

BRISTOL NOISE
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Charity Number 1134099

BRISTOL NOISE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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BRISTOL NOISE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Objectives and activities

The purpose of the Charity is:

To provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances or for the public at large with the object of improving their conditions of life, motivated by Christian compassion.

Noise 365

Over the last year, we have continued to look at how to develop the project, 'Noise 365', which focuses on resourcing and equipping individual Christians and the local church with ways they can 'show God's love in practical ways' throughout the year. Our website has been resource with stories, ideas and learning we find across our city and further afield. Also, during the year, we have been posting on our website, email communications and social media channels -

- Upcoming training events that will enable church leaders or individuals to better connect with their community
- Volunteer opportunities from around the city where Christians can make a positive contribution and support the work of other organisations

We continued to work closely with Christian Action Bristol to coordinate the Bristol Churches response to citywide offers. Then in June 2023, we organised with Christian Action Bristol an event called 'Building Bristol as a city of hope' that brought together Christians from all over Bristol to explore how we can most effectively work in partnership to support our city's critical and complex needs. This event was an opportunity to **hear from local contributors** working in key areas, **including Homelessness, Mental Health, Diversity, Refugees/Asylum Seekers and more**. And there were opportunities to meet others and network, alongside a keynote contribution from **Dr Krish Kandiah of the Sanctuary Foundation**. There were 160 delegates attending with a focus on encouraging the priorities that matter to young adults in Bristol.

In June 2024, we recruited a Noise 365 Research Consultant to do a research project for Bristol Noise charity to determine local churches engagement with their neighbourhoods and how Noise 365 could support that. The research project would happen until mid-Autumn 2024 when the report would be available to trustees to enable decisions on future direction of the charity.

The Noise 2023

Our annual event was held on the weekend of 29th April – 1st May, with over 650 volunteers participating, from 47 churches and groups across Bristol. Volunteer ages ranged from 4 years to 80 years - it really is for everyone! The numbers of volunteers continued to stay high which is encouraging as attracting volunteers in the charity sector and in churches has continued to be a big challenge.

Across the weekend, churches hosted free community events and tackled practical projects across neighbourhoods in the north, east, centre and south of the city. We partnered with churches based in

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each neighbourhood, who took the lead on deciding what events to host, using knowledge of their own local community. Centrally, we produced 'how to guides' to equip local churches in their planning of events.

Teams of volunteers hosted **12 different events** for neighbours to come and enjoy, including cream teas, pop-up cafés, family fun afternoons, BBQs, and a coronation themed afternoon tea!

Volunteers also tackled **65 different practical community projects** within homes, in public spaces and a community centres or schools. The projects for individuals and families had been referred to us by professionals working in each community, e.g. support workers, police, etc.. Each neighbourhood hosted a volunteer project coordinator, from a local church, who took responsibility for responding to project referrals and assessing the suitability of the project. This enabled relationships between the local church and referral partners to grow.

It's been wonderful to hear stories from the different volunteer teams and feedback from individuals who received support or connected with our community events over the weekend. We love hearing how the positive actions of volunteers participating in The Noise have a ripple effect to individuals, their families and the wider community.

"I'm so pleased with this, can you please thank them all (volunteers) on behalf of myself, Bristol City Council and the client who as I said is no well and really struggled to maintain their garden. Also, I'm sure the neighbour next door will be absolutely delighted!!"
(Bristol City Council employee who referred a practical project)

Behind the scenes, it is a very small team who do most of the preparation for The Noise 2023 with one part-time event coordinator and few other key volunteers who give many hours of their time. We carefully review our risk assessments for all activities to ensure we working to high standards to protect our volunteers and public safety. We are grateful for the ongoing relationships with Bristol Waste and other local community organisations that have helped with providing services to enable the smooth running of practical projects during The Noise 2023.

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

Achievements and performance

The initiatives that were run under 'The Noise' weekend and as part of Noise 365, aimed to benefit many different sectors of the community, particularly across urban estate areas of North, East and South Bristol. This year, a large proportion of our work continued to support individuals and families facing financial difficulties.

During the preparation time for 'The Noise' event, we continued to encourage and equip churches in how they connect with statutory and voluntary organisations who work in the local community. This work varied between communities depending on the relationships already held locally and support required.

Our community activities work towards community cohesion and social inclusion and have helped with crime reduction in the communities we work in on The Noise weekend. We continue to look for other ways to partner with the local council, police and other influential institutions.

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Our community events during the Noise event have all been free of charge to attend and with the continuing 'cost of living' crisis, this was gratefully appreciated by families and individuals to find ways to connect with others in local neighbourhoods without costing them anything.

Bristol Noise charity continues to work closely with other organisations and networks across the city, especially Christian Action Bristol and so encouraging churches to work together with a common vision to be building Bristol as a city of hope.

Financial review

The charity's income for the year ended 31st August 2023 was £14,477 (2022: £6,966) and consisted principally of grants and donations from charitable trusts and supporting churches.

Expenditure was £17,656 for the year (2022: £24,767).

This year, we began to see some recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in the finances of Bristol Noise, with more volunteers involved than the previous two years of events and more charitable activities taking place at the Noise event weekend, compared to events in the COVID-19 environment.

Basis of Accounts

For the year ended 31st August 2023, we have continued to prepare accounts on a cash basis rather than on an accruals basis, available to any entity in the UK with turnover/income under a £150,000 limit.

Reserves

The Trustees' long-term policy on free reserves is to maintain sufficient funds to meet the day-to-day costs of developing the long-term vision and strategy of the charity's work and to seek to meet the costs of the annual Bristol Noise weekend from grants and donations raised in that financial year rather than from free reserves. The charity's policy is to hold free reserves of approximately one year's payments (around £25,000). At the year end, the charity had free reserves of £25,506, which is materially in line with our target.

Plans for future periods

During this financial year, we made the difficult decision after 24 years of The Noise event all together across the city to stop the annual event after The Noise 2024 weekend and pivot to Noise 365 model that we have been developing.

The medium to long term aims of the charity, as we change our operations over the next few years

- Organise and run a successful final event on May Day Bank Holiday weekend 2024.
- Look at our staffing and resourcing of Noise 365 project and recruit a development worker.
- Discussing with church leaders across the city to see how Bristol Noise charity can support their local community vision in the future.
- Provide individual support to churches in local communities so they will be able to set up their own Noise day/weekend in the future.
- Continue to develop Noise 365 resources to equip churches to host a wider range of projects/events that benefit different sectors of local communities (e.g. family film afternoons, youth events, family photo events, other smaller indoor projects, etc)
- Continued networking with statutory and voluntary organisations across Bristol.
- Inspiring and facilitating Noise projects throughout the year by providing tools and health and safety advice to churches that want to run projects during other times in the year.

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- Development of fundraising strategies and more sustainable income streams for the charity.
- Being the lead charity for 'Building Bristol as a city of hope' project and helping develop that vision in the city.

Reference and administrative details

Charity number: 1134099

Registered office: 286 Filton Avenue, Horfield, Bristol, BS7 0BA

Website address: www.thenoise.org.uk

Bankers: Bank of Scotland, 2nd Floor, Pentland House, 8 Lochside Avenue, South Gyle, Edinburgh, EH12 9DJ

Directors and Trustees:

The Trustees serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

S D North (Chairman)
T J Dobson
G M Sims
M O A Deniran
R Brown

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

On 5 November 2018, the Charity converted to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation having previously been incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 7 November 2009 and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission on 4 February 2010. The Charity is now governed by its Foundation Constitution dated 5 November 2018.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

New Trustees are recruited on the basis of the knowledge of the existing Trustees of suitable candidates. In selecting persons to be appointed, the Trustees shall take into account the benefits of appointing a person who is able by virtue of his or her professional qualifications or experience to make a contribution to the pursuit of the objects or the management of Bristol Noise. Selected candidates are appointed by a simple majority of the votes cast by the Trustees at a meeting.

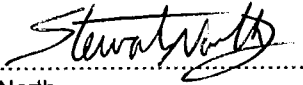
New Trustees receive an Induction pack appropriate to their level of existing knowledge of and involvement with Bristol Noise. As a minimum, new Trustees receive a copy of the Charity Commission publication CC3 – *The Essential Trustee: what you need to know* together with the charity's governing document and latest annual report and accounts.

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Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



S D North
Chairman of Trustees

07/06/2024

Bristol Noise**YEAR TO 31 AUGUST 2023****RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
RECEIPTS FROM:				
Donations				
Grant Income	5,000	540	5,540	-
Gifts & Donations	-	1,795	1,795	615
Gift Aid received	-	-	-	-
Church Donations	-	2,600	2,600	3,292
Individual gifts	-	-	-	-
Other Income	-	150	150	-
Charitable Activities				
Banner Sales	-	-	-	-
Volunteer Signups	-	4,392	4,392	3,060
TOTAL RECEIPTS	5,000	9,477	14,477	6,966
PAYMENTS FOR:				
Charitable Activities				
Bristol Noise Weekend	4,049	4,186	8,235	5,266
Long term development	32	8,961	8,993	18,701
Other costs relating to community	428	-	428	801
TOTAL PAYMENTS	4,509	13,146	17,656	24,767
NET RECEIPTS/(PAYMENTS)	491	(3,670)	(3,179)	(17,801)

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STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	2023	2023	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
BOS Current account		25,549		29,918
Co-op Credit Card		(48)		(1,244)
Paypal Account		-		6
Affirmative Deposit Fund		6		6
iZettle Account		-		-
Total Cash at Bank		<u>25,506</u>		<u>28,685</u>
		-		-
Total Assets		<u><u>25,506</u></u>		<u><u>28,685</u></u>

CASH RESERVES

Unrestricted funds

Brought forward	28,685		44,891	
Net receipts/(payments) for the period	<u>491</u>		<u>(16,206)</u>	
		29,176		28,685

Restricted funds

Brought forward	(0)		1,595	
Net receipts/(payments) for the period	<u>(3,670)</u>		<u>(1,595)</u>	
		(3,670)		(0)

Total cash reserves

<u><u>25,506</u></u>	<u><u>28,685</u></u>
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