



THE GREEN BACKYARD
A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Annual report for the year ended 31 March 2022

Legal and Administrative information

Chair:

Vanessa Pool

Secretary:

Becky Vince

Trustees:

Mahemuda Arsalani

Emma Blades (from 24th February 2022)

Ema Corcoran (resigned 28th February 2022)

Charlotte Dixon (Council trustee)

Sophie Easteal (resigned 21st July 2021)

Charlotte Fionda (resigned 21st July 2021)

Harriet O'Shea (from 14th March 2022)

Oliver Sainsbury (Councillor trustee from 14th February 2022)

Laura Saunders (from 11th March 2022)

Kathy Shaw

Olivia Slater (resigned 21st July 2021)

Barbara Staton (from 14th February 2022)

Robbie Staton (from 14th February 2022)

Charity number: 1155534

Bankers:

CAF Bank Limited, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ.

Registered office:

Chauffeurs Cottage, St Peter's Road, Peterborough PE1 1YX.

Independent Examiner:

Triple Bottom Line Accounting, Enterprise Centre, University of East Anglia, Norwich Research Park, Norwich NR4 7TJ.

Website: www.thegreenbackyard.com

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

Objects and Activities

The Green Backyard is governed by a Constitution which became effective from incorporation as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 30 January 2014. The charitable purposes of The Green Backyard CIO are:

1. To develop the capacity and skills of members of socially or economically disadvantaged communities within the community of interest in such ways that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society, including by:
 - A. equipping people with skills and competencies which they would not otherwise have;
 - B. realising existing skills and developing potential;
 - C. promoting people's self-confidence;
 - D. encouraging people to get involved in their community and wider society.
2. To promote sustainable development for the benefit of the public by:
 - A. the preservation, conservation and the protection of the environment and the prudent use of resources;
 - B. the promotion of sustainable means of achieving economic growth and regeneration.
 - C. the advancement of education of the public in subjects relating to sustainable development and the protection, enhancement and rehabilitation of the environment and to promote study and research in such subjects provided that the useful results of such study are disseminated to the public at large.

Sustainable development means "development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

The Green Backyard is a vibrant community growing project in the heart of Peterborough, which was established in 2009 and is run entirely by volunteers. From this urban space we have transformed a once derelict former allotment site into a beautiful and productive community garden that is open to everyone. We are passionate about sustainability and work to raise awareness of environmental issues by involving the community in informative, practical demonstrations and workshops. We work with many different individuals and groups, as well as various schools, businesses and other organisations from across Peterborough and beyond.

Our AGM was held on 18 July 2021.



Charity governance

Governing document:

The charity is controlled by its governing document, the Constitution as amended 18 March 2018, and constitutes a Charitable Incorporated Organisation as defined by the Charities Act 2011.

Risk management:

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Governance:

Trustees are elected by members at the Annual General Meeting. During the period covered by this report, trustees met monthly to oversee the charity and were responsible for all operating decisions. The charity's money may only be expended on authorisation of a quorum of trustees, when that decision is recorded in the minutes.

Public Benefit:

The trustees have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. The activities described in this report have been undertaken for the public benefit and in pursuit of the charity's objects.

Reserves:

The Green Backyard is a registered charity and as such operates as a not for profit entity. Any accounting surpluses in our year-end accounts ordinarily become a reserve to be used for future investment in the charity's objects and activities. Reserves are not intended to be expended to support ongoing operating costs of the charity except in exceptional circumstances. As such, it is the charity's intention to cap the unrestricted reserve at six months operating expenditure, with any further surplus designated to projects that deliver our objects. This level of six months has been set to meet a potential need, such as an unexpected drop in income. This will ensure we can pay essential bills while we secure new funds. We will review this policy annually in line with the production of our accounts.

Financial review:

The charity continues to operate as a going concern. Trustees have ensured legacy grants continue to be correctly directed towards our charitable activities and new funding has been won alongside considerable donations to underpin our operational costs. There have unfortunately been continued delays to spending some of our restricted grants due to Covid which will have priority in the year ahead.

We were again successful in winning & delivering a series of educational contracts (CLT and Thrive) which both generated a surplus. We do not foresee this sort of opportunity being realised in the coming year, which has led trustees to continue to designate funds to direct towards key development activities.

A key development has been partnering with Refill Revolution to take over our ethical shop activity, which has successfully contributed a significant donation to the charity alongside selling all remaining unspoilt stock, with the remainder being donated.



Purpose of restricted funds

Awards for All

The COVID-19 pandemic led us to decide to re-focus the grant towards developing community activities on site (rather than a café). Notably buying a new refurbished container to host the Sodexo/Peterborough City Council Green Wheel bike repair and refurbishment project. We also ran a fantastic initiative with local artists to produce impactful work for our site to promote our objects. Ongoing work to repair our hub building as a community meeting space will be continued this year.

TRU Postcode

Remaining funds were targeting the delivery of new pathways and raised beds, ensuring improved accessibility for those with disabilities, as well as generally improve year round access. Quotes for this work have so far come in considerably over budget and trustees will determine how to refocus the bid outcomes to achieve its aims within budget.

SHED

We received a generous donation in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to use our site to supply vulnerable people with plants for raised beds to be able to feed themselves at home self-sufficiently. This led to a wide variety of produce being grown on site as well as plants being started off to go into the beds at recipients' own homes. Remaining funds have been targeting improvement of our garden areas for food growing, which have been donated or sold to the local community. A key aspect has been repairing our polytunnel to support more effective growing.

Co-operative

A new grant was won to continue to expand the work started by our SHED funding, particularly to launch a self-sufficient market garden project on the site, to support local education around sustainable food and growing. In time we expect this to generate income for the charity.

Health XChange

We were not able to fulfil this project due to Covid & the money was returned to the funder. We had already purchased some items for the project, and these have been sold through the shop.

MIND

We were successful in winning a small grant from MIND to establish our Menshed project on site, which is now meeting twice weekly and refurbishing wooden and metal furniture and machinery. They are also using waste materials on site to create new products such as bird boxes and bird tables, which are being sold at our events. This project is now self-sustaining, with remaining grant monies targeting improving the container to be water tight & warm during colder months.



Chair's Report

This year we moved from things happening mostly behind the scenes while we weren't able to open to the public to becoming more visible and accessible.

The trustees continued to meet online. We tried a couple of meetings on site in the summer, but not everyone could attend and the technology we had didn't work well enough for us to have a successful hybrid experience. We re-introduced monthly site meetings, recruited new trustees and got back close to our maximum number of trustees.

Our onsite shop re-opened under the Refill Revolution banner and has proved a great success bringing in visitors from all round the area. Julie who runs it has made a big difference to the site, being a welcoming presence, generating ideas and taking our social media forward.

We had a good supply of honey from our three hives which sold very quickly through the shop. We continued to make donations of produce grown on site to the Community Fridge.

Men's Shed, funded by MIND, began to provide a safe space for men (so far) and women to work on mainly woodwork related projects with the help of the leader of the project.

A series of music festivals in the summer run by another provider tested our ability to be involved in whole site events, gave us an extra incentive to prepare the site and proved that we were ready to receive the public on a large scale once again.

Local groups held Vegan food shares, a Samba band and Extinction Rebellion meetings.

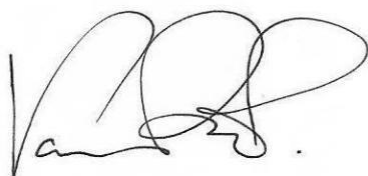
The Secretary and Chair spoke to a village community event about our work and ambitions and we received a generous donation from them.

In September we held our first annual International picnic and food share for two years. On-site were eight local artists who we had invited to work on panels during the event. Attendees fed back how good it was to be back on site, some remembering when the fence had been painted originally.

As Covid restrictions were easing again a small team of trustees began to plan our return to holding our renowned Christmas Fair. In spite of having carefully selected a date in advance of Christmas, we weren't able to hold it as scheduled because of storms and predictions of dangerously high winds. We hastily re-arranged and because of increased restrictions we presented a new risk assessment to the City Council. That achieved, we were able to go ahead and thanks to our wonderful stall holders, had a successful event albeit on a smaller scale than previously envisaged.

We would like to thank everyone involved in The Green Backyard as volunteers and participants at events for their support, optimism and encouragement to grow and meet our community objectives.

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



Vanessa Pool
Chair of Trustees

The Green Backyard CIO

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

For the period ended 31st March 2022

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, with the seeking of explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Peter Ellington FAIA
Triple Bottom Line Accounting Limited
The Enterprise Centre
University of East Anglia
Norwich
Norfolk
NR4 7TJ

29 September 2022

		31 March 2022				31 March 2021			
	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Receipts:									
Donations and legacies	2	4,337	-	105	4,442	2,072		19,167	21,239
Charitable Activities	3	16,334	-	-	16,334				
Other trading activities	4	1,064	-	-	1,064	257			257
Total		21,735	-	-	21,841	2,329		19,167	21,496
Payments:									
Raising Funds	5	1,200	-	-	1,200	103		-	103
Charitable Activities	6	8,025	-	3,895	11,920	5,000		10,656	15,656
Support, administration and governance	7	8,545	-	-	8,545	17,589		11,777	29,366
Reduction in assets						6,250		-	6,250
Total		17,770	-	3,895	21,665	28,942		22,433	51,375.00
Net receipts/(payments)		3,965	-	(3,895)	176	(26,613)	0	(3,266)	(29,879)
Cash funds at 31 March b/f	5	3,351	4,700	12,923	20,974	25,072		25,781	50,853
Transfers between funds						4,892	4,700	(9,592)	
Cash funds at 31 March c/f	5	7,316	4,700	9,028	21,150	3,351	4,700	12,923	20,974

Cash Funds

Cash at bank & in hand

Total Charitable Funds

Unrestricted funds £	31 March 2022	
	Restricted income funds £	Total £
12,015	9,133	21,149
12,015	9,133	21,149
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12,015	9,133	21,149

Unrestricted funds £	31 March 2021	
	Restricted income funds £	Total £
8,050	12,923	20,973
8,050	12,923	20,973
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8,050	12,923	20,973

1) Receipts and Payment accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

2) Donations, grants and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £
Co-operative		1,690	1,690	-	-	-
SHED		-	-	-	5,000	5,000
HealthXchange		(2,085)	(2,085)	-	1,810	1,810
MIND		500	500	-	-	-
Donations	4,147		4,147	1,758	-	1,758
Gift Aid	190		190	287	-	287
	4,337	105	4,442	2,045	6,810	8,855

3) Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £
CLT	12,480		12,480	-	12,357	12,357
Thrive	2,000		2,000	-	-	-
Site activities (refund on a bill paid in previous year)	264		264	-	-	-
Event income	1,590		1,590	-	-	-
	16,334	-	16,334	-	12,357	12,357

4) Other income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £
Shop donation	1,064		1,064	-	-	-
Shop income			-	257	-	257
	1,064	-	1,064	257	-	257

5) Raising Funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £
Marketing & website	1,200		1,200			
Shop costs			-	103	-	103
	1,200	-	1,200	103	-	103

6) Direct Charitable Expenditure

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £
Charitable Activities	294		294	5,000	10,656	15,656
CLT (contract)	6,281		6,281			
Thrive (contract)	1,450		1,450			
Awards for All		1,211	1,211			
Co-operative		488	488			
SHED		889	889			
TRU Postcode		1,057	1,057			
MIND		251	251			
	8,025	3,895	11,920	5,000	10,656	15,656

7) Charity Management and Administration

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £
Staff and Administration Costs	214		214	15,050	11,777	26,827
Administration Costs	5,485		5,485			
Governance Costs	1,037		1,037	2,539	-	2,539
Purchases and direct costs	1,809		1,809	-	-	-
	8,545	-	8,545	17,589	11,777	29,366

8) Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Restricted Funds:					
Awards for All	2,042		1,211		831
Co-operative	-	1,690	488		1,202
SHED	1,145		889		256
TRU Postcode	7,926		1,057		6,869
Mind	-	500	251		249
HealthXChange	1,810		(2,085)	-	275
Total Restricted Funds	12,923	2,190	1,810	-	9,133
Unrestricted funds:					
Brought forward	8,051				
Total Unrestricted Funds	8,051	21,735	17,770	-	12,016
Total Funds	20,974	23,925	19,580	-	21,150

6) Related party transactions and Trustees' expenses and remuneration

The Trustees all give freely their time and expertise without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or kind (2022: Nil).

No Trustees, or person related or connected by business to them has received any payments or other benefits from the charity during the year.