

Company Registered Number: 8002182
Registered Charity Number: 1151055

PASTURES COMMUNITY

A Company Limited by Guarantee

DIRECTORS REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED

27th SEPTEMBER 2023

**PASTURES COMMUNITY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 27th SEPTEMBER 2023**

Company Registration Number: 08002182
Registered Charity Number: 1151055

Registered Office: Pastures Community Centre
Welford Road
Northampton
NN2 8PN

Directors: Julia Snedker
Carolyn Marriott
Robin Marriott

Bankers: Santander
Brindle Road
Bootle
L30 4GB

Independent Examiner: Lorraine Scullion MAAT
17 Peregrine Place
East Hunsbury
Northampton
NN4 0SL

PASTURES COMMUNITY
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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 27th SEPTEMBER 2023

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**Structure, Governance
& Management**

Company limited by guarantee 8002182, governing document articles of association standard format from Community Matters, registered at Companies House and the Charity Commission for England and Wales (1151055)

Directors are appointed and re-elected as directed in the articles of association.

On appointment new Directors and Trustees are advised of their responsibilities, given copies of the articles, processes and procedures, Guidance notes from the Charities Commission and advice notes issued by Advising Communities.

Structure

- 3 Directors/ 2 Trustees: (may be same or different people) who have the final say on all organisational and financial matters;
- General Committee: up to 12 members including local council rep, local councillors (1), regular user groups rep (1), young person's rep. Residents Association rep. (1) and Community Members.

(Voting rights shown in brackets)

Vacancies exist for, local councillors (1), regular user groups rep (1), young person's rep. (1), residents associations rep. (1) and community members (4).

Objectives and Activities

- To promote the benefit of the inhabitants of NN2 and surrounding areas without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, nationality, race or of political, religious or other opinions, 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 for recreation and leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants;

-
- To establish, or secure the establishment of a Community Centre 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 Objects;
 - To promote such other purposes as are charitable according to the laws of England and Wales for the benefit of the public as may from time to time be determined.

The Charity shall be non-party in politics and non-sectarian in religion.

Public Benefit Statement

Statement:

The Covid -19 pandemic, cost of living and energy have an impact on all members of society and placed a considerable strain on those striving to maintain charities and the building they are responsible for and this is will continue for the foreseeable future.

The organisation provides a safe and secure building for a wide variety of clubs and groups. These include Residents Associations, Scout and Guides Groups, English and Maths education, dance groups for young people, Yoga and a pre-school. Slimming and exercise groups. There is no discrimination and we cater for all age groups in the NN2 and surrounding areas of Northampton. Children's parties, family parties, wedding receptions and christenings occupy most weekends.

Achievements and Performance

The challenge this year was to recruit more community representatives to the committee again this has proved difficult and generally unsuccessful. With council services and other charities looking for more volunteers they are becoming even more difficult to attract. There is still reluctance to gather in groups. We have provided a safe centre and facilities as required and remained positive and financially sound.

The centre hosted 93 weekend events and have 18 regular user groups who meet on a weekly or monthly basis.

Fund raising events for Guide Dogs for The Blind and The Samaritans were held at the centre.

The Friendly Games Group and smaller groups at the centre still require financial support to continue and a councillor grant provides a discount on their monthly invoice. We still remain positive and promote the groups in the community.

Enfold which holds a monthly session for adults with autism is well supported.

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The directors/trustees have covered the caretaking duties and management of the centre. During this period a tight control on the gas, electricity and water was maintained and all unnecessary bills e.g. tv licence cancelled. Energy prices remain high. Two- or three-year contracts are preferred to maintain stable prices which allows the hire rates to be calculated and fixed for a longer term.

Contact with West Northants Council has been extremely difficult when requesting meetings regarding improvements and to discuss business rates.

We are still recovering from the effects of Covid. The numbers of people attending the centre are slowly increasing. The second half of the year was challenging as the cost of living and uncertainty over the energy prices reduced peoples spending on parties and weekend events. We introduced a more flexible approach for payment allowing staged payments.

West Northants Council refused our application for the 20% discretionary business rates relief and charged us £576 business rates. The bill came half way through our financial year and as we had received this relief for the last twelve years no budget had been allocated for it resulting in the reduction of proposed projects.

The alarm system was upgraded at a cost of £740.

Bookings come from recommendations, the web site and four local noticeboards which are being renovated at a cost of £900.00. The advertisement in the 'Around Kingsthorpe' magazine has also been worthwhile.

No open days were held for the public and the regular user groups.

The community noticeboards provide contact with the community have proved a success and more local voluntary organisations have posted notices. The noticeboard on the wall of the centre to advertise new groups is well used and all centre user groups have requested space.

Financial Review

Financially the company is in a strong position with a building fund. All excess funds are allocated to the building fund. This fund now stands at over £400k and we look forward to using this to secure further grants.

Generated income varies from month to month depending on school holidays as many groups only operate during term times but are sufficient for the centre to be self-funded and independent. Core user groups have remained steady and regular briefings and updates have maintained contact with them.

Hire fees were reviewed in December 2022 due to the huge increases in the cost of electricity and gas. To avoid deterring people from using the centre only small increases were charged from January 2023 and guaranteed not to increase before April 2024. The councillor grant of £1500 enabled hire charges to remain affordable.

All costs are reviewed on a regular basis.

The fund for building has been maintained. We are still waiting for West Northants council to contact us regarding improvements.

Reserves Policy

It is the intention to ensure sufficient funds are available to cover future commitments to maintain a general reserve of three to six months running costs. All other funds will be for day to day costs and designated to projects.

Risk Policy

Risk is managed by

(A) Loss of income due to the after effects of covid-19, all licences (TV, PRS, advertising and maintenance service contracts) cancelled till further notice, heating and lighting reduced to minimum settings.

(1) All cheques require 2 signatures

(2) Internet banking is used for regular payments, utilities and refundable deposits

(3) Regular user groups and payments for events are encouraged to pay by bacs direct to the bank account thus reducing cash and cheque receipts.

(4) Cash is banked regularly and no money is left at the centre.

(5) The treasurer has full access to the internet bank account with the trustees having 'read only' access to monitor the account.

(6) Insurances cover is maintained for all liabilities.

The company has no debts. It has a policy of not taking out loans.

Plans for the Future

We remain in contact with all our user groups by email and personal visits. We provide help and support where necessary.

Further design work has been carried out for a new hall, improvements to the existing building and park prior to consultation with the resident's association and parish council. Permission has been granted by West Northants Council to place trees and benches on the park to commemorate the platinum jubilee, the passing of Queen Elizabeth II and Charles III

acceding to the throne. This has been delayed due to having to pay business rates.

Aims

To provide a building and surrounding park suitable for a wide variety of clubs, groups and local events, at affordable prices, to all sections of the community.

Main Objectives 2023-2024

Maintain the building and advance plans for increasing the facilities of the building and improve facilities on the park.

Provision of Solar panels and heat pumps to make the centre ecological friendly.

Establish more hobby-based clubs. Maintain the financial stability of the centre.

Schedule of events will be issued following the AGM and first management meeting.

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Company special provision

The Report of the Directors has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Company law requires the members of the Board of Directors to prepare financial statement for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the income and expenditure of the Company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the members of the Board are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make adjustments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue its activities.

The Members of the Board are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They have a general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Signed by the directors/trustees at the meeting 7th November 2023

Julia Snedker

Director



Robin Marriott

Director



Registered Charity Number: 1151055

I report on the accounts of the Company for the year ended 27th September 2023 which are set out on the attached pages 9 to 16

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act:
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.


Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures of 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the requirements:
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities.have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


Lorraine Scullion MAAT
16th November 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 27th SEPTEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted 2022 £	Restricted 2022 £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies		18,185	-	18,185	816	-
Charitable activities	1	37,429	-	37,429	50,806	1,740
Investments		492	-	492	35	-
Other		-	-	-	-	-
Total Income and endowments		56,106	-	56,106	51,657	1,740
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		-	-	-	-	-
Charitable Activities	2	17,524	-	17,524	11,069	241
Other		-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditure		17,524	-	17,524	11,069	241
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	1,499	(1,499)
Net movement in funds		38,582	-	38,582	40,588	1,499
Total funds brought forward		373,321	-	373,321	331,234	-
Total funds carried forward		411,903	-	411,903	373,321	-

All the activities of the charitable company are classed as continuing.

There are no recognised gains or losses other than those included in the Statement of

Financial Activities shown above

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AT 27th SEPTEMBER 2023

Company Number: 08002182

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
				2023	2022
		£	£	£	£
ASSETS:					
Fixed Assets		-	-	-	-
Current Assets					
Debtors	4	1,531	-	1,531	833
Cash at Bank		410,822	-	410,822	372,963
		412,353	-	412,353	373,796
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	5	(450)	-	(450)	(475)
		(450)	-	(450)	(475)
Net Current Assets		411,903	-	411,903	373,321
NET ASSETS		411,903	-	411,903	373,321

FUNDS		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
				2023	2022
		£	£	£	£
Unrestricted					
General Reserve	6	10,884	-	10,884	46,905
Designated	7	401,019	-	401,019	326,416
		411,903	-	411,903	373,321
Restricted	8	-	-	-	-
		411,903	-	411,903	373,321

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION - CONTINUED**AT 27th SEPTEMBER 2023**

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 27th September 2023

The member have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 27th September 2023 In accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable 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 charitable company.

These financial statements have ben prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to charitable small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 7th November 2023 and signed on their behalf



Robin Marriott

Director

Julia Snedker

Director



The notes on page 12 to 16 form part of these financial statements

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 27th SEPTEMBER 2023

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) (102), 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in January 2015, applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

The principal accounting policies of the charity are set out below.

Format

The company has taken advantage of the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 and presented an income and expenditure account in the form of a Statement of Financial Activities on the grounds that it enables the financial statements to show a true and fair view of the result for the year.

Fixed Assets

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of all tangible fixed assets by instalments over the expected useful lives.

Stocks

Any stocks of cleaning materials and stationery held are valued at cost.

Incoming Resources

Income is brought into account on a receivable basis.

Investment Income

Interest is brought into account on a receivable basis.

Gifts in Kind and Donated Services and Facilities

Gifts in kind, donated facilities and voluntary help, are not included in the financial statements since it is not considered practical to quantify such income.

Resources Expended

Expenditure is stated inclusive of value added tax, and brought into account in the year in which it is due.

Designated Funds

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

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Reserves

The current reserve policy is to maintain sufficient cash flow for known commitments, and the replacement of certain assets.

Risk

The Directors/Board of Trustees do not believe the organisation is subject to any substantial risk beyond those disclosed in the Annual Report and Accounts.
The organisation has insurance to protect it in the case of a claim.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Note 1 Charitable Activities				
Grant - Counsellor Fund	1,500	-	1,500	-
Grant - West Northamptonshire Council	-	-	-	19,407
Birch Hall Hire	21,883	-	21,883	20,389
Birch Hall Deposit	2,395	-	2,395	2,467
Highfield Room Hire	10,495	-	10,495	9,773
Highfield Room Deposit	972	-	972	510
Other	184	-	184	-
	37,429	-	37,429	52,546

Note 2 Charitable Activities				
Telephone	1,037	-	1,037	859
Equipment - incl IT	4,108	-	4,108	523
Licenses	324	-	324	348
Stationery/Postage	8	-	8	28
Advertising	600	-	600	760
Refundable Deposits	2,328	-	2,328	1,801
Other Expenditure	279	-	279	467
Premises Costs				
Cleaning	1,017	-	1,017	706
Insurance	684	-	684	652
Utilities	3,739	-	3,739	2,772
Water Rates	428	-	428	353
Rent/Rates	485	-	485	240
Repairs & Renewals	1,737	-	1,737	1,153
Governance Costs				
Independent Examination	349	-	349	338
Trustee Expenses	401	-	401	310
	17,524	-	17,524	11,310

Note 3 There are no employees at present
During the year the trustees received £nil (2022:£nil) remuneration .
The total expenditure reimbursed to the trustees amounted to £401 (2022:£310)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Note 4 Debtors				
Sundry Debtors	295	-	295	378
Pre-Paid Debtors	1,236	-	1,236	455
	1,531	-	1,531	833

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Note 5 Creditors				
Amounts falling due in one year.	-	-	-	-
Accruals	(450)	-	(450)	(475)
	(450)	-	(450)	(475)

Note 6 Unrestricted Reserves	Opening balance 28.09.22	Movement In	Movement Out	Transfer between funds	Closing Balance 27.09.23
General Reserve	41,905	56,106	(17,524)	(74,603)	5,884
Operating Reserve	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
	46,905	56,106	(17,524)	(74,603)	10,884

Comparative:

Unrestricted Reserves	Opening balance 28.09.21	Movement In	Movement Out	Transfer between funds	Closing Balance 27.09.22
General Reserve	41,905	51,657	(11,069)	(40,588)	41,905
Operating Reserve	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
	46,905	51,657	(11,069)	(40,588)	46,905

Note 7 Designated Funds	Opening balance 28.09.22	Movement In	Movement Out	Transfer between funds	Closing Balance 27.09.23
Building Refurbishment provision	326,416	-	-	74,603	401,019
	326,416	-	-	74,603	401,019

Comparative:

Designated Funds	Opening balance 28.09.21	Movement In	Movement Out	Transfer between funds	Closing Balance 27.09.22
Building Refurbishment provision	284,329	-	-	42,087	326,416
	284,329	-	-	42,087	326,416

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Note 8 Restricted Funds

There are no Restricted Funds in 2023

Comparative:

Restricted Funds	Opening balance 28.09.21	Movement In	Movement Out	Transfer between funds	Closing Balance 27.09.22
WNC - Pastures Community	-	1,740	(241)	(1,499)	-
Social	-	1,740	(241)	(1,499)	-

WNC - Pastures Community Social - To support new social section by covering room hire, advertising and equipment.

Note 9 Ultimate Controlling Party

The company is under the ultimate control of its directors, and whose names are shown at the front of the financial statements.