

Barnet Community Projects

Registered Charity No. 1139376

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023

Registered Office : Rainbow Centre, Dollis Valley Drive, BARNET, Herts. EN5 2UN

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Registered Charity No. 1139376

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st March 2023

Charity Name

The full name of the charity is Barnet Community Projects, but it is also referred to by its working name of BCP.

Registered & Operating Addresses

Both the registered & operating addresses of the charity are now c/o the Rainbow Centre, Dollis Valley Drive, BARNET, Herts. EN5 2UN.

Bankers and Examining Accountants

BCP currently banks with TSB plc, PO Box 373, LEEDS LS14 9GQ. Its annual accounts are independently examined by Newman Morris, Wellington House, 273-275 High Street, LONDON COLNEY, Herts. AL2 1HA.

Trustees

The following individuals have served as Trustees during the period covered by this report :

Michael Benaim	Chair
Stephen Pegum	Treasurer
Ken Morton	Secretary
Steve Bull	
Emma Not	

Governing Document

The charity is governed by its Constitution as adopted on 25th September 2010, and as amended on 11th December 2010, as further amended on 25th February 2023.

Charitable Objects for Public Benefit

The main charitable objects of BCP are :

To promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of the community in the London Borough of Barnet as the Trustees see fit, in particular but not exclusively by the following means :

- a) To promote the efficiency & effectiveness of charities and the effective application & use of resources by non-charitable bodies for the public benefit in particular but not exclusively by providing or assisting in the set-up of community projects, supporting their administration and providing support services to them and by facilitating partnership and co-operation in the voluntary sector;
- b) The promotion of the voluntary sector for the public benefit, in particular but not exclusively by the following means :
 - i) Identifying need in the voluntary sector & establishing projects or policies to address them;
 - ii) Liaising between charities, voluntary organisations, the local authority and other groups or organisations on relevant issues that affect members of the community;

Charitable Objects for Public Benefit (continued)

- c) To promote community capacity building for the public benefit, in particular but not limited to young people;
- d) The relief of unemployment for the public benefit;
- e) The advancement of education for the public benefit, including the provision of training, information & advice and promoting opportunities for members of the community to develop new skills & knowledge;
- f) To further for the benefit of members of the community without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or political, religious or other opinions by associating together members of the community, local authorities, voluntary & other organisations in a common effort to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and other leisure-time occupations with the objective of improving the conditions of life of community members.

Where in the views of the Trustees it is expedient in the interests of the charity, the Trustees may support & encourage overseas partnership projects which are youth- and community -focused, in such countries of the world as they see fit.

Projects, services and achievements during the year

Introduction

With all of the problems of the Covid pandemic now well behind it, BCP has during the year ended 31st March 2023 continued to focus on its core areas of delivery, namely a local food distribution network, a Lunch Club for younger children in the school holidays, healthy activities for local young people (including mixed martial arts training), as well as providing a useful meeting space available for hire to local residents.

Dolls Valley Angels foodbank

At the start of the year in review, our weekly foodbank was giving out food bags to some 60 local families each week, which amounted to around 180 children and adults in total. By the end of the year, the number of families receiving these donations had increased to around 70. By March 2023, we were receiving between two & five new referrals to this service each week, with other recipients indicating their withdrawal from this program as their personal circumstances improved.

Weekly deliveries (on Wednesdays) continued to be supplied by the Felix Project, a London-based food redistribution charity set up in 2016 to tackle food poverty. National statistics currently indicate that 4.7 million adults in the United Kingdom struggle to afford to eat every day, while 2 million children are at risk of missing their next meal. Additional weekly donations were received from the Barnet Food Hub, a local initiative established by Barnet Together, a collaboration between Inclusion Barnet, Volunteering Barnet, Groundwork London and the Young Barnet Foundation. The food bags are prepared on Wednesday and are collected by our clients on Thursday mornings.

Our dedicated team of foodbank helpers was led by Sarah Snell, with able support each week from several other volunteers. The Trustees are most grateful to the whole team for their valuable & dedicated service.

Lunch Club

Lunch Club was very much back to normal this year. We ran two weeks of four days each for Easter, with our usual outdoor sports activities plus a creative/craft activity and a cooking session, which for half of the days provided part of lunch. We also had games, puzzles, colouring, jigsaws and other activities such as table tennis, pool and Connect 4 inside. On one day we ran a Pilates session for the children and during the second week the Flying Seagulls entertained us.

The summer half-term only ran for three days, as there was an extra Bank Holiday on the Thursday due to the Coronation, so for one of the craft activities the children made bunting to hang in their windows.

Towards the end of the summer term we started going to GROW (an agroecological farm based at The Totteridge Academy) once a week with a few of the children and planted and cared for various crops in our own bed. We grew tomatoes, beans, strawberries, courgettes and squash, herbs and some leafy vegetables. Later in the year we planted onions, garlic and broad beans to overwinter, although sadly the beans did not survive the cold weather! We continue to visit GROW most weeks.

Projects, services and achievements during the year (continued)

Lunch Club (continued)

During the summer holidays we ran four days a week for four weeks following our usual pattern. On three Wednesdays a local group ran a disco session, giving the children the opportunity to practise their DJing skills. We had a mosaic workshop one day, followed by a grouting session once the mosaics had dried. We also took two trips: one to Gulliver's World, near Milton Keynes and the second one our annual trip to Walton-on-the-Naze with a BBQ lunch on the beach.

For the October half-term, Lunch Club operated for four days and along with our usual array of activities we had a special activity making volcanoes which were then painted and finally we made them 'explode'; we also looked at some rock samples and smashed open geodes to find the crystals inside. We also ran the mosaic workshop again, as the children really enjoy this activity, based around flags of the world.

In December we organised two days for the children; the first day there were various craft activities making bunting, baubles, cards and snowflakes. We again were entertained by the Flying Seagulls on the second day. At the end of that session the children were able to take a present home with them, kindly donated by Young Barnet Foundation (YBF).

In February 2023, Lunch Club ran four days of activities and lunches during half-term. We are trying to include some STEM (that is science, technology, engineering & mathematics) activities in our offer and during this week we used a kit to make crystals which were checked daily and eventually were ready to take home in April.

Lunch Club operates with financial support from the Mayor's Kitchen Social Fund and particularly from Young Barnet Foundation – the Trustees are very grateful to both organisations for their support.

Rainbow Money Advice (RMA)

Looking back over 2022/23, this year has proved to have been very difficult for our RMA service, for a number of reasons. We had recruited two new volunteer money advisers in the early part of the year and these individuals were being trained up by the service manager Stuart Goodman. However, by September 2022 and for different reasons they both had to withdraw from this project. Sadly in earlier years this was not the only occasion when new volunteers left us before they had fully completed their training.

Partly as a result of the above issues the Trustees reluctantly decided to close this service down – this was a very difficult decision given the ongoing cost-of-living crisis in the UK at the time. Prior to its closure, RMA undertook 86 client interviews during the year, bringing the overall total number of interviews to March 2023 up to 1,039. In financial terms RMA saved its clients some £63K in the year, with overall savings during the lifetime of the service to some £240K.

The Trustees wish to record their formal thanks to both Stuart Goodman and Fanta Sheriff for all their hard work during the year and wish them every success with their future activities.

Barnet Rail Pastors (BRP)

As noted in previous annual reports, this is the only BCP project that is not run directly from the Rainbow Centre. Instead it takes place on parts of both the Thameslink (TL) line (between Elstree & Borehamwood and West Hampstead) and the Great Northern (GN) line (between Finsbury Park and Stevenage). The BRP team is co-ordinated by Paul Lewis and currently comprises 12 volunteers in total. They work in close co-operation with local station staff and British Transport Police (BTP).

The principal aim of BRP is to act as a friendly and listening presence for people using the rail network, especially at times when those passengers might be feeling vulnerable or be at risk in some way. In one specific incident at St Albans station in October, two of the team definitely persuaded a suicidal lady not to carry out her stated intentions. During 2022/23, they carried out a total of 36 patrols, with an average of 3 patrols per month – usually 2 patrols per month on the GN route and 1 per month on the TL route.

The Trustees wish to record their grateful thanks for the financial support provided to BRP by Govia Thameslink Railway, without whose support we would be unable to provide this vital service. We also wish to acknowledge the helpful support of the Ascension Trust, who co-ordinate all rail pastor schemes on a national basis.

Mixed martial arts (MMA) training

Sensei Ibush Kabashi is a 5th Dan Jujitsu master who has taught MMA for over 25 years. His MMA training classes continued to be hugely popular throughout the year, especially with the children – some weeks there would be around 60 children & young people in attendance. The children's classes are free and Ibush charges for his adult classes. Three sessions are run each week – on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays. Additionally on Saturdays Ibush runs a women's self-defence class for a smaller group.

Particularly for the children & young people. MMA training fosters a great sense of discipline, as well as introducing a fitness regime for all participants. Some of Ibush's older students have gone on to win awards at national competitions.

Projects, services and achievements during the year (continued)

Other regular services

These include :

- a weekly toddler group attended by between 12 & 14 children and parents on Thursday mornings
- weekly online counselling sessions for a small number of people.

Rainbow Centre bookings

The lease with Barnet Council for the Rainbow Centre is actually held by the Rainbow Centre Users Group (RCUG), a company limited by guarantee with very close ties to BCP. As this body incurs all of the costs of running the Centre (such as utilities, telephone, waste disposal etc.), it also retains all of the income from lettings. As noted in last year's report, these have failed to recover to their pre-pandemic levels – at present they consist mainly of the MMA sessions (see above) and a weekly Muslim prayer group each Friday, together with occasional party bookings.

RCUG has experienced much higher energy costs this year and has been supported by payments from BCP, as noted in Note 8 on page 9 of these accounts.

Financial review

In 2022/23, BCP incurred a small deficit of £1.4K compared to a surplus of £5.5K in 2021/22. At the balance sheet date, the bank balance stood at £49.1K compared to £59.6K at the previous year-end date. Please refer to the attached detailed accounts for a full overview of the financial results of the last two years.

Going concern basis

The Trustees are of the firm opinion that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future and that is appropriate to prepare the attached financial statements on the going concern basis.

The Trustees wish to offer their heartfelt thanks to the following organisations for their generous support of BCP during the period of this report :

Govia Thameslink Railway	Co-op Space to Connect
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust	London Community Foundation
Young Barnet Foundation	The Mayor's Fund for London
CommUNITY Barnet	John Lyon's Charity
Mercers Company	Co-op Local Neighbourhood Fund
London Youth	Hammerson (Brent Cross) Ltd.

Additionally, BCP acknowledges the following organisations who either supported BCP or who worked in partnership with BCP during the last year :

Art Against Knives	The Felix Project
Barnet Southgate College	Rainbow Centre Users Group
Community Money Advice	MMA (North London)
Totteridge Academy	London Youth
FareShare London	South London Renegades
Street Games	Young Barnet Foundation
Sport England	Darul Noor Islamic Centre
Trussell Trust	Christmas on Jesus
Ascension Trust	British Transport Police

BCP volunteers

Finally, the Trustees would like to thank all of the volunteers who work tirelessly on behalf of BCP and whose time is of course given freely. Without their hard work & dedication, many of the activities detailed above simply would not be able to take place.

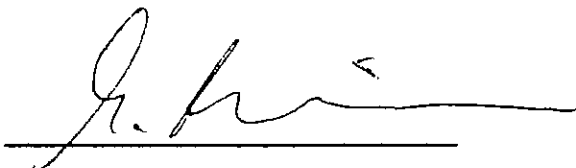
Trustees' Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the related Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to :

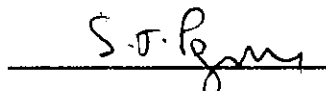
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and enable them to ascertain to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the information included on the charity's website.

Approved by the Trustees on 26th September 2023 and signed on their behalf by :



Chair



Treasurer

Barnet Community Projects
Registered Charity No. 1139376
Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) for the year ended 31st March 2023

		General Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTALS THIS YEAR	Year ended 31.03.22
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Grants received	1	2,815	96,333	0	99,148	112,006
Donations received	1	50	7,061	0	7,111	150
Other Income	1 & 2	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		£ 2,865	£ 103,394	£ 0	£ 106,259	£ 112,156
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
<i>Direct Charitable Expenditure</i>						
Direct labour costs (Including social security costs)	3	0	65,054	0	65,054	69,655
Other direct expenditure	4	3,589	28,887	0	32,476	30,041
Insurance premiums paid		1,056	362	0	1,418	1,235
Rent		0	7,200	0	7,200	4,250
		<u>4,645</u>	<u>101,503</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>106,148</u>	<u>105,181</u>
<i>Indirect Charitable Expenditure</i>						
Depreciation of fixed assets	5	1,476	0	0	1,476	1,476
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		£ 6,121	£ 101,503	£ 0	£ 107,624	£ 106,657
NET INCOMING / (OUTGOING) RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR						
		£ (3,256)	£ 1,891	£ 0	£ (1,365)	£ 5,499

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains & losses for the year. All Incoming Resources and Resources Expended derive from continuing activities. The notes on pages 8 and 9 form part of the Accounts.

Barnet Community Projects
Registered Charity No. 1139376
Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2023

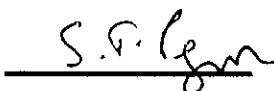
		31.03.23		31.03.22	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Historic Cost		17,330		14,225	
Additions in year		0		3,105	
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	5	<u>(12,844)</u>		<u>(11,368)</u>	
			4,486		5,962
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank (current account)		49,081		59,566	
Debtors & accrued revenue		226		48	
Prepayments (re Insurance premiums)		<u>595</u>		<u>82</u>	
		49,902		59,696	
LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES - Amounts falling due within one year					
Deferred Income	6	<u>(3,344)</u>		<u>(6,782)</u>	
			(16,687)		(26,592)
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
			33,215		33,104
TOTAL NET ASSETS					
		£ <u>37,701</u>		£ <u>39,066</u>	
FUNDS					
Unrestricted Funds					
	7				
Balance as at 1st April 2022		(39,449)		(27,647)	
Net Outgoing Resources for the year ended 31 st March 2023		<u>(3,256)</u>		<u>(11,802)</u>	
Balance as at 31 st March 2023			(42,705)		(39,449)
Restricted Funds					
	7				
Balance as at 1st April 2022		78,515		61,214	
Net Incoming Resources for the year ended 31 st March 2023		<u>1,891</u>		<u>17,301</u>	
Balance as at 31 st March 2023			80,406		78,515
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD					
		£ <u>37,701</u>		£ <u>39,066</u>	

The notes on pages 9 and 10 form part of the Accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 26th September 2023 and signed on their behalf by :



Chair



Treasurer

1. Accounting Policies

The principal Accounting Policies are summarised below :

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value, unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the Micro-entities Regime (FRS 105) and with the Charities Act 2011.

Recognition of Income

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, it is more likely than not that the Trustees will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. The previous policy was to recognise Grants Received in the Statement of Financial Activities as & when these were received. A change was made in the accounts for 2015-16 to recognise this income as it relates to the periods for which these grant funds are made. All income in 2021-22 that relates to the following financial year is now shown in the Balance Sheet as Deferred Income (see also Note 6). Donations Received and Other Income are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are received.

Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, nor income and expenditure.

Liability Recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Going Concern Basis

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees have assessed the charity's forecast and projections and have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approving these financial statements. The Trustees have concluded that the charity has sufficient resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and consequently it is appropriate to continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

2. Other Income

There was no Other Income received in 2022-23 (2021-22 : Nil)

3. Staff Costs & Trustees' Remuneration

No employee received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000 (2021-22 : Nil). None of the Trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from any employment with the charity or a related entity.

4. Other Direct Expenditure

Other Direct Expenditure includes the following costs :

	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted
	£	£	£
Cleaning & cleaning materials	2,295	0	2,295
Professional fees & accountancy costs	1,926	1,926	0
Catering costs	6,458	40	6,458
Barnet Rail Pastors	7,244	0	7,244
Purchases of white goods for clients	1,602	0	1,602
Printing, postage, stationery & telephone	856	407	449
Repairs & maintenance	902	150	752
Training costs	1,267	0	1,267
Office expenses (incl. IT costs)	757	334	423
Travel costs	2,612	55	2,557
Publications & Journals	345	312	33
Memberships	1,175	176	999
All other costs (total)	4,997	189	4,808
TOTAL	£ 32,476	3,589	28,887

5. Depreciation of Fixed Assets & Capitalisation Threshold

Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis on the historic purchase price of the charity's Fixed Assets, to write these off over their estimated useful economic lives, as follows :

- IT Equipment - 2 years
- Other Assets - 5 years

Purchases greater than £500 in value are accounted for as Fixed Assets; below that threshold, any expenditure is written off in-year.

6. Deferred Income

As described in Note 1 above, a change in accounting policy was made in 2015-16 to reflect the different funding periods for BCP's Grants Received. The amount shown in the Balance Sheet as Deferred Income resembles the amount of grants actually received in 2022-23 that relate instead to 2023-24. This Deferred Income will form part of BCP's Restricted Funds in the following financial year.

7. Reserves Policy

The previous intention of the Trustees was to hold in Reserves an amount equivalent to approximately six months' worth of expenditures. Following a re-assessment of this policy, the Trustees have now given regard to the possible longer-term liabilities of BCP, especially in the unlikely event of a cessation of the charity's operations. In that regard, the only longer-term liability of BCP would be paying the salaries of the two paid staff members during their contractual notice periods. It is estimated that this cost would not exceed £15,000 and the Trustees are confident that BCP has sufficient free reserves in hand at the balance sheet date to cover this cost. Additionally, the Trustees are equally confident that if the accounting policies now adopted regarding Grants Received had been in place since the charity's inception, then the deficit currently showing in the Balance Sheet on Unrestricted Funds would not in fact exist.

8. Related Party Transactions

During the year, the following notional payments were made to the Rainbow Centre Users Group towards the costs of operating their premises :

	2022-23	2021-22
Rainbow Centre Users Group	£7,200	£4,250

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Barnet Community Projects**

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Barnet Community Projects for the which are set out on pages 6 to 9.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Charity Trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). The Charity Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

I report in respect of my examination of the Trustees' accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

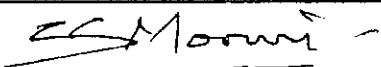
- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair view" which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Name :

CHRISTOPHER MORRIS

Signature :



Relevant professional qualification or body :

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

Address :

Newman Morris Chartered Accountants
Wellington House
273-275 High Street
LONDON COLNEY
Herts. AL2 1HA

Date :

12/12/2023