

PHOENIX COMMUNITY & YOUTH PROJECT

England & Wales · Charity number 1152481

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [07898625](#)

Registered 2013-06-18

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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The Shakespeare Centre
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Activities

Objects: THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT SET OUT IN OUR MEMORANDUM OF ARTICLES ARE: TO ACT AS A RESOURCE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE UP TO THE AGE OF 25, PROVIDING SUPPORT, ASSISTANCE AND ORGANISING PROGRAMMES OF PHYSICAL, EDUCATIONAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES AS A MEANS OF: ADVANCING LIFE AND HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE BY DEVELOPING CAPACITIES AND SKILLS, CAPABILITIES TO ENABLE THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN SOCIETY AS INDEPENDENT, MATURE AND RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUALS. ADVANCING EDUCATION. RELIEVING UNEMPLOYMENT. PROVIDING RECREATIONAL AND LEISURE TIME ACTIVITY IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR ALL PEOPLE LIVING IN THE AREA, REGARDLESS OF THEIR AGE, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER, RACE, DISABILITY OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES.

Activities: To provide support, programmes of Physical, Educational activities as a means of: Advancing life, helping young people by developing capacities, skills, capabilities, enable them to participate in society. Advancing Education. Relieving Unemployment. Providing activities for those living in the area, regardless of their age, sexual orientation, gender, race, disability or economic circumstances.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Disability, Economic/community Development/employment, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Sefton

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-01-31	£138,866	£134,475	-	-
2024-01-31	£126,331	£132,286	-	-
2023-01-31	£124,607	£137,913	-	-
2022-01-31	£140,952	£157,390	-	-
2021-01-31	£153,700	£123,760	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Nicola Williams	Chair	2015-03-16
Stephen Moore		2026-03-16
TRACEY FIDDLER		2013-05-20

PHOENIX COMMUNITY & YOUTH PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1152481

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07898625 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1152481

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 January 2025
for
Phoenix Community & Youth Project

V & R Accountancy Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

Phoenix Community & Youth Project

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for the Year Ended 31 January 2025

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Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2025

This is the thirteenth Annual Report of Phoenix Community & Youth Project, more commonly known as The Phoenix Project. Since its inception on January 5th 2012, the Company has been registered as a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee and, in 2013, became a registered charity, No. 1152481.

The Phoenix Project was established due to the Government's austerity measures, which resulted in Sefton Council having to make savings of £44 Million in the financial year 2011/12 and further savings in every year since.

The Phoenix Project is now well-established within the North Sefton area, where it is based, and is regularly contacted by schools, colleges, Career Connect, children's homes, voluntary organisations and different departments within Sefton Council, including Social Care; Virtual School; the Early Intervention Project; Aiming High; and the Youth Offending Service to make referrals to us and to seek our expertise in a variety of areas.

We are also becoming better known across the rest of the Sefton Metropolitan area and hope to exploit opportunities for the Phoenix Project to expand specific aspects of its work further afield over the coming years, particularly the delivery of the Government's Youth Trailblazer Programme and other Government replacement ESF funded projects.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The aims and objectives of the Project, set out in our Memorandum of Articles, are:

1. to act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25, providing support, assistance and organising programmes of physical, educational and other activities as a means of advancing life;
2. helping young people by developing capacities, skills, and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature, and responsible individuals;
3. advancing education and relieving unemployment;
4. providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for all people living in the area, regardless of their age, sexual orientation, gender, race, disability or social and economic circumstances.

We are now into our second year at 127 Eastbank Street, which we share with Pathways 2 Phoenix, a Community Interest Company (CIC) that does very similar work to Phoenix. Our lease ended in August 2025 and we are currently in negotiation for an extension to the lease, as well as exploring other potential premises in case we don't get an extension.

The move has helped with attracting young people from across all the wards of Southport, as well as young people travelling from Birkdale, Ainsdale, Formby, and even as far as Ormskirk, to use our service.

Kew Ward, where we are based, has eight Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA's), five of which are in the lowest 30% nationally. Dukes Ward has two LSOA's within the lowest 10% nationally and Cambridge Ward has one LSOA in the lowest 20% of the Government's Multiple Index of Deprivation. All three of our main wards covered have a higher than national average Teenage Conception rate, based on current market research and community profiling.

We continue to focus more on the needs of young people and the community as a whole identified through community profiling and through our referral partners, whilst keeping abreast of regional and national trends and approaches helping us to keep relevant and innovative.

Public benefit

The trustees are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in The Advancement of Education for the Public Benefit and have had regard to it in the administration of the Project.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2025

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Phoenix has gone from strength to strength during the past twelve months; we have continued to deliver on the Government initiative called Multiply; our funding has come from the Liverpool City Region, through WEA and Sefton Council.

Multiply is about reintroducing people to maths and can be for employed or unemployed local residents who don't currently have a Level 2 qualification. This funding is allowing us to expand into online support across the whole Liverpool City Region.

There is a continually growing need in the area for supporting young people and wider community members who are either Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) or pre- NEET. We secured short-term funding for The Progress Partnership (TPP) from the Liverpool City Region through a grant from the VOLA Consortium.

We have since secured funding for another year for TPP and we hope to get a third year next April as we envisage that this is still an area of development and growth for the project long-term.

There are no other organisations in the area offering this service. We continue to work even more collaboratively with Pathways 2 Phoenix. We continue to share building costs and administrative costs, such as qualification membership, as well as sharing skills and staffing in order for both organisations to be able to offer a wider range of options for young people and to secure funding that neither organisation would be able to secure without the support of the other. Our disability projects have continued to increase membership, and we have continued to offer an excellent service to the young people, which has been made possible through the funding we have received to develop it.

Fundraising Activities

Once again, we have had great success in our fundraising efforts during the year, most of which has come in order to help deliver projects based on need, now that we have moved away from chasing funding, which we originally did in order to get the Project established and recognised in the field. However, as predicted seven years ago, it has become increasingly difficult with many more bids being written due to the high number of rejections being received, so we have done exceptionally well to raise as much as we have.

We once again reviewed our fundraising successes and failures at a trustees' meeting and we identified that nothing had changed from the previous year; we were still being successful with some funding bids but we were actually being turned down by more funders than we were securing funding from.

Once again, our investigation as to why this was happening came to the conclusion that we were still writing really good quality bids but found that we had much more competition than in previous years due to deepening cuts to Local Authority funding, meaning that many more VCF organisations have been set up, chasing increasingly less funding available.

We decided, once again, to review our three-year funding strategy to reflect this downturn in available grant fund; to bring forward other funding opportunities; and to explore new avenues and funding streams. This also meant revisiting our Organisational Development Plan as they are both intrinsically linked to each other in terms of successfully achieving our development plan, depending largely on securing the funding identified.

It is extremely important for us to get the balance right between securing the restricted funds needed to meet the identified needs of the community, and unrestricted free reserves that will ensure that we can be flexible to respond to an immediate need or to contribute towards core costs that are difficult to secure through funding bids.

We have increased the amount of unrestricted funding this year, more than any other year, and hope that this will continue in the future. We need to be able to secure enough reserves in order to be able to manage for a period of three months in the ever more likely event of having problems in securing funding although, as we have different end dates for different funders, it is very unlikely that all our funding for salaries will have ended all at the same time as we will have found further funding for key posts.

Our membership of the VOLA Consortium continues to be worthwhile as it is likely VOLA will secure Government or Liverpool City Region funding which we will be able to apply for as part of the partnership.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Project Manager's report

I can't believe that I am writing my Project Manager's report for the thirteenth annual report. My, how time flies and what a very difficult and challenging year it's been!

We had no direct Government funding for our NEET Project and have had to secure grant funding from charitable organisations and from Sefton Council's Higher Needs Funding programme for those students with additional support needs and funding for The Progress Partnership.

During the last twelve months one of our disability workers left and our apprentice completed and took up a permanent post with Pathways 2 Phoenix. Staffing on our NEET project has stayed consistent throughout the first half of the year, which has had a positive impact on the young people with some great results in terms securing employment and Further Education.

We decided, during the year, that we could no longer meet the needs of the increasing number of young people with Education and Health Care Plans (EHCP) and passed this work onto a national company called SWRAC. We transferred one of our staff members over to SWRAC as part of the process in order to give him job security.

I have continued to have the opportunity of working with a great group of committed trustees. I have also worked with many other people who have given me some wonderful support and advice along the way, most notably the VOLA team and fundraising experts at Sefton CVS, who have always been on the end of the phone, emails and support meetings. The wider CVS team and I have also continued to have great support from all the staff at the Community Foundation for Merseyside.

The Project produced impressive outcomes through our Personal Development and Employability Project which operated over five days per week for young people who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET), aged 15-24. We have also continued our contract with Meols Cop High School to educate pupils at risk of exclusion.

The trustees have made the difficult decision to end the Pre-16 support as Government Alternative Education guidelines changed; for us to continue this work we would have needed to become an Independent School which, for a variety of reasons, would be very difficult to achieve, the biggest issue being the premises. We have also stopped providing alternative education for our personal and social development disability projects for young people aged 13-19 and our 19+ disability project due to the freelance staff leaving for personal issues.

We have secured funding from the following charitable organisations: Liverpool One Community Foundation, WEA, VOLA Consortium as well as Sefton Council Higher Needs Funding.

As predicted in last year's report, it has continued to be difficult to raise funds this year, with more applications being declined than in previous years. This is not just a problem for us since it is a wider issue of the difficulties being faced by all VCF organisations with an increasing number of organisations chasing a decreasing amount of funding. We are continuing being offered less money than we ask for, and have to secure further funding to either continue the Project or to reduce the length of the Project.

We did, however, continue our two year funded project to employ a Mental Health First Aid Support Worker. We were lucky enough to continue to link- in with Enlighten With Care, a counselling organisation who have continued to work with us on the Project and to develop further. They also have counselling students, and so we were able to offer four days a week to our students instead of two.

2025/2026 and future years will continue in a similar vein as there doesn't seem to be any likelihood of an end to austerity measures and, therefore, more and more VCF organisations will continue to chase an ever decreasing amount of funding.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2025

FUTURE PLANS

At the start of the new financial year, we had the opportunity to sit down with the trustees, young people and other service users to look at what we achieved during 2024/25; what we wanted to achieve as an organisation during 2025/26 and beyond; put them into a plan; and set about achieving them.

During 2024/25, we continued to take a balanced approach to what was needed in order to meet the organisational development plan for the year, continuing with a targeted approach to our fundraising and continuing to identify community needs and wants through our comprehensive Community Profile and Youth Forum.

With all this in mind, we once again revisited the business plan, financial predictions and our aims and objectives to ensure they were working documents that were fit for purpose, which they were.

Our aims and objectives of the Project, set out in our Memorandum of Articles, remained unchanged and are:

1. to act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25, providing support, assistance and organising programmes of physical, educational and other activities as a means of advancing life;
2. helping young people by developing capacities and skills, capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals;
3. advancing education;
4. relieving unemployment;
5. providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for all people living in the area, regardless of their age, sexual orientation, gender, race, disability or social and economic circumstances.

We agreed that these aims and objectives were still fit for purpose, based on our priorities for the future, with the last paragraph sufficient to encompass potential expansion into working with the wider community, in particular older people and Eastern European families as both these groups have an extremely high representation in Southport.

Our meetings and consultations with the service users, staff, and the trustees identified the need to achieve the following in order to give us stability and growth:

1. redevelop our three and five year development plan;
2. redevelop our three-year fundraising plan for sustainability purposes;
3. explore further provision for older members of the community;
4. recruit and train volunteers to alleviate reliance on funding staff salaries;
5. continue to secure real life training opportunities for the NEET young people, making them more employable;
6. continue to explore other sources of funding such as sponsorship from local businesses.

It was agreed that we still needed two development plans and that both needed revisiting. The first, for three years, takes into account the Eastbank Street building and whether this building would continue to meet our project needs. The second, a more flexible five-year plan was to include any new ventures.

All in all, we haven't achieved much identified in the Project Development Plan this year, but hope to make huge steps next year.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Decision making

We have held regular trustee meetings during the year and a General Meeting was held for members of the community who might have a vested interest in the project on 9th January 2025, during which members were elected into roles.

Chair: Nicola Williams

Treasurer: Alan McShane (resigned 17 July 2025)

Secretary: Tracey Fiddler

Others: Emma Lynch, Michael Kenworthy

The trustees reflect the local business/population and each of them gives up their time for the same reason, which is to provide an excellent youth and community provision in the area. The trustees meet bi-monthly; however the Chair and Treasurer meet more regularly with the Project Manager in order to support the fundraising to ensure the success of the Project.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07898625 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1152481

Registered office

Unit 5, Shakespeare Centre

Shakespeare Street

Southport

Merseyside

PR8 5AB

Trustees

Ms N J Williams

Ms T Fiddler

Ms E L Lynch

M Kenworthy

Independent Examiner

V & R Accountancy Services Limited

Chartered Certified Accountants

Cropton House

Three Tuns Lane

Formby

Merseyside

L37 4AQ

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Phoenix Community & Youth Project for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2025

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company 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 charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 23 October 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Ms E L Lynch - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Phoenix Community & Youth Project ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 January 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

G J Rummens FCCA

V & R Accountancy Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

23 October 2025

Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 January 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.1.25 Total funds £	31.1.24 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	175	-	175	59
Charitable activities					
Youth Project		<u>63,646</u>	<u>75,045</u>	<u>138,691</u>	<u>126,272</u>
Total		<u>63,821</u>	<u>75,045</u>	<u>138,866</u>	<u>126,331</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	3				
Youth Project		<u>61,534</u>	<u>72,941</u>	<u>134,475</u>	<u>132,286</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		2,287	2,104	4,391	(5,955)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		4,363	3,563	7,926	13,881
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>6,650</u>	<u>5,667</u>	<u>12,317</u>	<u>7,926</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 January 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.1.25 Total funds £	31.1.24 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		8,863	5,667	14,530	10,124
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(2,213)	-	(2,213)	(2,198)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>6,650</u>	<u>5,667</u>	<u>12,317</u>	<u>7,926</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		6,650	5,667	12,317	7,926
NET ASSETS FUNDS	9	<u>6,650</u>	<u>5,667</u>	<u>12,317</u>	<u>7,926</u>
Unrestricted funds				6,650	4,363
Restricted funds				<u>5,667</u>	<u>3,563</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>12,317</u>	<u>7,926</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 January 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 January 2025 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 been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 23 October 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

E L Lynch - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computer equipment - Straight line over 4 years

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 January 2025

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.1.25	31.1.24
	£	£
Donations and fundraising	<u>175</u>	<u>59</u>

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Youth Project	<u>133,555</u>	<u>920</u>	<u>134,475</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 January 2025 nor for the year ended 31 January 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 January 2025 nor for the year ended 31 January 2024.

5. STAFF COSTS

	31.1.25	31.1.24
	£	£
Wages and salaries	80,736	82,709
Other pension costs	<u>1,263</u>	<u>1,221</u>
	<u>81,999</u>	<u>83,930</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.1.25	31.1.24
Project staff	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	59	-	59
Charitable activities			
Youth Project	<u>53,232</u>	<u>73,040</u>	<u>126,272</u>
Total	<u>53,291</u>	<u>73,040</u>	<u>126,331</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Youth Project	<u>59,574</u>	<u>72,712</u>	<u>132,286</u>

6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(6,283)	328	(5,955)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	10,646	3,235	13,881
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>4,363</u>	<u>3,563</u>	<u>7,926</u>

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**COST**

At 1 February 2024 and 31 January 2025

DEPRECIATION

At 1 February 2024 and 31 January 2025

NET BOOK VALUE

At 31 January 2025

At 31 January 2024

Computer
equipment
£1,0801,080--**8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.1.25 £	31.1.24 £
Social security and other taxes	1,373	1,478
Accruals and deferred income	<u>840</u>	<u>720</u>
	<u>2,213</u>	<u>2,198</u>

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.2.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.1.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	4,363	2,287	6,650
Restricted funds			
VOLA Consortium	-	5,667	5,667
LCR Cares - Digital Inclusion Fund	<u>3,563</u>	<u>(3,563)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>3,563</u>	<u>2,104</u>	<u>5,667</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>7,926</u>	<u>4,391</u>	<u>12,317</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 January 2025

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	63,821	(61,534)	2,287
Restricted funds			
Liverpool One	15,000	(15,000)	-
VOLA Consortium	32,795	(27,128)	5,667
The Workers' Educational Association	18,575	(18,575)	-
LCR Cares - Digital Inclusion Fund	-	(3,563)	(3,563)
Sefton Council - Multiply	8,675	(8,675)	-
	<u>75,045</u>	<u>(72,941)</u>	<u>2,104</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>138,866</u>	<u>(134,475)</u>	<u>4,391</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.2.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.1.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	10,646	(6,283)	4,363
Restricted funds			
BBC Children In Need	3,235	(3,235)	-
LCR Cares - Digital Inclusion Fund	-	3,563	3,563
	<u>3,235</u>	<u>328</u>	<u>3,563</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>13,881</u>	<u>(5,955)</u>	<u>7,926</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 January 2025

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	53,291	(59,574)	(6,283)
Restricted funds			
P H Holt Foundation	10,000	(10,000)	-
Liverpool One	15,000	(15,000)	-
The Workers' Educational Association	22,133	(22,133)	-
John Moores Foundation	5,000	(5,000)	-
BBC Children In Need	-	(3,235)	(3,235)
Blue Sky Foundation	5,000	(5,000)	-
LCR Cares - Digital Inclusion Fund	7,948	(4,385)	3,563
Sefton Council - Multiply	7,959	(7,959)	-
	<u>73,040</u>	<u>(72,712)</u>	<u>328</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>126,331</u>	<u>(132,286)</u>	<u>(5,955)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.2.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.1.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	10,646	(3,996)	6,650
Restricted funds			
VOLA Consortium	-	5,667	5,667
BBC Children In Need	3,235	(3,235)	-
	<u>3,235</u>	<u>2,432</u>	<u>5,667</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>13,881</u>	<u>(1,564)</u>	<u>12,317</u>

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	117,112	(121,108)	(3,996)
Restricted funds			
P H Holt Foundation	10,000	(10,000)	-
Liverpool One	30,000	(30,000)	-
VOLA Consortium	32,795	(27,128)	5,667
The Workers' Educational Association	40,708	(40,708)	-
John Moores Foundation	5,000	(5,000)	-
BBC Children In Need	-	(3,235)	(3,235)
Blue Sky Foundation	5,000	(5,000)	-
LCR Cares - Digital Inclusion Fund	7,948	(7,948)	-
Sefton Council - Multiply	16,634	(16,634)	-
	<u>148,085</u>	<u>(145,653)</u>	<u>2,432</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>265,197</u>	<u>(266,761)</u>	<u>(1,564)</u>

10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 January 2025.

This document was delivered using electronic communications and authenticated in accordance with the registrar's rules relating to electronic form, authentication and manner of delivery under section 1072 of the Companies Act 2006.

PHOENIX COMMUNITY & YOUTH PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1152481

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07898625 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1152481

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 January 2024
for
Phoenix Community & Youth Project

V & R Accountancy Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 January 2024

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Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2024

This is the Twelfth annual report of Phoenix Community & Youth Project, more commonly known as The Phoenix Project, since its inception on January 5th 2012, the company is registered as a Not For Profit Company Limited by Guarantee and in 2013 became a registered charity, No. 1152481. The Phoenix Project was established due to the Government's Austerity Measures, which resulted in Sefton Council having to make savings of £44 Million in the financial year 2011/12 and further savings in every year since.

The Phoenix Project is now well established within the North Sefton area where it is based and is regularly contacted by schools, colleges, children's homes, voluntary organisations and different departments within Sefton Council including, Social Care, Virtual School, the Early Intervention Project, Aiming High and the Youth Offending Service to make referrals into us and seek our expertise in a variety of areas. We are also becoming more known across the rest of Sefton and hope to exploit the opportunity for the Phoenix Project to expand specific aspects of our work further afield over the coming years, particularly for delivery of the Governments Multiply Maths Programme and other Government replacement ESF funded projects.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Aims and Objectives of the project set out in our Memorandum of Articles are:

To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25, providing support, assistance and organising programmes of physical, educational and other activities as a means of:

Advancing life and helping young people by developing capacities and skills, capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals. Advancing education and relieving unemployment, providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for all people living in the area, regardless of their age, sexual orientation, gender, race, disability or social and economic circumstances.

We are now into our fifth year at 13 Scarisbrick New Road, which we share with Pathways in Learning CIC that does very similar work to Phoenix. Our lease is for 5 years and we are currently in negotiation for an extension of the lease, as well as exploring other potential premises in case we don't get an extension. The move has helped with attracting young people from across all the wards of Southport, as well as young people travelling from Birkdale, Ainsdale, Formby and even as far as Ormskirk to use our service. Kew Ward where we are based has eight Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA's), five of which are in the lowest 30% nationally. Dukes Ward has two LSOA's within the lowest 10% nationally and Cambridge Ward has one LSOA in the lowest 20% of the Governments Multiple Index of Deprivation and all three of our main wards covered have a higher than national average teenage conception rate based on current market research and community profiling.

We continue to focus more on the needs of young people and the community as a whole identified through community profiling and through our referral partners, whilst keeping abreast of regional and national trends and approaches helping us to keep relevant and innovative.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Phoenix has gone from strength to strength during the past 12 months, we have now delivered on a new exciting Government initiative called Multiply, our funding has come from the Liverpool City Region, through WEA and Sefton Council and we are hoping to receive further funding in round two. Multiply is about reintroducing people to maths and can be for employed or unemployed local residents who don't currently have a Level 2 qualification. This funding is allowing us to expand into online support across the whole Liverpool City Region. It was a short term contract with the potential for another two years if we prove successful.

There is a continually growing need in the area for supporting young people and wider community members who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) and Pre NEET and we hope to explore opportunities to secure funding for this work now the New Futures funding has ended as we envisage that this is still an area of development and growth for the project long term. There are no other organisations in the area offering this service and we continue to work even more collaboratively with Pathways in Learning and we continue to share building costs and administrative costs such as qualification membership as well as sharing skills/staffing in order for both organisations to be able to offer a wider range of options for young people and to secure funding that neither organisation would be able to secure without the support of the other. We are now three years into our lease at our other building at 127 Eastbank Street to allow both organisations to share and for us to be able to expand into other areas of work, this is still delivered through the CIC company called Pathways 2 Phoenix. Our disability projects have continued to increase membership and we have continued to offer an excellent service to the young people, which has been made possible through the funding we have received to develop it.

Fundraising Activities

Once again we have had great success in our fundraising efforts during the year, most of which has come in order to help deliver projects based on need, now that we have moved away from chasing funding, which we originally did in order to get the project established and recognised in the field. However as predicted six years ago it has become increasingly difficult with many more bids being written due to the high number of rejections being received, so we have done exceptionally well to raise as much as we have.

We once again reviewed our fundraising successes and failures at a Trustee meeting, and we identified that nothing had changed from the previous year, we were still being successful with some funding bids but we were actually being turned down by more funders than we were securing funding from. Once again our investigation as to why this was happening came to the conclusion that we were still writing really good quality bids but found that we had much more competition than in previous years, which was due to deepening cuts to local authority funding meaning that many more VCF organisations have been set up, chasing increasingly less funding available.

We decided once again to review our three year funding strategy to reflect this downturn in available grant funds and to bring forward other funding opportunities and explore new avenues and funding streams. This also meant revisiting our Organisational Development Plan as they are both intrinsically linked to each other in terms of successfully achieving our development plan, depends largely on securing the funding identified.

It is extremely important for us to get the balance right between securing the restricted funds needed to meet the identified needs of the community and unrestricted free reserves that will ensure that we can be flexible to respond to an immediate need or to contribute towards core costs that are difficult to secure through funding bids. We have increased the amount of unrestricted funding this year, more than any other year and hope that this will continue in the future. We need to be able to secure enough reserves in order to be able to manage for a period of three months in the ever more likely event of having problems in securing funding, although as we have different end dates for different funders it is very unlikely that all our funding for salaries will have ended all at the same time, as we will have found further funding for key posts.

Our membership of the Vola Consortium continues to be worthwhile as it is likely Vola will secure Government or Liverpool City Region funding that we will be able to apply for as part of the partnership. We are still waiting to find out NEET funding will be replaced by the Government.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Project Manager's report

I can't believe that I am writing my Project Managers report for the twelfth annual report, my how time flies and what a very difficult and challenging year its been, we had no direct Government funding for our NEET Project and had to secure grant funding from charitable organisations and from Sefton Councils Higher Needs Funding programme for students with additional support needs.

During the last twelve months one of our disability workers left, one of our two apprentices completed their course and the other is doing really well. Staffing on our NEET project has stayed consistent throughout the year which has had a positive impact on the young people with some great results in terms securing employment and further education.

I have continued to work with a great group of committed trustees, I have also worked with many other people who have given me some wonderful support and advice along the way, most notably the VOLA team and Fundraising experts at Sefton CVS, who have always been on the end of the phone, emails and support meetings, the wider CVS team. I have also continued to have great support from all the staff at the Community Foundation for Merseyside.

The project produced impressive outcomes through our Personal Development and Employability Project which operated over five days per week for young people who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) aged 15-24. We have also continued our contract with Meols Cop High School to educate pupils at risk of exclusion. We have also provided alternative education for our personal and social development disability project for young people aged 13-19 which provides a smooth transition to our 19+ disability project, both of which have developed really well, with increasing numbers.

We have secured funding from the following charitable organisations: Children In Need, Liverpool One Foundation, WEA, Sefton Council Higher Needs Funding, John Moores Foundation, Blue Sky, PH Holt and the Liverpool City Region Cares, Digital Inclusion Fund.

As predicted in last years report, it has been difficult to raise funds this year, with more applications being declined than in previous years. This is not just a problem for us, it is a wider issue due to the difficulties being faced by all VCF organisations with an increasing number of organisations chasing a decreasing amount of funding, we are finding we are continuing to being offered less money than we ask for, leading to us having to secure further funding to continue the project or reduce the length of the project.

We did however secure a two year funded project to employ a Mental Health First Aid Support Worker. However we were lucky enough to link in with Enlighten With Care, a Counselling organisation who have taken up the offer to work with us on the project and develop further. They also have counselling students and so we are able to offer four days a week to our students instead of two.

2024/2025 and future years will continue in a similar vein as there doesn't seem to be any likelihood of an end to austerity measures and therefore more and more VCF organisations will continue to chase an ever decreasing amount of funding.

This lack of funding is one of the reasons for us to continue to work more closely with Pathways in Learning as we can share a building, associated costs, staffing and therefore offer a better service to the young people we are working with.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2024

FUTURE PLANS

At the start of the new financial year we had the opportunity to sit down with the Trustees, young people and other service users to look at what we achieved during 2023/24 and what we wanted to achieve as an organisation during 2024/25 and beyond, put them into a plan and set about achieving them.

During 2023/24 we continued to take balanced approach to what was needed in order to meet the organisational development plan for the year, continuing with a targeted approach to our fundraising, continuing to identify community needs and wants through our comprehensive Community Profile and Youth Forum.

With all this in mind, we once again revisited the business plan, financial predictions and our Aims and Objectives to ensure they were working documents that were fit for purpose, which they were.

Our Aims and Objectives of the project set out in our Memorandum of Articles remained unchanged and are:

To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25, providing support, assistance and organising programmes of Physical, Educational and other activities as a means of:

- Advancing life and helping young people by developing capacities, skills and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals.

- Advancing Education

- Relieving Unemployment.

- Providing recreational and leisure time activities in the interests of social welfare for all people living in the area, regardless of their age, sexual orientation, gender, race, disability or social and economic circumstances.

We agreed that these were still fit for purpose based on our priorities for the future, with the last paragraph sufficient to encompass potential expansion into working with the wider community, in particular older people and Eastern European families, as both these groups have an extremely high representation in Southport.

Our meetings and consultation with the service users, staff and the trustees identified the need to achieve the following in order to give us stability and growth:

- Re-develop our three and five year development plan

- Re-develop our three year fundraising plan for sustainability purposes

- Explore further provision for older members of the community

- Recruit and train volunteers to alleviate reliance on funding staff salaries

- Continue to secure real life training opportunities for the NEET young people making them more employable.

- Continue to explore other sources of funding such as sponsorship from local businesses.

It was agreed that we still needed two development plans and both needed revisiting. The first for three years that takes into account the Eastbank Street building and partnership with Pathways in Learning and therefore needed to have details of how the partnership was going to be further developed and the benefits that the building would bring. The second a more flexible five year plan was to include any new ventures.

The Eastbank Street building continues to be a very attractive and welcoming and fit for purpose as borne out by the number of young people using the building, the increase in referrals. The local authority continue to hire the building on a Saturday for a disability project.

All in all we haven't achieved much identified in the Project Development Plan this year, but hope to make huge steps next year.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Decision making

We have held regular trustee meetings during the year and a General Meeting was held for members of the community who might have a vested interest in the project on 9th January 2023, during which members were elected into roles.

Chair: Nicola Williams

Treasurer: Alan McShane

Secretary: Tracy Fiddler

Others: Emma Lynch. Michael Kenworthy

The trustees reflect the local business/population and each of them give up their time for the same reason, which is to provide an excellent youth & community provision in the area. The trustees meet bi-monthly; however the chair and treasurer meet more regularly with the Project Manager in order to support the fundraising to ensure the success of the project.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07898625 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1152481

Registered office

13 Scarisbrick New Road
Southport
Merseyside
PR8 6PU

Trustees

Ms N J Williams

Ms T Fiddler

Ms E L Lynch

M Kenworthy (appointed 7.3.23)

Company Secretary

F A McShane

Independent Examiner

V & R Accountancy Services Limited

Chartered Certified Accountants

Cropton House

Three Tuns Lane

Formby

Merseyside

L37 4AQ

Phoenix Community & Youth Project (Registered number: 07898625)

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2024

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 17 October 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Ms E L Lynch - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Phoenix Community & Youth Project ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 January 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

G J Rummens FCCA

V & R Accountancy Services Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

17 October 2024

Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 January 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.1.24 Total funds £	31.1.23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	59	-	59	139
Charitable activities					
Youth Project		53,232	73,040	126,272	122,868
Other trading activities	3	-	-	-	1,600
Total		<u>53,291</u>	<u>73,040</u>	<u>126,331</u>	<u>124,607</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Youth Project	4	<u>59,574</u>	<u>72,712</u>	<u>132,286</u>	<u>137,918</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(6,283)	328	(5,955)	(13,311)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		10,646	3,235	13,881	27,192
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>4,363</u></u>	<u><u>3,563</u></u>	<u><u>7,926</u></u>	<u><u>13,881</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 January 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.1.24 Total funds £	31.1.23 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		6,561	3,563	10,124	16,079
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(2,198)	-	(2,198)	(2,198)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>4,363</u>	<u>3,563</u>	<u>7,926</u>	<u>13,881</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>4,363</u>	<u>3,563</u>	<u>7,926</u>	<u>13,881</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>4,363</u></u>	<u><u>3,563</u></u>	<u><u>7,926</u></u>	<u><u>13,881</u></u>
FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted funds				4,363	10,646
Restricted funds				3,563	3,235
TOTAL FUNDS				<u><u>7,926</u></u>	<u><u>13,881</u></u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 January 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 January 2024 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 been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 17 October 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

E L Lynch - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computer equipment - Straight line over 4 years

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.1.24	31.1.23
	£	£
Donations and fundraising	59	139
	<u>59</u>	<u>139</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 January 2024**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	31.1.24	31.1.23
	£	£
Room hire	-	1,600
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs £	Totals £
Youth Project	131,477	809	132,286
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 January 2024 nor for the year ended 31 January 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 January 2024 nor for the year ended 31 January 2023.

6. STAFF COSTS

	31.1.24	31.1.23
	£	£
Wages and salaries	82,709	81,167
Other pension costs	1,221	1,169
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>83,930</u>	<u>82,336</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.1.24	31.1.23
Project staff	5	5
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	139	-	139
Charitable activities			
Youth Project	75,959	46,909	122,868
Other trading activities	1,600	-	1,600
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total	<u>77,698</u>	<u>46,909</u>	<u>124,607</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Youth Project	91,240	46,678	137,918
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(13,542)	231	(13,311)
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	24,188	3,004	27,192
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>10,646</u>	<u>3,235</u>	<u>13,881</u>
 8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS			
			Computer equipment £
COST			
At 1 February 2023 and 31 January 2024			<u>1,080</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 February 2023 and 31 January 2024			<u>1,080</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 January 2024			<u>-</u>
At 31 January 2023			<u>-</u>
 9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			
		31.1.24 £	31.1.23 £
Social security and other taxes		1,478	1,478
Accruals and deferred income		720	720
		<u>2,198</u>	<u>2,198</u>
 10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS			
	At 1.2.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.1.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	10,646	(6,283)	4,363
Restricted funds			
BBC Children In Need	3,235	(3,235)	-
LCR Cares - Digital Inclusion Fund	-	3,563	3,563
	<u>3,235</u>	<u>328</u>	<u>3,563</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>13,881</u>	<u>(5,955)</u>	<u>7,926</u>

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	53,291	(59,574)	(6,283)
Restricted funds			
P H Holt Foundation	10,000	(10,000)	-
Liverpool One	15,000	(15,000)	-
The Workers' Educational Association	22,133	(22,133)	-
John Moores Foundation	5,000	(5,000)	-
BBC Children In Need	-	(3,235)	(3,235)
Blue Sky Foundation	5,000	(5,000)	-
LCR Cares - Digital Inclusion Fund	7,948	(4,385)	3,563
Sefton Council - Multiply	7,959	(7,959)	-
	<u>73,040</u>	<u>(72,712)</u>	<u>328</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>126,331</u>	<u>(132,286)</u>	<u>(5,955)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.2.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.1.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	24,188	(13,542)	10,646
Restricted funds			
BBC Children In Need	3,004	231	3,235
	<u>27,192</u>	<u>(13,311)</u>	<u>13,881</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>27,192</u>	<u>(13,311)</u>	<u>13,881</u>

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	77,698	(91,240)	(13,542)
Restricted funds			
Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Trust	2,000	(2,000)	-
Groundwork Trust	1,500	(1,500)	-
The Workers' Educational Association	5,684	(5,684)	-
John Moores Foundation	5,000	(5,000)	-
BBC Children In Need	10,213	(9,982)	231
Lottery Covid 19 Response	9,974	(9,974)	-
Kickstart	2,893	(2,893)	-
Sefton in Mind	5,095	(5,095)	-
Blue Sky Foundation	4,550	(4,550)	-
	<u>46,909</u>	<u>(46,678)</u>	<u>231</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>124,607</u>	<u>(137,918)</u>	<u>(13,311)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.2.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.1.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	24,188	(19,825)	4,363
Restricted funds			
BBC Children In Need	3,004	(3,004)	-
LCR Cares - Digital Inclusion Fund	-	3,563	3,563
	<u>3,004</u>	<u>559</u>	<u>3,563</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>27,192</u>	<u>(19,266)</u>	<u>7,926</u>

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	130,989	(150,814)	(19,825)
Restricted funds			
P H Holt Foundation	10,000	(10,000)	-
Liverpool One	15,000	(15,000)	-
Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Trust	2,000	(2,000)	-
Groundwork Trust	1,500	(1,500)	-
The Workers' Educational Association	27,817	(27,817)	-
John Moores Foundation	10,000	(10,000)	-
BBC Children In Need	10,213	(13,217)	(3,004)
Lottery Covid 19 Response	9,974	(9,974)	-
Kickstart	2,893	(2,893)	-
Sefton in Mind	5,095	(5,095)	-
Blue Sky Foundation	9,550	(9,550)	-
LCR Cares - Digital Inclusion Fund	7,948	(4,385)	3,563
Sefton Council - Multiply	7,959	(7,959)	-
	<u>119,949</u>	<u>(119,390)</u>	<u>559</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>250,938</u></u>	<u><u>(270,204)</u></u>	<u><u>(19,266)</u></u>

11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 January 2024.

PHOENIX COMMUNITY & YOUTH PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1152481

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07898625 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1152481

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 January 2023
for
Phoenix Community & Youth Project

V & R Accountancy Services
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 January 2023

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Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2023

This is the Eleventh annual report of Phoenix Community & Youth Project, more commonly known as The Phoenix Project, since its inception on January 5th 2012, the company is registered as a Not For Profit Company Limited by Guarantee and in 2013 became a registered charity, No. 1152481. The Phoenix Project was established due to the Government's Austerity Measures, which resulted in Sefton Council having to make savings of £44 Million in the financial year 2011/12 and further savings in every year since.

The Phoenix Project is now well established within the North Sefton area where it is based and is regularly contacted by schools, colleges, children's homes, voluntary organisations and different departments within Sefton Council including: Social Care, Virtual School, the Early Intervention Project, Aiming High and the Youth Offending Service to make referrals into us and seek our expertise in a variety of areas. We are also becoming more known across the rest of Sefton and hope to exploit the opportunity for the Phoenix Project to expand specific aspects of our work further afield over the coming years, particularly for delivery of the Governments Multiply Maths Programme and other Government replacement ESF funded projects.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Aims and Objectives of the project set out in our Memorandum of Articles are:

To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25, providing support, assistance and organising programmes of Physical, Educational and other activities as a means of:

Advancing life and helping young people by developing capacities and skills, capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals. Advancing Education and Relieving Unemployment. Providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for all people living in the area, regardless of their age, sexual orientation, gender, race, disability or social and economic circumstances.

We have now into our fourth year at 13 Scarisbrick New Road, which we share with Pathways in Learning, Community Interest Company that does very similar work to Phoenix. Our lease is for 5 years and we need to explore either an extension to the lease or explore other potential premises. The move has helped with attracting young people from across all the wards of Southport, as well as young people travelling from Birkdale, Ainsdale, Formby and even as far as Ormskirk to use our service. Kew Ward where we are based has eight Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA's), five of which are in the lowest 30% Nationally. Dukes Ward has two LSOA's within the lowest 10% nationally and Cambridge Ward has one LSOA in the lowest 20% of the Governments Multiple Index of Deprivation and all three of our main wards covered have a higher than national average Teenage Conception rate based on current market research and community profiling.

We continue to focus more on the needs of young people and the community as a whole identified through community profiling and through our referral partners, whilst keeping abreast of regional and national trends and approaches helping us to keep relevant and innovative.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2023

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Phoenix has gone from strength to strength during the past 12 months, we have successfully completed the delivery of the ESF funded New Futures Project which has been very successful. We have now begun delivery on a new exciting Government initiative called Multiply, our funding has come from the Liverpool City Region, through WEA and Sefton Council. Multiply is about reintroducing people to Maths and can be for employed or unemployed local residents who don't currently have a Level 2 qualification. This funding is allowing us to expand into online support across the whole Liverpool City Region. It is a short term contract with the potential for another two years if we prove successful.

There is a continually growing need in the area for supporting young people and wider community members who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) and Pre NEET and we hope to explore opportunities to secure funding for this work now the New Futures funding has ended as we envisage that this is still an area of development and growth for the project long term. There are no other organisations in the area offering this service and we continue to work even more collaboratively with Pathways in Learning and we continue to share building costs and administrative costs such as qualification membership as well as sharing skills/staffing in order for both organisations to be able to offer a wider range of options for young people and to secure funding that neither organisation would be able to secure without the support of the other. We are now two years into our lease at our other building at 127 Eastbank Street to allow both organisations to share and for us to be able to expand into other areas of work, this is still delivered through the CIC company called Pathways 2 Phoenix. Our disability projects have continued to increase membership and we have continued to offer an excellent service to the young people, which has been made possible through the funding we have received to develop it.

Fundraising Activities

Once again we have had great success in our fundraising efforts during the year, most of which has come in order to help deliver projects based on need, now that we have moved away from chasing funding, which we originally did in order to get the project established and recognised in the field. However as predicted five years ago it has become increasingly difficult with many more bids being written due to the high number of rejections being received, so we have done exceptionally well to raise as much as we have.

We once again reviewed our fundraising successes and failures at a Trustee meeting, and we identified that nothing had changed from the previous year, we were still being successful with some funding bids but we were actually being turned down by many more funders than we were securing funding from. Once again our investigation as to why this was happening came to the conclusion that we were still writing really good quality bids but found that we had much more competition than in previous years, which was due to deepening cuts to local authority funding meaning that many more VCF organisations have been set up, chasing increasingly less funding available. We also found that a lot of potential funders had channelled their funding to meet priorities post Covid and this didn't always meet our needs so we couldn't apply.

We decided once again to review our three year funding strategy to reflect this downturn in available grant funds and to bring forward other funding opportunities and explore new avenues and funding streams. This also meant revisiting our Organisational Development Plan as they are both intrinsically linked to each other in terms of successfully achieving our development plan, depends largely on securing the funding identified.

It is extremely important for us to get the balance right between securing the restricted funds needed to meet the identified needs of the community and unrestricted free reserves that will ensure that we can be flexible to respond to an immediate need or to contribute towards core costs that are difficult to secure through funding bids. We have increased the amount of unrestricted funding this year, more than any other year and hope that this will continue in the future. We need to be able to secure enough reserves in order to be able to manage for a period of three months in the ever more likely event of having problems in securing funding, although as we have different end dates for different funders it is very unlikely that all our funding for salaries will have ended all at the same time, as we will have found further funding for key posts.

Our membership of the Vola Consortium continues to be worthwhile as we continued to be part of a successful consortium taking a share of a multi million pound pot of European Social Fund (ESF) funding for the region which ended in the middle of 2022. We are still waiting to find out if it will be replaced by some sort of Government funding.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2023

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Project Manager's report

I can't believe that I am writing my Project Managers report for the eleventh annual report, my how time flies and what a very difficult and challenging year its been, with the end of New Futures Funding and no direct replacement in place.

During the last twelve months we have employed a new disability worker and two staff on apprenticeships are doing really well and we consolidated and embedded a new freelance member of staff into the team across the NEET and disability projects with a variety of skills that enhance the work at Phoenix. Staffing on our NEET project has stayed consistent throughout the year which has had a positive impact on the young people with some great results in terms securing employment and further education.

I have continued to have the opportunity of working with a great group of committed trustees, I have also worked with many other people who have given me some wonderful support and advice along the way, most notably the VOLA team and Fundraising experts at Sefton CVS, who have always been on the end of the phone, emails and support meetings, the wider CVS team and I have also continued to have great support from all the staff at the Community Foundation for Merseyside.

The project produced impressive outcomes through our ESF funded Employability Project which operated over five days per week for young people who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) aged 15-24. We have also continued our contract with the Impact Pupil Referral Unit to provide an alternative education project for a small number of young people who have been excluded from mainstream school, as well taking referrals from Meols Cop High School. We have also been providing alternative education for our personal and social development disability project for young people aged 13-19 which provides a smooth transition to our 19+ disability project, both of which have developed really well, with increasing numbers.

We have secured funding from the following charitable organisations: Children In Need, Vola, Tesco, Awards 4 All, WEA, Sefton Council Higher Needs Funding, The One Stop, John Moores Foundation, Blue Sky and Elizabeth Rathbone trust.

As predicted in last years report it has continued to be difficult to raise funds this year, with more applications being declined than in previous years. This is not just a problem for us it is a wider issue of the difficulties being faced by all VCF organisations with an increasing number of organisations chasing a decreasing amount of funding and we are finding we are continuing to being offered less money that we ask for and have to secure further funding to continue the project or reduce the length of the project.

2023/2024 and future years will continue in a similar vein as there doesn't seem to be any likelihood of an end to austerity measures and therefore more and more VCF organisations will continue to chase an ever decreasing amount of funding, especially now that the increased funding for Covid has ended.

We have secured funding from the following charitable organisations: Children In Need, Vola, Tesco, Hill Dickinson, The One Stop, we received funding for three Kickstart employees and the employed staff were still Furloughed for the earlier part of the year and therefore we received money from HMRC to pay towards their pay. The Trustees decided that we would pay the difference between the Furlough grant and the staff wages.

As predicted in last years report it has continued to be difficult to raise funds this year, with many more applications being declined than in previous years. This is not just a problem for us it is a wider issue of the difficulties being faced by all VCF organisations with an increasing number of organisations chasing a decreasing amount of funding and we are finding we are continuing to being offered less money that we ask for and have to secure further funding to continue the project or reduce the length of the project.

2022/2023 and future years will continue in a similar vein as there doesn't seem to be any likelihood of an end to austerity measures and therefore more and more VCF organisations will continue to chase an ever decreasing amount of funding, especially now that the increased funding for Covid has ended.

This lack of funding is one of the reasons for us to continue to work more closely with Pathways in Learning as we can share a building, associated costs, staffing and therefore offer a better service to the young people we are working with.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

We had another donation from the local businessman who wishes to remain anonymous to refurbish part of the new building and hopefully we may gain further support for other developments we would like to explore.

At the time of writing this report the Covid 19 pandemic is still around but isn't impacting on our project and it is unclear at the moment if it will have further impact on the project, short, medium and long term, at this moment in time we are in a good financial position but are unlikely to receive further Government funding or wider Third Sector funding support, hopefully Covid will no longer be an issue for us and the world as a whole.

This lack of funding is one of the reasons for us to continue to work more closely with Pathways in Learning as we can share a building, associated costs, staffing and therefore offer a better service to the young people we are working with.

We had another donation from the local businessman who wishes to remain anonymous for equipment for the Eastbank Street building and hopefully we may gain further support for other developments we would like to explore.

At the time of writing this report the Covid 19 pandemic is still around but isn't impacting on our project and it is unclear at the moment if it will have further impact on the project, short, medium and long term, at this moment in time we are in a good financial position but are unlikely to receive further Government funding or wider Third Sector funding support, hopefully Covid will no longer be an issue for us and the world as a whole.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2023

FUTURE PLANS

At the start of the new financial year because of Covid once again we didn't have the opportunity to sit down with the Trustees, young people and other service users to look at what we achieved during 2021/22 and what we wanted to achieve as an organisation during 2022/23 and beyond, put them into a plan and set about achieving them.

During 2021/22 because of Covid we were restricted with our fundraising opportunities towards our continued balanced approach to what was needed in order to meet the organisational development plan for the year, continuing with a targeted approach to our fundraising, continuing to identify community needs and wants through our comprehensive Community Profile and Youth Forum. However we still had staff on Furlough until it looked like we could fully reopen.

With all this in mind, we once again revisited the business plan, financial predictions and our Aims and Objectives to ensure they were working documents that were fit for purpose, which they were despite the impact Covid.

Our Aims and Objectives of the project set out in our Memorandum of Articles remained unchanged and are:

To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25, providing support, assistance and organising programmes of Physical, Educational and other activities as a means of:

Advancing life and helping young people by developing capacities and skills, capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals.

Advancing Education.

At the start of the new financial year we had the opportunity to sit down with the Trustees, young people and other service users to look at what we achieved during 2022/23 and what we wanted to achieve as an organisation during 2023/24 and beyond, put them into a plan and set about achieving them.

During 2022/23 because there was still some restrictions of Covid we were restricted with our fundraising opportunities towards our continued balanced approach to what was needed in order to meet the organisational development plan for the year, continuing with a targeted approach to our fundraising, continuing to identify community needs and wants through our comprehensive Community Profile and Youth Forum. However we could not fully reopen.

With all this in mind, we once again revisited the business plan, financial predictions and our Aims and Objectives to ensure they were working documents that were fit for purpose, which they were despite the impact Covid.

Our Aims and Objectives of the project set out in our Memorandum of Articles remained unchanged and are:

To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25, providing support, assistance and organising programmes of Physical, Educational and other activities as a means of:

Advancing life and helping young people by developing capacities and skills, capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals.

Advancing Education.

Relieving Unemployment.

Providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for all people living in the area, regardless of their age, sexual orientation, gender, race, disability or social and economic circumstances.

We agreed that these were still fit for purpose based on our priorities for the future, with the last paragraph sufficient to encompass potential expansion into working with the wider community, in particular older people and Eastern European families, as both these groups have an extremely high representation in Southport.

Our meetings and consultation with the service users, staff and the trustees identified the need to achieve the following in order to give us stability and growth:

Re-develop our three and five year development plan

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2023

Re-develop our three year fundraising plan for sustainability purposes

Explore further provision for older members of the community

Recruit and train volunteers to alleviate reliance on funding staff salaries

Continue to secure real life training opportunities for the NEET young people making them more employable.

Continue to explore other sources of funding such as sponsorship from local businesses, which has been successful once this year.

It was agreed that we still needed two development plans and both needed revisiting. The first for three years that takes into account the Eastbank Street building and partnership with Pathways in Learning and therefore needed to have details of how the partnership was going to be further developed and the benefits that the new building would bring. The second a more flexible five year plan was to include any new ventures, particularly beyond the ESF Funded New Futures Project that came to an end in the 2022.

The Eastbank Street building is very attractive and welcoming and fit for purpose as borne out by the number of young people using the building, the increase in referrals. The local authority continue to hire the building on a Saturday for a disability project.

All in all we haven't achieved much identified in the Project Development Plan this year, but hope to make huge steps next year.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Decision making

We have held regular trustee meetings during the year and a General Meeting was held for members of the community who might have a vested interest in the project on 7th January 2022, during which members were elected into roles.

Chair: Nicola Williams
Treasurer: Alan McShane
Secretary: Tracy Fiddler
Others: Emma Lynch.

The trustees reflect the local population and each of them give up their time for the same reason, which is to provide an excellent youth & community provision in the area. The trustees meet bi-monthly; however the chair and treasurer meet more regularly with the Project Manager in order to support the fundraising to ensure the success of the project.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07898625 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1152481

Registered office

13 Scarisbrick New Road
Southport
Merseyside
PR8 6PU

Trustees

Ms N J Williams
Ms T Fiddler
Ms E L Lynch

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Company Secretary

F A McShane

Independent Examiner

V & R Accountancy Services
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 17 October 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Ms E L Lynch - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Phoenix Community & Youth Project ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 January 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

G J Rummens FCCA
The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

V & R Accountancy Services
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

17 October 2023

Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 January 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.1.23 Total funds £	31.1.22 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	139	-	139	40
Charitable activities					
Youth Project		75,959	46,909	122,868	140,312
Other trading activities	3	1,600	-	1,600	600
Total		<u>77,698</u>	<u>46,909</u>	<u>124,607</u>	<u>140,952</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Youth Project	4	91,240	46,678	137,918	157,390
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(13,542)	231	(13,311)	(16,438)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		24,188	3,004	27,192	43,630
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>10,646</u></u>	<u><u>3,235</u></u>	<u><u>13,881</u></u>	<u><u>27,192</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 January 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.1.23 Total funds £	31.1.22 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		12,844	3,235	16,079	29,390
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(2,198)	-	(2,198)	(2,198)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>10,646</u>	<u>3,235</u>	<u>13,881</u>	<u>27,192</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>10,646</u>	<u>3,235</u>	<u>13,881</u>	<u>27,192</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>10,646</u></u>	<u><u>3,235</u></u>	<u><u>13,881</u></u>	<u><u>27,192</u></u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	10			10,646	24,188
Restricted funds				3,235	3,004
TOTAL FUNDS				<u><u>13,881</u></u>	<u><u>27,192</u></u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 January 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 January 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- 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 been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 17 October 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

E L Lynch - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computer equipment - Straight line over 4 years

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.1.23	31.1.22
	£	£
Donations and fundraising	139	40
	<u>139</u>	<u>40</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 January 2023**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	31.1.23	31.1.22
	£	£
Room hire	1,600	600
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Youth Project	137,021	897	137,918
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 January 2023 nor for the year ended 31 January 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 January 2023 nor for the year ended 31 January 2022.

6. STAFF COSTS

	31.1.23	31.1.22
	£	£
Wages and salaries	81,167	96,287
Other pension costs	1,169	2,041
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>82,336</u>	<u>98,328</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.1.23	31.1.22
Project staff	5	5
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	40	-	40
Charitable activities			
Youth Project	78,168	62,144	140,312
Other trading activities	600	-	600
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total	<u>78,808</u>	<u>62,144</u>	<u>140,952</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Youth Project	81,782	75,608	157,390
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(2,974)	(13,464)	(16,438)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	27,162	16,468	43,630
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>24,188</u>	<u>3,004</u>	<u>27,192</u>
8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS			
			Computer equipment £
COST			
At 1 February 2022 and 31 January 2023			<u>1,080</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 February 2022 and 31 January 2023			<u>1,080</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 January 2023			<u>-</u>
At 31 January 2022			<u>-</u>
9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			
		31.1.23 £	31.1.22 £
Social security and other taxes		1,478	1,478
Accruals and deferred income		720	720
		<u>2,198</u>	<u>2,198</u>
10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS			
	At 1.2.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.1.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	24,188	(13,542)	10,646
Restricted funds			
BBC Children In Need	3,004	231	3,235
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>27,192</u>	<u>(13,311)</u>	<u>13,881</u>

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	77,698	(91,240)	(13,542)
Restricted funds			
Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Trust	2,000	(2,000)	-
Groundwork Trust	1,500	(1,500)	-
The Workers' Educational Association	5,684	(5,684)	-
John Moores Foundation	5,000	(5,000)	-
BBC Children In Need	10,213	(9,982)	231
Lottery Covid 19 Response	9,974	(9,974)	-
Kickstart	2,893	(2,893)	-
Sefton in Mind	5,095	(5,095)	-
Blue Sky Foundation	4,550	(4,550)	-
	<u>46,909</u>	<u>(46,678)</u>	<u>231</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>124,607</u>	<u>(137,918)</u>	<u>(13,311)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.2.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.1.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	27,162	(2,974)	24,188
Restricted funds			
The Workers' Educational Association	1,377	(1,377)	-
BBC Children In Need	2,393	611	3,004
Lottery Covid 19 Response	11,960	(11,960)	-
LCR Covid Fund	738	(738)	-
	<u>16,468</u>	<u>(13,464)</u>	<u>3,004</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>43,630</u>	<u>(16,438)</u>	<u>27,192</u>

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	78,808	(81,782)	(2,974)
Restricted funds			
Groundwork Trust	2,000	(2,000)	-
The Workers' Educational Association	3,083	(4,460)	(1,377)
BBC Children In Need	9,623	(9,012)	611
Job Retention Scheme	32,907	(32,907)	-
Lottery Covid 19 Response	-	(11,960)	(11,960)
LCR Covid Fund	-	(738)	(738)
Hill Dickinson Fund	2,322	(2,322)	-
Kickstart	12,209	(12,209)	-
	<u>62,144</u>	<u>(75,608)</u>	<u>(13,464)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>140,952</u>	<u>(157,390)</u>	<u>(16,438)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.2.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.1.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	27,162	(16,516)	10,646
Restricted funds			
The Workers' Educational Association	1,377	(1,377)	-
BBC Children In Need	2,393	842	3,235
Lottery Covid 19 Response	11,960	(11,960)	-
LCR Covid Fund	738	(738)	-
	<u>16,468</u>	<u>(13,233)</u>	<u>3,235</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>43,630</u>	<u>(29,749)</u>	<u>13,881</u>

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	156,506	(173,022)	(16,516)
Restricted funds			
Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Trust	2,000	(2,000)	-
Groundwork Trust	3,500	(3,500)	-
The Workers' Educational Association	8,767	(10,144)	(1,377)
John Moores Foundation	5,000	(5,000)	-
BBC Children In Need	19,836	(18,994)	842
Job Retention Scheme	32,907	(32,907)	-
Lottery Covid 19 Response	9,974	(21,934)	(11,960)
LCR Covid Fund	-	(738)	(738)
Hill Dickinson Fund	2,322	(2,322)	-
Kickstart	15,102	(15,102)	-
Sefton in Mind	5,095	(5,095)	-
Blue Sky Foundation	4,550	(4,550)	-
	<u>109,053</u>	<u>(122,286)</u>	<u>(13,233)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>265,559</u></u>	<u><u>(295,308)</u></u>	<u><u>(29,749)</u></u>

11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 January 2023.

PHOENIX COMMUNITY & YOUTH PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1152481

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07898625 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1152481

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 January 2022
for
Phoenix Community & Youth Project

V & R Accountancy Services
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 January 2022

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Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2022

This is the tenth annual report of Phoenix Community & Youth Project, more commonly known as The Phoenix Project, since its inception on January 5th 2012, the company is registered as a Not For Profit Company Limited by Guarantee and in 2013 became a registered charity, No. 1152481.

The Phoenix Project was established due to the Government's Austerity Measures, which resulted in Sefton Council having to make savings of £44 Million in the financial year 2011/12 and further savings in every year since.

The Phoenix Project is now well established within the North Sefton area where it is based and is regularly contacted by schools, colleges, children's homes, voluntary organisations and different departments within Sefton Council including, Social Care, Virtual School, the Early Intervention Project, Aiming High and the Youth Offending Service to make referrals into us and seek our expertise in a variety of areas. We are also becoming more known across the rest of Sefton and hope to exploit the opportunity for the Phoenix Project to expand specific aspects of our work further afield over the coming years, particularly as a delivery partner in the European Social Fund (ESF) multi million pound New Futures Employability Project.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Aims and Objectives of the project set out in our Memorandum of Articles are:

To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25, providing support, assistance and organising programmes of Physical, Educational and other activities as a means of:

Advancing life and helping young people by developing capacities and skills, capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals. Advancing Education and Relieving Unemployment. Providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for all people living in the area, regardless of their age, sexual orientation, gender, race, disability or social and economic circumstances.

We have now into our third year at 13 Scarisbrick New Road, which we share with Pathways in Learning, Community Interest Company that does very similar work to Phoenix. The move has helped with attracting young people from across all the wards of Southport, as well as young people travelling from Birkdale, Ainsdale, Formby and even as far as Ormskirk to use our service. Kew Ward where we are based has eight Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA's), five of which are in the lowest 30% Nationally. Dukes Ward has two LSOA's within the lowest 10% nationally and Cambridge Ward has one LSOA in the lowest 20% of the Governments Multiple Index of Deprivation and all three of our main wards covered have a higher than national average Teenage Conception rate based on current market research and community profiling.

We continue to focus more on the needs of young people and the community as a whole identified through community profiling and through our referral partners, whilst keeping abreast of regional and national trends and approaches helping us to keep relevant and innovative.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2022

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Phoenix has gone from strength to strength during the past 12 months, we have successfully continued the delivery of the ESF funded New Futures Project which has been very successful. We had to completed our other 1 year ESF funded community project, which we had to defer due to Covid, albeit on a smaller scale.

There is a growing need in the area for supporting young people and wider community members who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) and Pre NEET and we hope to explore opportunities to secure funding for this work beyond the New Futures funding and we envisage that this is still an area of development and growth for the project long term. There are no other organisations in the area offering this service and we continue to work even more collaboratively with Pathways in Learning and we continue to share building costs and administrative costs such as qualification membership as well as sharing skills/staffing in order for both organisations to be able to offer a wider range of options for young people and to secure funding that neither organisation would be able to secure without the support of the other. We have are now one year in at our other building at 127 Eastbank Street to allow both organisations to share and for us to be able to expand into other areas of work, this is still delivered through the CIC company called Pathways 2 Phoenix.

Our disability projects have continued to increase membership and we have continued to offer an excellent service to the young people, which has been made possible through the funding we have received to develop it.

Fundraising Activities

Once again Covid has impacted on the success of our fundraising efforts during the year, most of which has come in order to help deliver projects based on need, now that we have moved away from chasing funding, which we originally did in order to get the project established and recognised in the field. However as predicted five years ago it has become increasingly difficult with many more bids being written due to the high number of rejections being received.

We once again reviewed our fundraising successes and failures at a Trustee meeting, and we identified that nothing had changed from the previous year, we were still being successful with some funding bids but we were actually being turned down by many more funders than we were securing funding from. Once again our investigation as to why this was happening came to the conclusion that we were still writing really good quality bids but found that we had much more competition than in previous years, which was due to deepening cuts to local authority funding meaning that many more VCF organisations have been set up, chasing increasingly less funding available. We also found that a lot of potential funders had channelled their funding to meet priorities brought on by Covid and this didn't always meet our needs so we couldn't apply.

We decided once again to review our three year funding strategy to reflect this downturn in available grant funds and to bring forward other funding opportunities and explore new avenues and funding streams. This also meant revisiting our Organisational Development Plan as they are both intrinsically linked to each other in terms of successfully achieving our development plan, depends largely on securing the funding identified.

It is extremely important for us to get the balance right between securing the restricted funds needed to meet the identified needs of the community and unrestricted free reserves that will ensure that we can be flexible to respond to an immediate need or to contribute towards core costs that are difficult to secure through funding bids. We have increased the amount of unrestricted funding this year, more than any other year and hope that this will continue in the future. We need to be able to secure enough reserves in order to be able to manage for a period of three months in the ever more likely event of having problems in securing funding, although as we have different end dates for different funders it is very unlikely that all our funding for salaries will have ended all at the same time, as we will have found further funding for key posts.

Our membership of the Vola Consortium continues to be worthwhile as we continued to be part of a successful consortium taking a share of a multi million pound pot of European Social Fund (ESF) funding for the region until the middle of 2022, which will hopefully be replaced by some sort of Government funding.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2022

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Project Manager's report

I can't believe that I am writing my Project Managers report for the tenth annual report, my how time flies and what a very difficult and challenging year its been, with the Covid 19 Pandemic still causing us problems including furloughing the staff for part of the year. The Trustees and the Project Manager still continued to deliver an online and distance learning schedule for the students, with the support of the Freelance staff, for part of the year. Half way through the year we opened two evenings per week and five days per week working with NEET and Pre NEET young people.

During the last twelve months we lost two members of Kickstart staff, and employed two others onto apprenticeships and consolidated and embedded a new freelance members of staff into the team across the NEET and disability projects with a variety of skills that enhance the work at Phoenix. Staffing on our NEET project has stayed consistent throughout the year despite the problems presented by Covid, which has had a positive impact on the young people with some great results in terms securing employment and further education.

I have continued to have the opportunity of working with a great group of committed trustees, I have also worked with many other people who have given me some wonderful support and advice along the way, most notably the VOLA team at Sefton CVS, who have always been on the end of the phone, emails and support meetings, the wider CVS team and I have also continued to have great support from all the staff at the Community Foundation for Merseyside.

The project continues to produce impressive outcomes through our ESF funded Employability Project over five days per week for young people who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) aged 15-24. We have also continued our contract with the Impact Pupil Referral Unit to provide an alternative education project for a small number of young people who have been excluded from mainstream school, as well taking referrals from Meols Cop High School. We have also been providing alternative education for our personal and social development disability project for young people aged 13-19 which provides a smooth transition to our 19+ disability project, both of which have developed really well, with increasing numbers.

We have secured funding from the following charitable organisations: Children In Need, Vola, Tesco, Hill Dickinson, The One Stop, we received funding for three Kickstart employees and the employed staff were still Furloughed for the earlier part of the year and therefore we received money from HMRC to pay towards their pay. The Trustees decided that we would pay the difference between the Furlough grant and the staff wages.

As predicted in last years report it has continued to be difficult to raise funds this year, with many more applications being declined than in previous years. This is not just a problem for us it is a wider issue of the difficulties being faced by all VCF organisations with an increasing number of organisations chasing a decreasing amount of funding and we are finding we are continuing to being offered less money that we ask for and have to secure further funding to continue the project or reduce the length of the project.

2022/2023 and future years will continue in a similar vein as there doesn't seem to be any likelihood of an end to austerity measures and therefore more and more VCF organisations will continue to chase an ever decreasing amount of funding, especially now that the increased funding for Covid has ended.

This lack of funding is one of the reasons for us to continue to work more closely with Pathways in Learning as we can share a building, associated costs, staffing and therefore offer a better service to the young people we are working with.

We had another donation from the local businessman who wishes to remain anonymous to refurbish part of the new building and hopefully we may gain further support for other developments we would like to explore.

At the time of writing this report the Covid 19 pandemic is still around but isn't impacting on our project and it is unclear at the moment if it will have further impact on the project, short, medium and long term, at this moment in time we are in a good financial position but are unlikely to receive further Government funding or wider Third Sector funding support, hopefully Covid will no longer be an issue for us and the world as a whole.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2022

FUTURE PLANS

At the start of the new financial year because of Covid once again we didn't have the opportunity to sit down with the Trustees, young people and other service users to look at what we achieved during 2021/22 and what we wanted to achieve as an organisation during 2022/23 and beyond, put them into a plan and set about achieving them.

During 2021/22 because of Covid we were restricted with our fundraising opportunities towards our continued balanced approach to what was needed in order to meet the organisational development plan for the year, continuing with a targeted approach to our fundraising, continuing to identify community needs and wants through our comprehensive Community Profile and Youth Forum. However we still had staff on Furlough until it looked like we could fully reopen.

With all this in mind, we once again revisited the business plan, financial predictions and our Aims and Objectives to ensure they were working documents that were fit for purpose, which they were despite the impact Covid.

Our Aims and Objectives of the project set out in our Memorandum of Articles remained unchanged and are:

To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25, providing support, assistance and organising programmes of Physical, Educational and other activities as a means of:

Advancing life and helping young people by developing capacities and skills, capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals.

Advancing Education.

Relieving Unemployment.

Providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for all people living in the area, regardless of their age, sexual orientation, gender, race, disability or social and economic circumstances.

We agreed that these were still fit for purpose based on our priorities for the future, with the last paragraph sufficient to encompass potential expansion into working with the wider community, in particular older people and Eastern European families, as both these groups have an extremely high representation in Southport.

Our meetings and consultation with the service users, staff and the trustees took place on Zoom and identified the need to achieve the following in order to give us stability and growth:

Re-develop our three and five year development plan

Re-develop our three year fundraising plan for sustainability purposes

Explore further provision for older members of the community

Recruit and train volunteers to alleviate reliance on funding staff salaries

Continue to secure real life training opportunities for the NEET young people making them more employable.

Continue to explore other sources of funding such as sponsorship from local businesses, which has been successful once this year.

It was agreed that we still needed two development plans and both needed revisiting. The first for three years that takes into account the Eastbank Street building and partnership with Pathways in Learning and therefore needed to have details of how the partnership was going to be further developed and the benefits that the new building would bring. The second a more flexible five year plan was to include any new ventures, particularly beyond the ESF Funded New Futures Project that will be coming to an end in the 2022/23 year.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2022

The Eastbank Street building is very attractive and welcoming and fit for purpose as borne out by the number of young people using the building, the increase in referrals. We have continued to receive a rental from a training provider for one early evening, some office space. The local authority continue to hire the building on a Saturday for a disability project, although these were paused during lockdown.

All in all we haven't achieved much identified in the Project Development Plan this year, but hope to make huge steps next year.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Decision making

We have held regular trustee meetings during the year and a General Meeting was held for members of the community who might have a vested interest in the project on 7th January 2022, during which members were elected into roles.

Chair: Nicola Williams

Treasurer: Alan McShane

Secretary: Tracy Fiddler

Others: Emma Lynch.

The trustees reflect the local population and each of them give up their time for the same reason, which is to provide an excellent youth & community provision in the area. The trustees meet bi-monthly; however the chair and treasurer meet more regularly with the Project Manager in order to support the fundraising to ensure the success of the project.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07898625 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1152481

Registered office

13 Scarisbrick New Road

Southport

Merseyside

PR8 6PU

Trustees

Ms N J Williams

Ms T Fiddler

Ms E L Lynch

Company Secretary

F A McShane

Independent Examiner

V & R Accountancy Services

Chartered Certified Accountants

Cropton House

Three Tuns Lane

Formby

Merseyside

L37 4AQ

Phoenix Community & Youth Project (Registered number: 07898625)

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2022

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 17 October 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Ms E L Lynch - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Phoenix Community & Youth Project ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 January 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

G J Rummens
FCCA
V & R Accountancy Services
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

17 October 2022

Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 January 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.1.22 Total funds £	31.1.21 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	40	-	40	5,054
Charitable activities					
Youth Project	4	78,168	62,144	140,312	134,296
Other trading activities	3	600	-	600	14,350
Total		<u>78,808</u>	<u>62,144</u>	<u>140,952</u>	<u>153,700</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5				
Youth Project		81,782	75,608	157,390	123,760
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		<u>(2,974)</u>	<u>(13,464)</u>	<u>(16,438)</u>	<u>29,940</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		27,162	16,468	43,630	13,690
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>24,188</u>	<u>3,004</u>	<u>27,192</u>	<u>43,630</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 January 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.1.22 Total funds £	31.1.21 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		26,386	3,004	29,390	45,828
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(2,198)	-	(2,198)	(2,198)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>24,188</u>	<u>3,004</u>	<u>27,192</u>	<u>43,630</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		24,188	3,004	27,192	43,630
NET ASSETS		<u>24,188</u>	<u>3,004</u>	<u>27,192</u>	<u>43,630</u>
FUNDS	11				
Unrestricted funds				24,188	27,162
Restricted funds				3,004	16,468
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>27,192</u>	<u>43,630</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 January 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 January 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- 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 been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 17 October 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

E L Lynch - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computer equipment - Straight line over 4 years

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.1.22	31.1.21
	£	£
Donations and fundraising	40	5,054
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 January 2022**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	31.1.22	31.1.21
	£	£
Room hire	600	14,350
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	31.1.22	31.1.21
	£	£
Project income	78,168	57,819
Grants	62,144	76,477
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>140,312</u>	<u>134,296</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	31.1.22	31.1.21
	£	£
P H Holt Foundation	-	4,390
Groundwork Trust	2,000	-
The Workers' Educational Association	3,084	-
BBC Children In Need	9,622	15,283
Ann and Ray Messer Foundation	-	1,976
Government Job Retention Scheme	32,907	27,251
Lottery Covid 19 Response	-	19,760
Percy Bilton Fund	-	500
LCR Covid Fund	-	7,317
Vola Consortium - Kickstart	12,209	-
Hill Dickinson Fund	2,322	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>62,144</u>	<u>76,477</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Youth Project	156,607	783	157,390
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 January 2022 nor for the year ended 31 January 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 January 2022 nor for the year ended 31 January 2021.

7. STAFF COSTS

	31.1.22	31.1.21
	£	£
Wages and salaries	96,287	58,855
Other pension costs	2,041	3,216
	<u>98,328</u>	<u>62,071</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.1.22	31.1.21
Project staff	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	5,054	-	5,054
Charitable activities			
Youth Project	57,819	76,477	134,296
Other trading activities	14,350	-	14,350
Total	<u>77,223</u>	<u>76,477</u>	<u>153,700</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Youth Project	54,128	69,632	123,760
NET INCOME	<u>23,095</u>	<u>6,845</u>	<u>29,940</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	4,067	9,623	13,690
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>27,162</u>	<u>16,468</u>	<u>43,630</u>

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Computer equipment £
COST	
At 1 February 2021 and 31 January 2022	1,080
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 February 2021 and 31 January 2022	1,080
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 January 2022	-
At 31 January 2021	-

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.1.22 £	31.1.21 £
Social security and other taxes	1,478	1,478
Accruals and deferred income	720	720
	<u>2,198</u>	<u>2,198</u>

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.2.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.1.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	27,162	(2,974)	24,188
Restricted funds			
The Workers' Educational Association	1,377	(1,377)	-
BBC Children In Need	2,393	611	3,004
Lottery Covid 19 Response	11,960	(11,960)	-
LCR Covid Fund	738	(738)	-
	<u>16,468</u>	<u>(13,464)</u>	<u>3,004</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>43,630</u>	<u>(16,438)</u>	<u>27,192</u>

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	78,808	(81,782)	(2,974)
Restricted funds			
Groundwork Trust	2,000	(2,000)	-
The Workers' Educational Association	3,083	(4,460)	(1,377)
BBC Children In Need	9,623	(9,012)	611
Job Retention Scheme	32,907	(32,907)	-
Lottery Covid 19 Response	-	(11,960)	(11,960)
LCR Covid Fund	-	(738)	(738)
Hill Dickinson Fund	2,322	(2,322)	-
Kickstart	12,209	(12,209)	-
	<u>62,144</u>	<u>(75,608)</u>	<u>(13,464)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>140,952</u>	<u>(157,390)</u>	<u>(16,438)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.2.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.1.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	4,067	23,095	27,162
Restricted funds			
The Workers' Educational Association	4,252	(2,875)	1,377
John Moores Foundation	2,000	(2,000)	-
BBC Children In Need	752	1,641	2,393
Daneway Foundation	900	(900)	-
Mark McQueen Foundation	1,719	(1,719)	-
Lottery Covid 19 Response	-	11,960	11,960
LCR Covid Fund	-	738	738
	<u>9,623</u>	<u>6,845</u>	<u>16,468</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>13,690</u>	<u>29,940</u>	<u>43,630</u>

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	77,223	(54,128)	23,095
Restricted funds			
P H Holt Foundation	4,390	(4,390)	-
The Workers' Educational Association	-	(2,875)	(2,875)
John Moores Foundation	-	(2,000)	(2,000)
BBC Children In Need	15,283	(13,642)	1,641
Daneway Foundation	-	(900)	(900)
Mark McQueen Foundation	-	(1,719)	(1,719)
Job Retention Scheme	27,251	(27,251)	-
Ann and Ray Messer Foundation	1,976	(1,976)	-
Lottery Covid 19 Response	19,760	(7,800)	11,960
Percy Bilton Fund	500	(500)	-
LCR Covid Fund	7,317	(6,579)	738
	<u>76,477</u>	<u>(69,632)</u>	<u>6,845</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>153,700</u>	<u>(123,760)</u>	<u>29,940</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.2.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.1.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	4,067	20,121	24,188
Restricted funds			
The Workers' Educational Association	4,252	(4,252)	-
John Moores Foundation	2,000	(2,000)	-
BBC Children In Need	752	2,252	3,004
Daneway Foundation	900	(900)	-
Mark McQueen Foundation	1,719	(1,719)	-
	<u>9,623</u>	<u>(6,619)</u>	<u>3,004</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>13,690</u>	<u>13,502</u>	<u>27,192</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 January 2022

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	156,031	(135,910)	20,121
Restricted funds			
P H Holt Foundation	4,390	(4,390)	-
Groundwork Trust	2,000	(2,000)	-
The Workers' Educational Association	3,083	(7,335)	(4,252)
John Moores Foundation	-	(2,000)	(2,000)
BBC Children In Need	24,906	(22,654)	2,252
Daneway Foundation	-	(900)	(900)
Mark McQueen Foundation	-	(1,719)	(1,719)
Job Retention Scheme	60,158	(60,158)	-
Ann and Ray Messer Foundation	1,976	(1,976)	-
Lottery Covid 19 Response	19,760	(19,760)	-
Percy Bilton Fund	500	(500)	-
LCR Covid Fund	7,317	(7,317)	-
Hill Dickinson Fund	2,322	(2,322)	-
Kickstart	12,209	(12,209)	-
	<u>138,621</u>	<u>(145,240)</u>	<u>(6,619)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>294,652</u></u>	<u><u>(281,150)</u></u>	<u><u>13,502</u></u>

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 January 2022.

PHOENIX COMMUNITY & YOUTH PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1152481

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07898625 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1152481

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 January 2021
for
Phoenix Community & Youth Project

V & R Accountancy Services
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

Phoenix Community & Youth Project

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for the Year Ended 31 January 2021

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Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 January 2021

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 January 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 2019).

This is the ninth annual report of Phoenix Community & Youth Project, more commonly known as The Phoenix Project, since its inception on January 5th 2012, the company is registered as a Not For Profit Company Limited by Guarantee and in 2013 became a registered charity, No. 1152481.

The Phoenix Project was established due to the Government's Austerity Measures, which resulted in Sefton Council having to make savings of £44 Million in the financial year 2011/12 and further savings in every year since.

The Phoenix Project is now well established within the North Sefton area where it is based and is regularly contacted by schools, colleges, voluntary organisations and different departments within Sefton Council including, Social Care, Virtual School, the Early Intervention Project, Aiming High and the Youth Offending Service to make referrals into us and seek our expertise in a variety of areas. We are also becoming more known across the rest of Sefton and hope to exploit the opportunity for the Phoenix Project to expand specific aspects of our work further afield over the coming years, particularly as a delivery partner in the European Social Fund (ESF) multi million pound New Futures Employability Project.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Aims and Objectives of the project set out in our Memorandum of Articles are:

To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25, providing support, assistance and organising programmes of Physical, Educational and other activities as a means of:

Advancing life and helping young people by developing capacities and skills, capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals. Advancing Education and Relieving Unemployment. Providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for all people living in the area, regardless of their age, sexual orientation, gender, race, disability or social and economic circumstances.

We have now settled into our new premises at 13 Scarisbrick New Road, which we share with Pathways in Learning, Community Interest Company that does very similar work to Phoenix. The move has helped with attracting young people from across all the wards of Southport, as well as young people travelling from Birkdale, Ainsdale, Formby and even as far as Ormskirk to use our service. Kew Ward where we are based has eight Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA's), five of which are in the lowest 30% Nationally. Dukes Ward has two LSOA's within the lowest 10% nationally and Cambridge Ward has one LSOA in the lowest 20% of the Governments Multiple Index of Deprivation and all three of our main wards covered have a higher than national average Teenage Conception rate based on current market research and community profiling.

We continue to focus more on the needs of young people and the community as a whole identified through community profiling and through our referral partners, whilst keeping abreast of regional and national trends and approaches helping us to keep relevant and innovative.

Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 January 2021

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Phoenix has gone from strength to strength during the past 12 months, we have successfully continued the delivery of the ESF funded New Futures Project which has been very successful. We had to defer our other 1 year ESF funded community project, due to Covid.

There is a growing need in the area for supporting young people and wider community members who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) and Pre NEET and we hope to explore opportunities to secure funding for this work beyond the New Futures funding and we envisage that this is still an area of development and growth for the project long term. There are no other organisations in the area offering this service and we continue to work even more collaboratively with Pathways in Learning and we continue to share building costs and administrative costs such as qualification membership as well as sharing skills/staffing in order for both organisations to be able to offer a wider range of options for young people and to secure funding that neither organisation would be able to secure without the support of the other. We have now secured another building to allow both organisations to share and for us to be able to expand into other areas of work, however we have done this through a new CIC company call Pathways 2 Phoenix.

Our disability projects have continued to increase membership and we have continued to offer an excellent service to the young people, which has been made possible through the funding we have received to develop it.

Fundraising Activities

Once again we have been extremely successful in our fundraising efforts during the year by securing funding to deliver projects based on need now that we have moved away from chasing funding, which we did in order to get the project established and recognised in the field. However as predicted three years ago it has become increasingly difficult with many more bids being written due to the high number of rejections being received.

We reviewed our fundraising successes and failures at a Trustee meeting, and we identified that nothing had changed from the previous year, we were still being successful with some funding bids but we were actually being turned down by many more funders than we were securing funding from. Once again our investigation as to why this was happening came to the conclusion that we were still writing really good quality bids but found that we had much more competition than in previous years, which was due to deepening cuts to local authority funding meaning that many more VCF organisations have been set up, chasing increasingly less funding available and on a number of occasions we were offered less than we asked for and so had to either match fund with another bid, shorten the length of delivery or cut some of the expenditure to meet the reduced amount offered.

We decided once again to review our three year funding strategy to reflect this downturn in available grant funds and to bring forward other funding opportunities and explore new avenues and funding streams. This also meant revisiting our Organisational Development Plan as they are both intrinsically linked to each other in terms of successfully achieving our development plan, depends largely on securing the funding identified.

The Sefton School Support Services Online Traded Services database still hasn't produce much interest, we hope that by producing a training/services booklet to upload onto the database giving the schools a greater understanding of what they can purchase will prove more lucrative in terms of bookings.

It is extremely important for us to get the balance right between securing the restricted funds needed to meet the identified needs of the community and unrestricted free reserves that will ensure that we can be flexible to respond to an immediate need or to contribute towards core costs that are difficult to secure through funding bids. We significantly increased the amount of unrestricted funding this year than at any other year and hope that this will continue in futures. We need to be able to secure enough reserves in order to be able to manage for a period of three months in the ever more likely event of having problems in securing funding, although as we have different end dates for different funders it is very unlikely that all our funding for salaries will have ended all at the same time, as we will have found further funding for key posts.

Our membership of the Vola Consortium continues to be worthwhile as we continued to be part of a successful consortium taking a share of a multi million pound pot of European Social Fund (ESF) funding for the region until the end of 2021 and hopefully beyond this.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Project Manager's report

I can't believe that I am writing my Project Managers report for the ninth annual report, my how time flies and what a very difficult and challenging year its been, with the Covid 19 Pandemic causing us to close for a long period and furlough the staff, with the Trustees developing an online and distance learning schedule for the students, with the support of the Freelance staff. When able we continued to open two evenings per week and five days per week working with NEET and Pre NEET young people, however much of this was done online or posted out to students and we hired the building out on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, although most of this was cancelled during the lockdown periods.

During the last twelve months we lost a member of staff, employed another and consolidated and embedded new freelance members of staff into the team across the NEET and disability projects with a variety of skills that enhance the work at Phoenix. Staffing on our NEET project has stayed consistent throughout the year despite the problems presented by Covid, which has had a positive impact on the young people with some great results in terms securing employment and further education.

I have continued to have the opportunity of working with a great group of committed trustees, however we sadly lost Barbara Moore to Covid. I have also worked with many other people who have given me some wonderful support and advice along the way, most notably the VOLA team at Sefton CVS, who have always been on the end of the phone, emails and support meetings, the wider CVS team and I have also continued to have great support from all the staff at the Community Foundation for Merseyside.

The project continues to produce impressive outcomes through our ESF funded Employability Project over five days per week for young people who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) aged 15-24. We have also continued our contract with the Impact Pupil Referral Unit to provide an alternative education project for a small number of young people who have been excluded from mainstream school, as well taking referrals from Birkdale, Stanley and Meols Cop High Schools. We have also been providing alternative education for our personal and social development disability project for young people aged 13-19 which provides a smooth transition to our 19+ disability project, both of which have developed really well, with increasing numbers.

We have secured funding from the following charitable organisations: PH Holt, Children In Need, Vola, Ann and Ray Messer Foundation and the Percy Bilton Fund. We also received Covid funding from the Lottery and the Liverpool City Region Covid Fund and the employed staff were Furloughed and therefore we received money from HMRC to pay towards their pay. The Trustees decided that we would pay the difference between the Furlough grant and the staff wages.

As predicted in last years report it has continued to be difficult to raise funds this year, with many more applications being declined than in previous years. This is not just a problem for us it is a wider issue of the difficulties being faced by all VCF organisations with an increasing number of organisations chasing a decreasing amount of funding and we are finding we are continuing to be offered less money that we ask for and have to secure further funding to continue the project or reduce the length of the project.

2021/2022 and future years will continue in a similar vein as there doesn't seem to be any likelihood of an end to austerity measures and therefore more and more VCF organisations will continue to chase an ever decreasing amount of funding, especially now that the increased funding for Covid has ended.

This lack of funding is one of the reasons for us to continue to work more closely with Pathways in Learning as we can share a building, associated costs, staffing and therefore offer a better service to the young people we are working with.

We had another donation from the local businessman who wishes to remain anonymous to refurbish part of the new building and hopefully we may gain further support for other developments we would like to explore.

At the time of writing this report the world is still battling the Covid 19 pandemic and it is unclear at the moment if it will have further impact on the project, short, medium and long term, at this moment in time we are in a good financial position but are unlikely to receive further Government funding or wider Third Sector funding support, hopefully we will be able to whether the storm of Covid.

FUTURE PLANS

At the start of the new financial year because of Covid we didn't have the opportunity to sit down with the Trustees, young people and other service users to look at what we achieved during 2020/21 and what we wanted to achieve as an organisation during 2021/22 and beyond, put them into a plan and set about achieving them.

During 2020/21 because of Covid we were restricted with our fundraising opportunities towards our continued balanced approach to what was needed in order to meet the organisational development plan for the year, continuing with a targeted approach to our fundraising, continuing to identify community needs and wants through our comprehensive Community Profile and Youth Forum. We did however make the most of the Covid grants available.

With all this in mind, we once again revisited the business plan, financial predictions and our Aims and Objectives to ensure they were working documents that were fit for purpose, which they were despite the impact Covid.

Our Aims and Objectives of the project set out in our Memorandum of Articles remained unchanged and are:

To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25, providing support, assistance and organising programmes of *Physical, Educational and other activities as a means of:*

Advancing life and helping young people by developing capacities and skills, capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals.

Advancing Education.

Relieving Unemployment.

Providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for all people living in the area, regardless of their age, sexual orientation, gender, race, disability or social and economic circumstances.

We agreed that these were still fit for purpose based on our priorities for the future, with the last paragraph sufficient to encompass potential expansion into working with the wider community, in particular older people and Eastern European families, as both these groups have an extremely high representation in Southport.

Our meetings and consultation with the service users, staff and the trustees took place on Zoom and identified the need to achieve the following in order to give us stability and growth:

- Re-develop our three and five year development plan
- Re-develop our three year fundraising plan for sustainability purposes
- Explore further provision for older members of the community
- Recruit and train volunteers to alleviate reliance on funding staff salaries

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Decision making

We have held regular trustee meetings during the year and a General Meeting was held for members of the community who might have a vested interest in the project on 7th January 2021, during which members were elected into roles.

Chair: Nicola Williams
Treasurer: Alan McShane
Secretary: Tracy Fiddler
Others: Emma Lynch.

The trustees reflect the local population and each of them give up their time for the same reason, which is to provide an excellent youth & community provision in the area. The trustees meet bi-monthly; however the chair and treasurer meet more regularly with the Project Manager in order to support the fundraising to ensure the success of the project.

Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2021

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
07898625 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1152481

Registered office
13 Scarisbrick New Road
Southport
Merseyside
PR8 6PU

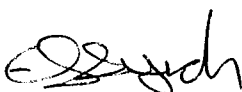
Trustees
Ms N J Williams
Ms T Fiddler
Mrs B Moore (resigned 6.4.20)
Ms E L Lynch (appointed 22.6.20)

Company Secretary
F A McShane

Independent Examiner
V & R Accountancy Services
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 29/10/21 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Ms E L Lynch - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Phoenix Community & Youth Project ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 January 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

G J Rummens
FCCA
V & R Accountancy Services
Chartered Certified Accountants
Cropton House
Three Tuns Lane
Formby
Merseyside
L37 4AQ

Date:

Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 January 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.1.21 Total funds £	31.1.20 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	5,054	-	5,054	2,046
Charitable activities					
Youth Project	4	57,819	76,477	134,296	73,267
Other trading activities	3	14,350	-	14,350	8,295
Total		<u>77,223</u>	<u>76,477</u>	<u>153,700</u>	<u>83,608</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5				
Youth Project		54,128	69,632	123,760	75,426
NET INCOME		<u>23,095</u>	<u>6,845</u>	<u>29,940</u>	<u>8,182</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		4,067	9,623	13,690	5,508
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>27,162</u></u>	<u><u>16,468</u></u>	<u><u>43,630</u></u>	<u><u>13,690</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Balance Sheet
31 January 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.1.21 Total funds £	31.1.20 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		29,360	16,468	45,828	16,608
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(2,198)	-	(2,198)	(2,918)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>27,162</u>	<u>16,468</u>	<u>43,630</u>	<u>13,690</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>27,162</u>	<u>16,468</u>	<u>43,630</u>	<u>13,690</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>27,162</u>	<u>16,468</u>	<u>43,630</u>	<u>13,690</u>
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				27,162	4,067
Restricted funds				16,468	9,623
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>43,630</u>	<u>13,690</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 January 2021.

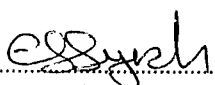
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 January 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- 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 been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 29/10/21 and were signed on its behalf by:


E L Lynch - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computer equipment - Straight line over 4 years

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.1.21	31.1.20
	£	£
Donations and fundraising	5,054	2,046
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 January 2021

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.1.21	31.1.20
	£	£
Room hire	14,350	8,295
	<u>14,350</u>	<u>8,295</u>

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	31.1.21	31.1.20
	£	£
Project income	57,819	40,574
Grants	76,477	32,693
	<u>134,296</u>	<u>73,267</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	31.1.21	31.1.20
	£	£
P H Holt Foundation	4,390	-
Thomas Wall Trust	-	1,000
The Workers' Educational Association	-	4,990
John Moores Foundation	-	3,000
Baily Thomas Charitable Fund	-	1,000
Barbara Ward Children's Foundation	-	1,650
BBC Children In Need	15,283	9,000
Daneway Foundation	-	6,099
Medicash	-	2,000
Liverpool CVS Community Impact Fund	-	1,000
Mark McQueen Foundation	-	2,954
Ann and Ray Messer Foundation	1,976	-
Government Job Retention Scheme	27,251	-
Lottery Covid 19 Response	19,760	-
Percy Bilton Fund	500	-
LCR Covid Fund	7,317	-
	<u>76,477</u>	<u>32,693</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs £	Totals £
Youth Project	122,966	794	123,760
	<u>122,966</u>	<u>794</u>	<u>123,760</u>

Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 January 2021

6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.1.21	31.1.20
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	-	270
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 January 2021 nor for the year ended 31 January 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 January 2021 nor for the year ended 31 January 2020.

8. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.1.21	31.1.20
Project staff	-	3
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	2,046	-	2,046
Charitable activities			
Youth Project	40,574	32,693	73,267
Other trading activities	8,295	-	8,295
Total	<u>50,915</u>	<u>32,693</u>	<u>83,608</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Youth Project	45,351	30,075	75,426
NET INCOME	<u>5,564</u>	<u>2,618</u>	<u>8,182</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	(1,497)	7,005	5,508
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>4,067</u>	<u>9,623</u>	<u>13,690</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 January 2021**10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Computer equipment £
COST	
At 1 February 2020 and 31 January 2021	1,080
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 February 2020 and 31 January 2021	1,080
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 January 2021	-
At 31 January 2020	-

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.1.21 £	31.1.20 £
Trade creditors	-	720
Social security and other taxes	1,478	1,478
Accruals and deferred income	720	720
	<u>2,198</u>	<u>2,918</u>

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.2.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.1.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	4,067	23,095	27,162
Restricted funds			
The Workers' Educational Association	4,252	(2,875)	1,377
John Moores Foundation	2,000	(2,000)	-
BBC Children In Need	752	1,641	2,393
Daneway Foundation	900	(900)	-
Mark McQueen Foundation	1,719	(1,719)	-
Lottery Covid 19 Response	-	11,960	11,960
LCR Covid Fund	-	738	738
	<u>9,623</u>	<u>6,845</u>	<u>16,468</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>13,690</u>	<u>29,940</u>	<u>43,630</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 January 2021

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	77,223	(54,128)	23,095
Restricted funds			
P H Holt Foundation	4,390	(4,390)	-
The Workers' Educational Association	-	(2,875)	(2,875)
John Moores Foundation	-	(2,000)	(2,000)
BBC Children In Need	15,283	(13,642)	1,641
Daneway Foundation	-	(900)	(900)
Mark McQueen Foundation	-	(1,719)	(1,719)
Job Retention Scheme	27,251	(27,251)	-
Ann and Ray Messer Foundation	1,976	(1,976)	-
Lottery Covid 19 Response	19,760	(7,800)	11,960
Percy Bilton Fund	500	(500)	-
LCR Covid Fund	7,317	(6,579)	738
	<u>76,477</u>	<u>(69,632)</u>	<u>6,845</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>153,700</u>	<u>(123,760)</u>	<u>29,940</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.2.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.1.20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	(1,497)	5,564	4,067
Restricted funds			
The Santander Foundation	4,077	(4,077)	-
The Workers' Educational Association	270	3,982	4,252
John Moores Foundation	-	2,000	2,000
Barbara Ward Children's Foundation	923	(923)	-
BBC Children In Need	660	92	752
Daneway Foundation	-	900	900
23 Foundation	957	(957)	-
Woodward Trust	118	(118)	-
Mark McQueen Foundation	-	1,719	1,719
	<u>7,005</u>	<u>2,618</u>	<u>9,623</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>5,508</u>	<u>8,182</u>	<u>13,690</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 January 2021

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	50,915	(45,351)	5,564
Restricted funds			
Thomas Wall Trust	1,000	(1,000)	-
The Santander Foundation	-	(4,077)	(4,077)
The Workers' Educational Association	4,990	(1,008)	3,982
John Moores Foundation	3,000	(1,000)	2,000
Baily Thomas Charitable Fund	1,000	(1,000)	-
Barbara Ward Children's Foundation	1,650	(2,573)	(923)
BBC Children In Need	9,000	(8,908)	92
Daneway Foundation	6,099	(5,199)	900
23 Foundation	-	(957)	(957)
Woodward Trust	-	(118)	(118)
Medicash	2,000	(2,000)	-
LCVS Community Impact Fund	1,000	(1,000)	-
Mark McQueen Foundation	2,954	(1,235)	1,719
	<u>32,693</u>	<u>(30,075)</u>	<u>2,618</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>83,608</u>	<u>(75,426)</u>	<u>8,182</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.2.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.1.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	(1,497)	28,659	27,162
Restricted funds			
The Santander Foundation	4,077	(4,077)	-
The Workers' Educational Association	270	1,107	1,377
Barbara Ward Children's Foundation	923	(923)	-
BBC Children In Need	660	1,733	2,393
23 Foundation	957	(957)	-
Woodward Trust	118	(118)	-
Lottery Covid 19 Response	-	11,960	11,960
LCR Covid Fund	-	738	738
	<u>7,005</u>	<u>9,463</u>	<u>16,468</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>5,508</u>	<u>38,122</u>	<u>43,630</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 January 2021

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	128,138	(99,479)	28,659
Restricted funds			
P H Holt Foundation	4,390	(4,390)	-
Thomas Wall Trust	1,000	(1,000)	-
The Santander Foundation	-	(4,077)	(4,077)
The Workers' Educational Association	4,990	(3,883)	1,107
John Moores Foundation	3,000	(3,000)	-
Baily Thomas Charitable Fund	1,000	(1,000)	-
Barbara Ward Children's Foundation	1,650	(2,573)	(923)
BBC Children In Need	24,283	(22,550)	1,733
Daneway Foundation	6,099	(6,099)	-
23 Foundation	-	(957)	(957)
Woodward Trust	-	(118)	(118)
Medicash	2,000	(2,000)	-
LCVS Community Impact Fund	1,000	(1,000)	-
Mark McQueen Foundation	2,954	(2,954)	-
Job Retention Scheme	27,251	(27,251)	-
Ann and Ray Messer Foundation	1,976	(1,976)	-
Lottery Covid 19 Response	19,760	(7,800)	11,960
Percy Bilton Fund	500	(500)	-
LCR Covid Fund	7,317	(6,579)	738
	<u>109,170</u>	<u>(99,707)</u>	<u>9,463</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>237,308</u></u>	<u><u>(199,186)</u></u>	<u><u>38,122</u></u>

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 January 2021.

Phoenix Community & Youth Project

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 January 2021

	31.1.21 £	31.1.20 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations and fundraising	5,054	2,046
Other trading activities		
Room hire	14,350	8,295
Charitable activities		
Project income	57,819	40,574
Grants	76,477	32,693
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	134,296	73,267
Total incoming resources	<hr/>	<hr/>
	153,700	83,608
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	58,855	48,434
Pensions	3,216	2,159
Project costs	12,084	4,046
Premises costs	24,057	17,174
Insurance and licences	754	760
Freelance staff	7,589	1,521
Repairs and renewals	16,376	170
Sundry expenses	35	139
Computer equipment	-	270
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	122,966	74,673
Support costs		
Finance		
Bank charges	74	33
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	720	720
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total resources expended	123,760	75,426
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net income	<hr/>	<hr/>
	29,940	8,182

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements