



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

| From | Period start date | | | To | Period end date | | |
|------|-------------------|-----|------|----|-----------------|-----|------|
| | 01 | Sep | 2023 | | 31 | Aug | 2024 |

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name Shrewsbury U3A

Other names charity is known by None

Registered charity number (if any) 1148657

Charity's principal address c/o Dyke Yaxley

1 Brassey Road, Old Potts Way

Shrewsbury Shropshire

Postcode

SY3 7FA

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

| | Trustee name | Office (if any) | Dates acted if not for whole year | Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any) |
|----|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Mike Reece | Chairperson | | |
| 2 | Jonathan Mutch | Past Chair | | |
| 3 | Russell Game | Secretary | Oct 2023 | |
| 4 | Michael Masterson | Treasurer | | |
| 5 | Alwyn Winter | | | |
| 6 | Jenny Masterson | | | |
| 7 | Norman Jones | | | |
| 8 | Jan Dale | | | |
| 9 | Patti Cooke | | | |
| 10 | Don Burgess | | | |
| 11 | Keith Winter | | | |
| 12 | Pat Coulthard-Jones | | | |
| 13 | Ian Tanner | | November 23 | |
| 14 | Alison Ford | | November 23 | |
| 15 | Frank Velander | | November 23 | |
| 16 | | | | |
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

| Name | Dates acted if not for whole year |
|------|-----------------------------------|
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Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

| Type of adviser | Name | Address |
|-----------------|------|---------|
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

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|---|---|
| Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution) | Constitution – revised 18 October 2021 |
| How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company) | Trust |
| Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by) | Officers and other Committee Members are appointed by the membership at the Annual General Meeting in October, following year end August. Trustees may be appointed by the Committee within the year, to fill vacancies and to prepare for taking on a role from a predecessor. |

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

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| <p>The Charity's organisational structure comprises a maximum of 5 Officers (Chair, Vice Chair, Past Chair, Treasurer and Secretary). In addition between 5 and 10 other Committee Members can be appointed. On occasion this might be exceeded to provide a change-over of roles.</p> <p>The charity works with the Third Age Trust, West Midlands U3A Region and Shropshire U3A Network.</p> <p>The Chair, Vice Chair and Past Chair shall have a maximum term of 2 years. The Treasurer and Secretary shall have a maximum term of three years.</p> <p>During the financial year the Executive Committee has approved actions to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Duty of Trustees, and - Expenses Policy <p>Existing policies relating to Data Protection and Privacy of Members data continue.</p> |
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Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The charitable purpose of Shrewsbury U3A is the advancement of education and in particular the education of older people and those who are retired from full-time work, by all means including activities conducive to learning and personal development, in Shrewsbury and its surrounding locality.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by *the Charity Commission on public benefit*)

The charity carries out the following activities in relation to the objects:

- Monthly Meetings in the Walker Theatre, Shrewsbury or other venue as necessary, with an invited Speaker to which all members are invited.
- At the end of the year (December or January), the monthly event takes the form of a Social. This might be U3A members performing music, poetry, readings. Alternatively, an Entertainer or key Speaker may be hired.
- At the year-end there were 1160 members and 114 groups operating within the charity meeting on an at least monthly basis. The groups cover a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities. Members can belong to one Study Group or many more – there is no limit other than their time available.
- In order to better manage the growing number of groups these have been organised into 8 categories, each having a Category Lead.
- A monthly Newsletter is circulated to all members (either electronically or in printed form) giving details of the charity's recent and forthcoming activities.
- A monthly Coffee Afternoon is organised as a drop-in centre for potential new members and a meeting place for existing members.
- A Theatre Group offering coach travel to attend a regional theatre production.
- A Trips Group offering day trips to various historical sites or cities in the UK

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity

The membership of the Shrewsbury u3a was markedly affected by the Covid pandemic. In 2019 membership declined from 1000 to 700. A

Section D

during the year

Achievements and performance

major focus of activity from 2020 on was to recover membership. Membership has recovered to better than earlier peaks, and we have had to strengthen the management of groups.

To achieve this:

- In 2021 and again in 2023 the public brochures were redesigned to better inform interested parties of the activities and groups available, with contact information.
- In 2023 we selected present a special speaker (Iolo Williams) in the main auditorium of Theatre Seven. We shared this with Shropshire Wildlife Trust. The event sold out with 650 tickets. This was in place of the earlier u3a Open Day events.
- While the heat did affect footfall at the flower show, post-event analysis did show strong growth of membership that well re-paid the costs of these events.

The other major activity of the Shrewsbury u3a was to stabilise and enhance management information system: Arda. In 2021 this became unsupported. Through 2021 and into 2022 the Management Committee has rebuilt the support and made enhancements. This continued through 2023

The finances of the Shrewsbury u3a continue to be healthy. Below is an extract of the Treasurers Report to the AGM:

Extract:

The headline income and expenses as reported to the Charity Commission and available to the public are £32,406 and £28,770. However, these numbers include the Groups: Trips, Theatre, Calligraphy and Golf/Croquet. For most of this report I will comment on the accounts of Shrewsbury u3a, with a note on Groups at the end.

So, looking at Shrewsbury u3a (below) it can be seen that the u3a continued in surplus, even though we did budget a deficit as we hoped to complete some enhancements to Arda, our IT management suite.

| u3a | FY 23 24 | FY 22 23 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|
| Income | £19,500 | £17,500 |
| Expenses | £18,000 | £15,300 |
| Surplus / Deficit | £1,500 | £2,200 |

With subscriptions being constant, it is membership that drives the u3a income. This year has seen a continued growth in membership from the decline of the pandemic. Membership is now 1160, from 1050 last year, and well above pre-pandemic membership.

Many expenses are also driven membership, but in this year there has also been more cost inflation than in 22 23. This would account for approximately £1,500 of the £2,700 increase. However, some expenses should be noted:

- Speaker room hire was increased as we had to use Shrewsbury Town Football Club on three occasions: £500.
- We needed to spend £1,000 on equipment, having not spent anything in the previous year. That was un-naturally low.

- IT remediation (Arda enhancement) was £500 lower than in 22 23 as our supplier was not able to complete the work.
- Our publicity spend recovered from the low spend of 22 23: £300.

The reserves of the u3a remain strong: £21,000 excluding groups, equivalent to roughly 10 months of our anticipated spend in the year to come.

Consequently, the Committee is recommending that the Membership Subscription Rate should be unchanged at £15 per member.

Groups: The requirement is that groups must be self-funding. So, income should match or exceed expenses. It can be seen that this is the case.

Mike Masterson, Treasurer.

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Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

In order for the charity to manage the variable timing of income and expenditure, a reserve sum equivalent to 6 months income will be maintained. At the financial year end 2023-2024 the reserves held were nearly the equivalent of one full year.

Even allowing that ongoing enhancement of Arda may cause deficits, we consider that the reserves are strong, and do not anticipate a need to change or lift subscriptions.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

| | | |
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| Signature(s) | | |
| Full name(s) | Mike Masterson | |
| Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc) | Treasurer | |
| Date | 11 Sept, 2024 | |

U3A SHREWSBURY

Receipts and Expenditure for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

| | U3A | Groups | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Receipts: | | | | |
| Subscriptions | 17,601.50 | | 17,601.50 | 15,505.40 |
| PayPal & SumUp Commission | (363.48) | | (363.48) | (307.18) |
| Net Subscriptions | 17,238.02 | | 17,238.02 | 15,198.22 |
| Gift Aid | 1,865.87 | | 1,865.87 | 1,841.73 |
| Newsletter Advertising | 330.00 | | 330.00 | 300.00 |
| Interest | 63.72 | | 63.72 | 128.82 |
| Group Courses - Trips/Theatre/Golf Croquet | | 12,909.20 | 12,909.20 | 9,443.14 |
| | 19,497.61 | 12,909.20 | 32,406.81 | 26,911.91 |
| Payments: | | | | |
| Third Age Trust Membership/Insurance | 4,176.00 | | 4,176.00 | 3,688.00 |
| U3A Magazine mailing | 2,232.28 | | 2,232.28 | 2,119.30 |
| Room Hire - Speakers | 3,678.00 | | 3,678.00 | 2,878.80 |
| Speakers' Fees | 920.00 | | 920.00 | 828.00 |
| Palmers Café | 497.80 | | 497.80 | 494.00 |
| Social | 1,421.25 | | 1,421.25 | 1,404.10 |
| Newsletter, printing (Inc. AGM supplement) | 1,263.00 | | 1,263.00 | 1,174.00 |
| Newsletter Postage | 480.00 | | 480.00 | 238.79 |
| Membership Stationery | 337.27 | | 337.27 | 354.00 |
| IT Remediation & Enhancement | 894.00 | | 894.00 | 1,428.00 |
| IT Support Costs | 178.69 | | 178.69 | 75.04 |
| Equipment | 1,073.78 | | 1,073.78 | 0.00 |
| Committee + Office | 259.40 | | 259.40 | 479.11 |
| Sundry | 236.98 | | 236.98 | 47.00 |
| Publicity - u3a day, Flower Show, print | 342.60 | | 342.60 | 69.96 |
| Group Courses - Trips/Theatre/Golf Croquet | | 10,778.85 | 10,778.85 | 8,428.13 |
| | 17,991.05 | 10,778.85 | 28,769.90 | 23,706.23 |
| Surplus/(deficit) | 1,506.56 | 2,130.35 | 3,636.91 | 3,205.68 |
| Surplus brought forward from previous year | 19,447.78 | 1,804.75 | 21,252.53 | 18,046.85 |
| Surplus carried forward to next year | 20,954.34 | 3,935.10 | 24,889.44 | 21,252.53 |
| Represented By:- | | | | |
| Bank Accounts | | | | |
| Current Account | 14,618.21 | 3,935.10 | 18,553.31 | 15,744.12 |
| Deposit Account - Lloyds | 5,089.51 | | 5,089.51 | 5,025.79 |
| Theatre Group Bal - to u3a | 100.00 | | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| PayPal account | 1,146.62 | | 1,146.62 | 382.62 |
| | 20,954.34 | 3,935.10 | 24,889.44 | 21,252.53 |
| Accrued Income | 0.00 | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Accrued Expenses | 0.00 | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Net assets | 20,954.34 | 3,935.10 | 24,889.44 | 21,252.53 |

Prepared by Mike Masterson, Treasurer



17-Sep-24

Examined and found correct in accordance with account books and receipts
S Tarr, Chartered Accountant

17-Sep-24

Susan J Tarr

Independent examiner's report to the trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Shrewsbury U3A.

I report on the accounts of Shrewsbury U3A for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

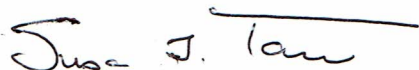
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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 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 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.

Susan Tarr BSc ACA



Date: 16 September 2024