

**BLACKPOOL F.C. COMMUNITY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**



**Registered Charity No: 1128235
Company No: 06808212**

Azets Audit Services
Statutory Auditor
Floor 1 Capital House
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BLACKPOOL F.C. COMMUNITY TRUST
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Charity Number	1128235	
Company Number	06808212	
Directors and trustees:	H Feeney N Jack W Swift (Chair) L Campbell C Singleton J Winter	
Key management personnel:	A Hackett M Hilton S Hayes M Joseph G Trickett J Shields	Chief Executive Officer Deputy Chief Executive Officer Head of Education and Employability Head of Early Years and Primary Programmes Head of BFC School Head of Operations
Registered Office:	Blackpool Football Club Seasiders Way Bloomfield Road Blackpool FY1 6JJ Lancashire	
Bankers:	NatWest Bank plc Church Street Fleetwood	
Auditor:	Azets Audit Services Statutory Auditor Floor 1 Capital House 8 Pittman Court Pittman Way Fulwood Preston PR2 9ZG	

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

Legal and administrative information set out on pages 2 and 3 form part of this report. 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).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The company is registered as a charitable company (company number 06808212) limited by guarantee. It is also registered as a charity (charity number 1128235). The company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's articles. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity.

Constitution and Organisational Structure

The charitable company is governed by a committee who are Trustees of Blackpool FC Community Trust elected under the terms of the charitable company's rules. Trustees meet in a structured way approximately four times a year and the meetings involve a robust scrutiny of the activities taking place. The trustees aim to make sure the organisation is efficient and solvent and is sticking to its core activities. Financial reports are scrutinised and challenged where necessary.

In addition to the structured meetings, trustees are kept informed through regular emails about developments, opportunities and issues that need immediate action.

The Trust maintains an up-to-date financial controls policy regarding the decision-making process. The budget is prepared prior to the commencement of the financial year and is approved by the trustees. It is then the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer to ensure that the budget is followed, and that any further spend outside of an agreed amount is approved by the board of trustees.

At the time that the budget for the coming year is approved, the trustees also review the pay of key management personnel and other staff. All staff are on a pay scale system with potential increments awarded after each year of employment.

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law. The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Wendy Swift (Chair)

Harry Feeney

Neil Jack

Lindsay Campbell

Benjamin Mansford

Resigned 12th October 2023

Brett Gerrity

Resigned 20 April 2023

Carolyn Singleton

Julian Winter

Appointed 18th September 2023

Mark McGhee

Appointed 17th October 2023 (Resigned 30th January 2024)

Risk Management

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business, and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced. This allows there to be necessary steps in place to lessen these risks.

Related Parties

The Trust continues to receive support from The Blackpool Football Club Limited.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purpose and main activities

The charity operates through a charitable company and the principal objects of the company as stated in the Memorandum of Association are to:

- Promote The Blackpool Football Club Limited through its work and to encourage interest and support the club;
- Promote Blackpool F.C. Community Trust throughout the North West region and to establish programmes of education and lifestyle training;
- Provide and develop educational and learning opportunities for local people
- Work in partnership with local groups, associations and organisations to help develop programmes of work and activities throughout the local area for the benefit of all; and
- Promote equal opportunities for all and equality of access to all activities

Ensuring our work delivers our aims

We review our aims, objectives and activities each year. This review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work in the previous 12 months. The review looks at the success of each project and the benefits they have brought to those groups of people we are set up to help. The review also helps us to ensure our aims, objectives and activities remains focused on our stated purposes.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charities Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

2022/23 was a challenging yet successful season for the Community Trust. Despite the backdrop of a cost-of-living crisis, the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and operating in one of the most underprivileged towns in the country, we remained committed to providing support that actually improves the lives of local residents.

More recently, we've looked to adopt a new strategic perspective, emphasising impactful provision. Last season, we pushed our team to evaluate the impact of their work and whether they could make more of a difference by focusing on building long-term relationships to create a meaningful impact rather than through fewer large-scale participation events.

As a result, this led to a decrease in the number of unique participants we engaged with, but a considerable increase in the frequency of visits and positive interactions, developing a genuine impact.

Among the standout accomplishments of the season is our support for women's football in the town. This has been a goal we've considered and meticulously planned for years, to ensure seamless collaboration with the already successful Blackpool FC Girls and Ladies grassroots initiatives.

Our confirmation as one of the country's first FA Girls Emerging Talent Centres on the Fylde Coast highlights our commitment, while the Ladies' team playing fixtures at Bloomfield Road emphasises the Club's support. We're really proud of the progress we've made in this area, and even more excited for what's to come in the future.

We were also very proud to open our second community facility in January 2023, The Aspire Sports Hub, working closely with the High School.

The facility now supports the local community to engage in welcoming and safe activities on facilities including five 3G 5-a-side pitches, a 7-a-side pitch and Sports Hall. We have work on the facilities to be completed to make it even better, but are fully committed to making this a key hub to our future endeavours.

In December, we launched our Warm-Up Hubs, designed to support individuals who may struggle to pay bills and put food on the table. Thanks to the generous funding from our local council and further support from our Club's owner, Simon Sadler, we have been able to provide a warm environment, hot meals, activities, and sociable company to more than 100 attendees weekly. While it's heartbreaking that people in our town need this type of support, it's been overwhelming witnessing the collective effort to provide for those who need it.

The season brought its share of challenges, including the discontinuation of national funding for NCS and the Opportunity Area programmes. Despite these and other obstacles, we've dedicated ourselves to maintaining our programmes locally, recognising our impact on the local youth and their importance to the community.

Our duty to deliver successful programmes remains steadfast, but securing the necessary funding for ongoing projects is tough. With the added probability of further reductions in public funding, we have to explore inventive ways to sustain our crucial support.

That being said, the future looks to be really exciting as we embark on new facility developments and see the evolution of innovative strategies in numerous areas with a specific focus on Esports and our LGBTQ+ community, among other initiatives.

We take immense pride in our achievements to date and look forward to what's next.

KEY PROGRAMMES AND DELIVERY

Early Years and Primary

Tiny Tangerines – Mini football sessions for children in pre-school to Year 2 are aimed at; increasing confidence, coordination and football skills for young children whilst giving them the opportunity to engage with others.

The Sports Development team have created a coaching curriculum that is aimed at both developing and challenging those taking part in the sessions no matter their ability. It is also an introduction to football for some children and a pathway into local grassroots football teams.

Fit2Go – This six-week, two-hour programme is funded by; Blackpool Council, Public Health Blackpool, NHS Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) and Blackpool FC Community Trust, allowing it to be offered free to all Blackpool primary schools.

The programme encourages Year 4 children in Blackpool to live a healthy lifestyle and take part in regular physical activity. Pupils are introduced to ways they can improve their wellbeing and make better choices for their health through both practical and theory-based lessons.

Premier League Primary Stars (PLPS) – Through funding from the Premier League Charitable Fund, PLPS is offered to all Blackpool primary schools. The programme aims to support primary school teachers in improving their knowledge, confidence and delivery of national curriculum PE lessons as well as improving PE standards.

PLPS creates positive outcomes across sports, health, and education through the numerous programmes that mirror the vision of the Premier League and the values of the school.

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) – The Department for Education fund our Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) offer. This takes a more targeted approach to support children in Blackpool who receive benefit-related free school meals. We provide them with free access to enrichment activities including sports and games, a healthy meal, snacks, and drinks throughout the school holidays.

Sports Camps – Our Sports Development team deliver a number of multi-sports camps during the school holidays. They provide a fun, friendly and secure environment for children to socialise and take part in sports, games and arts and crafts activities.

Unstoppable – Our Year 6 PSHE programme has been developed using 'Unstoppable' by best-selling author, Dan Freedman.

The programme focuses on supporting young people with difficult life topics including mental health, knife crime, relationships, and the transition into high school. By working with characters in the book, pupils are encouraged to discuss real-life scenarios and work with a member of our staff to develop personal coping strategies.

Football Camps – Last season we launched our first-ever football-specific camps providing a place for children to get involved in all things football. During school holidays, our qualified coaching staff provide participants with; individual skill training, group practice, small-sided games, and fun football-related activities.

This season we followed up the success of our football camps by delivering our first-ever girls-specific football camp at Armfield Academy. These sessions encourage girls to play and contest against each other in a friendly environment.

Female Football – Our Female Football Development Manager has helped to develop and deliver female-only football sessions in a range of settings across Blackpool.

We have delivered girls' football sessions at primary schools, have arranged girls' tournaments and started our own FA Weetabix Wildcats sessions to introduce girls to the game. All programmes aim to use the Blackpool FC brand to inspire and engage with as many girls as possible in Blackpool and the Fylde Coast.

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYABILITY

Blackpool FC School – Currently providing both full-time and part-time provision for Key Stage 4 students, who require an alternative to mainstream education.

We work with Blackpool Council, Educational Diversity and local high schools to provide students with Maths, English, and Science subjects to GCSE level, whilst also completing project-based learning, PSHE and a qualification in sports and fitness.

Kickstart Government Scheme – Through Government funding we are one of only two Kickstart Gateways, seeing local 16 to 24 year olds given the opportunity to gain six months of paid work experience. As a Gateway, we support businesses with the recruitment of local young people.

We have also supported local young people through work experience and have employed seven young people from this ourselves.

NCS Skills Booster – Working with our NCS partners, local Year 11 and 12 pupils take part in a 15-week course, focused on life skills and future aspirations. Participants take part in virtual and in-person activities to learn new skills and tips which support topics identified by their schools and colleges.

NCS – With the support of the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), we provide 15 to 17-year-olds with opportunities to step out of their comfort zone and challenge themselves during residential trips.

Participants take part in a range of activities throughout summer or autumn, giving them the chance to learn about their local area and develop a social action plan to make a difference in their community.

High School Hubs – Our High School Hubs provision is made up of four core programmes to provide further support to pupils in Blackpool schools alongside their academic pathway. High School Hub Mentors are based in our five partner high schools in Blackpool for one or two days per week, providing support from Year 7 to Year 11.

In 2022 we introduced a new strand of work to our High School Hubs programme, Year 7 Transition, to support young people through what can be a challenging part of their life.

Premier League Inspires – Funded by the Premier League Charitable Fund and Public Health Blackpool, Premier League Inspires is a 15-week, positive mental health and resilience programme. It is delivered once a week, to selected Year 9 pupils across Blackpool. The primary focus of Premier League Inspires is to help young people reach their potential by developing coping strategies and ensuring they're engaged and inspired.

Beaverbrooks Enterprise – In partnership with Beaverbrooks, the Enterprise programme works with Year 8 pupils to introduce them to business and entrepreneurship. The programme helps to develop essential employability skills, raise aspirations, and unlock potential.

Pupils also take part in the Enterprise Challenge set by Beaverbrooks, to identify a business gap or local need and develop a plan to address this. This includes a Dragon's Den style activity with a board of 'dragons' from Blackpool based companies including Blackpool FC.

1:1 Mentoring – Funded by the Blackpool Opportunity Area we provide 1:1 mentoring to young people aged 11 to 16 in high schools. Each week students work with their dedicated mentor to build their resilience, confidence and self-esteem. Mentors help pupils to cope with stress and implement strategies to overcome any difficulties they may face in their lives or at school.

Year 7 Transition – Transitioning from primary to secondary school can be an extremely challenging time for any young person. New environments, experiences and relationships can be overwhelming, triggering changes in behaviour, raising anxiety, and igniting other mental health concerns.

We work in high schools to help pupils come to terms with change, normalise it and thrive within it. The themes covered are, coping strategies, working with our own assets and skills, planning a pathway to success and creating new friendships.

The programme provides pupils with the opportunity to have a voice, feel heard and improve their confidence within their new surroundings.

Pre-Traineeship – Through funding from The UK Community Renewal Fund, our Pre-Traineeship helps individuals who are the furthest away from employment. Those involved are supported to develop personal skills, increase confidence and gain valuable work experience to move them closer to employment.

Blackpool FC Sports College – Provide full time further education courses, including BTEC Level 2 and 3 in Sports Industry Skills and Sports Coaching. Learners also study Functional Skills and GCSE English and Maths if required.

We offer a wide range of exclusive work experience opportunities across our programmes to enhance and support learning as well as extra-curricular activities to enhance learner experience.

Traineeship – Our Traineeship is funded by B-Skill and Education Group. The programme supports individuals who are not in education, employment, or training (NEET). Over 12-weeks they gain work experience along with Functional Skills qualifications.

The trainees develop their teamwork, communication and problem-solving skills. The course improves the participants' confidence to help them to make the move into employment.

Foundation and Top Up Degree Courses – In partnership with the University of South Wales we offer a foundation degree in Community Football Coaching & Development and in Sports Coaching & Development. Both are an ideal progression route for our BTEC students as well as others wanting to pursue a career in the sports industry.

We also provide a Top-Up Degree to consolidate learning from a foundation degree and gain a full BSc Honours Degree for both pathways.

Community Programmes

Disability Sport – Through funding from BBC Children in Need, we deliver disability specific lunch and after-school physical activity sessions that are tailored to each school and pupil's needs. We use multi-skills activities, interactive games, additional sports, and arts and crafts.

Stars Camp – During half-terms and summer holidays, we run a very successful camp for young people living with a disability aged 7 to 18 from Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre. The camp is delivered by highly qualified and experienced staff. With support from Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Council, we deliver; multi-skills activities, interactive games, sports, as well as arts and crafts to engage children living with disabilities.

Every Player Counts – Funding from EFL Trust and Wembley National Stadium Trust, allows us to offer free football sessions that take place every week at locations across Blackpool. These sessions use the power of football to promote positive mental health and provide assistance to those living with disabilities. This is achieved through physical activity and building peer-support networks.

Premier League Kicks HAF – Funded by Blackpool Council and Premier League Charitable Fund, Kicks HAF includes a range of camps delivered during the day throughout school holidays. These activities include football, multi-sport, online gaming and trips. We also provide a nutritious meal, snacks and drinks to each participant for free.

Premier League Kicks – Through funding from the Premier League Charitable Fund, we deliver diversionary activities for young people aged 8 to 18 in specifically identified wards that have the most anti-social behaviour. These sessions allow the young people to meet new friends and stay active through football, dance, boxing, gaming, workshops and national competitions with other football clubs.

FIT Blackpool – With funding from EFL Trust and Public Health Blackpool, this free 13-week weight management programme is on offer to all. It includes a combination of theory and practical sessions to help the participants to sustain weight loss and lead healthier lives. Our 'Keep Fit' sessions encourage graduates of FIT Blackpool to continue to monitor and continue their progress.

Move More – 'Active Through Football' (Move More) is a new programme from Sport England, which is funded by the National Lottery and delivered by the Football Foundation.

The aim is to increase activity levels and create sustained behaviour change using a 'place-based approach'. Working as part of a consortium with key partners, including Blackpool Council's Public Health teams, Active Blackpool, Lancashire FA, and Active Lancashire, we target working-age adults who live or work in Blackpool.

Get Vocal – Developed in partnership with Blackpool FC and Blackpool Council. Get Vocal is a social group based at Bloomfield Road which takes place weekly and aims to provide a safe space for men to come together in a non-judgemental setting, to 'turn up, talk and get it off their chest'.

Divert Youth – Young people are assigned a 1:1 mentor to co-produce a personal development plan, outlining goals they want to achieve. Funded through Lancashire Violence Reduction Network, this preventative programme is aimed at 10 to 17 year olds who are at risk of entering the Criminal Justice System.

Divert – We provide 1:1 support to make positive changes and break the cycle of re-offending. Funded through Lancashire Violence Reduction Network, we deliver a custody intervention programme that works with 18 to 25 year olds who have committed a violent crime.

Tower Above – Funded by Blackpool Council and the Premier League Charitable Fund, we provide 1:1 mentoring to children aged 8 to 12 by utilising sports and physical activity to engage with them. Referrals come from the Early Help and Support team, through Blackpool Council, the aim is to prevent young people from being involved in anti-social behaviour.

Weekly Walk & Talk – Our walks encourage anyone to get together as a group and help each other become more physically fit and combat loneliness.

Engage 4 Change – A multi-agency partnership with Empowerment, Groundwork UK and the Rank Foundation. The aim is to engage 17 young people who are aged 18–25, live in a specific area of Blackpool, and are not in education, employment or training (NEET).

We work with these young people to understand what they perceive as barriers and come up with solutions.

Street Soccer – We partnered with Street Soccer Foundation to deliver the Blackpool Street Soccer Academy. The 10-week nationally acclaimed personal development programme supports young people aged 18 to 30 who are at risk of homelessness and/or not in education, employment or training. The programme provides a combination of football coaching, mindset training and employability workshops to help participants improve their health and employability prospects.

Walking Football – Walking Football is a slower version of the beautiful game, helping people rekindle their love of playing football.

Masters Football – Masters Football is a slightly slower paced 5-a-side version of football for men and women over the age of 35.

Both Walking and Masters Football encourage football lovers to continue to take part regardless of their fitness levels or other factors.

Sporting Memories – This programme encourages those who share a love for sports, in particular football, to get together. It is an enjoyable social group where fans are encouraged to share their memorabilia and memories.

Extra Time – This is a weekly social group for over 55s which includes chair-based exercise, dominoes, quizzes, trips, country-themed afternoons, or a simple coffee and a chat.

Assura Wellbeing Hubs – We have secured funding from Assura Community Fund for a wellbeing project which encourages those who attend Walk and Talk, Walking Football and the Vets Walk and Talk, to stay behind after their physical activity for a hot drink and a chat.

Local services are also in attendance and provide pop up support for our participants.

Veterans Activities – NAAFI Break – With funding support from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust (AFCFT), the Trust delivers a host of provisions for local ex forces members, including a NAAFI social group, a gardening club, walk and talks, doorstep visits and Forces Football and Boxing sessions, to support our members to engage in social and physical activity.

Financial Success

- The Trust maintains a healthy financial position enabling it to plan for future developments. As an organisation which mainly receives its financial provision from other funding organisations, careful management is of utmost importance.
- The Trust is financially viable. Funds are held in reserve at the bank to ensure that, should funding stop abruptly, bids not be won, or projects not be renewed, we can always make thoughtful plans for the future. Staff contracts are set to reflect the possibility of a change in future funding.
- There are different funding sources for all projects, and they all have different funding cycles and durations. The Trust is aware that continuing to develop sources of funding for new projects and to renew projects that are approaching the end of their current life cycle is vital. The Trust is also aware that funding tends to arrive in lump sums and not on an even monthly basis. Cash flow forecasts ensure this is managed.
- The Trust operates on a rolling 3-year development plan, which guides the delivery of over 60 projects aimed at supporting the local community to live healthy and active lifestyles through sport and physical activity. By continually reviewing and updating the plan, the Trust aims to ensure that its projects remain aligned with the charity's objectives and that they continue to meet the needs of the community.

Thank you

The Trustees extend their gratitude to the dedicated and hardworking staff of the Community Trust, whose commitment has ensured success. Despite the challenges presented by the pandemic, their unwavering support has enabled the Trust to continue to deliver projects that benefit our entire community. The Trust also expresses its appreciation to the volunteers who have contributed to the success of these projects with their enthusiasm and commitment.

The Trust recognises and thanks the partner organisations it has collaborated with, whose contributions of money and resources have been a great investment in the community's future. The Trust is particularly grateful to Blackpool Football Club for providing excellent accommodation for its activities, offices, and for access to the club's facilities.

Considering the additional hard work by staff and partners during this period, the Trustees anticipate further growth in the Trust's turnover in the years ahead.

I express my gratitude to my fellow Trustees for their dedication and efforts. We are eagerly looking forward to the future and hope that a growing number of fans, residents, and local professionals will come forward to support our community.

Plans for Future Periods

The Trustees anticipate that Blackpool FC Community Trust will continue to expand and fulfil its social and sporting goals professionally and effectively.

The Trust looks forward to continuing to work closely with Blackpool FC and develop genuine Social Value for the town and with key partners including Blackpool Council, The Premier League and EFL Trust to find new funding streams to support the work being delivered.

Notable plans that the Trust is currently developing or has implemented since the conclusion of the financial year include:

- New Strategy – The Charity will launch a new 3-Year Strategy in Summer 2024, demonstrating the intentions for the future and how we will support the community across Blackpool and the Fylde Coast, focused on Early Years, Education and Employability, Community Programmes and Infrastructure.
- Aspire Sports Hub – A long-term lease agreement has been instructed, following the successful relaunch of Aspire Sports Hub. The Trust will invest additional resources to bring the site up to date and standard for full use across the school and the Community, supporting the Charities provision and local Football teams.
- Revoe Sports Hub – Now planning permission has been granted, the Trust will support the Football Club in implementing plans to start work in 2024 for the Community site, which will be managed by the Community Trust, to support the local community with top-standard facilities, to increase physical activity and improve education opportunities.
- Northern Hub – The Community Trust will continue to investigate options to develop a Community Hub to support the north of the town, making sure to find a suitable and sustainable opportunity.

Esports – A new area of work for the Trust is Esports, with this new genre opening up new avenues to engage young people not normally reached by our traditional provision. Programmes focused on supporting young people via programmes including Kicks and HAF will be developed further, whilst new provisions will be introduced to engage new fans on match days, school sessions and competitions and the introduction of BTEC Esports programme for post-16's, as part of BFC Sports College.

- BFC School Nurture Provision – Working closely with Blackpool Council, BFC School will offer additional support to pupils needing additional support to the traditional offer in school. This programme will work with a small group of Year 10 pupils, that need a more nurture-focused programme to support their education.
- Get Vocal / Mental Health – We intend on expanding our Mental Health offer to adults across the community, with additional Get Vocal sessions being delivered in more locations, as well as a new football and physical activity offer, across a host of locations to support those that will benefit from regular, professional and well thought out provision, developed with the participants needs at the forefront.

- Female Football – The Community intends to expand its support to Female Football. With the success of our FA Emerging Talent Centre, the Trust will take a leading role in supporting the grassroots and Ladies set up at BFC Girls and Ladies, to develop opportunities for all girls and ladies to play football at recreational level, grassroots competitive opportunities and rise towards the higher standards of the game, including our Ladies first team and ETC.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would also wish to report an overall surplus for the year of £70,834 (2022: £40,719), of which £82,644 (2022: £29,269) arose from Unrestricted Funds and a £11,810 deficit (2022: £11,450) from Restricted Funds.

Principal Funding Sources

The principal funding sources for the charity are currently by way of grant and contract income. There are different funding sources for the charity's projects including the Football League, the Premier League, Blackpool Council and other local authorities and education bodies.

To assist in the process of raising funds, the Trust has engaged third party external consultants who are used to identify funds appropriate to the projects that are ongoing and that we require funding for. They then work with the Trust to write the application as well as provide necessary information to be included in the submission for funds. This consultancy body does not represent the Trust, this is always done by the Chief Executive Officer or other senior staff as appropriate.

There is no third-party fundraising scheme that is followed by the Trust or the consultants, however, we do have a detailed fundraising policy which is available to all staff, which includes safeguarding processes of vulnerable and other members of society. The fundraising process is monitored by way of a discussion with the consultancy firm on a fortnightly basis to ensure that progress is monitored. No complaints have been made in relation to fundraising work undertaken.

Reserves Policy

The trustees are of the opinion that it is important to develop reserves which would be sufficient to maintain a sustainable level of funds to cover movements in periodic cash flows. Reserves will be funded with surplus unrestricted funds. The Trust's reserves are intended to provide an internal source of funds for situations, such as, a sudden increase in expenses, one-time unbudgeted expenses, unanticipated loss in funding, or uninsured losses. Reserves are not intended to replace a permanent loss of funds or eliminate an ongoing funding gap. If reserves are used, they are to be replenished within a reasonably short period of time.

The target minimum reserve fund is equal to three to six months, at the current time, of average expenditure. This calculation of average monthly operating costs includes all recurring, predictable expenses, such as salaries and benefits, occupancy, offices, travel, and ongoing professional services. Depreciation, in kind, and other non-cash expenses are not included in this calculation. The year-end balance on unrestricted reserves was £1,268,135 of which £239,009 is held in tangible fixed assets and a further £70,350 is designated for specific projects in 2023-24, (see Note 14) leaving a net balance held in 'free' reserves of £958,776. Based on projected expenditure for the 2023-24 financial year (excluding that on the designated projects) this equates to 5.1 months of average expenditure.

Going Concern

Following a review of the financial position as at the date of signing these accounts and projections for the following 12 months the Trustees expect Blackpool F.C. Community Trust to continue to remain a going concern for the foreseeable future and have, therefore, adopted the going concern basis in the preparation of these financial statements.

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The trustees, who are also directors for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the trustees' 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 trustees to prepare accounts 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:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity 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 charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate 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.

In accordance with company law, in so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all necessary steps that they ought to have taken in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

Auditor

A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting that Azets Audit Services be re-appointed as auditor to the charity for the ensuing year.

Approved and signed on behalf of the board of trustees:

On behalf of the board

W Swift (Chair of Trustees)

Date: 29 April 2024

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Blackpool F.C. Community Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the notes to the accounts, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2023, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report, which includes the Directors' Report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the accounts are prepared is consistent with the accounts; and
- the Directors' Report included within the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report included with the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the accounts in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' Report and from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the accounts is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud. In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the entity through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Julie Flintoff BA (Hons) FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
Azets Audit Services
Statutory Auditor
PRESTON

Date: 2 May 2024

Azets Audit Services is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

BLACKPOOL F.C. COMMUNITY TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

	Note	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and grants	2	1,985,736	728,376	2,714,112	2,501,382
Other income	3	39,067	-	39,067	1,021
Total income		<u>2,024,803</u>	<u>728,376</u>	<u>2,753,179</u>	<u>2,502,403</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	4, 5	1,942,159	740,186	2,682,345	2,461,684
Other expenditure		-	-	-	-
Total expenditure		<u>1,942,159</u>	<u>740,186</u>	<u>2,682,345</u>	<u>2,461,684</u>
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year		82,644	(11,810)	70,834	40,719
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		82,644	(11,810)	70,834	40,719
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		<u>1,185,491</u>	<u>328,579</u>	<u>1,514,070</u>	<u>1,473,351</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,268,135</u>	<u>316,769</u>	<u>1,584,904</u>	<u>1,514,070</u>

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirement for an income and expenditure account with the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 25 to 44 form part of these accounts

BLACKPOOL F.C. COMMUNITY TRUST
BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	10		472,650		529,781
Current Assets					
Debtors	11	547,492		150,729	
Cash at bank and in hand		920,283		1,050,415	
Total Current Assets		1,467,775		1,201,144	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year					
	12	(355,521)		(216,855)	
Net Current Assets			1,112,254		984,289
Total assets less current liabilities			1,584,904		1,514,070
The funds of the charity					
Restricted funds	14		316,769		328,579
Unrestricted funds	14		1,268,135		1,185,491
			1,584,904		1,514,070

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

W Swift (Chair of Trustees)

Date: 29 April 2024

BLACKPOOL F.C. COMMUNITY TRUST
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net movement in funds – Page 22	70,834	40,719
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	40,391	40,768
Loss on the sale of fixed assets	16,739	900
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(396,762)	158,977
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	138,666	(56,811)
Net cash provided by operating activities	(130,132)	184,553
	2023	2022
	£	£
Net cash provided by operating activities	(130,132)	184,553
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of fixed assets	(-)	(7,752)
Net cash (used in) / provided by investing activities	(-)	(7,752)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(130,132)	176,801
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	1,050,415	873,614
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	920,283	1,050,415

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Company information

The charity is a public benefit entity and 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 Blackpool Football Club, Seaside Way, Bloomfield Road, Blackpool, FY1 6JJ, Lancashire.

Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

The trustees have assessed the future trading of Blackpool F.C. Community Trust. In support of this assessment the trustees have reviewed the following:

- Income and expenditure forecasts
- Future capital expenditure plans
- Cashflow projections

Based upon these forecasts the trustees expect Blackpool F.C. Community Trust to continue to remain a going concern for the foreseeable future and have therefore adopted the going concern basis in the preparation of these financial statements. There are therefore no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- Legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- Income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- Income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- Expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- Other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

The capitalisation policy adopted by the charity is to capitalise items costing over £1,000.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Fixtures and Fittings	- Straight line over 7 years
Motor vehicles	- Straight line over 5 years
IT Equipment	- Straight line over 3 years
Facility	- Straight line over the term of the lease

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

Limited by guarantee

In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

Irrecoverable VAT

The charity is not registered for Value Added Tax and accordingly income and expenditure includes the irrecoverable Value Added Tax element where applicable.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks and bank overdrafts. Overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets (debtors, cash and bank balances) and financial liabilities (creditors and accruals) of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Creditors and Provisions

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

Operating Lease Agreements

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remains with the lessor are charged as an expense in the SOFA on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Taxation

The company is a registered charity and as such is entitled to tax exemptions on all its income and gains, properly applied for charitable purposes.

Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme using a Group Personal Pension Plan, and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the charity to the fund in respect of the year.

BLACKPOOL F.C. COMMUNITY TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

2. Income from donations and grants - 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
Active Through Football	-	122,732	122,732
Tower Above	-	61,259	61,259
Armed Forces Covenant Fund	-	17,433	17,433
Blackpool Engaged	-	28,000	28,000
Disability Sport	-	30,475	30,475
Every Player Counts	-	27,246	27,246
Veterans Foundation	-	12,500	12,500
Warm Up Hub	-	13,316	13,316
Kicks	-	125,000	125,000
Fit2Go	-	34,175	34,175
Primary Stars	-	100,000	100,000
Unstoppable	-	25,000	25,000
Inspires	-	50,000	50,000
FA Girls	-	25,000	25,000
EFL Headstart	-	4,906	4,906
Engage 4 Change	-	6,250	6,250
Foodbank	-	10,000	10,000
Pre Traineeship	-	33,822	33,822
DoE Grant	-	1,262	1,262
Wholly unrestricted activities	1,985,736	-	1,985,736
	1,985,736	728,376	2,714,112

2. Income from donations and grants - 2022

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust Funding	-	27,232	27,232
Active Through Football	-	64,325	64,324
Primary Stars	-	100,000	100,000
Kicks	-	105,000	105,000
Tower Above	-	20,000	20,000
Changemakers	-	3,000	3,000
Divert Youth	-	10,000	10,000
EFL Training Ground	-	21,000	21,000
Disability Sport	-	27,246	27,246
Fit2Go	-	33,000	33,000
Holiday Activities & Food (HAF)	-	359,052	359,052
Head Start Apprenticeships	-	39,211	39,211
Be Internet Citizens Programme	-	3,000	3,000
Inspires	-	45,000	45,000
Kick Start Apprenticeships	-	46,346	46,346
Veterans Foundation	-	7,500	7,500
Well Being Hubs	-	5,000	5,000
Wholly unrestricted activities	1,585,470	-	1,585,470
	<u>1,585,470</u>	<u>915,912</u>	<u>2,501,382</u>

3. Other Income - 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Other income	39,067	-	39,067
	<u>39,067</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,067</u>

Other Income - 2022

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Other income	1,021	-	1,021
	<u>1,021</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,021</u>

4. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type - 2023

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
Active Through Football	-	114,409	114,409
Tower Above	-	61,259	61,259
Armed Forces Covenant Fund	-	30,623	30,623
Disability Sport	-	4,825	4,825
Every Player Counts	-	27,246	27,246
Veterans Foundation	-	5,000	5,000
Divert Youth	-	4,744	4,744
Warm Up Hub	-	13,316	13,316
Kicks	-	125,000	125,000
Fit2Go	-	34,175	34,175
Primary Stars	-	100,000	100,000
Unstoppable	-	25,000	25,000
Head Start Apprenticeships	-	25,592	25,592
Christmas 2020 appeal	-	22,962	22,962
Inspires	-	50,000	50,000
FA Girls	-	25,000	25,000
EFL Headstart	-	4,906	4,906
Engage 4 Change	-	6,250	6,250
Foodbank	-	10,000	10,000
Pre Traineeship	-	33,822	33,822
Department of Education	-	1,262	1,262
Restricted fixed assets	-	14,795	14,795
Wholly unrestricted activities	1,942,159	-	1,942,159
	<u>1,942,159</u>	<u>740,186</u>	<u>2,682,345</u>

4. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type - 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust Funding	-	14,043	14,043
Active Through Football	-	50,669	50,669
Primary Stars	-	100,000	100,000
Kicks	-	105,000	105,000
Tower Above	-	20,000	20,000
Changemakers	-	3,000	3,000
Children In Sport	-	10,000	10,000
Christmas Appeal – 2020	-	21,178	21,178
Capital Grants	-	14,553	14,553
Divert Youth	-	5,256	5,256
EFL Training Ground	-	21,000	21,000
Disability Sport	-	27,246	27,246
Fit2Go	-	33,000	33,000
Holiday Activities & Food (HAF)	-	359,052	359,052
Head Start Apprenticeships	-	13,619	13,619
Be Internet Citizens Programme	-	3,000	3,000
Inspires	-	45,000	45,000
Kick Start Apprenticeships	-	46,346	46,346
Veterans Foundation	-	7,500	7,500
Well Being Hubs	-	5,000	5,000
Wholly unrestricted activities	1,557,222	-	1,557,222
	<u>1,557,222</u>	<u>904,462</u>	<u>2,461,684</u>

5. Cost of charitable activities – 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Staff costs	1,323,317	641,449	1,964,766
Overheads	134,356	30,624	164,980
Premises Expenses	187,134	7,000	194,134
Residentials, trips & events	9,113	2,403	11,516
Resources & other delivery costs	139,529	37,724	177,253
Staff related costs	32,315	5,827	38,142
Vehicle expenses	2,461	-	2,461
Office expenses	19,698	364	20,062
Depreciation	25,596	14,795	40,391
Outsourced services	67,835	-	67,835
Grants and donations made	805	-	805
	<u>1,942,159</u>	<u>740,186</u>	<u>2,682,345</u>

5. Cost of charitable activities – 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Staff costs	1,070,727	785,420	1,856,147
Overheads	191,223	21,686	212,909
Premises Expenses	116,782	150	116,932
Residentials, trips & events	9,541	21,037	30,578
Resources & other delivery costs	89,293	53,860	143,153
Staff related costs	41,804	7,756	49,560
Vehicle expenses	6,814	-	6,814
Office expenses	4,823	-	4,823
Depreciation	26,215	14,553	40,768
	<u>1,557,222</u>	<u>904,462</u>	<u>2,461,684</u>

6. Taxation

The charity's activities fall within the exemptions afforded by the provisions of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988. Accordingly, there is no taxation charge in these financial statements.

7. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	Total	Total
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	41,244	40,768
Fees payable for the audit of the financial statements	10,000	10,000
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

8. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
	Total	Total
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,791,776	1,691,983
Social security costs	140,451	135,497
Pension costs	32,539	28,667
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net staff costs	1,964,766	1,856,147
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 90 (2022: 86). The average number of employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
	Total	Total
Number of administrative staff	4	7
Number of management staff	6	6
Number of delivery staff	80	73
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	90	86
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The number of employees whose remuneration for the year fell within the following bands, were:

	2023	2022
	Total	Total
£70,000 to £79,999	1	1
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	1	1
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel include all persons that have authority and responsibility for planning, directing, and controlling the activities of the charity. The total compensation including salary, pension and employers national insurance paid to key management personnel for services provided to the charity was £348,703 (2022: £306,177).

9. Trustee Remuneration and Expenses and Related Party Transactions

No trustees received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenditure during the year or the previous year.

During the year £155,314 (2022: £139,963) was charged by The Blackpool Football Club Limited for facility charges and other costs and £61,482 (2022: £2,027) by Blackpool Football Club Hotel Ltd for meals provided to scheme participants.

In addition, £23,214 (2022: £150) was charged by the Charity to Blackpool Football Club Ltd for venue hire and scheme participation costs.

Trustees Mr B Mansford, Mr B Gerrity and Mr M McGhee were directors of The Blackpool Football Club Limited. and Trustee Mr B Mansford was a director of Blackpool Football Club Hotel Ltd, during the year ending 31st August 2023 Trustee Mrs C Singleton is the sister of the owner of The Blackpool Football Club Limited, Mr S Sadler.

The Blackpool F.C. Community Trust occupies offices within The Blackpool Football Club Limited's serviced accommodation:

- Offices under the term of a 25-year agreement dated 4th February 2018. This accommodation is provided rent free, but there is an annual service charge of £8,000 plus VAT payable for cleaning, maintenance, and other services. The agreement also contains provision for the recharge of additional services including heat and light. Charges totalling £14,309 were made during the year, (2022. Nil).
- Space used for the Education & Community Centre under the term of a 25-year agreement dated 10 May 2019. This accommodation is provided rent free, but there is an annual service charge of £8,000 plus VAT payable for cleaning, maintenance and other services. The agreement also contains provision for the recharge of additional services including heat and light. Charges totalling £18,607 were made during the year, (2022 £15,192).
- Space used for the BFC School. This is subject of a 10-year agreement which at the date of signing these accounts was in the final stages of negotiation. The space has been occupied since September 2020 with an annual rental of £54,000 plus VAT. The agreement also contains provision for the recharge of additional services including heat and light. Charges totalling £34,365 were made during the year (2022 £28,058).

BLACKPOOL F.C. COMMUNITY TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

During the year donations and grants totalling £791,537 (2022: £807,608) were received from Blackpool Council. In addition £14,972 (2022: Nil) was charged by Blackpool Council for scheme delivery costs (2022 £9,977), and £24,319 (2022 (£11,803) for business rates. Trustee N Jack is the Chief Executive Officer of Blackpool Council.

In 2022 Blackpool F.C. Community Trust invoiced £132,960 for services provided to schools which are part of Fylde Coast Academy Trust. Trustee Mr C Lickiss (who resigned on 7th July 2022) was the Executive Head Teacher of Fylde Coast Academy Trust during that period.

During the year the Blackpool FC Community Trust invoiced £33,800 (2022 £28,000) to Unity Academy. CEO Mr A Hackett is a member of the governing board of Unity Academy.

No other trustees or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year (2022: £Nil).

10. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures and Equipment	Facilities	Motor Vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 September 2022	93,590	563,560	28,200	685,350
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	(68,179)	(18,834)	-	(87,013)
Transfer	-	-	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>25,411</u>	<u>544,726</u>	<u>28,200</u>	<u>598,337</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2022	74,590	67,060	13,919	155,569
Charge for the year	4,846	30,905	4,640	40,391
On disposals	(68,179)	(2,095)	-	(70,274)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>11,257</u>	<u>95,870</u>	<u>18,559</u>	<u>125,687</u>
Net Book Value				
At 31 August 2023	<u>14,154</u>	<u>448,856</u>	<u>9,641</u>	<u>472,650</u>
At 31 August 2022	<u>19,000</u>	<u>496,500</u>	<u>14,281</u>	<u>529,781</u>

BLACKPOOL F.C. COMMUNITY TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

11. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	373,059	25,640
Prepayments and accrued income	174,118	125,089
Other debtors	315	-
	<u>547,492</u>	<u>150,729</u>

12. Creditors – amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	65,276	42,471
Accruals and deferred income	193,728	87,711
Social security and other taxes	45,887	38,687
Kickstart – DWP	44,730	47,986
Other creditors	5,900	-
	<u>355,521</u>	<u>216,855</u>

13. Deferred income

	2023	2022
	£	£
Opening balance	-	10,620
Amount released to income resources	-	(10,620)
Amount deferred in year	5,000	-
	<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Closing balance	<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>

14. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 August 2023 £
General funds	1,185,491	2,024,803	(1,942,159)	1,268,135
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	At 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 August 2022 £
General funds	1,156,222	1,586,491	(1,557,222)	1,185,491
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Included within the unrestricted funds of £1,268,135 are sums amounting to £70,350 (2022: £183,170) which the trustees have allocated to a number of projects which are ongoing at the year-end as follows:

- Disability Sport - £5,350 to support additional work to be developed to support a community based provision for young people with disabilities in winter 2023.
- Tier 2 Weight Management - £30,000 to keep staff members in post and continue weight management provision, despite the current funding stream ending, to allow us to find a new source of funding, whilst maintaining a level of consistency to support our community.
- Warm Hubs - £35,000 to be allocated from funds to deliver additional provision, to support families suffering from the Cost of Living Crisis.

14. Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

Restricted funds

	At 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer £	At 31 August 2023 £
Restricted fixed assets	248,436	-	(14,795)	-	233,641
Active Through Football	13,656	122,732	(114,410)	-	21,978
Tower Above	-	61,259	(61,259)	-	-
Armed Forces Covenant Fund	13,189	17,433	(30,622)	-	-
Blackpool Engaged	-	28,000	-	-	28,000
Disability Sport	-	30,475	(4,825)	-	25,650
Every Player Counts	-	27,246	(27,246)	-	-
Veterans Foundation	-	12,500	(5,000)	-	7,500
Divert Youth	4,744	-	(4,744)	-	-
Warm Up Hub	-	13,316	(13,316)	-	-
Kicks	-	125,000	(125,000)	-	-
Fit2Go	-	34,175	(34,175)	-	-
Primary Stars	-	100,000	(100,000)	-	-
Unstoppable	-	25,000	(25,000)	-	-
Inspires	-	50,000	(50,000)	-	-
Head Start Apprenticeships	25,592	-	(25,592)	-	-
Christmas 2020 appeal	22,962	-	(22,962)	-	-
FA Girls	-	25,000	(25,000)	-	-
EFL Headstart	-	4,906	(4,906)	-	-
Engage 4 Change	-	6,250	(6,250)	-	-
Foodbank	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Pre Traineeship	-	33,822	(33,822)	-	-
Department of Education	-	1,262	(1,262)	-	-
	<u>328,579</u>	<u>728,376</u>	<u>(740,186)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>316,769</u>

14. Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

Included in restricted funds carried forward are the following balances. Further detail is provided regarding both restricted and unrestricted income within the Trustees' Report.

Restricted Fixed Assets - £233,641

During the year ended 31 August 2020, sums of £292,286 were received from funders to offset the cost of fixed assets purchased. This sum comprised £264,036 towards the cost of the facility, £20,250 towards the cost of a minibus and £8,000 towards equipment. These sums being written off over the period of use of the related assets.

Active Through Football - £21,978

The project targets working-age adults who live or work in the Park Ward and Central West corridor, to become more active through football, with its primary focus being improved physical and mental health and wellbeing.

Blackpool Engaged - £28,000

During the year, the charity received funding to deliver a programme of social and physical activity that improves mental health and social inclusion for adults aged 50+.

Disability Sport - £25,650

Funds were received from the following:

- Sport England - £9,650 – These funds were provided to help target adults aged 18 and over with physical learning and mental disabilities to participate in sport and physical activities.
- Hargreaves Foundation - £16,000 – Funding provided to help give residents the opportunity to combine sport and physical activity with long term support to combat diverse issue. Funds provided for staff costs and equipment.

Veterans Foundation - £7,500

This funding was received during the year to recruit and employ an armed forces lead to offer peer support groups and physical and social activities.

14. Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

Restricted funds

	At 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer £	At 31 August 2022 £
Restricted fixed assets	262,989	-	(14,553)	-	248,436
Armed Forces Covenant Fund	-	27,232	(14,043)	-	13,189
Active Through Football	-	64,325	(50,669)	-	13,656
Primary Stars	-	100,000	(100,000)	-	-
Kicks	-	105,000	(105,000)	-	-
Tower Above	-	20,000	(20,000)	-	-
Changemakers	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Children In Sport	10,000	-	(10,000)	-	-
Christmas Appeal – 2020	44,140	-	(21,178)	-	22,962
Divert Youth (Games Room)	-	10,000	(5,256)	-	4,744
EFL Training Ground	-	21,000	(21,000)	-	-
Disability Sport	-	27,246	(27,246)	-	-
Fit2Go	-	33,000	(33,000)	-	-
Holiday Activity & Food (HAF)	-	359,052	(359,052)	-	-
Head Start Apprenticeships	-	39,211	(13,619)	-	25,592
High School Hubs	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Inspires	-	45,000	(45,000)	-	-
Kick Start Apprenticeships	-	46,346	(46,346)	-	-
Veterans Foundation	-	7,500	(7,500)	-	-
Well Being Hubs	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
	<u>317,129</u>	<u>915,912</u>	<u>(904,462)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>328,579</u>

14. Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

Included in restricted funds carried forward are the following balances. Further detail is provided regarding both restricted and unrestricted income within the Trustees' Report.

Restricted Fixed Assets - £248,436

During the year ended 31 August 2020 sums of £292,286 were received from funders to offset the cost of fixed assets purchased. This sum comprised £264,036 towards the cost of the facility, £20,250 towards the cost of a minibus and £8,000 towards equipment. These sums being written off over the period of use of the related assets.

Armed Forces Covenant Fund - £13,189

This project provides the opportunity for serving personnel, families, veterans and families of veterans, to meet up and rediscover the unique camaraderie of serving personal. This is done through the provision of coffee mornings, breakfast clubs, walking and running football, and the opportunity to represent Blackpool FC in veterans' competitions.

Active Through Football - £13,656

This project targets targeting working-age adults who live or work in the Park Ward and Central West corridor, to become more active through football, with its primary focus being improved physical and mental health and wellbeing.

Christmas Appeal - £22,962

This project involves supporting local primary school children at risk of not receiving a gift on Christmas morning.

Divert Youth (Games Room) - £4,744

This project is to provide a safe space for the Divert Youth scheme participants.

Head Start Apprenticeships - £25,592

This project provides funding until 31 August 2023 for 2 staff members participating in the Government funded Head Start Apprenticeship scheme.

16. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £
Unrestricted:			
Tangible fixed assets	239,009	233,641	472,650
Current assets	1,384,647	83,128	1,467,775
Creditors less than 1 year	(355,521)	-	(355,521)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net assets	1,268,135	316,769	1,584,904
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £
Unrestricted:			
Tangible fixed assets	281,345	248,436	529,781
Current assets	1,121,001	80,143	1,201,144
Creditors less than 1 year	(216,855)	-	(216,855)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net assets	1,185,491	328,579	1,514,070
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

17. Agent costs

During the year, the charity has acted as an agent for the Kickstart scheme.

This involved receiving money from the DWP and distributing it out to employers who were eligible for the scheme. The amount of income and expenditure is as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Brought forward	47,986	-
Received	3,663	405,455
Paid out	(6,919)	(357,469)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Held by the agent	44,730	47,986
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

18. Operating leases

At the reporting end date, the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Within one year	19,200	19,200
Between two and five years	76,800	76,800
In over five years	289,368	309,600
	<u>385,368</u>	<u>405,600</u>

19. Financial guarantees

The Football Foundation hold a legal charge over restricted tangible fixed assets owned by the charity. At the year end, the fixed assets had a carrying value of £233,641 (2022: £248,436). The legal charge is for a period of 21 years from 16 October 2019 and relates to grant funding received of £286,390.