and activities that can be enjoyed across the generations.

Cumbria Arts and Culture Network: we participate in this network involving many of the county's arts and culture organisations, practitioners, educators and other stakeholders in the arts, culture and creative industries sector.

Big Imaginations: this ACE-funded regional initiative supports, promotes and develops theatre for young people through a network of presenting organisations, which we joined in April 2018.

Future Arts Centres : we participate in this UK-wide network of not for profit arts centres across the UK which provides best practice guidance (e.g. carbon neutral operations).

Cockermouth Chamber of Trade: We are an active member of the Chamber of Trade.

We have other mutually supportive relationships with Cockermouth Women's Institute, Cockermouth Civic Trust, Cockermouth Rotary, Cockermouth Round Table, National Trust Wordsworth House and Garden, Rydal Mount (Grasmere), Wordsworth Grasmere, Cockermouth Town Council, Cockermouth and district schools, Eden Poets and local businesses including Fermento Italian Pizzeria and Magic Mountain Pizza.

Financial management

Investment powers

Under the memorandum and articles of association, the charity has the power to make any investment that the Trustees see fit. All available funds are kept in interest bearing deposit accounts, and deposit rates are monitored to maximise the income earned in this way.

Maintenance of reserves

The Trustees have discretionary powers regarding the retention of reserves. The charity's reserves policy was reviewed in August 2024. The policy deals with the cash element of Kirkgate Arts and Heritage's unrestricted funds.

Having assessed the key financial risks, the reserves policy is to hold the funding required for six months' operation, this being the largest of the items identified in the risk assessment. This equates to £50,000.

The policy states: 'In the event that the charity is operating below its desired level of reserves, the Trustees will endeavour to avoid having reserves fall as low as three months operation. Should reserves fall below this level the Trustees will meet to discuss and implement recovery plans to avoid cash flow challenges and the risk of closure.' The policy is subject to annual review.

Policies

The Trustees continually review policies, and adopt new ones as necessary, at appropriate intervals.

Risk management

The charity faces certain operational and business risks which the Trustees manage through regular reviews and mitigation of key risks. Trustees give priority to managing key risks at all board meetings and engage regularly with health and safety issues.

In recognition of the increasing number of upgrade projects, the Board has adopted a Project Risk Register Policy which requires each project to be analysed from a risk perspective at all key stages.

Our plans for 2024/25

We expect 2024/25 to be an active year, balancing a programme of improvements to the Kirkgate Centre with the ongoing programme of arts, culture and heritage events.

Our key areas of focus will be:

Events Programme

We will continue to provide events throughout the year, subject to some short-term closures made necessary by the Improvement Programme (see below).

Heritage

The In My Shoes project concludes this year with exhibitions on Offcomers (how people came to settle in Cockermouth) and Brewing in Cockermouth.

We will be applying for a significant National Heritage Lottery Fund grant to progress the feasibility study, planning and design stage of the Kirkgate Heritage Extension Project in October 2024.

This application will include funding for a significant community heritage project.

Arts out West

We will continue to programme events in community centres across Cumberland. We will also start work with Highlights on our application to the Arts Council to renew National Portfolio Organisation status.

Kirkgate Centre Improvement Programme

- LED lighting installation throughout the Centre to reduce power consumption;
- Replace auditorium and backstage ventilation system;
- Replace auditorium and stage lighting system;
- Create an accessible toilet on the first floor;
- Create a new staff office (staff displaced by accessible toilet);
- Extensive Lift refurbishment and upgrading.

This Programme will require parts of the Kirkgate Centre to be closed for short periods to allow our contractors to work safely. We have factored the resulting drop in audience income into our financial planning.

Further Funding

We will be applying for a major Community Lottery grant for a programme of new community initiatives.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

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

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charitable company will continue in operation.
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP
- state whether applicable United Kingdom accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

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

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

The Trustees consider that the charity is adequately funded to meet its current obligations.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charitable company on 2nd October 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

..... Robert Higgins
Chair

KIRKGATE ARTS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF KIRKGATE ARTS
For the Year ended 31st March 2024

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS 102).

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

Susannah Nixon
Lamont Pridmore

Dated: 2nd October 2024

Susannah Nixon
Lamont Pridmore (West Cumbria) Ltd
Milburn House
3 Oxford Street
Workington
Cumbria CA14 2AL

KIRKGATE ARTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the Year ended 31st March 2024

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds Year to 31.03.24 £	Total Funds Year to 31.03.23 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Grants and donations	3	225,235	-	-	225,235	174,795
Charitable activities	4	127,117	-	-	127,117	107,767
Investment income	5	3,577	-	-	3,577	1,890
Other income	6	5,845	-	-	5,845	6,126
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		361,774	-	-	361,774	290,578
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Expenditure on charitable activities	7	307,608	5,042	381	313,031	324,806
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		307,608	5,042	381	313,031	324,806
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR		54,166	(5,042)	(381)	48,743	(34,228)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Balances brought forward		123,524	183,775	2,012	309,311	343,539
Balances carried forward		177,690	178,733	1,631	358,054	309,311

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

KIRKGATE ARTS

BALANCE SHEET

at 31st March 2024

	Note	31.03.24 £	£	31.03.23 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		234,364		206,528
Current assets					
Stocks		-		1,455	
Debtors	11	7,658		11,962	
Cash at bank and in hand		136,536		166,156	
		144,194		179,573	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(20,504)		(76,790)	
Net current assets			123,690		102,783
			358,054		309,311
Accumulated funds					
Restricted funds	16		1,631		2,012
Designated funds	16		178,733		183,775
Unrestricted funds	16		177,690		123,524
Total funds			358,054		309,311

For the year ending 31st March 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

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

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on 2nd October 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Robert Higgins
Chair

KIRKGATE ARTS

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Year ended 31st March 2024

	Note	31.03.24 £	£	31.03.23 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Movement in funds for the year			48,743		(34,228)
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items					
Depreciation			13,202		16,021
Investment income			(3,577)		(1,890)
			9,625		14,131
Working capital adjustments					
Decrease/(Increase) in stocks			1,455		(780)
Decrease in debtors			4,304		376
(Decrease)/increase in creditors			(56,287)		13,748
Net cash flows from operating activities			(50,528)		13,344
Cash flows from investing activities					
Interest income			3,577		1,890
Purchase of tangible fixed assets			(41,037)		-
Cash (utilised)/provided by investing activities			(37,460)		1,890
(Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year			(29,620)		(4,863)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			166,156		171,019
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year			136,536		166,156

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two years.

1 General information

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is The Kirkgate Centre, Kirkgate, Cockermouth, Cumbria, CA13 9PJ.

2 Accounting policies

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

Basis of accounting
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)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Kirkgate Arts 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.

Going concern
The charity continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements and is confident it can continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty
The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis.

Incoming resources
Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies
Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Grants receivable
Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income
Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Resources expended
All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities
Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Taxation
As a registered charity the company benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from Corporation Tax and Capital Gains Tax.

Tangible fixed assets
Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost.

Depreciation and amortisation
Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
IT and office electronic equipment	Written off over 3 years straight line
Fixtures and fittings	Written off over 5 years straight line
Light and sound equipment	Written off over 7 years straight line

Stocks
Stock is not considered material and so is not disclosed within this years figures.

Trade debtors
Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the Charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors
Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the Charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting
Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Charity.
Designated funds are unrestricted funds are resources set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.
Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

3 Voluntary income: Grants and donations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Donations and legacies				
Donations from individuals	8,956	-	8,956	8,317
Grants, including capital grants				
Grants from government bodies, other charities & local authorities	216,279	-	216,279	166,478
	225,235	-	225,235	174,795

4 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Membership fees – Arts Out West	1,128	-	1,128	1,223
Ticket sales and admissions	79,369	-	79,369	70,118
Venue hire fees	16,861	-	16,861	15,593
Bar sales	29,759	-	29,759	20,833
	127,117	-	127,117	107,767

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Interest receivable on bank deposits	3,577	-	3,577	1,890

6 Other income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Other income	5,845	-	5,845	6,126
	5,845	-	5,845	6,126

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Cost of bar sales	13,354	-	13,354	9,109
Performance fees and licences	104,637	-	104,637	84,533
Heritage Group	-	381	381	1,110
Wages and salaries	90,387	-	90,387	84,291
Employer national insurance	2,071	-	2,071	1,451
Pension contributions	1,873	-	1,873	1,677
Contract labour	96	-	96	-
Training	816	-	816	522
Travelling	509	-	509	259
Light, heat & water	21,253	-	21,253	8,898
Insurance	6,153	-	6,153	7,445
Building and equipment maintenance	33,121	-	33,121	78,166
Administration expenses	1,880	-	1,880	1,320
Equipment rental	1,368	-	1,368	2,066
Telephone and fax	2,016	-	2,016	1,929
Advertising and marketing	8,741	-	8,741	7,070
Accountancy fees	5,486	-	5,486	5,460
Computer costs	2,799	-	2,799	4,349
Professional fees	880	-	880	556
Fundraising expenses	-	-	-	5,777
Bank charges	2,008	-	2,008	2,797
Depreciation – fixtures and fittings	131	-	131	2,613
Depreciation – IT and office electronic equipment	926	-	926	238
Depreciation – light and sound equipment	7,103	-	7,103	8,827
	307,608	381	307,989	320,463

	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Depreciation – property	5,042	5,042	4,343
	5,042	5,042	4,343

8 Net outgoing resources for the period

	2024 £	2023 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	13,202	16,021

9 Staff costs and trustees' remuneration

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs include the following:		
Wages and salaries	90,387	84,291
Social security costs	2,071	1,451
Pension costs	1,873	1,677
	94,331	87,419

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed part time and full time during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Total number of staff	5	5

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

None of the trustees received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and Buildings £	Light and Sound Equipment £	IT and Office Electronic Equipment £	Fixtures and Fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1st April 2023	217,128	88,014	19,855	27,307	352,304
Additions	34,838	3,420	2,779	-	41,037
At 31st March 2024	251,966	91,434	22,634	27,307	393,341
Depreciation					
At 1st April 2023	18,118	80,851	19,855	26,951	145,775
Charge for the year	5,042	7,103	926	131	13,202
At 31st March 2024	23,160	87,954	20,781	27,082	158,977
Net book value					
At 31st March 2024	228,806	3,480	1,853	225	234,364
At 31st March 2023	199,010	7,163	-	356	206,528

The freehold and property was devalued according to a valuation of £190,000 provided in May 2019 by Walton Goodland Chartered Surveyors, 10 Lowther Street, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA3 8DA: this value has been adopted as deemed cost of the assets concerned under FRS 102. Under FRS 102 the company will perform revaluations with sufficient regularity such that the carrying amount does not differ materially from the fair value at the balance sheet date.

11 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade debtors	1,194	6,994
Prepayments	6,464	4,968
	7,658	11,962

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	6,268	3,719
Taxation and social security	1,553	1,371
Grants received in advance	-	61,173
Other creditors	7,802	5,231
Accruals	4,881	5,296
	20,504	76,790

13 Operating leases

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Not later than 1 year	1,368	1,368
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	1,368	2,394
	2,736	3,762

14 Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and consequently has no share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

15 Pension scheme

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £1,873 (2023 £1,677).

Contributions totalling £363 (2023: £325) were payable to the scheme at the year end and are included in creditors.

16 Statement of funds

The movement in the year is as follows:

	At 01.04.23	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31.03.24
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted general funds					
General unrestricted fund	123,524	361,774	(307,608)	-	177,690
Total unrestricted funds	123,524	361,774	(307,608)	-	177,690
Unrestricted designated funds					
Property fixed asset reserve	183,775	-	(5,042)	-	178,733
Total Unrestricted des'ed funds	183,775	-	(5,042)	-	178,733
Restricted funds					
Heritage – Georgian Fair Group	2,012	-	(381)	-	1,631
Total restricted funds	2,012	-	(381)	-	1,631
Total funds	309,311	361,774	(313,031)	-	358,054

16 Funds

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Georgian Fair Group

A donation from the Cockermouth Georgian Fair organising group for heritage related activities.

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	54,000	178,733	1,631	234,364
Current assets	144,194	-	-	144,194
Current liabilities	(20,504)	-	-	(20,504)
	177,690	178,733	1,631	358,054

KIRKGATE ARTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1126602

Accounts

KIRKGATE ARTS

(A CHARITABLE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Company registration number: 06632306

Charity registration number: 1126602

Lamont Pridmore

KIRKGATE ARTS

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

for the Year ended 31st March 2023

Chair	Mrs Susan Moses (resigned as Chair 28.06.2023) Mr Robert Higgins (appointed as Chair 28.06.2023)	
Trustees	Ms Judith Bennington	
	Mr Robert Pritchard	
	Mr Andrew Semple	
	Mr Duncan Nicholson	(resigned 22.11.2022)
	Mrs Susan Moses	
	Ms Helen Hardy	
	Mr David Thomas	
	Mr Robert Higgins	(appointed 22.11.2022)
Company Secretary	Mr Robert Higgins	(Chair from 28.06.2023)
Principal Office	The Kirkgate Centre Kirkgate Cockermouth Cumbria CA13 9PJ	
Company Registration Number	06632306	
Charity Registration Number	1126602	
Bankers	Cumberland Building Society Cumberland House Castle Street Carlisle Cumbria CA3 8RX	

KIRKGATE ARTS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2023

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Trustees

Ms Judith Bennington	
Mr Robert Pritchard	
Mr Andrew Semple	
Mr Duncan Nicholson	(resigned 22.11.22)
Mrs Susan Moses	
Ms Helen Hardy	
Mr David Thomas	
Mr Robert Higgins	(appointed 22.11.22)

Summary

Kirkgate Arts Limited's ambition is to serve our local communities better, increasing the range of the charity's beneficiaries. In 2022 we adopted a new five year strategic plan and changed our name to Kirkgate Arts and Heritage because we had resolved to increase the level of heritage and community activities we undertake alongside our arts offer.

Our **Mission** is to ensure that creative talent is valued, developed and supported with opportunities for all to actively engage with and enjoy the arts, our local heritage and community life.

Our **Values** are

Commitment – our staff and volunteers are dedicated to delivering our mission.
Accessibility – we aim to make arts, heritage and culture accessible and inclusive to all the communities of West Cumbria
Sustainability – we aim to ensure that the organisation is secure for future generations from both financial and environmental perspective.
Nurturing – we aim to provide an environment that encourages growth, development of skills and confidence and enjoyment for all.

We operate in West Cumbria, a mostly rural area of small towns and scattered villages on the coast and in the hinterland between the Irish Sea/Solway Firth and the western boundary of the Lake District National Park. Arts and cultural infrastructure are weak in West Cumbria compared to other parts of the UK, despite a rich heritage. Within our outwardly appearing comfortable county, many people are in poverty and face disadvantages. Our population is ageing. Social isolation and problems with youth mental health are significant. Social mobility in the part of Cumberland Council area where we are based, the former Allerdale, is amongst the lowest in England. The sub-region that we serve covers an area of approximately 100 miles from north to south and public transport links throughout the area are poor. Yet Cumbria is characterised by strongly mutually supportive communities in its towns, villages, valleys and coastal settlements.

We own and run the Kirkgate Centre, a multi-purpose cultural hub housing a theatre and community centre in Cockermouth, originally built as a school in the 1880s. We also own an adjacent building and land, the disused Derwent Athletics Club, which has increased the value of our fixed assets and our capacity to achieve our strategic goals.

We also run an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation, Kirkgate Out West, through which we organise tours of professional performers around West Cumbria's village halls, libraries, and community centres. We work with local volunteer promoters to put on shows, exhibitions and workshops which are social as much as cultural.

2b
KIRKGATE ARTS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2023

Whilst we completed the second full year of our strategic plan 2020-2025 with a high level of achievement against objectives, we have taken the opportunity to update our Strategic Plan to cover the years 2022-7.

We have further developed our plans for the creation of a Heritage Centre on the site of the old Derwent Athletics Club. This is covered in more detail later in this report.

Our main strategic aims are firstly to continue the improvements of the Kirkgate Centre in order to impact positively on our operations, earned income, user experience and the reduction of carbon emissions; and secondly, to create facilities for, and improve access to, our local history collection. These aims sit within the context of the development of a 'Kirkgate Quarter' for Cockermouth town center, and of Kirkgate Out West, consolidating and extending Kirkgate's cultural reach and social impact throughout West Cumbria.

Upon the retirement of Marion Bowman as our Chair Sue Moses kindly stepped into that role.

During the year we completed our two major lottery funded projects, and we thank Arts Council of England (ACE) and National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) for their substantial financial support.

During the year we received a substantial (£100k) grant from Allerdale Borough Council (ABC) for which we are grateful. This grant has enabled us to undertake a number of essential building projects at the Kirkgate Centre. We were able to replace the old gas boilers with new more energy efficient boilers; we created a commercial standard kitchen as part of the Egremont Room which will enable us to develop new revenue streams; bring the fire escapes up to the appropriate standard; we will replace the windows alongside the auditorium on the first floor and complete several smaller schemes.

We also thank all our funders, donors and supporters for their financial support during the year.

The Trustees are extremely grateful to all the staff and volunteers for their continued hard work in support of Kirkgate.

The Trustees were delighted that our volunteers (80 plus) were nominated for the prestigious King's Award for Voluntary Service (KAVS) this is a due reward for all of the effort that they put in to making Kirkgate the place that it is. We were even more delighted to learn that after a rigorous vetting process we have been put forward by the Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria to the National shortlist. We expect to hear the outcome in November, 2023.

Our income in the year ending 31st March 2023 totalled £290,578 with expenditure of £324,806 incurred during the period. The result for the year was a deficit of £34,228.

Introduction

The Trustees of Kirkgate Arts present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2023. In preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity, the Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005, and the requirements for a Trustees' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, 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) (effective 1 January 2015).

Reference and administrative information about Kirkgate Arts is set out in the preface to this report.

The Trustees have complied with the duty in Section 7 of the Charities Act 2011, giving due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Established in 1995, Kirkgate Arts and Heritage is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee (Company No. 6632306) and a registered charity (Charity No. 1126602), trading as Kirkgate Arts and Heritage.

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KIRKGATE ARTS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2023

Overview

As noted earlier in this report The Board has updated its Strategic Objectives to cover the period 2022-2027. A copy of the document is available on request from the Company Secretary.

We operate through:

- **The Kirkgate Centre** – Cockermouth's multi-purpose arts, community and heritage centre
- **Kirkgate Out West** - a rural touring arts project hosted by over 25 village halls and community venues throughout West Cumbria

We run special projects as funding permits and also operate **Cockermouth Heritage Group** and **Kirkgate Youth Theatre** as long-running ongoing strands of work.

Heritage Group

The Heritage group have continued to meet monthly. A large part of their work is completing family history research on behalf of others and answering local history queries, They have a dedicated facebook page and contribute a monthly article on a variety of aspects of Cockermouth's history to the Kirkgate Quarter Chronicle (our news letter). As part of the town's celebration of the Queen's Platinum jubilee in June 2022 the Heritage Group mounted an exhibition which looked at the different ways that the town has chosen to mark important events in the past. As the town's Jubile concert was also held in the centre this made for one particularly busy night enjoyed by many. A second exhibition was mounted in October 2022 which looked at the changing use of the Strawberry How site just up the road from the centre. The exhibition followed the development from industrial school to housing development. Towards the end of the Arts Council funded project the Heritage group provided a range of photos taken by the well known local Victorian photographer Fred Nainby, which formed the basis for a two day digital photography workshop. The Heritage group played a large rôle in the planning of our next large project *In My Shoes* which focusses on inclusivity and diversity of local people's cultural heritage and has now been funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund to run for the next 18 months. The Heritage Group continue to present a monthly illustrated heritage lecture. At times these have been so popular that additional dates have been added.

Youth Theatre

The Youth Theatre had such positive experiences looking at the life and work of Dorothy Wordsworth it was decided to extend this work to look at the narrative poems of Wordsworth. This included a performance at Cockermouth live festival looking at Wordsworth's poems that highlighted themes that are still extremely relevant today.

The later part of the year the two groups worked on folk tales from near and far in preparation for a performance entitled A Winter Gathering in December 2022.

The Youth Theatre leader contributed a lot to the development of the *In My Shoes* project.

Community engagement

Many commercial and community clients hire the Egremont Room and theatre to provide activities. These include Pilates, U3A, Karate, Historic Fencers, The Richmond Fellowship, Cumbria Carers, Sound Wave (Regular users) National Trust and United Utilities, The Highways Agency and Thomas Armstrong (more occasional users) Some users did not return when we reopened fully, although we were pleased to welcome back others and add new hires to our menu of opportunities for members of the public to get involved with.

We are home to Cockermouth Round Table's highly popular annual Beer Festival. We are partners in Cockermouth Live!, the town's quirky annual summer weekend of live music and other performances, hosting the headline Friday and Saturday night events. Both festivals took place in 2022.

KIRKGATE ARTS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2023

The refurbishment of our Egremont Room community hall during the year, including replacement of all the windows, enabled us to market the space more widely, attracting new hirers and users. We also installed a mobile, temporary bar facility in the room made necessary by the regulations on social distancing and one-way circulation for Covid-19 infection control. The upgrades greatly improved the attractiveness, experience and comfort of the space for the wide range of people using it. We have been able to build on the work done in the Egremont Room last year with the addition of a catering standard kitchen. This has further improved the attractiveness, experience and comfort of the space for the wide range of people using it

Programming and projects

Dorothy Wordsworth project

This project, which was detailed in last year's Trustees report was funded by NLHF and was successfully completed on 30 September 2022.

Developing Audiences project

This project which was also detailed in last year's Trustees report was largely funded by ACE and was successfully completed on 31 March 2023

Regular arts and entertainment programmes and special events

Our arts and entertainment programme continues to develop. **Cinema** is held 3 days a week whilst we have live steaming from the National Theatre once a month. Our programme of **music gigs** has been substantially developed. The popular monthly jazz concerts continue, and we also provide a wide programme of music across all genres. These gigs take place both in the auditorium and in the Egremont Room. As well as professional musicians we are pleased to support local artistes as they develop their careers. Our **open mic and Poetry Out Loud** evenings continue to be well supported.

We are collaborating both with Theatre by the Lake, Keswick, and the local professional theatre company, Ragged Edge productions in bringing professional Theatre to Kirkgate and Kirkgate Out West.

A feature of this year has been the establishment of **Comedy** nights which have been very successful and clearly meet a need within our population.

Finally, we must mention a range of **special events** we organise. These include Cockfrock, quizzes and the Christmas market.

Kirkgate Quarter and Kirkgate Out West

The Kirkgate Quarter

A Board Away Day was held in October 2022 to review the 2020-2025 strategic plan. Out of which was developed the updated strategy to take us through the period 2022-2027. The Board refined the key workstrands.

The Kirkgate Quarter concept aims to promote the historic area of Kirkgate, Market Place and Castlegate as the cultural centre of Cockermouth encompassing the Kirkgate Centre, a redeveloped Derwent Athletics Club site, the Georgian Town Hall and All Saints Church as the main publicly accessible buildings. The other notable buildings are the Castle and the Brewery. The Cockermouth Town Centre Task Force has included the concept of the Kirkgate Quarter in its initial report.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
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Organisational Efficiency

We continue to publish an electronic monthly newsletter, the Kirkgate Quarter Chronicle, which is circulated to our 3500+ mailing list. We continued with a major push to update our administrative records and records management We also prepared a new approach to book-keeping, financial recording and reporting and the development of financial management and reporting continues.

Kirkgate Out West continues to be very successful with 47 performances having taken place in **23** villages throughout West Cumbria.

Financial performance

During this period we received grants totalling £166,478 (for which the Trustees are extremely grateful). Our commercial income, through room hires and other trading, totalled £107,767. Donations from supporters totalled £8,317

We ended the year with a net deficit of £34,228.

Charity structure, governance, and management

Board of Trustees

Kirkgate Arts and Heritage is managed by a Board of Trustees. The Trustees are also Directors of the company, Kirkgate Arts Limited. During the year the Board met every other month to maintain ongoing work guiding the strategic direction of the business. All decisions regarding corporate governance are made by, and are the responsibility of, the Board of Trustees. A minimum of three and a maximum of ten Trustees are provided for in the incorporation and charity documents. The Board actively encourages supporters to become members of the limited company and attend the AGM to strengthen the organisation and the accountability of the Board.

Trustees are appointed from the local community following a successful interview (and receipt of favourable references if the individuals are unknown to Kirkgate Arts and Heritage). The expectations of the Trustees are clearly documented and, like the staff and volunteers of Kirkgate Arts and Heritage, Trustees follow a clear set of procedures and policies, which are regularly reviewed. Trustees do not receive any benefits.

Employees and volunteers

The work of the charity is delivered by a small number of staff working alongside a significant number of volunteers. We currently have five staff: full-time General Manager and Operations Manager, with part-time Finance and Administration Officer, Community Projects Officer, and Caretaking Assistant.

A team of volunteers operate much of the business, providing box office and front of house staffing, film projection, bar management, oversight of safety and maintenance, programming, office administration, publicity and fundraising. An audit in 2019 showed that volunteers contributed nearly 8,000 hours a year at the Kirkgate Centre, with further substantial input from the volunteer village hall promoters of the Kirkgate Out West programme and the volunteers at community venues participating in other Kirkgate-run projects.

Structure of sub-committees and working groups

The key Board sub-committees are the Finance Group, People Group, and Kirkgate Out West National Portfolio Organisation Collaborative Group (with Highlights). We also have a number of other Groups which are volunteer led and report to the General Manager. These groups include the Operations Group, Film Programming Group, Music Programming Group, Publicity Group and the Safety and Maintenance Group. Others are formed as and when necessary and are time limited. These include Fundraising, Heritage, Capital Developments, Social Impact, and Communications and Marketing.

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Main Partner organisations

Kirkgate Arts and Heritage delivers its wide range of activities across Cockermouth and West Cumbria through a network of partnerships and memberships:

Highlights: we work with this rural touring scheme for North/East Cumbria, Northumberland and County Durham with whom Kirkgate Out West forms an Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation consortium.

Village Halls and Community Centres: we deliver Kirkgate Out West in partnership with over 25 village halls and community centres throughout West Cumbria.

National Rural Touring Forum: we are members of this forum representing rural touring schemes, venues, promoters and performers.

Cockermouth Festivals Group: we collaborate with and provide facilities for the team producing the annual Cockermouth Live! music and spoken word weekend.

Helping Hands is a Cumbria wide project that brings together 45 partners from the Arts and Culture sector that aims to increase and diversify the volunteering opportunities available.

Cumbria Family Arts Network: we are a lead organisation in this informal consortium of venues and other bodies in the west of the county working together to promote and develop performances and activities that can be enjoyed across the generations.

Cumbria Arts and Culture Network: we participate in this network involving many of the county's arts and culture organisations, practitioners, educators and other stakeholders in the arts, culture and creative industries sector.

Big Imaginations: this ACE-funded regional initiative supports, promotes and develops theatre for young people through a network of presenting organisations, which we joined in April 2018.

Frame: West Cumbria Cultural Education Partnership: we network with this group of schools, local authorities, voluntary and community organisations, further and higher education, and music education hubs and funders to improve the alignment of cultural education for young people.

Cockermouth Chamber of Trade: We are an active member of the Chamber of Trade.

We have other mutually supportive relationships with Cockermouth Women's Institute, Cockermouth Civic Trust, Cockermouth Rotary, Cockermouth Round Table, National Trust Wordsworth House and Garden, Rydal Mount (Grasmere), Wordsworth Grasmere, Cockermouth Town Council, Cockermouth and district schools, Eden Poets and local businesses including Fermento Italian Pizzeria and Magic Mountain Pizza.

Financial management

Investment powers

Under the memorandum and articles of association, the charity has the power to make any investment that the Trustees see fit. All available funds are kept in interest bearing deposit accounts, and deposit rates are monitored to maximise the income earned in this way.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
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Maintenance of reserves

The Trustees have discretionary powers regarding the retention of reserves. The charity's reserves policy was reviewed in March 2022. The policy deals with the cash element of Kirkgate Arts and Heritage's unrestricted funds.

Having assessed the key financial risks, the reserves policy is to hold the funding required for six months' operation, this being the largest of the items identified in the risk assessment. The policy states that while this desired reserve level is identified within the policy, it must be recognised that the organisation has sometimes operated with reserves of less than this in recent years. The Trustees anticipate that trend may continue as the new business model evolves.

The policy states: 'In the event that the charity is operating below its desired level of reserves, the Trustees will endeavour to avoid having reserves fall as low as two months of operation. Should reserves fall below this level the Trustees will meet to discuss and implement recovery plans to avoid cash flow challenges and the risk of closure.' The policy is subject to annual review.

Policies

The Trustees continually review policies, and adopt new ones as necessary, at appropriate intervals. During this period we created a new document: the Financial Codes of Procedure (FCoPs), incorporating and updating existing relevant financial policies and procedures as well as some completely new financial procedures. We also updated our Privacy Policy and Cookie Policy for our new website.

Risk management

The charity faces certain operational and business risks which the Trustees manage through regular reviews and mitigation of key risks. Trustees give priority to managing key risks at all board meetings and engage regularly with health and safety issues.

Our plans for the future

At the time of writing, June 2023, our key focus for the new financial year is our financial performance. We have adopted an ambitious but realistic revenue budget and are prioritising increasing income (including through essential capital investment), project funding and financial governance. We are determined to stay relevant and to make a strong offer to our audiences and potential users. We have some market research and project proposals underway to help us develop our offer appropriately.

We are closely engaged with our local authority, Allerdale Borough Council, and,from 1 April 2023, Cumberland Council The Local Government Reorganisation in Cumbria presents both opportunities and challenges and we will ensure that we work closely with the key staff in Cumberland We collaborated with ABC on the production of a Strategic Outline Business Case out of which we received the £100k grant and from which we have a basis to seek grants from other organisations. We believe that we play a unique role in contributing to social and economic success in our communities along with wellbeing in individuals of all ages, providing social solidarity and positive experiences that develop confidence and creativity.

Under our 2022-27 Strategy, we are making significant progress on modernising and streamlining our management, administrative and operational systems and structures. We have a clear Action Plan for 2023-2024.

Buttress, a firm of architects experienced in delivering grant-funded public developments in the North-West has been appointed on a no-funding, no-fee basis to assist us in re-developing the Athletics Club site into the Kirkgate Heritage Extension. The initial plan is for the Extension to both house and display our Heritage Collection and to provide a safe Heritage archive for the community, with the ability to receive local collections that need to be preserved and displayed. This plan will be developed during the Feasibility Study Phase of the project so that we can deliver enduring community benefit from the project. A grant application has been submitted to the National Heritage Lottery Fund for funding for the development and design phase of the project.

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KIRKGATE ARTS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2023

In a significant development to progress our strategic plan, our local history collection has been moved from a storeroom to enable installation of a catering-standard kitchen off the Egremont Room community hall. With successful fundraising for the necessary capital investment, this will enable more income-generating activities and a new facility for use by a wide variety of groups, individuals and businesses in the community. Most of the local history collection is now accommodated on the mezzanine floor. This is a temporary solution as it is unsuitable to operate from on a regular basis. One key objective for the coming year is to produce a development plan for the heritage collection itself in tandem with the wider feasibility study of schemes for the Kirkgate Centre and a new building on the Derwent Athletics Club site.

We were delighted that ACE renewed our status as an NPO from 1 April 2023 for a further 3 years. This gives us financial certainty in planning for Kirkgate Out West.

All of our activities and ambitions are designed to celebrate our community's cultural lives and heritage, to add value, and to have as positive an impact as possible on the people we serve.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

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

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

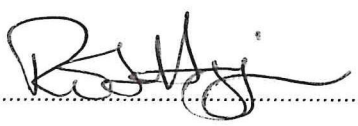
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charitable company will continue in operation.
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP
- state whether applicable United Kingdom accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

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

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

The Trustees consider that the charity is adequately funded to meet its current obligations.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charitable company on 16.10.23 and signed on its behalf by:



..... Robert Higgins
Chair

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF KIRKGATE ARTS
For the Year ended 31st March 2023

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS 102).

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

Susannah Nixon
Lamont Pridmore

Dated: 16th October 2023

Susannah Nixon
Lamont Pridmore (West Cumbria) Ltd
Milburn House
3 Oxford Street
Workington
Cumbria CA14 2AL

KIRKGATE ARTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the Year ended 31st March 2023

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds Year to 31.03.23 £	Total Funds Year to 31.03.22 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Grants and donations	3	174,795	-	-	174,795	154,073
Charitable activities	4	107,767	-	-	107,767	68,735
Investment income	5	1,890	-	-	1,890	510
Other income	6	6,126	-	-	6,126	16,776
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		290,578	-	-	290,578	240,094
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Expenditure on charitable activities	7	299,866	4,343	20,597	324,806	223,328
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		299,866	4,343	20,597	324,806	223,328
NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR		(9,288)	(4,343)	(20,597)	(34,228)	16,766
Transfers between funds		11,657	-	(11,657)	-	-
Balances brought forward		121,155	188,118	34,266	343,539	326,773
Balances carried forward		123,524	183,775	2,012	309,311	343,539

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

KIRKGATE ARTS

BALANCE SHEET

at 31st March 2023

	Note	31.03.23 £	£	31.03.22 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		206,528		222,549
Current assets					
Stocks		1,455		675	
Debtors	11	11,962		12,338	
Cash at bank and in hand		166,156		171,019	
		179,573		184,032	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(76,790)		(63,042)	
Net current assets			102,783		120,990
			309,311		343,539
Accumulated funds					
Restricted funds	16		2,012		34,266
Designated funds	16		183,775		188,118
Unrestricted funds	16		123,524		121,155
Total funds			309,311		343,539

For the year ending 31st March 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

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

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on 16.10.23 and signed on their behalf by:

..... Robert Higgins
Chair

KIRKGATE ARTS

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Year ended 31st March 2023

	Note	31.03.23 £	£	31.03.22 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Movement in funds for the year			(34,228)		16,767
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items					
Depreciation			16,021		16,606
Investment income			(1,890)		(510)
			14,131		16,096
Working capital adjustments					
(Increase)/decrease in stocks			(780)		120
Decrease/(increase) in debtors			376		(8,036)
Increase in creditors			13,748		31,295
Net cash flows from operating activities			13,344		23,379
Cash flows from investing activities					
Interest income			1,890		510
Purchase of tangible fixed assets			-		(23,570)
Cash (used in)/ provided by investing activities			1,890		(23,060)
(Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year			(4,863)		33,182
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			171,019		137,837
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year			166,156		171,019

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two years.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year ended 31st March 2023

1 General information

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is The Kirkgate Centre, Kirkgate, Cockermouth, Cumbria, CA13 9PJ.

2 Accounting policies

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

Basis of accounting
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)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Kirkgate Arts 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.

Going concern
The current economic conditions as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic continue to create uncertainty over the level of demand for the charity's activities. The charity's forecasts and projections, taking account of reasonably possible changes in performance, show that the charity should be able to operate within its current level of reserves. With the benefit of the government support packages available to help charities through the pandemic, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty
The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis.

Incoming resources
Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies
Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Grants receivable
Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income
Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year ended 31st March 2023

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Resources expended
All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities
Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Taxation
The Charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets
Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost.

Depreciation and amortisation
Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
IT and office electronic equipment	Written off over 3 years straight line
Fixtures and fittings	Written off over 5 years straight line
Light and sound equipment	Written off over 7 years straight line

Stocks
Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO).

Trade debtors
Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the Charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors
Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the Charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year ended 31st March 2023

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting
Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Charity.
Designated funds are unrestricted funds are resources set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.
Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

3 Voluntary income: Grants and donations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Donations and legacies				
Donations from individuals	8,317	-	8,317	13,185
Grants, including capital grants				
Grants from other charities	166,478	-	166,478	123,432
HMRC CJRS Furlough Scheme	-	-	-	9,456
Other Covid-19 grants	-	-	-	8,000
	174,795	-	174,795	154,073

4 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Membership fees – Arts Out West	1,223	-	1,223	718
Ticket sales and admissions	70,118	-	70,118	41,013
Venue hire fees	15,593	-	15,593	12,467
Bar and ice cream sales	20,833	-	20,833	14,537
	107,767	-	107,767	68,735

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Interest receivable on bank deposits	1,890	-	1,890	510

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year ended 31st March 2023

6 Other income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Fundraising income	-	-	-	-
Insurance claims received	-	-	-	3,694
Other income	6,126	-	6,126	13,082
	6,126	-	6,126	16,776

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Cost of bar sales	9,109	-	9,109	6,363
Performance fees and licences	75,054	9,479	84,533	45,244
Activities and workshops	-	-	-	27
Heritage Group	-	1,110	1,110	588
Wages and salaries	84,291	-	84,291	82,145
Employer national insurance	1,451	-	1,451	5,588
Pension contributions	1,677	-	1,677	1,238
Contract labour	-	-	-	7,244
Training	522	-	522	937
Travelling	259	-	259	555
Light, heat & water	8,898	-	8,898	5,356
Insurance	7,445	-	7,445	6,551
Building and equipment maintenance	78,166	-	78,166	13,512
Administration expenses	1,320	-	1,320	3,139
Equipment rental	2,066	-	2,066	2,381
Telephone and fax	1,929	-	1,929	1,668
Printing, postage and stationery	-	-	-	-
Advertising and marketing	7,070	-	7,070	4,258
Accountancy fees	5,460	-	5,460	4,038
Computer costs	4,349	-	4,349	9,620
Professional fees	556	-	556	1,708
Fundraising expenses	5,777	-	5,777	2,876
Bank charges	2,797	-	2,797	1,687
Depreciation – fixtures and fittings	-	2,613	2,613	3,329
Depreciation – IT and office electronic equipment	-	238	238	238
Depreciation – light and sound equipment	1,670	7,157	8,827	9,158
	299,866	20,597	320,463	219,448

	Designated Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Depreciation – property	4,343	4,343	3,879
	4,343	4,343	3,879

8 Net outgoing resources for the period

	2023 £	2022 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	16,021	16,606

9 Staff costs and trustees' remuneration

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs include the following:		
Wages and salaries	84,291	82,145
Social security costs	1,451	5,588
Pension costs	1,677	1,238
	87,419	88,971

Included within wages and salaries is an amount of Nil (2022 £4,826) in respect of redundancy costs incurred in the year.

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed part time and full time during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Total number of staff	5	5

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

None of the trustees received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year ended 31st March 2023

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and Buildings £	Light and Sound Equipment £	IT and Office Electronic Equipment £	Fixtures and Fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1st April 2022	217,128	88,014	19,855	27,307	352,304
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
At 31st March 2023	217,128	88,014	19,855	27,307	352,304
Depreciation					
At 1st April 2022	13,775	72,025	19,617	24,338	129,755
Charge for the year	4,343	8,826	238	2,613	16,021
At 31st March 2023	18,118	80,851	19,855	26,951	145,776
Net book value					
At 31st March 2023	199,010	7,163	-	356	206,528
At 31st March 2022	203,353	15,989	238	2,969	222,549

The freehold and property was devalued according to a valuation of £190,000 provided in May 2019 by Walton Goodland Chartered Surveyors, 10 Lowther Street, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA3 8DA: this value has been adopted as deemed cost of the assets concerned under FRS 102. Under FRS 102 the company will perform revaluations with sufficient regularity such that the carrying amount does not differ materially from the fair value at the balance sheet date.

11 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade debtors	6,994	5,373
Prepayments	4,968	6,687
Other debtors	-	278
	11,962	12,338

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year ended 31st March 2023

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	3,719	2,138
Taxation and social security	1,371	1,684
Grants received in advance	61,173	29,498
Other creditors	5,231	3,090
Accruals	5,296	26,632
	76,790	63,042

13 Operating leases

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Not later than 1 year	-	2,484
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	-	-
	-	2,484

14 Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and consequently has no share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

15 Pension scheme

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £1,677 (2022 £1,238).

Contributions totalling £Nil (2022: £Nil) were payable to the scheme at the year end and are included in creditors.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year ended 31st March 2023

16 Statement of funds

The movement in the year is as follows:

	At 01.04.22	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31.03.23
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted general funds					
General unrestricted fund	121,155	290,578	(299,866)	11,657	123,524
Total unrestricted funds	121,155	290,578	(299,866)	11,657	123,524
Designated funds					
Property fixed asset reserve	188,118	-	(4,343)	-	183,775
Total designated funds	188,118	-	(4,343)	-	183,775
Restricted funds					
Capital Development fund	21,665	-	(10,008)	(11,657)	-
Arts Council Exceptional Circumstances	600	-	(600)	-	-
Heritage – Georgian Fair Group	3,122	-	(1,110)	-	2,012
Arts Out West ACE/NPO	8,879	-	(8,879)	-	-
Total restricted funds	34,266	-	(20,597)	(11,657)	2,012
Total funds	343,539	290,578	(324,806)	-	309,311

16 Funds

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Capital Development Fund
This fund has a long history (7 years or so) and funding was established as a result of a crowd funding appeal to fund major items of expenditure for improving or maintaining the Kirkgate Centre.

Arts Council Exceptional Circumstances
This grant was awarded partly to organise an exhibition which in the event was not held. We propose to allocate the balance to the current ACE funded project which will take place in the next financial year.

Georgian Fair Group
A donation from the Cockermouth Georgian Fair organising group for heritage related activities.

Cumbria Family Arts Network
CFAN is an informal consortium of West Cumbrian cultural and community organisations. Kirkgate Arts is the lead partner and provides financial administration for Arts Council England funding through the Grants for the Arts programme.

Arts Council England: Arts Out West
To deliver a programme of performances, arts events and activities in village halls, communities and schools throughout West Cumbria. National Portfolio Organisation funding from Arts Council England is channelled through Highlights Rural Touring, Kirkgate Arts' partner in providing a rural touring service in Northern England. The Arts Out West programme attracts match funding, including from Cumbria County Council and Copeland Community Fund.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year ended 31st March 2023

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	20,741	183,775	2,012	206,528
Current assets	179,573	-	-	179,573
Current liabilities	(76,790)	-	-	(76,790)
	123,524	183,775	2,012	309,311

KIRKGATE ARTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1126602

Accounts

KIRKGATE ARTS

(A CHARITABLE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

Company registration number: 06632306

Charity registration number: 1126602

KIRKGATE ARTS

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

for the Year ended 31st March 2022

Chair	Mrs Marion Bowman (resigned 30 March 2022) Mrs Susan Moses (from 31st March 2022)	
Trustees	Mr Philip Bennett	(resigned 30 March 2022)
	Ms Judith Bennington	
	Mr Robert Pritchard	
	Mr Patric Gilchrist	(resigned 24 November 2021)
	Ms Emma Heys	(resigned 13 September 2021)
	Miss Nanette Rigg	(resigned 24 November 2021)
	Mr Andrew Semple	
	Mr Duncan Nicholson	
	Mrs Susan Moses	
	Ms H Hardy	(appointed 27th January 2022)
	Mr D Thomas	(appointed 1st November 2021)
Company Secretary	Mr Robert Higgins	(appointed 18 May 2021)
Principal Office	The Kirkgate Centre Kirkgate Cockermouth Cumbria CA13 9PJ	
Company Registration Number	06632306	
Charity Registration Number	1126602	
Bankers	Cumberland Building Society Cumberland House Castle Street Carlisle Cumbria CA3 8RX	

KIRKGATE ARTS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2022

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Trustees

Mr Philip Bennett	(resigned 30 March 2022)
Ms Judith Bennington	
Mrs Marion Bowman	(resigned 30 March 2022)
Mr Robert Pritchard	
Mr Patric Gilchrist	(resigned 24 November 2021)
Ms Emma Heys	(resigned 13 September 2021)
Miss Nanette Rigg	(resigned 24 November 2021)
Mr Andrew Semple	
Mr Duncan Nicholson	
Mrs Susan Moses	
Ms H Hardy	(appointed 27th January 2022)
Mr D Thomas	(appointed 1st November 2021)

Summary

Kirkgate Arts Limited's ambition is to serve our local communities better, increasing the range of the charity's beneficiaries. In July 2020 we adopted a new five year strategic plan and changed our name to Kirkgate Arts and Heritage because we had resolved to increase the level of heritage and community activities we undertake alongside our arts offer.

Our Vision is that creative talent is valued, developed and supported, with opportunities for all to actively engage with and enjoy the arts, our local heritage and community life.

Our Mission is to secure the Kirkgate Centre in Cockermouth, Cumbria, as a community and cultural centre, with new initiatives involving people celebrating and participating in community life, creativity, culture and heritage.

We operate in West Cumbria, a mostly rural area of small towns and scattered villages on the coast and in the hinterland between the Irish Sea/Solway Firth and the western boundary of the Lake District National Park. Arts and cultural infrastructure is weak in West Cumbria compared to other parts of the UK, despite a rich heritage. Within our outwardly-appearing comfortable county, many people are in poverty and face disadvantage. Our population is ageing. Social isolation and problems with youth mental health are significant. Social mobility in the borough where we are based, Allerdale, is amongst the lowest in England. The sub-region that we serve covers a distance of approximately 100 miles from north to south and public transport links throughout the area are poor. Yet Cumbria is characterised by strongly mutually supportive communities in its towns, villages, valleys and coastal settlements and this became ever more apparent during the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic in the spring of 2020.

We own and run the Kirkgate Centre, a multi-purpose cultural hub housing a theatre and community centre in Cockermouth, originally built as a school in the 1880s. We have acquired an adjacent building and land, the disused Derwent Athletics Club, which has increased the value of our fixed assets and our capacity to achieve our strategic goals.

We also run an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation, Arts Out West, through which we organise tours of professional performers around West Cumbria's village halls, libraries and community centres. We work with local volunteer promoters to put on shows, exhibitions and workshops which are social as much as cultural.

We also run an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation, Arts Out West, through which we organise tours of professional performers around West Cumbria's village halls, libraries and community centres. We work with local volunteer promoters to put on shows, exhibitions and workshops which are social as much as cultural.

The Kirkgate Centre and the Arts Out West venues all had to close to the public when the coronavirus hit. During the year under review the venues were subject to continuing legal restrictions. The final government restrictions lasted until spring 2022 although removal of all legal public health requirements did not mean the end of the pandemic. Public engagement with our activities was slow to recover due to ongoing infections, illness and caution about transmission.

Due to the impact of the pandemic, we made significant adaptations to our business model. We made the post of Artistic Director redundant and recruited a General Manager tasked with increasing earned income, including through business collaborations, improving our building and operations, and accessing grant-funding for new projects.

We completed the first full year of our strategic plan 2020-2025 with a high level of achievement against objectives despite the pressures imposed by the pandemic and closures.

By autumn 2021 we completed an options appraisal process to further refine our strategy following the purchase of the Derwent Athletics Club. We engaged with Allerdale Borough Council to develop a Business Case. Next, we will move on to produce a feasibility study then raise the necessary capital to complete necessary investments that will support business growth.

Our main strategic aims are firstly to continue the improvements of the Kirkgate Centre in order to impact positively on our operations, earned income, user experience and the reduction of carbon emissions; and secondly, to create facilities for, and improve access to, our local history collection. These aims sit within the context of the development of a 'Kirkgate Quarter' for Cockermouth town centre, and of 'Kirkgate Out West': consolidating and extending Kirkgate's cultural reach and social impact throughout West Cumbria.

The review of our strategic plans led to developments in the leadership of the organisation. Emma Heys, a trustee who in mid-2020 had become a voluntary part-time Executive Director in order to manage the organisation throughout the lockdowns and furloughing of staff, was the successful candidate in a recruitment process in summer 2021 for the new post of General Manager. Emma stood down from the Board on her appointment. The Board was also pleased to recruit a new Company Secretary, Rob Higgins, and Treasurer Trustee, David Thomas. Helen Hardy, a senior manager at the Natural History Museum, London, joined the Board of Trustees, and Trustee Sue Moses, became Deputy Chair of the Board.

We also said goodbye to several long-standing Trustees: Patric Gilchrist and Phil Bennett, who shared the critical task of monitoring and analysing the charity's finances, and Marion Bowman, outgoing chair, who had served the Board energetically and to great effect for 8 years. Nanette Rigg oversaw a number of changes to Kirkgate's Communications and Marketing during her year as a Trustee. Our thanks to them all for their invaluable service. We would like to thank our outgoing Artistic Director, Chris Bridgman, for his dedication and creativity in bringing so much of value to Kirkgate.

We also thank all our funders, donors and supporters. We are especially grateful to Arts Council England, Allerdale Borough Council, and the Government as without their financial support we could eventually have been at risk of insolvency and permanent closure.

We embarked on two major Lottery-funded projects, one through the Arts Council to develop audiences, and the other through The National Lottery Heritage Fund celebrating the 250th anniversary of the birth in Cockermouth of Dorothy Wordsworth. We also received funding from the Lottery's Awards for All to replace windows on the ground floor of the Kirkgate Centre and would like to thank all the funders who contributed to these important activities. We received a legacy from one of the founders of the Kirkgate Centre, Mr Peter Colley, along with a matching donation from his widow and co-founder Mrs Barbara Colley, for which we are very grateful. Our thanks also go to accountancy firm Armstrong Watson who made a generous donation in kind of a number of computers which enabled a significant upgrade of our use of IT. Other volunteers and donors made vital cash and in-kind contributions to the redecoration of our community hall, the Egremont Room, and other public spaces, which transformed our premises as we reopened after the pandemic closures. We are indebted to them for their hard work and generosity.

The Trustees are also extremely grateful to all the staff and volunteers for their forbearance and flexibility through periods of working and furlough, and changing work requirements over the year under review. Kirkgate Arts and Heritage is dependent on over 80 volunteers, with a small group of staff members, at the heart of our normal operations. We would particularly like to mention volunteer Richard Majewicz who sadly passed away early in 2022. His willingness to contribute his professional skills as an architect to the challenges presented by our old building was constant and he will be greatly missed.

Our income in the year ending 31st March 2022 totalled £240,094 with expenditure of £223,328 incurred during the period. The result for the year was a surplus of £16,766.

Introduction

The Trustees of Kirkgate Arts present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2022. In preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity, the Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005, and the requirements for a Trustees' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, 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) (effective 1 January 2015).

Reference and administrative information about Kirkgate Arts (registration number, names of Trustees, etc.) is set out in the preface to this report.

The Trustees have complied with the duty in Section 7 of the Charities Act 2011, giving due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Established in 1995, Kirkgate Arts is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee (Company No. 6632306) and a registered charity (Charity No. 1126602), trading as Kirkgate Arts and Heritage.

Overview

Our Vision is that creative talent is valued, developed and supported, with opportunities for all to actively engage with and enjoy the arts, our local heritage and community life.

Our Mission is to secure the Kirkgate Centre in Cockermouth, Cumbria, as a community and cultural centre, with new initiatives involving people celebrating and participating in community life, creativity, culture and heritage.

Our strategic objectives are to:

- to involve more, and more diverse, people by improving our community and heritage offer;
- to devise mixed programmes, projects and activities with our communities that fulfil our Vision and Mission;
- to build on our strong tradition of volunteering being at the heart of the charity;
- to balance the operating budget, increase capital investment and build capital and unrestricted reserves;
- to improve the Kirkgate Centre as the leading community and cultural facility in Cockermouth;
- to secure the conservation of the local history collection and to develop public engagement with and access to it;
- to communicate and demonstrate our impact and the value of our work.

The key actions that we will pursue to fulfil these objectives are:

- Development and implementation of an operating business model that increases public awareness of the charity, produces a balanced budget and re-builds reserves.
- Raising sufficient funds to a) provide appropriate premises for the conservation, use and display, including digitally, of our local history collection; and b) undertake key improvements, repairs and developments to the facilities within the Kirkgate Centre.
- Developing more online delivery of our offer and operations in the wake of a) the impact of social distancing due to the need for coronavirus infection controls and b) social change more generally and the requirements to mitigate climate change impacts.

We aim to meet these objectives through the development of 'The Kirkgate Quarter' in Cockermouth and 'Kirkgate Out West' – our presence in the wider region of West Cumbria.

In normal times we operate through:

- **The Kirkgate Centre** – Cockermouth's multi-purpose arts, community and heritage centre
- **Arts Out West** - a rural touring arts project hosted by over 25 village halls and community venues throughout West Cumbria

We run special projects as funding permits and also operate **Cockermouth Heritage Group** and **Kirkgate Youth Theatre** as long-running ongoing strands of work.

Heritage Group

The coronavirus pandemic limited face-to-face meetings of the Heritage Group until the autumn of 2021, but group members carried on researching, answering family and local history queries, and maintaining a dedicated Facebook page. Monthly articles on aspects of Cockermouth's history were produced for the new Kirkgate Quarter Chronicle. The group also contributed to a new website www.kirkgateartsandheritage.org.uk which merges all activities of the charity into one site.

During the summer of 2021 the group produced an exhibition on Dorothy Wordsworth at the Kirkgate Centre, part of our #IAmDorothy programme of year-long events commemorating the 250th anniversary of Dorothy's birth in Cockermouth. There was a private viewing of the exhibition at which descendants of William Wordsworth were in attendance. Following its stint at the Centre the exhibition also then toured other local community venues including several village halls. A second exhibition marked 800 years since the granting of Cockermouth's Market Charter in 1221. In May 2021 members of the group attended a ceremony to ring the original Market Place bell, organised by the Civic Trust, and attended by the Lord High Sheriff of Cumbria.

Kirkgate representatives attended meetings organised by the Town Clerk to plan contributions to the town's celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June 2022, to include a Royal Jubilee-themed exhibition at the Kirkgate with the Centre also hosting an evening concert.

In January 2022 the Heritage Group supplied artefacts to artist Celia Burbush to use in our Arts Council Lottery Project for the in-depth arts-based research and creative work elements of the project, involving children from All Saints School.

The Heritage Group supplied information and showed photographs produced by a Cockermouth photographer (Fred Nainby) in preparation for a photography workshop planned for later in 2022. Additionally, the group participated in preliminary discussions for a planned new project looking at inclusivity and the diversity of local people's cultural heritage.

A programme of sell-out monthly illustrated talks on local history began in March 2022.

Youth Theatre

Kirkgate Youth Theatre had a fantastically Wordsworthian year, with twenty young people performing in 'Discovering Dorothy' at Cockermouth Live! 2021 as part of the #IAmDorothy project. They braved the rain in the garden at Wordsworth House on Main Street, and then the sun came out for their performance at Cockermouth Castle.

The young people then developed their work into the piece **Sparkles of Light** about William Wordsworth's poem 'To a Butterfly' and Dorothy's writing in her journal about the poem. The older group imagined what a time-travelling Dorothy would make of the plight of butterflies today. Would she join in with our young environmental activists? They decided she would! This was performed to great acclaim at the Kirkgate Centre in December. After a difficult year or so, the young people loved working together again and performing under the lights.

Community engagement

With the end of lockdowns in April 2021, in the spring sunshine we initiated a Covid-compliant series of weekend 'Community Cafés' in our outdoor spaces which were greatly appreciated by the public who had not been able to socialise properly with friends and family for a year. The project was run by our volunteers and supported by community organisations and businesses who helped us with gifts in kind and donations to 'prettify' our outdoor spaces. In August, Allerdale Council, Etsy and Evan, the artists' network, supported us in running a series of Saturday art and craft markets in the car park alongside the Kirkgate Centre which also featured free entertainment from local musicians. Later in the year we hosted an autumn art trail and Christmas market.

Many commercial and community clients normally hire our community room and theatre to provide activities. These include the North Lakes Historical Fencing Society, U3A's Alte Musik, Ospreys Cheerleading Academy and the National Trust. Some users did not return when we reopened fully, although we were pleased to welcome back others and add new hires to our menu of opportunities for members of the public to get involved with. We were not able to hold some regular events such as our Friends' Big Kirkgate Quiz, themed Discos and Cockfrock sales of pre-loved quality fashions.

We are home to Cockermouth Round Table's highly popular annual Beer Festival. We are partners in Cockermouth Live!, the town's quirky annual summer weekend of live music and other performance, hosting the headline Friday and Saturday night events. Both festivals took place in 2021.

The refurbishment of our Egremont Room community hall during the year, including replacement of all the windows, enabled us to market the space more widely, attracting new hirers and users. We also installed a mobile, temporary bar facility in the room made necessary by the regulations on social distancing and one-way circulation for Covid-19 infection control. The upgrades greatly improved the attractiveness, experience and comfort of the space for the wide range of people using it.

Programming and projects

Dorothy Wordsworth project

A new year-long project for which we won funding, #IAmDorothy, launched in July 2021. This was a celebration of the life, work and legacy of Dorothy Wordsworth who was born in Cockermouth 250 years before on Christmas Day. The project was delivered in partnership with the Eden Poets collective, National Trust Wordsworth House and Garden, Wordsworth Grasmere, Rydal Mount, Cockermouth Town Council, and Fairfield and All Saints Primary Schools.

We secured a range of grants and commissioned professional artists to create a number of original works. Film-maker John Hamnett made the 'Make The Journey' video, Artfly artistic practice made a portrait in light of Dorothy Wordsworth that was part of the Christmas lights in the town centre, and, in workshops with schoolchildren, created large scale portraits of Dorothy. Writer Zoe Gilbert facilitated a visit by schoolchildren to Wordsworth Grasmere and led their work on creative writing. The Heritage Group and Youth Theatre also participated very successfully in the project (see above).

Developing Audiences project

In the summer of 2021 we began work on an Arts Council Lottery-funded project to deliver a wide range of work aimed at developing our appeal to the local population. This covers a diverse programme of performances, from family friendly shows to innovative work introducing people to new arts experiences as well as several opportunities for participation in creative work, and the presentation of exhibitions. Major strands of the project involve long-term work with selected groups in both Cockermouth and Maryport run by artist Celia Burbush; and the facilitation of script and performance development by local performing artists. Celia's work involves using arts-based research techniques to explore the values attached by local people to cultural life.

Regular arts and entertainment programmes and special events

On re-opening the Kirkgate Centre in the spring of 2021, we extended our weekly film screenings to three times a week, to include a matinee with sub-titles and continued socially distanced seating. We resumed regular music gigs featuring mainly local and/or big professional names from folk and world music, and initiated a new jazz season of monthly shows which brought outstanding musicians to our stage. Our new monthly Open Mic and Poetry Out Loud nights gave opportunities to local emerging or keen amateur talent.
Aware of how hard performers had been hit by the pandemic we wanted to support artists who had performed on our stage beforehand. Many of them responded to our inquiries about how they were faring with wonderful comments about their experiences with us:

I remember fondly our time at the Kirkgate a couple of years ago, the warm and intimate atmosphere and the friendly welcome. **Kiki Dee**

The Kirkgate is my ideal venue. Intimate and warm, staffed by passionate folks who really care about The Arts and about their local community. It has a beating heart, even more so due to the eager enthusiastic volunteers who help run it. **Snake Davis**

My husband and I are internationally touring, award-winning singer-songwriters based in Canada. We had the wonderful opportunity of performing an acoustic concert at the lovely Kirkgate during one of our UK tours. The Kirkgate remains one of our favourite stages and venue spaces. A lovely atmosphere and acoustics. The sound system was good and the theatre manager made sure we were well taken care of. The venue is absolutely gorgeous and is a key geographical location for artists en route from Manchester to Glasgow. **Tia McGraff**

We love the Kirkgate and I have booked artists into your lovely venue for years – through floods and pestilence! **Terry O'Brien, Playpen Management and Agency/English Folk Expo**

FARA had a fantastic experience performing at the Kirkgate as part of our Christmas 2018 tour. The staff were wonderful and the venue itself was beautiful. We were fortunate enough to have a sell-out show. The atmosphere was incredibly positive. **Kristan Harvey and FARA**

We thoroughly enjoyed our visit to Cockermouth and had a great evening at the Kirkgate. The venue and staff were fantastic. We look forward to returning sometime in the future. **Kevin Morris and Dr Feelgood**

What a beautiful venue Kirkgate in Cockermouth is. I played there with my band in 2018, the final night of our tour. It's a really lovely place to play with great sound and a lovely vibe. It feels warm and welcoming for musicians and audience alike. **Rachael McShane & The Cartographers**

We ran a number of special events, from arts and craft markets to special activities for children.

Kirkgate Quarter and Kirkgate Out West

The Kirkgate Quarter

Following the acquisition of the Derwent Athletics Club building and land adjacent to the Kirkgate Centre early in 2021, a Board Away Day was held in September 2021 to review the 2020-2025 strategic plan and subsequent options appraisal work undertaken by a sub-group over the winter of 2021/22. The Board refined the key strands for the future around the concepts of the 'Kirkgate Quarter' and 'Kirkgate Out West'.

The Kirkgate Quarter concept aims to promote the historic area of Kirkgate, Market Place and Castlegate as the cultural centre of Cockermouth encompassing the Kirkgate Centre, a redeveloped Derwent Athletics Club site, the Georgian Town Hall and All Saints Church as the main publicly accessible buildings. The other notable buildings are the Castle and the Brewery.

With the help of Allerdale Council we commissioned an up-to-date, independent, professional condition survey of the Kirkgate Centre and redoubled our improvements of the Centre as well as significant maintenance tasks.

We settled on **Kirkgate Out West** as a reaffirmation statement of our commitment to working as a cultural and community organisation beyond the confines of the Kirkgate Centre itself. Our **Arts Out West** work has been underway throughout the wider region of West Cumbria for over a decade and we aim to sustain and extend the project work we do in other towns and villages such as #IAmDorothy and our other Arts Council-funded work under the Kirkgate Out West banner.

Arts Out West venues, like the Kirkgate Centre, had all closed at the start of the pandemic, and were also slow to re-open but with the support of the Arts Council, we picked our way through the changing regulations and in due course shows started to return to the circuit in the autumn of 2021. Because of the hiatus, the Arts Council extended the contract for Arts Out West for an additional year, up to March 2023.

We consolidated the inclusion of some new venues into the scheme, such as Whitehaven Library, and sustained our engagement with and support for the volunteer promoters who are key to the selection of acts for their communities as well as drawing in the audiences.

Organisational efficiency

During the year we launched a much improved new website, one of the key achievements of our revitalised Communications and Marketing Group. We refreshed our brand look, auditing and researching our marketing, and increasing our circulation of news releases and social media to great effect with more exposure in the local press and broadcast media. We launched an electronic monthly newsletter, the Kirkgate Quarter Chronicle, which is circulated to our 3000+ mailing list. We continued with a major push to update our administrative records and records management and prepared for a new approach to book-keeping, financial recording and reporting to be followed at the beginning of the new financial year in April 2022.

Financial performance

During this period we received grants totalling £140,888 (including £17,456 in total for grants in respect of Covid-19) for which the Trustees are extremely grateful. Our commercial income, through room hires and other trading, totalled £85,511. Donations from supporters totalled £13,185.

As a consequence of these sources of income, with expenditure on charitable activities totalling £223,328, we ended the year with a net surplus of £16,766.

Charity structure, governance and management

Board of Trustees

Kirkgate Arts is managed by a Board of Trustees. The Trustees are also Directors of the company, Kirkgate Arts Limited. During the year the Board met monthly in response to the pandemic and to maintain ongoing work guiding the strategic direction of the business. All decisions regarding corporate governance are made by, and are the responsibility of, the Board of Trustees. A minimum of three and maximum of ten Trustees are provided for in the incorporation and charity documents. The Board actively encourages supporters to become members of the limited company and attend the AGM in order to strengthen the organisation and the accountability of the Board.

Trustees are appointed from the local community following a successful interview (and receipt of favourable references if the individuals are unknown to Kirkgate Arts and Heritage). The expectations of Trustees are clearly documented and, like the staff and volunteers of Kirkgate Arts and Heritage, Trustees follow a clear set of procedures and policies, which are regularly reviewed. Trustees do not receive any benefits.

Employees and volunteers

The work of the charity is delivered by a small number of staff working alongside a significant number of volunteers. We currently have five staff (4 fte in normal non-Covid times): full-time General Manager and Operations Manager, with part-time Finance and Administration Officer, Community Projects Officer, and Caretaking Assistant. Some spent part of 2021 on furlough.

A team of volunteers operate much of the business, providing box office and front of house staffing, film projection, bar management, oversight of safety and maintenance, programming, office administration, publicity and fundraising. An audit in 2019 showed that volunteers contributed nearly 8,000 hours a year at the Kirkgate Centre, with further substantial input from the volunteer village hall promoters of the Arts Out West programme and the volunteers at community venues participating in other Kirkgate-run projects.

Structure of sub-committees and working groups

The key board sub-committees are the Finance Group, People Group, and Arts Out West National Portfolio Organisation Collaborative Group (with Highlights). Other Groups may include volunteers and exist to help implement strategies developed by the Board. Some are enduring such as the Operations Group, Film Programming Group, Music Programming Group and the Safety and Maintenance Group. Others are formed for the duration of a particular project.

In addition to those mentioned above, the other groups are: Fundraising, Heritage, Capital Developments, Social Impact, and Communications and Marketing.

Main Partner organisations

Kirkgate Arts and Heritage delivers its wide range of activities across Cockermouth and West Cumbria through a network of partnerships and memberships:

Highlights: we work with this rural touring scheme for North/East Cumbria, Northumberland and County Durham with whom Arts Out West forms an Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation consortium.

Village Halls and Community Centres: we deliver Arts Out West in partnership with over 25 village halls and community centres throughout West Cumbria.

National Rural Touring Forum: we are members of this forum representing rural touring schemes, venues, promoters and performers.

Cockermouth Festivals Group: we collaborate with and provide facilities for the team producing the annual Cockermouth Live! music and spoken word weekend.

Cumbria Family Arts Network: we are a lead organisation in this informal consortium of venues and other bodies in the west of the county working together to promote and develop performances and activities that can be enjoyed across the generations.

Cumbria Arts and Culture Network: we participate in this network involving many of the county's arts and culture organisations, practitioners, educators and other stakeholders in the arts, culture and creative industries sector.

Big Imaginations: this ACE-funded regional initiative supports, promotes and develops theatre for young people through a network of presenting organisations, which we joined in April 2018.

Frame: West Cumbria Cultural Education Partnership: we network with this group of schools, local authorities, voluntary and community organisations, further and higher education, and music education hubs and funders to improve the alignment of cultural education for young people.

Age UK West Cumbria: Age UK has worked with us on activities for older adults.

We have other mutually supportive relationships with Cockermouth Women's Institute, Cockermouth Civic Trust, Cockermouth Rotary, Cockermouth Round Table, Cockermouth Chamber of Trade, National Trust Wordsworth House and Garden, Rydal Mount (Grasmere), Wordsworth Grasmere, Cockermouth Town Council, Cockermouth and district schools, Eden Poets and local businesses including Fermento Italian Pizzeria and Magic Mountain Pizza.

Financial management

Investment powers

Under the memorandum and articles of association, the charity has the power to make any investment that the Trustees see fit. All available funds are kept in interest bearing deposit accounts, and deposit rates are monitored to maximise the income earned in this way.

Maintenance of reserves

The Trustees have discretionary powers regarding the retention of reserves. The charity's reserves policy was reviewed in March 2022. The policy deals with the cash element of Kirkgate Arts and Heritage's unrestricted funds.

Having assessed the key financial risks, the reserves policy is to hold the funding required for six months' operation, this being the largest of the items identified in the risk assessment. The policy states that while this desired reserve level is identified within the policy, it must be recognised that the organisation has sometimes operated with reserves of less than this in recent years. The Trustees anticipate that trend may continue as the new business model evolves.

The policy states: 'In the event that the charity is operating below its desired level of reserves, the Trustees will endeavour to avoid having reserves fall as low as two months of operation. Should reserves fall below this level the Trustees will meet to discuss and implement recovery plans to avoid cash flow challenges and the risk of closure.'

The policy is subject to annual review.

Policies

The Trustees continually review policies, and adopt new ones as necessary, at appropriate intervals. During this period we created a new document: the Financial Codes of Procedure (FCoPs), incorporating and updating existing relevant financial policies and procedures as well as some completely new financial procedures. We also updated our Privacy Policy and Cookie Policy for our new website.

Risk management

The charity faces certain operational and business risks which the Trustees manage through regular reviews and mitigation of key risks. Trustees give priority to managing key risks at all board meetings and engage regularly with health and safety issues.

Our plans for the future

At the time of writing, June 2022, our key focus for the new financial year is our financial performance. We have adopted an ambitious but realistic revenue budget and are prioritising increasing income (including through essential capital investment), project funding and financial governance. The Covid-19 pandemic continued to affect customers in early 2022 and therefore our finances. We are determined to stay relevant and to make a strong offer to our audiences and potential users. We have some market research and project proposals underway to help us develop our offer appropriately.

We are closely engaged with our local authority, Allerdale Borough Council, as local government across the existing county of Cumbria heads towards complete reorganisation into two Unitary Authorities that will be vested in April 2023. This presents both opportunities and challenges. We are collaborating with Allerdale on a Business Case for our strategic plans. We have been successful in the past in winning grant aid for our work and our contribution to the public good from both Allerdale Borough and Cumbria County Councils both of which are to be abolished. The future policies and budgets of Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness UAs are as yet unknown. As a cultural organisation working within both jurisdictions, we believe we play a unique role in contributing to social and economic success in our communities along with wellbeing in individuals of all ages, providing social solidarity and positive experiences that develop confidence and creativity.

Under our 2020-25 Strategy, we are making significant progress on modernising and streamlining our management, administrative and operational systems and structures. We have a clear Action Plan for 2022/23. We also aim to commission a feasibility study and business plan to underpin our bids for capital funding. This funding will help us to achieve the improvements to our buildings that are essential to the fulfilment of our charitable objects, our aspiration to reach as diverse a range of people as possible, and the financial and environmental sustainability of our organisation, our operations and fixed assets.

In a significant development to progress our strategic plan, our local history collection has been moved from a storeroom to enable installation of a catering-standard kitchen off the Egremont Room community hall. With successful fundraising for the necessary capital investment, this will enable more income-generating activities and a new facility for use by a wide variety of groups, individuals and businesses in the community. Most of the local history collection is now accommodated on the mezzanine floor. This is a temporary solution as it is unsuitable to operate from on a regular basis. One key objective for the coming year is to produce a development plan for the heritage collection itself in tandem with the wider feasibility study of schemes for the Kirkgate Centre and a new building on the Derwent Athletics Club site.
Finally, we have submitted a bid, with Penrith-based Highlights, to the Arts Council for the renewal of the Arts Out West and Highlights consortium's National Portfolio listing from April 2023 which, if successful, would secure new funding for the continuing development of our work serving the wider region of West Cumbria.

KIRKGATE ARTS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2022

All of our activities and ambitions are designed to celebrate our community's cultural lives and heritage, to add value, and to have as positive an impact as possible on the people we serve.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

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

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charitable company will continue in operation
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP
- state whether applicable United Kingdom accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

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

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

The Trustees consider that the charity is adequately funded to meet its current obligations.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charitable company on 17th August 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

S.Moses ..... Susan Moses
Chair

KIRKGATE ARTS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF KIRKGATE ARTS
For the Year ended 31st March 2022

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS 102).

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

Susannah Nixon
Lamont Pridmore

Dated: 17th August 2022

Susannah Nixon
Lamont Pridmore (West Cumbria) Ltd
Milburn House
3 Oxford Street
Workington
Cumbria CA14 2AL

KIRKGATE ARTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the Year ended 31st March 2022

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds Year to 31.03.22 £	Total Funds Year to 31.03.21 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Grants and donations	3	109,263	-	44,810	154,073	140,655
Charitable activities	4	64,808	-	3,927	68,735	8,500
Investment income	5	510	-	-	510	344
Other income	6	11,810	-	4,966	16,776	26,767
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		186,391	-	53,703	240,094	176,266
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Expenditure on charitable activities	7	175,575	3,879	43,874	223,328	140,426
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		175,575	3,879	43,874	223,328	140,426
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR		10,816	(3,879)	9,829	16,766	35,840
Transfers between funds		13,707	-	(13,707)	-	-
Balances brought forward		96,632	191,997	38,144	326,773	290,933
Balances carried forward		121,155	188,118	34,266	343,539	326,773

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

KIRKGATE ARTS

BALANCE SHEET

at 31st March 2022

	Note	31.03.22 £	£	31.03.21 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		222,549		215,585
Current assets					
Stocks		675		796	
Debtors	11	12,338		4,302	
Cash at bank and in hand		171,019		137,837	
		184,032		142,935	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(63,042)		(31,747)	
Net current assets			120,990		111,188
			343,539		326,773
Accumulated funds					
Restricted funds	16		34,266		38,144
Designated funds	16		188,118		191,997
Unrestricted funds	16		121,155		96,632
Total funds			343,539		326,773

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

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

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

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on 17th August 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

..... S. MOSES ..... Susan Moses
Chair

KIRKGATE ARTS

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Year ended 31st March 2022

	Note	31.03.22 £	£	31.03.21 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Movement in funds for the year			16,767		35,840
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items					
Depreciation			16,606		16,653
Investment income			(510)		(344)
			16,096		16,309
Working capital adjustments					
Decrease/(increase) in stocks			120		203
(Increase)/decrease in debtors			(8,036)		3,003
Increase in creditors			31,295		25,383
Net cash flows from operating activities			23,379		28,589
Cash flows from investing activities					
Interest income			510		344
Purchase of tangible fixed assets			(23,570)		(4,647)
Cash (used in)/ provided by investing activities			(23,060)		(4,303)
(Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year			33,182		76,435
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			137,837		61,402
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year			171,019		137,837

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two years.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year ended 31st March 2022

1 General information

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is The Kirkgate Centre, Kirkgate, Cockermouth, Cumbria, CA13 9PJ.

2 Accounting policies

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

Basis of accounting
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 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Kirkgate Arts 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.

Going concern
The current economic conditions as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic continue to create uncertainty over the level of demand for the charity's activities. The charity's forecasts and projections, taking account of reasonably possible changes in performance, show that the charity should be able to operate within its current level of reserves. With the benefit of the government support packages available to help charities through the pandemic, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty
The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis.

Incoming resources
Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies
Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Grants receivable
Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income
Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Resources expended
All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities
Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Taxation
The Charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets
Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost.

Depreciation and amortisation
Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
IT and office electronic equipment	Written off over 3 years straight line
Fixtures and fittings	Written off over 5 years straight line
Light and sound equipment	Written off over 7 years straight line

Stocks
Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO).

Trade debtors
Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the Charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors
Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the Charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting
Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Charity.
Designated funds are unrestricted funds are resources set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.
Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

3 Voluntary income: Grants and donations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Donations and legacies				
Donations from individuals	13,185	-	13,185	6,487
Grants, including capital grants				
Grants from other charities	78,622	44,810	123,432	55,213
HMRC CJRS Furlough Scheme	9,456	-	9,456	23,836
Other Covid-19 grants	8,000	-	8,000	55,119
	109,263	44,810	154,073	140,655

4 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Membership fees – Arts Out West	718	-	718	723
Ticket sales and admissions	37,186	3,827	41,013	4,562
Venue hire fees	12,367	100	12,467	2,260
Bar and ice cream sales	14,537	-	14,537	955
	64,808	3,927	68,735	8,500

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Interest receivable on bank deposits	510	-	510	344

6 Other income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Fundraising income	-	-	-	102
Insurance claims received	3,694	-	3,694	13,800
Other income	8,116	4,966	13,082	12,865
	11,810	4,966	16,776	26,767

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Cost of bar sales	6,363	-	6,363	546
Performance fees and licences	36,550	8,694	45,244	9,329
Activities and workshops	27	-	27	7,120
Heritage Group	588	-	588	85
Wages and salaries	47,917	34,228	82,145	56,651
Employer national insurance	5,588	-	5,588	3,293
Pension contributions	1,238	-	1,238	944
Contract labour	7,244	-	7,244	100
Training	912	25	937	108
Travelling	328	227	555	32
Light, heat & water	5,234	122	5,356	4,709
Insurance	6,551	-	6,551	5,361
Building and equipment maintenance	13,512	-	13,512	16,827
Administration expenses	2,577	562	3,139	1,232
Equipment rental	2,381	-	2,381	2,484
Telephone and fax	1,668	-	1,668	1,626
Printing, postage and stationery	-	-	-	249
Advertising and marketing	4,242	16	4,258	3,245
Accountancy fees	4,038	-	4,038	4,207
Computer costs	9,620	-	9,620	3,804
Professional fees	1,708	-	1,708	930
Fundraising expenses	2,876	-	2,876	259
Bank charges	1,687	-	1,687	633
Depreciation – fixtures and fittings	3,329	-	3,329	3,329
Depreciation – IT and office electronic equipment	238	-	238	286
Depreciation – light and sound equipment	9,158	-	9,158	9,158
	175,574	43,874	219,448	136,547

	Designated Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Depreciation – property	3,879	3,879	3,879
	3,879	3,879	3,879

8 Net outgoing resources for the period

	2022 £	2021 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	16,606	16,653

9 Staff costs and trustees' remuneration

	2022 £	2021 £
Staff costs include the following:		
Wages and salaries	82,145	56,651
Social security costs	5,588	3,293
Pension costs	1,238	944
	88,971	60,888

Included within wages and salaries is an amount of £4,826 in respect of redundancy costs incurred in the year.

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed part time and full time during the year was:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Total number of staff	5	4

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

None of the trustees received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and Buildings £	Light and Sound Equipment £	IT and Office Electronic Equipment £	Fixtures and Fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1st April 2021	193,933	88,014	19,855	26,932	328,734
Additions	23,195	-	-	375	23,570
At 31st March 2022	217,128	88,014	19,855	27,307	352,304
Depreciation					
At 1st April 2021	9,896	62,866	19,379	21,008	113,149
Charge for the year	3,879	9,159	238	3,330	16,606
At 31st March 2022	13,775	72,025	19,617	24,338	129,755
Net book value					
At 31st March 2022	203,353	15,989	238	2,969	222,549
At 31st March 2021	184,037	25,148	476	5,924	215,585

The freehold and property was devalued according to a valuation of £190,000 provided in May 2019 by Walton Goodland Chartered Surveyors, 10 Lowther Street, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA3 8DA: this value has been adopted as deemed cost of the assets concerned under FRS 102. Under FRS 102 the company will perform revaluations with sufficient regularity such that the carrying amount does not differ materially from the fair value at the balance sheet date.

11 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade debtors	5,373	180
Prepayments	6,687	4,122
Other debtors	278	-
	12,338	4,302

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	2,138	2,045
Taxation and social security	1,684	443
Grants received in advance	29,498	23,654
Other creditors	3,090	55
Accruals	26,632	5,550
	63,042	31,747

13 Operating leases

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Not later than 1 year	2,484	2,484
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	-	-
	2,484	2,484

14 Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and consequently has no share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

15 Pension scheme

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £1,238 (2021: £944).

Contributions totalling £Nil (2021: £Nil) were payable to the scheme at the year end and are included in creditors.

16 Statement of funds

The movement in the year is as follows:

	At 01.04.21	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31.03.22
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted general funds					
General unrestricted fund	96,632	186,391	(175,575)	13,707	121,155
Total unrestricted funds	96,632	186,391	(175,575)	13,707	121,155
Designated funds					
Property fixed asset reserve	191,997	-	(3,879)	-	188,118
Total designated funds	191,997	-	(3,879)	-	188,118
Restricted funds					
Capital Development fund	21,665	-	-	-	21,665
Arts Council Exceptional Circumstances	600	-	-	-	600
Heritage Lottery Fund – WW1 2018	2,269	-	-	(2,269)	-
Heritage – Georgian Fair Group	3,121	-	-	-	3,121
CFAN	1,609	4,591	(2,172)	(4,028)	-
Arts Out West ACE/NPO	8,879	49,112	(41,702)	(7,410)	8,879
Total restricted funds	38,143	53,703	(43,874)	(13,707)	34,266
Total funds	326,773	240,094	(223,328)	-	343,539

16 Funds

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Capital Development Fund
This fund has a long history (7 years or so) and funding was established as a result of a crowd funding appeal to fund major items of expenditure for improving or maintaining the Kirkgate Centre.

Arts Council Exceptional Circumstances
This grant was awarded partly to organise an exhibition which in the event was not held. We propose to allocate the balance to the current ACE funded project which will take place in the next financial year.

Georgian Fair Group
A donation from the Cockermouth Georgian Fair organising group for heritage related activities.

Cumbria Family Arts Network
CFAN is an informal consortium of West Cumbrian cultural and community organisations. Kirkgate Arts is the lead partner and provides financial administration for Arts Council England funding through the Grants for the Arts programme.

Arts Council England: Arts Out West
To deliver a programme of performances, arts events and activities in village halls, communities and schools throughout West Cumbria. National Portfolio Organisation funding from Arts Council England is channelled through Highlights Rural Touring, Kirkgate Arts' partner in providing a rural touring service in Northern England. The Arts Out West programme attracts match funding, including from Cumbria County Council and Copeland Community Fund.

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	23,570	188,118	10,861	222,549
Current assets	160,627	-	23,405	184,032
Current liabilities	(63,042)	-	-	(63,042)
	121,155	188,118	34,266	343,539

KIRKGATE ARTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1126602

Accounts

KIRKGATE ARTS

(A CHARITABLE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Company registration number: 06632306

Charity registration number: 1126602

KIRKGATE ARTS

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

for the Year ended 31st March 2021

Chair	Ms Marion Bowman	
Trustees	Mr Derek Cannon	(resigned 15 January 2021)
	Mr Philip Bennett	
	Ms Judith Bennington	
	Mr Robert Pritchard	
	Ms Marion Bowman	
	Mr Patric Gilchrist	
	Ms Emma Heys	
	Mr Tim Cook	(resigned 13 July 2020)
	Mr Andy Walsh	(resigned 17 September 2020)
	Ms Aditi Jones	(resigned 17 September 2020)
	Miss Nanette Rigg	(appointed 3 December 2020)
	Mr Andrew Semple	(appointed 3 December 2020)
	Mr Duncan Nicholson	(appointed 14 January 2021)
	Mrs Susan Moses	(appointed 25 February 2021)
Company Secretary	Mr Robert Higgins	(appointed 18 May 2021)
Principal Office	The Kirkgate Centre Kirkgate Cockermouth Cumbria CA13 9PJ	
Company Registration Number	06632306	
Charity Registration Number	1126602	
Bankers	Cumberland Building Society Cumberland House Castle Street Carlisle Cumbria CA3 8RX	

KIRKGATE ARTS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2021

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Trustees

Mr Derek Cannon	(resigned 15 January 2021)
Mr Philip Bennett	
Ms Judith Bennington	
Mr Robert Pritchard	
Ms Marion Bowman	
Mr Patric Gilchrist	
Ms Emma Heys	
Mr Tim Cook	(resigned 13 July 2020)
Mr Andy Walsh	(resigned 17 September 2020)
Ms Aditi Jones	(resigned 17 September 2020)
Miss Nanette Rigg	(appointed 3 December 2020)
Mr Andrew Semple	(appointed 3 December 2020)
Mr Duncan Nicholson	(appointed 14 January 2021)
Mrs Susan Moses	(appointed 25 February 2021)

Summary

Kirkgate Arts Limited's ambition is to serve our local communities better, increasing the range of the charity's beneficiaries. In July 2020 we adopted a new five year strategic plan and changed our name to Kirkgate Arts and Heritage because we had resolved to increase the level of heritage and community activities we undertake alongside our arts offer.

Our Vision is that creative talent is valued, developed and supported, with opportunities for all to actively engage with and enjoy the arts, our local heritage and community life.

Our Mission is to secure the Kirkgate Centre in Cockermouth, Cumbria, as a community and cultural centre, with new initiatives involving people celebrating and participating in community life, creativity, culture and heritage.

We operate in West Cumbria, a mostly rural area of small towns and scattered villages on the coast and in the hinterland between the Irish Sea/Solway Firth and the western boundary of the Lake District National Park. Arts and cultural infrastructure is weak in West Cumbria compared to other parts of the UK, despite a rich heritage. Within our outwardly-appearing comfortable county, many people are in poverty and face disadvantage. Our population is ageing. Social isolation and problems with youth mental health are significant. Social mobility in the borough where we are based, Allerdale, is amongst the lowest in England. The sub-region that we serve covers a distance of approximately 100 miles from north to south and public transport links throughout the area are poor. Yet Cumbria is characterised by strongly mutually supportive communities in its towns, villages, valleys and coastal settlements and this became ever more apparent during the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic in the spring of 2020.

We reached our 25th anniversary in 2020 which coincided with the 250th anniversary of the birth of William Wordsworth in Cockermouth. Planned activities marking this significant year were cancelled because of the lockdowns and restrictions required by the Government. We adapted by digitising an exhibition on Wordsworth's childhood in Cockermouth, due to have been held physically in April, as part of a programme of diverse online activity to provide cultural experiences to the public over the autumn while venues were closed.

We own and run the Kirkgate Centre, a multi-purpose cultural hub housing a theatre and community centre in Cockermouth, originally built as a school in the 1880s. We also run West Cumbria's rural touring scheme, Arts Out West, an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation, which takes high quality professional performing artists to village halls and community centres. The Kirkgate Centre and the Arts Out West venues all had to close to the public when the coronavirus hit.

KIRKGATE ARTS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2021

Due to the enforced closures, cessation of public events, loss of earned income, and the furloughing of our small staff for much of the year, the Trustees moved to monthly Board video meetings to address the challenges presented by this unprecedented development. With the help of government job and business support schemes and grants, insurance payments and the receipt of Arts Council England and other emergency support we were able to navigate the crisis financially. Cash flow remained healthy and we were able to offer the public some entertainment. Our online programme of cultural offerings was an innovation for us and provided some paid work for local performers, musicians, writers and others in the creative industries, and in September, October and early December we were able to open our cinema twice weekly for small audiences under the government's social distancing and mask-wearing rules. Some of our regular hire customers also used the Centre in the autumn and our Youth Theatre held its weekly sessions.

The suspension of most of the year's activities involving the public, with the charity's finances supported, meant that we were able as Trustees to redouble recent efforts to engage with strategic concerns. We adopted a new high-level strategy for 2020-25 in July and an Action Plan for 2020/21 and completed the purchase of a derelict single storey freehold building and land at the rear of the Kirkgate Centre. Our thanks to the Derwent Athletic Club for giving us the chance to secure this property for community purposes at a modest price before putting it to auction as they had planned and to two generous donors who covered the cost. Geoffrey Hall of Brockbanks Solicitors in Maryport undertook the conveyancing on our behalf on a pro bono basis for which we are extremely grateful.

Over the winter we worked with a business consultant on a free National Lottery Heritage Fund business support scheme, Prosper North. We explored options for delivering our capital development ambitions and the creation of a new business model and business plan. This work is continuing into 2021/22 with the aim of moving to a feasibility study and raising capital investment in 2022/23. We have two long-standing strategic needs: firstly to update and improve the Kirkgate Centre in order to impact positively on our operations, earned income, user experience and the reduction of carbon emissions; and secondly, to create bespoke heritage facilities for both local people and visitors to the area.

As well as being Cockermouth's arts hub, hosting cinema, music, comedy, theatre and community activities and events, we also hold the Cockermouth and district local history collection. Better heritage facilities will enable greater access to, and better interpretation and conservation of, the collection thereby moving us closer to the fulfilment of one of the charitable objects set out at the founding of the charity 25 years ago. These improvements would also add significantly to the social and economic health of the town and area, especially as tourism in West Cumbria, which is not part of the Lake District National Park, is predicted to increase strongly. Tourism and hospitality are one of the main planks of the county's economy.

At the beginning of September 2021, one of our trustees, Emma Heys, undertook to become a voluntary Executive Director in order to manage the autumn's socially distanced activities at the Kirkgate Centre (including our Youth Theatre and third party private hires), to maintain management of and engagement with staff and volunteers during the closures, and to progress a lot of backroom work. The Board had resolved to use the lockdowns to increase the longer-term efficiency and sustainability of the organisation. This work has included everything from disposing of obsolete equipment and paper files to project development, grant applications and the refurbishment of our large community room. Other work led by Emma has involved an IT review, a review of our book-keeping systems which will lead to a new format for management accounts and financial procedures, and the shaping and implementation of flexible plans for the potential resumption of activities involving the public from April 2021 onwards.

During the year under review four trustees stood down, including Derek Cannon who had served unstintingly for 12 years. Derek became Acting Chair when COVID-19 struck while the Chair stepped back because of illness. He calmly steered the charity during a very difficult period. After the AGM in September, we began a recruitment process to bring four new trustees onto the Board. We owe great thanks to Derek and the other former trustees, Tim Cook, Aditi Jones and Andy Walsh for their valuable contributions to our work. Our four new trustees all bring a wealth of diverse experience to their roles and an energetic commitment to the objects and work of the charity. We set up new sub-groups to take on an expanding range of work, including a Social Impact group, Fundraising group and Communications and Marketing group.

KIRKGATE ARTS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2021

We would like to thank all our funders, donors and supporters. We are especially grateful to Arts Council England, Allerdale Borough Council, and the Government as without their financial support we could eventually have been at risk of insolvency. The National Lottery Heritage Fund's Prosper North business support scheme has helped us with strategic planning.

The Trustees are also extremely grateful to all the staff and volunteers for their forbearance and flexibility through periods of working and furlough, opening and closing, and changing work requirements over the year under review. Kirkgate Arts and Heritage is dependent on over 100 volunteers, with a small group of staff members, largely working part-time, at the heart of our normal operations. The Chair would also like to thank Derek Cannon, Emma Heys and all her fellow Trustees for their significant contributions to the work of the charity this year.

Our income in the year ending 31st March 2021 totalled £176,266 with expenditure of £140,429 incurred during the period. The result for the year was a surplus of £35,837 due to the decrease in expenditure and there was an inflow of cash at the bank of £76k due to Covid-19 grants received in the year to support the charity's operations during the coronavirus pandemic.

Introduction

The Trustees of Kirkgate Arts present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2021. In preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity, the Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005, and the requirements for a Trustees' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, 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) (effective 1 January 2015).

Reference and administrative information about Kirkgate Arts (registration number, names of Trustees, etc.) is set out in the preface to this report.

The Trustees have complied with the duty in Section 7 of the Charities Act 2011, giving due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Established in 1995, Kirkgate Arts is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee (Company No. 6632306) and a registered charity (Charity No. 1126602), trading as Kirkgate Arts and Heritage.

Overview

Our Vision is that creative talent is valued, developed and supported, with opportunities for all to actively engage with and enjoy the arts, our local heritage and community life.

Our Mission is to secure the Kirkgate Centre in Cockermouth, Cumbria, as a community and cultural centre, with new initiatives involving people celebrating and participating in community life, creativity, culture and heritage.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2021

Our strategic objectives are to:

- to involve more, and more diverse, people by improving our community and heritage offer;
- to devise mixed programmes, projects and activities with our communities that fulfil our Vision and Mission;
- to build on our strong tradition of volunteering being at the heart of the charity;
- to balance the operating budget, increase capital investment and build capital and unrestricted reserves;
- to improve the Kirkgate Centre as the leading community and cultural facility in Cockermouth;
- to secure the conservation of the local history collection and to develop public engagement with and access to it;
- to communicate and demonstrate our impact and the value of our work.

The key actions that we will pursue to fulfil these objectives are:

- Development and implementation of an operating business model that increases public awareness of the charity, produces a balanced budget and re-builds reserves.
- Raising sufficient funds to a) provide appropriate premises for the conservation, use and display, including digitally, of our local history collection; and b) undertake key improvements, repairs and developments to the facilities within the Kirkgate Centre.
- Developing more online delivery of our offer and operations in the wake of a) the impact of social distancing due to the need for coronavirus infection controls and b) social change more generally and the requirements to mitigate climate change impacts.

In normal times we operate through:

- **The Kirkgate Centre** – Cockermouth's multi-purpose arts, community and heritage centre
- **Arts Out West** - a rural touring arts project hosted by over 25 village halls and community venues throughout West Cumbria

We also operate **Cockermouth Heritage Group** and **Kirkgate Youth Theatre.** The Youth Theatre had been chosen to take part in the National Theatre's Connections project. Performances at Keswick's Theatre by the Lake and potentially at the National Theatre in London itself were unfortunately curtailed by the coronavirus crisis.

Heritage Group

The Heritage Group did not meet face to face during the year. Difficulties accessing online technology for most members meant that video meetings were not possible either, so telephone contact was relied on.

Preparations began for a proposed Kirkgate Arts and Heritage project, Dorothy250, a year-long celebration of Dorothy Wordsworth who was born in Cockermouth on Christmas Day 1771. Editing of a book on the Wordsworths' Cockermouth was suspended in September 2020, but it is hoped this book will be published in 2021. Members of the Heritage Group worked on projects at home, such as continued research into WWII soldiers from Cockermouth and sorting and labelling batches of documents passed on by Waugh & Musgrave solicitors to be entered onto a database for future research purposes.

Gloria Edwards is a sub-editor of the Cumbria Local History Federation Bulletin, encouraging submission of articles from local history groups. Gloria has also written articles for the magazine and for 'The Wanderer', the magazine of the Lorton & Derwent Fells Local History Society. In April 2021 the Heritage Group started a Facebook page which has sparked a lot of interest and debate about old photographs and memories of Cockermouth past.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2021

We have answered a steady stream of online enquiries regarding local/family history, including:

- a query about the history of Jennings the brewers for a college project;
- the origin of stone used in local buildings;
- provision of information and old photographs for the new owner of Cockermouth's former Grand Theatre.

Gloria Edwards also took part in several online webinars organised by the Scottish Archives Council: Digitisation, Local History and Social Media Presence, Caring for Digital Archives, Digitising Collections, Handling and Storing of Photographic Materials, Data Protection, and Creating a Local History Website.

Community engagement

Amongst commercial and community clients who normally hire our community room and theatre to provide activities are Cockermouth Amateur Dramatic Society, The Fit'n'Active Theatre Company, Lorton Primary School, Keswick Mountaineering Club, Cockermouth U3A, North Lakes Historical Fencing Group, North Cumbria Diabetes Support, Age UK and many others. Our Friends events such as the famous Kirkgate Quiz, themed Discos and Cockfrock sales of pre-loved quality fashions also attract a wide cross-section of the community.

We are home to Cockermouth Round Table's highly popular annual Beer Festival. We are partners in Cockermouth Live!, the town's quirky annual summer weekend of live music and other performance, hosting the headline Friday and Saturday night events. Live events were cancelled and the festival went online in 2020. The now well-established collaboration between the Heritage Group and the Youth Theatre led to creation of two scenarios on evacuees to Cockermouth during WWII, filmed for Cockermouth Live!, which can be viewed on You Tube.

At the time of writing we have 1,800 likes on Facebook and over 2,000 Twitter followers.

Financial performance

During this period we received grants totalling £134,168 (including £78,955 in total for grants in respect of Covid-19) for which the Trustees are extremely grateful. Our commercial income, through room hires and other trading, totalled £21,365. Our Friends raised £90, and donations from supporters totalled £6,487.

We claimed £683 from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs in Gift Aid and owe thanks to Chris Gore for his help with this.

As a consequence of these sources of income, with expenditure on charitable activities totalling £140,426, we ended the year with a net surplus of £35,840.

Charity structure, governance and management

Board of Trustees

Kirkgate Arts is managed by a Board of Trustees. The Trustees are also Directors of the company, Kirkgate Arts Limited. During the year the Board met monthly in response to the pandemic and to maintain ongoing work guiding the strategic direction of the business. All decisions regarding corporate governance are made by, and are the responsibility of, the Board of Trustees. A minimum of three and maximum of ten Trustees are provided for in the incorporation and charity documents. The Board actively encourages supporters to become members of the limited company and attend the AGM in order to strengthen the organisation and the accountability of the Board.

Trustees are appointed from the local community following a successful interview (and receipt of favourable references if the individuals are unknown to Kirkgate Arts and Heritage). The expectations of Trustees are clearly documented and, like the staff and volunteers of Kirkgate Arts and Heritage, Trustees follow a clear set of procedures and policies, which are regularly reviewed. Trustees do not receive any benefits.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2021

Four trustees stood down during the year and four new trustees were recruited after open advertising in a range of media.

Employees and volunteers

The work of the charity is delivered by a small number of staff working alongside a significant number of volunteers. Since the high point of our staffing complement in 2016 (8 employees), with reduced income we have managed with fewer staff, transitioning to greater input from volunteers wherever possible. During the year we had 4 staff (2.5 fte in normal non-Covid times): a full-time Artistic Director, with part-time Finance and Administration Officer, Operations Manager, and Caretaking Assistant who all spent much of 2020/21 on furlough.

A team of volunteers operate much of the business, providing box office and front of house staffing, film projection, bar management, oversight of safety and maintenance, programming, office administration, publicity and fundraising. An audit in 2019 showed that volunteers contributed nearly 8,000 hours a year at the Kirkgate Centre, with further substantial input from the volunteer promoters of the Arts Out West programme.

Structure of sub-committees and working groups

In early 2021, following recruitment of new Trustees, we re-structured the Board and volunteer-led sub-groups that contribute to governance, strategy and operations. The key board sub-committees are the Finance Group, People Group, Arts Out West National Portfolio Organisation Collaborative Group (with Highlights) and the Audience and Project Development, Programming and Monitoring Group. Other Groups include volunteers and exist to help implement strategies developed by the Board. Some are enduring such as the Operations Group, Film Programming Group and the Safety and Maintenance Group. Others are formed for the duration of a particular project.

In addition to those mentioned above, the other groups are: Fundraising, Heritage, Buildings Development, Social Impact, Communications and Marketing, and Strategy, Governance and External Relations.

Main Partner organisations

Kirkgate Arts and Heritage delivers its wide range of activities across Cockermouth and West Cumbria through a network of partnerships and memberships:

Highlights: we work with this rural touring scheme for North/East Cumbria, Northumberland and County Durham with whom Arts Out West forms an Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation consortium.

Village Halls and Community Centres: we deliver Arts Out West in partnership with over 25 village halls and community centres throughout West Cumbria.

National Rural Touring Forum: we are members of this forum representing rural touring schemes, venues, promoters and performers.

Cockermouth Festivals Group: we collaborate with and provide facilities for the team producing the annual Cockermouth Live! music and spoken word weekend.

Cumbria Family Arts Network: we are a lead organisation in this informal consortium of venues and other bodies in the west of the county working together to promote and develop performances and activities that can be enjoyed across the generations.

Cumbria Arts and Culture Network: we participate in this network involving many of the county's arts and culture organisations, practitioners, educators and other stakeholders in the arts, culture and creative industries sector.

Big Imaginations: this ACE-funded regional initiative supports, promotes and develops theatre for young people through a network of presenting organisations, which we joined in April 2018.

Frame: West Cumbria Cultural Education Partnership: we network with this group of schools, local authorities, voluntary and community organisations, further and higher education, and music education hubs and funders to improve the alignment of cultural education for young people.

Theatre by the Lake, Keswick: the major producing theatre for Cumbria, Theatre by the Lake has provided business development support.

Age UK West Cumbria: Age UK has worked with us on activities for older adults.

Financial management

Investment powers

Under the memorandum and articles of association, the charity has the power to make any investment that the Trustees see fit. All available funds are kept in interest bearing deposit accounts, and deposit rates are monitored to maximise the income earned in this way.

Maintenance of reserves

The Trustees have discretionary powers regarding the retention of reserves. The charity's reserves policy was reviewed in December 2020. The policy deals with the cash element of Kirkgate Arts and Heritage's unrestricted funds.

Having assessed the key financial risks, the reserves policy is to hold the funding required for six months' operation, this being the largest of the items identified in the risk assessment. The policy states that while this desired reserve level is identified within the policy, it must be recognised that the organisation has operated with reserves of less than this over recent years. The Trustees anticipate that trend is likely to continue until a new business model is established. During the period under review the Trustees adopted a new strategy for 2020 – 2025 and continued work on the development of a new business model and plan.

The policy states: 'In the event that the charity is operating below its desired level of reserves, the Trustees will endeavour to avoid having reserves fall as low as two months of operation. Should reserves fall below this level the Trustees will meet to discuss and implement recovery plans to avoid cash flow challenges and the risk of closure.'

The policy is subject to annual review.

Policies

The Trustees continually review policies, and adopt new ones as necessary, at appropriate intervals. During this period we reviewed and updated the Data Protection Policy, Privacy Notice, Data Archiving and Retention Policy and Register of Systems, Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, and Fire Safety Policy.

Risk management

The charity faces certain operational and business risks which the Trustees manage through regular reviews and mitigation of key risks. Trustees give priority to managing key risks at all board meetings and engage regularly with health and safety issues.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2021

Our plans for the future

At the time of writing, July 2021, our key focus is recovery from the serious impact of the pandemic and re-opening safely. Like many businesses and organisations, we have been at risk and we continue to face many serious challenges. We are engaging closely with our local authority, Allerdale Borough Council, and other business and cultural institutions, as the community seeks to bolster the commercial town centre and the mutual support that is a feature of our local population. As a cultural organisation we believe we can play a unique role in contributing to social and economic recovery and development as well as the revival of wellbeing in individuals, providing social solidarity and the experiences that mitigate loneliness, mental and physical illness, grievance and negative feelings and thoughts. We are running two Kirkgate Summer Markets in August in the local authority car park behind our building which will animate the town during the tourist season and give much-needed opportunities for fun and sales opportunities for Cumbrian artisans, artists and makers.

In April 2021 we held three successful weekends of cake and coffee community cafes in our outdoor spaces (in compliance with public health regulations). After a year of enforced isolation for many this return to social life was greatly appreciated and was supported by other local organisations and businesses – Cockermouth Rotary, Cockermouth Women's Institute, Oakhurst Garden Centre and Sainsbury's for which we are very grateful. Our enthusiastic volunteers stepped forward to run the events and we thank them wholeheartedly. On May 17 we were able to open our building for our youth theatre and twice weekly cinema screenings, and private hires by local businesses and community groups. However, although most legal restrictions were lifted on July 19 we decided to continue with some public health measures, including some social distancing, even though this made fully re-opening and planning for the future difficult. Our audiences, users, customers and beneficiaries are also acting cautiously in returning to carefree mixing as Coronavirus infections increase.

The financial implications remain a concern because without the capacity to significantly increase earned income we are at risk of continued operating losses and erosion of reserves. Nevertheless, as we were already, pre-pandemic, transitioning to a new business model, we are now implementing a restructure of the business in line with our 2020-2025 strategy, recruiting a new General Manager.

Over the past year, we have made progress on modernising and streamlining our management, administrative and operational systems giving effect to our Action Plan's priorities for 2020/21. Our new Social Impact Group is devising a programme of work to more systematically measure the reach and effects of our activities. The initial project will be to undertake an audit on disability access to the Kirkgate Centre and our online presence. We plan to complete the options appraisal work begun in September 2020, moving towards a feasibility study. Following that, in 2022, we will seek the capital funding to achieve the improvements to our buildings that are essential to the fulfilment of our charitable objects, our aspiration to reach as diverse a range of people as possible, and the sustainability of the organisation. In May 2021 we welcomed a new Company Secretary, Rob Higgins, and we continue the search for an Honorary Finance Manager. Both these posts, along with a new General Manager, will help us become an ever-more efficient and impactful organisation as we enter our second quarter century serving West Cumbrian communities.

We have won Arts Council funding for a new 18 months-long community engagement project whose start has been delayed until the autumn when we also expect Arts Out West to return to village halls. We have also won funding from The National Lottery Heritage Fund and others for a year-long project celebrating the 250th anniversary of the birth in Cockermouth of Dorothy Wordsworth, the town's most famous daughter.

All of our activities and aspirations are designed to celebrate our community's cultural lives and heritage and to involve the widest possible range of residents and visitors.

KIRKGATE ARTS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year ended 31st March 2021

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

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

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charitable company will continue in operation
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP
- state whether applicable United Kingdom accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

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

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

The Trustees consider that the charity is adequately funded to meet its current obligations.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charitable company on 27th October 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Marion Bowman
Chair

KIRKGATE ARTS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF KIRKGATE ARTS
For the Year ended 31st March 2021

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS 102).

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

Susannah Nixon
Lamont Pridmore

Dated: 27th October 2021

Susannah Nixon
Lamont Pridmore (West Cumbria) Ltd
Milburn House
3 Oxford Street
Workington
Cumbria CA14 2AL

KIRKGATE ARTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the Year ended 31st March 2021

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds Year to 31.03.21 £	Total Funds Year to 31.03.20 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Grants and donations	3	66,074	-	74,581	140,655	67,200
Charitable activities	4	7,516	-	984	8,500	91,630
Investment income	5	344	-	-	344	540
Other income	6	19,496	-	7,271	26,767	14,274
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		93,430	-	82,836	176,266	173,644
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Expenditure on charitable activities	7	67,288	3,879	69,259	140,426	239,150
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		67,288	3,879	69,259	140,426	239,150
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR		26,142	(3,879)	13,577	35,840	(65,506)
Transfers between funds		33,830	-	(33,830)	-	-
Balances brought forward		36,660	195,876	58,397	290,933	356,439
Balances carried forward		96,632	191,997	38,144	326,773	290,933

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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BALANCE SHEET

at 31st March 2021

	Note	31.03.21 £	£	31.03.20 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		215,585		227,591
Current assets					
Stocks		796		999	
Debtors	11	4,302		7,305	
Cash at bank and in hand		137,837		61,402	
		142,935		69,706	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(31,747)		(6,364)	
Net current assets			111,188		63,342
			326,773		290,933
Accumulated funds					
Restricted funds	16		38,144		58,397
Designated funds	16		191,997		195,876
Unrestricted funds	16		96,632		36,660
Total funds			326,773		290,933

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

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

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

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on 27th October 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Marion Bowman
Chair

KIRKGATE ARTS

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Year ended 31st March 2021

	Note	31.03.21 £	£	31.03.20 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Movement in funds for the year			35,840		(65,506)
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items					
Depreciation			16,653		16,584
Investment income			(344)		(540)
			16,309		16,044
Working capital adjustments					
Decrease/(increase) in stocks			203		779
Decrease/(increase) in debtors			3,003		(480)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors			25,383		(12,817)
Net cash flows from operating activities			28,589		(12,518)
Cash flows from investing activities					
Interest income			344		540
Purchase of tangible fixed assets			(4,647)		-
Cash provided by/(used in) investing activities			(4,303)		540
(Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year			76,435		(61,440)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year			61,402		122,842
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year			137,837		61,402

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two years.

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year ended 31st March 2021

1 General information

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is The Kirkgate Centre, Kirkgate, Cockermouth, Cumbria, CA13 9PJ.

2 Accounting policies

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

Basis of accounting
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 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Kirkgate Arts 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.

Going concern
The current economic conditions as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic continue to create uncertainty over the level of demand for the charity's activities. The charity's forecasts and projections, taking account of reasonably possible changes in performance, show that the charity should be able to operate within its current level of reserves. With the benefit of the government support packages available to help charities through the pandemic, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty
The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis.

Incoming resources
Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies
Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Grants receivable
Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income
Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Resources expended
All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities
Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Taxation
The Charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets
Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost.

Depreciation and amortisation
Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
IT and office electronic equipment	Written off over 3 years straight line
Fixtures and fittings	Written off over 5 years straight line
Light and sound equipment	Written off over 7 years straight line

Stocks
Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO).

Trade debtors
Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the Charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors
Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the Charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Charity.
Designated funds are unrestricted funds are resources set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.
Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

3 Voluntary income: Grants and donations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Donations and legacies				
Donations from individuals	2,487	4,000	6,487	3,783
Grants, including capital grants				
Grants from other charities	9,515	45,698	55,213	63,417
HMRC CJRS Furlough Scheme	23,836	-	23,836	-
Other Covid-19 grants	30,236	24,883	55,119	-
	66,074	74,581	140,655	67,200

4 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Membership fees – Arts Out West	723	-	723	1,058
Ticket sales and admissions	3,628	934	4,562	57,365
Venue hire fees	2,210	50	2,260	17,285
Bar and ice cream sales	955	-	955	15,922
	7,516	984	8,500	91,630

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Interest receivable on bank deposits	344	-	344	540

6 Other income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Fundraising income	102	-	102	3,565
Insurance claims received	13,800	-	13,800	-
Other income	5,594	7,271	12,865	10,709
	19,496	7,271	26,767	14,274

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Cost of bar sales	546	-	546	8,892
Performance fees and licences	1,549	7,780	9,329	63,535
Activities and workshops	1,002	6,118	7,120	13,989
Heritage Group	85	-	85	243
Wages and salaries	22,735	33,916	56,651	61,896
Employer national insurance	3,293	-	3,293	4,130
Pension contributions	944	-	944	1,134
Contract labour	-	100	100	3,113
Training	18	90	108	1,541
Travelling	-	32	32	1,813
Light and heat	3,829	880	4,709	6,050
Insurance	5,361	-	5,361	5,028
Building and equipment maintenance	9,997	6,830	16,827	22,646
Administration expenses	720	512	1,232	1,098
Equipment rental	2,484	-	2,484	2,786
Telephone and fax	1,626	-	1,626	1,808
Printing, postage and stationery	103	146	249	1,479
Advertising and marketing	3,198	47	3,245	9,908
Accountancy fees	4,207	-	4,207	4,202
Computer costs	3,631	173	3,804	4,033
Professional fees	-	930	930	1,630
Fundraising expenses	259	-	259	479
Bank charges	633	-	633	1,134
Depreciation – fixtures and fittings	-	3,329	3,329	3,329
Depreciation – IT and office electronic equipment	-	286	286	296
Depreciation – light and sound equipment	1,068	8,090	9,158	9,158
	67,288	69,259	136,547	235,350

	Designated Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Depreciation – property	3,879	3,879	3,800
	3,879	3,879	3,800

8 Net outgoing resources for the period

	2021 £	2020 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	16,653	16,584

9 Staff costs and trustees' remuneration

	2021 £	2020 £
Staff costs include the following:		
Wages and salaries	56,651	61,895
Social security costs	3,293	4,130
Pension costs	944	1,134
	60,888	67,159

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed part time and full time during the year was:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Total number of staff	4	7

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

None of the trustees received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

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For the Year ended 31st March 2021

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and Buildings £	Light and Sound Equipment £	IT and Office Electronic Equipment £	Fixtures and Fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1st April 2020	190,000	88,014	19,141	26,932	324,087
Additions	3,933	-	714	-	4,647
At 31st March 2021	193,933	88,014	19,855	26,932	328,734
Depreciation					
At 1st April 2020	6,017	53,707	19,093	17,679	96,496
Charge for the year	3,879	9,159	286	3,329	16,653
At 31st March 2021	9,896	62,866	19,379	21,008	113,149
Net book value					
At 31st March 2021	184,037	25,148	476	5,924	215,585
At 31st March 2020	183,983	34,307	48	9,253	227,591

The freehold and property was devalued according to a valuation of £190,000 provided in May 2019 by Walton Goodland Chartered Surveyors, 10 Lowther Street, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA3 8DA: this value has been adopted as deemed cost of the assets concerned under FRS 102. Under FRS 102 the company will perform revaluations with sufficient regularity such that the carrying amount does not differ materially from the fair value at the balance sheet date.

11 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade debtors	180	4,005
Prepayments	4,122	3,300
	4,302	7,305

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	2,045	1,144
Taxation and social security	443	1,184
Grants received in advance	23,654	-
Other creditors	55	978
Accruals	5,550	3,058
	31,747	6,364

13 Operating leases

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Not later than 1 year	2,484	2,484
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	-	-
	2,484	2,484

14 Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and consequently has no share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

15 Pension scheme

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £944 (2020: £1,134).

Contributions totalling £Nil (2020: £Nil) were payable to the scheme at the year end and are included in creditors.

16 Statement of funds

The movement in the year is as follows:

	At 01.04.20	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31.03.21
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted general funds					
General unrestricted fund	36,660	93,430	(67,288)	33,830	96,632
Total unrestricted funds	36,660	93,430	(67,288)	33,830	96,632
Designated funds					
Property fixed asset reserve	195,876	-	(3,879)	-	191,997
Total designated funds	195,876	-	(3,879)	-	191,997
Restricted funds					
Capital Development fund	37,130	4,000	(19,465)	-	21,665
Community activities funded	557	-	-	(557)	-
Arts Council Exceptional Circumstances	-	24,883	(9,830)	(14,453)	600
Heritage Lottery Fund – WW1 2018	2,269	-	-	-	2,269
Heritage – Georgian Fair Group	3,121	-	-	-	3,121
CFAN	1,288	7,121	(6,800)	-	1,609
Pitch Mentoring	2,897	1,387	(464)	(3,820)	-
Arts Out West ACE/NPO	20,786	45,219	(27,574)	(29,552)	8,879
Arts Out West CCF 2018-20	(9,651)	226	(5,126)	14,552	-
Total restricted funds	58,397	82,836	(69,259)	-	38,144
Total funds	290,933	176,266	(140,426)	-	326,773

16 Funds (Continued)

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Georgian Fair Group
A donation from the Cockermouth Georgian Fair organising group for heritage related activities.

Cumbria Family Arts Network
CFAN is an informal consortium of West Cumbrian cultural and community organisations. Kirkgate Arts is the lead partner and provides financial administration for Arts Council England funding through the Grants for the Arts programme.

Arts Council England: Arts Out West
To deliver a programme of performances, arts events and activities in village halls, communities and schools throughout West Cumbria. National Portfolio Organisation funding from Arts Council England is channelled through Highlights Rural Touring, Kirkgate Arts' partner in providing a rural touring service in Northern England. The Arts Out West programme attracts match funding, including from Cumbria County Council and Copeland Community Fund.

Copeland Community Fund, 2018-20
Support for the Arts Out West programme of performances and events.

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	191,997	23,588	215,585
Current assets	128,379	-	14,556	142,935
Current liabilities	(31,747)	-	-	(31,747)
	96,632	191,997	38,144	326,773