



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

From **05 September 2021** To **04 September 2022**

Charity name: **The Earth Community Trust**

Charity registration number: 1143660

## **Objectives and Activities**

|  | SORP reference     |   |
|--|--------------------|---|
| Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document  | Para 1.17          | <b>1. TO PROMOTE THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO PERMACULTURE AND BIODYNAMICS PRINCIPLES, AND WITH A VIEW TO HELPING PEOPLE CONNECT WITH NATURE.</b><br><b>2. TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF HOLISTIC LIVING</b><br><b>HOLISTIC LIVING MEANS "A WAY OF LIVING THAT RECOGNISES HUMAN BEINGS AS BEING PART OF A GREATER WHOLE"</b>  |
| Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts. | Para 1.17 and 1.19 | <b>The main activity this year was establishing a community hub in Stroud that facilitates and brings together a wide range of community projects relating to sustainability. "Trinity Rooms" has become a busy and thriving collective of groups and individuals and was, at the time of this report, in the process of becoming its own separate charity.</b><br><br><b>We also continued our work of Earth Protector Communities and as conduit partner for other causes whose objectives are in line with ours.</b> |
| Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit   | Para 1.18          | <b>The charity trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.</b>   |

## Achievements and Performance

|   | SORP reference |  |
|---|----------------|--|
| Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole. | Para 1.20      | <b>We were pleased to be instrumental in establishing the Trinity Rooms community hub, which was our main activity this year. Details can be found at <a href="https://stroudtrinityrooms.org">https://stroudtrinityrooms.org</a></b><br><br><b>We were also able to help out several funding partners and in particular Hoffman, who have been with us the longest. This year we facilitated two large transactions for them, including a legacy.</b> |

## Related Party Transaction

During the financial year the charity received income and paid expenditure on behalf of the Trinity Rooms, a community facility, which became part of a new a charity's operation, Stroud Earth Community. George Vigileos is a trustee of both The Earth Community Trust and Stroud Earth Community.

## Financial Review

|  |           |  |
|--|-----------|--|
| Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period              | Para 1.21 | <p><b>Our income was £77,861 and this was made up almost entirely of donations, legacies and Gift Aid. The largest amount received from any one individual was £22,500.</b></p> <p><b>£47,928 of our income was received on behalf of our partners and passed on to them.</b></p> <p><b>Most of our <u>own</u> expenditure consisted of paying freelancers for services such as outreach, design and fundraising and made up £21,636 of a total £84,019.</b></p> |
| Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held   | Para 1.22 | <p><b>We aim to hold a reserve of three times our average monthly expenditure and are able to reduce expenses as needed if income reduces. This year we used unrestricted funds to support one of the restricted funds (Trinity Rooms, our main activity this year), which means we show total unrestricted expenses of £12,698 with only £2,368 unrestricted reserves. However, these do not reflect any ongoing commitments.</b></p>                           |
| Amount of reserves held  | Para 1.22 | <b>£2,368 unrestricted and uncommitted reserves</b>  |
| Reasons for holding zero reserves  | Para 1.22 | <b>na</b>  |
| Details of fund materially in deficit  | Para 1.24 | <b>na</b>  |
| Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern | Para 1.23 | <b>none</b>  |

## Structure, Governance and Management

|   |           |   |
|---|-----------|---|
| Description of charity's trusts:  |           |   |
| Type of governing document<br>(trust deed, royal charter)   | Para 1.25 | <b>Trust Deed</b>   |
| How is the charity constituted?<br>(e.g unincorporated association, CIO)  | Para 1.25 | <b>Trust</b>  |
| Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees | Para 1.25 | <b>Trustees are appointed by current trustees for a period of 3 years</b> |

## Reference and Administrative details

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Charity name                | The Earth Community Trust                  |
| Other name the charity uses |  |
| Registered charity number   | 1143660                                    |
| Charity's principal address | Trinity Rooms, Field Road, Stroud, GL5 2HZ |
|                             |  |

## Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

|    | Trustee name       | Office (if any) | Dates acted if not for whole year | Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any) |
|----|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1  | Manley Hopkinson   |                 | resigned 08/08/22                 |   |
| 2  | Patricia Dickinson |                 | Died September 2021               |   |
| 3  | Karen Stokes       | chair           | Resigned 29/09/21                 |   |
| 4  | Ian Lawrie QC      |                 |                                   |   |
| 5  | Ella-Jo Mehta      | chair           | Became chair 29/09/21             |   |
| 6  | Andrew Middleton   |                 |                                   |   |
| 7  |                    |                 |                                   |   |
| 8  |                    |                 |                                   |   |
| 9  |                    |                 |                                   |   |
| 10 |                    |                 |                                   |   |
| 11 |                    |                 |                                   |   |
| 12 |                    |                 |                                   |   |
| 13 |                    |                 |                                   |   |
| 14 |                    |                 |                                   |   |
| 15 |                    |                 |                                   |   |
| 16 |                    |                 |                                   |   |
| 17 |                    |                 |                                   |   |
| 18 |                    |                 |                                   |   |
| 19 |                    |                 |                                   |   |
| 20 |                    |                 |                                   |   |

## Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

| Director name |  |  |
|---------------|--|--|
| none          |  |  |
|               |  |  |
|               |  |  |
|               |  |  |
|               |  |  |
|               |  |  |

## Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

| Trustee name | Dates acted if not for whole year |  |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| none         |                                   |  |
|              |                                   |  |
|              |                                   |  |
|              |                                   |  |
|              |                                   |  |
|              |                                   |  |

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others


|   |   |
|---|---|
| Description of the assets held in this capacity   | At year end we held £1,515 as agent for other organisations, namely our funding partners, Amazon Alliance, Hoffman and Stop Ecocide.  |
| Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects | All are involved with empowering individuals to take actions in creating a better future for our planet and natural environment.  |
| Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets                         | The funds are accounted for as separate restricted funds and money due is paid out monthly or on request, avoiding the build up of any large amounts that could be at risk. |

## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|--|--|

Full name(s)

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Ella-Jo Mehta |  |
|---------------|--|

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| Chair |  |
|-------|--|

Date

|            |
|------------|
| 31/12/2022 |
|------------|

## Report to the trustees of The Earth Community Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 4 September 2022 as set out in sections A and B.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

### Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the trustees concerning any 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 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave 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.



Patrick Morrello ACA  
Third Sector Accountancy Limited  
Holyoake House  
Hanover Street  
Manchester  
M60 0AS

Date: 31 / 03 / 2023

## Receipts and payments accounts

|                        |                               |    |                             |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|----|-----------------------------|
| For the period<br>from | Period start date<br>05/09/21 | To | Period end date<br>04/09/22 |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|----|-----------------------------|

### Section A Receipts and payments

|   | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>to the nearest<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>to the nearest £ | Endowment<br>funds<br>to the nearest £ | Total funds<br>to the nearest £ | Last year<br>to the nearest £ |
|---|--|---|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>A1 Receipts</b>                                    |  |   |  |                                 |                               |
| Donations   | 2,250  | 21,055                                  | -                                      | 23,305                          | 42,383                        |
| Gift Aid  | 33   | 3,752                                   | -                                      | 3,785                           | 8,001                         |
| other   | 393  | 2,450                                   | -                                      | 2,843                           | 2,668                         |
| Partner Funding                                       |  | 47,928                                  |  | 47,928                          |                               |
|   | -  | -                                       | -                                      | -                               | -                             |
|   | -  | -                                       | -                                      | -                               | -                             |
|   | -  | -                                       | -                                      | -                               | -                             |
| <b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>                | <b>2,676</b>                                 | <b>75,185</b>                           | <b>-</b>                               | <b>77,861</b>                   | <b>53,052</b>                 |
| <b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>    |  |   |  |                                 |                               |
| Jo Mehta loan   |  |   | -                                      | -                               | 4,000                         |
|   | -  | -                                       | -                                      | -                               | -                             |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>-</b>                                     | <b>-</b>                                | <b>-</b>                               | <b>-</b>                        | <b>4,000</b>                  |
| <b>Total receipts</b>                                 | <b>2,676</b>                                 | <b>75,185</b>                           | <b>-</b>                               | <b>77,861</b>                   | <b>57,052</b>                 |
| <b>A3 Payments</b>                                    |  |   |  |                                 |                               |
| Advertising   | 166  |   | -                                      | 166                             | 451                           |
| Bank charges  | 168  | 993                                     | -                                      | 1,161                           | 168                           |
| Freelancers   | 8,261  | 13,375                                  | -                                      | 21,636                          | 28,171                        |
| Fundraising   | 1,037  |   |  | 1,037                           |                               |
| Insurance   |  | 279                                     | -                                      | 279                             | 279                           |
| Office Expenses                                       |  | 1,775                                   | -                                      | 1,775                           | 1,306                         |
| Partner Funding                                       | 529  | 48,282                                  |  | 48,811                          | 15,864                        |
| Professional services                                 | 720  |   | -                                      | 720                             | 1,138                         |
| Phone   |  | 542                                     | -                                      | 542                             | 270                           |
| Purchases   | 4  | 1,735                                   |  | 1,739                           | 696                           |
| Rent  | 1,500  | 4,340                                   |  | 5,840                           | 6,531                         |
| Travel  |  |   | -                                      | -                               | 125                           |
| Utilities   |  |   | -                                      | -                               |                               |
| Website & Software                                    | 313  |   |  | 313                             | 870                           |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>12,698</b>                                | <b>71,321</b>                           | <b>-</b>                               | <b>84,019</b>                   | <b>55,869</b>                 |
| <b>A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)</b> |  |   |  |                                 |                               |
| overpayment returned                                  |  | 554                                     | -                                      | 554                             | 554                           |
|   | -  | -                                       | -                                      | -                               | -                             |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>-</b>                                     | <b>554</b>                              | <b>-</b>                               | <b>554</b>                      | <b>554</b>                    |
| <b>Total payments</b>                                 | <b>12,698</b>                                | <b>70,767</b>                           | <b>-</b>                               | <b>83,465</b>                   | <b>56,423</b>                 |
| <b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>                     | <b>- 10,022</b>                              | <b>4,418</b>                            | <b>-</b>                               | <b>- 5,604</b>                  | <b>629</b>                    |
| <b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>                     | <b>- 667</b>                                 | <b>667</b>                              | <b>-</b>                               | <b>-</b>                        | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>                    | <b>13,057</b>                                | <b>4,150</b>                            | <b>-</b>                               | <b>17,207</b>                   | <b>16,578</b>                 |
| <b>Cash funds this year end</b>                       | <b>2,368</b>                                 | <b>9,235</b>                            | <b>-</b>                               | <b>11,603</b>                   | <b>17,207</b>                 |



## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

| Categories           | Details  | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
|----------------------|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>B1 Cash funds</b> | Current account  | 1,679                           | 9,235                         | -                            |
|                      | Paypal   | 34                              | -                             | -                            |
|                      | Caf Donate   | 655                             | -                             | -                            |
|                      | <b>Total cash funds</b>                                | <b>2,368</b>                    | <b>9,235</b>                  | <b>-</b>                     |
|                      | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) |                                 |                               |                              |

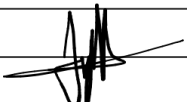
|                                 | Details | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>B2 Other monetary assets</b> |         |                                 | -                             | -                            |
|                                 |         | -                               | -                             | -                            |
|                                 |         | -                               | -                             | -                            |
|                                 |         | -                               | -                             | -                            |
|                                 |         | -                               | -                             | -                            |
|                                 |         | -                               | -                             | -                            |

|                             | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| <b>B3 Investment assets</b> |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|                             |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|                             |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|                             |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|                             |         |                             | -               | -                        |

|   | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|---|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| <b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b> |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |

|                       | Details | Fund to which liability relates | Amount due (optional) | When due (optional) |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>B5 Liabilities</b> |         |                                 |                       |                     |
|                       |         |                                 |                       |                     |
|                       |         |                                 | -                     |                     |
|                       |         |                                 | -                     |                     |
|                       |         |                                 |                       |                     |

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

| Signature   | Print Name    | Date of approval |
|---|---------------|------------------|
|  | Ella-Jo Mehta | 31 / 03 / 2023   |