

EAST MANCHESTER COMMUNITY BOAT PROJECT

REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 MARCH 2024

(Registered Charity Number 1155976)

EAST MANCHESTER COMMUNITY BOAT PROJECT

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EAST MANCHESTER COMMUNITY BOAT PROJECT

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees:

President

Mr N Anderson

Chair

Dr J W Stephens CBE

Treasurer

Mr J A Strudwick

Secretary

Ms S E Steventon

Trustees

Mr K Glover

Mr D Gardener

Mr B Sharples

Mrs J Bailey

Mrs A Cartledge

Mr J Fletcher

Principal Office

c/o Portland Basin Marina

Lower Alma Street

Dukinfield

Cheshire

SK16 4SQ

Accountants

Topping Partnership (Accountants) Limited

Incom House

Waterside

Trafford Park

Manchester

M17 1WD

Bankers

HSBC Bank plc

2-4 St Ann's Square

Manchester

M2 7HD

EAST MANCHESTER COMMUNITY BOAT PROJECT

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Reference and Administrative Details

Reference and administration details are shown in the Schedule of Members of the Board and Professional Advisers on page 1 of the Financial Statements.

The Trustees

The trustees who served in the year were:

Mr N Anderson	Dr J W Stephens
Ms S E Steventon	Mr J A Strudwick
Mr K Glover	Mr B Sharples
Mr D Gardener – appointed 18/10/2023	
Mrs A Cartledge	
Mrs J Bailey	Mr J Fletcher

The trustees are appointed according to the constitution structure, governance and management and their responsibilities are contained in the constitution.

The Committee meets six times a year and is bound by the rules of conduct contained in the constitution. The Committee is subject to election at the Annual General Meeting.

The principal office of the company is Portland Basin Marina, Lower Alma Street, Dukinfield, Cheshire, SK16 4SQ.

Objectives and Activities

The charity's objects are:

To provide or assist in the provision of facilities, in the interests of social welfare, for recreation, education or other leisure time, occupation of persons mainly in the East of Manchester and Greater Manchester areas, who have need of such facilities by reason of their disability. In the event of spare capacity, to also include persons who are disadvantaged by social and economic circumstances with the object of improving and enhancing their conditions of life.

The trustees, when deciding on the charity's activities for the year, are mindful of the Charity Commission's Guidance on Public Benefit. The facilities are available to all regardless of gender, faith or personal circumstances.

The trustees and members are custodians of a narrowboat, a full description of which is given on page 7.

Activities and Achievements

The activities and achievements for the year are shown in the message from the Chair.

EAST MANCHESTER COMMUNITY BOAT PROJECT
ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2024

Financial Review

The trustees have no formal policy to maintain a level of reserves, however, they are conscious of their responsibilities and monitor the level of the reserves to ensure the charity holds a minimum of one year's full running costs as a reserve fund, in addition to allowing for general maintenance costs.

At the start of the year the charity had £137,975 of reserves. This decreased during the year and at 31 March 2024 the charity had £134,822 of reserves.


Responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees are responsible for ensuring proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the project. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

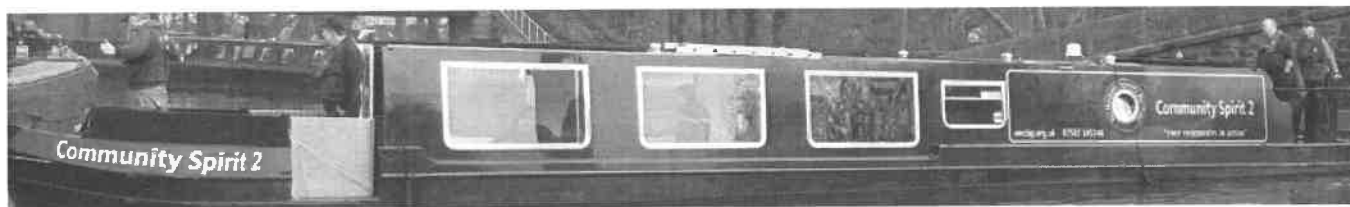
SIGNED BY ORDER OF THE BOARD



Trustee



Date



EAST MANCHESTER COMMUNITY BOAT PROJECT

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2024

Message from the Chair



It is such a privilege to continue serving as the Chair of Trustees for this wonderful East Manchester charity. I am well supported in my role by a fantastic team of enthusiastic, knowledgeable, innovative and highly committed group of volunteer trustees. We added to our number this year by formally approving David Gardner as a trustee. Brian Sharples remains a member but stood down as a trustee in January 2024. I would like formally to thank Brian for his great service in a number of key roles. We co-opted Peter Marlor on to the board and he will stand for election at the Annual General Meeting.

One of the reasons for the remarkable longevity of this charity is that we never stand still. Our President, Nigel Anderson, is constantly seeking new opportunities for us to grow and for us to develop our positive community vision. In addition to having our electrically powered boat – still quite a novelty on the waterways – we have installed solar panels and now have our own dedicated charging point by our mooring close to the Portland Basin Museum. These are remarkable achievements that have only been made possible by the drive and vision of our President implemented so enthusiastically by our outstanding team of volunteers.

During the year Community Spirit 2 has been available for intensive training and familiarisation led by our superb trainers Andy Eadon and Tom Edwards. It was great to be present at the 're-launch' of our boat in May by His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester, Diane Hawkins, accompanied by civic dignitaries and our volunteers and benefactors. It was a great opportunity for us all to celebrate our shared achievements.

In the next 12 months we will celebrate our 30th anniversary. It will be great to come together for a formal dinner at Gorton Monastery to acknowledge the remarkable work of our charity sustained and evolving for 30 years.

Our bookings for the year tell the story of our successful community outreach:

Day trips	- 121
Crew training and maintenance days	- 47
Days spent on CCBM training courses	- 3
Days at Stalybridge Carnival	- 3
Sail With Santa days	- 5
Total number of passengers on board	- 1,055 (of which 311 via Sail with Santa)
Passenger donations	- £2,319.00
Sail with Santa contribution	- £919.77



Feedback from passengers on all aspects of their experience (including the boat itself, crew and trip) is 100% positive. This is a remarkable achievement and speaks to the excellent work of our volunteers.

It is with sadness that I have to record the loss of Peter Farrell. Peter joined us in 2020. He was a real character, never more so than when he played the role of the 'naughty elf' during our Sail with Santa trips. Peter could perform magic tricks and loved to entertain passengers and crew alike. He loved volunteering with Community Spirit and is sorely missed.

We have continued to receive wonderful support from so many individuals and organisations. I would particularly like to record, once again, our thanks to Michael Sellars at Elcometer Limited. The on-going generous support that we receive from Michael and the company is a huge benefit to us. We also benefit greatly from a partnership with Jigsaw Homes as well as the excellent support of Louvolite (Hyde) and Robert Burns Lodge 999. Our work with Jigsaw is significant and enables us to fulfil our community vision by reaching out to residents and providing opportunities for them to acquire new skills.

Additionally we have received generous financial support from: Clothworkers Foundation, Manchester Guardian, Lord Lieutenant's Fund, Lottery Community Fund, EL Masonic mark Fund and EL Masonic Charity. Charitable donations enable us to carry out our important community mission and it's great to have support in kind and advice from our friends and colleagues at: Bridge View Café, Canal and River Trust, GID Marine, Lynch Motor Company, Maine Electrical Services, Portland Basin Marina, Portland Basin Museum, Rolec Services and Tameside Canal Boat Trust.

Our accountants, Topping Partnership, have, once again, prepared and scrutinized our accounts. I am really grateful for their highly professional and expert work.

As ever I would like to record my personal thanks to **all** our volunteers. Their resilience, pragmatism, diverse contributions, creative thinking and many kindnesses endure throughout the good times as well as the challenges. Let's continue to work together, fostering a genuine community spirit and ensuring that our wonderful charity makes the most of every opportunity for the benefit of all those whom we serve.

Dr John Wm Stephens CBE OStJ
Chair of Trustees

EAST MANCHESTER COMMUNITY BOAT PROJECT

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2024

The Boat

The boat is 57ft long and 6ft wide. The hull is made completely from steel, the bottom is 10mm thick, the sides and cabin are 6mm thick and the top is 4mm thick. The boat weighs about 18 tons.

The narrowboat is now powered by two electric motors with additional leisure batteries replenished by solar panels. Both systems are plugged into a wall mounted charger on mooring.

It has large folding ramps at the bow to allow easy and comfortable wheelchair and passenger boarding and a scissor lift to transfer wheelchair passengers from the front deck to the cabin.

The boat can accommodate up to two electric and four standard wheelchairs, has a wider entrance door for ease of boarding. It has open-plan flexible seating, lower and larger viewing windows, central heating, a small galley and a toilet/wash room with wheelchair access. It is also equipped with an intruder alarm and a defibrillator.

Fresh water is carried in the bow of the boat and fuel is carried at the stern.

It is registered to carry a total of 15 people. It is a day boat and is not designed for overnight use.

The boat has two bow-thrusters and is steered from the stern using a traditional tiller. Under supervision, all passengers are encouraged to steer the boat and the remote steering facility allows wheelchair users to steer the boat from the front deck.

Buoyancy aids for wheelchair-bound passengers and children up to the age of 11 are available together with two infants' life jackets. Auto-inflating life jackets are carried on board and are worn by crew members, they are also available to all passengers.

The boat holds a current Boat Safety Scheme Certificate BSS Examination Report number BSSER-401680/20 (displayed on the boat) which is valid until 18 November 2025.

EAST MANCHESTER COMMUNITY BOAT PROJECT

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2024

Volunteers and Training Programme

The committee will continue to recruit volunteers from the community to help crew the boat. Qualified trainers will take volunteers through the National Community Boat Association's Certificate in Community Boat Management as standard. For those who just want to come along and help, we will run informal training days which will include low-key fire fighting, operating locks, general boat maintenance, acting as a guide, rules of the canal - indeed, anything that could affect the day-to-day operation of the boat.

Trustees continually review their skills and knowledge base and will seek to recruit new trustees with specific areas of expertise in order to expand.

The project's 2025 Vision commits to focus on six main areas; membership, training, finance, clients, website and marketing. The trustees are making steady progress towards achieving their goals.

First Aid, fire, man overboard and evacuation drills will be compulsory for *all* volunteers, and will be repeated on a regular basis - as necessary.

A training log will be kept for all volunteers.

Fund Raising

The committee are indebted to those companies, organisations and individuals who donate time, expertise, advice and funds to the project. The committee will continue to seek out new ways to raise general awareness of, and further funding for, the project.

EAST MANCHESTER COMMUNITY BOAT PROJECT

ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE PREPARATION OF

THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF EAST MANCHESTER COMMUNITY BOAT PROJECT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

In order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Charities Act 2011, we have prepared for your approval the financial statements of East Manchester Community Boat Project, which comprise the statement of financial activities and the related notes from the charity's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given us.

This report is made to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 21 November 2023. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the financial statements of East Manchester Community Boat Project and state those matters that we have agreed to state to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in this report in accordance with the ICAEW Technical Release 07/16 AAF. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than East Manchester Community Boat Project and the charity's Trustees, as a body, for our work or for this report.

It is your duty to ensure that East Manchester Community Boat Project has kept adequate accounting records and to prepare statutory financial statements that give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and surplus of East Manchester Community Boat Project. You consider that East Manchester Community Boat Project is exempt from the statutory audit requirement for the year, and is not required to obtain an independent examiner's report.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the financial statements of East Manchester Community Boat Project. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the statutory financial statements.

Topping Partnership (Accountants) Limited

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Incom House
Waterside
Trafford Park
Manchester
M17 1WD

EAST MANCHESTER COMMUNITY BOAT PROJECT

STATEMENT OF UNAUDITED FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Note	2024 Restricted Funds £	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Restricted Funds £	2023 Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Incoming resources						
Donations and subscriptions	-	8,106	8,106	-	10,262	10,262
Interest 5	-	10	10	-	27	27
Gift Aid	-	402	402	-	565	565
Grants	-	-	-	34,500	-	34,500
30 th Anniversary Event	3,900	100	4,000	-	-	-
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Total incoming resources	3,900	8,618	12,518	34,500	10,854	45,354
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Resources expended						
Charitable activity 8	6,035	8,560	14,595	3,570	9,655	13,225
Governance 8	-	1,076	1,076	-	973	973
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total resources expended	6,035	9,636	15,671	3,570	10,628	14,198
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net incoming/(outgoing) Resources	(2,135)	(1,018)	(3,153)	30,930	226	31,156
Funds brought forward	69,910	68,065	137,975	38,980	67,839	106,819
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Funds at 31 March 2024	67,775	67,047	134,822	69,910	68,065	137,975
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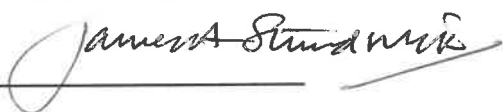
EAST MANCHESTER COMMUNITY BOAT PROJECT

UNAUDITED BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	2024 Restricted Funds £	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Restricted Funds £	2023 Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Fixed Assets	7	66,854	38,353	105,207	67,831	40,484	108,315
Current Assets							
Cash at bank and in hand		1,572	28,042	29,614	-	29,660	29,660
		<u>68,426</u>	<u>66,395</u>	<u>134,821</u>	<u>67,831</u>	<u>70,144</u>	<u>137,975</u>
Represented by							
Reserve for boat repairs		-	5,000	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Non-designated funds		-	61,395	61,395	-	65,144	65,144
Restricted funds		<u>68,426</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,426</u>	<u>67,831</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>67,831</u>
		<u>68,426</u>	<u>66,395</u>	<u>134,821</u>	<u>67,831</u>	<u>70,144</u>	<u>137,975</u>

Trustee



Date

7th December 2024

EAST MANCHESTER COMMUNITY BOAT PROJECT
NOTES FORMING PART OF THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is c/o Portland Basin Marina, Lower Alma Street, Dukinfield, Cheshire, SK16 4SQ.

(b) Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with Receipts and Payments Account and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

(c) Investment income

Investment income is accounted for in the period in which it is received.

(d) Donations received

Donations received are accounted for in the period in which they are received.

(e) Resources expended

Expenditure is included on a payment basis.

(f) Fund accounting

Details of the nature and purpose of each fund is set out in note 2.

(g) Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about going concern.

(h) Income tax

The charity is exempt from income tax.

(i) Depreciation

The boat is to be written off over 25 years.

2 FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

Comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use in accordance with the charitable objects.

Restricted Funds

Comprise those funds which have been given for particular purposes and projects.

3 TRUSTEE REMUNERATION

No trustees have received any remuneration or expenses in the year (2023 : £Nil)

4 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There are no related party transactions to be disclosed.

EAST MANCHESTER COMMUNITY BOAT PROJECT

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

5 INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Unrestricted Funds £
Bank interest received	10	27
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

6 STAFF COSTS

No staff were employed by the charity during the year.

7 FIXED ASSETS

Boat – Community Spirit 2

	Restricted Costs £	Unrestricted Costs £	Total £
Cost b/f	79,771	53,269	133,040
Additions	2,730	-	2,730
Disposals	-	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Cost c/f	£82,501	£53,269	£135,770
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Depreciation b/f	11,940	12,785	24,725
Charge	3,707	2,131	5,838
Disposals	-	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Depreciation c/f	£15,647	£14,916	£30,563
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NBV 31.03.24	£66,854	£38,353	£105,207
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NBV 31.03.23	£67,831	£40,484	£108,315
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The Trustees have decided to write the boat off over 25 years on a straight line basis.

EAST MANCHESTER COMMUNITY BOAT PROJECT

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

8 ANNUAL REPORT

	2024	2023
	£	£
Charitable Activity		
Unrestricted		
Mooring and licence fees	2,267	2,271
Maintenance	1,456	2,418
Fuel/Pump	854	1,707
Repairs and renewals	122	765
Training	40	20
Insurance	1,690	343
Depreciation	2,131	2,131
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£8,560	£9,655
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Charitable Activity		
Restricted		
Depreciation	3,707	3,570
30 th Anniversary Event	2,328	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£6,035	£3,570
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Governance		
Unrestricted		
Postage	-	49
Telephone	373	340
Website	11	11
Sundry	600	482
Bank charges	92	91
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£1,076	£973
	<hr/>	<hr/>