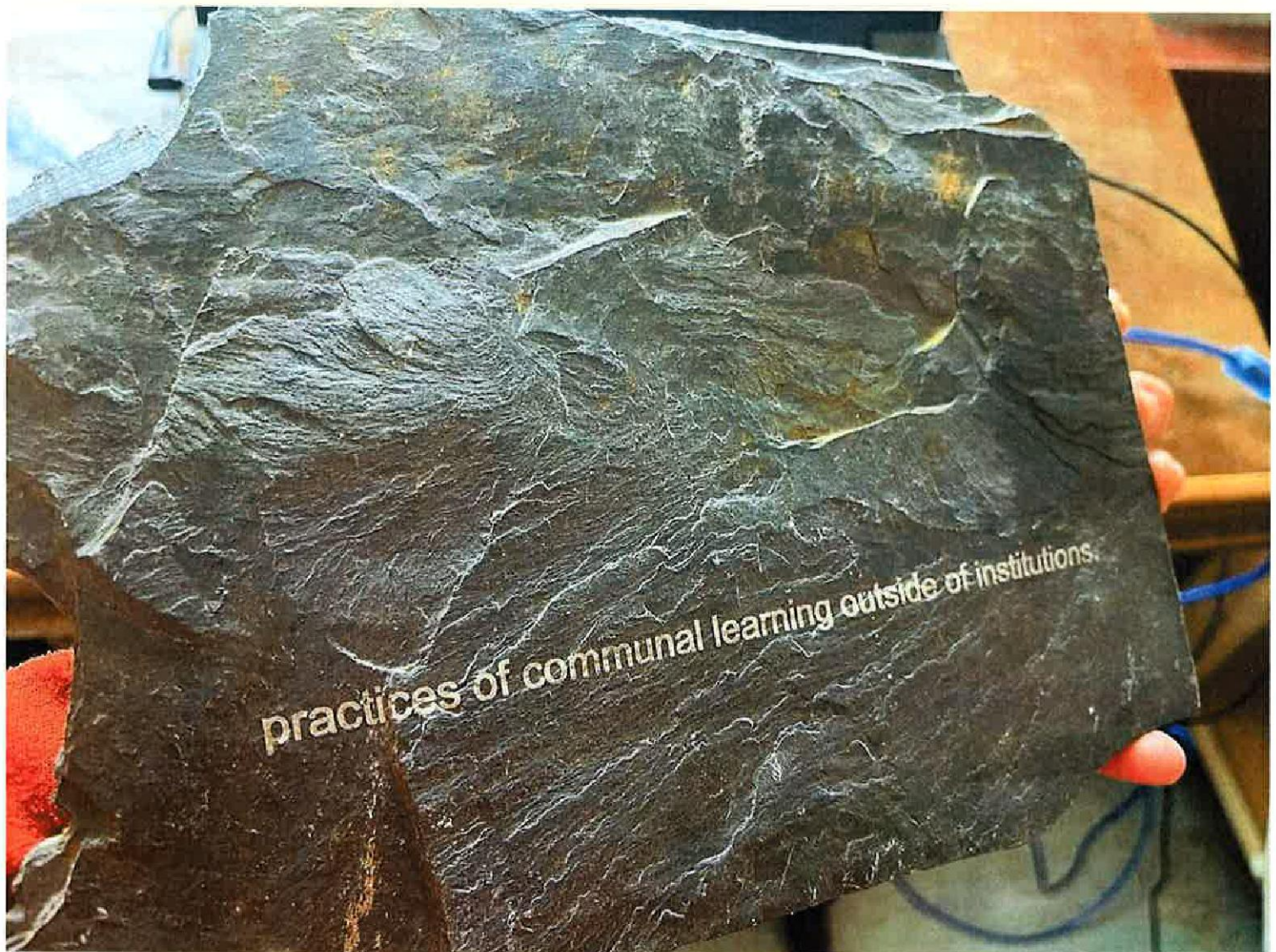


# CLEAR VILLAGE:

## Trustees Annual Report 2022/23

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023



# CLEAR VILLAGE:

## Trustees Annual Report 2022/23

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2023 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**

In the year 2022/2023, we focused above all on the successful execution of our ongoing projects, particularly on our pan-European, multi-year projects Circuit and SMOTIES, which entered a crucial delivery phase. For Circuit, we hosted a series of Hackathons dedicated to developing circular solutions within the built environment. For SMOTIES, we not only established a rural community hub in Wales, but also designed an overarching impact strategy for the project, intended for adoption by our partners in rural locations across Europe. I am pleased to report that we met all our deliverables, achieving key milestones not only for Circuit and SMOTIES but also for our other concurrent projects.

What brings me particular satisfaction is our renewed emphasis on developing solutions for rural locations. I founded CLEAR VILLAGE in 2009 with the express purpose to bring design thinking and expertise to overlooked areas: to the 'other 90%', so to speak. The fact is that urbanism- and indeed our culture in general- has a clear bias towards cities. This has led to a growing, and extremely dangerous, divide between urban and rural communities, making it more crucial than ever to construct bridges. Yet it's not only about addressing actual or potential problems; it's also about unlocking untapped potential.

I believe that the original argument I articulated when founding CLEAR VILLAGE- that new technologies have the power to catalyze a rural Renaissance- is as valid as ever, and I look forward to CLEAR VILLAGE playing a valuable role in fostering this positive change in the years to come.



---

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 2022/23 financial year, CLEAR VILLAGE had 6 members of staff: 2 members of staff were in charge of core operations, while 4 members of staff were assigned to CLEAR VILLAGE'S 4 main projects.

### **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 2022/23 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 advance circular economy approaches in the built environment. CLEAR VILLAGE'S role involves organising Hackathons to generate new ideas on reusing waste materials and other relevant themes. In 2022/23, we successfully completed seven out of the nine scheduled Hackathons. Collaborating with partners like Grimshaw Architects, IfDo, and Meanwhile Space, we tackled challenges such as designing modular exhibition furniture, developing disassembly solutions for the built environment, and prototyping an innovative card game for exploring and developing circular design policy.

#### **3.4.2 Remote Making**

Remote Making is a project aimed at bringing digital fabrication and other emerging technologies to rural areas in Wales, with the goal of teaching new skills, contributing to economic development, and using technology to foster social cohesion. In 2022/23, we inaugurated Oriel Machno, our new community space in Penmachno village, with a primary focus on maker-related activities. We established a steering group to oversee the work at Oriel Machno, assembled a volunteer team for day-to-day operations, and launched a diverse array of events, exhibitions, and workshops. In addition, we successfully secured funding to acquire additional fablab machinery and developed a programme to mentor and support small businesses in the region.

#### **3.4.3 Human Cities**

Human Cities IV, also known as SMOTIES, is a four-year project funded by Creative Europe, with the goal of bringing design and placemaking skills to remote areas across Europe. CLEAR VILLAGE has two main responsibilities in the project: carrying out placemaking interventions in rural Wales and leading the development of an impact assessment strategy, designed for adoption by all SMOTIES partners in their respective remote locations. In 2022/23, we successfully completed the development of the methodology underpinning the impact strategy, ensuring alignment across all partners' remote locations. Additionally, we hosted a major transnational meeting in Wales, which featured a conference on rural placemaking, round tables, and events involving the local community to celebrate the work accomplished thus far.

### **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. In 2022/23, we secured a number of grants- including funds from the Peabody Community Fund, the Westminster Protects programme, and the Westminster Healthy Winter programme- which allowed us to extend our services to well over 200 residents. Collaborating with our Small Works member organisations and our volunteer team, we provided a wide range of offerings. These included employability workshops, financial advice sessions, healthy eating and well-being workshops, IT sessions, coffee mornings, language classes for children, a chess and lunch club for older people, and a health programme tailored for the Bangladeshi community in Westminster, which focused particularly on enhancing understanding of vaccines and addressing concerns about safety.

## **4: ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

In the 2022/23 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 £3,445 (2022: £4,241) and had unrestricted reserves of £11,997 (2022: £8,552).

### **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).

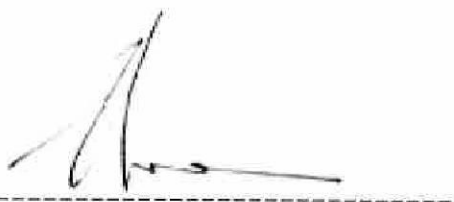
The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees of CLEAR VILLAGE to prepare

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:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Ugo Ermacora', written over a horizontal dashed line.

Thomas Ugo Ermacora  
Chair of CLEAR VILLAGE Trustee Limited  
17/01/2024



**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  
+44 (0)7503 001 345  
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**Frank van Hasselt**

Chief Executive  
+44 (0)7483 378 618  
frank@clear-village.org

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE  
TRUSTEE OF CLEAR VILLAGE CHARITABLE TRUST  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

**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

17/1/2024

CLEAR VILLAGE CHARITABLE TRUST  
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023  
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
Donations	2	53,993	-	53,993	46,857
Grant Income	2	-	72,379	72,379	50,434
Other Income	2	18,762	-	18,762	31,898
		<u>72,755</u>	<u>72,379</u>	<u>145,134</u>	<u>129,189</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
Grant & Project Expenditure		67,990	72,379	140,369	123,748
Governance Costs		1,320	-	1,320	1,200
		<u>69,310</u>	<u>72,379</u>	<u>141,689</u>	<u>124,948</u>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		3,445	-	3,445	4,241
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
		<u>3,445</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,445</u>	<u>4,241</u>
Net movement in funds		3,445	-	3,445	4,241
Total funds at 1 April 2022		8,552	-	8,552	4,311
Total funds at 31 March 2023		<u>11,997</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,997</u>	<u>8,552</u>

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

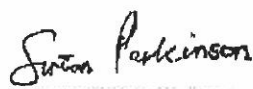
The accompanying notes on pages 13 to 15 form part of these financial statements

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors and prepayments	4	7,926	-
Cash at bank and in hand		8,178	45,784
		-----	-----
Total current assets		16,104	45,784
		-----	-----
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	5	4,107	37,232
		-----	-----
Net current assets		11,997	8,552
		-----	-----
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		11,997	8,552
		-----	-----
<b>FUNDS OF THE CHARITY</b>			
Unrestricted funds		11,997	8,552
Restricted funds		-	-
		-----	-----
Total funds		11,997	8,552

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 17th January 2024 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 (FRS 102)) 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.



## 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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Independent Examiner's remuneration: For reporting on the accounts	1,320	1,200
	-----	-----

## 4. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	7,926	-
	-----	-----

CLEAR VILLAGE CHARITABLE TRUST  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Social security and other taxes	2,329	783
Other creditors	322	107
Accruals and deferred income	1,456	36,342
	<u>4,107</u>	<u>37,232</u>

**6. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

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