

Registered number
06978781

Court Theatre Limited

Annual Report of The Directors and Trustees
and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended
31 August 2022

Charity No: 1147983
Company Limited by Guarantee no: 06978781

Court Theatre Limited
Report and Financial Statements
Contents

	Page
Company information	1
Trustees' and Directors' report	2
Independent Examiner's report	5
Income and Expenditure account	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Balance sheet	8
Notes to the Financial Statements	9

Court Theatre Limited Company Information

Directors

S P Berry
R W Brown
J Farrow
I G Muirhead

Secretary

J Farrow

Independent Examiner

D R Kerins FCCA
Ad Valorem Accountancy Services Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
2 Manor Farm Court
Old Wolverton
Milton Keynes
Bucks
MK12 5NN

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc
2 Walton Road
Aylesbury
Bucks
HP21 7SS

Registered office

66 Mortimer Hill
Tring
Herts
HP23 5JU

Registered number

06978781

Registered Charity Number

1147983

Court Theatre Limited**Registered number: 06978781****Trustees' and Directors' Report**

The trustees and directors present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2022

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is a company with charitable aims, limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. It was registered as a charity with the Charity Commission on 6 July 2012.

Membership is open to both individuals and hiring organisations; both have rights to vote at general meetings.

The trustees who have acted during the year are shown on page 1 of this report. New trustees may be appointed by members in a general meeting or by the existing trustees. New trustees are invited to attend board meetings and are advised of their responsibilities as trustees under the charity regulations before accepting the appointment. The Trustees have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Any major risks to operations have been reviewed and systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks

Day to day running of the theatre is undertaken by volunteers known internally as "directors"; their roles cover programming, marketing, event management, technical issues, pantomime, grants, bar, front of house and youth development. These directors attend meetings of the trustee board but are not legal trustees of the charity.

Objectives and Activities

The charity's objects are to support the operation of The David Evans Court Theatre, Tring, a community theatre run entirely by volunteers, for the purpose of advancing education, to the benefit of the general public, in the performing arts, theatrical productions and artistic excellence.

The first half of the period covered by this report continued to be impacted by the Covid Pandemic. Although Government restrictions were being relaxed in the latter half of 2021 there was still uncertainty over the infectiousness of new Covid strains which led to speculation that lock downs might be reintroduced. This coupled with the inability of dramatic societies to meet and rehearse during the Pandemic meant that there were fewer shows ready to perform at the start of the period.

It was not until calendar 2022 that any sense of a real relaxation appeared and the charity was able to more fully return to its normal activities in support of its objects. This was done by enabling a programme of events throughout the year, which included a variety of performing arts, both amateur and professional. It also provided an opportunity for volunteers to be trained in and to gain practical experience of a number of theatrical skills and operational support areas.

It has encouraged the participation of young people by providing affordable theatrical experience as audience and active participation through workshops and performances, both musical and theatrical. It continued to support the Court Youth Theatre programme.

Court Theatre Limited**Registered number: 06978781****Trustees' and Directors' Report****Achievements and Performance**

The following statistics and financial review need to be interpreted in the light of the gradual return to normal levels of activity as the year progressed.

The theatre has a large and varied programme, during the year there were 42 (2021:38, 2020: 53, 2019: 57) shows involving 135 (2021:53, 2020: 117, 2019: 158) separate performances. A big increase on 2021, albeit from a small base and still below previous peak years. The events were presented by 24 (2021:5, 2020: 23, 2019: 30) user hirers including Court Theatre Ltd (CTL) itself which promoted 6 (2021:1, 2020: 7, 2019: 9) shows. Events promoted by CTL saw a return of the fundraising Pantomime and Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre and live music intended to broaden the theatre's programme. Other shows included professional comedy and amateur shows from local groups which covered dramatic plays, comedies and musicals. Youth was well represented with ten local groups putting on shows including the Court Youth Theatre workshops. Total audience numbers for the year bounced back to 18,220 (2021: 4,539, 2020: 15,540, 2019: 21,150).

The forecast for the 2022/23 financial year indicates a strong return to almost pre-Pandemic levels of utilisation of the theatre and activity.

Financial Review

The charity generated an income for the year of £30,253 following significant losses in 2021 (£32,617) and 2020 (£30,938).

The results largely reflect a bounce back from the Pandemic. Operating expenses doubled over 2021 (£92,363 vs £47,653) but this was offset by increased hire of the theatre and CTL promoted shows. To save costs a decision was taken not to re-instate the printed brochure as evidence suggested sales were increasingly driven by social media and our website, which was relaunched during the year. The large increase in utility rates has meant our landlord could no longer afford to waive them, so for the first time this cost was partly borne in the period, with a full year effect coming in for the year 2022/23. Against this background of economic uncertainty and the long-term future of the theatre, covered in the next section, only essential maintenance was carried out and refurbishment plans were put on hold.

On the plus side we received a Government Covid Grant of £4,000 and acknowledge donations from patrons of £3369 to our Covid Recovery Fund and our bar, CTCL, was able to donate £14,314 (2021:£2,760).

The financial outlook for 2022/23 is for a lower income as there is no grant income and the full impact of inflation becomes apparent.

Court Theatre Limited**Registered number: 06978781****Trustees' and Directors' Report****Future of the Theatre and CTL**

In June 2022 our landlord IPL served a formal two years notice to terminate CTL's lease, originally granted 2 April 2020, with effect from 14 June 2024.

At the time of preparing this Trustees' Report it remains unclear what the landlord's plans are for the theatre building and its continued operation.

Various legal structures have been postulated and there does appear to be a strong desire for the building to continue as a theatre after June 2024. However to date, whilst there are no definitive plans as to how it might be managed, it is unlikely that CTL would continue to play a role in its future operation.

Against this background it is becoming increasingly difficult for the Trustees to operate. What is fundamental is that CTL can not take any bookings beyond 13 June 2024 as we will not be able to fulfil a booking contract.

The landlord has intimated that a new operating structure will be made clear in sufficient time for hirers to secure licences for shows and make a booking. But it remains completely uncertain with which legal body that booking might be made.

If CTL has no role after June 2024 with the Court Theatre then the Trustees will have to decide a course of action to determine the future of the charity and the disbursement of its assets and funds.

Reserves Policy

In the 2020/21 period the Trustees resolved to effectively freeze any distribution of reserves to protect the charity's financial viability against a background of uncertain trading. That decision was further vindicated by new concerns over inflation and the landlord's decision to terminate the lease.

The reported period's positive net income reversed the decline in total reserves of the previous Pandemic years; £30,253 was transferred to General Reserves.

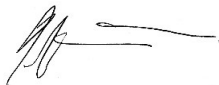
The Trustees consider it unlikely they will be in a position to make any grants in the 2022/23 period.

The total position is explained in Note 10 to the Accounts.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies

This report was approved by the board on 9 May 2023 and signed on its behalf.



IG Muirhead
Director

Court Theatre Limited

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of Court Theatre Limited

I report on the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 August 2022 which are set out on pages 6 to 12.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

D R Kerins FCCA

For and on behalf of:
Ad Valorem Accountancy Services Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants

2 Manor Farm Court
Old Wolverton
Milton Keynes
Bucks
MK12 5NN

18 May 2023

Court Theatre Limited
Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Income	3		
Hire of theatre		36,691	10,299
Ticket income		48,472	722
Marketing expenses recharged		3,600	-
Box Office expenses recharged		8,975	-
Other income		8,195	560
Donations received		17,683	3,455
Total Income		<u>123,616</u>	<u>15,036</u>
Expense	3		
Theatre rent		40,800	31,000
Event expenses		9,185	-
Marketing expenses		3,314	346
Box Office expenses		13,137	1,019
Artistic Support Grants		-	-
Administrative expense		22,066	10,427
Depreciation		4,861	4,861
Total Expense		<u>93,363</u>	<u>47,653</u>
Operating Income / Deficit	4	<u>30,253</u>	<u>(32,617)</u>
Income / Deficit on ordinary activities before taxation		<u>30,253</u>	<u>(32,617)</u>
Tax on income / deficit on ordinary activities		-	-
Income / Deficit for the financial year		<u>30,253</u>	<u>(32,617)</u>

Court Theatre Limited
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Income and endowments from					
Donations and legacies		17,683		17,683	3,455
Charitable activities		105,933		105,933	11,581
Total income and endowments	3	123,616	-	123,616	15,036
Expenditure on					
Charitable activities		92,763		92,763	47,053
Other	14	600		600	600
Total expenditure	3	93,363	-	93,363	47,653
<i>Net Income /Expenditure</i>		30,253	-	30,253	(32,617)
Tax on activities		-	-	-	-
<i>Net movement in funds</i>		30,253	-	30,253	(32,617)
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward		77,002	-	77,002	109,619
<i>Total funds carried forward</i>		107,255	-	107,255	77,002

The notes form part of these financial statements

Court Theatre Limited**Balance Sheet****Reg. No. 06978781****as at 31 August 2022**

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6	-	4,861
Investments	7	1	1
		<u>1</u>	<u>4,862</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	8	18,284	10,598
Cash at bank and in hand		105,742	71,601
		<u>124,026</u>	<u>82,199</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(16,772)	(10,059)
Net current assets		<u>107,254</u>	<u>72,140</u>
Net assets		<u>107,255</u>	<u>77,002</u>
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted income fund	10	107,255	77,002
Total charity funds		<u>107,255</u>	<u>77,002</u>

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

(a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with sections 386 and 387 of the Act and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 9 May 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



RW Brown
Director

Court Theatre Limited
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2022

1 Statutory Information

Court Theatre Limited is a charitable organisation limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales.

The charity's registered office address can be found on the company information page.

The charity's place of business is The David Evans Court Theatre, Pennyroyal Court, Station Road, Tring, HP23 5QY.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

2 Statement of Compliance

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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

3 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Incoming resources / Turnover

Income has been recognised on the following basis:

- Donations and grants are generally recognised when received. The primary donor is Court Theatre Catering Ltd, donations from this source are accrued to the period declared by the donor.
- Invoiced income is accrued monthly.
- Interest income is recognised on receipt.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis.

Depreciation

Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives.

Leasehold Improvements	33% straight line
Fixtures and Fittings	33% straight line

Preparation of consolidated financial statements

The financial statements contain information about Court Theatre Limited as an individual company and do not contain consolidated financial information as the parent of a group. The company has taken the option under Section 398 of the Companies Act 2006 not to prepare consolidated statements.

Court Theatre Limited
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2022

Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

Unrestricted funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees. Income is recognised as unrestricted income when the charity becomes entitled to the income as a result of activities already performed and any pre-conditions have been met. Where this is not the case the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the activities have been performed.

Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. The Trustees monitor and discuss the restricted funds at meetings to ensure the restricted expenditure is allocated accordingly. The charity currently has no restricted fund.

Debtors and creditors receivable/payable within one year

Debtors and Creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in the statement of financial activities.

4 Operating deficit	2022	2021
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	<u>4,861</u>	<u>4,861</u>

5 Taxation

The company is a registered charity and is exempt from corporation tax on its income.

6 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold Improvts £	Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 September 2021	4,968	9,615	14,583
At 31 August 2022	<u>4,968</u>	<u>9,615</u>	<u>14,583</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 September 2021	3,312	6,410	9,722
Charge for the year	1,656	3,205	4,861
At 31 August 2022	<u>4,968</u>	<u>9,615</u>	<u>14,583</u>
Net book value			
At 31 August 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 August 2021	<u>1,656</u>	<u>3,205</u>	<u>4,861</u>

Court Theatre Limited
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2022

7 Investments

	Investments in subsidiary undertakings £
Cost	
At 1 September 2021	1
At 31 August 2022	<u>1</u>

The company holds 20% or more of the share capital of the following company:

Company	Shares held		Capital and reserves £	(Loss) for the period £
	Class	%		
Court Theatre Catering Ltd Company No: 07625341	Ordinary	100	<u>4,870</u>	<u>(2,087)</u>

8 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	3,970	1,350
Amounts owed by group undertakings and undertakings in which the company has a participating interest	14,314	8,663
Prepayments	-	585
	<u>18,284</u>	<u>10,598</u>

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals	1,150	600
Advance Ticket Sales	11,422	535
User Group/Hirers Deposits	1,800	1,400
User Group/Hirers	2,400	7,524
	<u>16,772</u>	<u>10,059</u>

Court Theatre Limited
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 August 2022

10 Movement on Unrestricted Reserves Fund

	Contingency Fund	Developmt Fund	Artistic Support	General Reserves
At 1 September 2021	35,000	5,538	20,000	16,464
Transfer between Funds	-	-	-	-
Income in year		-		30,253
At 31 August 2022	<u>35,000</u>	<u>5,538</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>46,717</u>
Total Funds				
At 1 September 2021	77,002			
Income in year	<u>30,253</u>			
At 31 August 2022	<u>107,255</u>			

11 Post balance sheet events

The landlord's decision to terminate the charity's lease on 13 June 2022, giving two years notice, has had a major impact on the charity's continued operation.

As covered in the Trustee's report the future direction of the charity is unclear. The charity will continue to operate the theatre until June 2024 and the Trustees are confident that it will remain financially viable due to its level of reserves.

12 Trustees

No trustee received any remuneration or claimed any expenses during the year. (2021: £nil)

13 Employees

The charity is run entirely by volunteers and so employed nil staff during the year (2021:nil).

14 Governance Costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Cost of Independent Examination	<u>600</u>	<u>600</u>

15 Related party transactions

During the year the company recognised a donation of £14,314 (2021:£2,760) due from Court Theatre Catering Limited, its trading subsidiary.

As at the balance sheet date £14,314 (2021: £8,663) from CTCL was unpaid.