

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS

England & Wales · Charity number 1132906

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	06995636
Registered	2009-11-23
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Little Thetford Acorns Pre-School Oak field The Wyches Little Thetford Ely
Phone	01353649234
Email	office@littlethetfordacorns.org.uk
Website	www.littlethetfordacorns.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO ENHANCE THE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION OF CHILDREN PRIMARILY UNDERSTATUTORY SCHOOL AGE BY ENCOURAGING PARENTS TO UNDERSTAND AND PROVIDE FOR THE NEEDS OF THEIR CHILDREN THROUGH COMMUNITY GROUPS AND BY: (A) OFFERING APPROPRIATE PLAY, EDUCATION AND CARE FACILITIES, FAMILY LEARNING AND EXTENDED HOURS GROUPS, TOGETHER WITH THE RIGHT OF PARENTS TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR AND TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THE ACTIVITIES OF SUCH GROUPS, ENSURING THAT SUCH GROUPS OFFER OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL CHILDREN WHATEVER THEIR RACE, CULTURE, RELIGION, MEANS OR ABILITY; (B) ENCOURAGING THE STUDY OF THE NEEDS OF SUCH CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES AND PROMOTING PUBLIC INTEREST IN AND RECOGNITION OF SUCH NEEDS IN THE LOCAL AREAS; (C) INSTIGATING AND ADHERING TO AND FURTHERING THE AIMS AND OBJECTS OF THE PRE-SCHOOL LEARNING ALLIANCE.

Activities: The charity runs a pre-school for children aged from 2 years as well as out of school clubs and holiday clubs for primary school aged children. The objects are to enhance the development and education of children through appropriate play, education and care facilities in a stimulating purpose built building.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL
- Cambridgeshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£78,370	£73,913	-	-
2023-08-31	£61,277	£75,654	-	-
2022-08-31	£86,898	£94,058	-	-
2021-08-31	£97,927	£79,112	-	-
2020-08-31	£64,727	£70,553	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Emmeline Parker Boreham	Chair	2024-10-23
David Baker		2024-04-23
Dr Elizabeth McKiernan		2023-09-18
Katherine Bond		2023-06-13
Niamh Kemp		2025-07-09
Simon Boreham		2026-01-22

Accounts

Company Number **06995636**

Charity Number **1132906**

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR

ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

THURSDAY



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LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
DIRECTORS' FOREWORD
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

Little Thetford Acorns Pre-school & Children's Club was incorporated on 19th August 2009, registered as a charity on 23rd November 2009 and commenced activities in January 2010. A purpose-built building was completed in February 2010, using grant funding from Sure Start and Cambridgeshire County Council. The Business Plan and building design and construction were developed and managed from the resources within the parent group together with the experience of the committed staff.

The service provision extended existing pre-school care, to offer affordable, good quality childcare including through the school holidays. Our purpose-built setting is situated on Parish Council land and is approximately 400m from the Primary School enabling close working with our colleagues in education as well as being convenient for our parent users.

Little Thetford Acorns would not be able to operate without support of all the parent users, and in particular the efforts of parents on the Committee who work hard to maintain our profile, fundraise for events and act as main liaison between Directors, Users and Staff.

The current Directors are very pleased to see that all the hard work in setting up Little Thetford Acorns has resulted in such a well-used Pre-school and a well-regarded community provision. Little Thetford Acorns relies on the dedication of the volunteer Directors and Committee Members and we are pleased that our efforts and those of the staff have led to another successful year.

**J Wardle
Chair & Director**

**K Bond
Treasurer & Director**

**E Parker Boreham
Secretary & Director**

**E McKiernan
Director**

**D Baker
Director**

**E Warrington
Director**

**S Slok
Director**

**K Broadbent
Director**

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
COMPANY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

The Management Committee presents its report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Reference and Administration Information

Charity Name:	Little Thetford Acorns
Charity registration number:	1132906
Company registration number:	06995636
Date of incorporation:	19 August 2009
Registered Office and operational address:	Oakfield, The Wyches, Little Thetford, Cambridgeshire, CB6 3HG

Directors:

Mrs K Broadbent (appointed 28 th November 2024)	Director
Mrs S Slok (appointed 23 rd October 2024)	Active Director
Mrs E Warrington (appointed 23 rd October 2024)	Active Director
Mrs E Parker Boreham (appointed 23 rd October 2024)	Active Director
Mr D Baker (appointed 23 rd April 2024)	Active Director
Mr R Craig (appointed 19 th March 2024, resigned 20 th Sept 2024)	Director
Mrs J Wardle (appointed 13 th June 2023)	Active Director
Mrs M Ghita (appointed 13 th June 2023, resigned 23 rd Oct 2024)	Director
Mrs S Hartley (appointed 13 th June 2023, resigned 23 rd Oct 2024)	Director
Mrs E Weaver	Director
(appointed 17 th Nov 2022, resigned 13 th June 2023, re-appointed 18 th Sept 2023, resigned 20 th Sept 2024)	Director
Mrs K Bond (appointed 13 th June 2023)	Active Director
Mrs E McKiernan (appointed 18 th September 2023)	Active Director
Mrs C Wagstaff (appointed 17 th Nov 2022, resigned 19 th March 2024)	Director
Mrs S Kindred (appointed 13 th June 2023, resigned 23 rd March 2024)	Director
Mr N Mecheeri	Director
(appointed 13 th June 2023, resigned 29 th September 2023)	
Mrs C Pruitt	Director
(appointed 13 th June 2023, resigned 5 th February 2024)	

Principal Officer: Chairperson, Mrs J Wardle

Banker: National Westminster
Woolpack Chambers, 16 Market Street, Ely, CB7 4YY

Investment Banker: United Trust Bank
One Ropemaker Street, London EC2Y 9AW

Solicitor: Thomson, Webb & Corfield Solicitors
16 Union Road, Cambridge, CB2 1HE

**Independent
Examiner:** C Prescott, FCCA, ATT
Pond House
56 Station Road
Haddenham

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

The Directors (Trustees) present their annual report with the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024. The accounts comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Financial Reporting Standard 102 and follow the recommendations in 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).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

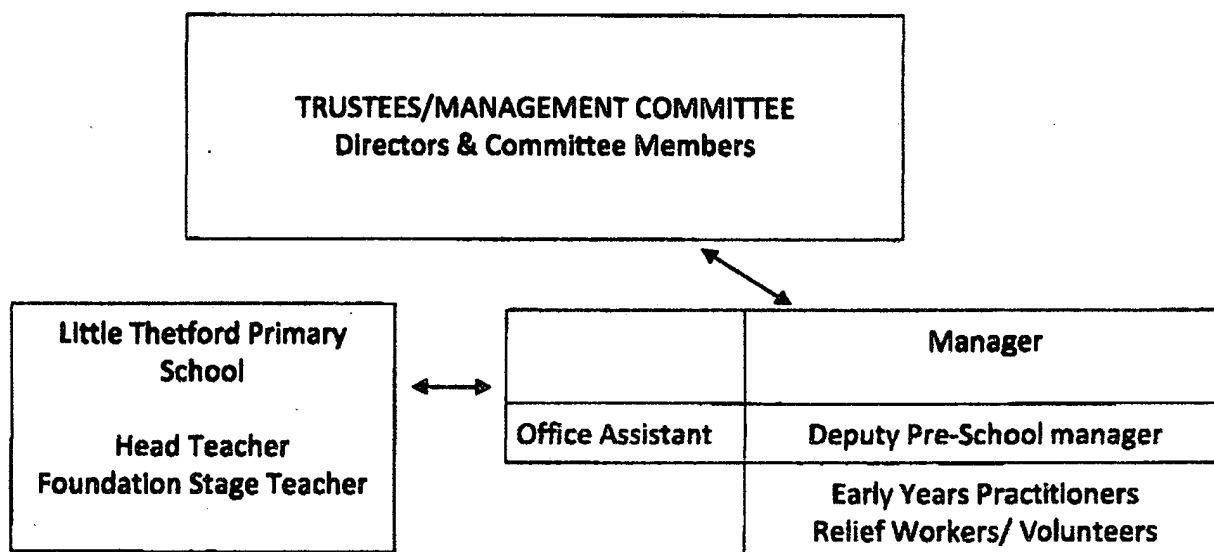
Governing Document

Little Thetford Acorns operates as a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, Incorporated on 19th August 2009 and registered as a Charity on 23rd November 2009. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Appointment of Management Committee and Membership

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as members of the Management Committee. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected from existing users of the services to serve for a period of one year after which they must be re-elected at the next AGM, up to a maximum of six consecutive years. The Management Committee typically meet once every 4-6 weeks to discuss business / building and staffing related matters.

Organisational structure and wider network



**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

Consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them

Holding regular meetings enables the identification of any major risk early, whether it is financial, staffing, Ofsted or management/building related etc. Any additional support required is discussed, for example if a significant fundraising event is required or Business Support required from the County Council/Early Years Alliance; or if additional staffing resources are needed. Our Safeguarding Children Policy is of prime importance and is continually reviewed and updated if required. Daily risk assessments of the setting are essential for the safety of children and staff, therefore are reviewed regularly and updated. No major risks have been identified for this period.

Objectives and Activities

The company's main objectives, as set out in its Mission Statement:

At Little Thetford Acorns, it is our aim to provide a setting in which children are happy and secure and in which there is an atmosphere of mutual trust; where children know they are valued and respected. We aim to provide a setting where learning is exciting and an intrinsic part of their play and all that they enjoy. It is our intention to instill in each child a lifelong love of learning and to give each child the social skills needed to contribute to the wider community.

Summary of the principal activities in relation to these objectives:

The setting attracts pre-schoolers from Little Thetford, but also from the Ely area and surrounding villages. Our holiday club attracts from our pre-schoolers as well as KS1 primary school-age children from Little Thetford Primary School and meets the needs of the families in the village and surrounding villages.

Details of the Service Provision during 2023-24

	Places available	Age range	Times of opening
Pre-School	25	Age 2.5 yrs – Rising 5's	09.00 – 15.00 hours
Holiday Stay & Play sessions	20	Age 2yrs – Age 7	09.00 – 12.00 hours

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

Details of the Service Provision - continued

Pre-school: Here we continue to provide a welcoming and stimulating environment, providing a variety of activities and opportunities for the children. These include sand and water play, construction toys, music and singing, arts and crafts, writing area, mathematics area, home corner/role-play area, as well as opportunities for outside play. We also have a rolling snack time, when healthy snacks brought in from home are enjoyed. On a Monday morning, we run a Forest School session for the over 3's. We spend the morning in the local forest, led by a qualified Forest School practitioner. This inspirational process offers all children regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a woodland or natural environment with trees. Forest School is a specialised learning approach that sits within and complements the wider context of outdoor and woodland education.

We provide a wide and varied curriculum based on the Early Years Foundation Stage, offering activities and opportunities to enable the children to be confident and independent learners. The staff use information gained through observation and assessment to inform their planning to ensure that individual children's needs are met. Individual progress records are regularly maintained. We ensure that children are involved in the planning of activities and parents/committee are involved in the future purchases of equipment/resources by a variety of means such as discussions and questionnaires. We use the key-person system to enable us to work closely with families and help us meet individual children's needs and further enhance the education and care we provide.

Lunch provision: Parents have the option of extending their child's session in pre-school, by sending in a packed lunch for their child.

Holiday club: This year, in lieu of a staffed holidays club, the committee ran a series of Stay & Play sessions for parents/carers and their child, running for a couple of hours during the morning.

Partnership with parents and local community

We have outstanding partnerships with parent/carers. We recognise that parents/carers are their children's primary educators and the importance of working with those closest to the children. We achieve this by ensuring that parents/carers have the opportunity to discuss their children's progress with staff through regular meetings. Staff are available at the start and end of each session. We actively support parents/carers if they wish to attend a session at the provision or if they wish to be involved in the organisation of the group by being a committee member or regular volunteer. We held an Open Day in the summer, to encourage new, prospective families to visit and experience our setting for themselves. We have good links with the local school and continually strive to seek new links within our local community.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year:

- We had our long-anticipated Ofsted inspection in May 2024 and were delighted to be graded Good again.
- This year has been a much busier year for us; after gaining a new committee in summer 2023, we focused on recruiting new children and ended the year with 33 children on the register, including 16 younger children who stayed on for the academic year 2024-25.
- We recruited a Level 3 apprentice, who started at the beginning of the summer term and will spend 18 months completing her training.
- We also recruited successfully for two other staff members this year: a qualified, part-time member of the team who started in the autumn term and a qualified primary teacher, who stepped in at the end of the year and will continue on a permanent contract.
- Staff continued to attend courses online and enhance their training in other areas throughout the year.
- Our largest fundraising was a GoFundMe campaign, launched by the committee in October 2023. Although it didn't spread virally as we had hoped, local supporters of pre-school were very generous.
- We successfully bid for a small grant from the Rotary club to cover the cost of replacing our security light outside the front of pre-school.
- We were pleased to hold an Open Day for prospective new families in the spring term and two successful Stay & Play sessions in the summer holidays.
- We opened our doors to the community twice during the summer term for successful maintenance days in the garden.
- We transitioned successfully the cohort of children moving to primary school in Sept 2024.
- We continued to build relationships with the village by taking part in community fundraising activities and were honoured for the pre-school children to be invited to press the 'big red button' at the Christmas tree lights switch on.
- We continued to run our popular weekly Forest School sessions led by our Forest School leader.
- We continued to use Tapestry to record observations and to build relationships between pre-school and parents.
- We continued to build links with LT primary school, including the children's visit for Road Safety Week and pre-school's visit in December to watch the school nativity.
- At the beginning of the year, we welcomed a student from Cambridge Regional College. She came into the pre-school for 2 days a week between October and February to get hands-on experience as part of her programme.
- We opened a Charity 3 Month Bond with United Trust Bank to secure our reserves. This money was locked away for the length of the bond and considered for short term reinvestment on maturity.
- Our Baby and Toddler Group was restarted in September 2023 by a member of staff and the Chair, plus a small team of volunteers. This was very popular initially, as we hadn't run it since before Covid. The numbers decreased, but we continue with a small group of regular and new families and it is proving a useful tool to recruit and build relationships with new families before registering at pre-school.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

Plans for year ahead

- The charity plans to continue the activities outlined above in the forthcoming year, although we are not offering wraparound care again this academic year.
- The committee will be working hard to increase our income and visibility. The focus is on increasing awareness of our pre-school within the local villages and the wider area and we will advertise and promote our services via free channels. We need to increase the number of users to ensure longer-term viability.
- We have started the year with a large number of children on the register and, for the first time, all but one of the children is funded due to the new Early Years funding entitlement for working families. We are also taking children younger this year, starting at 2 years 3 months.
- As overhead costs will go up again this year, especially with the increase in minimum wage and NIC, the urgent priority remains to increase our income through both funding and fundraising.
- We have a second Level 3 Early Years Educator apprentice who started in September 2024.
- We still hope to recruit a bank member of staff, to take the pressure off staff sickness/training. We have some 121 staffing requirements this year for the children.
- Staff development: continue to identify staff training requirements. Half-termly supervision reviews and annual appraisals take place.
- We will promote the value of becoming a Committee member to maintain a good balance of old and new members. We need to recruit a new Chair before the next AGM.
- Committee will focus on grant opportunities, as well as sponsorships or donations from local businesses, to help boost our income for 2024-25. A 100 Club Lottery has been set up with monthly draws from September 2024 to August 2025.
- The manager, who is our Forest School lead, will work with committee to develop the forest school area on site. We have been granted a new hedge by the Woodland Trust, which will be planted in spring 2025, creating a secure barrier between the main garden and the area designated for forest school. This should enable us to increase the number of forest school sessions, making it available for more children throughout the week.
- We have been donated 6 second-hand laptops by the District Council. Once set up with the services of an IT volunteer, we will migrate the manager to the new laptop and dispose of the legacy desktop computer system.

Financial Review

Principal sources of funds are from Early Years Foundation Stage funding (which accounted for 81% of our income during 2023-24, much higher than last year). In contrast, the parent fee income for pre-school was only 12%. Our yearly turnover was ca. £40k higher than budget, mainly due to increasing numbers on the register throughout the year.

During the year, the Chair opened a Charity 3 Month Bond with United Trust Bank, and we invested £20k of our reserves into this account. This money is locked away for the length of the bond and considered for short term reinvestment on maturity.

Fundraising income is used to cover overheads, offset the cost of special purchases of indoor and outdoor equipment and resources, as well as improving the indoor setting or garden area. We were able to slightly exceed our fundraising target during FY 2023-24, raising around £3.5k in the following ways:

Activities held in LT village (i.e. Dog Show, Cake Sales)	£1,041
GoFundMe campaign	£940
Children's activities/events at pre-school (i.e. Sponsored walk, Christmas cards)	£567
Grants	£380
Broader community activities outside the village (i.e. Ely Market tombola)	£343
Donations	£249
Total	£3,520

Fees were kept the same rate as last year; £5.75 per hour, to remain competitive. These fees are reviewed annually. We have cash flow forecasts in place and income is monitored on a regular (monthly) basis against the budget.

The Working Family Tax Credit and Childcare Voucher Schemes are promoted in order to underline the affordability of childcare. We are currently registered with a number of childcare voucher schemes and will register with new ones when parents/carers request us to do so.

The highest expenditure was the wage bill, which accounted for 78% of our costs and 76% of our overall income. The wage bill was £2.8k above budget, which originally accounted for only 4 members of staff. However during the year, we recruited a part-time member of staff, plus an apprentice who started in the summer term. In addition, the minimum wage increased more than we had anticipated in April.

Three other areas of cost this year were as follows:

- **Phone costs:** In the summer term, we changed over our telephone system with BT to digital. There was a charge to do this and an increase in the monthly contract.
- **Insurance:** The Early Years Alliance Insurance company reviewed the buildings cost for the first time for a few years. Accordingly, the buildings insurance increased by 50% this year and will increase again next year.
- **Maintenance:** Following the BT change to digital, we upgraded the alarm system to digital at a cost of £829.

We didn't make any significant resource purchases during this financial year.

We continue to hold a contingency fund of 3 months' running costs, plus £15k in the NatWest Reserve Account in case of any emergency.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

Reserves Policy

The Management Committee has examined the Charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. It has established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be 3 months of expenditure and therefore a target of £25,000 should be held in general funds. The reserves are needed to meet the working revenue requirements for the charity and the Management committee are confident that at this level they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding.

Details of Any funds in Deficit

There are no funds materially in deficit.

Audit

This is a small company therefore no audit is required. An Independent examination is required.

Independent Examiner

The Independent Examiner, Chris Prescott FCCA of Taxattack, has been reappointed.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

Acknowledgements

The Management Committee of Little Thetford Acorns is very grateful to all the individuals and organisations that have helped in a variety of ways during this year of operation. We rely on dedication and time given by staff, volunteers, parents and the local community.

We would like to thank individuals, families, organisations and members of the local village community for their financial support, whether it is from a donation or attending one of our fundraising events.

Little Thetford Acorns received other contributions that are much appreciated such as goods and play equipment, which can be used by the children in the setting.

People also give up their time to help the charity in many ways (helping with charity collections, being parent helper in pre-school sessions and fundraising events). We rely on our raffles, fundraising etc to be able to keep providing an excellent service.

Little Thetford Acorns would like to extend their thanks to the people who were responsible for giving out grants in previous years and those who helped with donations.

Public Benefit

In setting our programme each year and planning future activities, we have regard for both the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and prevention and relief of poverty for the public benefit. The trustees always ensure that the activities we undertake and services provided are in line with our charitable objects and aims.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors, who also act as trustees, are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors (who are also trustees for the purpose of charity law) to prepare the financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, of the company for that year.

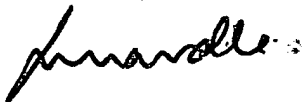
In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the Directors' Report above at the Management Committee on 26th March 2025 and signed on behalf of the charity's trustees by:

Signature: 

Jacqueline Wardle
Chair

Date: 28th April 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Little Thetford Acorns

Period Ended August 31st 2024

I report on the company's accounts for year ended August 31st 2024 set out on pages 14-21.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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

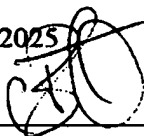
Independent examiner's statement In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:
1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 386 of the Companies Act and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met or

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

C Prescott, FCCA, Pond House, Station Road, Haddenham, Cambs

Date: April 28th 2025



Little Thetford Acorns
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 August 2024

		<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
		<u>funds</u>	<u>funds</u>	<u>Total funds</u>	<u>Total funds</u>
	<u>Notes</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generating funds					
Voluntary income	2	267		267	860
Activities for generating funds	3	2,923		2,923	1,163
Investment and other income	4	2,807		2,807	3,259
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Childcare services	5	72,373		72,373	55,995
Total incoming resources		78,370	-	78,370	61,277
Resources expended					
Costs of generating funds					
Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold and other costs	6	20		20	35
Charitable activities					
Childcare services	7	72,793		72,793	74,669
Governance costs	8	1,100		1,100	950
Total Resources Expended		73,913	-	73,913	75,654
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year		4,457		4,457	(14,377)
Total funds brought forward		44,632		44,632	59,009
Total funds carried forward		49,089	-	49,089	44,632

All of the above activities represent ongoing activities.

All recognised gains and losses are reflected in the Statement of Financial Activities and, therefore, no separate Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is disclosed.

Little Thetford Acorns
Registered number:
Balance Sheet
as at 31 August 2024

06995636

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	111,520	118,310
Current assets			
Debtors	12	692	734
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>65,255</u>	<u>47,368</u>
		65,847	48,100
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(32,278)	(18,614)
Net Current Assets		33,569	29,486
Net Assets		<u>145,089</u>	<u>147,796</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>145,089</u>	<u>147,796</u>

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibility for:

- i) ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- ii) preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of its financial year and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.



J Wardle
 Director

Approved by the board on 28th April 2025

Little Thetford Acorns
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2024

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (as applied to small entities by section 1A of the standard).

Turnover

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, net of discounts and value added taxes. Turnover includes revenue earned from the sale of goods and from the rendering of services. Turnover from the sale of goods is recognised when the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods have transferred to the buyer. Turnover from the rendering of services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract. The stage of completion of a contract is measured by comparing the costs incurred for work performed to date to the total estimated contract costs.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:

Freehold buildings	over 50 years
Leasehold land and buildings	over the lease term
Plant and machinery	15% pa reducing balance
Fixtures, fittings, tools and equipment	15% pa reducing balance

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price (which is usually the invoice price), less any impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts. Loans and other financial assets are initially recognised at transaction price including any transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost determined using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts.

Creditors

Short term creditors are measured at transaction price (which is usually the invoice price). Loans and other financial liabilities are initially recognised at transaction price net of any transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost determined using the effective interest method.

Pensions

Contributions to defined contribution plans are expensed in the period to which they relate.

Little Thetford Acorns
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2024

2 Voluntary Income

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>31/08/2024</u>	<u>31/08/2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Donations	267		267	860

3 Activities for Generating Funds

	<u>31/08/2024</u>	<u>31/08/2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Fundraising events	2,903	1,163
Sales of uniform	20	0
	<u>2,923</u>	<u>1,163</u>

4 Investment and other income

	<u>31/08/2024</u>	<u>31/08/2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Interest received	696	224
Grants received	380	2,456
Miscellaneous income	1,731	579
	<u>2,807</u>	<u>3,259</u>

5 Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities

	<u>31/08/2024</u>	<u>31/08/2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Childcare fees (received from parents)	8,834	13,335
Childcare fees (received from CCC Early Years Foundation)	63,539	42,660
	<u>72,373</u>	<u>55,995</u>

6 Fundraising Trading: Cost of Goods Sold & Other Costs

	<u>31/08/2024</u>	<u>31/08/2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Sundry expenses relating to fundraising activities	20	35
	<u>20</u>	<u>35</u>

Little Thetford Acorns
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2024

7 Direct Costs of Charitable Activities

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>31/08/2024</u>	<u>31/08/2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Staff costs	55,914		55,914	53,703
Repairs and maintenance	234		234	690
Cleaning and hygiene	3,693		3,693	3,932
Consumables	1,048		1,048	0
Toys and creative	345		345	1,309
Insurance	2,063		2,063	1,556
Food	0		0	306
Forest School	136		136	1,107
Bad debts	0		0	0
Office costs	1,676		1,676	2,395
Water and rates	606		606	1,621
Electricity	854		854	1,505
Training	378		378	177
Telephone and internet	1,376		1,376	888
Payroll charges	1,231		1,231	1,948
Advertising	64		64	324
TV Licence	247		247	224
Software	569		569	473
Uniform	252		252	113
Holiday club expenses	0		0	0
Equipment expensed	0		0	353
Ofsted fees	0		0	35
Other professional fees	503		503	690
Sundry expenses	491		491	151
Depreciation	7,991		7,991	7,937
Profit/(loss) on disposal of fixed assets	0		0	110
Deferred income credit -				
Government grant Forest School	-6,878		-6,878	-6,878
	<u>72,793</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>72,793</u>	<u>74,669</u>

8 Governance costs

	<u>31/08/2024</u>	<u>31/08/2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Accountancy and I.E. fee	1,100	950
	<u>1,100</u>	<u>950</u>

Little Thetford Acorns
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2024

9 Directors' Remuneration, Expenses, and Benefits

There was no directors' remuneration, expenses, or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2023 (2022 nil).

10 Staff costs

	<u>31/08/2024</u>	<u>31/08/2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Wages and salaries	54,434	52,904
NEST pension contributions	1,480	799
	55,914	53,703

No employees received remuneration greater than £60,000.

The average number of employees during the year was:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>
Direct charitable activities	4	4
Management and administration	1	1

Little Thetford Acorns
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2024

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Plant and machinery etc £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 September 2023	212,893	19,023	231,916
Additions	-	1,201	1,201
Disposals	-	(699)	(699)
At 31 August 2024	<u>212,893</u>	<u>19,525</u>	<u>232,418</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 September 2023	99,350	14,256	113,606
Charge for the year	7,096	895	7,991
On disposals	-	(699)	(699)
At 31 August 2024	<u>106,446</u>	<u>14,452</u>	<u>120,898</u>
Net book value			
At 31 August 2024	<u>106,447</u>	<u>5,073</u>	<u>111,520</u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>113,543</u>	<u>4,767</u>	<u>118,310</u>

12 Debtors

	<u>31/08/2024</u> £	<u>31/08/2023</u> £
Trade debtors	592	327
Other debtors	1,116	407
	<u>1,708</u>	<u>734</u>

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	<u>31/08/2024</u> £	<u>31/08/2023</u> £
Accruals and deferred income	29,105	15,785
Trade creditors	502	-
Taxation and social security costs	-	360
Other creditors	2,671	2,469
	<u>32,278</u>	<u>18,614</u>

Little Thetford Acorns
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2024

14 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	<u>31/08/2024</u>	<u>31/08/2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Deferred income:		
Government grant brought forward/received	103,164	110,042
Transfer 1/30th to amounts falling due within one year	<u>(6,878)</u>	<u>(6,878)</u>
	<u>96,286</u>	<u>103,164</u>

15 Taxation

Little Thetford Acorns is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore meets the definition of a charity 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 II Corporation Tax Act 2010 and Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

16 Other information

Little Thetford Acorns is a private company limited by guarantee and incorporated in England. Its registered office is:
Oak Field
The Wyches
Little Thetford
CB6 3HG

Accounts

Company Number **06995636**

Charity Number **1132906**

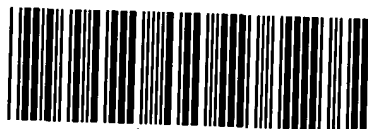
LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR

ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
DIRECTORS' FOREWORD
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

Little Thetford Acorns Pre-school & Children's Club was incorporated on 19th August 2009, registered as a charity on 23rd November 2009 and commenced activities in January 2010. A purpose-built building was completed in February 2010, using grant funding from Sure Start and Cambridgeshire County Council. The Business Plan and building design and construction were developed and managed from the resources within the parent group together with the experience of the committed staff.

The service provision extended existing pre-school care, to offer affordable, good quality childcare including through the school holidays. Our purpose-built setting is situated on Parish Council land and is approximately 400m from the Primary School enabling close working with our colleagues in education as well as being convenient for our parent users.

Little Thetford Acorns would not be able to operate without support of all the parent users, and in particular the efforts of parents on the Committee who work hard to maintain our profile, fundraise for events and act as main liaison between Directors, Users and Staff.

The current Directors are very pleased to see that all the hard work in setting up Little Thetford Acorns has resulted in such a well-used Pre-school and a well-regarded community provision. Little Thetford Acorns relies on the dedication of the volunteer Directors and Committee Members and we are pleased that our efforts and those of the staff have led to another successful year.

J Wardle
Chair & Director

M Ghita
Director

S Hartley
Secretary & Director

E McKiernan
Director

K Bond
Director

E Weaver
Director

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
COMPANY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

The Management Committee presents its report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Reference and Administration Information

Charity Name:	Little Thetford Acorns
Charity registration number:	1132906
Company registration number:	06995636
Date of incorporation:	19 August 2009
Registered Office and operational address:	Oak Field, The Wyches, Little Thetford, Cambridgeshire, CB6 3HG

Directors:

Mrs J Wardle (appointed 13 th June 2023)	Active Director
Mrs M Ghita (apponted 13 th June 2023)	Active Director
Mrs S Hartley (appointed 13 th June 2023)	Active Director
Mrs E Weaver	Active Director
(appointed 17 th Nov 2022, resigned 13 th June 2023, re-appointed 18 th Sept 2023)	
Mrs K Bond (appointed 13 th June 2023)	Active Director
Mrs E McKiernan (appointed 18 th September 2023)	Active Director

Mrs C Wagstaff (appointed 17 th Nov 2022, resigned 19 th March 2024)	Director
Mrs S Kindred (appointed 13 th June 2023, resigned 23 rd March 2024)	Director
Ms C Harwin	Director
(appointed 13 th June 2023, resigned 23 rd August 2023)	
Mr N Mecheeri	Director
(appointed 13 th June 2023, resigned 29 th September 2023)	
Mrs C Pruitt	Director
(appointed 13 th June 2023, resigned 5 th February 2024)	

Mrs K Hilton (resigned 13 th June 2023)	Director
Mrs L Brooker	Director
(appointed 17 th Nov 2022, resigned 13 th June 2023)	
Mrs S Warren (resigned 13 th June 2023)	Director
Mrs R Crossman	Director
(appointed secretary 20 th Oct 2022, resigned 13 th June 2023)	

Mrs M Warwick (secretary, resigned 20 th Oct 2022)	Secretary/Director
Mrs R Dunne (resigned 20 th Oct 2022)	Director
Ms Sarah Parish (resigned 20 th Oct 2022)	Director
Mrs D Harvey (resigned 20 th Oct 2022)	Director

Principal Officer: Chairperson, Mrs J Wardle

Banker: National Westminster
Woolpack Chambers, 16 Market Street, Ely, CB7 4YY

Investment Banker: N/A

Solicitor: Thomson, Webb & Corfield Solicitors
16 Union Road, Cambridge, CB2 1HE

**Independent
Examiner:** C Prescott, FCCA, ATT
Pond House
56 Station Road
Haddenham

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

The Directors (Trustees) present their annual report with the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023. The accounts comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Financial Reporting Standard 102 and follow the recommendations in 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).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

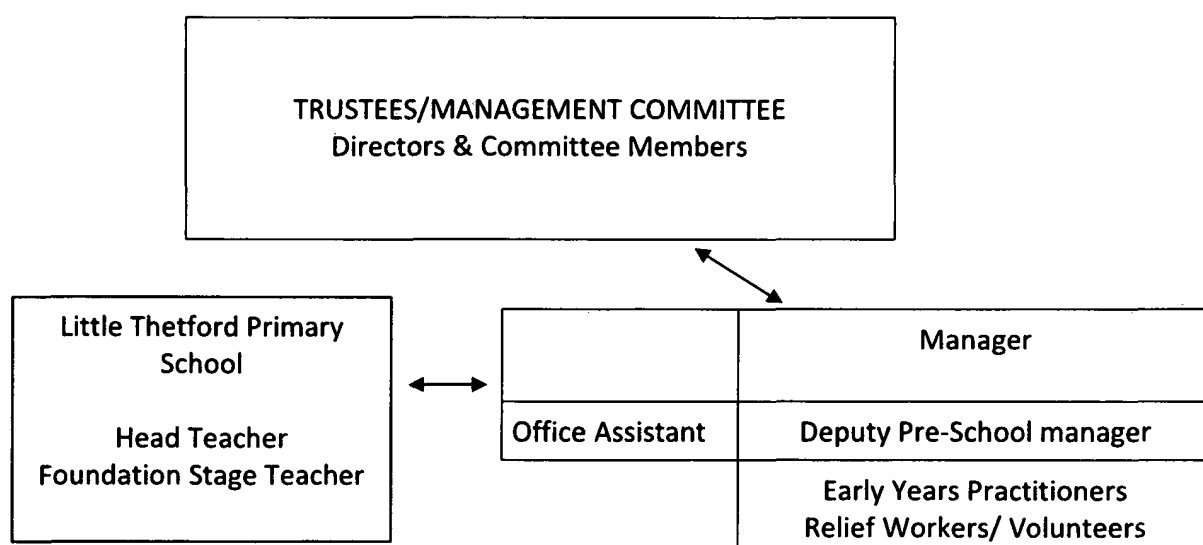
Governing Document

Little Thetford Acorns operates as a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, incorporated on 19th August 2009 and registered as a Charity on 23rd November 2009. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Appointment of Management Committee and Membership

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as members of the Management Committee. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected from existing users of the services to serve for a period of one year after which they must be re-elected at the next AGM, up to a maximum of six consecutive years. The Management Committee typically meet once every 4-6 weeks to discuss business / building and staffing related matters.

Organisational structure and wider network



**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

Consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them

Holding regular meetings enables the identification of any major risk early, whether it is financial, staffing, Ofsted or management/building related etc. Any additional support required is discussed, for example if a significant fundraising event is required or Business Support required from the County Council/Early Years Alliance; or if additional staffing resources are needed. Our Safeguarding Children Policy is of prime importance and is continually reviewed and updated if required. Daily risk assessments of the setting are essential for the safety of children and staff, therefore are reviewed regularly and updated. No major risks have been identified for this period.

Objectives and Activities

The company's main objectives, as set out in its Mission Statement:

At Little Thetford Acorns, it is our aim to provide a setting in which children are happy and secure and in which there is an atmosphere of mutual trust; where children know they are valued and respected. We aim to provide a setting where learning is exciting and an intrinsic part of their play and all that they enjoy. It is our intention to instil in each child a lifelong love of learning and to give each child the social skills needed to contribute to the wider community.

Summary of the principal activities in relation to these objectives:

The setting attracts pre-schoolers from Little Thetford, but also from the Ely area and surrounding villages. Our holiday club attracts from our pre-schoolers as well as KS1 primary school-age children from Little Thetford Primary School and meets the needs of the families in the village and surrounding villages.

Details of the Service Provision during 2022-23

	Places available	Age range	Times of opening
Wrap around a.m.	n/a	Age 2y – Rising 5's	Not available
Pre-School	25	Age 2y – Rising 5's	09.00 – 15.00 hours
Wrap around p.m.	n/a	Age 2y – Rising 5's	Not available
Holiday Club	16	Age 3y – Age 7	09.00 – 16.00 hours

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

Details of the Service Provision - continued

Pre-school: Here we continue to provide a welcoming and stimulating environment, providing a variety of activities and opportunities for the children. These include sand and water play, construction toys, music and singing, arts and crafts, writing area, mathematics area, home corner/role-play area, as well as opportunities for outside play. We also have a rolling snack time, when healthy snacks brought in from home are enjoyed. On a Monday morning, we run a Forest School session for the over 3's. We spend the morning in the local forest, led by a qualified Forest School practitioner. This inspirational process offers all children regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a woodland or natural environment with trees. Forest School is a specialised learning approach that sits within and complements the wider context of outdoor and woodland education.

We provide a wide and varied curriculum based on the Early Years Foundation Stage, offering activities and opportunities to enable the children to be confident and independent learners. The staff use information gained through observation and assessment to inform their planning to ensure that individual children's needs are met. Individual progress records are regularly maintained. We ensure that children are involved in the planning of activities and parents/committee are involved in the future purchases of equipment/resources by a variety of means such as discussions and questionnaires. We use the key-person system to enable us to work closely with families and help us meet individual children's needs and further enhance the education and care we provide.

Lunch provision: Parents have the option of extending their child's session in pre-school, by sending in a packed lunch for their child.

Wrap around care: This financial year, we didn't open up wraparound care, due to lack of demand and staffing restrictions.

Holiday club: This year, we didn't run any holiday clubs.

Partnership with parents and local community

We have outstanding partnerships with parent/carers. We recognise that parents/carers are their children's primary educators and the importance of working with those closest to the children. We achieve this by ensuring that parents/carers have the opportunity to discuss their children's progress with staff through regular meetings. Staff are available at the start and end of each session. We actively support parents/carers if they wish to attend a session at the provision or if they wish to be involved in the organisation of the group by being a committee member or regular volunteer. We held an Open Day in the summer, to encourage new, prospective families to visit and experience our setting for themselves. We have good links with the local school and continually strive to seek new links within our local community.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year:

- This has been a challenging year for the business, with low attendance figures and three staff members leaving. We are grateful for the support of the county council's Early Years Business Support team, who worked with committee to review the viability of the business. The outcome of this review was an EGM held in June 2023, which resulted in all bar one committee member stepping down.
- The handover to the new committee with Ofsted went smoothly, with a couple of delays regarding DBS checks, although the bank handover has been a lengthy process.
- We successfully recruited one new member of staff to cover the summer term, who is now a permanent member of staff.
- We benefited from the maintenance undertaken in summer 2022, with the new flooring throughout and the re-decoration of the main room, giving us a fresh, clean space for the children.
- The previous Chair reached out to the new Head of LT Primary School regarding the academy's views on the village pre-school provision, but has not had any response.
- We dealt with a large water leak during the Autumn Term and were grateful for the support of the parish council, who lent us the money to pay the Leak Finder's invoice to help our cashflow.
- Our fundraising requests to Cambridge colleges resulted in a generous donation of £700 from Trinity College.
- We successfully bid for a £500 grant from the Rotary club, to cover staff costs.
- We erected a six-foot fence to secure the area around the shed.
- This year, for the first time, we set up Just Giving as a fundraising platform, using it for our Walk to the Beach fundraiser in the summer.
- We were pleased to open up our doors to the community during the summer term, for a successful maintenance day in the garden, followed by an Open Day for prospective new families.
- We upgraded the printer and moved the admin onto the new laptop.
- We transitioned successfully the cohort of children moving to primary school in Sept 2023.
- Staff continued to attend courses online and enhance their training in other areas throughout the year.
- We continued to run our popular, weekly Forest School sessions, led by our Forest School leader.
- We continued to use Tapestry to record observations and to build relationships between pre-school and parents.
- We continued to build links with LT primary school, including their visit for Road Safety Week.
- We spent our Forest School grant, rolled over from previous years, on training the pre-school manager to qualify as a Level 3 Forest School leader.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

Plans for year ahead

- The charity plans to continue the activities outlined above in the forthcoming year, although we are not offering after hours wraparound care again this academic year.
- The new committee is working hard to increase our income and visibility.
- The focus is on increasing awareness of our pre-school within the local villages and the wider area and will advertise and promote our services more vigorously, via free channels. We need to increase the number of users to ensure longer-term viability.
- As overhead costs will only go up, especially with another 10% hike in minimum wage, the urgent priority remains to increase our income, through both funding and fundraising.
- We still hope to recruit a bank member of staff, to take the pressure off staff sickness/training.
- Staff development: continue to identify staff training requirements. Half-termly supervision reviews and annual appraisals take place.
- We will continue to improve the resources in the pre-school.
- We will promote the value of becoming a Committee member to maintain a good balance of old and new members.
- The Committee have launched a GoFundMe campaign to appeal to the wider community for financial support to help us break even this financial year.
- Committee will also focus on grant opportunities, as well as sponsorship or donations from local businesses to help fund the deficit.
- Committee will revamp the side garden area for outdoor learning and Forest School.
- We will continue to use JustGiving as a fundraising platform, as well as investing other opportunities.
- We still have issues with the IT equipment in the office and need to migrate the manager to a new laptop and dispose of the legacy desktop computer system.

Financial Review

Principal sources of funds are from Early Years Foundation Stage funding (which only accounted for 68% of our income during 2022-23) and parent fee income for pre-school (22%). In the current year, the charity has focused closely on cash flows and ensured costs are closely monitored, as we experienced a significant deficit. This has been absorbed by funds accrued over previous years in the current account.

Fundraising income is used to offset the cost of special purchases of indoor and outdoor equipment and resources, as well as improving the garden area for the children to play in. We held fewer fundraising events during FY 2022-23 due to limited committee capacity, but will resurrect a calendar of fundraising events for the year ahead.

During 22/23, we did raise nearly £2.5k, via a combination of fundraising, donations and sponsorship, including a cake sale at the Hive, stall at the village dog show, Halloween activity, a small raffle and a sponsored walk activity, as well as a small donation from Amazon Smile. We fundraised in partnership with Friends of Little Thetford School (FoLTS) with a bingo evening. We also appealed to a handful of Cambridge University colleges and were grateful to receive a cheque from Trinity College for £700. The treasurer also successfully applied for a £500 grant from the Rotary Committee.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

Financial Review - continued

Fees were kept the same rate as last year, to remain competitive. These fees are reviewed annually. We have cash flow forecasts in place and income is monitored on a regular (monthly) basis against the budget.

The Working Family Tax Credit and Childcare Voucher Schemes are promoted in order to underline the affordability of childcare. We are currently registered with a number of childcare voucher schemes and will register with new ones when parents/carers request us to do so.

The highest expenditure was the wage bill, which accounted for 71% of our costs and 88% of our income. Other significant costs during the Autumn Term were the new fence and the costs to set up the new IT laptops. We also spent £1k on the manager's Level 3 Forest School training, which was a specific grant rolled over from a previous year.

We continue to hold a contingency fund of 3 months' running costs.

Reserves Policy

The Management Committee has examined the Charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. It has established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be 3 months of expenditure and therefore a target of £25,000 should be held in general funds. The reserves are needed to meet the working revenue requirements for the charity and the Management committee are confident that at this level they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding.

Details of Any funds in Deficit

There are no funds materially in deficit.

Audit

This is a small company therefore no audit is required. An Independent examination is required.

Independent Examiner

The Independent Examiner, Chris Prescott FCCA of Taxattack, has been reappointed.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

Acknowledgements

The Management Committee of Little Thetford Acorns is very grateful to all the individuals and organisations that have helped in a variety of ways during this year of operation. We rely on dedication and time given by staff, volunteers, parents and the local community.

We would like to thank individuals, families, organisations and members of the local village community for their financial support, whether it is from a donation or attending one of our fundraising events.

Little Thetford Acorns received other contributions that are much appreciated such as goods and play equipment, which can be used by the children in the setting.

People also give up their time to help the charity in many ways (helping with charity collections, being parent helper in pre-school sessions and fundraising events). We rely on our raffles, fundraising etc to be able to keep providing an excellent service.

Little Thetford Acorns would like to extend their thanks to the people who were responsible for giving out grants in previous years and those who helped with donations.

Public Benefit

In setting our programme each year, we have regard to both the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and prevention and relief of poverty for the public benefit. The trustees always ensure that the activities we undertake and services provided are in line with our charitable objects and aims.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors, who also act as trustees, are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors (who are also trustees for the purpose of charity law) to prepare the financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, of the company for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the Directors' Report above at the Management Committee on 19th March 2024 and signed on behalf of the charity's trustees by:

Signature:



Jacqueline Wardle
Chair

Date: 15th May 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Little Thetford Acorns

Period Ended August 31st 2023

I report on the company's accounts for year ended August 31st 2023 set out on pages 13-19.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner	The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.
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Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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

Independent examiner's statement	In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention: 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements: • to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act; and • to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 386 of the Companies Act and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met or 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
---	---



C Prescott, FCCA, Pond House, Station Road, Haddenham, Cambs

Date:

14/5/2024

Little Thetford Acorns
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 August 2023

		<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>Notes</u>	<u>funds</u>	<u>funds</u>	<u>Total funds</u>	<u>Total funds</u>
		<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generating funds					
Voluntary income	2	860		860	1,050
Activities for generating funds	3	1,163		1,163	1,820
Investment and other income	4	3,259		3,259	1,701
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Childcare services	5	55,995		55,995	82,327
Total Incoming resources		61,277	-	61,277	86,898
Resources expended					
Costs of generating funds					
Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold and other costs	6	35		35	178
Charitable activities					
Childcare services	7	74,669		74,669	92,930
Governance costs	8	950		950	950
Total Resources Expended		75,654	-	75,654	94,058
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year		(14,377)		(14,377)	(7,160)
Total funds brought forward		59,009		59,009	66,169
Total funds carried forward		44,632	-	44,632	59,009

All of the above activities represent ongoing activities.

All recognised gains and losses are reflected in the Statement of Financial Activities and, therefore, no separate Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is disclosed.

Little Thetford Acorns**Registered number:****06995636****Balance Sheet****as at 31 August 2023**

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	118,310	125,137
Current assets			
Debtors	12	734	876
Cash at bank and in hand		47,366	67,067
		48,100	67,943
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(18,614)	(24,029)
Net Current Assets		29,486	43,914
Total assets less current liabilities		147,796	169,051
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(103,164)	(110,042)
Net Assets		44,632	59,009
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		44,632	59,009

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibility for:

- i) ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- ii) preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of its financial year and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.



J Wardle
Director

Approved by the board on 19 March 2024

**Little Thetford Acorns
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2023**

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (as applied to small entities by section 1A of the standard).

Turnover

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, net of discounts and value added taxes. Turnover includes revenue earned from the sale of goods and from the rendering of services. Turnover from the sale of goods is recognised when the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods have transferred to the buyer. Turnover from the rendering of services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract. The stage of completion of a contract is measured by comparing the costs incurred for work performed to date to the total estimated contract costs.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulative depreciation and any accumulative impairment losses. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:

Freehold buildings	over 50 years
Leasehold land and buildings	over the lease term
Plant and machinery	over 5 years
Fixtures, fittings, tools and equipment	over 5 years

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price (which is usually the invoice price), less any impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts. Loans and other financial assets are initially recognised at transaction price including any transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost determined using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts.

Creditors

Short term creditors are measured at transaction price (which is usually the invoice price). Loans and other financial liabilities are initially recognised at transaction price net of any transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost determined using the effective interest method.

Pensions

Contributions to defined contribution plans are expensed in the period to which they relate.

Little Thetford Acorns
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2023

2 Voluntary Income

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>31/08/2023</u>	<u>31/08/2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Donations	860		860	1,050

3 Activities for Generating Funds

	<u>31/08/2023</u>	<u>31/08/2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Fundraising events	1,163	1,772
Sales of uniform	0	48
	<u>1,163</u>	<u>1,820</u>

4 Investment and other income

	<u>31/08/2023</u>	<u>31/08/2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Interest received	224	11
Grants received	2,456	1,500
Miscellaneous income	579	190
	<u>3,259</u>	<u>1,701</u>

5 Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities

	<u>31/08/2023</u>	<u>31/08/2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Childcare fees (received from parents)	13,335	11,187
Childcare fees (received from CCC Early Years Foundation)	42,660	71,140
	<u>55,995</u>	<u>82,327</u>

6 Fundraising Trading: Cost of Goods Sold & Other Costs

	<u>31/08/2023</u>	<u>31/08/2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Sundry expenses relating to fundraising activities	35	178
	<u>35</u>	<u>178</u>

Little Thetford Acorns
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2023

7 Direct Costs of Charitable Activities

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>31/08/2023</u>	<u>31/08/2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Staff costs	53,703		53,703	66,260
Repairs and maintenance	690		690	7,935
Cleaning and hygiene	3,932		3,932	2,835
Toys and creative	1,309		1,309	1,287
Insurance	1,556		1,556	1,525
Food	306		306	67
Forest School	1,107		1,107	0
Bad debts	0		0	12
Office costs	2,395		2,395	2,154
Water and rates	1,621		1,621	1,353
Electricity	1,505		1,505	1,991
Training	177		177	1,199
Telephone and internet	888		888	754
Payroll charges	1,948		1,948	1,325
Advertising	324		324	917
TV Licence	224		224	204
Software	473		473	449
Uniform	113		113	194
Holiday club expenses	0		0	17
Equipment expensed	353		353	360
Ofsted fees	35		35	35
Other professional fees	690		690	581
Sundry expenses	151		151	464
Depreciation	7,937		7,937	7,890
Profit/(loss) on disposal of fixed ass	110		110	0
Deferred income credit -				
Government grant Forest School	-6,878		-6,878	-6,878
	<u>74,669</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>74,669</u>	<u>92,930</u>

8 Governance costs

	<u>31/08/2023</u>	<u>31/08/2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Accountancy and I.E. fee	950	950
	<u>950</u>	<u>950</u>

Little Thetford Acoms
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2023

9 Directors' Remuneration, Expenses, and Benefits

There was no directors' remuneration, expenses, or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2023 (2022 nil).

10 Staff costs

	<u>31/08/2023</u>	<u>31/08/2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Wages and salaries	52,904	65,601
NEST pension contributions	799	659
	<u>53,703</u>	<u>66,260</u>

No employees received remuneration greater than £60,000.

The average number of employees during the year was:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>
Direct charitable activities	4	7
Management and administration	1	1

Little Thetford Acorns
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2023

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Plant and machinery etc £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 September 2022	212,893	17,933	230,826
Additions	-	1,220	1,220
Disposals	-	(130)	(130)
At 31 August 2023	<u>212,893</u>	<u>19,023</u>	<u>231,916</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 September 2022	92,254	13,435	105,689
Charge for the year	7,096	841	7,937
On disposals	-	(20)	(20)
At 31 August 2023	<u>99,350</u>	<u>14,256</u>	<u>113,606</u>
Net book value			
At 31 August 2023	<u>113,543</u>	<u>4,767</u>	<u>118,310</u>
At 31 August 2022	<u>120,639</u>	<u>4,498</u>	<u>125,137</u>

12 Debtors

	<u>31/08/2023</u> £	<u>31/08/2022</u> £
Trade debtors	327	876
Other debtors	407	-
	<u>734</u>	<u>876</u>

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	<u>31/08/2023</u> £	<u>31/08/2022</u> £
Accruals and deferred income	15,785	19,026
Taxation and social security costs	360	1,030
Other creditors	2,469	3,973
	<u>18,614</u>	<u>24,029</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	<u>31/08/2023</u> £	<u>31/08/2022</u> £
Accruals and deferred income	<u>103,164</u>	<u>110,042</u>

Little Thetford Acorns
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2023

15 Accruals and deferred income	<u>31/08/2023</u>	<u>31/08/2022</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Deferred income:		
Government grant brought forward/received	110,042	116,920
Transfer 1/30th to amounts falling due within one year	(6,878)	(6,878)
	<u>103,164</u>	<u>110,042</u>

16 Taxation

Little Thetford Acorns is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore meets the definition of a charity 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 II Corporation Tax Act 2010 and Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

17 Other information

Little Thetford Acorns is a private company limited by shares and incorporated in England. Its registered office is:
Oak Field
The Wyches
Little Thetford
CB6 3HG

Accounts

Company Number 06995636

Charity Number 1132906

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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COMPANIES HOUSE

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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Statement of Financial Activities	11
Balance Sheet	12
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LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
DIRECTORS' FOREWORD
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Little Thetford Acorns Pre-school & Children's Club was incorporated on 19th August 2009, registered as a charity on 23rd November 2009 and commenced activities in January 2010. A purpose-built building was completed in February 2010, using grant funding from Sure Start and Cambridgeshire County Council. The Business Plan and building design and construction were developed and managed from the resources within the parent group together with the experience of the committed staff.

The service provision extended existing pre-school care, to offer affordable, good quality childcare including through the school holidays. Our purpose-built setting is situated on Parish Council land and is approximately 400m from the Primary School enabling close working with our colleagues in education as well as being convenient for our parent users.

Little Thetford Acorns would not be able to operate without support of all the parent users, and in particular the efforts of parents on the Committee who work hard to maintain our profile, fundraise for events and act as main liaison between Directors, Users and Staff.

The current Directors are very pleased to see that all the hard work in setting up Little Thetford Acorns has resulted in such a well-used Pre-school and a well-regarded community provision. Little Thetford Acorns relies on the dedication of the volunteer Directors and Committee Members and we are pleased that our efforts and those of the staff have led to another successful year.

K Hilton
Chair & Director

S Warren
Director

R Crossman
Director

C Wagstaff
Director

L Brooker
Director

E Weaver
Director

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
COMPANY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

The Management Committee presents its report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2022.

Reference and Administration Information

Charity Name:	Little Thetford Acorns
Charity registration number:	1132906
Company registration number:	06995636
Date of incorporation:	19 August 2009
Registered Office and operational address:	Oak Field, The Wyches, Little Thetford, Cambridgeshire, CB6 3HG

Directors:

Mrs K Hilton	Director
Mrs M Warwick (secretary, resigned 20 th Oct 2022)	Director
Mrs S Warren	Director
Mrs R Crossman (appointed secretary 20 th Oct 2022)	Director
Mrs R Dunne (resigned 20 th Oct 2022)	Director
Ms Sarah Parish (resigned 20 th Oct 2022)	Director
Mrs D Harvey (resigned 20 th Oct 2022)	Director
Mrs C Wagstaff (appointed 17 th Nov 2022)	Director
Mrs E Weaver (appointed 17 th Nov 2022)	Director
Mrs L Brooker (appointed 17 th Nov 2022)	Director

Principal Officer: Chairperson, Mrs K Hilton

Banker: National Westminster
Woolpack Chambers, 16 Market Street, Ely, CB7 4YY

Investment Banker: N/A

Solicitor: Thomson, Webb & Corfield Solicitors
16 Union Road, Cambridge, CB2 1HE

Independent Examiner: C Prescott, FCCA, ATT
Pond House
56 Station Road
Haddenham

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

The Directors (Trustees) present their annual report with the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022. The accounts comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Financial Reporting Standard 102 and follow the recommendations in 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).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

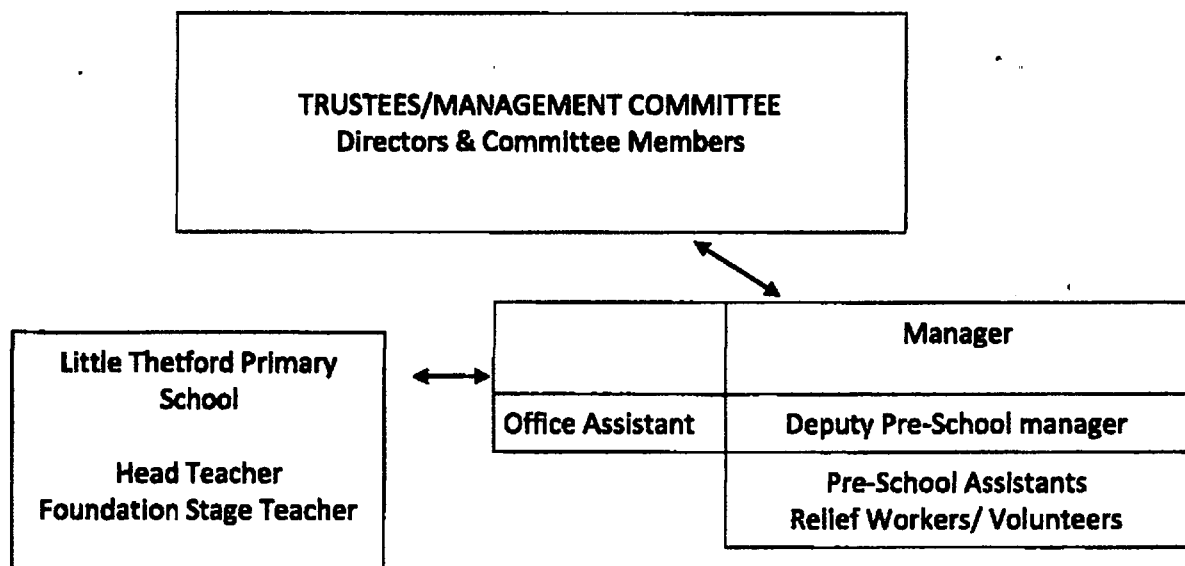
Governing Document

Little Thetford Acorns operates as a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, incorporated on 19th August 2009 and registered as a Charity on 23rd November 2009. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Appointment of Management Committee and Membership

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as members of the Management Committee. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected from existing users of the services to serve for a period of one year after which they must be re-elected at the next AGM, up to a maximum of six consecutive years. The Management Committee typically meet once every 4-6 weeks to discuss business / building and staffing related matters.

Organisational structure and wider network



**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

Consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them

Holding regular meetings enables the identification of any major risk early, whether it is financial, staffing, Ofsted or management/building related etc. Any additional support required is discussed, for example if a significant fundraising event is required or Business Support required from the County Council/Early Years Alliance; or if additional staffing resources are needed. Our Safeguarding Children Policy is of prime importance and is continually reviewed and updated if required. Daily risk assessments of the setting are essential for the safety of children and staff, therefore are reviewed regularly and updated. No major risks have been identified for this period.

Objectives and Activities

The company's main objectives, as set out in its Mission Statement:

At Little Thetford Acorns it is our aim to provide a setting in which children are happy and secure and in which there is an atmosphere of mutual trust; where children know they are valued and respected. We aim to provide a setting where learning is exciting and an intrinsic part of their play and all that they enjoy. It is our intention to instil in each child a lifelong love of learning and to give each child the social skills needed to contribute to the wider community.

Summary of the principal activities in relation to these objectives:

The setting attracts pre-schoolers from Little Thetford, but also from the Ely area and surrounding villages. Our holiday club attracts from our pre-schoolers as well as KS1 primary school-age children from Little Thetford Primary School and meets the needs of the families in the village and surrounding villages.

Details of the Service Provision during 2021-22

	Places available	Age range	Times of opening
Wrap around a.m.	4	Age 2y – Rising 5's	No longer available
Pre-School	25	Age 2y – Rising 5's	09.00 – 15.30 hours
Wrap around p.m.	8	Age 2y – Rising 5's	15.30 – 16.30 hours
Holiday Club	16	Age 3y – Age 7	09.00 – 16.00 hours

Please note: Wrap around care was only offered during the afternoon on a Monday and Tuesday during the financial year 2021-22.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

Details of the Service Provision - continued

Pre-school: Here we continue to provide a welcoming and stimulating environment, providing a variety of activities and opportunities for the children. These include sand and water play, construction toys, music and singing, arts and crafts, writing area, mathematics area, home corner/role-play area, as well as opportunities for outside play. We also have a rolling snack time, when healthy snacks brought in from home are enjoyed. On a Monday morning, we run a Forest School session for the over 3's. We spend the morning in the local forest, led by a qualified Forest School practitioner. This inspirational process offers all children regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a woodland or natural environment with trees. Forest School is a specialised learning approach that sits within and complements the wider context of outdoor and woodland education.

We provide a wide and varied curriculum based on the Early Years Foundation Stage, offering activities and opportunities to enable the children to be confident and Independent learners. The staff use information gained through observation and assessment to inform their planning to ensure that individual children's needs are met. Individual progress records are regularly maintained. We ensure that children are involved in the planning of activities and parents/committee are involved in the future purchases of equipment/resources by a variety of means such as discussions and questionnaires. We use the key-person system to enable us to work closely with families and help us meet individual children's needs and further enhance the education and care we provide.

Lunch provision: Parents have the option of extending their child's session in pre-school, by sending in a packed lunch for their child.

Wrap around care: Parents are able to be flexible, according to their daily requirements and book to use the wraparound care provided to extend the hours at pre-school. This financial year, we didn't open up the morning wraparound care, due to lack of demand and staffing restrictions. We offered after-school wraparound care on Mondays and Tuesdays, when there was enough demand.

Holiday club: This year, we only ran the Easter Holiday Club due to staffing restrictions in the summer. It was available for our current children plus their siblings, up to the age of 7 (Year 2) and we also offered places to L.T. Primary School for KS1 children.

Partnership with parents and local community

We have outstanding partnerships with parent/carers. We recognise that parents/carers are their children's primary educators and the importance of working with those closest to the children. We achieve this by ensuring that parents/carers have the opportunity to discuss their children's progress with staff through regular meetings. Staff are available at the start and end of each session. We actively support parents/carers if they wish to attend a session at the provision or if they wish to be involved in the organisation of the group by being a committee member or regular volunteer. As the Covid-19 guidelines relaxed through the year, we were able to start inviting parents and families back into setting again this year, including visits from new, prospective families. We have good links with the local school and continually strive to seek new links within our local community.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year:

- We transitioned successfully our largest cohort of children moving to primary school in Sept 2022 – 21 in total.
- 83% of respondents to our Leavers' Questionnaire the previous year, in Autumn 2021, agreed or strongly agreed that their child was well-prepared emotionally and socially for primary school. This rose to 100% for the recent cohort.
- 100% of respondents said they felt their child was academically well-prepared (this dropped slightly in Sept 2022 as we had one family who felt strongly that the academic focus wasn't what they expected).
- We were able to open up more parent/carer opportunities to become involved with both pre-school and fundraising events, as the Covid-19 guidelines relaxed.
- The fundraising team met their £3k target, through a combination of fundraising activities and donations/ sponsorship.
- Our fundraising committee was successful in appealing for sponsorship from local companies, as well as a £200 donation for sand for our sand pit from the builders.
- We trialled a regular Rugbyschool activity session during spring, which the children really enjoyed. This helped to develop gross motor skills, as well as teamwork and learning to follow instructions.
- We confirmed our Acting Manager in post as permanent Pre-school Manager.
- Staff continued to attend courses online and enhance their training in other areas throughout the year.
- We replaced our vinyl safety flooring throughout pre-school and removed the carpet in the reading area, to keep the room more hygienic and remove a tripping hazard where the flooring had aged and lifted slightly.
- The Committee team repainted the main room at pre-school, giving it a fresh, clean feel.
- We replaced the lighting in the children's toilets, to ensure they felt safe. Previous lights were too dim and causing some anxiety.
- We maintained a reflective team which helps us to improve and enhance the provision, using staff meetings to discuss issues arising; invite suggestions; feed into planning and develop jointly the pre-school ethos.
- We continued to keep the website updated to ensure it is an excellent source of information for current users as well as new parents searching for information.
- We continued to run our popular, weekly Forest School sessions, led by our qualified Forest School leader.
- We continued to use Tapestry to record observations and to build relationships between pre-school and parents.
- We continued to build links with LT primary school, including their visit for Road Safety Week.
- We have invested in a new IT system, as the old PCs were no longer fit for purpose.
- We started our first ever Apprenticeship in Sept 2021. Due to personal reasons however, the member of staff left at the end of the academic year.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

Plans for future years

- The charity plans to continue the activities outlined above in the forthcoming year, although we are not offering after hours wraparound care this academic year.
- We need to increase the number of users, especially in the afternoon sessions.
- We will continue to advertise and promote our services.
- We aim to recruit a bank member of staff, to take the pressure off staff sickness/training.
- Staff development: continue to identify staff training requirements through the Professional Development Reviews. Half-termly supervision reviews and annual appraisals take place.
- We will erect a fence to secure the area around the shed.
- We will continue to improve the resources in the pre-school.
- We are in receipt of a grant, rolled over from previous years. This is being spent this academic year on training the pre-school manager to qualify as a Forest School leader.
- We will promote the value of becoming a Committee member to maintain a good balance of old and new members.
- This year, for the first time, we set up Just Giving as a possible fundraising platform. This needs to be reviewed and explored during the coming year.
- We will implement fully the new IT system, including upgrading the printer.
- Committee will focus on grant opportunities, as well as sponsorship or donations from local businesses to help fund the deficit.
- Committee will revamp the garden area to the side of the building so it can be used by the children. We plan to create a staff garden to help with staff wellbeing.

Financial Review

Principal sources of funds are from Early Years Foundation Stage funding (which accounted for 81% of our income) and parent fee income for pre-school (13%). In the current year, the charity has focused closely on cash flows and ensured costs are closely monitored.

Fundraising income is used to offset the cost of special activity days; purchase indoor and outdoor equipment and resources, as well as improving the garden area for the children to play in. We maintain a calendar of fundraising events.

During 21/22, the fundraising committee achieved their target of £3k, via a combination of fundraising events, donations and sponsorship. Examples include seasonal cake sales; bottle tombola at G's Farm Open Day; Bag2Schools; Christmas card sales, as well as affiliate marketing ie Amazon Smile. The Fundraising team also initiated a very successful, new activity this year, in support of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a sponsored "walk to Buckingham Palace". The Committee successfully appealed for sponsorship from local firms prior to Christmas and we banked donations totaling £520. At the end of the summer term, one of our parents sent out an appeal for donations from our cohort of leavers and we were very grateful for their generous donation of £250.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

Financial Review - continued

Fees were kept the same rate as last year, to remain competitive as well as financially realistic, to attract parents and maintain financial viability. These fees are reviewed annually. We have cash flow forecasts in place and income is monitored on a regular (monthly) basis against the budget.

The Working Family Tax Credit and Childcare Voucher Schemes are promoted in order to underline the affordability of childcare. We are currently registered with a number of childcare voucher schemes and will register with new ones when parents/carers request us to do so.

The highest expenditure was the wage bill, which accounted for 68% of our outgoings. We were generously supported by the Parish Council again this year, with a grant of £932 towards our new flooring. The largest expense was the cost of removing and disposing of one of our sheds and its contents (£700). We also purchased three new laptops and a replacement dishwasher.

We currently hold a contingency fund of 3 months' running costs.

Reserves Policy

The Management Committee has examined the Charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. It has established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be 3 months of expenditure and therefore a target of £25,000 should be held in general funds. The reserves are needed to meet the working revenue requirements for the charity and the Management committee are confident that at this level they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding.

Details of Any funds in Deficit

There are no funds materially in deficit.

Audit

This is a small company therefore no audit is required. An Independent examination is required.

Independent Examiner

The Independent Examiner, Chris Prescott FCCA of Taxattack, has been reappointed.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

Acknowledgements

The Management Committee of Little Thetford Acorns is very grateful to all the individuals and organisations that have helped in a variety of ways during this year of operation. We rely on dedication and time given by staff, volunteers, parents and the local community.

We would like to thank individuals, families, organisations and members of the local village community for their financial support, whether it is from a donation or attending one of our fundraising events.

Little Thetford Acorns received other contributions that are much appreciated such as goods and play equipment, which can be used by the children in the setting.

People also give up their time to help the charity in many ways (helping with charity collections, being parent helper in pre-school sessions and fundraising events). We rely on our raffles, fundraising etc to be able to keep providing an excellent service.

Little Thetford Acorns would like to extend their thanks to the people who were responsible for giving out grants in previous years and those who helped with donations.

Public Benefit

In setting our programme each year, we have regard to both the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and prevention and relief of poverty for the public benefit. The trustees always ensure that the activities we undertake and services provided are in line with our charitable objects and aims.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors, who also act as trustees, are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors (who are also trustees for the purpose of charity law) to prepare the financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, of the company for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the Directors' Report above at the Management Committee on 28th February 2023 and signed on behalf of the charity's trustees by:

Signature: 

Kate Hilton
Chair

Date: 27.3.23

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Little Thetford Acorns

Period Ended August 31st 2022

I report on the accounts of the company for year ended August 31st 2022 set out on pages 12-19.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

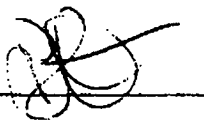
Basis of independent examiner's report My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration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

Independent examiner's statement In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 386 of the Companies Act and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met or

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



C Prescott, FCCA
Pond House, Station Road, Haddenham, Cambs

Date: 23/3/2023

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Including Income & Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Funds</u> <u>£</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Funds</u> <u>£</u>	<u>2022</u> <u>Total Funds</u> <u>£</u>	<u>2021</u> <u>Total Funds</u> <u>£</u>
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generating funds					
Voluntary income	2	1,050	-	1,050	1,518
Activities for generating funds	3	1,820	-	1,820	1,126
Investment and other income	4	1,701	-	1,701	785
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Childcare services	5	82,327	-	82,327	94,498
Total Incoming Resources		86,898	-	86,898	97,927
Resources expended					
Costs of generating funds					
Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold and other costs	6	178	-	178	42
Charitable activities					
Childcare services	7	92,930	-	92,930	77,855
Governance costs	8	950	-	950	1,215
Total Resources Expended		94,058	-	94,058	79,112
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year		(7,160)	-	(7,160)	18,815
Total funds brought forward		66,169	-	66,169	47,354
Total funds carried forward		59,009	-	59,009	66,169

All of the above activities represent ongoing activities.

All recognised gains and losses are reflected in the Statement of Financial Activities and, therefore, no separate Statement of Total Recognised Gain and Losses is disclosed.

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Including Income & Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u> £	<u>Restricted Funds</u> £	<u>2022 Total Funds</u> £	<u>2021 Total Funds</u> £
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generating funds					
Voluntary income	2	1,050	-	1,050	1,518
Activities for generating funds	3	1,820	-	1,820	1,126
Investment and other income	4	1,701	-	1,701	785
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
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Total funds carried forward		59,009	-	59,009	66,169

All of the above activities represent ongoing activities.

All recognised gains and losses are reflected in the Statement of Financial Activities and, therefore, no separate Statement of Total Recognised Gain and Losses is disclosed.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022**

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>31/08/2022</u> <u>£</u>	<u>31/08/2021</u> <u>£</u>
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	11	125,137	131,332
Current Assets			
Debtors	12	876	1,022
Cash at bank and in hand		67,067	65,113
		<u>67,943</u>	<u>66,135</u>
Creditors:			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(24,029)</u>	<u>(14,378)</u>
Net Current Assets		43,914	51,757
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		<u>181,726</u>	<u>183,089</u>
Creditors:			
Amounts falling due after more than one year	14	<u>(110,042)</u>	<u>(116,920)</u>
Net Assets		<u>59,009</u>	<u>66,169</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>59,009</u>	<u>66,169</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

For the year ended 31 August 2020 the company was entitled to exemption under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with Section 476.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibility for:

- i) ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- ii) preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of its financial year, and of its income and expenditure for the financial year and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

By order of the Directors:

Mrs K Hilton – Chairperson

Date: 27.3.23



LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting Policies

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.

Little Thetford Acorns 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.

Incoming resources

The charity has received government grants in the period. Grants and subscriptions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which the income relates. All other income is recognised on an accruals basis. Any income restricted to future accounting periods is deferred and recognised in those accounting periods.

Investment income

Investment income is included when receivable.

Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis, inclusive of VAT which cannot be recovered.

Charitable activity costs include attributable staff and other costs for each area of the organisation together with a corresponding apportionment of support costs. The basis of apportionment is a cost centre allocation based on the headcount.

Governance costs are those associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its estimated useful life.

Equipment, fixtures and fittings	- 15% on reducing balance
Freehold building	- 30yrs straight line

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its activities.

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting Policies – continued

General Funds

These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charity's objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated Funds

These are funds set aside by the Trustees from the general funds for specific projects.

Restricted Funds

These are monies, which have legal restrictions on their use where donors have specified the funds can only be spent on certain of the charity's activities.

Cash Flow

A cash flow statement has not been prepared as the Trustees have taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by Financial Reporting Standard Number 1 (revised) as the charity is of similar size to a small company.

Income and Expenditure Account

As the Statement of Financial Activities reflects the information required by the Companies Act in relation to income and expenditure, a separate Income and Expenditure Account has not been prepared.

Cost of Generating Funds

This comprises all expenditure relating to raising funds for the charity.

2. Voluntary Income

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>31/08/2022</u>	<u>31/08/2021</u>
			£	£
Donations	<u>1,050</u>		<u>1,050</u>	<u>1,518</u>

3. Activities for Generating Funds

	<u>31/08/2022</u>	<u>31/08/2021</u>
	£	£
Fundraising events	1,772	982
Sales of uniform	<u>48</u>	<u>144</u>
	<u>1,820</u>	<u>1,126</u>

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

4. Investment and other Income

Interest received	11	3
Grants received	1,500	721
Miscellaneous Income	190	61
	<u>1,701</u>	<u>785</u>

5. Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities

	<u>31/08/2022</u>	<u>31/08/2021</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Childcare fees (received from parents)	11,187	24,078
Childcare fees (received from Cambridgeshire County Council Early Years Foundation Stage funding)	71,140	70,420
	<u>82,327</u>	<u>94,498</u>

6. Fundraising Trading: Cost of Goods Sold and Other Costs

Sundry expenses relating to fundraising activities	<u>178</u>	<u>42</u>
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LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

7. Direct Costs of Charitable Activities

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>31/08/2022</u>	<u>31/08/2021</u>
			£	£
Staff costs	66,260	-	66,260	58,146
Repairs and maintenance	7,935	-	7,935	2,879
Cleaning and hygiene	2,835	-	2,835	3,280
Toys and creative	1,287	-	1,287	2,252
Insurance	1,525	-	1,525	1,505
Food	67	-	67	14
Bad debts	12	-	12	-
Office costs	2,154	-	2,154	1,575
Water and rates	1,353	-	1,353	580
Electricity	1,991	-	1,991	1,096
Training	1,199	-	1,199	268
Telephone and internet	754	-	754	651
Payroll charges	1,325	-	1,325	1,546
Advertising	917	-	917	316
TV Licence	204	-	204	163
Software	449	-	449	432
Uniform	194	-	194	400
Holiday club expenses	17	-	17	6
Equipment expensed	360	-	360	893
Ofsted Fees	35	-	35	35
Other professional fees	581	-	581	518
Sundry expenses	464	-	464	421
Depreciation	7,890	-	7,890	7,731
Deferred income credit –	(6,878)	-	(6,878)	(6,878)
Government grant	-	-	-	-
Forest School	-	-	-	26
	<u>92,930</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>92,930</u>	<u>77,855</u>

8. Governance costs

	<u>31/08/2022</u>	<u>31/08/2021</u>
	£	£
Accountancy and I.E. fee	<u>950</u>	<u>1215</u>

9. Directors' Remuneration and Benefits

There was no directors' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2022 (2019 - £nil).

Directors' Expenses

There were no directors' expenses paid for the year ended 31 August 2022 (2021 - £nil).

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

10. Staff Costs

	<u>31/08/2022</u>	<u>31/08/2021</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Wages and salaries	65,601	57,423
NEST pension contributions	659	723
	<u>66,260</u>	<u>58,146</u>

No employees received remuneration greater than £60,000.

The average number of employees during the year was:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>
Direct charitable activities	7	5
Management and administration	1	1
	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>

The charity is now registered and providing pension schemes to employees with NEST.

11. Tangible Fixed Assets

	<u>Leasehold Land and Freehold Buildings</u>	<u>Equipment, Fixtures & Fittings</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Cost			
At 01/09/2021	212,893	17,037	229,930
Additions in the year		1,696	1,696
Disposals in the year		(800)	(800)
At 31/08/2022	<u>212,893</u>	<u>17,933</u>	<u>230,826</u>
Depreciation			
At 01/09/2021	85,157	13,441	98,598
Charge for the year	7,096	794	7,890
Elimination on disposals		(800)	(800)
At 31/08/2022	<u>92,253</u>	<u>13,435</u>	<u>105,688</u>
Net Book Value			
At 31/08/2021	<u>127,736</u>	<u>3,596</u>	<u>131,332</u>
At 31/08/2022	<u>120,639</u>	<u>4,498</u>	<u>125,137</u>

The charity holds a lease on the land from the local Parish Council. A peppercorn rent has been paid for a period of 25 years from August 2008.

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

12. Debtors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	<u>31/08/2022</u>	<u>31/08/2021</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Trade debtors	876	1,022
Other debtors		
	<u>876</u>	<u>1,022</u>

13. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	<u>31/08/2022</u>	<u>31/08/2021</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Accruals and deferred income	19,026	10,616
Other creditors	5,003	3,762
	<u>24,029</u>	<u>14,378</u>

14. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year

	<u>31/08/2022</u>	<u>31/08/2021</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Deferred income: Government grant brought forward / received	116,920	123,798
Transfer 1/30 th to amounts falling within one year		
	<u>(6,878)</u>	<u>(6,878)</u>
	<u>110,042</u>	<u>116,920</u>

Grant funding was received from Cambridgeshire County Council for the purpose of business planning, building design and construction. It is of the directors' opinion that the building will have an estimated useful life of approximately 30 years; therefore the deferred income will be credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in equal instalments over 30 years.

15. Taxation

Little Thetford Acorns is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charity 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 II Corporation Tax Act 2010 of Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Accounts

Company Number **06995636**

Charity Number **1132906**

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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Balance Sheet	13
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**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
DIRECTORS' FOREWORD
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

Little Thetford Acorns Pre-school & Children's Club was incorporated on 19th August 2009, registered as a charity on 23rd November 2009 and commenced activities in January 2010. A purpose-built building was completed in February 2010, using grant funding from Sure Start and Cambridgeshire County Council. The Business Plan and building design and construction were developed and managed from the resources within the parent group together with the experience of the committed staff.

The service provision extended existing pre-school care, to offer affordable, good quality childcare including through the school holidays. Our purpose-built setting is situated on Parish Council land and is approximately 400m from the Primary School enabling close working with our colleagues in education as well as being convenient for our parent users.

Little Thetford Acorns would not be able to operate without support of all the parent users, and in particular the efforts of parents on the Committee who work hard to maintain our profile, fundraise for events and act as main liaison between Directors, Users and Staff.

The current Directors are very pleased to see that all the hard work in setting up Little Thetford Acorns has resulted in such a well-used Pre-school and a well-regarded community provision. Little Thetford Acorns relies on the dedication of the volunteer Directors and Committee Members and we are pleased that our efforts and those of the staff have led to such a successful year.

K Hilton
Chair & Director

S Warren
Director

R Crossman
Director

S Parish
Director

M Warwick
Director

R Dunne
Director

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
COMPANY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

The Management Committee presents its report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2021.

Reference and Administration Information

Charity Name:	Little Thetford Acorns
Charity registration number:	1132906
Company registration number:	06995636
Date of incorporation:	19 August 2009
Registered Office and operational address:	Oak Field, The Wyches, Little Thetford, Cambridgeshire, CB6 3HG

Directors:

Mrs K Hilton	Director
Mrs M Warwick (secretary)	Director
Mrs S Warren	Director
Mrs R Crossman	Director
Mrs R Dunne	Director
Ms Sarah Parish (appointed 11 th Oct 2021)	Director
Ms H Roche (appointed 5 th Oct 20, resigned 12 th Sept 21)	Director
Mrs C Gilbey (appointed 5 th Oct 20, resigned 20 th Sept 21)	Director
Mrs D Harvey (resigned 5 th Oct 20, re-appointed 22 nd March 2022)	Director
Mrs K Dyer (resigned 14 th Dec 20)	Director
Mrs J Ingle (resigned 5 th Oct 20)	Director
Mr J Richardson (resigned 5 th Oct 20)	Director

Principal Officer: Chairperson, Mrs K Hilton

Banker: National Westminster
Woolpack Chambers, 16 Market Street, Ely, CB7 4YY

Solicitor: Thomson, Webb & Corfield Solicitors
16 Union Road, Cambridge, CB2 1HE

**Independent
Examiner:** C Prescott, FCCA, ATT
Pond House
56 Station Road
Haddenham

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

The Directors (Trustees) present their annual report with the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021. The accounts comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Financial Reporting Standard 102 and follow the recommendations in 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).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

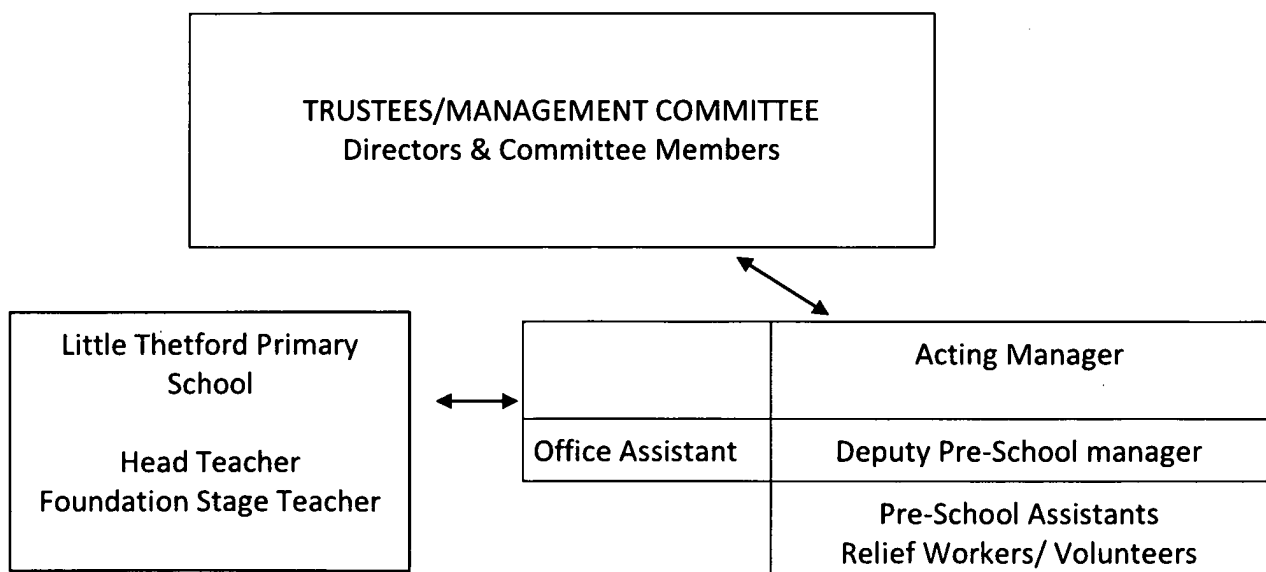
Governing Document

Little Thetford Acorns operates as a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, incorporated on 19th August 2009 and registered as a Charity on 23rd November 2009. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Appointment of Management Committee and Membership

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as members of the Management Committee. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected from existing users of the services to serve for a period of one year after which they must be re-elected at the next AGM, up to a maximum of six consecutive years. The Management Committee typically meet once every 4-6 weeks to discuss business / building and staffing related matters.

Organisational structure and wider network



**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

Consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them

Holding regular meetings enables the identification of any major risk early, whether it is financial, staffing, Ofsted or management/building related etc. Any additional support required is discussed, for example if a significant fundraising event is required or Business Support required from the County Council/Preschool Learning Alliance; or if additional staffing resources are needed. Our Safeguarding Children and Child Protection Policy is of prime importance and is continually reviewed and updated if required. Daily risk reviews of the setting are essential for the safety of children and staff, therefore are reviewed regularly and updated. No major risks have been identified for this period.

Objectives and Activities

The company's main objectives, as set out in its Mission Statement:

At Little Thetford Acorns it is our aim to provide a setting in which children are happy and secure and in which there is an atmosphere of mutual trust; where children know they are valued and respected. We aim to provide a setting where learning is exciting and an intrinsic part of their play and all that they enjoy. It is our intention to instil in each child a lifelong love of learning and to give each child the social skills needed to contribute to the wider community.

Summary of the principal activities in relation to these objectives:

The setting attracts pre-schoolers from Little Thetford, but also from the Ely area and surrounding villages. Our holiday club attracts from our pre-schoolers as well as school-age children from Little Thetford Primary School and meets the needs of the families in the village and surrounding villages.

Details of the Service Provision

	Places available	Age range	Times of opening
Wrap around a.m.	4	Age 2y – Rising 5's	08.30 – 09.00 hours
Pre School	25	Age 2y – Rising 5's	09.00 – 15.00 hours
Wrap around p.m.	8	Age 2y – Rising 5's	15.00 – 16.30 hours
Holiday Club	16	Age 3y – Age 11	09.00 – 16.00 hours

Please note: Wrap around care was only offered during the afternoon on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday during the financial year 2020-21.

- **Wrap around Care:** This provides a welcoming and relaxed environment, where children enjoy a healthy snack if required.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

Details of the Service Provision - continued

Pre-school: Here we continue to provide a welcoming and stimulating environment, providing a variety of activities and opportunities for the children. These include sand and water play, construction toys, music and singing, arts and crafts, writing area, mathematics area, home corner/role-play area, as well as opportunities for outside play. We also have a rolling snack time, when healthy snacks brought in from home are enjoyed. On a Monday morning, we run a Forest School session for the over 3's. We spend the morning in the local forest, led by a qualified Forest School practitioner. This inspirational process offers all children regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a woodland or natural environment with trees. Forest School is a specialised learning approach that sits within and complements the wider context of outdoor and woodland education.

We provide a wide and varied curriculum based on the Early Years Foundation Stage, offering activities and opportunities to enable the children to be confident and independent learners. The staff use information gained through observation and assessment to inform their planning to ensure that individual children's needs are met. Individual progress records are regularly maintained. We ensure that children are involved in the planning of activities and parents/committee are involved in the future purchases of equipment/resources by a variety of means such as discussions and questionnaires. We use the key-person system to enable us to work closely with families and help us meet individual children's needs and further enhance the education and care we provide.

Lunch provision: Parents have the option of extending their child's session in pre-school, by sending in a packed lunch for their child.

Wrap around care: Parents are able to be flexible, according to their daily requirements and book to use the wraparound care provided to extend the hours at pre-school. This financial year, we didn't open up the morning wraparound care, due to lack of demand, but we had two bookings for an earlier drop off on certain mornings of the week. We offered after-school wraparound care on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, when there was enough demand.

Holiday club: Activities offered include sports morning, baking, themed craft work and games. This year, we only ran the Easter Holiday Club due to staffing restrictions in the summer. We will continue to work hard in establishing and promoting Holiday Clubs.

Partnership with parents and local community

We have outstanding partnerships with parent/carers. We recognise that parents/carers are their children's primary educators and the importance of working with those closest to the children. We achieve this by ensuring that parents/carers have the opportunity to discuss their children's progress with staff through regular meetings. Staff are available at the start and end of each session. We actively support parents/carers if they wish to attend a session at the provision or if they wish to be involved in the organisation of the group by being a committee member or regular volunteer. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 guidelines, we have had restricted visits from parents and families again this year. We have good links with the local school, with regular visits throughout the school year. We also continually strive to seek new links with within our local community.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year:

- Following on from the previous disrupted year, we were able to stay open, for all of our children, throughout the entire financial year 2020-21. This in spite of failing to recruit new staff members.
- In addition to our regular new starters, we also stepped in to support families who had been using a different childcare setting in the village: they had to close at Easter and we tried to take all those families who needed us.
- We continued to promote parent/carer opportunity to become involved in Committee and with local fundraising events as appropriate within the guidelines of Covid-19.
- The fundraising team did an amazing job this year, in spite of the challenges posed by the pandemic, and succeeded in achieving over 80% of their £3,000 target. This was a combination of fundraising activities, donations and grants. We held successful themed cake sales in the village at Halloween, Christmas and Easter, alongside additional activities for the children. We also ran two Bag2School collections of donated textiles.
- Our fundraising lead was successful in applying for two grants from the parish council. They also approached the construction company linked to the new housing development, who generously donated £100 for sand for our sand pit.
- During the Summer, Committee put out an appeal for donations from parents and we were amazed by the generosity of those who responded to our appeal.
- We were able to purchase a variety of resources for pre-school this year with the pots of funding that we received, including a reading pod, a new playdough kitchen, building blocks and a sensory dark den. We also bought a modular climbing frame for the outdoor area and soft play equipment to support development of gross motor skills.
- We continued to support the Acting Manager, as recruitment has proved very difficult this year.
- Staff continued to attend courses online and enhance their training in other areas throughout the year.
- We maintained a reflective team which helps us to continue to improve and enhance the provision.
- We continued to keep the website updated to ensure it is an excellent source of information for current users as well as new parents searching for information.
- We continued to run our weekly Forest School sessions, led by our Forest School leader.
- We continued to use Tapestry to record observations and to build relationships between pre-school and parents.
- We continued to build links with LT primary school where possible, given the restrictions, in order to support the children's transition.
- We finalised the literacy project funded by the Opportunities Area Grant, working in partnership with Ladybirds and Little Thetford Primary School.
- We erected a new wooden fence over the summer to create a solid boundary, which will give us privacy and ensure the safeguarding of our children as new houses are built behind the pre-school garden.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

Plans for future years

- The charity plans to continue the activities outlined above in the forthcoming year.
- Further increase our number of users in the afternoons and in our extended services.
- Continue to advertise and promote our services.
- We will be starting an apprenticeship from September 2021 with a new member of staff.
- We aim to recruit additional staff members.
- Staff development: continue to identify staff training requirements through the Professional Development Reviews. Half-termly supervision reviews and annual appraisals take place.
- We are planning on replacing the flooring in the main room and re-painting the main room and toilets to refresh the space.
- We will continue to improve the resources in the pre-school.
- We are in receipt of a grant, rolled over from previous years, to train a further member of staff as a Forest School leader and to buy resources to support this training.
- Promote the value of becoming a Committee member to maintain a good balance of old and new members.

Financial Review

Principal sources of funds are from Early Years Foundation Stage funding and parent fee income for pre-school and wraparound care. In the current year, the charity has focused closely on cash flows and ensured costs are closely monitored.

Fundraising activities during 20/21 were very restricted again and we were unable to hold our annual Summer Fun Day, which generates a substantial amount of our fundraising income. Overall, we managed to raise ca. £2,500. Fundraising amounts are used to offset the cost of special activity days, outings, purchase indoor and outdoor equipment as well as improving the garden area for the children to play in. We maintain a calendar of fundraising events.

We were also very grateful for the support of Little Thetford Parish Council, who awarded us two grants during the year, totalling £720. These were earmarked for specific resources at pre-school: to enhance our reading area with suitable seating for the children; to maintain our high standard of hygiene at the setting with a steam mop and to provide two new tablets for our staff team to record observations and capture information regarding the children's development.

At the end of the Summer Term, Committee put out an appeal for donations from parents and we were amazed by the generosity of those who responded to our appeal. We received generous donations totalling nearly £400 from the Leavers' parents.

Fees are set at a competitive, but financially realistic rate, to attract parents and maintain financial viability. These fees are reviewed annually. We have cash flow forecasts in place and income is monitored on a regular (monthly) basis against the budget.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

Financial Review - continued

The Working Family Tax Credit and Childcare Voucher Schemes are promoted in order to underline the affordability of childcare. We are currently registered with a number of childcare voucher schemes and will register with new ones when parents/carers request us to do so.

We currently hold a contingency fund of over 3 months' running costs.

Reserves Policy

The Management Committee has examined the Charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. It has established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be 3 months of expenditure and therefore a target of £25,000 should be held in general funds. The reserves are needed to meet the working revenue requirements for the charity and the Management committee are confident that at this level they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding.

Details of Any funds in Deficit

There are no funds materially in deficit.

Audit

This is a small company therefore no audit is required. An Independent examination is required.

Independent Examiner

The Independent Examiner, Chris Prescott FCCA of Taxattack, has been reappointed.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

Acknowledgements

The Management Committee of Little Thetford Acorns is very grateful to all the individuals and organisations that have helped in a variety of ways during this year of operation. We rely on dedication and time given by staff, volunteers, parents and the local community.

We would like to thank individuals, families and organisations for their financial help whether it is from a donation or attending one of our fundraising events.

Little Thetford Acorns received other contributions that are much appreciated such as goods and play equipment, which can be used by the children in the setting.

People also give up their time to help the charity in many ways (helping with charity collections, being parent helper in pre-school sessions and fundraising events). We rely on our raffles, fundraising etc to be able to keep providing an excellent service.

Little Thetford Acorns would like to extend their thanks to the people who were responsible for giving out grants in previous years and those who helped with donations.

Public Benefit

In setting our programme each year we have regard to both the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and prevention and relief of poverty for the public benefit. The trustees always ensure that the activities we undertake and services provided are in line with our charitable objects and aims.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors, who also act as trustees, are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors (who are also trustees for the purpose of charity law) to prepare the financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, of the company for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the Directors' Report above at the Management Committee on and signed on behalf of the charity's trustees by:

Signature: 

Kate Hilton
Chair

Date: 24.5.22

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Little Thetford Acorns

Year Ended August 31st 2021

I report on the accounts of the company for year ended August 31st 2021 set out on pages 12-19.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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

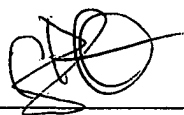
Independent examiner's statement

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

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 386 of the Companies Act and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met or

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



C Prescott, FCCA
Pond House, Station Rd, Haddenham Cambs

Date: 24/5/2022

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(including Income & Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

		<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
		<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generating funds					
Voluntary income	2	1,518	-	1,518	303
Activities for generating funds	3	1,126	-	1,126	1,392
Investment and other income	4	785	-	785	5,879
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Childcare services	5	94,498	-	94,498	57,153
Total Incoming Resources		97,927	-	97,927	64,727
Resources expended					
Costs of generating funds					
Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold and other costs	6	42	-	42	201
Charitable activities					
Childcare services	7	77,855	-	77,855	69,402
Governance costs	8	1,215	-	1,215	950
Total Resources Expended		79,112	-	79,112	70,553
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year		18,815	-	18,815	(5,826)
Total funds brought forward		47,354	-	47,354	53,180
Total funds carried forward		66,169	-	66,169	47,354

All of the above activities represent ongoing activities.

All recognised gains and losses are reflected in the Statement of Financial Activities and, therefore, no separate Statement of Total Recognised Gain and Losses is disclosed.

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>31/08/2021</u> £	<u>31/08/2020</u> £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	11	131,332	138,024
Current Assets			
Debtors	12	1,022	691
Cash at bank and in hand		65,113	43,791
		<u>66,135</u>	<u>44,482</u>
Creditors:			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(14,378)</u>	<u>(11,354)</u>
Net Current Assets		51,757	33,128
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		<u>183,089</u>	<u>171,152</u>
Creditors:			
Amounts falling due after more than one year	14	<u>(116,920)</u>	<u>(123,798)</u>
Net Assets		<u>66,169</u>	<u>47,354</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>66,169</u>	<u>47,354</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

For the year ended 31 August 2021 the company was entitled to exemption under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with Section 476.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibility for:

- i) ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- ii) preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of its financial year, and of its income and expenditure for the financial year and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

By order of the Directors:

Mrs K Hilton – Chairperson

Date: 24.05.22



LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1. Accounting Policies

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.

Little Thetford Acorns 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.

Incoming resources

The charity has received government grants in the period. Grants and subscriptions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which the income relates. All other income is recognised on an accruals basis. Any income restricted to future accounting periods is deferred and recognised in those accounting periods.

Investment income

Investment income is included when receivable.

Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis, inclusive of VAT which cannot be recovered.

Charitable activity costs include attributable staff and other costs for each area of the organisation together with a corresponding apportionment of support costs. The basis of apportionment is a cost centre allocation based on the headcount.

Governance costs are those associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its estimated useful life.

Equipment, fixtures and fittings	- 15% on reducing balance
Freehold building	- 30yrs straight line

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its activities.

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1. Accounting Policies – continued

General Funds

These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charity's objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated Funds

These are funds set aside by the Trustees from the general funds for specific projects.

Restricted Funds

These are monies, which have legal restrictions on their use where donors have specified the funds can only be spent on certain of the charity's activities.

Cash Flow

A cash flow statement has not been prepared as the Trustees have taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by Financial Reporting Standard Number 1 (revised) as the charity is of similar size to a small company.

Income and Expenditure Account

As the Statement of Financial Activities reflects the information required by the Companies Act in relation to income and expenditure, a separate Income and Expenditure Account has not been prepared.

Cost of Generating Funds

This comprises all expenditure relating to raising funds for the charity.

2. Voluntary Income

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>31/08/2021</u>	<u>31/08/2020</u>
			£	£
Donations	<u>1,518</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,518</u>	<u>303</u>

3. Activities for Generating Funds

	<u>31/08/2021</u>	<u>31/08/2020</u>
	£	£
Fundraising events	982	1,351
Sales of uniform	<u>144</u>	<u>41</u>
	<u>1,126</u>	<u>1,392</u>

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

4. Investment and other Income

Interest received	3	411
Grants received	721	4,963
Miscellaneous income	61	505
	<u>785</u>	<u>5,879</u>

5. Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities

	<u>31/08/2021</u>	<u>31/08/2020</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Childcare fees (received from parents)	24,078	6,481
Childcare fees (received from Cambridgeshire County Council Early Years Foundation Stage funding)	70,420	50,672
	<u>94,498</u>	<u>57,153</u>

6. Fundraising Trading: Cost of Goods Sold and Other Costs

Sundry expenses relating to fundraising activities	<u>42</u>	<u>201</u>
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LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

7. Direct Costs of Charitable Activities

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>31/08/2021</u>	<u>31/08/2020</u>
			<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Staff costs	58,146	-	58,146	52,959
Repairs and maintenance	2,879	-	2,879	1,600
Cleaning and hygiene	3,280	-	3,280	1,135
Toys and creative	2,255	-	2,255	710
Insurance	1,505	-	1,505	1,504
Food	14	-	14	632
Bad debts	-	-	-	61
Office costs	1,575	-	1,575	1,919
Water and rates	580	-	580	1,106
Electricity	1,096	-	1,096	936
Training	268	-	268	520
Telephone and internet	651	-	651	1,535
Payroll charges	1,546	-	1,546	1,386
Advertising	316	-	316	1,025
Media Licence	163	-	163	180
Software	432	-	432	414
Uniform	400	-	400	160
Holiday club expenses	6	-	6	-
Ofsted Fees	35	-	35	35
Other professional fees	518	-	518	618
Sundry expenses	421	-	418	182
Depreciation	7,731	-	7,731	7,660
Deferred income credit –	(6,878)	-	(6,878)	(6,878)
Government grant				
Forest School	26	-	26	3
Equipment expensed	893	-	893	-
	<u>77,855</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>77,855</u>	<u>69,402</u>

8. Governance costs

	<u>31/08/2021</u>	<u>31/08/2020</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Accountancy and I.E. fee	<u>1,215</u>	<u>950</u>

9. Directors' Remuneration and Benefits

There was no directors' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2021 (2020 - £nil).

Directors' Expenses

There were no directors' expenses paid for the year ended 31 August 2021 (2020 - £nil).

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

10. Staff Costs

	<u>31/08/2021</u>	<u>31/08/2020</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Wages and salaries	57,423	52,392
NEST pension contributions	723	567
	<u>58,146</u>	<u>52,959</u>

No employees received remuneration greater than £60,000.

The average number of employees during the year was:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>
Direct charitable activities	5	4
Management and administration	1	1
	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>

The charity is now registered and providing pension schemes to employees with NEST.

11. Tangible Fixed Assets

	<u>Leasehold</u> <u>Land and</u> <u>Freehold</u> <u>Buildings</u> <u>£</u>	<u>Equipment,</u> <u>Fixtures &</u> <u>Fittings</u> <u>£</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>£</u>
Cost			
At 01/09/2020	212,893	15,998	228,891
Additions in the year		1,039	1,039
Disposals in the year			
At 31/08/2021	<u>212,893</u>	<u>17,037</u>	<u>229,930</u>
Depreciation			
At 01/09/2020	78,061	12,806	90,867
Charge for the year	7,096	635	7,731
Elimination on disposals			
At 31/08/2021	<u>85,157</u>	<u>13,441</u>	<u>98,598</u>
Net Book Value			
At 31/08/2020	<u>134,832</u>	<u>3,192</u>	<u>138,024</u>
At 31/08/2021	<u>127,736</u>	<u>3,596</u>	<u>131,332</u>

The charity holds a lease on the land from the local Parish Council. A peppercorn rent has been paid for a period of 25 years from August 2008.

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

12. Debtors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	<u>31/08/2021</u>	<u>31/08/2020</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Trade debtors	1,022	75
Other debtors	-	616
	<u>1,022</u>	<u>691</u>

13. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	<u>31/08/2021</u>	<u>31/08/2020</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Accruals and deferred income	10,616	8,754
Other creditors	3,762	2,600
	<u>14,378</u>	<u>11,354</u>

14. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year

	<u>31/08/2021</u>	<u>31/08/2020</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Deferred income: Government grant brought forward / received	123,798	130,676
 Transfer 1/30 th to amounts falling within one year	 (6,878)	 (6,878)
	<u>116,920</u>	<u>123,798</u>

Grant funding was received from Cambridgeshire County Council for the purpose of business planning, building design and construction. It is of the directors' opinion that the building will have an estimated useful life of approximately 30 years; therefore the deferred income will be credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in equal instalments over 30 years.

15. Taxation

Little Thetford Acorns is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charity 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 II Corporation Tax Act 2010 of Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Accounts

Company Number **06995636**

Charity Number **1132906**

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

THURSDAY



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27/05/2021

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COMPANIES HOUSE

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
DIRECTORS' FOREWORD
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Little Thetford Acorns Pre-school & Children's Club was incorporated on 19th August 2009, registered as a charity on 23rd November 2009 and commenced activities in January 2010. A purpose-built building was completed in February 2010, using grant funding from Sure Start and Cambridgeshire County Council. The Business Plan and building design and construction were developed and managed from the resources within the parent group together with the experience of the committed staff.

The service provision extended existing pre-school care, to offer affordable, good quality childcare including through the school holidays. Our purpose-built setting is situated on Parish Council land and is approximately 400m from the Primary School enabling close working with our colleagues in education as well as being convenient for our parent users.

Little Thetford Acorns would not be able to operate without support of all the parent users, and in particular the efforts of parents on the Committee who work hard to maintain our profile, fundraise for events and act as main liaison between Directors, Users and Staff.

The current Directors are very pleased to see that all the hard work in setting up Little Thetford Acorns has resulted in such a well-used Pre-school and a well-regarded community provision. Little Thetford Acorns relies on the dedication of the volunteer Directors and Committee Members and we are pleased that our efforts and those of the staff have led to such a successful year.

K Hilton
Chair & Director

S Warren
Director

R Crossman
Director

M Warwick
Director

R Dunne
Director

C Gilbey
Director

H Roche
Director

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
COMPANY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

The Management Committee presents its report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020.

Reference and Administration Information

Charity Name:	Little Thetford Acorns
Charity registration number:	1132906
Company registration number:	06995636
Date of incorporation:	19 August 2009
Registered Office and operational address:	Oak Field, The Wyches, Little Thetford, Cambridgeshire, CB6 3HG

Directors:

Mrs K Hilton	Director
Mrs M Warwick (secretary)	Director
Mrs S Warren	Director
Mrs R Crossman	Director
Mrs R Dunne	Director
Ms H Roche (appointed 5 th Oct 2020)	Director
Mrs C Gilbey (appointed 5 th Oct 2020)	Director
Mrs D Harvey (resigned 5 th Oct 2020)	Director
Mrs J Ingle (resigned 5 th Oct 2020)	Director
Mr J Richardson (resigned 5 th Oct 2020)	Director
Miss K Dyer (resigned 14 th December 2020)	Director

Principal Officer: Chairperson, Mrs K Hilton

Banker: National Westminster
Woolpack Chambers, 16 Market Street, Ely, CB7 4YY

Investment Banker: United Trust Bank Ltd
80 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4TE

Solicitor: Thomson, Webb & Corfield Solicitors
16 Union Road, Cambridge, CB2 1HE

**Independent
Examiner:** C Prescott, FCCA, ATT
Pond House
56 Station Road
Haddenham

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

The Directors (Trustees) present their annual report with the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020. The accounts comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Financial Reporting Standard 102 and follow the recommendations in 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).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

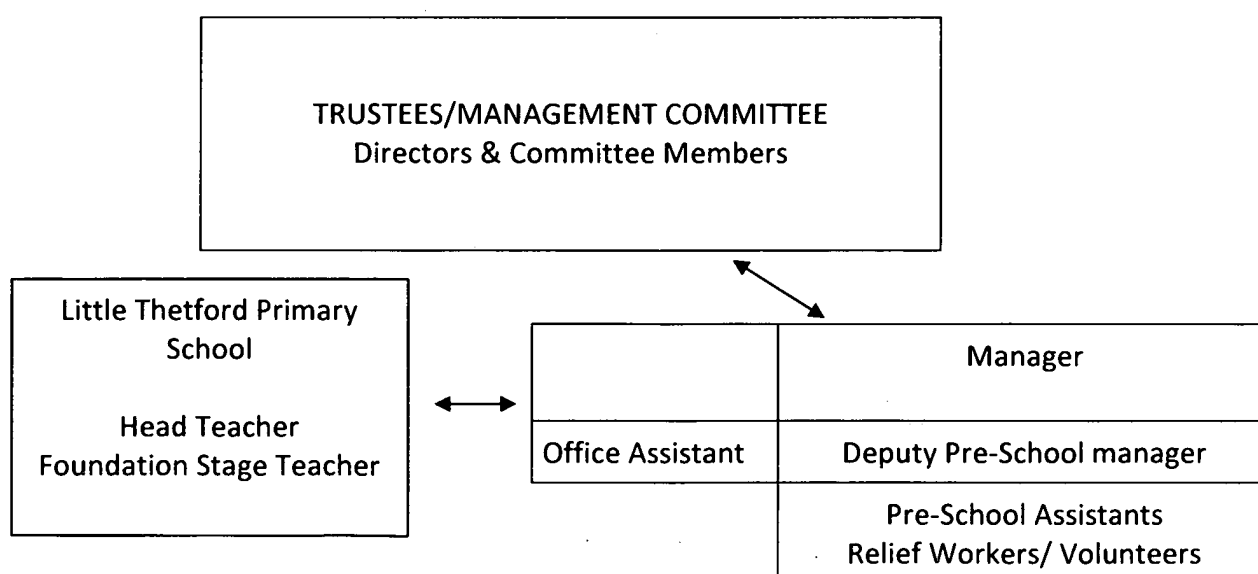
Governing Document

Little Thetford Acorns operates as a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, incorporated on 19th August 2009 and registered as a Charity on 23rd November 2009. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Appointment of Management Committee and Membership

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as members of the Management Committee. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected from existing users of the services to serve for a period of one year after which they must be re-elected at the next AGM, up to a maximum of six consecutive years. The Management Committee typically meet once every 4-6 weeks to discuss business / building and staffing related matters.

Organisational structure and wider network



**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

Consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them

Holding regular meetings enables the identification of any major risk early, whether it is financial, staffing, Ofsted or management/building related etc. Any additional support required is discussed, for example if a significant fundraising event is required or Business Support required from the County Council/Preschool Learning Alliance; or if additional staffing resources are needed. Our Safeguarding Children and Child Protection Policy is of prime importance and is continually reviewed and updated if required. Daily risk reviews of the setting are essential for the safety of children and staff, therefore are reviewed regularly and updated. No major risks have been identified for this period.

Objectives and Activities

The company's main objectives, as set out in its Mission Statement:

At Little Thetford Acorns it is our aim to provide a setting in which children are happy and secure and in which there is an atmosphere of mutual trust; where children know they are valued and respected. We aim to provide a setting where learning is exciting and an intrinsic part of their play and all that they enjoy. It is our intention to instil in each child a lifelong love of learning and to give each child the social skills needed to contribute to the wider community.

Summary of the principal activities in relation to these objectives:

The setting attracts pre-schoolers from Little Thetford, but also from the Ely area and surrounding villages. Our holiday club attracts from our pre-schoolers as well as school-age children from Little Thetford Primary School and meets the needs of the families in the village and surrounding villages.

Details of the Service Provision

	Places available	Age range	Times of opening
Wrap around a.m.	1 2	Age 2y – Rising 5's	08.30 – 09.00 hours
Pre School	2 5	Age 2y – Rising 5's	09.00 – 15.00 hours
Wrap around p.m.	12	Age 2y – Rising 5's	15.00 – 16.30 hours
Holiday Club	2 5	Age 3y – Age 11	09.00 – 16.00 hours

Please note: Wrap around care was not offered during the financial year 2019-2020, due to lack of demand.

- **Wrap around Care:** This provides a welcoming and relaxed environment, where children enjoy a healthy snack if required.

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Details of the Service Provision - continued

Pre-school: Here we continue to provide a welcoming and stimulating environment, providing a variety of activities and opportunities for the children. These include sand and water play, construction toys, music and singing, arts and crafts, writing area, mathematics area, home corner/role-play area, as well as opportunities for outside play. We also have a snack café, where healthy snacks are provided. On a Monday morning, we run a Forest School session for the over 3's. We spend the morning in the local forest, led by a qualified Forest School practitioner. This inspirational process offers all children regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a woodland or natural environment with trees. Forest School is a specialised learning approach that sits within and complements the wider context of outdoor and woodland education.

We provide a wide and varied curriculum based on the Early Years Foundation Stage, offering activities and opportunities to enable the children to be confident and independent learners. The staff use information gained through observation and assessment to inform their planning to ensure that individual children's needs are met. Individual progress records are regularly maintained. We ensure that children are involved in the planning of activities and future purchases of equipment/resources by a variety of means such as discussions with the children, and questionnaires. We use the key-person system to enable us to work closely with families and help us meet individual children's needs and further enhance the education and care we provide.

Lunch provision: Parents have the option of extending their child's day in pre-school, by sending in a packed lunch for their child.

Wrap around care: Parents are able to be flexible, according to their daily requirements and use the wrap around care provided to extend the hours at pre-school. This is available for half an hour in the morning and for 1 ½ hours in the afternoons, including the option of light refreshment if desired, depending on demand.

Holiday club: Activities offered include sports morning, baking, themed craft work and games. This year, we were unable to run the Easter Holiday Club due to Covid-19 restrictions. We offered the Summer Holiday Club to our existing pre-school children, prioritising children of keyworkers. We will continue to work hard in establishing and promoting Holiday Clubs.

Partnership with parents and local community

We have outstanding partnerships with parent/carers. We recognise that parents/carers are their children's primary educators and the importance of working with those closest to the children. We achieve this by ensuring that parents/carers have the opportunity to discuss their children's progress with staff through regular meetings. Staff are available at the start and end of each session. We actively support parents/carers if they wish to attend a session at the provision or if they wish to be involved in the organisation of the group by being a committee member or regular volunteer. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions, we were unable to allow any parents/carers into the setting during the summer term. We have good links with the local school, with regular visits throughout the school year. We also continually strive to seek new links within our local community.

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year:

- Continued to promote parent/carer opportunity to become involved in Committee and with local fundraising events.
- Variety of fundraising events including Bottle Tombola, Cake Stalls, Bag2School clothing collections.
- Promoted two members of staff to the positions of Acting Manager and Deputy Manager.
- Staff continued to attend courses and enhance their training in other areas throughout the year.
- Maintained a reflective team which helps us to continue to improve and enhance the provision.
- Continued to keep the website updated to ensure it is an excellent source of information for current users as well as new parents searching for information.
- Continued to run weekly Forest School sessions up until March 2020.
- Rearranged the internal and external spaces to maximise learning potential
- Returned to using Tapestry to record observations
- Toddler group continued to be held every Monday morning until March 2020 and was run by volunteers from the committee.
- Continued to strengthen links with LT primary school, including fundraising activities, Road Safety session and continued communication for learning and development.
- Maintained our profile in the wider community through local advertising.
- Starting developing and tracking the literacy project funded by the Opportunities Area Grant, working in partnership with Ladybirds and Little Thetford Primary School.
- Managed to maintain pre-school provision for those families that needed us, from June through to August.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

Plans for future years

- The charity plans to continue the activities outlined above in the forthcoming year.
- Continually update the Ofsted Self Evaluation and Development.
- Further increase our number of users in the afternoons and in our extended services.
- Continue to advertise and promote our services.
- Staff development: continue to identify staff training requirements through the Professional Development Reviews. Half-termly supervision reviews and annual appraisals take place.
- Continue to improve the resources in the preschool such as the purchase of tools to aid fine motor skills and the purchase of a climbing frame to improve gross motor skills.
- We are in receipt of a grant to train a further member of staff as a Forest School leader and to buy resources to support this training.
- Promote the value of becoming a Committee member to maintain a good balance of old and new members.
- Continue to work with Ladybirds and Little Thetford Primary School in regard to the Opportunities Area Grant we have been awarded.

Financial Review

Principal sources of funds are from Early Years Foundation Stage funding and parent fee income for pre-school and out of school care. In the current year the charity has focused closely on cash flows and ensured costs are closely monitored.

Fundraising activities during 2019/20 were very restricted and we were unable to hold our annual Summer Fun Day, which generates a substantial amount of our fundraising income. Overall, we have managed to raise nearly half of our target amount of £3,000. Fundraising amounts are used to offset the cost of special activity days, outings, purchase indoor and outdoor equipment as well as improving the garden area for the children to play in. We maintain a calendar of fundraising events.

In February, we were pleased to receive a one-off additional SENiF payment of £500 from Cambs County Council, to support the future of our inclusive practice and the support for children with complex needs.

In addition, this year we successfully applied for a Covid-19 Business Support Grant from East Cambs District Council, worth £3,000.

At the end of the year, we received a generous donation of £250 from the Leavers' parents.

Fees are set at a competitive, but financially realistic rate, to attract parents and maintain financial viability. These fees are reviewed annually. We have cash flow forecasts in place and income is monitored on a regular (monthly) basis against the budget.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

Financial Review - continued

The Working Family Tax Credit and Childcare Voucher Schemes are promoted in order to underline the affordability of childcare. We are currently registered with a number of childcare voucher schemes and will register with new ones when parents/carers request us to do so.

We currently hold a contingency fund of over 3 months' running costs.

Reserves Policy

The Management Committee has examined the Charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. It has established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be 3 months of expenditure and therefore a target of £27,000 should be held in general funds. The reserves are needed to meet the working revenue requirements for the charity and the Management committee are confident that at this level they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding.

Details of Any funds in Deficit

There are no funds materially in deficit.

Audit

This is a small company therefore no audit is required. An Independent examination is required.

Independent Examiner

An independent examiner, Chris Prescott of Taxattack, has been approved by Committee and appointed.

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Acknowledgements

The Management Committee of Little Thetford Acorns is very grateful to all the individuals and organisations that have helped in a variety of ways during this year of operation. We rely on dedication and time given by staff, volunteers, parents and the local community.

We would like to thank individuals, families and organisations for their financial help whether it is from a donation or attending one of our fundraising events.

Little Thetford Acorns received other contributions that are much appreciated such as goods and play equipment, which can be used by the children in the setting.

People also give up their time to help the charity in many ways (helping with charity collections, being parent helper in pre-school sessions and fundraising events). We rely on our raffles, fundraising etc to be able to keep providing an excellent service.

Little Thetford Acorns would like to extend their thanks to the people who were responsible for giving out grants in previous years and those who helped with donations.

Public Benefit

In setting our programme each year we have regard to both the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and prevention and relief of poverty for the public benefit. The trustees always ensure that the activities we undertake and services provided are in line with our charitable objects and aims.

**LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors, who also act as trustees, are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors (who are also trustees for the purpose of charity law) to prepare the financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, of the company for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the Directors' Report above at the Management Committee on 17th May 2021 and signed on behalf of the charity's trustees by:

Signature:



Kate Hilton
Chair

Date: 25th May 2021

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Little Thetford Acorns

Period Ended August 31st 2020

I report on the accounts of the company for year ended August 31st 2020 set out on pages 12-19.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 386 of the Companies Act and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met or

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


C Prescott, FCCA
Pond House, Station Rd, Haddenham, Cambs.

Date: May 26th 2021

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(including Income & Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Funds</u> <u>£</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Funds</u> <u>£</u>	<u>2020</u> <u>Total Funds</u> <u>£</u>	<u>2019</u> <u>Total Funds</u> <u>£</u>
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generating funds					
Voluntary income	2	303	-	303	2,311
Activities for generating funds	3	1,392	-	1,392	4,521
Investment and other income	4	5,879	-	5,879	5,069
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Childcare services	5	57,153	-	57,153	94,146
Total Incoming Resources		64,727	-	64,727	106,047
Resources expended					
Costs of generating funds					
Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold and other costs	6	201	-	201	1,131
Charitable activities					
Childcare services	7	69,402	-	69,402	100,415
Governance costs	8	950	-	950	970
Total Resources Expended		70,553	-	70,553	102,516
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year		(5,826)	-	(5,826)	3,531
Total funds brought forward		53,180	-	53,180	49,649
Total funds carried forward		47,354	-	47,354	53,180

All of the above activities represent ongoing activities.

All recognised gains and losses are reflected in the Statement of Financial Activities and, therefore, no separate Statement of Total Recognised Gain and Losses is disclosed.

REGISTERED NUMBER
06995636

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2020

		<u>31/08/2020</u>	<u>31/08/2019</u>
	<u>Notes</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	11	138,024	145,683
Current Assets			
Debtors	12	691	329
Cash at bank and in hand		43,791	58,467
		<u>44,482</u>	<u>58,796</u>
Creditors:			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(11,354)</u>	<u>(20,623)</u>
Net Current Assets		33,128	38,173
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		<u>171,152</u>	<u>183,856</u>
Creditors:			
Amounts falling due after more than one year	14	<u>(123,798)</u>	<u>(130,676)</u>
Net Assets		<u>47,354</u>	<u>53,180</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>47,354</u>	<u>53,180</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

For the year ended 31 August 2020 the company was entitled to exemption under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with Section 476.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibility for:

- ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of its financial year, and of its income and expenditure for the financial year and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

By order of the Directors:

Mrs K Hilton – Chairperson

Date: 25.05.21



LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting Policies

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.

Little Thetford Acorns 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.

Incoming resources

The charity has received government grants in the period. Grants and subscriptions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which the income relates. All other income is recognised on an accruals basis. Any income restricted to future accounting periods is deferred and recognised in those accounting periods.

Investment income

Investment income is included when receivable.

Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis, inclusive of VAT which cannot be recovered.

Charitable activity costs include attributable staff and other costs for each area of the organisation together with a corresponding apportionment of support costs. The basis of apportionment is a cost centre allocation based on the headcount.

Governance costs are those associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its estimated useful life.

Equipment, fixtures and fittings	- 15% on reducing balance
Freehold building	- 30yrs straight line

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its activities.

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting Policies – continued

General Funds

These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charity's objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated Funds

These are funds set aside by the Trustees from the general funds for specific projects.

Restricted Funds

These are monies, which have legal restrictions on their use where donors have specified the funds can only be spent on certain of the charity's activities.

Cash Flow

A cash flow statement has not been prepared as the Trustees have taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by Financial Reporting Standard Number 1 (revised) as the charity is of similar size to a small company.

Income and Expenditure Account

As the Statement of Financial Activities reflects the information required by the Companies Act in relation to income and expenditure, a separate Income and Expenditure Account has not been prepared.

Cost of Generating Funds

This comprises all expenditure relating to raising funds for the charity.

2. Voluntary Income

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>31/08/2020</u>	<u>31/08/2019</u>
			£	£
Donations	303	-	303	2,311

3. Activities for Generating Funds

	<u>31/08/2020</u>	<u>31/08/2019</u>
	£	£
Fundraising events	1,351	4,173
Sales of uniform	41	348
	<u>1,392</u>	<u>4,521</u>

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

4. Investment and other Income

Interest received	411	341
Grants received	4,963	4,563
Miscellaneous income	505	165
	<u>5,879</u>	<u>5,069</u>

5. Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities

	<u>31/08/2020</u>	<u>31/08/2019</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Childcare fees (received from parents)	6,481	17,471
Childcare fees (received from Cambridgeshire County Council Early Years Foundation Stage funding)	50,672	76,675
	<u>57,153</u>	<u>94,146</u>

6. Fundraising Trading: Cost of Goods Sold and Other Costs

Sundry expenses relating to fundraising activities	<u>201</u>	<u>1,131</u>
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LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

7. Direct Costs of Charitable Activities

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>31/08/2020</u>	<u>31/08/2019</u>
			<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Staff costs	52,959	-	52,959	78,096
Repairs and maintenance	1,600	-	1,600	1,526
Cleaning and hygiene	1,135	-	1,135	2,230
Toys and creative	710	-	710	2,576
Insurance	1,504	-	1,504	1,492
Food	632	-	632	1,302
Bad debts	61	-	61	-
Office costs	1,919	-	1,919	2,572
Water and rates	1,106	-	1,106	1,474
Electricity	936	-	936	1,372
Training	520	-	520	667
Telephone and internet	1,535	-	1,535	1,486
Payroll charges	1,386	-	1,386	807
Advertising	1,025	-	1,025	749
TV Licence	180	-	180	174
Software	414	-	414	377
Uniform	160	-	160	416
Holiday club expenses	-	-	-	207
Toddlers expenses	-	-	-	42
Ofsted Fees	35	-	35	35
Other professional fees	618	-	618	286
Sundry expenses	182	-	182	184
Depreciation	7,660	-	7,660	7,759
Deferred income credit –	(6,878)	-	(6,878)	(6,878)
Government grant				
Forest School	3	-	3	1,464
	<u>69,402</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>69,402</u>	<u>100,415</u>

8. Governance costs

	<u>31/08/2020</u>	<u>31/08/2019</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Accountancy and I.E. fee	950	970

9. Directors' Remuneration and Benefits

There was no directors' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2020 (2019 - £nil).

Directors' Expenses

There were no directors' expenses paid for the year ended 31 August 2020 (2019 - £nil).

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

10. Staff Costs

	<u>31/08/2020</u>	<u>31/08/2019</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Wages and salaries	52,392	77,119
NEST pension contributions	567	977
	<u>52,959</u>	<u>78,096</u>

No employees received remuneration greater than £60,000.

The average number of employees during the year was:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>
Direct charitable activities	4	7
Management and administration	1	1
	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>

The charity is now registered and providing pension schemes to employees with NEST.

11. Tangible Fixed Assets

	<u>Leasehold Land and Freehold Buildings</u>	<u>Equipment, Fixtures & Fittings</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Cost			
At 01/09/2019	212,893	17,707	230,600
Additions in the year		-	
Disposals in the year	-	(1,709)	(1,709)
At 31/08/2020	<u>212,893</u>	<u>15,998</u>	<u>228,891</u>
Depreciation			
At 01/09/2019	70,965	13,952	84,917
Charge for the year	7,096	563	7,659
Elimination on disposals		(1,709)	(1,709)
At 31/08/2020	<u>78,061</u>	<u>12,806</u>	<u>~~92,576~~</u>
			90867
Net Book Value			
At 31/08/2019	<u>141,928</u>	<u>3,755</u>	<u>145,683</u>
At 31/08/2020	<u>134,832</u>	<u>3,192</u>	<u>138,024</u>

The charity holds a lease on the land from the local Parish Council. A peppercorn rent has been paid for a period of 25 years from August 2008.

LITTLE THETFORD ACORNS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

12. Debtors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	<u>31/08/2020</u>	<u>31/08/2019</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Trade debtors	75	329
Other debtors	616	-
	<u>691</u>	<u>329</u>

13. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	<u>31/08/2020</u>	<u>31/08/2019</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Accruals and deferred income	8,754	14,172
Other creditors	2,600	6,451
	<u>11,354</u>	<u>20,623</u>

14. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year

	<u>31/08/2020</u>	<u>31/08/2019</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Deferred income: Government grant brought forward / received	130,676	144,432
Transfer 1/30 th to SOFA	-	(6,878)
Transfer 1/30 th to amounts falling within one year	(6,878)	(6,878)
	<u>123,798</u>	<u>130,676</u>

Grant funding was received from Cambridgeshire County Council for the purpose of business planning, building design and construction. It is of the directors' opinion that the building will have an estimated useful life of approximately 30 years; therefore the deferred income will be credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in equal instalments over 30 years.

15. Taxation

Little Thetford Acorns is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charity 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 II Corporation Tax Act 2010 of Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.