

# CLEAR VILLAGE:

## Trustees Annual Report 2021/22

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022





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## Trustees Annual Report 2021/22

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2022

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2022 and confirm they comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Trust Deed and the Charities SORP 2005.

### **Reference and Administrative Information**

Charity Name: CLEAR VILLAGE Charitable Trust

Working name: CLEAR VILLAGE

Registration: 1142779

### **Head Office**

Small Works Victoria, Admin Office  
Block A Vauxhall Peabody Estate  
Vauxhall Bridge Road  
London SW1V 1TA

### **Trustees**

CLEAR VILLAGE Trustee Limited

### **Primary Administrative Staff**

Frank van Hasselt  
Mohan Rajaratnam

### **Independent Examiner**

Michael Stone MA ACA  
Jamieson Stone LLP  
Windsor House  
40/41 Great Castle Street  
London W1W 8LU

### **Bankers**

The Co-operative Bank  
1 Islington High Street  
London N1 9TR

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## **1: MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR**

2021/22 was a year shaped by the global pandemic. Like many other organisations, we faced significant uncertainty and serious challenges. For much of the year, we were for instance unable to host regular hackathons for our Circuit project or offer co-working through our Small Works project. This didn't only make it difficult for us to achieve the impact goals we had set ourselves, but also led to a loss of revenue in some of our projects.

I am happy to say, however, that we navigated these challenges well. We were helped by two factors. First: by the organisational restructuring we had carried out in previous years, which helped CLEAR VILLAGE to remain lean and cost-effective. And second: by the discovery that a great deal of placemaking work can, in fact, be done virtually. We ran online hackathons for our Circuit project and co-creative workshops for the Human Cities consortium, and in all cases we found that the results exceeded our expectations.

In consequence, I believe that we finished 2021/22 in a better place than when we started. Our four main projects- Circuit, Human Cities, Remote Making, and Small Works- all made significant progress. I am also pleased by our increased fundraising efforts and by our renewed focus on supporting rural communities, which connects to my original vision for CLEAR VILLAGE. These two aspects in particular- our greater financial robustness and our increased work on rural challenges as a complement to our urban activities- position the organisation well for 2022/23.



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Thomas Ermacora  
CLEAR VILLAGE Founder and Strategic & Creative Director

## **2: STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT**

### **2.1 Governing document**

CLEAR VILLAGE Charitable Trust is constituted as a charitable trust registered with the UK Charity Commission in July 2011 under charity number 1142779. It is governed by a Trust Deed dated 12th May 2010. The working name of the trust is CLEAR VILLAGE.

### **2.2 Organisational structure**

In the course of the 2021/22 financial year CLEAR VILLAGE had 7 members of staff, spread across a core team of 3 and a project team of 4.

### **2.3 Trustees**

The trustees of the charity are appointed by the trustees.

The trustee of CLEAR VILLAGE in the period and as at the date of approval of this report is CLEAR VILLAGE Trustee Limited, which is an incorporated company limited by guarantee.

CLEAR VILLAGE Trustee Limited is responsible for the management of the trust and for holding its assets. Any contract to be entered into by CLEAR VILLAGE Charitable Trust is entered into by CLEAR VILLAGE Trustee Limited, acting in its capacity as sole trustee of the trust.

In the period and as at the date of approval of this report, CLEAR VILLAGE Trustee Limited had 4 board members.

## **3: OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **3.1 Objects of the charity**

The objects of the charity, as declared in the Trust Deed, are as follows:

To promote and develop the capacity and skills of members of socially, economically and ecologically disadvantaged rural, peri-urban and urban communities for the benefit of the public, in such a way that they are better able to identify and meet their needs by:

- (a) bringing together professional expertise and the specific knowledge of local communities through participatory community projects,
- (b) educating the public in matters associated with regeneration, community capacity building and sustainable solutions by conducting, supporting and publicising research into these topics, including but not limited to exhibitions, presentations, conferences, awards, publications and lectures in schools, colleges and universities,
- (c) supporting students studying subjects associated with community capacity and skill building as well as well-being and sustainable solutions, at postgraduate level, or
- (d) such other methods as the Trustees think fit,

### **3.2 Public benefit statement**

The trustees have complied with their duty under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

### **3.3 Main activities and public benefit**

In the past year, CLEAR VILLAGE has undertaken a number of projects, summarised below, in furtherance of its charitable aims. In accordance with Section 17(5) of the Charities Act and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit throughout the planning and delivery of the projects mentioned. In particular, the guidance specifies community development as a statutory charitable purpose. Since community development and capacity-building is at the core of all the projects CLEAR VILLAGE delivered in the past financial year, the trustees believe that CLEAR VILLAGE has fully complied with the obligation to consider and achieve public benefit.

### **3.4 Projects in the 2021/22 financial year**

#### **3.4.1 Circuit**

Circuit is a 4-year project funded by the EU's Horizon 2020 programme. The project brings together partners from four city clusters- Copenhagen, Hamburg, Helsinki, and London- to develop circular economy approaches for the built environment. CLEAR VILLAGE'S role is to organise Hackathons to generate new ideas on reusing waste materials and other key themes. In 2021/22, we completed five of the nine Hackathons we are scheduled to run. Together with Good Waste, Other Today, and other designers from Hackney Depot, we hosted an exhibition during the London Design Festival to display the results from our Hackathons and showcase material samples made from demolition waste, alongside the tools and machines used to manipulate the material. We also began preparations for our sixth and seventh Hackathons, which will feature two new elements. First, in comparison to the Hackathons we held during the pandemic, they will be more open and engage a range of stakeholders including students, industry partners, small businesses, and entrepreneurs. Second, we will work with Imperial College to gamify some of the key data coming out of the project.

#### **3.4.2 Remote Making**

Remote Making is a project to bring digital fabrication and other new technologies to rural locations in Wales. The aim is to introduce communities to the technologies of the fourth industrial revolution, teach new skills, contribute to economic development, and use technology to build social cohesion. In 2021/22, we carried out substantial work to build a consortium of local partners, including the Conwy Rural Development Team, the Llanrwst Local Action Group, the Wool Museum, the Pengwern Community Centre, the Penmachno Community Trust, Re Source Wales, and several community councils. We also began to fundraise for the project and managed to secure a grant from the Ashley Family Foundation, which will allow us to purchase equipment and fund a workshop series over nine months combining digital and traditional skills. In addition, we tested the concept of our Maker Van- a means of delivering digital services and workshops in multiple rural locations- by organising mobile workshops for project partners like the Wool Museum.

#### **3.4.3 Human Cities**

Human Cities IV, also known as SMOTIES, is a four-year project funded by Creative Europe to bring design and placemaking skills to remote places around Europe. CLEAR VILLAGE has two main responsibilities: to carry out a placemaking intervention in rural Wales and to lead the development of an impact assessment

strategy, which will be used by all SMOTIES partners in their remote locations. In 2021/22, we carried out best-practice research and wrote several case studies on creative interventions in remote locations in the UK, which will be included in a publication written by the Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia. In addition, we helped the SMOTIES consortium co-create an impact assessment strategy by means of a design fiction process, which involved the creation of a virtual fictional village in which different creative interventions and different approaches to impact assessment could be trialled. Finally, we started our intervention in the village of Penmachno in rural Wales, working with the council and the local community to renovate an empty shop and turn it into an activity and exhibition space.

#### **3.4.4 Small Works**

Our Small Works space in Peabody's Vauxhall Estate in Victoria supports social enterprises and local residents, by offering co-working space to the former and a range of workshops and activities to the latter. After remaining closed for much of the pandemic, Small Works re-opened in 2021/22. We supported our organisational members who struggled from the after-effects of the pandemic in various ways, for instance by helping them with their fundraising. We were also keen to help local residents, and we carried out a detailed assessment of community needs and aspirations after the pandemic. Our findings showed that Covid had led to a dramatic increase in feelings of isolation and exclusion among residents, which was exacerbated by a lack of community-focused activities and opportunities in Victoria. To address this, we developed a one-year programme of activities and events, expanded our volunteer team to help with delivery, and secured funding for the programme from the Peabody Community Foundation.

### **4: ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

In the 2021/22 financial year, CLEAR VILLAGE took active steps to keep organisational costs at an acceptable level. With its current projects in stable condition, CLEAR VILLAGE is well positioned to pursue future opportunities for growth to improve its overall financial performance.

#### **4.1 Reserves policy**

As a young charity, CLEAR VILLAGE is exposed to certain financial risks. The CLEAR VILLAGE trustees have implemented a Reserves Policy to assist with financial planning and guard against these risks to ensure that in times of financial difficulty:

- staff can continue working, primarily to secure new funding;
- beneficiaries are supported; and
- CLEAR VILLAGE can continue to work toward its charitable objectives.

The Reserves Policy is designed to ensure that CLEAR VILLAGE is able to maintain operations over three months should any challenging circumstances – foreseen or unforeseen – arise.

#### **4.2 Details of any funds materially in deficit**

During the financial period, CLEAR VILLAGE had net incoming resources of £4,241 (2021: £3,641) and had unrestricted reserves of £8,552 (2021: £4,311).

#### **4.3 Further financial review details**

Addressing the level of unrestricted reserves is a key financial priority. Thanks to tight financial management, overall expenditure remained relatively low. However, income growth is needed and the trustees are exploring ways to stabilize the organisation's financial position going forward.



## **5: 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 trustees of CLEAR VILLAGE to prepare financial statements according to suitable accounting policies and the Charities SORP, taking into account the annual revenue of the charity and giving a fair and true view of its financial status.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity. For this purpose, CLEAR VILLAGE has contracted with the accountancy firm of Jamieson Stone LLP and has attached the current independently examined financial records for review.

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

This annual report and the attached accounts have been approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



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Thomas Ugo Ermacora  
Chair of CLEAR VILLAGE Trustee Limited  
20/01/2023



## **6: CONTACT**

### **CLEAR VILLAGE**

Small Works Victoria, Admin Office  
Block A Vauxhall Peabody Estate  
Vauxhall Bridge Road  
London SW1V 1TA  
+44 (0)20 3633 3296  
info@clear-village.org

### **Thomas Ermacora**

Chairman and Founder  
Creative and Strategic Director  
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### **Frank van Hasselt**

Chief Executive  
+44 (0)7483 378 618  
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INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE  
TRUSTEE OF CLEAR VILLAGE CHARITABLE TRUST  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

**Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustee is responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity trustee considers that an audit is not required for this period under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

**Basis of the independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 trustee concerning 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 statement below.

**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 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act, 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.



Michael Stone MA ACA  
Jamieson Stone LLP  
Windsor House  
40/41 Great Castle Street  
London  
W1W 8LU

20/1/2023

CLEAR VILLAGE CHARITABLE TRUST  
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022  
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
Donations	2	46,857	-	46,857	35,300
Grant Income	2	-	50,434	50,434	39,462
Other Income	2	31,898	-	31,898	27,174
Total incoming resources		78,755	50,434	129,189	101,936
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
Grant & Project Expenditure		73,314	50,434	123,748	97,094
Governance Costs		1,200	-	1,200	1,201
Total resources expended		74,514	50,434	124,948	98,295
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		4,241	-	4,241	3,641
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		4,241	-	4,241	3,641
Total funds at 1 April 2021		4,311	-	4,311	670
Total funds at 31 March 2022		8,552	-	8,552	4,311

All amounts relate to continuing operations. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The accompanying notes on pages 13 to 15 form part of these financial statements



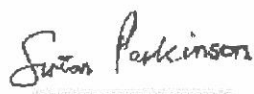
CLEAR VILLAGE CHARITABLE TRUST  
BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors and prepayments	4	-	4,537
Cash at bank and in hand		45,784	12,505
Total current assets		45,784	17,042
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	5	37,232	12,731
Net current assets		8,552	4,311
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		8,552	4,311
<b>FUNDS OF THE CHARITY</b>			
Unrestricted funds		8,552	4,311
Restricted funds		-	-
Total funds		8,552	4,311

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 20th January 2023 and signed on their behalf,



Thomas Ermacora



Simon Parkinson

The accompanying notes on pages 13 to 15 form part of these financial statements

## 1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

These accounts have been prepared on the accruals basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown at market value) in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015) and with Accounting Standards and with the Charities Act 2011.

## 2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### Incoming Resources

Recognition of incoming resources: These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources; the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming resources with related expenditure: Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

Grants and donations: Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts: Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Contractual income and performance related grants: This is only included in the SoFA once the related goods or services have been delivered.

Gifts in kind: Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity of the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Donated services and facilities: These are only included in incoming resources (with equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonable quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

Volunteer help: The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts.

Investment income: This is included in the accounts when receivable.

Investment gains and losses: include any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market at the end of the period.

CLEAR VILLAGE CHARITABLE TRUST  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

**2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

Expenditure and Liabilities

Liability recognition: Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

Grants with performance conditions: where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

Grants payable without performance conditions: these are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the charity.

Assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity: these are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.

Investments: Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange are valued at market value at the period end. Other investment assets are included at trustees' best estimate of market value.

Stock and work in progress: These are valued at the lower of cost or market value.

**3. DETAILS OF CERTAIN ITEMS OF EXPENDITURE**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Independent Examiner's remuneration; For reporting on the accounts	1,200	1,200
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**4. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	-	4,537
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CLEAR VILLAGE CHARITABLE TRUST  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

**5. CREDITORS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	783	2120
Other creditors	107	14
Accruals and deferred income	36,342	10,597
	<u>37,232</u>	<u>12,731</u>

**6. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

No remuneration or benefits were paid to trustees in the period.