

OBLIQUE ARTS

Trustees' Annual Report for the period From 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 Charity name: Oblique Arts

Charity registration number: 1142653

This year the charity has income of £29,772 with restricted grant income of £28,880. Funds were carried forward from previous year. Expenditure £73,410. Accounts have been externally audited.

Objectives and Activities

Oblique Arts works with communities to deliver innovative arts-based outcomes. We provide unique creative workshops with communities and individuals (often young people) to inspire and educate. We use the arts to explore important questions around sustainable futures and encourage critical thinking and creative action.

We work with hard-to-reach communities (including GRT), which would not usually have access to arts engagement. We consider the arts in the broadest sense, including creative thinking and new methodologies to address problems. The projects allow for empowerment of the communities we work with, giving them a "voice" where once they had none. We support around 12 freelance artists, a coordinator and have 12 volunteers. We work on partnership projects, both nationally and internationally. We offer training for our artist/tutors.

Objects:

To deliver arts projects for the benefit of communities, particularly those who are disadvantaged and lack access to the arts.

To curate exhibitions, shows and events.

To manage community projects with a view to sustainability and environmental awareness.

To raise funding for the charity.

To raise awareness about the practice & innovation of art and related activities in the community.

To access training and development for the benefit of artists and volunteers. To work in partnership with related interest organisations to benefit communities and artists.

To promote accessibility and inclusivity in events, activities, exhibitions and workshops.

Reporting Public Benefit

The trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Our annual report details activities that further the charity's purposes for the public benefit. In particular, the annual report also addresses the two key principles by which we will assess public benefit:

- 1) There must be an identifiable benefit or benefits which have been evaluated.
- 2) Benefit must be to the public, or a section of the public, particularly the disadvantaged communities that we work with.

Achievements and Performance

This year has been a time of moving away from online exhibitions and teaching as Covid-19 restrictions have eased. We have delivered projects to: teenagers facing economic and other hardships, older participants facing isolation and our Neuro-diverse community. Peer support groups have continued, particularly with our Neuro-diverse participants. This work was supported by the Cambridge City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council. Our 'Creative Curiosity Walks' in the countryside around Cambridge have been very popular.

The Library Service commissioned us to deliver projects for families again. We took our giant kaleidoscope to Huntingdon and offered workshops making small optical devices. In the window of Abbey Library our commissioned 'Wanderland' artwork has remained popular with colourful backlit windows.

The Re-Think Fashion show enabled us to present an alternative look at the world of fashion. Our very popular catwalk show, on an eco-theme was presented in collaboration with Oxfam and the Museum of Technology and was endorsed by Jane Goodall.

Our Advocacy Project with the GRT community has continued supporting Travellers facing a range of issues from evictions to schooling and discrimination. We provided speakers and case studies as part of a GRT research group at Essex University. This is part of a longer term aim to offer Health Care providers culturally appropriate training. Our peers, Friends, Families & Travellers, Gypsy Council and the Showman's Guild continue to work with us.

We partnered with Gallery Kai Dikhas in Berlin to present the World Roma Congress Exhibition, enabling us to commission high quality Roma artists from across Europe. Physical exhibitions took place in London and Berlin. The galleries attracted our large audiences and we are pleased to be part of the movement to use the arts as a tool of emancipation for Roma people.

In September we took six UK artists to work with six Spanish artists in Northern Spain. 'Seeds for Change' was an Empowerment and Earth connection training course designed to develop methodologies to benefit our communities and create a more connected world, using art as a tool.

We planted 400 trees again this year and continue our commitment to environmental responsibility.

During 2022 we have been supported by TFN (The Funding Network), enabling us to prepare a detailed application to the Arts Council to be a Portfolio Organisation from 2023-2026. We are pleased to announce that this application has been successful.

Our work was covered in the press and media.

Participant numbers: Direct participants: 2,748
Audience totals: 210,920
Online engagement: 70,050

Press: 7,132 Online Press: 8,000

Financial Review

Income for this period: £29,772. Restricted grant funding of £28,880 and unrestricted income of £892.

The Accounts

The accounts include a Statement of Financial Activities, a Balance Sheet and notes to the accounts. The Statement of Financial Activities distinguishes between the unrestricted and restricted funds

Statement on Reserves Policy:

The large portion of our income is 'Restricted' and is therefore applied only to set-aside projects. As a general rule, 10% of this restricted income is used to pay unrestricted running costs (as listed in the accounts expenditure above) so that the charity can function.

Some of the income we receive is as a commission or unrestricted grant to carry out a particular project(s), and on occasions we are able to complete the project(s) with money in hand. This enables us to build up a modest unrestricted reserve which can help with running costs and also any potential overspend on projects in the future or other unanticipated costs or opportunities eg where we have to provide unrestricted contributions in order to access grant monies.

We aim to keep at least £10,000 in unrestricted funds therefore.

OBLIQUE ARTS

Charity Number 1142653

Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022

Contents

Receipts and Payments accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st March 2022

OBLIQUE ARTS (Charity Number 1142653)

**Receipts and Payments accounts for the year ended 31st March
2022**

	2022	2021
	£	£
<u>Income (restricted)</u>		
Grant income <i>Cambridge City Council - £5,500</i>	28,879	66,565
Total income (restricted)	28,880	66,565
<u>Income (unrestricted)</u>		
Grant income	892	9,149
Donations/Participant fees	-	100
Commissions/Earned income	-	5,207
Total income (unrestricted)	892	14,456
<u>OVERALL TOTAL INCOME</u>	29,772	81,021
<u>Expenditure (restricted)</u>		
Wages (Co-ordinator & Media officer)	11,339	13,771
Administrative materials & expenses	939	1,639
Project artist/filmmaker fees	24,610	18,922
Artists' materials	3,443	2,360
Artists' expenses	13,906	1,581
Total expenditure (restricted)	54,237	38,273 _x
OBLIQUE ARTS (Charity Number 1142653)		

Receipts and Payments accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022

X

	2022	2021
	£	£
<u>Expenditure (unrestricted)</u>		
Wages (co-ordinator & other)	12,863	-
<u>Administrative materials & expenses</u>		
Stationery, printing & travel	-	544
Insurance, accountancy, storage, etc.	-	-
Total for admin materials & expenses	-	544
Project artist/filmmaker fees	3,300	2,180
Artists' materials	454	63
Artists' expenses	2,557	-
Total expenditure (unrestricted)	19,173	2,787
<u>OVERALL TOTAL EXPENDITURE</u>	73,410	41,060

OBLIQUE ARTS (Charity Number 1142653)
Receipts and Payments accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022

RETAINED SURPLUS

X

	2022 £	2021 £
<u>Restricted funds</u>		
(deficit)/surplus for the period	(25,357)	28,292
Surplus brought forward	51,521	24,298
Transfer to unrestricted funds to cover project costs	-	(1,069)
<u>Restricted surplus carried forward</u>	26,164	51,521
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>		
(deficit)/surplus for the period	(18,281)	11,669
Surplus brought forward	26,457	13,719
Transfer to unrestricted funds to cover project costs	-	1,069
<u>Unrestricted surplus carried forward</u>	8,176	26,457
TOTAL FUNDS		
(deficit)/surplus for the period	(43,638)	39,961
Surplus brought forward	77,978	38,017
<u>Total surplus carried forward</u>	34,340	77,978

The organisation has no recognised gains and losses other than those represented in the surplus above and therefore no separate statement of total gains and losses has been presented.

All activities are continuing, there have been no acquisitions or disposals during the year.

OBLIQUE ARTS (Charity Number 1142653)

Receipts and Payments accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31ST MARCH 2022

X

	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £
Cash at bank	8,176	28,202	26,606	53,018
Cheques paid out but not cleared at year end	0	(2,038)	(149)	(1,497)
Total	8,176	26,164	26,457	51,521

Statement on Reserves Policy:

The large portion of our income is 'Restricted' and is therefore applied only to set-aside projects. As a general rule, 10% of this restricted income is used to pay unrestricted running costs (as listed in the accounts expenditure above) so that the charity can function.

Some of the income we receive is as a commission or unrestricted grant to carry out a particular project(s), and on occasions we are able to complete the project(s) with money in hand. This enables us to build up a modest unrestricted reserve which can help with running costs and also any potential overspend on projects in the future or other unanticipated costs or opportunities e.g. where we have to provide unrestricted contributions in order to access grant monies.

The financial statements were signed by trustee:

OBLIQUE ARTS
AGM Date: 17th June 2022

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Oblique Arts

I report on the accounts of Oblique Arts (Charity Number 1142653)

for the year ended 31/03/2022

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to examine the accounts following the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act), and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's unqualified statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met, or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Annemie Philips (ACCA 3199855)
9 Linden Road, Hampton, TW12 2JG



Signed

Date: 3rd January 2023

Structure, Governance and Management

Description:

Oblique Arts is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in 2011.

Registration number **1142653**.

It is governed by a deed of trust.

Organisational structure

The charity trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The trustees give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other financial benefits.

The trustees are responsible for all decisions taken in relation to running of Oblique Arts and the activities provided by the charity. The management committee, comprising Chair, Secretary and Treasurer manage the smooth running of the charity. The Co-ordinator is responsible for administration, fundraising and project organisation. A bookkeeper oversees day-to-day finance. A media manager oversees publicity and marketing for the charity and for projects.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees:

The existing trustees are responsible for the recruitment of new trustees in consultation with management and other members of the charity. In selecting new trustees, we seek to identify people who regularly attend events and take an active interest in the work organised by the charity and have skills to share. They demonstrate that they are willing to volunteer to help in our broader work with communities. Potential trustees are invited to attend events and activities. They are appointed at the AGM.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing an annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each 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 the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently; observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to

any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

- 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 proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees for the purposes of charity law who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out here.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity's principal address: 14 Cockburn Street, Cambridge. CB1 3NB

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Peter Torak appointed 10th June 2020. Amanda Gawthrop and Julian Pickles appointed June 2022.

Management committee 2021/22

Chair: Karen Kellet

Secretary: Penny Sobr

Treasurer: Simon Buchan

Name of Coordinator: Beverley Carpenter

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above. Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees Signature (s)

Full Name Julian Pickles

Position Date Trustee 14.1.23

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.....Annemie Phillips.....

Date:

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.....Annemie Phillips.....

Date:

3rd January 2023