

# **PACT for Autism**

Charity Registration Number 1148170  
Company Registration 08076243

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021**



# **PACT for Autism**

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# **PACT for Autism**

## **LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021**

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**Trustees:** Julia Carr (Chair)  
June Fleming  
Julie King  
Wendy Merry (Treasurer)

Selina Avery (Co-opted)  
Ryan Carr (Co-opted)  
Aimee Carr (Co-opted)  
Vern Lacey (Co-opted)

**Registered company number: 08076243**

**Registered charity number: 1148170**

**Premises:** Office 50  
Latton Bush Centre  
Southern Way  
Harlow  
CM18 7BL

**Independent Examiner:**  
Community360  
Winsley's House  
High Street  
Colchester  
Essex, CO1 1UG

**Bankers:** Lloyds Bank  
East Gate Harlow

## **PACT for Autism**

### **Trustees and Governance**

PACT for Autism's governing document is its Memorandum of Association. The liability of the members is limited to a sum not exceeding £10, being the amount that each member undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charity in the event of it being wound up while he/she is a member, or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member.

PACT for Autism is governed by the board of trustees. The directors of the charity are trustees and are referred to as such throughout the annual report and accounts. There are currently four trustees which include a retired Special Educational Needs Professional, Tax Accountant, Education Professional, and an Accountant, two of whom are parents of young autistic adults. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no monetary benefits from the charity.

The trustees may by ordinary resolution appoint a person who is willing to be a trustee either to fill a vacancy or become an additional trustee. At a general meeting a person may be appointed trustee if he or she is recommended by the trustees in accordance with the Articles or is a member qualified to vote at the meeting nominates a person in accordance with the Articles. The maximum number of trustees is 7.

### **Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements**

The charity trustees (who are also the directors of PACT for Autism for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each 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 income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and the apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK 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 business

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

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

### **Statement as to disclosure to our auditors**

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

- There is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing the report, of which the auditor is unaware of, and

- The trustees, having made enquiries of fellow directors and the auditor that they ought to have individually taken, have each taken all steps that he/she is obliged to take as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

### **Staff and Volunteers**

PACT for Autism has five part time paid staff and a small, dedicated team of volunteers, working on a regular basis. The trustees express deepest thanks to the Charity Manager Kevin Gay and his team including Lisa Gay, Debbie Hannam, Kim Darby and Nikki McIntyre, together with the energy and enthusiasm of our volunteers Mike Doe, Alison Doe, Lewis Walsham, Kath Rencontre, Chloe Rich, Ruth Bolwerk, Callum Gay, Deb Butler and Maxine Dainton. The trustees also make significant contributions in additional volunteer roles. This small team of highly motivated, committed individuals work together as a team to deliver the objectives of the charity.

### **Pay Policy for Senior Staff**

No member of staff receives a FTE salary over £60,000 p.a. A market rate, based on the size of the charity, is used to set all salary scales. Pay rates are reviewed annually in line with inflation.

### **Risk Management**

The trustees regularly review the risks facing the organisation. The principal risks during the financial period ending 31st May 2021 were the short and long term impacts on fund raising income and family face to face services as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The trustees regularly review controls, including the budget, in order to sustain current levels of services.

### **Public Benefit**

The trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit in making decisions on the activities undertaken by PACT for Autism. Our information and support services are provided free of charge to family members of people with autism, with just a small contribution requested towards the cost of heavily subsidised family leisure activities. Our autism awareness talks are open to the public. Family members of people with autism attend free of charge, with a small contribution requested from professionals attending.

### **Financial Review**

PACT for Autism's turnover for the year ending 31st May 2021 was £54,035 (prior year £64,491). Expenditure was £43,370 (prior year £68,637). This resulted in a surplus for the year of £10,665 (prior year deficit £3,147). The increase in net income for the year was mainly a result of the national lockdowns and restrictions: reduction in face 2 face services and savings in IT/office costs. The reduction in fund-raising income was offset by increased income from grants.

### **Reserves Policy and Going Concern**

The trustees regularly review the charity's financial reserves to ensure that the minimum policy requirements of 6 months running costs for reserves is achieved. This is held within the designated funds. The trustees increased the designated funds to £44,586 (prior year £33,885) mainly affecting the Contingency Fund for on-going operations.

The accounts are prepared on a Going Concern basis.

### **Investment Powers and Policy**

The trustees have kept available funds in an interest-bearing deposit account. Total interest received during the year totalled £10.

### **Small Companies Provisions**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

**Signed by order of the Trustees**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julia Carr', written in a cursive style.

**Julia Carr**  
**Chair**

17/01/2022

## **PACT for Autism**

### **Report of the Trustees**

#### **For the Year ending 31 May 2021**

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 May 2021 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for the directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and 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) (effective 1 January 2015).

### **Chair's Report**

This year has been one of an unimaginable degree of change for PACT, the community we support, and for the wider society in which we operate. It began in the first lockdown, moved to a period of 'new normal', returned to lockdown and finished, once again, in a time of working to understand how to support our community going forward.

PACT has continued to respond to the need of support for those who identify as autistic or neurodiverse, and their family, carers and friends. The number of people registering with PACT rose from 563 to 701 during this reporting period and a total of 899 unique contacts were recorded, these being from people who did not all necessarily go on to register with PACT.

Throughout this reporting period, PACT has had to be innovative and creative in both the ways in which we support our community, and the ways in which we raise the necessary funds to be able to offer this support. PACT's Charity Manager, Kevin Gay, and his dedicated team have been outstanding in the way they responded to both these challenges. With traditional funding streams cut off due to restrictions imposed by COVID-19, the team not only successfully applied for grant funding to continue to offer our services and support but were also successful in developing new funding streams and opportunities to expand the support and services we can offer.

In addition to the grants that PACT received, our funding was also helped by donations and fundraising by many organisations and individuals. PACT could not survive without the money provided by these organisations and individuals and, on behalf of the people that we support, we would like to say a huge thank you for the financial support provided.

As a result of identified funding risks, it was decided to recruit a fundraising officer, to take on the role of managing current community fundraising and to develop new and innovative ways to fundraise in the future, as well as supporting funding grants that have been essential for the continued running and intended growth of the charity during and post COVID 19. We welcomed Nikki McIntyre into a part time role with the objective of developing new and dynamic funding streams and reach out to new potential funders, a problem that all third sector organisations have found hard to access during the COVID pandemic.

The financial support provided means that PACT's amazing team of staff and volunteers can continue to offer support to, and can respond to the ever-changing needs of, our wonderful community. PACT is only as strong as our staff and volunteers, and they all continue to go above and beyond what anyone could expect of them. There are no words to express how important they are to the continuing successful running of PACT.

## **Achievements and Performance (June 2020 – May 2021)**

This reporting period has been one of the most challenging, due to the COVID pandemic. So many PACT events have had to be cancelled or changed and staff have had to be innovative around continued support and information sharing to our Autistic community. PACT have still achieved a high level of support but delivered in very different ways.

During the period of June 2020 to Aug 2020 and the early stages of the COVID 19 pandemic, PACT experienced a massive period of required change, especially to all our short to medium term planning. Very few support group meetings were possible until we felt confident that we fully understood the needs of the community and how we could deliver them effectively. This required additional investment into different technology and software, plus additional but essential training for staff.

During this period PACT were in a very similar position as many other third sector organisations. We had to quickly come to terms with the fact that we would generate very little income through our normal fundraising streams, and that our support services could be severely impacted, at a time when our autistic communities were struggling the most. These were worrying and uncertain times for the charity and plans were needed to manage all these issues.

As a result of the need to prioritise services and support that PACT offered, it was necessary to review essential staffing. One decision taken was to place a staff member on the government furlough scheme for a short period of time, as well as our charity manager volunteering to reduce hours to try to reduce the short-term financial impact on the charity.

The early support highlighted by families, carers and individuals were very different to what we had previously experienced. Issues were raised in relation to accessing food for our those with specific dietary needs, along with the need for families and individuals to self-isolate due to being additionally vulnerable as a result of linked health needs. This would then impact upon the mental wellbeing of these same groups.

All PACT staff were trying to understand a very different society, full of restrictions with limited time to come up with effective solutions that were both manageable and effective. And we did it!! PACT staff also had to understand and embrace the changing needs, technology, and virtual support to ensure consistent and effective support to an increasingly vulnerable community.

As the year went on, we were able to better identify and effectively deliver many support services again, although in a very different way.

This report describes in detail the many achievements this year, a summary is listed below:

### **Support and Services**

- 8 x virtual 'drop in' support sessions (53 attendees) available to all our registered individuals and advertised on our monthly newsletter
- 6 x additional support sessions working alongside Spangles (support group in Uttlesford area) (45 attendees)
- 12 x virtual adult support sessions (81 attendees). Due to COVID 19, two face to face sessions had to be cancelled before developing and running these on a virtual platform
- Monthly newsletter updated and improved, giving increased information and current support that PACT could offer, alongside signposting other organisations and services and what they were offering



- 11 x online workshops across a range of subjects (total of 142 attendees) co-produced with PACT and delivered by professionals across different sectors, across a range of subjects highlighted by the Autistic community including a focus group with Essex Family Forum, a drop in session with a specialist Autism teacher and 'ADHD and how to help' with Steve Challen (ADHD+ support)
- 11 x videos produced across a range of subjects to inform families and carers supporting Autistic children, collaboration with Tasha at DreamBox Education and Debbie (PACT talks and training lead) to produce videos available through the PACT YouTube channel and shared on social media
- 100 children of registered families across West Essex / East Herts received a Christmas gift. PACT staff, trustees and volunteers pulled together to safely deliver a very special festive present to 100 Autistic children that had been isolating and struggling with lock down restrictions.
- Our talks and training service delivered 7 x 'Understanding Autism' sessions to the Young Carers network (43 attendees) giving greater awareness to staff when supporting young carers across Essex.
- Development of a training package that introduces our own Debbie Hannam (PACT support and training lead) and an Autistic adult that we support through our adult group, delivering a 2-hour session titled 'The Theory and the Experience' to a range of services and organisations
- 47 x Grandparents afternoon tea home deliveries by PACT staff, trustees and volunteers made across West Essex / East Herts
- 2 x support and information phone lines continued and were essential for ongoing contact and support to families, individuals and professionals
- Development of a library of books accessible on 3 x (donated) kindle devices
- Social media (FaceBook, Twitter and Instagram) updates and information sharing all greatly increased during the COVID 19 lock down and restrictions
- Website regularly updated to reflect currents support needs and changing of essential information during the pandemic.

### **Working in the Community**

- Active member of the West Essex GP / ASC Steering Group attending virtual meetings throughout the pandemic
- Member and attendance of the Essex SEND information and advice support steering group meetings (SENDIASS)
- Regularly attend the Harlow, EFD and Uttlesford 'Think Family Forum' meetings
- Attendance at the 'Peabody' Local district team (LDT) meetings. (Held virtually)
- Member of the All-Age Autism coordination groups on both a local (Essex) and Eastern region platform
- Member of the ECVYS (Essex council for Voluntary Youth Workers) and attending regular virtual meetings
- Member of a project led by ECVYS, supporting and advising Essex Police on 'Violence and Vulnerability' in communities
- PACT charity manager, Kev Gay was appointed onto the management committee for Essex Family Forum, giving increased exposure to information and projects across Essex and representing both organisations across a range of subject matters
- Continuing to build relationships and work closer with Education, Social care and Health, ensuring the Autistic community have a voice across all services.
- Working closer with Family Solutions (Harlow), assisting to deliver parenting courses and offering additional training and awareness through our talks and training services

## **Plans for Future Periods**

We look forward to the coming year where we aim to:

- Secure further essential funding grants to sustain and grow essential support services to our beneficiaries, especially as we move out of the Lock downs and restrictions of the COVID 19 Pandemic
- Improve services and opportunities for Autistic individuals - 18 to 25 year olds
- Increase paid staffing hours and volunteer base to sustain growth and meet the needs of the autistic community
- Raise public awareness and acceptance of the Autistic spectrum and reach all areas of the community with our extended talks service and new awareness package
- To re-introduce services affected by the pandemic and improve future services provided including outings, support group meetings, training and talks
- Increase the charity's beneficiaries

## **Legal and Administration**

PACT for Autism is a registered charity limited by guarantee, originally established as PACT Harlow in December 2005. The charity is run by a small team of staff and volunteers, most of whom are parents of young people with autism, as well as professionals with a special interest in Special Educational Needs (SEN).

## **Our Purpose and Activities**

The purpose of the charity is to provide for and advance the needs and welfare of Autistic children and adults and/or those with similar conditions, along with their families and carers who live in West Essex and further afield.

Purpose and Activities:

- Supporting parents and carers of Autistic individuals
- Improving people's understanding and acceptance of the Autistic Spectrum
- Raising awareness of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) of Autistic children and young people
- Improving access to sport and leisure activities for Autistic individuals
- Improving opportunities for work, sport and leisure activities for Autistic young people and adults
- Improving the lives of the autistic community including their families and carers

PACT is increasingly aware of language preferences within our communities and the need to embrace those changes. There is a need for all organisation to be more aware of Neurodiversity and the need to understand how Autism Spectrum Conditions are perceived. It is essential that these are conditions are seen, more as a neurological difference and a unique way the world is experienced than, how they are often perceived, as a disorder.

## **Achievements and performance relating to these objectives:**

### **Parent / Carer Support**

PACT for Autism was established and continues to be staffed, overseen and supported by parents of Autistic children / young people and adults alongside Autistic individuals. This means that we can better understand the needs of individuals and therefore can deliver a more effective and supportive service to those individuals, their families, carers and professionals

As at March 2021, the charity had **701** registered parents/carers/individuals that have signed up to receive our newsletters and updates. The previous year was numbered at **563**.

- Any individual who identifies as Autistic or Neurodiverse can register with the charity, as no formal diagnosis is required, this includes the family, carers or friends that support an individual.
- Our registration is also for any professionals who wish to keep in touch with things PACT for Autism are involved in and receive important updates for events, training etc.
- We also record the number of individuals that make contact with PACT, either through our contact page via the website, or through the messaging service linked to our social media accounts. This contact may be for a 'one off' question, query or offer of support. Some of these individuals will continue to connect with us and likely to register with PACT to ensure they are kept updated and informed. The number of contacts at the end of this reporting period stood at **899**. This is a significant number and has continually risen throughout this reporting period.

During this reporting period and due to the changes brought in by national and local government departments, support needs changed dramatically. Although at the early stages of COVID 19 lockdowns the support needs of the autistic community appeared to drop, this was likely a result of schools closing and lock down measures, meaning a reduced need for families and individuals to be interacting with others, thereby reducing stressful exposure to additional sensory input.

This required some considerable changes within the team as home working became the new normal, which also ensured the safety of PACT staff as well as the families and individuals we support. Online support was going to be vitally important, so some innovative thinking and changes were going to be needed and implemented.

- All PACT 'face to face' events and support sessions were cancelled as lockdowns were increased and government guidance closed venues.
- Weekly (Virtual) staff meetings took place to discuss plans and changes, and these became essential for planning and developing our support and delivery of essential information.
- One of our first plans was to understand the needs of our families and individuals, so the PACT support team reached out to all of our registered individuals, via email, offering any support and ensuring families and individuals were coping. Those known to be additionally vulnerable were directly contacted through our telephone support lines. This gave us some idea of the needs and direction PACT needed to plan for.
- New software packages had to be considered and purchased to ensure that we could reach out to our vulnerable groups and that we could stay in touch with our health, education and local authority professionals. This included Zoom software to assist with online connection, widget software and training that allowed for social stories to be developed and shared, as well as Canva software to assist with improving our social media and newsletter layouts.
- Collaboration was key and Debbie joined forces with the lovely Tasha from Dreambox Education to develop and produce several videos, to discuss many areas

of the Autistic spectrum and strategies that could help. These were uploaded to the PACT YouTube account and shared via social media and our website.

- Online webinars and training also starting to become business as usual, as all PACT staff came to terms with new ways of working and developing support needs.

Throughout this reporting period PACT staff have developed (online) support workshops for parents, carers and professionals to provide essential and relevant information and support. Workshops have been included, bringing in professionals from many areas, highlighted as essential during our contact with our Autistic community, and included.

- Presentations by Occupational Therapists, an expert on wills and estate planning (including court of protection and power of attorney), Family and Children wellbeing services providing essential information on JADES (Journey of Autism Diagnosis and Early Support) diagnostic Pathway, Andrew Whitehouse talk for Effective Communication, SENDIASS EHCP (Education and Health Care Plans) workshop, Families in Focus One Planning workshop, 3 x separate Sensory Processing workshops and many more, all supporting families and professionals navigate many different aspect of education and strategies to manage behaviour that challenges.

COVID 19 restrictions impacted on all services during this reporting period but PACT increased contact and information sharing through our information and support phone lines, website (which included specific COVID 19 related information), and increased social media presence. Just having the control to update our own website content as needed was a gamechanger, and the decision to improve our website and move to another platform, prior to this pandemic has made a massive difference to our reach and information sharing.

As all our popular 'sharing and play' sessions were cancelled for the entire reporting period we have had to look at ways to still engage with those children and young people as we knew that the lack of social engagement was affecting the wellbeing and mental health of the families.

#### Festive Drop Off

A festive drop off was planned and over **100** Children across West Essex and East Hertfordshire booked and received a personal (face to face) visit from (PACT) Santa and all his volunteers. These visits were so welcomed by little smiling faces, that had struggled to access any social interaction as schools and clubs were either closed or running virtual learning.





### Grandparents (Virtual) Afternoon Tea

The PACT Grandparents afternoon tea had always been well attended and a way to thank the older generation of essential care givers within our families. Again, due to COVID 19 this had to be cancelled but an afternoon tea delivery was meticulously planned and again PACT staff, trustees and volunteers stepped up to deliver **47** afternoon teas, prepared by the Amazing Bridget's team (ASL) in Ware. This was made possible due to the kind support and essential funding from Capital Group.

### Easter Drop Off

PACT also applied and was permitted to re-purpose funding from the Essex Community Foundation that allowed us to purchase and deliver over 100 Easter Eggs to some very happy children.

PACT staff, trustees and volunteers, spread themselves far and wide to manage deliveries across West Essex and East Hertfordshire. Such great feedback and thanks from many families desperate for contact and support.



## **Sport and Leisure**

PACT for Autism actively seeks and supports sports and leisure accessibility to local facilities, for all our families and individuals. This has been a terrible year for any sports and activities as lock downs and social distancing guidelines made most things effectively impossible.

PACT have kept our connections with the All-Ability Sports Association and have a seat on the committee, although the future of this organisation is in doubt with the pandemic effectively closing down events and making fundraising difficult. The very popular bounce and swim sessions, arranged and run by Neil Mann and the Stewards Academy were also cancelled during this reporting period and again the future of these sessions remain in doubt.

## **Autism Awareness / Special Educational Needs / Adult Support**

PACT for Autism's core aim is to improve people's understanding of Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC) and Neurodiversity both locally, regionally and nationally, along with any associated Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and available benefits which include appropriate disability schemes. The charity continues its involvement in campaigning and networking to raise awareness and to develop better ways to support on issues that currently affect families, individuals and professionals. PACT continues to work with our local MP Rob Halfon, Essex District, County and Parish councils and local councillors along with continuing strong links with our Health, Social care and Education (SEND) partners.

PACT continue to be an integral part of the Stansted Airport Disability Forum, SAFE (Stansted Accessibility for Everyone) and continue to support all the organisations working within the aviation industry. This reporting period has been difficult, and many necessary changes have needed to be implemented, including the new terminal and upgrades at Stansted Airport being put on hold due to financial pressures. PACT involvement within this forum will only be more crucial as we move out of the pandemic and the public are re-introduced back into the aviation industry. With new staff expected to join at every level, as staff numbers were massively impacted over this time, Training and awareness will need to be an integral part of this process.

### Supporting Adults

Kim (Support and Information lead) and Debbie (Support, Talks and Training lead) have built up our adult support groups, which have continued to grow. As a result of government guidance during this pandemic, support group meetings moved entirely onto virtual platforms as well as supporting the use of a WhatsApp group chat, giving the group space and privacy to discuss issues, talk through strategies that work for each individual and offer support to the entire group. This all continues to be monitored and supported by PACT staff but both platforms are in the control of the group to self-advocate and support each other.

Several of this adult group are now volunteering for PACT and representing a group that rarely have their voices heard. During this reporting period one of the adult group members group joined the Essex HealthWatch Disability Forum as a PACT representative, allowing us the opportunity to feedback on information and essential lived experiences of our families and individuals. Several other members have also supported PACT through things like an online fund raising cake sale.

During the COVID 19 Lockdown this adult support group carried on throughout and was the first to be developed into a virtual support meeting, these also developed into workshops with inputs and insights from a variety of people including Dean Beadle (an Autistic individual and public speaker), and Summit who runs the Essex Adult Autism Navigation Service, supporting adults throughout the diagnostic process and beyond.

As a result of our links with Summit and the Essex Adult Autism Navigation Service, PACT have made strong connections and have been asked to collaborate with Summit to help re-design and improve the support available to adults prior to, during, and after the diagnosis process. This is as a result of the success of our support groups and feedback received from our adult group that there is nothing else available to them and PACT have been a life saving network for them all.



## Talks Service

Our popular 'Talks service' has gone from strength to strength and has continued to be developed and delivered by Debbie Hannam, co-founder and parent of Luke, who was diagnosed as Autistic at the age of 2 and now a young man.

Debbie's talks and training service delivered 7 x 'Understanding Autism' sessions to the Young Carers network giving insight and awareness of Autism and Neurodiversity to 43 attendees that are working and volunteering to support young carers in Essex.

### The Theory and the Experience

Some very important funding received from Capital Group allowed PACT to co-design additional training and awareness talks alongside one of our adult group to deliver the 'Theory and the Experience'. An online awareness package that delivers an insight into the worlds of a parent's experience of living with an Autistic individual through childhood and into adulthood, alongside a 47-year-old adult that had a late diagnosis of autism and many related mental health conditions as a result of a late diagnosis. This has been offered free to organisations working with neurodiverse individuals to offer them a better way to understand and support them.



**PACT for Autism**  
Believing...

## **The Theory & The Experience**

This 2-hour talk will give you a candid insight into autistic life from two different perspectives. Questions are very welcome!

I am the Support, Talks & Training Officer at PACT for Autism

**Debbie Hannam**

My knowledge comes from a lived experience as a parent to Luke, an autistic adult who was diagnosed in 2001 aged 2 ½. I am passionate about helping other parents/carers/adults & professionals. I have found true friendships in the autistic community, they have inspired and educated me.

I am an autistic adult with a desire to improve the quality of life for the autistic community.

I was diagnosed aged 47 after a long history of multiple mental health disorders. I have a first-class BA (Hons) in psychology & mental health. I am supported by PACT for Autism.

**Deb Butler**

*"The training was outstanding. Both Debbie and Deb have vast knowledge and personal experience of Autism, which provided valuable insights into those who are autistic and those who support (and work with) members of the autistic community."*

## **Grants, Fund Raising and Donations**

### **Annual Charity Ball**

The PACT for Autism annual Charity Ball has always been the major fund-raising event for PACT for many years and enabled us to ensure continued support and delivery of essential services for our entire Autistic and Neurodiverse communities. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, Government guidance and lockdowns, this year's event had to be cancelled. This obviously left a massive void in our financial reserves and with the additional issues of many other fundraising events being cancelled or drastically reduced this became a worrying year, questioning the long-term future of the charity. As a result of government grants and successful funding bids this worry has been reduced.

### **Grants**

The charity applied for and managed to secure several grants this year that has ensured our future and the additional opportunities to build services and support through the pandemic and beyond.

- **Capital Group** – Initial funding of **£5,000** that was intended to cover trips and events through this reporting period. But as venues closed and lock downs occurred this funding, along with an additional generous grant of **£3,250** (COVID 19 Emergency Funds) was made available for operating expenses.

A further **£4,100** was generously granted for core costs that allowed that charity to start to plan towards post pandemic support and services from June 2021.

- **Essex Community Foundation (Diana Tinson Fund)** – Funding applied for and successful for **£7,500** of COVID 19 Emergency Funds.
- **Essex County Council** – A discretionary business grant was applied for and successfully received for **£10,000**. This grant was again for operational costs to allow the charity to keep working in unprecedented times.
- **National Lottery Emergency Funding** – This funding again was applied for, and PACT successfully received **£9,000**
- **Charity Aid Foundation** – Application for a grant from the COVID 19 resilience fund was applied for and **£10,000** awarded for ongoing charity operational costs.

#### **Other donations and fundraising.**

- Essex Lottery – Regular monthly donation received from 9 supporters generating approx. **£400** per year.
- 3 supporters took the 2.6 challenge – Big thanks to Ewan, Callum and Dylan who all raised an impressive **£1,900**, completing challenges relating to the number 2 and 6, over several days.
- PACT Easter Charity Raffle (Online) – raised **£250**
- PACT Virtual Charity Ball Raffle – raised **£1,140**
- Ella McIntyre – Haircut and donation to the Princess trust – Raised **£955**
- Charlie Stokes – 100km run during November – Raised **£800**
- Lacey Family (Much loved) – donation In loving memory of Joselyn Gobbett **£867**

#### **Donations were also received from the following organisations:**

- Pitney Bowes – Employment / Volunteer recognition
- TK Max donation
- Paul Wallace Commercial
- Greenbrook Electrical (Harlow)

The Charity express deepest thanks to all those who provided grants and donations this year.



# PACT for Autism

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>						
Investment income	2	10	-	-	10	66
Incoming resources from charitable activities	3	54,025	-	-	54,025	64,424
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>54,035</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>54,035</b>	<b>64,490</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>						
Cost of raising funds	4	735	-	-	735	15,209
Charitable activities	5	42,599	-	36	42,635	53,428
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>43,334</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>43,370</b>	<b>68,637</b>
<b>Net incoming resources before transfers</b>		<b>10,701</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(36)</b>	<b>10,665</b>	<b>(3,147)</b>
<b>Gross transfers between funds</b>		<b>(10,701)</b>	<b>10,701</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net income for the year</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>10,701</b>	<b>(36)</b>	<b>10,665</b>	<b>(3,147)</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward at 1 June 2020</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>33,885</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>34,602</b>	<b>37,749</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward at 31 May 2021</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>44,586</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>45,267</b>	<b>34,602</b>

Notes on pages 17 - 19 form part of these financial statements

# PACT for Autism

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 May 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Assets	10	-	-
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	6	813	848
Cash at bank and in hand		84,129	48,090
		<u>84,943</u>	<u>48,938</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	7	39,676	14,335
<b>Net current assets / (liabilities)</b>		45,267	34,602
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u><u>45,267</u></u>	<u><u>34,602</u></u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Unrestricted Funds:		-	-
Restricted Funds		681	717
Designated Funds	8	44,586	33,885
<b>Total Funds</b>		<u><u>45,267</u></u>	<u><u>34,602</u></u>


For the year ended 31 May 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from 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 Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

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

The directors declare that they have approved the accounts above.

  
Julia Carr (Chair)

Date 17/01/2022

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

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### 1. Accounting policies

#### 1.1 Basis of the preparation of the accounts

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement on 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) (effective 1 January 2019)-(Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

#### Cash flow statement

The directors have taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard 1 (revised) from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the company is small.

#### 1.2 Incoming Resources

Income from donations and grants, including capital grants, is included in incoming resources when these are receivable.

When donors specify that donations and grants, including capital grants are for a particular restricted purpose, this income is included in incoming resources of restricted funds when receivable.

#### 1.3 Resources expended and recognition of liabilities

All expenditure is incurred on an accruals basis. The majority of costs are directly attributable to the specific charitable activities.

Liabilities are recognised on the accruals basis in accordance with normal accounting principles.

#### 1.4 Fund Accounting

Funds held by the Charity are either:

Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated funds - these are funds set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity.

#### 1.5 Taxation Status

The company is a registered charity and is not subject to Corporation tax on its charitable activities.

### 2. Investment income

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Interest receivable	10	-	10	66
	<u>10</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>66</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021**

<b>3. Incoming resources from donations and legacies</b>	<b>Unrestricted Fund</b>	<b>Restricted Fund</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>Total 2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Donations	15,601	-	15,601	12,541
Fundraising	1,961	-	1,961	915
Charity Ball	-	-	-	32,702
Income from Charity Services	200	-	200	3,582
Grants	36,263	-	36,263	15,684
	<b>54,025</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>54,025</b>	<b>65,424</b>
<b>4. Cost of raising funds</b>	<b>Unrestricted Fund</b>	<b>Restricted Fund</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>Total 2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Charity Ball	-	-	-	14,948
Charity promoted events	519	-	519	45
Online giving website service	216	-	216	216
	<b>735</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>15,209</b>
<b>5. Charitable activities</b>	<b>Unrestricted Fund</b>	<b>Restricted Fund</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>Total 2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Charitable activities	3,482	-	3,482	7,533
Insurance	755	-	755	562
Rent and Rates	3,364	-	3,364	3,362
Office expenses	482	-	482	842
IT Costs	432	-	432	1,715
Travel & Subsistence	-	-	-	846
Training	403	36	439	536
Professional Fees	588	-	588	603
Office phone and broadband	749	-	749	652
Finance charges (incl booking tool)	32	-	32	713
Salaries	31,112	-	31,112	31,447
Depreciation	-	-	-	1,739
Office equipment	959	-	959	2,608
Accountancy & Companies House	241	-	241	271
Total	<b>42,599</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>42,635</b>	<b>53,428</b>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021**

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**6. Debtors**

	<b>Total 2021 £</b>	<b>Total 2020 £</b>
Prepayments	813	848
<b>Total</b>	<b>813</b>	<b>848</b>

**7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>Total 2021 £</b>	<b>Total 2020 £</b>
Accruals	478	224
Accrued income (Charity Ball Sponsorship)	-	-
Deferred income (Grants)	39,198	14,111
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,676</b>	<b>14,335</b>

**8. Designated Funds**

The designated funds are represented as below:

	<b>£</b>
Personnel Fund	35,179
Contingency Fund	952
Activities Fund	8,455
<b>Total</b>	<b>44,586</b>

9. None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year

**10. Fixed Assets**

There are no Fixed Assets for the year ending 31 May 2021

**11. Going concern**

The charity is operating on a going concern basis.

**12. Related parties**

There were no related parties within the year.

**13. Key Personal**

During the year total remuneration of £16,640 was paid to key management personnel. The remuneration of key management personnel is decided upon and authorised by the trustees.

## PACT FOR AUTISM

### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

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I report on the accounts of PACT for Autism for the year ended 31 May 2021 which are set out on pages 15 to 19.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (The Act) but that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

#### **Basis of independent examiner's Statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes considerations of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

I 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.

Shelley-Marie Rudling FMAAT AATQB for and on behalf of:  
Community360

Winsley's House, High Street, Colchester, Essex

 Date

20/01/2022