



www.pitshanger.org.uk

registered charity number 1151457

Our vision is to make the Pitshanger area a better place to live and work in by:

- **Presenting members' interests and concerns to the appropriate authorities**
- **Keeping members informed of matters that might affect their enjoyment of the area**
- **Supporting community cohesion and diversity through social and cultural events**
- **Giving back to the community through charitable donations**

POSITIVE COMMUNITY ACTION

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024

Our charity objects are:

- to promote for the benefit of the public who live and work in the Pitshanger area of Ealing and surrounding areas, the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants; and
- such charitable purposes for the public benefit as are exclusively charitable according to the laws of England and Wales as the trustees may from time to time determine.

Executive Committee

The executive committee devote our resources so that we can our objects by:

- planning and running events which enable the community, local community groups and small businesses to come together for the best interest of the Pitshanger community;
- improving the way, we communicate with;
- getting people to join as members and as volunteers on our committee and events team; and
- support the local community and individuals in our community.

We are very grateful for all the hard work of our events team which organises our two big events in 2023 and to our “director of tea urns”, Lynda Pullman, and her team of volunteers who run our Monday Tea Club for older residents and to Tina Moonen for running successful PCA street wars quizzes.

The executive committee for this period was:

Debbie Edwards	(chair)
Belinda Harrison	(secretary)
Grainne Taylor	(treasurer)
Will Blake	
Ray Harris	(membership secretary)
Natasha Rawley	
Tim Sumpter	
Annette Walsham	

Kelvin Walker is our independent examiner.

Finance: the accounts for 2023-24 are attached. Our financial year runs from 1 April to 31 March. In 2023-24, we received £68,280 income and spent £68,438. As at 28th January 2025, we currently have some £32,800 in the bank, a smaller amount at this time than in previous years thanks to running a successful discretionary grants scheme and also paying for the first year of the new set of Christmas lights in Pitshanger Lane. We have a reserve policy of holding £15,000 to cover partial of costs of our major events in the event of adverse weather however, if we continue to run events on a smaller scale, we can reduce this. We will reserve a further £10,000 to fund the second year of our new lights.

Membership: we currently

- have some 350 households and some 650 residents as current members and some 50 Pitshanger businesses;
- Membership runs from 1 July – members can pay by BACs transfer, cheques or on-line;
- As a charity we are members of the Kew Gardens Community Access scheme – which gets us up to 120 free entries for our PCA members. In addition, Kew Gardens gave us 20 complimentary tickets to its Christmas Displays in 2023 and 2024.
- Members also get copies of our newsletter

Events: we ran Party in the Park and Light Up the Lane in June 2023 and November 2023 respectively. Both were very popular and well attended, with Party in the Park earning a good surplus but Light Up the Lane ran at a loss,

thanks to less crowd-funding than before. Moreover, the run-up to Party in the Park was frankly very arduous for us. We had to go through two processes this year – firstly meeting the Ealing Council’s requirements for us to hire Pitshanger Park and in parallel applying for a premise license for the event. Both processes proved particularly arduous, with us getting through these increasing number of hoops shortly before the date of the event. Doing all this proved very stressful for all volunteers trying to fit the process into our professional and personal lives.

Each of these events attract up to 5000 attendees. The planning and work that goes into organising these events is enormous and is done by a small handful of volunteers who get increasing responsibility placed on them each year thanks to the requirements of Ealing Council licensing requirements. Therefore, in summer 2023, the executive committee agreed that we would take a sabbatical in 2024 from running our two main events. Although the aim was to bring them back in 2025, it was only with the hope that we could do so with some fresh blood and more community involvement.

Instead we ran Party in the Pub and Light Up the Pub in June 2024 and November 2024 respectively in collaboration with the Duke of Kent, Scotch Common. Both were family events and very much enjoyed and overall generated surpluses that were close to our surpluses on Party in the Park. The success of these (both in terms of feedback and also financials) and also availability of key volunteers in the first half of this year has led us to the decision to run another Party in the Pub in June 2025. We are also looking to see how we can reduce scale of Light Up the Lane for November 2025.

In addition, we hold another **PCA Street Wars** – the event works by each table representing a road in the area, bringing neighbours together to compete for the “brainiest road” of the year. This was very popular, and generated a surplus that helps finance our Tea Club for senior people and also the new lights.

We run a **Monday Tea Club**, thanks to the support of Pitshanger Methodist Church – some 20-25 senior locals meet up for sandwiches, cake and copious cups of tea. Sometimes, we offer up a quiz, are entertained by Questors Theatre Reminiscence Roadshow and local musicians. But on many weeks, those coming are just enjoying being with friends and simply like to chat and catch up. They pay towards the costs but the PCA is more than content to subsidise the Monday Club because we think it helps to bring a group in the community together and combat loneliness and isolation. In addition, we ran an annual Christmas party open to all elderly residents over 75 – some 60 people attended.

New Lights were installed in winter 2023. We’re not aware of other Christmas lights in Ealing being installed thanks to funding by a community association. Our previous schemes had been supported by funding from the Council but for the past two years, we have funded the lights ourselves through the surpluses built from our events and thanks to donations and support from the community. In 2023, the original proposals were good, but the installation was fraught with difficulties. On the day the Lights were switched as part of Light Up the Lane, of the 15 trees with lights, 10 actually worked and others subsequently failed. The installers attended to try and fix the situation many times but sadly, in doing so the scheme lost its coherence, and several lights still didn’t work. In January 2024, we wrote to the firm and asked for our deposit back and the lights to be removed. Our letter carefully set out all our concerns, a timeline of all the activity, the outputs and why we were concerned about the implementation. We explained that we felt they had exposed us to a considerable reputational risk as well as a financial one. To its credit, the company concerned agreed, repaid us all that we had paid within hours of the receipt of our letter and removed the lights in early 2024. We have since had lights installed in November 2024 by a very experienced company who provided a lovely design and 100% success.

Grants – we were delighted to award grants to the following local organisation:

- Pitshanger Playcentre: £1600 to support their arts and crafts, music classes and funding of a new initiative to encourage love of music.
- Ealing Choral Society: £1775 to help organise a come and sing event attracting younger singers and setting up a free ticket scheme – both are designed to increase the diversity of the choral society’s members and audience.
- Ealing Trailfinders Foundation and Community Department: £2000 to enable them to run a weekly mentoring breakfast club supporting the students at Ada Lovelace High School.
- Ealing Symphony Orchestra: £2000 to help with a highly ambitious project for its 2024/2025 season, a joint venture with Ealing Music Service to organise a performance involving a choir of more than 1,000

schoolchildren from across the borough of Ealing to perform at the Royal Albert Hall on Tuesday 25th June 2025.

- Ealing Transition Initiative: £450 to help cover its public liability insurance and basic publicity so it can continue to run and promote its events, giving the breathing space to facilitate and promote community-led activities.
- The Grove Community: £2000 to enhance storage capabilities at the Community Centre. As the scope of its activities expands, the need for efficient storage solutions has become critical and as some free storage was no longer available.
- St Gregory's PTA: £2000 to enhance the school's capabilities by providing one outdoor library station for each key stage and three outdoor water tray group play stations for early years classrooms. The PTA can now purchase two Cosy reading sheds, one outdoor library box and three group play trays with covers.
- Ealing Wildlife Group: £2000 enabling them to pay for the experts who lead the public tours around the beaver site. They have lots of community groups interested but simply don't have enough people with sufficient expertise to lead the groups for free. The grant would allow them to some corporate tours of the Beaver Project to generate future funding as well as running community tours.

We also supported "Team Amara", a group of local children running the Ealing Half Marathon's mini mile. The team raised over £6000 for Child Bereavement UK in memory of Amara Arora.

Planning: we were invited to be on the Gurnell Sounding Board in 2023, ie a group brought together by Ealing Council to consider the redevelopment of the Gurnell Leisure. Although the PCA fully supported the provision of a new leisure centre, we were concerned by the argument that the project could only go ahead if it were supported by the development of some 300 residences on Metropolitan Open Land, the equivalent of green belt. Several hundreds of people commented in a similar vein on the planning application but the Council has nevertheless decided to go ahead with a new leisure centre funded by development.

Prepared and presented by the PCA Executive Committee
28th January 2025
Signed on behalf of the committee by Debbie Edwards



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Pitshanger Community Association

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1151457

Set out on pages

1 and 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended ~~31/03/2024~~

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

K Walker

Date:

29th January 2025

Name:

KELVIN WALKER

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCCA
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Address:

5 Pendlewood Close

London

W5 1UB

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

PITSHANGER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

1151457

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/04/2023		31/03/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Fundraising income	58,746	-	-	58,746	57,197
Members' Subscription	6,039	-	-	6,039	7,409
Gift Aid	1,340	-	-	1,340	1,374
Tea Club	1,945	-	-	1,945	1,416
Donations	210	-	-	210	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	68,280	-	-	68,280	67,396
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	68,280	-	-	68,280	67,396
A3 Payments					
Fundraising Expenditure	60,936	-	-	60,936	48,920
Grants	500	-	-	500	950
Printing, postage, stationery and computer	1,634	-	-	1,634	947
Insurance	976	-	-	976	1,941
General expenditure	267	-	-	267	503
Tea Club	4,125	-	-	4,125	4,344
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	68,438	-	-	68,438	57,605
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	68,438	-	-	68,438	57,605
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 158	-	-	- 158	9,791
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	52,876	-	-	52,876	-
Cash funds this year end	52,718	-	-	52,718	9,791

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Co-Op Bank	51,875	-	-
	Pay Pal	843	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	52,718	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		DEBORAH EDWARDS		