

COMMUNITY SPACES NORTHAMPTON

England & Wales · Charity number 1146849

Details

Other names	CSN
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	07831065
Registered	2012-04-11
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Unit 1 St. Crispin Community Centre St. Crispin Drive Northampton NN5 4GJ
Phone	01604408365
Email	bookings@communityspacesnn.org
Website	www.communityspacesnn.org

Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS ARE TO BENEFIT THE RESIDENTS OF NORTHAMPTON AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RACE OR OF POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS OR OTHER OPINIONS, PRINCIPALLY BY OPERATING COMMUNITY CENTRES AND OTHERWISE BY ASSOCIATING TOGETHER THE SAID RESIDENTS AND THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES, VOLUNTARY AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN A COMMON EFFORT TO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND TO PROVIDE FACILITIES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR RECREATION LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THE RESIDENTS.

Activities: Community Spaces Northampton manage 8 community centres in Northampton.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Northamptonshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-02-28	£415,313	£394,637	-	-
2024-02-29	£302,742	£320,132	-	-
2023-02-28	£247,819	£306,527	-	-
2022-02-28	£209,097	£250,928	-	-
2021-02-28	£256,694	£239,965	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Damon Boughen		2022-02-03
GARY YOUENS		2012-02-27
JANE LINDA BIRCH		2012-02-27
Martyn Wheatley		2024-01-01

COMMUNITY SPACES NORTHAMPTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1146849

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT

2023-2024



COMMUNITY
SPACES
NORTHAMPTON

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CHAIR'S REPORT



A great deal of development and change has taken place over the year, with many new initiatives in place which engage and support our communities. There have also been some notable and positive developments regarding our strategic and management processes. As a result of this change, it seems that CSN has become stronger, more positive, and confident. This lays a very strong foundation for future growth and developments.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

The cost of living crisis certainly added to extra pressures on the charity. However, our finances have now stabilised and the future looks very positive.

Some of these challenges have been caused in fact by some notable successes. We have increased the number of groups using the centres and the Community Hub programme is now attracting more and more residents requiring support, guidance and access to food, hot meals, clothing and toys.

As a charity we believe in the power of partnerships, and I am pleased to report that our partnership working has become even more established and strong in the town. We have now joined the ICS Local Area Partnership boards to represent the VCSE sector in two areas that our centres are located - the east and west of Northampton. These partnerships are developing strong links between the VCSE sector, local authority, councillors, Public Health, ICS and other statutory services. They will be the place where future developments will take place, and we are thrilled to have the opportunity to contribute for the benefit of the VCSE and local community. More on this later in the report.

The advent of the Integrated Care System and place based working offers CSN a real opportunity to develop centres to ensure people and communities are at the heart of health and social care.

There are a number of other significant partnerships that have been developed through the year, including with West Northants Council Communities team and Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire. We look forward to continuing this work and delivering great outcomes within the localities in which we work.

BUILDINGS

Our buildings of course remain crucial to our charity - without which we would not be able to provide the much needed space for local people to meet, connect, and access services which support their health and wellbeing. We continue with upgrading the centres and making improvements where funding allows.

We are still trying to gain the lease on St Crispin Community Centre along with the management agreement and licences. It is hoped that this will happen soon. The S106 funds to support the centre seem to be uncertain.

We still await any paperwork from WNC on Semilong Community Centre and Bellinge Community House. A great deal of community development work is taking place at both centres and our team has worked hard to turn the buildings, once at risk of closure, into thriving hubs for the community. Although other areas of WNC are supportive, the Assets department has created additional costs and restrictions on gaining leases, leading to difficulties for our charity. We will put forward a robust business plan to try and extend the leases past the 7 year restriction.

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Community Spaces Northampton were thrilled to have been selected as an organisation for support through the national Pilot Light 360 programme. It has been an invaluable experience and has led the Board and staff to analyse in depth and refocus our mission, aims and objectives. The opportunity has enabled CSN to re-evaluate the organisation and its future direction. I would like to thank Pilot Light for all their support, advice and analysis of CSN.

The number of groups, statutory sector sessions, hubs and residents using our centres has dramatically increased over the last two years, as well as the number of volunteers supporting our delivery. Our income streams have also improved. All of this has created extra pressures on management processes and staffing. As such, a review is vital in the future.

STAFFING

Congratulations go to our Strategic Director, Alice Morgan, and her family on the birth of Myles. We wish them happiness and joy for the future. We are looking forward to her return at the start of the new year, following her maternity leave.

A big thank you to Mo Sonnie for his dedication and taking on the management of all areas of the charity while Alice has been on maternity leave. Jo Morris has also made a very valuable contribution to the running of the Hubs and the expansion of our Community programme, as well as developing our reporting systems. I would like to thank her for the commitment and energy she has brought to our charity to make sure our community programme reaches those who need it the most.

I would like to thank our enthusiastic and dedicated staff and volunteers for all of their hard work, energy and commitment. The Board of Trustees has had to make some challenging decisions this year, and bring valued and important advice and expertise to our charity. I would like to thank them for their commitment, dedication and input.

TOBY BIRCH

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES | CO-FOUNDER

A NOTE FROM THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR



When reflecting upon the past year, I have been trying to find a word to sum it up. Whirlwind, perhaps. Sometimes, unfortunately, 'fire-fighting' may be more appropriate, as we kept things going for our communities through difficulties and pressures experienced in the Voluntary and Community Sector. But really and truly, these descriptions do not do justice to how hard our team have worked, how dedicated they have been, and how much of an impact they have made.

Through the pages of this report, you will read of the numbers of people within our communities across Northampton that we have supported to access warmth, food, clothing, connection, advice and support in our Community programme regardless of their background or circumstances. Everyone has a right to these things, and this is why I am proud that our centres are here for all - we are a place for everyone needing us to come together. And on top of this, we saved two community centres at risk of closure, ensuring they stayed open for the benefit of local people.

This huge increase in demand has led to challenges for us as such a small charity. Our total of 7 employees, including our caretaking team, worked tirelessly to make sure we delivered time and time again.

With this in mind, perhaps the word should in fact be **perseverance**.

I will be taking my maternity leave in 2024 and wish the charity and our team the best of luck for the year ahead. I look forward to returning in 2025 to continue our charity's mission.

ALICE MORGAN
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR

CHARITY OVERVIEW

PURPOSE

Our charity's purpose, as set out in the objectives contained in the company's Memorandum of Association is to: -

- Promote the benefit of the inhabitants without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, nationality, race, or of political, religious, or other opinion, by associating together the said inhabitants and the statutory authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education, and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare, or recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants.
- To establish, or secure the establishment, of community centres and to maintain and manage the same (whether alone or in co-operation with any statutory authority or other person or body) in furtherance of the objectives.

VISION

Thriving community centres throughout Northampton, where local people are resilient, engaged and feel supported.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

We believe in building a strong sense of community around our centres, cocreating opportunities and services with local residents. We are working to inspire social action around our centres, focussed on empowering people to take an active role in the community and to foster a sense of ownership over each Community Space.

- Accommodate a range of activities that are relevant, accessible and affordable for local people
- Provide a welcoming, safe and supportive environment that responds to local needs
- Encourage local partnerships and networks that reflect the diversity of communities
- Support local people to improve their health and wellbeing
- Support the development of new initiatives and groups
- Encourage active participation in the life of the local community
- Nurture an ethos of trust and mutual respect
- Promote and organise co-operation between local residents, voluntary and community organisations, statutory bodies and other agencies for the benefit of the local community.

OUR DEFINITION OF A 'COMMUNITY CENTRE'

The term 'Community Centre' covers facilities that provide opportunities for social interaction, health activities and exercise, recreation, events, interest based courses, meeting spaces, youth groups. The organisation is proactive in determining needs, innovative in meeting the requirements of the local community and open to all groups within the community. The centres are there to provide a space for activities built around the needs of local people and are welcoming, inclusive and encourage a sense of belonging.

Our aims, objectives and activities are reviewed annually. The review also considers what has been achieved and the outcomes from the initiatives that have been actioned. The success of the engagement activities, initiatives and development can be shown to demonstrate how the charity is improving and enhancing the lives of people living, working or learning in the community. Through our feedback from groups and events, and liaison with residents and stakeholder groups we can ensure that we have a range of activities that are relevant, accessible and affordable for local people.

Many new initiatives have been started in response to local needs. The review helps us to ensure our aims and objectives remain focussed on our stated purposes.



OUR CENTRES

We now proudly manage ten community spaces across nine locations in Northampton.

The two latest additions are Bellinge Community House, which operates as a separate space next to our Bellinge Community Centre, and Semilong Community Centre. Both of these spaces were at risk of closure, due to charity restructures and closures in the town. We have been able to step in and keep them open for the benefit of the local community. We await longer term tenancy agreements from West Northants Council to ensure we can keep these centres open, at a time when shared community space is needed more than ever.



COMMUNITY HUBS



Our Community Hub programme has grown from strength to strength over the year, led by our Community Hub Coordinator Jo Morris. Jo has transformed the Hub programme, bringing with her extensive experience in inclusive community engagement. Hubs currently run in three locations: Briar Hill, Bellinge and Semilong.

The key themes and issues discussed at during Community Hub sessions over the last year illustrate the diverse range of challenges and needs within the community.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND DEBT MANAGEMENT:

- A significant number of visitors sought assistance with financial matters, including Universal Credit (UC) applications, Council Tax arrears, and Debt management.
- Concerns about Benefit Caps and the need for Discretionary Housing Payments were prevalent among visitors facing financial hardship.
- Debt collectors, Budgeting, and accessing emergency funds through Food Banks were recurring topics of discussion.

HOUSING AND ACCOMMODATION:

- Housing-related issues emerged as a prominent concern, with discussions revolving around Eviction notices, Homelessness, and Emergency accommodation.
- Visitors expressed challenges with housing maintenance, including Boiler repairs, Leaks, and Disputes with housemates.
- Tenancy management and access to suitable accommodation, especially for vulnerable individuals, were highlighted as areas needing attention.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING:

- Both physical and mental health issues were frequently discussed, with visitors seeking support for conditions such as IBS, shingles, toothache, and mental health crises.
- Accessing healthcare services, including mental health support and disability assistance, posed challenges for some visitors.
- Concerns about substance abuse, including cocaine and alcohol, were raised alongside discussions about access to medication and treatment.

Community Engagement and Activities:

- Despite facing challenges, visitors actively engaged in community events and activities, including job fairs, education programs, and leisure pursuits such as yoga classes and gaming nights.
- Volunteer work and participation in community initiatives were viewed as opportunities for social connection and personal development.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

145 Hub
sessions
provided



4152 visits
to our Hubs



1488 free
hot meals
provided



315 referrals
made for
support



40
volunteers
recruited

CHARITY PROGRESS

PILOTLIGHT

We were thrilled to have been selected to participate in the Pilotlight 360 programme this year. The experience, while challenging at times, has been transformational for our charity and has supported us to begin our journey towards sustainability and security for the future. This process has included:

- Redefining the identity of the charity, so that it expresses what it does today, and is fit for purpose for the future strategy. This covers our aims, objectives, mission, vision and Mem & Arts.
- Aligning with the Board on the Strategy Impact map, particularly looking at how the charity prioritises itself for the greatest impact.
- A major review of staffing and how we work with volunteers.
- Developing and embedding management processes and systems for review, risk register, KPIs and financial reporting.

PARTNERSHIPS

We continue to believe in the power of partnership working, and invest time in strengthening and multiplying these relationships for the benefit of our communities. Operationally, We are long standing members of Locality, and have joined Chamber of Commerce this year, which has proved to be very beneficial for advice and support. We also receive support from HCR Hewitsons, providing updates on charity law.

We have developed a partnership with Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire. CSN is a founding member of the 'Power of Small' collaborative set up by VIN to provide support and a much needed voice for small charities.

WNC has signed a co-host agreement with CSN to develop and engage with residents in Briar Hill. This is also being established in Bellinge and Semilong. They have also appointed Community Development Workers to work alongside CSN in increasing the provision and engagement in these areas. This is a welcome development since there will also be funding attached.

We have now joined the ICS Local Area Partnership boards to represent the VCSE sector in two areas that our centres are located - the east and west of Northampton. These partnerships are developing strong links between the VCSE sector, local authority, councillors, Public Health, ICS and other statutory services. They will be the place where future developments will take place, and we are thrilled to have the opportunity to contribute for the benefit of the VCSE and local community. We have strong links with Spring Social Prescribing and the GPA Alliance.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The trustees have paid due regard to the charity commission guidance on public benefit. The trustees are confident that CSN's aims, objectives and activities accommodate a range of activities that are relevant, accessible and affordable and improve and enhance the lives of people, whilst encouraging and developing partnerships and networks, and are in accordance with the regulations on public benefit.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

The organisation is a charitable company, limited by guarantee, incorporated on 1st November 2011, and registered as a charity on 11th April 2012. The company was established under a memorandum and articles of association, which defines its objects and powers, and is governed by its articles of association.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the statement of recommended practice – accounting and reporting by charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005.

All the trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organisation is led by the board, who meet at least 6 times per year.

During these meetings consideration is given to strategic direction and policy of the charity. The Strategic Director and Finance, Resource & Operations Manager attend to discuss strategy, present reports and to take direction from the board. Consideration is given to updating the business plan, future opportunities and assessing, and mitigating where possible, potential and known risks to the charity.

The charity has put in place systems to encourage new volunteers in areas where the community centres are located. There has been a focus on volunteering policy, development and activities to enable this to be undertaken. Volunteers have helped in improving the centres through decoration, development and involvement in community activities and Community Hubs.

PRINCIPAL FUNDING SOURCES

Our main income source is self generated through room hire rental income of the centres. In the current financial climate, as a charity we have needed to increase room hire fees in order to offset some of the rising costs of energy and operations.

The move towards a community hub model, working with a range of organisations in both the public and private sector will create greater opportunities for income generation.

Careful control of our finances has led to us being in a more stable and sustainable position.

RESERVES POLICY

The trustees have set, in conjunction with the Finance, Resource & Operations Manager, a reserves policy that requires reserves to be maintained at a level which ensures core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty, and that a proportion of reserves be maintained in a readily realisable form. The trustees assess the required level of reserves on an annual basis, alongside the operating budget.

Registered number: 7831065

Community Spaces Northampton

**Report and financial statements
for the year ended
29 February 2024**

**Natalie Green & Co
Chartered Accountants
7G Mobbs Miller House
Christchurch Road
Northampton
NN1 5LL**

Community Spaces Northampton

Legal and administrative information

Registered charity number: 1146849

Registered company number: 07831065

Trustees:

Toby Birch
Jane Birch
Damon Boughen
Ben Francoise
Jessica Pilkington
Gary Youens

Registered office:

Unit 1, St. Crispin Community Centre
St. Crispin Drive
Northampton
NN5 4GJ

Independent examiner:

Natalie Green
Natalie Green & Co
Chartered Accountants
7G Mobbs Miller House
Christchurch Road
Northampton
NN1 5LL

Bankers:

HSBC
22 Abington Street
Northampton
NN1 2AN

Community Spaces Northampton

Trustees' report for the year ended 29 February 2024

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present herewith their report and the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a registered charity and a charitable company limited by guarantee.

Community Spaces Northampton is governed by a memorandum and articles of association. The liability of members is limited. The members of the company are the trustees. The members have the power to appoint and remove trustees of the charity.

The trustees have considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed and having reviewed them have developed systems and procedures to manage those risks.

Objectives and activities

The objects of the charity are set out in the articles of association. The principal object is to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Northampton and the neighbourhood by means of advancing education and providing facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure-time occupation, with a view to improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants.

To this end the charity maintains, manages and develops the work of eight community centres in Northampton for the benefit of the local communities.

The articles of association give the charity the powers to do anything which is calculated to further its objects or which is conducive or incidental to doing so.

In planning activities, the trustees keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Community Spaces Northampton

Trustees' report for the year ended 29 February 2024 - continued

Achievements and performance

Details of the income and expenditure for the year are set out in the statement of financial activities on page 5 of the annual report. Activities continued to return to normal following previous statutory closures of the community centres due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The charity received total grants of £19,733 during the year. Total income from all sources for the year amounted to £302,742 and total expenditure amounted to £320,132. The deficit arising of £17,390 has been transferred to reserves.

Statement of trustees responsibilities

The trustees, who are also directors of Community Spaces Northampton for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year. In preparing these 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 2019 (FRS 102);
- 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 operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by



T Birch

Date: 22 November 2024

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of Community Spaces Northampton

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 29 February 2024 which are set out on pages 5 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the 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 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 company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)

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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Natalie Green

Natalie Green

Chartered Accountant

7G Mobbs Miller House, Christchurch Road, Northampton, NN1 5LL.

Date: 22 November 2024

Community Spaces Northampton

Statement of financial activities including summary income and expenditure account for the year ended 29 February 2024

		2024	2023
		£	£
Income from:			
Voluntary income - grants			
West Northamptonshire Council for St Crispins		-	1,000
West Northants Council Coronavirus grants (restricted)		-	270
West Northamptonshire Council (restricted)		525	11,254
Northampton Town Council		7,100	6,000
Northants Community Foundation (restricted)		4,964	4,990
Lords Group Trading		-	5,000
Co-operative Stores (restricted)		3,163	-
Demidav Ltd		390	-
The Neighbourly		3,555	-
Donation		36	--
Sundry income		1,107	2,047
Activities for generating funds			
Rentals from room hire		280,899	216,973
Investment income			
Bank interest		1,003	285
		<u>302,742</u>	<u>247,819</u>
Total income			
Expenditure on:			
Governance costs	2	3,522	9,935
Other costs	3	316,610	296,592
		<u>320,132</u>	<u>306,527</u>
Total expenditure			
		<u>(17,390)</u>	<u>(58,708)</u>
Net (expenditure)/income			
		<u>(17,390)</u>	<u>(58,708)</u>
Net (expenditure) for the year (as above)		(17,390)	(58,708)
Total funds brought forward at 01/03/2023		77,637	136,345
		<u>60,247</u>	<u>77,637</u>
Total funds carried forward at 29/02/2024	11		

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.

The above incoming resources relate to unrestricted funds, with the exceptions of certain grants as indicated above. These grants amount to £8,652 and represent restricted income.

The above resources expended relate to unrestricted funds, with the exception of other costs in the sum of £8,494 which were met from restricted income.

The net expenditure for the year and the fund balance carried forward comprise both restricted and unrestricted funds, as detailed in note 11 to the accounts.

Community Spaces Northampton - Registered company number: 07831065

Balance sheet as at 29 February 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	8	6,049	10,619
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Current assets			
Debtors	9	36,121	37,519
Cash at bank and in hand		85,858	96,571
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		121,979	134,090
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(67,781)	(67,072)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net current assets		54,198	67,018
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total assets less current liabilities		60,247	77,637
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Funds			
Restricted funds	11	9,113	8,955
Unrestricted funds			
General funds	11	51,134	68,682
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total funds		60,247	77,637
		<hr/>	<hr/>

For the year ending 29 February 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees on 22 November 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



T Birch
Director

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 29 February 2024

1 Accounting policies

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice.

Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the charity being wound up the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charity.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

Income recognition

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged to the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 29 February 2024 - continued

1 Accounting policies - continued

Pension costs

The charity has contributed to a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are written off against net income in the year they are payable.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation has been computed to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets over their expected useful lives on a straight line basis using the following rates:

Office equipment	20% or 10% per annum
Heating systems	10% per annum

2 Governance costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Legal and professional fees	942	7,355
Independent examiner's fees (see note 7)	2,580	2,580
	<u>3,522</u>	<u>9,935</u>

3 Other costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs (see note 4)	159,596	144,123
Heat, light and power	63,551	77,007
Rent (lease payment)	1,728	1,728
Water	2,418	4,520
Insurance	3,328	2,595
Office expenses and community development	13,862	4,586
Telephone	6,827	6,014
Repairs, maintenance and cleaning	50,893	46,303
Bad debts	1,142	(3,162)
PRS and PPL licence	2,672	2,665
Miscellaneous costs	4,746	4,712
Bank charges	1,277	905
Depreciation	4,570	4,596
	<u>316,610</u>	<u>296,592</u>

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 29 February 2024 - continued

4 Staff costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries and social security costs	153,083	138,322
Employer's pension contributions	6,513	5,801
	<u>159,596</u>	<u>144,123</u>
	<u><u>7</u></u>	<u><u>6</u></u>

No employees had emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2023: none).

5 Trustees remuneration

The trustees did not receive any remuneration or expenses payments during the year.

6 Pension costs

The company contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £6,513 during the year.

7 Independent examiner's fees

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fees payable to independent examiner:		
- independent examination	600	600
- other	2,940	2,940
- prior year over-accrual	(960)	(960)
	<u>2,580</u>	<u>2,580</u>
	<u><u>2,580</u></u>	<u><u>2,580</u></u>

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 29 February 2024 - continued

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 March 2023	47,889	47,889
Additions	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 29 February 2024	47,889	47,889
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Depreciation		
At 1 March 2023	37,270	37,270
Charge for the year	4,570	4,570
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 29 February 2024	41,840	41,840
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net book value		
At 29 February 2024	6,049	6,049
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
At 28 February 2023	10,619	10,619
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

9 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	33,477	36,031
Prepayments	1,488	1,488
Other debtors	1,156	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	36,121	37,519
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

10 Creditors - amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	50,543	54,394
Accruals	17,238	12,678
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	67,781	67,072
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 29 February 2024 - continued

11 Statement of funds

	At 01/03/2023	Net incoming resources £	Transfer re reclassify as unrestricted £	At 29/02/2024 £
Restricted funds	8,955	158	-	9,113
Unrestricted funds				
General reserve	68,682	(17,548)	-	51,134
Total funds	<u>77,637</u>	<u>(17,390)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,247</u>

The general reserve represents the free funds of the charity which are not designated for specific purposes. The restricted funds at the year end represent the unexpended portion of restricted grants and comprise £9,113 relating to the Rectory Farm garden project.

12 Lease commitments

At the balance sheet date the company had annual commitments under operating leases relating to land and buildings. The total future minimum lease payments are as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Payable:		
- not later than one year	1,728	1,728
- later than one and not later than five years	6,912	6,912
- later than five years	22,464	24,192
	<u>31,104</u>	<u>32,832</u>

13 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions requiring disclosure during the year (2023: none).

14 Contingent liabilities

At the balance sheet date there are potential liabilities arising in respect of unbilled historical water rates charges. These relate to certain unread meters. Accruals have been made in the accounts on the basis of reasonable estimates, but it is possible that there remain unrecorded liabilities, and these cannot be quantified at the time of approval of these accounts.

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 29 February 2024 - continued

15 General Information

Community Spaces Northampton Registered number 7831065 is a private company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England & Wales. The Registered Office is Unit 1, St. Crispin Community Centre, St. Crispin Drive, Northampton, NN5 4GJ.



Issuer Natalie Green & Co

Document generated Fri, 22nd Nov 2024 17:38:57 GMT

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Parties involved with this document

Document processed	Party + Fingerprint
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Sat, 23rd Nov 2024 14:22:14 GMT	Natalie Green - Signer (14481192487133b43bcb97e3a692caef)

Audit history log

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COMMUNITY SPACES NORTHAMPTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1146849

Accounts

COMMUNITY SPACES NORTHAMPTON

ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 2022/2023



COMMUNITY
SPACES
NORTHAMPTON



CHAIR'S REPORT



This has been a year of change and development, which has led to many new initiatives being implemented successfully. CSN has now firmly moved from taking bookings to being actively involved in the community, running sessions and making contacts.

Community Services

The Cost of Living crisis has been a challenge, and this has put additional pressures on both staff, trustees, our centre users, and the charity itself. The number of people using our centres have dramatically increased. We are supporting many more residents in very difficult times. CSN has made a significant impact on wellbeing in the areas in which we operate.

The CSN Community Hub programme started in March 2022. Alice Morgan, our Strategic Director, initiated this programme, and subsequently had an immense impact on their success. Thanks to funding from the WNC Supporting Those At Risk Fund, we employed Claire Neilson as a part time Community Hub Coordinator to develop the hubs and make contact with a number of different agencies to enhance our delivery. At the end of 2022, Claire moved to a full time post as Alliances Manager for Connect Northamptonshire – this link has been very beneficial to CSN. We welcome Jo Morris who has taken the role of Community Hub Coordinator. Jo is proving to build on this development and creating some excellent initiatives.

There are important developments happening with the Integrated Care System which offers many opportunities for the VCSE. CSN has now established itself within this development, and we look forward to further working within the ICS and wider determinants of health within our communities.

Buildings

It seems like despite repeated efforts to gain the lease at St Crispin Community Centre, the process is again being held up by the changes of staffing and solicitors, as well as a change in direction by West Northants Council. At last after repeated efforts and meetings with WNC Officers, we now have direct mains water coming into the centre, meaning we do not have to rely on bottled water.

Before Christmas, CSN took on the management and development of two centres from WNC – Semilong Community Centre and Bellinge Community House. Significant developments have taken place at both sites since CSN have supported the buildings, as a result of being returned to WNC by other community groups that could not continue to run the sites.

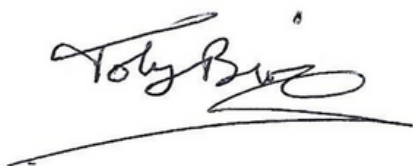
Organisational development

Another major development for CSN has been the successful selection in the Pilotlight Scheme, to gain funded support and advice from business leaders across the country. This will have a major impact on our development and provides the opportunity for the development of new management systems for our charity. The CSN Pilotlight team have provided invaluable advice and support already.

Although there has been an increase in income this year, this has been eroded by the increases in the charities costs. As above, the Cost of Living and Energy Crisis has been a challenge, and this has put additional pressures on both staff, trustees, our centre users, and the charity itself.

I would like to thank the enthusiastic staff and volunteers for all of their hard work and dedication – particularly Alice Morgan, Strategic Director, and Mo Sonnie, Finance Resource and Operations Manager, in these challenging times.

Our Board of Trustees has had to make some challenging decisions and provide important advice, and I thank them for their dedication to CSN.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Toby Birch', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Toby Birch

CHARITY OVERVIEW

Purpose

Our charity's purpose, as set out in the objectives contained in the company's Memorandum of Association is to: -

- Promote the benefit of the inhabitants without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, nationality, race, or of political, religious, or other opinion, by associating together the said inhabitants and the statutory authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education, and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare, or recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants.
- To establish, or secure the establishment, of community centres and to maintain and manage the same (whether alone or in co-operation with any statutory authority or other person or body) in furtherance of the objectives.

Vision

Thriving community centres throughout Northampton, where local people are resilient, engaged and feel supported.

Values

Collaboration
Community cohesion
Empowerment
Shared experience
Affordability Partnership

Aims & Objectives

We believe in building a strong sense of community around our centres, cocreating opportunities and services with local residents.

We are working to inspire social action around our centres, focussed on empowering people to take an active role in the community and to foster a sense of ownership over each Community Space.

- Accommodate a range of activities that are relevant, accessible and affordable for local people
- Provide a welcoming, safe and supportive environment that responds to local needs
- Encourage local partnerships and networks that reflect the diversity of communities
- Support local people to improve their health and wellbeing
- Support the development of new initiatives and groups
- Encourage active participation in the life of the local community
- Nurture an ethos of trust and mutual respect
- Promote and organise co-operation between local residents, voluntary and community organisations, statutory bodies and other agencies for the benefit of the local community.

Our definition of a 'Community Centre'

The term 'Community Centre' covers facilities that provide opportunities for social interaction, health activities and exercise, recreation, events, interest based courses, meeting spaces, youth groups. The organisation is proactive in determining needs, innovative in meeting the requirements of the local community and open to all groups within the community. The centres are there to provide a space for activities built around the needs of local people and are welcoming, inclusive and encourage a sense of belonging.

Our aims, objectives and activities are reviewed annually. The review also considers what has been achieved and the outcomes from the initiatives that have been actioned. The success of the engagement activities, initiatives and development can be shown to demonstrate how the charity is improving and enhancing the lives of people living, working or learning in the community. Through our feedback from groups and events, and liaison with residents and stakeholder groups we can ensure that we have a range of activities that are relevant, accessible and affordable for local people.

Many new initiatives have been started in response to local needs. The review helps us to ensure our aims and objectives remain focussed on our stated purposes.

DELIVERING OUR OBJECTIVES

We believe in building a strong sense of community around our centres, cocreating opportunities and services with local residents.

We are working to inspire social action around our centres, focussed on empowering people to take an active role in the community and to foster a sense of ownership over each Community Space.

Community Hub programme

This year has been an exciting period for Community Spaces Northampton, having launched our Community Hub programme, aligning our charity with our original founding aims of providing space for place based services within neighbourhoods across Northampton. We are incredibly passionate about the need for responsive, needs driven support for people within localities, and our community hub programme is starting to transform the way communities are able to access support.

Thanks to funding from WNC, the STAR fund and Northampton Community Foundation, we have launched Hubs in three centres - Briar Hill, Rectory Farm and Lodge Farm.

Our weekly hubs provide an opportunity for local people to connect and access support and advice within the locality. We have proudly partnered with numerous agencies, including Canto, Food Aid Alliance West Northants, Spring Social Prescribing, Community Law Service, Adult Learning and many more.



108

Number of sessions running in our centres every week, from exercise classes to Dementia Hubs, coffee mornings to youth provision, plus our resident pre-schools.

511

Number of Household Support Fund vouchers administered by CSN in August 2022, providing much needed support to those in severe financial hardship.

1000+

Number of people supported through our partnership with Briar Hill Community food bank in 2022



Youth Engagement

During Summer 2022, we supported the development of a Holiday Club for young people living in Briar Hill. This was led by volunteers from the local community, and was a great success. We are currently developing the re-establishment of a formal youth club with local volunteers and NAYC in the form of a youth Wellbeing Café, subject to funding. We look forward to launching this initiative in partnership with NAYC.

We have also continued our work with Princes Trust, who are based at our Vernon Terrace Community Centre. We value this partnership, and look forward to continuing our work with the charity. This year, Princes Trust selected a number of volunteering projects with CSN, including decorating at both Vernon Terrace and Briar Hill Community Centre.



Partnership Development

CSN are represented at numerous partnership meetings:

- Multi Agency Partnerships surrounding all 8 centres
- VCSE Forum and volunteer network
- Community Centre Forum
- Food Aid Alliance West Northants
- Chair of Trustees was re-elected as Chair of Rectory Farm Residents Association.
- Chair of Trustees sits on the Board of Northants VCSE Assembly

FUNDING SUCCESS

Northampton Community Foundation - Engie Fund funded £4989 towards Rectory Farm Garden Project.

Northampton Community Foundation - Friends of the Foundation funded £4963 for a warm food project to run in our Community Hubs in 2023.

West Northants Council Community Fund - funded 12,339.00 towards a Volunteer Coordinator post to work alongside our Community Hub Coordinator.

STAR funding - funded £2000 for the purchase of stock for Briar Hill Community Food Bank, accessed through the support of the West Northants Food Aid Alliance.

WNC Councillor Covid Relief Fund - funded a total of £4045 for the purchase of equipment, upgrades and resources across our centres. Thanks to Cllr Keith Holland-Delamere, Cllr Dennis Meredith, Cllr Janice Duffy, Cllr Imran Choudary, Cllr Anna King and Cllr Roberts, for their support.

Northampton Town Council Community Fund - funded

- £2000 through Cllr Raymond Connelly's Councillor Community Fund towards equipment and repairs at Briar Hill Community Centre,
- £2500 through Cllr. Holland-Delamere for the Rectory Farm Garden Project.
- £1000 from Cllr Marriott for a Christmas event in Semilong, and the contribution to running of Community Hub programme
- £1500 from Cllr Purser and Cllr Tarasiewicz for Vernon Terrace equipment.
- £2500 from Cllr Choudhry for Lodge Farm flooring

Co-op Community Fund - selected to be part of Community Fund for 2023 for Rectory Farm Garden. Results due October 2023

Lords Foundation - funded £5000 towards renovation of our centres.

Sincere thanks go to all of our grant funders for the support they have given to our charity.



BUILDING UPDATE

We have made a number of improvements to the Community Centre buildings. This includes the installation of internet connection across centres, as well as hand dryers in bathrooms.

We were thrilled that Prince's Trust participants selected Vernon Terrace and Briar Hill Community Centre for redecoration. The young people made a real difference, brightening up the space. Thank you to these brilliant young people for their work and commitment.

Unfortunately we are still awaiting the completion of the lease at St Crispin Community Centre.

Before Christmas, CSN took on the management and development of two centres from WNC – Semilong Community Centre and Bellinge Community House. Significant developments have taken place at both sites since CSN have supported the buildings, as a result of being returned to WNC by other community groups that could not continue to run the sites.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Public Benefit Statement

The trustees have paid due regard to the charity commission guidance on public benefit. The trustees are confident that CSN's aims, objectives and activities accommodate a range of activities that are relevant, accessible and affordable and improve and enhance the lives of people, whilst encouraging and developing partnerships and networks, and are in accordance with the regulations on public benefit.

Structure, Governance & Management

The organisation is a charitable company, limited by guarantee, incorporated on 1st November 2011, and registered as a charity on 11th April 2012. The company was established under a memorandum and articles of association, which defines its objects and powers, and is governed by its articles of association.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the statement of recommended practice – accounting and reporting by charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005.

All the trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity.

Organisational Structure

The organisation is led by the board, who meet at least 6 times per year. During these meetings consideration is given to strategic direction and policy of the charity. The Strategic Director and Finance, Resource & Operations Manager attend to discuss strategy, present reports and to take direction from the board. Consideration is given to updating the business plan, future opportunities and assessing, and mitigating where possible, potential and known risks to the charity.

The charity has put in place systems to encourage new volunteers in areas where the community centres are located. There has been a focus on volunteering policy, development and activities to enable this to be undertaken. Volunteers have helped in improving the centres through decoration, development and involvement in community activities and Community Hubs, gardening projects and litter picking. Volunteers are now also being encouraged to take on other roles in the charity, such as social media support and administration.

Principal Funding Sources

Our main income source is self generated through room hire rental income of the centres. In the current financial climate, as a charity we have needed to increase room hire fees in order to offset some of the rising costs of energy and operations.

The move towards a community hub model, working with a range of organisations in both the public and private sector will create greater opportunities for income generation.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have set, in conjunction with the Finance, Resource & Operations Manager, a reserves policy that requires reserves to be maintained at a level which ensures core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty, and that a proportion of reserves be maintained in a readily realisable form. The trustees assess the required level of reserves on an annual basis, alongside the operating budget.

Registered number: 7831065

Community Spaces Northampton

**Report and financial statements
for the year ended
28 February 2023**

**Natalie Green & Co
Chartered Accountants
7G Mobbs Miller House
Christchurch Road
Northampton
NN1 5LL**

Community Spaces Northampton

Legal and administrative information

Registered charity number: 1146849

Registered company number: 07831065

Trustees:

Toby Birch
Jane Birch
Damon Boughen
Ben Francoise
Jessica Pilkington
Gary Youens

Registered office:

Unit 1, St. Crispin Community Centre
St. Crispin Drive
Northampton
NN5 4GJ

Independent examiner:

Natalie Green
Natalie Green & Co
Chartered Accountants
7G Mobbs Miller House
Christchurch Road
Northampton
NN1 5LL

Bankers:

HSBC
22 Abington Street
Northampton
NN1 2AN

Community Spaces Northampton

Trustees' report for the year ended 28 February 2023

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present herewith their report and the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a registered charity and a charitable company limited by guarantee.

Community Spaces Northampton is governed by a memorandum and articles of association. The liability of members is limited. The members of the company are the trustees. The members have the power to appoint and remove trustees of the charity.

The trustees have considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed and having reviewed them have developed systems and procedures to manage those risks.

Objectives and activities

The objects of the charity are set out in the articles of association. The principal object is to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Northampton and the neighbourhood by means of advancing education and providing facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure-time occupation, with a view to improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants.

To this end the charity maintains, manages and develops the work of eight community centres in Northampton for the benefit of the local communities.

The articles of association give the charity the powers to do anything which is calculated to further its objects or which is conducive or incidental to doing so.

In planning activities, the trustees keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Community Spaces Northampton

Trustees' report for the year ended 28 February 2023 - continued

Achievements and performance

Details of the income and expenditure for the year are set out in the statement of financial activities on page 5 of the annual report. Activities continued to return to normal following previous statutory closures of the community centres due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The charity received total grants of £28,514 during the year. Total income from all sources for the year amounted to £247,819 and total expenditure amounted to £306,527. The deficit arising of £58,708 has been transferred to reserves.

Statement of trustees responsibilities


The trustees, who are also directors of Community Spaces Northampton for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year. In preparing these 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 2019 (FRS 102);
- 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 operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by



T Birch

Date: 20 November 2023

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of Community Spaces Northampton

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 28 February 2023 which are set out on pages 5 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the 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 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 company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)

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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Natalie Green

Chartered Accountant

7G Mobbs Miller House, Christchurch Road, Northampton, NN1 5LL.

Date: 20 November 2023

Community Spaces Northampton

Statement of financial activities including summary income and expenditure account for the year ended 28 February 2023

		2023	2022
		£	£
Income from:			
Voluntary income - grants			
West Northamptonshire Council for St Crispins		1,000	15,000
West Northants Council Coronavirus grants (restricted)		270	19,481
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (restricted)		-	5,751
West Northamptonshire Council (restricted)		11,254	16,173
Rectory Farm Residents' Association (restricted)		-	3,000
Northampton Town Council (restricted)		6,000	650
SEMPEP Kickstart grant (restricted)		-	2,416
West Northants Council Standens Barn transfer fees		-	2,000
Northants Community Foundation (restricted)		4,990	-
Lords Group Trading		5,000	-
Sundry income		2,047	-
Activities for generating funds			
Rentals from room hire		216,973	144,616
Investment income			
Bank interest		285	10
Total income		<u>247,819</u>	<u>209,097</u>
Expenditure on:			
Governance costs	2	9,935	9,867
Other costs	3	296,592	241,061
Total expenditure		<u>306,527</u>	<u>250,928</u>
Net (expenditure)/income		<u>(58,708)</u>	<u>(41,831)</u>
Net (expenditure)/income for the year (as above)		(58,708)	(41,831)
Total funds brought forward at 01/03/2022		136,345	178,176
Total funds carried forward at 28/02/2023	11	<u>77,637</u>	<u>136,345</u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.

The above incoming resources relate to unrestricted funds, with the exceptions of certain grants as indicated above. These grants amount to £22,514 and represent restricted income.

The above resources expended relate to unrestricted funds, with the exception of other costs in the sum of £24,471 which were met from restricted income.

The net expenditure for the year and the fund balance carried forward comprise both restricted and unrestricted funds, as detailed in note 11 to the accounts.

Community Spaces Northampton - Registered company number: 07831065

Balance sheet as at 28 February 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	8	10,619	15,215
Current assets			
Debtors	9	37,519	35,867
Cash at bank and in hand		96,571	132,846
		134,090	168,713
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(67,072)	(47,583)
Net current assets		67,018	121,130
Total assets less current liabilities		77,637	136,345
Funds			
Restricted funds	11	8,955	10,912
Unrestricted funds			
General funds	11	68,682	125,433
Total funds		77,637	136,345

For the year ending 28 February 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees on 20 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



T Birch
Director

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2023

1 Accounting policies

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice.

Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the charity being wound up the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charity.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

Income recognition

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged to the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2023 - continued

1 Accounting policies - continued

Pension costs

The charity has contributed to a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are written off against net income in the year they are payable.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation has been computed to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets over their expected useful lives on a straight line basis using the following rates:

Office equipment	20% or 10% per annum
Heating systems	10% per annum

2 Governance costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Legal and professional fees	7,355	5,367
Independent examiner's fees (see note 7)	2,580	4,500
	<u>9,935</u>	<u>9,867</u>

3 Other costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff costs (see note 4)	144,123	116,106
Heat, light and power	77,007	51,320
Rent (lease payment)	1,728	1,728
Water	4,520	1,468
Insurance	2,595	2,545
Office expenses and community development	4,586	8,636
Power2Change expenditure	-	11,934
Telephone	6,014	4,589
Repairs, maintenance and cleaning	46,303	27,959
Bad debts	(3,162)	(944)
PRS and PPL licence	2,665	5,467
Miscellaneous costs	4,712	5,082
Bank charges	905	575
Depreciation	4,596	4,596
	<u>296,592</u>	<u>241,061</u>

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2023 - continued

4 Staff costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries and social security costs	138,322	111,573
Employer's pension contributions	5,801	4,533
	<u>144,123</u>	<u>116,106</u>
	<u><u>6</u></u>	<u><u>5</u></u>
Average number of staff (in addition to trustees)	6	5

No employees had emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2022: none).

5 Trustees remuneration

The trustees did not receive any remuneration or expenses payments during the year.

6 Pension costs

The company contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £5,801 during the year.

7 Independent examiner's fees

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fees payable to independent examiner:		
- independent examination	600	600
- other	2,940	3,900
- prior year over-accrual	(960)	-
	<u>2,580</u>	<u>4,500</u>
	<u><u>2,580</u></u>	<u><u>4,500</u></u>

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2023 - continued

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 March 2022	47,889	47,889
Additions	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 28 February 2023	47,889	47,889
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Depreciation		
At 1 March 2022	32,674	32,674
Charge for the year	4,596	4,596
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 28 February 2023	37,270	37,270
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net book value		
At 28 February 2023	10,619	10,619
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
At 29 February 2022	15,215	15,215
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

9 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	36,031	34,379
Prepayments	1,488	1,488
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	37,519	35,867
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

10 Creditors - amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	54,394	32,303
Accruals	12,678	15,280
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	67,072	47,583
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2023 - continued

11 Statement of funds

	At 01/03/2022	Net incoming resources £	Transfer re reclassify as unrestricted £	At 28/02/2023 £
Restricted funds	10,912	(1,957)	-	8,955
Unrestricted funds				
General reserve	125,433	(56,751)	-	68,682
Total funds	<u>136,345</u>	<u>(58,708)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>77,637</u>

The general reserve represents the free funds of the charity which are not designated for specific purposes. The restricted funds at the year end represent the unexpended portion of restricted grants and comprise £7,490 relating to the Rectory Farm garden project and £1,465 from Northampton Town Council relating to the Briar Hill community centre.

12 Lease commitments

At the balance sheet date the company had annual commitments under operating leases relating to land and buildings. The total future minimum lease payments are as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Payable:		
- not later than one year	1,728	1,728
- later than one and not later than five years	6,912	6,912
- later than five years	24,192	25,920
	<u>32,832</u>	<u>34,560</u>

13 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions requiring disclosure during the year (2022: none).

14 Contingent liabilities

At the balance sheet date there are potential liabilities arising in respect of unbilled historical water rates charges. These relate to certain unread meters. Accruals have been made in the accounts on the basis of reasonable estimates, but it is possible that there remain unrecorded liabilities, and these cannot be quantified at the time of approval of these accounts.

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2023 - continued

15 General Information

Community Spaces Northampton Registered number 7831065 is a private company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England & Wales. The Registered Office is Unit 1, St. Crispin Community Centre, St. Crispin Drive, Northampton, NN5 4GJ.

COMMUNITY SPACES NORTHAMPTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1146849

Accounts

COMMUNITY SPACES NORTHAMPTON



ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 2021/2022



CHAIR'S REPORT

This has been another extraordinary and challenging year for our charity. From emerging from lockdown and dealing with post-pandemic challenges, to new board recruitment and staffing changes, I am very proud of what we have achieved. I was greatly honoured to have received the Special Recognition Award from West Northants Council on International Men's Day, which I believe reflects on the positive contribution made by the whole of Community Spaces Northampton.



Impact of Covid-19

Following the easing of restrictions we endured through the pandemic, there was a phased reopening of our centres from April-July following Government guidelines. Sadly, as a result of the pandemic, twenty groups were not able to return to our centres.

Due to making many new contacts and partnerships we have been able to build our centre usage back to pre-pandemic levels. I believe that we are fortunate to have come through the pandemic in a robust state, considering approximately 30% of the sector in Northamptonshire folded during this unprecedented time. The reorganisation and restructure of Community Spaces Northampton, along with our healthy reserves have carried us through to a very positive future.

CSN was one of 32 organisations nationally to be selected as part of a case study for a research paper for the Connect Fund and the Government, exploring the impact of Covid-19 on organisations. This is due to be published in June 2022.

Revisiting our values

Our direction and focus has returned once more to community delivery and keeping communities at the heart of all that we do. We are taking on new projects and engagement activities, and becoming directly involved with our communities. As part of this work, major new partnerships have been formed and are adding value to our offer for local people living around our centres. This includes the development of our new 'Community Hub' programme, launching in Briar Hill Community Centre in the next few months, which will add value to our well used Community Foodbank.

In addition to our neighbourhood level delivery, we have offered support and advice to Southbrook Community Hall in Daventry, Hardingstone Parish Council and Pineham Barns.

Strategic Development

CSN has had business development support from Locality, HCR Hewitsons, SEMLEP, JD Consultancy, and Barclaycard Mentoring scheme. Our grateful thanks for all their invaluable support and advice.

We welcome Damon Boughen as a new Trustee to our Board, bringing a wealth of knowledge of the Voluntary and Community Sector and experience in philanthropy and fundraising. It is great to have Damon as part of our team. We also have started to review our staffing structure twelve months after our initial restructure, and following feedback from grant funders and other advisors we are pleased to share that Alice Morgan will formally be our Strategic Director in the coming months.

In both structure and delivery we are in a strong position for the future, and have laid out a good, strong foundation for growth, partnership working and new horizons.

TOBY BIRCH

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

CHARITY OVERVIEW

Purpose

Our charity's purpose, as set out in the objectives contained in the company's Memorandum of Association is to: -

- Promote the benefit of the inhabitants without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, nationality, race, or of political, religious, or other opinion, by associating together the said inhabitants and the statutory authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education, and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare, or recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants.
- To establish, or secure the establishment, of community centres and to maintain and manage the same (whether alone or in co-operation with any statutory authority or other person or body) in furtherance of the objectives.

Vision

Thriving community centres throughout Northampton, where local people are resilient, engaged and well.

Values

Collaboration
Community cohesion
Empowerment
Shared experience
Affordability Partnership

Aims & Objectives

- Accommodate a range of activities that are relevant, accessible and affordable for local people
- Provide a welcoming, safe and supportive environment that responds to local needs
- Encourage local partnerships and networks that reflect the diversity of communities
- Support local people to improve their health and wellbeing
- Support the development of new initiatives and groups
- Encourage active participation in the life of the local community
- Nurture an ethos of trust and mutual respect
- Promote and organise co-operation between local residents, voluntary and community organisations, statutory bodies and other agencies for the benefit of the local community.

Our definition of a 'Community Centre'

The term 'Community Centre' covers facilities that provide opportunities for social interaction, health activities and exercise, recreation, events, interest based courses, meeting spaces, youth groups. The organisation is proactive in determining needs, innovative in meeting the requirements of the local community and open to all groups within the community. The centres are there to provide a space for activities built around the needs of local people and are welcoming, inclusive and encourage a sense of belonging.

Our aims, objectives and activities are reviewed annually. The review also considers what has been achieved and the outcomes from the initiatives that have been actioned. The success of the engagement activities, initiatives and development can be shown to demonstrate how the charity is improving and enhancing the lives of people living, working or learning in the community. Through our feedback from groups and events, and liaison with residents and stakeholder groups we can ensure that we have a range of activities that are relevant, accessible and affordable for local people.

Many new initiatives have been started in response to local needs. The review helps us to ensure our aims and objectives remain focussed on our stated purposes.

DELIVERING OUR OBJECTIVES

As we have emerged from Covid-19 pandemic and associated restrictions, we have once again been able to deliver community benefit through our community centres. We have been thrilled to once again meet our neighbours and our communities, host groups and events for local people to meet and connect.

Connecting with our locality

One such event was our long awaited official opening of Rectory Farm Community Centre Extension, completion of which was delayed due to Covid restrictions. It was fantastic to be able to celebrate the development of the space - the result of a local campaign and social action - and to see a great number of local people coming together once again. A number of organisations took part, including Rectory Farm Residents Association, the Co-op, Northamptonshire Police, Inspiration FM, along with various centre user groups. Food was provided for free by the Rapid Relief Team, meaning that all families could come and have a nutritious meal without worrying about cost.

Thanks is given for the support provided by our local councillors, Northampton Town Council, West Northants Council, the Mayor of Northampton and Andrew Lewer MP for officially opening the space.



Youth Engagement

Thanks to funding from Northampton Borough Council, we partnered with Free2Talk to deliver a 6 week Get Real Summer Sessions programme for young people aged 8 years and above. Lunch was provided as part of the scheme, and activities included music production and DJ sessions, and art and sculpture.

Engagement ranged each week, some weeks only 5 children attended and others up to 15 attended. Young people who attended had a nutritious lunch sourced from Workbridge Café, and had the opportunity to learn new skills, as well as connect with other local young people. Connection was the core purpose of the sessions; young people had just come out of lock downs and had limited opportunity to socialise. Alongside fostering this connection, Free2Talk's trained youth workers supported the young people, discussing issues effecting their wellbeing.



Food Poverty

Our community Foodbank has been running since April 2021 and is based at Briar Hill Community Centre. While the Foodbank comes under Community Spaces Northampton, it is a project developed, organised and managed by Northampton Adventist Fellowship - a small team of incredibly committed volunteers doing good for the community, with the support of Community Spaces Northampton and part of the Re:Store distribution network.

CSN were successfully awarded a grant from Northampton Community Foundation which contributed towards providing the space for the foodbank to operate. The other income we previously made from this rooms has been written off due to the significant community benefit that is being achieved through the space.

Since Briar Hill Community Foodbank's inception the number of people using our service has steadily grown. We welcome between 5-10 people/families every Wednesday. Most come for food parcels accessed through the Re:Store referral system, whereas others come to help themselves to the perishable items that we collect from local supermarkets (Tesco, M&S and Aldi).



Community Hub Development

We are currently developing a programme of Community Hub Drop-in's for our local residents to access place-based services, advice, support and companionship. The first of which will be launched in Briar Hill this March.

We are grateful for funding from the STAR Fund, which is enabling us to recruit a Community Hub Coordinator to oversee this project.

Health and Wellbeing

We are thrilled to have the opportunity to host Northamptonshire Health Foundation Trust at St Crispin Community Centre, delivering Dementia Hubs for older and younger people. We are also in discussions with Northamptonshire Carers, who would like to deliver a regular, long term Dementia Hub session also. It is fantastic to see the centre starting to be used to it's best potential, and providing services that benefit local people. This also has brought in significant income for our centre, which is reinvested back into the centre and our charity's wider community benefit.

Partnership Development

CSN are represented at numerous partnership meetings:

- Multi Agency Partnerships surrounding all 8 centres
- VCSE Forum and volunteer network
- University of Northampton Changemaker Hub
- Community Centre Forum
- Food Aid Alliance West Northants
- Chair of Trustees was re-elected as Chair of Rectory Farm Residents Association.
- Chair of Trustees sits on the Board of Northants VCSE Assembly



FUNDING SUCCESS

Northampton Borough Council Small Grants - funded £3000 towards delivery of Get Real Summer Youth Programme, in partnership with Free2Talk. Funding was used for Free2Talk youth workers to deliver the programme, cover overheads of the centre and room cost, and also to provide lunch for all young people through Workbridge Café.

DEFRA funding - funded £5000 for the purchase of stock for Briar Hill Community Food Bank, accessed through the support of the West Northants Food Aid Alliance.

STAR Fund - funded £14,373 for our Community Hub Coordinator post, which will enable us to launch our Community Hubs in three of our centres.

WNC Councillor Covid Relief Fund - funded a total of £4685 for the purchase of equipment, upgrades and resources across our centres. Thanks to Cllr Keith Holland-Delamere, Cllr Paul Clark, Cllr Dennis Meredith, Cllr Janice Duffy, Cllr Imran Choudary, Cllr Anna King and Cllr Roberts, for their support.

Northampton Town Council Community Fund - funded £2000 through Cllr Raymond Connelly's Councillor Community Fund towards equipment and repairs at Briar Hill Community Centre.

Co-operative Local Community Fund - accepted Briar Hill Community Hub project onto the scheme for funding in 2020/21. Final grant amount was decided in 2021, and a total of £800 was provided to Briar Hill Community Hub.

Sincere thanks go to all of our grant funders for the support they have given to our charity.



BUILDING UPDATE

We have made a number of improvements to the Community Centre buildings. This includes redecoration at Lodge Farm Coffee bar and Southfields Community Centre, thanks to funding received last financial year from Power to Change.

We were pleased to welcome National Citizenship Service to Briar Hill Community Centre during the summer to decorate the space. The young people made a real difference, brightening up the space and planting bulbs outside the building. Thank you to these brilliant young people for their work and commitment.

A programme of installing internet connection has been completed in St Crispin, Rectory Farm, Lodge Farm and Vernon Terrace Community Centre.

We are still awaiting the completion of the lease for St Crispin Community Centre. This has limited the income we can receive for this centre, and as a result has affected our projections and turnover. We are hopeful that this will be completed within the next financial year.



Briar Hill



Lodge Farm



Bellinge



Kingsthorpe



Southfields



Vernon Terrace



Rectory Farm



St Crispin



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Public Benefit Statement

The trustees have paid due regard to the charity commission guidance on public benefit. The trustees are confident that CSN's aims, objectives and activities accommodate a range of activities that are relevant, accessible and affordable and improve and enhance the lives of people, whilst encouraging and developing partnerships and networks, and are in accordance with the regulations on public benefit.

Structure, Governance & Management

The organisation is a charitable company, limited by guarantee, incorporated on 1st November 2011, and registered as a charity on 11th April 2012. The company was established under a memorandum and articles of association, which defines its objects and powers, and is governed by its articles of association.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the statement of recommended practice – accounting and reporting by charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005.

All the trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity.

Organisational Structure

The organisation is led by the board, who meet at least 4 times per year. During these meetings consideration is given to strategic direction and policy of the charity. The Business Development & Marketing Manager and Finance & Administration Manager attend to discuss strategy, present reports and to take direction from the board. Consideration is given to updating the business plan, future opportunities and assessing, and mitigating where possible, potential and known risks to the charity.

The charity has put in place systems to encourage new volunteers in areas where the community centres are located. There has been a focus on volunteering policy, development and activities to enable this to be undertaken. Volunteers have helped in improving the centres through decoration, development and involvement in community activities, gardening projects and litter picking. Volunteers are now also being encouraged to take on other roles in the charity, such as social media support and administration.

Principal Funding Sources

Our main income source is self generated through room hire rental income of the centres. In the current financial climate, it should be recognised that many of the groups using the centres require support and have limited forms of income. This has limited our ability to raise historically very low, subsidised room hire rates to those necessary to generate income in the longer term room hire rates have been held for almost 2 years.

The move towards a community hub model, working with a range of organisations in both the public and private sector will create greater opportunities for income generation.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have set, in conjunction with the Finance & Administration Manager, a reserves policy that requires reserves to be maintained at a level which ensures core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty, and that a proportion of reserves be maintained in a readily realisable form. The trustees assess the required level of reserves on an annual basis, alongside the operating budget.

This has put CSN in a strong position to come through the difficult and challenging period of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Registered number: 7831065

Community Spaces Northampton

**Report and financial statements
for the year ended
28 February 2022**

**Natalie Green & Co
Chartered Accountants
7G Mobbs Miller House
Christchurch Road
Northampton
NN1 5LL**

Community Spaces Northampton

Legal and administrative information

Registered charity number: 1146849

Registered company number: 07831065

Trustees:

Toby Birch

Jane Birch

Damon Boughen - appointed 3 February 2022

Ben Francoise

Jessica Pilkington - appointed 31 May 2022

Gary Youens

Registered office:

Unit 1, St. Crispin Community Centre

St. Crispin Drive

Northampton

NN5 4GJ

Independent examiner:

Natalie Green

Natalie Green & Co

Chartered Accountants

7G Mobbs Miller House

Christchurch Road

Northampton

NN1 5LL

Bankers:

HSBC

22 Abington Street

Northampton

NN1 2AN

Community Spaces Northampton

Trustees' report for the year ended 28 February 2022

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present herewith their report and the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a registered charity and a charitable company limited by guarantee.

Community Spaces Northampton is governed by a memorandum and articles of association. The liability of members is limited. The members of the company are the trustees. The members have the power to appoint and remove trustees of the charity.

The trustees have considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed and having reviewed them have developed systems and procedures to manage those risks.

Objectives and activities

The objects of the charity are set out in the articles of association. The principal object is to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Northampton and the neighbourhood by means of advancing education and providing facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure-time occupation, with a view to improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants.

To this end the charity maintains, manages and develops the work of eight community centres in Northampton for the benefit of the local communities.

The articles of association give the charity the powers to do anything which is calculated to further its objects or which is conducive or incidental to doing so.

In planning activities, the trustees keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Community Spaces Northampton

Trustees' report for the year ended 28 February 2022 - continued

Achievements and performance

Details of the income and expenditure for the year are set out in the statement of financial activities on page 5 of the annual report. Activities continued to return to normal following previous statutory closures of the community centres due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The charity received total grants of £64,471 during the year. Total income from all sources for the year amounted to £209,097 and total expenditure amounted to £250,928. The deficit arising of £41,831 has been transferred to reserves.

Statement of trustees responsibilities

The trustees, who are also directors of Community Spaces Northampton for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year. In preparing these 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 2019 (FRS 102);
- 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 operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by

T Birch

Date: 22 November 2022

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of Community Spaces Northampton

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 28 February 2022 which are set out on pages 5 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the 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 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 company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)

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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Natalie Green

Chartered Accountant

7G Mobbs Miller House, Christchurch Road, Northampton, NN1 5LL.

Date: 22 November 2022

Community Spaces Northampton

Statement of financial activities including summary income and expenditure account for the year ended 28 February 2022

		2022	2021
		£	£
Income from:			
Voluntary income - grants			
West Northamptonshire Council for St Crispins		15,000	9,000
Groundwork UK (restricted)		-	8,173
West Northants Council Coronavirus grants		19,481	152,970
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (restricted)		5,751	24,025
West Northamptonshire Council (restricted)		16,173	4,000
Power To Change (restricted)		-	12,500
Rectory Farm Residents' Association (restricted)		3,000	-
Northampton Town Council (restricted)		650	-
SEMPEP Kickstart grant (restricted)		2,416	-
West Northants Council Standens Barn transfer fees		2,000	-
Activities for generating funds			
Rentals from room hire		144,616	45,976
Investment income			
Bank interest		10	50
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total income		209,097	256,694
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Expenditure on:			
Governance costs	2	9,867	9,468
Other costs	3	241,061	230,497
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total expenditure		250,928	239,965
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net (expenditure)/income		(41,831)	16,729
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net (expenditure)/income for the year (as above)		(41,831)	16,729
Total funds brought forward at 01/03/2021		178,176	161,447
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total funds carried forward at 28/02/2022	11	136,345	178,176
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.

The above incoming resources relate to unrestricted funds, with the exceptions of certain grants as indicated above. These grants amount to £27,990 and represent restricted income.

The above resources expended relate to unrestricted funds, with the exception of other costs in the sum of £33,047, which were met from restricted income.

The net expenditure for the year and the fund balance carried forward comprise both restricted and unrestricted funds, as detailed in note 11 to the accounts.

Community Spaces Northampton - Registered company number: 07831065

Balance sheet as at 28 February 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	8	15,215	19,811
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Current assets			
Debtors	9	35,867	26,835
Cash at bank and in hand		132,846	192,707
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		168,713	219,542
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(47,583)	(61,177)
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net current assets		121,130	158,365
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total assets less current liabilities		136,345	178,176
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Funds			
Restricted funds	11	10,912	15,969
Unrestricted funds			
General funds	11	125,433	162,207
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total funds		136,345	178,176
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>

For the year ending 28 February 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees on 22 November 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

T Birch
Director

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2022

1 Accounting policies

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice.

Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the charity being wound up the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charity.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

Income recognition

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged to the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2022 - continued

1 Accounting policies - continued

Pension costs

The charity has contributed to a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are written off against net income in the year they are payable.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation has been computed to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets over their expected useful lives on a straight line basis using the following rates:

Office equipment	20% or 10% per annum
Heating systems	10% per annum

2 Governance costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Legal and professional fees	5,367	4,968
Independent examiner's fees (see note 7)	4,500	4,500
	<u>9,867</u>	<u>9,468</u>

3 Other costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Staff costs (see note 4)	116,106	91,020
Heat, light and power	51,320	41,086
Rent (lease payment)	1,728	1,728
Water	1,468	28,317
Insurance	2,545	2,492
Office expenses and community development	8,636	5,438
Community development - Semilong & Trinity neighbourhood	-	8,173
Power2Change expenditure	11,934	-
Telephone	4,589	3,269
Repairs, maintenance and cleaning	27,959	38,711
Bad debts	(944)	201
PRS and PPL licence	5,467	462
Miscellaneous costs	5,082	4,833
Bank charges	575	171
Depreciation	4,596	4,596
	<u>241,061</u>	<u>230,497</u>

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2022 - continued

4 Staff costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries and social security costs	111,573	87,067
Employer's pension contributions	4,533	3,953
	<u>116,106</u>	<u>91,020</u>
	<u><u>5</u></u>	<u><u>5</u></u>
Average number of staff (in addition to trustees)	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

No employees had emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2021: none).

5 Trustees remuneration

The trustees did not receive any remuneration or expenses payments during the year.

6 Pension costs

The company contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £4,533 during the year.

7 Independent examiner's fees

	2022	2021
	£	£
Fees payable to independent examiner:		
- independent examination	600	600
- other	3,900	3,900
	<u>4,500</u>	<u>4,500</u>
	<u><u>4,500</u></u>	<u><u>4,500</u></u>

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2022 - continued

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 March 2021	47,889	47,889
Additions	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 28 February 2022	47,889	47,889
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Depreciation		
At 1 March 2021	28,078	28,078
Charge for the year	4,596	4,596
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 28 February 2022	32,674	32,674
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net book value		
At 28 February 2022	15,215	15,215
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
At 29 February 2021	19,811	19,811
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

9 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	34,379	24,331
Prepayments	1,488	2,504
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	35,867	26,835
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

10 Creditors - amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	32,303	46,737
Accruals	15,280	14,440
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	47,583	61,177
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2022 - continued

11 Statement of funds

	At 01/03/2021	Net incoming resources £	Transfer re reclassify as unrestricted £	At 28/02/2022 £
Restricted funds	15,969	(5,057)	-	10,912
Unrestricted funds				
General reserve	162,207	(36,774)	-	125,433
Total funds	<u>178,176</u>	<u>(41,831)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>136,345</u>

The general reserve represents the free funds of the charity which are not designated for specific purposes. The restricted funds at the year end represent the unexpended portion of restricted grants and comprise £937 relating to the Briar Hill Food Bank and Community Hub, £1,500 Covid support relating to Southfields community centre, £300 Covid support relating to Lodge Farm community centre and £8,175 relating to the West Northamptonshire Council STAR Fund.

12 Lease commitments

At the balance sheet date the company had annual commitments under operating leases relating to land and buildings. The total future minimum lease payments are as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Payable:		
- not later than one year	1,728	1,728
- later than one and not later than five years	6,912	6,912
- later than five years	25,920	27,648
	<u>34,560</u>	<u>36,288</u>

13 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions requiring disclosure during the year (2021: none).

14 Contingent liabilities

At the balance sheet date there are potential liabilities arising in respect of unbilled historical water rates charges. These relate to certain unread meters. Accruals have been made in the accounts on the basis of reasonable estimates, but it is possible that there remain unrecorded liabilities, and these cannot be quantified at the time of approval of these accounts.

COMMUNITY SPACES NORTHAMPTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1146849

Accounts

COMMUNITY SPACES NORTHAMPTON



**ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 2021**



CHAIR'S REPORT

This has been an extraordinary and challenging 12 months for our charity. Due to the pandemic, most of our centres were closed from 20th March 2020 until 14th September 2021, and at other times only partly open for educational groups- pre-schools and The Princes Trust.

Staff were furloughed, apart from the Facilities Officer who maintained the buildings, checked security, carried out safety checks and continued to provide a COVID safe environment for the educational groups still operating.

During this time trustees were essentially running the charity although a member of staff was brought back from furlough for periods of time to apply for funding and financial modelling.

Income was dramatically reduced due to few bookings, but was boosted by successful applications to the Small Business Rate Relief scheme administered by the local authority. At the same time a number of successful funding bids were made to external funders which have provided support for specific project developments.

The Local Government reorganisation was, and still is, a major issue impacting on the management of the charity. Lines of communication regarding repairs and work to the exterior of the buildings is unclear and the finalisation of the lease for St Crispin centre has been delayed yet again. After 4 years of negotiations over the lease it is still not finalised, restricting our full use of the building for the benefit of the community.

Looking to the Future

As a board of trustees, we have always been mindful for the need to respond to the changing demands from within our communities. The pandemic precipitated a major re- think and gave us time to consider restructuring in order to be in a position to respond to a changed need as we came out of lockdown.

With an uncertain future CSN was faced with two options – either to go into solvent liquidation or to re-structure. Trustees focussed on the second option.

Trustees engaged with a number of planning meetings in addition to the regular meetings. Risks and opportunities were analysed and assessed along with financial projections. HR and business advice were provided free of charge through Locality, South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership, SEMLEP, and Hewitson's, our solicitors. My grateful thanks for all their invaluable support and advice.

A thorough review took place of structure, management systems, finance and staffing. Future plans and the direction of CSN was agreed and structures put in place to implement this.

The agreed re-structure eliminated the role of CEO and replaced this with posts of a Business Development and Marketing Manager and a Financial and Administration Manager. Communication and transparency have dramatically improved between the staff, the board and the community groups. An additional full-time caretaker also joined the team.

We have also welcomed a new trustee, Ben Francoise, who brings a wealth of financial knowledge and experience to the board. Ben also has a thorough understanding of the voluntary sector; his advice and contributions are of real benefit.

Staff changes

Mohammed Sonnie was promoted to the role of Financial and Administration Manager.

Alice Morgan was appointed in September 2020 as Business Development and Marketing Manager. Alice brings a wealth of previous experience to CSN from her work in the private, public and community sectors. We welcome her to the new post and are very excited to have her working for the charity.

Lorna O'Connell joined the caretaking team on 23rd November 2020 and has quickly found a rapport with the user groups.

Steven Richards stood down from his previous role as CEO and is working part-time as a weekend caretaker. Our thanks to Steven for his contribution to CSN and his willingness to continue in a part-time role.

Frederick McCabe is the long standing caretaker and has taken on additional responsibility as Facilities Officer.

Where we are now

There are many improvements to CSN's operational, financial systems, plans and marketing. As a result, the financial position looks strong, and our ability to plan and anticipate issues has greatly improved.

We have a new website with full information about all our centres, a booking and payment facility and an online newsletter.

We have a cohesive and strategically robust structure, which will be able to take on future challenges and continually improve our offers to the local communities. Organisationally we are in a stronger position than pre-pandemic and my thanks to all the staff, trustees and partners who have engaged and contributed to this journey.

There are opportunities ahead to work in new ways with new partners to provide range of activities, support and services to the communities and residents of the areas surrounding our eight community centres.

We are thankful, not only to have survived, but to emerge from the lockdown stronger and more focussed. Sadly, many small and medium charities and voluntary organisations have not survived.

TOBY BIRCH

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

CHARITY OVERVIEW

Purpose

Our charity's purpose, as set out in the objectives contained in the company's Memorandum of Association is to: -

- Promote the benefit of the inhabitants without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, nationality, race, or of political, religious, or other opinion, by associating together the said inhabitants and the statutory authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education, and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare, or recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants.
- To establish, or secure the establishment, of community centres and to maintain and manage the same (whether alone or in co-operation with any statutory authority or other person or body) in furtherance of the objectives.

Vision

Thriving community centres throughout Northampton, where local people are resilient, engaged and well.

Values

Collaboration
Community cohesion
Empowerment
Shared experience
Affordability Partnership

Aims & Objectives

- Accommodate a range of activities that are relevant, accessible and affordable for local people
- Provide a welcoming, safe and supportive environment that responds to local needs
- Encourage local partnerships and networks that reflect the diversity of communities
- Support local people to improve their health and wellbeing
- Support the development of new initiatives and groups
- Encourage active participation in the life of the local community
- Nurture an ethos of trust and mutual respect
- Promote and organise co-operation between local residents, voluntary and community organisations, statutory bodies and other agencies for the benefit of the local community.

Our definition of a 'Community Centre'

The term 'Community Centre' covers facilities that provide opportunities for social interaction, health activities and exercise, recreation, events, interest based courses, meeting spaces, youth groups. The organisation is proactive in determining needs, innovative in meeting the requirements of the local community and open to all groups within the community. The centres are there to provide a space for activities built around the needs of local people and are welcoming, inclusive and encourage a sense of belonging.

Our aims, objectives and activities are reviewed annually. The review also considers what has been achieved and the outcomes from the initiatives that have been actioned. The success of the engagement activities, initiatives and development can be shown to demonstrate how the charity is improving and enhancing the lives of people living, working or learning in the community. Through our feedback from groups and events, and liaison with residents and stakeholder groups we can ensure that we have a range of activities that are relevant, accessible and affordable for local people.

Many new initiatives have been started in response to local needs. The review helps us to ensure our aims and objectives remain focussed on our stated purposes.

DELIVERING OUR OBJECTIVES

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our ability to deliver community fun days to local areas and provide space for communities to meet, connect and access services has been severely effected by enforced closure and restrictions.

However, CSN has mainly carried out connections through virtual meetings, and has taken the opportunity to adapt the way we work and make new collections.

CSN are represented at numerous partnership meetings;

- Multi Agency Partnerships surrounding all 8 centres
- VCSE Forum and volunteer network
- University of Northampton Changemaker Hub
- Community Centre Forum
- Chair of Trustees was re-elected as Chair of Rectory Farm Residents Association and Treasurer of Southfields Residents Association.
- Chair of Trustees invited to join the Board of Northants VCSE Assembly



Alongside having an active role in the above forums to ensure local needs are reflected within our centres, our team have also provided advice and guidance to other organisations developing community centres. Our Chair of Trustees attended a session for Southbrooke Community Centre in Daventry to provide advice and guidance in community centre management. Our team are also providing advice and support to Hardingstone Parish Council on the development and build of a new community centre facility.

Our team also attending the virtual Locality Conference, and various training courses developing skills in - Building resilience, Business Strategy, Fundraising strategies. Our Business Development & Marketing Manager has also been accepted onto the Barclays Women in Leadership Mentoring scheme, and Leadership Development Training through Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire.

FUNDING SUCCESS

Power to Change - funded £12,500 towards the introduction of internet access to centres, plus the purchase of laptops for training and education sessions, and to provide access to services at a local level

Northampton Borough Council Small Grants - funded £3000 towards the development of our new website, which includes the facility for online bookings and payments, information on centres, volunteer application form and blog/news section.

Northampton Community Foundation St Giles Fund - funded £3500 towards the set up of Briar Hill Community Food Bank and Hub, which included the purchase of equipment, room hire for 12 months, marketing and stock.

DEFRA funding - funded £5000 for the purchase of stock for Briar Hill Community Food Bank, accessed through the support of the West Northants Food Aid Alliance.

SEMLEP Kickstart Grant - funded £1800 for the purchase of Wi-fi extenders for 4 community centres, One Drive subscription for staff, Google Ads marketing campaign, Facebook Ads marketing campaign, and enhanced web hosting package for our new website.

Co-operative Local Community Fund - accepted Briar Hill Community Hub project onto the scheme for funding in 2020/21. Final grant amount to be decided through members selected out cause.



PROJECT DELIVERY: A SNAPSHOT

COMMUNITIES

Youth Engagement

Trustees and staff worked with the National Citizens Service Youth Scheme on training and improvements around Briar Hill Community Centre, including weeding, cleaning paving, planting bulbs, grass cutting and litter picking.

Food Poverty

Briar Hill Community Food Bank was developed in partnership with volunteers from Seventh Day Adventist Church and Re:store Northampton following the identification of a gap in service in the local area. The foodbank is planned to open April 2021. Prior to the opening, CSN supported Food Aid Far Cotton to deliver a pop-up food distribution point from Briar Hill Community Centre to support local people in need in the meantime.



BUILDING UPDATE

We have made a number of improvements to the Community Centre buildings. The most significant transformation has been at Rectory Farm, with a major refurbishment and addition of a new hall, completed in 2020. This was achieved through the hard work and collaboration of CSN, local residents, architects, contractors, local Councillors and local authority officers.

Both the internal and external building work at Rectory Farm Community Centre was completed by the end of April 2020. Further work is now taking place to rectify snagging issues following the development.

An official opening and community event is being planned for later in 2021 to celebrate this development, and achievement, for the local community.

New flooring and barrier mats have been installed at Vernon Terrace Community Centre.

A new heating system has been installed at Kingsthorpe Community Centre.

A programme of installing internet connection into our community centres has started to enable training, education, and information hubs for local residents.

Covid Councillor Community Funding was applied for which enabled centres to become Covid safe. All buildings have motion sensor hand sanitisers, have been fogged/sanitised, and professional anti-bacterial and viral cleaning products are used. Enhanced cleaning protocols and risk assessments have been carried out.

Signage and QR codes were also introduced for all centres.



OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Accounting

The new SAGE cloud system has now been in place for a whole year. This system has proved most effective with greater transparency and oversight, linking bookings and accounts and means Trustees and our external Accountant and Auditor can track accounts on a regular basis.

Trustees and staff can now understand a complete picture of how the charity is performing month by month.

Restructure

As stated in the Chair's report, major changes have taken place in all areas of our charity structure, from Administration, Operations, Finance, Business Development, Communication and Marketing.

As a result, Community Spaces Northampton is now in a resilient position and prepared for the future.

Website development

Thanks to the support of Northampton Borough Council's Small Grant fund, CSN commissioned a new website with the core aim of providing a user friendly, informative experience which leads to more enquiries, bookings and brand awareness, while enhancing the charity's online presence.

CSN commissioned Lucid Rhino - a local web development SME - to create the website. The end product has made a significant improvement to the charity's online presence and has enabled online bookings and improved information sharing. The enhanced website will enable CSN to reach new audiences and sectors, including private sector and commercial bookings.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Public Benefit Statement

The trustees have paid due regard to the charity commission guidance on public benefit. The trustees are confident that CSN's aims, objectives and activities accommodate a range of activities that are relevant, accessible and affordable and improve and enhance the lives of people, whilst encouraging and developing partnerships and networks, and are in accordance with the regulations on public benefit.

Structure, Governance & Management

The organisation is a charitable company, limited by guarantee, incorporated on 1st November 2011, and registered as a charity on 11th April 2012. The company was established under a memorandum and articles of association, which defines its objects and powers, and is governed by its articles of association.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the statement of recommended practice – accounting and reporting by charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005.

All the trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity.

Organisational Structure

The organisation is led by the board, who meet at least 4 times per year. During these meetings consideration is given to strategic direction and policy of the charity. The Business Development & Marketing Manager and Finance & Administration Manager attend to discuss strategy, present reports and to take direction from the board. Consideration is given to updating the business plan, future opportunities and assessing, and mitigating where possible, potential and known risks to the charity.

The charity has put in place systems to encourage new volunteers in areas where the community centres are located. There has been a focus on volunteering policy, development and activities to enable this to be undertaken. Volunteers have helped in improving the centres through decoration, development and involvement in community activities, gardening projects and litter picking. Volunteers are now also being encouraged to take on other roles in the charity, such as social media support and administration.

Principal Funding Sources

Our main income source is self generated through room hire rental income of the centres. In the current financial climate, it should be recognised that many of the groups using the centres require support and have limited forms of income. This has limited our ability to raise historically very low, subsidised room hire rates to those necessary to generate income in the longer term room hire rates have been held for almost 2 years.

The move towards a community hub model, working with a range of organisations in both the public and private sector will create greater opportunities for income generation.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have set, in conjunction with the Finance & Administration Manager, a reserves policy that requires reserves to be maintained at a level which ensures core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty, and that a proportion of reserves be maintained in a readily realisable form. The trustees assess the required level of reserves on an annual basis, alongside the operating budget.

This has put CSN in a strong position to come through the difficult and challenging period of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Registered number: 7831065

Community Spaces Northampton

**Report and financial statements
for the year ended
28 February 2021**

**Natalie Green & Co
Chartered Accountants
7G Mobbs Miller House
Christchurch Road
Northampton
NN1 5LL**

Community Spaces Northampton

Legal and administrative information

Registered charity number: 1146849

Registered company number: 07831065

Trustees:

Gary Youens
Toby Birch
Jane Birch
Ben Francoise (appointed 27 October 2020)

Registered office:

Unit 1, St. Crispin Community Centre
St. Crispin Drive
Northampton
NN5 4GJ

Independent examiner:

Natalie Green
Natalie Green & Co
Chartered Accountants
7G Mobbs Miller House
Christchurch Road
Northampton
NN1 5LL

Bankers:

HSBC
22 Abington Street
Northampton
NN1 2AN

Community Spaces Northampton

Trustees' report for the year ended 28 February 2021

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, present herewith their report and the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a registered charity and a charitable company limited by guarantee.

Community Spaces Northampton is governed by a memorandum and articles of association. The liability of members is limited. The members of the company are the trustees. The members have the power to appoint and remove trustees of the charity.

The trustees have considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed and having reviewed them have developed systems and procedures to manage those risks.

Objectives and activities

The objects of the charity are set out in the articles of association. The principal object is to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Northampton and the neighbourhood by means of advancing education and providing facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure-time occupation, with a view to improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants.

To this end the charity maintains, manages and develops the work of eight community centres in Northampton for the benefit of the local communities.

The articles of association give the charity the powers to do anything which is calculated to further its objects or which is conducive or incidental to doing so.

In planning activities, the trustees keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Community Spaces Northampton

Trustees' report for the year ended 28 February 2021 - continued

Achievements and performance

Details of the income and expenditure for the year are set out in the statement of financial activities on page 5 of the annual report. Activities were adversely affected by statutory closures of the community centres due to the Coronavirus pandemic, but the charity has received Coronavirus related grant income of £176,995. Other grants meant that the charity received total grants of £210,668 during the year. Total income from all sources for the year amounted to £256,694 and total expenditure amounted to £239,965. The surplus arising of £16,729 has been transferred to reserves.

Statement of trustees responsibilities

The trustees, who are also directors of Community Spaces Northampton for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year. In preparing these 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 2019 (FRS 102);
- 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 operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by

T Birch

Date: 2021

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of Community Spaces Northampton

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 28 February 2021 which are set out on pages 5 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the 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 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 company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)

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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Natalie Green

Chartered Accountant

7G Mobbs Miller House, Christchurch Road, Northampton, NN1 5LL.

Date:

2021

Community Spaces Northampton

Statement of financial activities including summary income and expenditure account for the year ended 28 February 2021

		2021 £	2020 £
Income from:			
Voluntary income - grants			
West Northamptonshire Council for St Crispins		9,000	85,000
Groundwork UK (restricted)		8,173	7,895
West Northants Council Coronavirus grants		152,970	-
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (restricted)		24,025	-
West Northamptonshire Council (restricted)		4,000	2,625
Empowerment grants (restricted)		-	3,460
Power To Change (restricted)		12,500	-
Activities for generating funds			
Rentals from room hire		45,976	185,874
Investment income			
Bank interest		50	46
Total income		<u>256,694</u>	<u>284,900</u>
Expenditure on:			
Governance costs	2	9,468	20,100
Other costs	3	230,497	238,605
Total expenditure		<u>239,965</u>	<u>258,705</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		<u>16,729</u>	<u>26,195</u>
Net income for the year (as above)		16,729	26,195
Total funds brought forward at 01/03/2020		<u>161,447</u>	<u>135,252</u>
Total funds carried forward at 28/02/2021	11	<u>178,176</u>	<u>161,447</u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.

The above incoming resources relate to unrestricted funds, with the exceptions of certain grants as indicated above. These grants amount to £48,698 and represent restricted income.

The above resources expended relate to unrestricted funds, with the exception of other costs in the sum of £32,729, which were met from restricted income.

The net income for the year and the fund balance carried forward comprise both restricted and unrestricted funds, as detailed in note 11 to the accounts.

Community Spaces Northampton - Registered company number: 07831065

Balance sheet as at 28 February 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	8	19,811	22,919
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Current assets			
Debtors	9	26,835	49,680
Cash at bank and in hand		192,707	115,786
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		219,542	165,466
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(61,177)	(26,938)
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net current assets		158,365	138,528
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total assets less current liabilities		178,176	161,447
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Funds			
Restricted funds	11	15,969	-
Unrestricted funds			
General funds	11	162,207	161,447
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total funds		178,176	161,447
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>

For the year ending 28 February 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees on 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

T Birch
Director

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2021

1 Accounting policies

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice.

Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the charity being wound up the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charity.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

Income recognition

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged to the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2021 - continued

1 Accounting policies - continued

Pension costs

The charity has contributed to a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are written off against net income in the year they are payable.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation has been computed to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets over their expected useful lives on a straight line basis using the following rates:

Office equipment	20% or 10% per annum
Heating systems	10% per annum

2 Governance costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Legal and professional fees	4,968	8,772
Northamptonshire Pension Fund cessation valuation	-	6,000
Independent examiner's fees (see note 7)	4,500	5,328
	<u>9,468</u>	<u>20,100</u>

3 Other costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs (see note 4)	91,020	85,073
Heat, light and power	41,086	35,780
Rent (lease payment)	1,728	1,968
Water	28,317	13,678
Insurance	2,492	3,095
Office expenses and community development	5,438	5,518
Community development - Semilong & Trinity neighbourhood	8,173	7,895
Telephone	3,269	2,651
Repairs, maintenance and cleaning	38,711	55,647
Bad debts	201	17,125
PRS and PPL licence	462	2,085
Miscellaneous costs	4,833	2,886
Bank charges	171	196
Depreciation	4,596	5,008
	<u>230,497</u>	<u>238,605</u>

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2021 - continued

4 Staff costs

	2021	2019
	£	£
Wages and salaries and social security costs	87,067	81,627
Employer's pension contributions	3,953	3,446
	<u>91,020</u>	<u>85,073</u>
	<u><u>5</u></u>	<u><u>3</u></u>
Average number of staff (in addition to trustees)		

No employees had emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2020: none).

5 Trustees remuneration

The trustees did not receive any remuneration or expenses payments during the year.

6 Pension costs

The company contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £3,953 during the year.

7 Independent examiner's fees

	2021	2020
	£	£
Fees payable to independent examiner:		
- independent examination	600	600
- other	3,900	3,900
- prior year under accrual	-	828
	<u>4,500</u>	<u>5,328</u>
	<u><u>4,500</u></u>	<u><u>5,328</u></u>

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2021 - continued

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 March 2020	46,401	46,401
Additions	1,488	1,488
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 28 February 2021	47,889	47,889
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Depreciation		
At 1 March 2020	23,482	23,482
Charge for the year	4,596	4,596
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 28 February 2021	28,078	28,078
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net book value		
At 28 February 2021	19,811	19,811
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 29 February 2020	22,919	22,919
	<hr/>	<hr/>

9 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	24,331	49,218
Prepayments	2,504	462
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	26,835	49,680
	<hr/>	<hr/>

10 Creditors - amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	46,737	13,838
Accruals	14,440	13,100
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	61,177	26,938
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Community Spaces Northampton

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2021 - continued

11 Statement of funds

	At 01/03/2020	Net incoming resources £	Transfer re reclassify as unrestricted £	At 28/02/2021 £
Restricted funds	-	15,969	-	15,969
Unrestricted funds				
General reserve	161,447	760	-	162,207
Total funds	<u>161,447</u>	<u>16,729</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>178,176</u>

The general reserve represents the free funds of the charity which are not designated for specific purposes. The restricted funds at the year end represent the unexpended portion of restricted grants and comprise £2,969 relating to the Briar Hill Food Bank and Community Hub, £500 relating to the Lodge Farm community centre refurbishment and £12,500 relating to the Power To Change project.

12 Lease commitments

At the balance sheet date the company had annual commitments under operating leases relating to land and buildings. The total future minimum lease payments are as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Payable:		
- not later than one year	1,728	1,728
- later than one and not later than five years	6,912	6,912
- later than five years	27,648	29,376
	<u>36,288</u>	<u>38,016</u>

13 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions requiring disclosure during the year (2020: none).

14 Contingent liabilities

At the balance sheet date there are potential liabilities arising in respect of unbilled historical water rates charges. These relate to certain unread meters. Accruals have been made in the accounts on the basis of reasonable estimates, but it is possible that there remain unrecorded liabilities, and these cannot be quantified at the time of approval of these accounts.

15 General Information

Community Spaces Northampton Registered number 7831065 is a private company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England & Wales. The Registered Office is Unit 1, St. Crispin Community Centre, St. Crispin Drive, Northampton, NN5 4GJ.