

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

England & Wales · Charity number 1156526

## Details

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**Other names** SWAPA

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Charitable company

**Company number** [07289310](#)

**Registered** 2014-04-03

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

## Contact

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**Address** 69 Shakespeare Walk  
Hackney  
London  
N16 8TB

**Phone** 0207 249 8405

**Email** [helloswapa@swapa.org.uk](mailto:helloswapa@swapa.org.uk)

**Website** [www.swapa.org.uk](http://www.swapa.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION AND OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION FOR CHILDREN RESIDENT IN STOKE NEWINGTON, BEING FACILITIES (A) OF WHICH SUCH CHILDREN HAVE NEED BY WAY OF THEIR YOUTH OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES;(B)WHICH WILL IMPROVE THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR SUCH CHILDREN BY PROMOTING THEIR PHYSICAL, MENTAL AND SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING.

**Activities:** We create the best play spaces for young people, aged 6-16, to develop key life skills, for free. We use play to turn community challenges into solutions, fostering resilience, creativity, and wellbeing by providing a safe and collaborative space where young people can experiment, take measured risks, and build life skills, to supplement the pressures of structured life and adult-driven agenda

## Classification

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- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People

## Geography

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- Hackney

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£173,676	£134,042	-	-
2024-03-31	£140,155	£147,350	-	-
2023-03-31	£138,371	£121,517	-	-
2022-03-31	£120,096	£117,774	-	-
2021-03-31	£93,484	£89,349	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Nitasha Kapoor</b>	Chair	2019-12-01
Christy Holzer		2025-11-08
Katherine Jennings		2025-11-08
Katherine Mengardon		2022-09-24
Mara Bodis-Wollner		2022-09-24
ariane hanman		2019-10-19

**SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND**

England & Wales - Charity number 1156526

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# Accounts

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**SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**Registered Company Number: 07289310 (England & Wales)**

**Registered Charity Number: 1156526**

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## CHARITY INFORMATION

Company Registration Number 07289310

Charity Registration Number 1156526

### Management Committee Trustees

Nitasha Kapoor	Chair
Mara Bodis-Wollner	Treasurer
Ariane Hanman	Secretary
Chiara Farina	Trustee
Katherine Mengardon	Trustee

Registered Office 69 Shakespeare Walk  
London  
N16 8TB

Accountants Moore Green  
22 Friars Street  
Sudbury  
Suffolk CO10 2AA

Service Address 69 Shakespeare Walk  
London  
N16 8TB

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

### CHAIR REPORT

*"I can't believe this place even exists! I'll definitely be making use of it this summer... it's a lifeline!" - Parent, young person 10 years old*

Shakespeare Walk is a beloved 45-year-old Adventure Playground in the heart of Stoke Newington, Hackney and we create the best play spaces for young people, aged 6-16, to develop key life skills, for free.

The 2024/25 annual report is a chance to not only look back on the year that we've had but celebrate a longer-term snapshot of SWAPA's recent history. Since becoming Chair of Trustees in 2019, we've worked hard to build on SWAPA's legacy of community development for over 45 years. My background is in Anthropology, and over the last five years I have had to deep dive into everything from health, safety and safeguarding to fundraising, playwork and board governance. In the process I've marvelled at the deep roots SWAPA holds as a space for community building and the sheer power of being a consistent and trusted presence in our community, championing play, diversity and being a truly child-led environment.

Our aim is to connect the dots between schools, youth clubs, sports groups and mental health services, so they work together instead of separately. We also want local businesses and community leaders to feel like true partners in our work, not just funders, and to celebrate and protect the impact of play, we're building an "Impact Archive" that records the voices, experiences, and stories of young people today, while also honouring over 45 years of SWAPA's history.

Our bi-annual Summer Open Day in July and Bonfire Party in November remain two of SWAPA's biggest highlights, and this year we welcomed record numbers of visitors (over 300 on each occasion) – many discovering the playground for the first time. These events give us a chance to throw open our doors, connect with families, and share more about everything SWAPA has to offer.

Our weekly home education sessions have grown into a dedicated community of families, and to brighten the colder months we introduced Friday bonfires – creating a welcoming space where families could come together, connect, and spark new friendships. This year we also hosted a record number of private hire birthday parties, a clear sign of the trust our community places in us to provide the best play experiences. We're deeply grateful for this support, which helps keep the playground thriving.

Creative partnerships have flourished, such as an art and dance workshop with Ekleido, and ongoing collaborations with Stoke Newington School and monthly experimental sound explorations with the Free Youth Orchestra. Together, these

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

connections strengthen SWAPA's role as a hub of creativity, community, and collaboration.

Behind the scenes, SWAPA runs on strong foundations—good governance, clear planning, and proper safeguarding and safety measures. But what really makes the difference is our belief that with trust and consistency, play can transform lives.

We are pleased to continue our work with Tilly Hawthorne as Senior Playworker, and George van de Byl as Office Manager, both having worked at SWAPA for over five years. Justice Pierre-Fearon has been promoted from playworker to Deputy Playworker and Jake Milne continues as Lead Builder and Site Manager. We said farewell to Sarah Wilson who has gone on to help build an Adventure Playground in Sheffield.

A huge thank you to their commitment, alongside our Playworkers Joel, Ebony, Tom, Jess, Kirsty, Kayann, Fern, Mark and Sebastian, who continue to be trusted and friendly faces for our young people.

Thank you to Stephen White and Simeon Marriott Dixon at Young Hackney for funding and supporting our activities at SWAPA. The reality is that we must fundraise double that amount to meet core costs, most of which go towards staff salaries and overheads. We're pleased to have increased our private hires and corporate team days, and have launched a £10/month community fundraiser to further meet these needs: <https://www.justgiving.com/charity/shakespearewalkadventure>

We've had some wonderfully thoughtful donations from our community this year, a few of which I'd like to highlight...

- In 2024, Tomos Parry, head chef at Michelin-starred BRAT, hosted a beautiful cooking lesson and lunch for SWAPA's young people for a second time, building on their interest in cooking. This led to their parent restaurant group, Super 8, to choose SWAPA as a charity to champion in their £1/receipt initiative, raising £13K in one month towards building an outdoor kitchen on our site, with plans to have their chefs coming by to work with our young people and helping with fundraising.
- ARUP design and engineers donated a large snail-shaped playable structure, in partnership with Morag Myerscough and Hooke Park.
- East London Waterworks Project is an action-oriented group of volunteers dedicated to creating vibrant public spaces. We are pleased to be working with them to help us design and build our new structures, and rethink how SWAPA can become more sustainable and future focused for generations to come.
- A £45K donation from a family with children who used to play at SWAPA...

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

*"You gave me so many compelling reasons why SWAPA deserves all the support and funding it needs to take it to another level, and your vision and reach in the community is so impressive ."* - Local parent

We were successful in our bid to win £40K over two years from Go! London, a Mayor of London initiative to encourage young people to become more physically active. This funding is crucial as it covers our core costs for one day/week, supports training and recruitment of more playworkers in our sessional pool as well as fund specialised workshops that our young people want to develop their skills in further. Based on initial research, we've organised kickboxing at the Martial Arts Place, acrobatics with Mimbire, Parkour with a local expert, Mahesh and dance workshops with local dance company Ekleido at the new Sadler's Wells East.

We welcome local parents and community members to join our mailing list ([swapa.org.uk](http://swapa.org.uk)), WhatsApp channel (07988 571 232), Instagram ([swapa\\_n16](https://www.instagram.com/swapa_n16)) or Twitter (SwapaAdventure) to keep up with news and volunteer opportunities. If you would like to join as a trustee, please email [trustees@swapa.org.uk](mailto:trustees@swapa.org.uk) for more information.

Kind regards,  
Nitasha Kapoor  
Chair of Trustees  
Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

### **Mission statement**

We create the best play spaces for young people, aged 6-16, to develop key life skills, for free.

We use play to turn community challenges into solutions, fostering resilience, creativity, and wellbeing by providing a safe and collaborative space where young people can experiment, take measured risks, and build essential life skills, to supplement the pressures of structured education and adult-driven agendas.

We run our adventure playground for all young people, with a focus on welcoming underserved groups, including girls, neurodiverse children, and those aged 11+.

With over 45 years of experience, we champion intergenerational connections, bridging different parts of the community to create a more inclusive and sustainable future.

We adhere to the Play Principles and relevant legislation, our Trustees, staff, and stakeholders commit to a shared vision of a child-led approach that supports physical and mental health, nurtures independence, and empowers young people to shape their own growth and development.

We assert that play is essential to every child's life, a biological need which is vital for children's development as well as a right enshrined in Article 31 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Structure, Governance and Management

Recruitment and appointment of trustees is administered by a Trustee Board who meet at least four times a year. Trustees who served during the 24/25 year:

Nitasha Kapoor - Chair of Trustees  
Mara Bodis-Wollner - Treasurer  
Ariane Hanman - Secretary  
Katherine Mengardon - Trustee  
Chiara Farina - Trustee

The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) manage the day-to-day operations at SWAPA:

Teleasha Hawthorne - Senior Playworker  
Justice Fearon - Deputy Playworker  
George van de Byl - Office Manager  
Jake Milne - Site Manager

## Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with general applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom General Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to Charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. 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 applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its activities.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2015 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safekeeping the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## Accountants

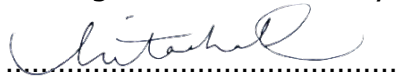
The Management Committee will not seek out other options for accountants at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by the trustees on

26/11/2025  
.....

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

And signed on its behalf by



Nitasha Kapoor

Chair



Mara Bodis-Wollner

Treasurer

## **SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND**

### **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground**

I report on the accounts of the company for the Year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 11 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

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

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not prove 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 next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - To keep accounting records in accordance with the section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met or

- (2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of accounts to be reached.
- (3) After further examination, I concluded that the charity made the necessary steps to avoid significant changes in the funds and the services and managed the risk well.

The financial statements 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.



Vincent Chandler FCA FCCA  
Moore Green  
22 Friars Street  
Sudbury  
Suffolk CO10 2AA

.....27.11.2025.....

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground Association Statement of Financial Activities for the Year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
<i>Charitable activities</i>					
Grants and awards		7,683	71,447	79,130	88,519
<i>Voluntary Income</i>					
Donations/Fundraising		61,426	33,120	94,546	51,636
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>69,109</b>	<b>104,567</b>	<b>173,676</b>	<b>140,155</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
Charitable activities	3	14,217	117,825	132,042	146,037
Fundraising activities	3	-	-	-	-
Governance costs	3	2,000	-	2,000	1,313
Other Expenses - Staff expenses	3	-	-	-	-
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>16,217</b>	<b>117,825</b>	<b>134,042</b>	<b>147,350</b>
<b>NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES</b>		52,892	(13,258)	39,634	(7,195)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		23,129	6,539	29,668	36,863
<b>Transfer between funds</b>		(41,602)	41,602	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>34,419</b>	<b>34,883</b>	<b>69,302</b>	<b>29,668</b>

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The notes on page 13 form part of these financial statements

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground Association Balance Sheet for the Year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	31 March 2025	31 March 2024
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets		-	-
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	5	2,817	1,142
Cash at bank		69,431	34,836
		<u>72,248</u>	<u>35,978</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	(2,946)	(6,310)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>69,302</u>	<u>29,668</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		69,302	29,668
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>69,302</u>	<u>29,668</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Restricted funds	7	34,883	6,539
Unrestricted funds		34,419	23,129
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>69,302</u>	<u>29,668</u>

The notes on page 13 form part of these financial statements


For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records for the preparation of accounts.


These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

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.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 26/11/2025 and signed on their behalf by:

  
.....  
Nitasha Kapoor (Chair)

  
.....  
Mara Bodis-Wollner (Treasurer)

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

Notes to the financial statements for the Year ended 31 March 2025

### 1. Accounting policies

#### Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with 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 (FRS102)(effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)) Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and to the Companies Act 2006.

Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground is an incorporated charity domiciled and registered in England, which constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially reassigned at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

#### Reconciliation with Previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing the accounts, the Trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS102 and the Charities SORP FRS102 the reinstatement of comparative items was required. At the date of transition the Trustees consider that no statement is required.

#### Income

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Income is recognised when it is due under terms of funding agreements.

#### Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT that cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. Expenditure is allocated between;

- Expenditure incurred directly in the fulfilment of the charity's objectives (charitable expenditure),
- Expenditure incurred directly in the effort to raise voluntary contributions (costs of fundraising)

#### 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.

#### Cash-flow Statement

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

### Notes to the financial statements for the Year ended 31 March 2025

#### 2. Legal Status

The company is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital, and is also a registered charity; it is not liable to corporation tax. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the limited liability company.

#### 3. Expenditure

	Charitable activities	Funding activities	Gov'nance costs	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£		£
Salaries / ENIC	100,948	-	-	100,948	91,201
Other Staffing Costs	97	-	-	97	2,738
Play Activities / Materials etc	11,974	-	-	11,974	11,098
Premises Costs	10,860	-	-	10,860	18,096
Operational Costs	5,020	-	-	5,020	5,704
Trustee Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Accountancy Fees	-	-	2,000	2,000	1,313
Other - Staff expenses	3,143	-	-	3,143	17,200
	<b>132,042</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>134,042</b>	<b>147,350</b>

#### 4. Trustees

No Trustee received remuneration in the year, directly or indirectly, from the charity.

No expenses were reimbursed to the Trustees during the year.

In the prior year Other Staff expenses include £9,100 paid to Katherine Mengardon (Trustee) for project management services provided to the organisation.

#### 5. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade Debtors	1,450	1,142
Prepayments and accrued income	1,367	-
	<b>2,817</b>	<b>1,142</b>

#### 6. Creditors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals	2,500	4,162
Other creditors	196	1,813
Pension liabilities	250	335
	<b>2,946</b>	<b>6,310</b>

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

Notes to the financial statements for the Year ended 31 March 2025

### 7. Restricted Funds

	<b>Balance at 1 April 2024</b>	<b>Amount received in year</b>	<b>Amount expended in year</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March 2025</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
LB Hackney Play Session	-	64,900	(103,383)	38,483	-
Hot Lunches	-	3,530	(6,649)	3,119	-
GoLondon	-	3,017	(88)	-	2,929
Donations	6,539	33,120	(7,705)	-	31,954
Arts Council	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>6,539</b>	<b>104,567</b>	<b>(117,825)</b>	<b>41,602</b>	<b>34,883</b>

### 8. Capital Commitments

The charity had £nil capital commitments at 31 March 2025 (2024 - £nil).

### 9. Contingent Liabilities

In the opinion of the Trustees there were no contingent liabilities at 31 March 2024 (2023 - £nil).

### 10. Related Party Transactions

Aside from the payments referred to in Note 4, there were no related party transactions during the financial year.

**SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND**

England & Wales - Charity number 1156526

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# Accounts

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**SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Registered Company Number: 07289310 (England & Wales)**

**Registered Charity Number: 1156526**

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## CHARITY INFORMATION

Company Registration Number 07289310

Charity Registration Number 1156526

### Management Committee Trustees

Nitasha Kapoor	Chair
Mara Bodis-Wollner	Treasurer
Ariane Hanman	Secretary
Chiara Farina	Trustee
Katherine Mengardon	Trustee

Registered Office 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Northumberland House  
303-306 High Holborn  
London WC1V 7JZ

Accountants Gelfand Rennert and Feldman LLP  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Northumberland House  
303-306 High Holborn  
London WC1V 7JZ

Service Address 69 Shakespeare Walk  
London  
N16 8TB

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

### CHAIR REPORT

"This place is incredible. There should be more. You have my backing." - Judi Dench

Once again, I have the privilege of writing this report, a snapshot of our successes and challenges over the last year. We've seen our post-covid hard work start to pay off - we are more confident in our vision as an organisation and we won an Arts Council grant to help secure our future. And then we were voted Best Adventure Playground in London 2023! SWAPA continues to be a place of wonder, where beautiful things happen that wouldn't happen anywhere else, and I'm honoured to be a part of the team.

With over 45 years of place making, having been embedded and beloved as a community resource across generations, we're often on the receiving end of random acts of kindness and generosity. They're impossible to predict but last year we had a string of encounters that left us all quite speechless...

For example, a parent whose daughters used to play at SWAPA got in touch to make a sizable donation towards our PlayFence. "We discussed which charities meant something to us and the girls immediately said SWAPA".

The next month we learnt that a famous TV presenter used to play at SWAPA. He then visited to show his friend Dame Judi Dench around and film a TV programme about the importance of supporting these rare learning environments that support neurodiversity.

The next month we had a message from Super 8, the company that runs Michelin-starred BRAT, Mountain, Kiln and Smoking Goat in London. Tomos Parry, head chef at BRAT, had hosted a beautiful cooking lesson and lunch for SWAPA's young people in 2022 and they were keen to do it again, nurturing their interest in cooking, and why don't we build SWAPA a new outdoor kitchen too?! Yes please!

Our ability to "catch" these opportunities when they arise and manage them alongside our day to day provision helps SWAPA stay vibrant and relevant to our community. I'm pleased to report a greater capacity within the board of trustees to support in this way. Thank you to trustees Ariane Hanman, Katherine Mengardon, Mara Bodis-Wollner and Chiara Farina for their ongoing involvement.

We are committed to providing open-access, unstructured play provision, at a time when young people are facing increased pressures and rigidity in the school setting and many of their wraparound care centres, because we witness firsthand the transformative effect it has within a few hours of playing freely at SWAPA.

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

For example, Free Youth Orchestra have delivered monthly experimental sound explorations at SWAPA where musicians and artists set up a variety of weird and wonderful instruments and effects to let the kids play around, as they wish. The sessions are advertised as drop in and the musicians are there as needed, there's no structured lesson. Over the months we have gathered a group of young people who would like to develop their skills and talents further...the first ever truly experimental youth orchestra is taking shape and expect a concert and album by the end of 2024

Our reach is growing - we had 427 young people visit over 2023/24, with 40 attending more than 20 sessions. We continued to deliver free hot lunches to all children over the school holidays - 50% of which were to young people on free school meals. We have a regular group of home-educated young people who use SWAPA as their base every Wednesday morning and we're pleased to have developed stronger links with Stoke Newington Secondary School - their young people enjoyed visits to SWAPA during their Easter holiday camp, and now we have a group of year 7 and 8s who regularly attend after school sessions. We're pleased to report we have extended our provision from four to five days/week - a milestone that we have been aiming for since 2019.

Saturdays are now family friendly from 12-5pm and our core group of young people help throw fantastic community events 4 times/year with roasted marshmallows, bbq and ice lollies depending on the season. It's lovely to see the older kids getting more involved in helping run the playground, and help shape our community building.

The biggest challenge for the coming years is structural - our beautiful wooden perimeter fence is 45 years old and falling down and it is a major expense upwards of £300K to replace with like for like. Without a similar structure we risk changing what makes our play space so unique and attractive to young people, but who wants to fund a fence?

We started the year with a big win from the Arts Council - £30,000 towards co-designing a new playable structure with our young people that would double as our boundary fence, what we're calling our PlayFence, and a way to turn an expensive problem into an opportunity to reinvigorate all of SWAPA. Adventure Playgrounds have historically struggled to receive funding from the Arts Council so we share this win with the whole industry.

In the Spring we ran the program - a 6 month consultation including child-led co-design workshops and live experiences with renowned artists and designers, including Morag Myerscough (visual artist and designer), Dinah Bornat (architect and child friendly cities advocate), Dan Snaith (musician Caribou/Daphni), Sam Shepherd (musician Floating Points), Parker Heyl (UCL, Bartlett School of Architecture), Lina Johansson (Mimbre Acrobatics) and Moulaye Diallo (Hackney Carnival Senegalese lion performer). Lizzy and Lleu from Made from Scratch turned these ideas into brilliant PlayFence concepts, including a 360 parkour, performance stage, outdoor workshop and modular self build space, graffiti paradise, sensory tunnels and other hidden treasures.

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

Thanks to fundraising Playground Jam parties held at the Baths in Hackney Wick, and donations from local residents, funding from the East London Business Alliance, with support from Mayor of Hackney Caroline Woodley and Lucy McMenemy at Hackney Culture, SWAPA has raised funds to build the first part of the fence. Our next goal is to raise £45k in the next six months to support building the next section and a crowdfunder is live:

>> <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/swapaplayfence>

We continue to get stronger as a team and have restructured our senior management to better support each other. We were pleased to promote Tilly Hawthorne to Senior Playworker, and George van de Byl as Deputy Playworker, both having worked at SWAPA for over five years. Sarah Wilson has taken on the role of Office Manager and Jake Milne continues as Lead Builder and Site Manager. A huge thank you for their commitment, alongside our Playworkers Joel, Kirsty, Gemma, Ebony, Tom, Jess, Kayann, Fern, Mark, Darlene and Sebastian, who continue to be trusted and friendly faces for our young people.

SWAPA benefitted from the ongoing support of East London Business Alliance (ELBA) with regular corporate team days to provide much needed maintenance and structural work to the site. Thank you to London Play for their ongoing efforts and support to raise the profile of Adventure Playgrounds in London and nationally. Many thanks to Stephen White and Simeon Dixon for their ongoing support at Hackney Council/Young Hackney.

We welcome local parents and community members to join our mailing list ([swapa.org.uk](http://swapa.org.uk)), What'sApp channel (07988 571 232), Instagram ([swapa\\_n16](https://www.instagram.com/swapa_n16)) or Twitter (SwapaAdventure) to keep up with news and volunteer opportunities. If you would like to join as a trustee please email [trustees@swapa.org.uk](mailto:trustees@swapa.org.uk) for more information.

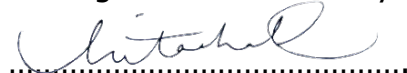
### Accountants

The Management Committee will not seek out other options for accountants at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by the trustees on

17/01/2025

And signed on its behalf by



Nitasha Kapoor  
Chair



Mara Bodis-Wollner  
Treasurer

## **SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND**

### **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground**

I report on the accounts of the company for the Year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

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

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not prove 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 next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

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

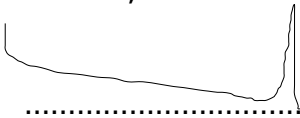
- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - To keep accounting records in accordance with the section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met or

- (2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of accounts to be reached.
- (3) After further examination, I concluded that the charity made the necessary steps to avoid significant changes in the funds and the services and managed the risk well.

Gelfand Rennert and Feldman LLP  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Northumberland House  
303-306 High Holborn  
London, WC1V 7JZ



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# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Statement of Financial Activities for the Year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
<i>Charitable activities</i>					
LB Hackney Specialist grant			62,092	62,092	67,135
ELBA			-	-	1,780
Bookings - Garden School			-	-	8,908
Grants - Arts Council			26,427	26,427	-
<i>Voluntary Income</i>					
Donations/Fundraising		45,097	6,539	51,636	60,548
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>45,097</b>	<b>95,058</b>	<b>140,155</b>	<b>138,371</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
Charitable activities	3	57,518	88,519	146,037	120,287
Fundraising activities	3	-	-	-	-
Governance costs	3	1,313	-	1,313	1,230
Other Expenses - Staff expenses	3	-	-	-	-
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>58,831</b>	<b>88,519</b>	<b>147,350</b>	<b>121,517</b>
<b>NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES</b>		<b>(13,734)</b>	<b>6,539</b>	<b>(7,195)</b>	<b>16,854</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>36,863</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>36,863</b>	<b>20,009</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>23,129</b>	<b>6,539</b>	<b>29,668</b>	<b>36,863</b>

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The notes on page 11 form part of these financial statements

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground Association Balance Sheet for the Year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	31 March 2024	31 March 2023
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets		-	-
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	5	1,142	24,064
Cash at bank		34,836	28,049
		<u>35,978</u>	<u>52,113</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	(6,310)	(15,250)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
		<u>29,668</u>	<u>36,863</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
		29,668	36,863
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
		<u>29,668</u>	<u>36,863</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Restricted funds	7	6,539	-
Unrestricted funds		23,129	36,863
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>			
		<u>29,668</u>	<u>36,863</u>

The notes on page 11 form part of these financial statements

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

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.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 17/01/2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Nitasha Kapoor (Chair)



Mara Bodis-Wollner (Treasurer)

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Notes to the financial statements for the Year ended 31 March 2024

### 1. Accounting policies

#### **Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with 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 (FRS102)(effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)) Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and to the Companies Act 2006.

Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground is an incorporated charity domiciled and registered in England, which constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially reassigned at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

#### **Reconciliation with Previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice**

In preparing the accounts, the Trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS102 and the Charities SORP FRS102 the reinstatement of comparative items was required. At the date of transition the Trustees consider that no statement is required.

#### **Income**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Income is recognised when it is due under terms of funding agreements.

#### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT that cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. Expenditure is allocated between;

- Expenditure incurred directly in the fulfilment of the charity's objectives (charitable expenditure),
- Expenditure incurred directly in the effort to raise voluntary contributions (costs of fundraising)

#### **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.

#### **Cash-flow Statement**

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

Notes to the financial statements for the Year ended 31 March 2024

## 2. Legal Status

The company is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital, and is also a registered charity; it is not liable to corporation tax. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the limited liability company.

## 3. Expenditure

	Charitable activities	Fund'ing activities	Gov'nance costs	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£		£
Salaries / ENIC	91,201	-	-	91,201	86,047
Other Staffing Costs	2,738	-	-	2,738	-
Play Activities / Materials etc	11,098	-	-	11,098	2,424
Premises Costs	18,096	-	-	18,096	19,460
Operational Costs	5,704	-	-	5,704	12,356
Trustee Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Accountancy Fees	-	-	1,313	1,313	1,230
HR Consultancy	-	-	-	-	-
Other - Staff expenses	17,200	-	-	17,200	-
	<u>146,037</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,313</u>	<u>147,350</u>	<u>121,517</u>

## 4. Trustees

Other staff expenses include £9,100 paid to Katherine Mengardon (Trustee) for project management services provided to the organisation. Aside from the payment mentioned above no Trustee received remuneration in the year, directly or indirectly, from the charity. No expenses were reimbursed to the Trustees during the year.

## 5. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade Debtors	1,142	24,064
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
	<u>1,142</u>	<u>24,064</u>

## 6. Creditors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals	4,162	15,250
Trade Creditors	1,813	-
Pension liabilities	335	-
	<u>6,310</u>	<u>15,250</u>

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

Notes to the financial statements for the Year ended 31 March 2024

## 7. Restricted Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Amount received in year £	Amount expended in year £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
LB Hackney Specialist grant	-	62,092	(62,092)	-	-
Donations	-	6,539	-	-	6,539
Arts Council	-	26,427	(26,427)	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>95,058</u>	<u>(88,519)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,539</u>

## 8. Capital Commitments

The charity had £nil capital commitments at 31 March 2024 (2023 - £nil).

## 9. Contingent Liabilities

In the opinion of the Trustees there were no contingent liabilities at 31 March 2024 (2023 - £nil).

## 10. Related Party Transactions

Aside from the payments referred to in Note 4, there were no related party transactions during the financial year.

**SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND**

England & Wales - Charity number 1156526

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# Accounts

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SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**APRIL 2022 - MARCH 2023**

**Registered Company Number: 07289310 (England & Wales)**

**Registered Charity Number: 1156526**

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## **THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

**THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**CHARITY INFORMATION**

Company Registration Number 07289310

Charity Registration Number 1156526

Management Committee Trustees

Nitasha Kapoor	Chair
Mara Bodis-Wollner	Treasurer
Ariane Hanman	Secretary
Omarie Mears	Trustee
Chiara Farina	Trustee
Katherine Mengardon	Trustee

REGISTERED OFFICE

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Northumberland House  
303-306 High Holborn  
London WC1V 7JZ

ACCOUNTANTS

Gelfand Rennert and Feldman LLP  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Northumberland House  
303-306 High Holborn  
London WC1V 7JZ

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

### CHAIR REPORT

*"I always know when I come to pick them up that they'll have eaten well and they'll sleep well tonight." - Parent, child 9 yr*

This year marks the first since I've been a trustee when we didn't have a global pandemic to contend with, and I'm pleased to report that we have made excellent progress towards a more consistent, sustainable service that benefits our community. That said this year was not without its challenges - the cost-of-living crisis created acute financial and emotional hardship that tested our most vulnerable and not so vulnerable families. SWAPA's services continue to be a lifeline for so many young people and families to help make ends meet and provide opportunities to thrive.

Our community of young people (YP) is growing and becoming more concrete with 588 children visiting the playground between April 22 and March 23, totalling 3,700 visits! The consistency of our service over the last three years has produced a higher retention of YP starting secondary school and we now have a core group of 12-15 year olds that visit on a regular basis, taking more ownership over the playground and helping out. For example, we continued to provide free hot lunches during school holidays, often involving our YP in the cooking and serving. Around 60% of our hot lunches are served to children eligible for Free School Meals. To develop their skills further, a small group of our YP applied and won funding from Hackney Council's Youth Opportunities Fund to have weekly cooking sessions over the winter months, culminating in a trip to the Michelin starred restaurant BRAT in London Fields where they made flatbreads in a wood fired oven and mocktails behind their beautiful bar. We then sat for a set menu lunch including things many of our YP had never tried before (and never thought they would!). It was an afternoon to remember, and we wouldn't be surprised if some of our YP now go on to be high end chefs. Special thanks to head chef Tomos Parry and the whole team at BRAT for being amazing hosts and going above and beyond to broaden our YP's food horizons.

As always, the playground structures and site in general are in constant need of maintenance and repair. We developed a partnership with Community Payback teams to have weekly maintenance days and East London Business Alliance (Elba) facilitated a steady stream of corporate volunteer sessions to help with building repairs and improvements - including a new tango swing platform and removing the zipline and tower.

The trustees and senior staff have done an incredible job at securing funding that has helped with outreach and an increased presence in the community, for example:

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

- We continue to be visited by our local SEN school, The Garden School, and now welcome children from Grasmere and schools from the New Wave Federation including Grazebrook primary schools as regular visitors. We also started a weekly Home Education drop-in session to help families with children who fall outside of mainstream education environments.
- SWAPA hosted a 6-week arts program with Hackney Young Voices, culminating in a billboard SWAPA children designed being up in Gillett Square in Dalston for the last two weeks of August. It was beautiful and our YP were super proud!
- We secured Discover Young Hackney funding over the summer holidays which meant we brought in specialist tutors in music production, art, sensory play and skateboarding to run 32 workshops across August, and attract the older 11-16 year olds to the playground. This was the first time SWAPA had such a structured offer alongside free play over the summer months.
- We hosted 4 community open days over the year including what is turning into an annual bonfire day celebration during which we hosted 281 visitors, despite some drizzly weather.
- We are working with the music charity Free Youth Orchestra to bring exciting opportunities to experiment with sound making to the SWAPA community.

Needless to say there is a palpable momentum growing at SWAPA! This has been made possible by having a strong staff team and a growing board of trustees that can step back from the day to day running of the playground and focus on fundraising and outreach.

The start of this year introduced Sarah Wilson as our Senior Playworker and in January we made another great step forward in welcoming one of our long standing playworkers, Tilly Hawthorne into the newly created Deputy Senior Playworker role. Thank you to SWAPA's long-standing and beloved playworkers Jake, Joel, George and Ebony-Marie for being the friendly faces year on year our kids have come to know and trust and we welcome our new playworkers Mark, Darlene and Tom to the team.

Finally, looking ahead to the coming year sees a mammoth challenge for the playground - our beautiful wooden perimeter fence is 45 years old and badly in need of replacement. We ran two "Playground Jam" fundraisers at the Baths in Hackney Wick with musicians Caribou, Floating Points and Four Tet donating their time to the cause, and in February we submitted an application to The Arts Council to co-design a 'PlayFence' - a playable structure that is simultaneously a boundary - with children and several high-profile artists. We hope that this innovative, ground-breaking way of working will produce a design that will be irresistible to funders. Many thanks to The Mayor of Hackney, Lucy McMenemy (Head of Culture) and Cllr Caroline Woodley (Head

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

of Children and Families) for their letters of support and Stephen White and Hayley Birch for their ongoing support at Young Hackney.

We welcome local parents and community members to join our What's App channel (07988 571 232) to keep up with news and volunteer opportunities. If you would like to join as a trustee please email [trustees@swapa.org.uk](mailto:trustees@swapa.org.uk) for more information.

Nitasha Kapoor  
Chairperson, SWAPA trustees  
Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

### **Legal Status**

Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground moved to use our charitable company Limited by Guarantee status as from July 2014, Shakespeare Walk Adventure, Company number 07289310 and charity number 1156526. We continue to use our alias SWAPA.

### **Charity**

Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground Association was established by a constitution on 2 December 1995 and is registered in England & Wales as a charity on 20 April 1976. Registered charity number Charity Registration Number 1156526. Company Registered Number 07289310

### **Aims**

Our aim is to provide safe and stimulating open access play opportunities for young people, primarily through the site at Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground. Through our activities, we contribute to the development of individual young people's social, emotional and physical development, and provide benefits to the local community, for example, increased community cohesion and reduced antisocial behaviour. The Trustees have paid due regard to Charity Commission guidance on public benefits in deciding what activities SWAPA should undertake.

### **Objectives**

The objectives of the charity are to provide facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation for children resident in Stoke Newington, and to promote their physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing to help improve their quality of life through play.

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

This is achieved through the day-to-day experience provided by SWAP, and also through specific projects, such as trips to the seaside, bike repairs workshops etc

### **Hackney Play Association**

This is an umbrella organisation for adventure playgrounds and play providers in Hackney. HPA also has a newsletter, which has information useful to our charity, such as fundraising ideas, training for our staff and the opportunity to advertise our open days and our AGM. We have also looked to recruit staff through HPA processes and have shared resources and asked for support for certain things, for instance negotiations with LB Hackney over the terms of the lease for the site.

### **How our activities deliver public benefits**

The key activity of the playground is to offer an accessible and safe space for children to play. The opening hours are 3.30pm – 6:30pm on Wednesday to Friday and 12pm – 5pm on Saturday. Holiday opening hours are 12 – 5pm weekdays, with a free hot lunch served in addition to existing play activities.

### **Main objectives for the year**

Our strategies for achieving stated objectives, with details of significant activities that will contribute to this:

- We aim to develop greater professionalism in terms of staffing structures and processes, on site accountability and support to staff.
- We aim to raise the general level of income to cover increasing costs and more on site staff input.
- We intend to serve more of the local community, by using the attractiveness of the new facilities to draw in parents and children who may not have had material contact with the playground before.
- We wish to engage more young people in the community by getting them involved in genuine and meaningful consultation, and through participation in decision-making.
- We have been developing enterprising ideas, one being hiring out our site (when not in use by the children) for corporate team days – this has proved very popular for businesses, and provides much needed help with tidying and site maintenance. We also have hired it for children's parties – both bringing in much needed revenue.

### **Statement for readers**

The extent of involvement from users from a variety of backgrounds has been encouraging. The participation of parents continues to be valuable and supportive to the play setting and activities.

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## **Policies**

Improved communication now exists between SWAPA's employees and its management committee. In addition, there is ongoing feedback and consultation from users and the rest of the community, accompanied by a solid process of monitoring.

SWAPA welcomes the wider community at its Open Days, and it takes every possible opportunity to engage in networking with other stakeholders, including local residents associations, local youth clubs and the police.

SWAPA takes a hands-on approach to trainees and volunteers, by training them on site.

SWAPA prides itself in meeting deadlines, whatever the nature of the task or project.

There has also been an expansion in the range of services offered to the community, for example the site has been made available out of working hours for external meetings, training, and social events.

## **Principal funding sources**

### **LB Hackney**

LB Hackney is our main funder, awarding us £59,000 pa to cover staff salaries and the running costs of the organisation.

## **Users**

The children and parents have participated in fundraising events, including our open community days.

## **Local Businesses**

SWAPA have had a positive relationship with local businesses that have helped provide funds for events and support with raffle prizes.

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

Governing Document:

Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground was established under a Memorandum of Association, incorporated on 18 June 2010 and registered as a charity on 3 April

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

2014. The governing document which established the objects and power of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

### **Recruitment of Trustees**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held every 12 to 18 months – it is just prior to this that we advertise for trustees. The invitation to become a trustee is included on our official notice of the AGM, which is sent as a public notice to social media, displayed as a poster in the local community, and handed out to users, parents and door to door.

Users themselves carry this out, as well as staff and the management committee. When talking ordinarily about the site to colleagues and friends, we often invite people to visit the site and encourage them to get more involved.

### **Induction**

New members of the management committee are given an information pack to enable them to better understand how to contribute to the running of the playground.

We have a question-and-answer session and invite nominations for the roles of secretary and treasurer. Where possible HPA are there to assist this process, and we offer training via HPA and other recognised organisations/training providers to staff and new members.

### **Statement confirming major risks**

Risks include:

- Increases in core costs (staff sickness and supply cover, maternity leave)
- Lack of trained staff pool
- Changes in Hackney Council's funding policy; especially in the current financial climate
- Any legal action against SWAPA by a user, for example because of injuries sustained whilst using the site

### **The management of these risks includes**

- Working with a planned budget, with staff and a management committee that are acutely aware of the funding issues;
- The reinforcing and reviewing of policies and good practices with staff and users;
- The provision of training, which is made available for all participants in all areas.
- Outsourcing specialist Human Resource and Health & Safety support and advice.

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

- Increasing our insurance to protect our users, staff and management committee.

### **Reserve Policy**

The trustees review their reserve policy periodically and aim to retain an adequate sum to ensure the continuity of its activities. This is to ensure that in the event of a significant drop in funding, the charity will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.

### **Plans for the future of SWAPA**

This includes:

- Access to all outdoor play, focusing on inclusion (access for all with mobility and visual impairments).
- Extending the use of the site to community groups and other groups with an interest in play.
- Extending the membership of the management committee to include more parents/community members and seek advice in specialist areas where necessary.
- Continuing to acknowledge the importance of the "Every Child Matters" objectives, and encouraging healthy lifestyles through good diet and physical play.
- Continuing to seek to expand its variety of activities whilst remaining accountable, responsible and sustainable.

### **Balance sheet**

Details of the major items on the balance sheet can be found in the notes to the accounts.

The fluctuations in debtors and creditors year on year are purely the results of timing of receipts and payment around the year end.

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## **Accountants**

The Management Committee will not seek out other options for accountants at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by the trustees on

And signed on its behalf by

.....  
Nitasha Napoor  
Chair

.....  
Mara Bodis-Wollner  
Treasurer

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

### **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 14 to 18.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

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

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

#### Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not prove 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 next statement.

#### Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

- To keep accounting records in accordance with the section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met or
- (2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of accounts to be reached
  - (3) After further examination, I concluded that the charity made the necessary steps to avoid significant changes in the funds and the services and managed the risk well.

Gelfand Rennert and Feldman LLP  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Northumberland House  
303-306 High Holborn  
London, WC1V 7JZ

.....

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground Association STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
<b><u>Charitable activities</u></b>					
LB Hackney Specialist grant			67,135	67,135	79,509
ELBA			1,780	1,780	1,230
Bookings - Garden School			8,908	8,908	21,750
Coop			-	-	-
Skate Ramp			-	-	-
Furlough			-	-	3,264
				-	
<b><u>Voluntary Income</u></b>					
Donations/Fundraising		60,548		60,548	14,343
Rates Refund					-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>60,548</b>	<b>77,823</b>	<b>138,371</b>	<b>120,096</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
Charitable activities	3		120,287	120,287	112,102
Fundraising activities	3			-	-
Governance costs	3	1,230		1,230	2,841
Other Expenses - Staff expenses	3			-	2,832
				-	
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>1,230</b>	<b>120,287</b>	<b>121,517</b>	<b>117,774</b>
<b>NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES</b>		59,318	(42,464)	16,854	2,322
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		11,503	8,506	20,009	17,687
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>70,821</b>	<b>(33,958)</b>	<b>36,863</b>	<b>20,009</b>

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The notes on page 16 form part of these financial statements

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground Association

### Balance Sheet

for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	31-Mar-23	31-Mar-22
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets		-	-
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	5	24,064	3,030
Cash at bank		<u>28,049</u>	<u>17,429</u>
		52,113	20,459
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	(15,250)	(450)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>36,863</u>	<u>20,009</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		36,863	20,009
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>36,863</u>	<u>20,009</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Restricted funds	7	(33,958)	8,506
Unrestricted funds		70,821	11,503
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>36,863</u>	<u>20,009</u>

The notes on page 16 form part of these financial statements

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

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.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 14th October 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

.....  
**Nitasha Kapoor (Chair)**

.....  
**Mara Bodis-Wollner (Treasurer)**

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 1. Accounting policies

##### **Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with 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 (FRS102)(effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)) Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and to the Companies Act 2006.

Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground is an incorporated charity domiciled and registered in England, which constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially reassigned at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

##### **Reconciliation with Previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice**

In preparing the accounts, the Trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS102 and the Charities SORP FRS102 the reinstatement of comparative items was required. At the date of transition the Trustees consider that no statement is required.

##### **Income**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Income is recognised when it is due under terms of funding agreements.

##### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT that cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. Expenditure is allocated between;

- Expenditure incurred directly in the fulfilment of the charity's objectives (charitable expenditure),
- Expenditure incurred directly in the effort to raise voluntary contributions (costs of fundraising)

##### **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.

##### **Cash-flow Statement**

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

#### Going Concern

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and is well placed to manage its business risks successfully despite the current uncertain economic outlook. The charity has significant reserves and accordingly the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis.

#### 2. Legal Status

The company is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital, and is also a registered charity; it is not liable to corporation tax. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the limited liability company.

#### 3. Expenditure

	Charitable activities	Funding activities	Gov'nance costs	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£		£
Salaries / ENIC	86,047	-	-	86,047	85,843
Other Staffing Costs	-	-	-	-	732
Play Activities / Materials etc	2,424	-	-	2,424	10,345
Premises Costs	19,459	-	-	19,459	13,300
Operational Costs	12,356	-	-	12,356	381
Trustee Expenses	-	-	-	-	1,501
Accountancy Fees	-	-	1,230	1,230	913
HR Consultancy	-	-	-	-	1,928
Other - Staff expenses	-	-	-	-	2,832
	<u>120,287</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,230</u>	<u>121,517</u>	<u>117,774</u>

#### 4. Trustees

No Trustee received remuneration in the year, directly or indirectly, from the charity. No expenses were reimbursed to the Trustees during the year.

#### 5. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade Debtors	<u>24,064</u>	<u>3,030</u>
	<u>24,064</u>	<u>3,030</u>

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

Notes to the financial statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2023

### 6. Creditors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals	15,250	450
Trade Creditors	-	-
PAYE	-	-
Deferred income (LBH)	-	-
	15,250	450

### 7. Restricted Funds

	Balance at 01 April 2022	Amount received in year	Amount expended in year	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
ELBA	-	1,780	(1,780)	-	-
LB Hackney	-	67,135	(67,135)	-	-
Coop	802		(802)	-	-
	802	68,915	(69,717)	-	-

### 8. Capital Commitments

The charity had £NIL capital commitments at 31 March 2023 (2022 - £3,000).

### 9. Contingent Liabilities

In the opinion of the Trustees there were no contingent liabilities at 31 March 2023 (2022 - £nil).

### 10. Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions during the financial year.

**SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND**

England & Wales - Charity number 1156526

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# Accounts

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SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**APRIL 2021 - MARCH 2022**

**Registered Company Number: 7289310 (England & Wales)**

**Registered Charity Number: 1156526**

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## **THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

### **CONTENTS**

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Notes to the Financial Statements	<b>16</b>

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

### CHARITY INFORMATION

Company Registration Number 7289310

Charity Registration Number 1156526

#### Management Committee Trustees

Nitasha Kapoor	Chair
Omarie Mears	Treasurer
Ariane Hanman	Secretary
Ewen MacNeil	Trustee
Chiara Farina	Trustee

#### REGISTERED OFFICE

c/o 69 Shakespeare Walk  
Stoke Newington, London  
N16 8TB

#### ACCOUNTANTS

Spartan Accounting Group Ltd  
71-75 Shelton Street  
Covent Garden  
WC2H 9JQ

#### Natwest Bank

20 Amhurst Rd,  
London E8 1JW

#### Staff:

We were able to provide a consistent service to our community, with Gemma Reid leading the team as Senior Playworker, supported by Sarah Wilson, Jake Milne, Kaysha Omole, Tilly Hawthorne, Joel Lewis, Ebony-Marie Douglin and George Van de Byl.

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

### CHAIR REPORT

*“Free sessions at SWAPA keeps us off the bread line” - Grateful parent of 10 yo child*

*“Sarah, I want to break something” - Child, 11 yo, to our Senior Playworker, who then diverted her energy by giving her a hammer to break up breeze-blocks, and launched our own ‘Break stuff Club’*

SWAPA’s community is uniquely diverse, bringing together children situated at the intersection between one of the most deprived areas of Hackney and one of its wealthiest. Where social services often struggle to reach certain groups of children, SWAPA continues to be a magnet for all children, because we provide the best play experiences, and once kids find us, they don’t ever want to leave.

This past year has seen life return to a new kind of normal - while Covid continues to persist, vaccinations have enabled most of the population, including children aged 5+, to experience reduced symptoms, and lockdown restrictions have by and large been lifted.

That said, the after-effects of this virus continue to haunt daily life, with economic hardship exacerbated by increases in fuel prices that have left many households struggling to heat their homes and buy food for their families, often having to choose between the two.

We strive to help our community members in any way we can. Our after school and Saturday play sessions continue to be free and drop off, providing an invaluable childcare solution. Between April 2021- end March 2022, SWAPA catered for 765 individual young people (YP) with a total of over 5000 visits averaging 6.5 repeat visits each. There was a core group of 60 YP who attended 20 sessions or more. One YP attended 113 sessions!

We receive funding from Young Hackney to provide hot meals in school holidays to support children in need and we match this funding to offer the same service to all of SWAPA’s young people, resulting in an impressive 1200 hot meals served over the year. We also run inclusive no cost day trips for all, including theatre, climbing and canoeing, often helping the most vulnerable families without the stigma that can come alongside social services intervention.

Across the industry we have seen a shocking lack of funding for Adventure Playgrounds (AP) in many parts of the country, with 21 APs having to close their doors since 2017. We thank Young Hackney for its part-funding of activities at SWAPA, particularly Stephen White and Hayley Birch, and Kay O’Brien at Hackney Play Association for their ongoing support.

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

We have worked hard to secure additional funding that not only benefits our community, but provides the revenue needed to repair and maintain the site and structures:

- We hired out the playground to community groups such as The Garden School (a local SEN School), Beaver Scout Group and a Migrant Support Group as well as re-establishing private birthday parties on Sundays
- We have been testing a Play Kit pilot project since Sept 2021 with St. Matthias Primary School where our Playworkers go into school to enrich and improve the lunch time play offer including training sessions with lunchtime supervisors. Feedback from the headteacher, class teachers and support staff reports "it has made a massive contribution to school life" including improved behaviour at playtime and in the classroom, engaging children who might otherwise find playtime challenging, increased confidence and resilience, and reduced bullying behaviour. We hope to roll out this program to more schools in the coming year
- Corporate team building sessions, facilitated through the East London Business Association (Elba) have started again on site, bringing in revenue but also teams of people to paint, tidy, repair and build structures on site

We continue to receive individual donations, made easy through [kofi.com/swapa](https://kofi.com/swapa) - many thanks to everyone who has given what they can.

We strongly believe that all Adventure Playgrounds could play a much larger role in effective community development and have adopted a model of community organising to revive this essential offer:

- We celebrated our 45th anniversary by throwing a bonfire party and welcomed 300+ members of our community to the playground. There were queues around the block!
- We had 55 children attend our Christmas party with all children well fed and given a present from Santa
- Our first Skate Jam to launch our mini-ramp lessons was attended by 80 people who had a go on roller skates, scooters and skateboards!
- In 2022 we will have 4 open days (one/season) to engage more regularly with the wider community.

We are pleased to have continued our development of the site facilities and activities this past year to further enhance the play opportunities for our children.

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

Projects in progress and to be completed 2022/23 in order to support staff costs, crucial repairs to our beautiful wooden perimeter fence and traditional wooden AP structures.

Playground Jam - July 10th

Discover Young Hackney - August - Art, Music, Skateboarding, SEN provision

Autumn - raising funding for the fence

As always, our playground is only as strong as its staff and the work they do to create a nurturing environment for our young people. I'd like to say a huge thank you to Sarah Wilson who stepped into the role of Senior Playworker and brings her many years of experience and academic understanding of APs to lead the team. Thank you to SWAPA's long-standing and beloved playworkers Jake, Kaysha, Tilly, Joel, George and Ebony-Marie for being the friendly faces year on year our kids have come to know and trust and for welcoming our new playworkers Mark, Darlene and Jessie to the team.

If you are keen to join the team as a playworker, please check [swapa.org.uk/staff](https://swapa.org.uk/staff). We welcome local parents and community members to join our What'sApp channel (07988 571 232) to keep up with news and volunteer opportunities. If you would like to join as a trustee please email [trustees@swapa.org.uk](mailto:trustees@swapa.org.uk) for more information.

Nitasha Kapoor  
Chairperson, SWAPA trustees  
Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

### **Legal Status**

Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground moved to use our charitable company Limited by Guarantee status as from July 2014, Shakespeare Walk Adventure, Company number 07289310 and charity number 115626. We continue to use our alias SWAPA.

### **Charity:**

Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground Association was established by a constitution on 2 December 1995 and is registered in England & Wales as a charity on 20 April 1976. Registered Charity number 1156526. Company Registered Number 02289310

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)**

### **Aims:**

Our aim is to provide safe and stimulating open access play opportunities for young people, primarily through the Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground. Through our activities, we contribute to the development of individual young people's social, emotional and physical development, and provide benefits to the local community, for example, increased community cohesion and reduced anti-social behavior. The Trustees have paid due regard to Charity Commission guidance on public benefits in deciding what activities SWAPA should undertake.

### **Objectives:**

The objectives of the charity are to provide facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation for children resident in Stoke Newington, and to promote their physical, mental and spiritual well being to help improve their quality of life through play.

This is achieved through the day-to-day experience provided by SWAPA, and also through specific projects, such as trips to the seaside, bike repairs workshops etc

### **Hackney Play Association**

This is an umbrella organisation for adventure playgrounds and play providers in Hackney. HPA also has a newsletter, which has information useful to our charity, such as fundraising ideas, training for our staff and the opportunity to advertise our open days and our AGM. We have also looked to recruit staff through HPA processes and have shared resources and asked for support for certain things, for instance negotiations with LB Hackney over the terms of the lease for the site.

### **How Our Activities deliver Public benefits**

The key activity of the playground is to offer an accessible and safe space for children to play. The opening hours are 3.30pm – 6:30pm on Wednesday to Friday and 12pm – 5pm on Saturday. Holiday opening hours are 11am – 6pm weekdays, with a lunch club held in addition to existing play activities.

### **Main objectives for the year**

Our strategies for achieving stated objectives, with details of significant activities that will contribute to this:

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)**

- We are aiming to build on the opportunities that a fully renovated building and redeveloped external play space will offer.
- We aim to develop greater professionalism in terms of staffing structures and processes, on site accountability and support to staff.
- We aim to raise the general level of income to cover increasing costs and more on site staff input.
- We intend to serve more of the local community, by using the attractiveness of the new facilities to draw in parents and children who may not have had material contact with the playground before.
- We wish to engage more young people in the community by getting them involved in genuine and meaningful consultation, and through participation in decision-making.
- We have been developing enterprising ideas, one being hiring out our site (when not in use by the children) for home schooling and forest school hire. We also have hired it for children's parties, and corporate teambuilding – both bringing in much needed revenue.

### **Statement for readers:**

The extent of involvement from users from a variety of backgrounds has been encouraging. The participation of parents continues to be valuable and supportive to the play setting and activities. Community engagement has been successful, particularly in the links made through the street party initiative. SWAP has increased and developed its links with residents' groups, the community police team and various other agencies and is well established as part of the neighbourhood network.

### **Policies:**

Improved communication now exists between SWAPA's employees and its management committee. In addition, there is ongoing feedback and consultation from users and the rest of the community, accompanied by a solid process of monitoring.

SWAPA welcomes the wider community at its Open Days, and it takes every possible opportunity to engage in networking with other stakeholders, including local residents associations, local youth clubs and the police.

SWAPA takes a hands-on approach to trainees and volunteers, by training them on site.

SWAPA prides itself in meeting deadlines, whatever the nature of the task or project.

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

There has also been an expansion in the range of services offered to the community, for example the site has been made available out of working hours for external meetings, training, and social events

### **Principal funding sources**

#### **LB Hackney**

LB Hackney is our main funder, awarding us £79,509 pa to cover staff salaries and the running costs of the organisation.

#### **Users**

The children and parents have participated in fundraising events.

#### **Local Businesses**

SWAPA have had a positive relationship with local businesses that have helped providing funds for events and support with raffle prizes.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

Governing Document:

Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground was established under a Memorandum of Association, incorporated on 18 June 2010 and registered as charity on 3 April 2014. The governing document which established the objects and power of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

#### **Recruitment of Trustees:**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held every 12 to 18 months – it is just prior to this that we advertise for trustees. The invitation to become a trustee is included on our official notice of the AGM, which is sent as a public notice to newspapers in the area, displayed as a poster in shop windows, and handed out to users, parents and door to door.

Users themselves carry this out, as well as staff and the management committee. When talking ordinarily about the site to colleagues and friends, we often invite people to visit the site and encourage them to get more involved.

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

### **Induction:**

New members of the management committee are given an information pack to enable them to better understand how to contribute to the running of the playground.

We have a question and answer session and invite nominations for the roles of secretary and treasurer. Where possible HPA are there to assist this process, and we offer training via HPA and other recognised organisations/training providers to staff and new members.

### **Statement confirming major risks:**

Risks include:

- Increases in core costs (staff sickness and supply cover, maternity leave)
- Staff management issues, with direct staff management residing with the Management Committee and not delegated to paid staff.
- Changes in Hackney Council's funding policy; especially in the current financial climate.
- Legal action against SWAPA by a user, for example because of injuries sustained whilst using the site;

### **The management of these risks includes**

- Working with a planned budget, with staff and a management committee that are acutely aware of the funding issues;
- The reinforcing and reviewing of policies and good practices with staff and users;
- The provision of training, which is made available for all participants in all areas
- Outsourcing specialist Human Resource and Health & Safety support and advice.
- Increasing our insurance to protect our users, staff and management committee.

### **Reserve Policy**

The trustees review their reserve policy periodically and aim to retain an adequate sum to ensure the continuity of its activities. This is to ensure that in the event of a significant drop in funding, the charity will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

### Plans for the future of SWAPA

This includes:

- Access to All outdoor play, focusing on inclusion (access for all with mobility and visual impairments).
- Extending the use of the site to community groups and other groups with an interest in play.
- Extending the membership of the management committee to include more parents/community members and seek advice in specialist areas where necessary
- Continuing to acknowledge the importance of the "Every Child Matters" objectives, and encouraging healthy lifestyles through good diet and physical play.

Continuing to seek to expand its variety of activities whilst remaining accountable, responsible and sustainable.

### Balance sheet

Details of the major items on the balance sheet can be found in the notes to the accounts.

The fluctuations in debtors and creditors year on year are purely the results of timing of receipts and payment around the year end.

### Accountants

The Management Committee will seek out other options for accountants at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by the trustees on

And signed on its behalf by



.....  
Nitasha Kapoor, Chair

21.11.22



.....  
Omarie Mears, Treasurer

21.11.22

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

### **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 14 to 18.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

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

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

#### Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not prove 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 next statement.

#### Independent examiner's statement

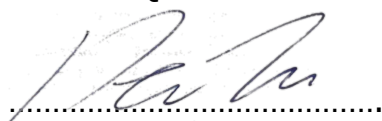
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

- To keep accounting records in accordance with the section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met or
- (2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of accounts to be reached
  - (3) After further examination, I concluded that the charity made the necessary steps to avoid significant changes in the funds and the services and managed the risk well despite the Covid-19 uncertainty.

David Zoboki BA (Hons) MICB  
Spartan Accounting Group Ltd  
71-75 Shelton Street  
Covent Garden  
London  
WC2H 9JQ



10/11/2022

and signed on its behalf by

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground Association STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
<i>Charitable activities</i>					
LB Hackney Specialist grant			79,509	79,509	59,000
ELBA			1,230	1,230	4,300
Bookings - Garden School			21,750	21,750	7,582
Coop			-	-	3,000
Skate Ramp			-	-	3,000
Furlough			3,264	3,264	15,084
<i>Voluntary Income</i>					
Donations/Fundraising		14,343		14,343	1,517
Rates Refund		-		-	-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>14,343</b>	<b>105,753</b>	<b>120,096</b>	<b>93,483</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
Charitable activities	3		112,102	112,102	87,816
Fundraising activities	3		-	-	-
Governance costs	3	2,841		2,841	1,532
Other Expenses - Staff expenses	3		2,832	2,832	-
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>2,841</b>	<b>114,934</b>	<b>117,774</b>	<b>89,348</b>
<b>NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES</b>		<b>11,502</b>	<b>(9,181)</b>	<b>2,322</b>	<b>4,135</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>17,687</b>	<b>17,687</b>	<b>13,552</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>11,502</b>	<b>8,506</b>	<b>20,009</b>	<b>17,687</b>

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The notes on page 16 form part of these financial statements

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground Association

### Balance Sheet

for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	31-Mar-22	31-Mar-21
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets		-	-
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	5	3,030	-
Cash at bank		17,429	18,916
		<u>20,459</u>	<u>18,916</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	(450)	(1,229)
		<u>20,009</u>	<u>17,687</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
		<u>20,009</u>	<u>17,687</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
		<u>20,009</u>	<u>17,687</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
		<u>20,009</u>	<u>17,687</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Restricted funds	7	8,506	17,687
Unrestricted funds		11,502	-
		<u>20,009</u>	<u>17,687</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>			
		<u>20,009</u>	<u>17,687</u>

The notes on page 16 form part of these financial statements

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

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.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 21/11/2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Nitasha Kapoor, Chair



Omarie Mears, Treasurer

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

#### 1. Accounting policies

##### **Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with 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 (FRS102)(effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)) Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and to the Companies Act 2006.

Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground is an incorporated charity domiciled and registered in England, which constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially reassigned at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

##### **Reconciliation with Previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice**

In preparing the accounts, the Trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS102 and the Charities SORP FRS102 the reinstatement of comparative items was required. At the date of transition the Trustees consider that no statement is required.

##### **Income**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Income is recognised when it is due under terms of funding agreements.

##### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT that cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. Expenditure is allocated between;

- Expenditure incurred directly in the fulfilment of the charity's objectives (charitable expenditure),
- Expenditure incurred directly in the effort to raise voluntary contributions (costs of fundraising)

##### **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.

##### **Cash-flow Statement**

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 1 from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

### Going Concern

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and is well placed to manage its business risks successfully despite the current uncertain economic outlook. The charity has significant reserves and accordingly the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis.

### 2. Legal Status

The company is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital, and is also a registered charity; it is not liable to corporation tax. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the limited liability company.

### 3. Expenditure

	Charitable activities	Funding activities	Governance costs	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries / ENIC	85,843	-	0	85,843	64,345
Other Staffing Costs	732	-	0	732	1,014
Play Activities / Materials etc	10,345	-	0	10,345	9,409
Premises Costs	13,300	-	0	13,300	12,850
Operational Costs	381	-	0	381	198
Trustee Expenses	1,501	-	0	1,501	0
Accountancy Fees	-	-	913	913	400
HR Consultancy	-	-	1,928	1,928	1,132
Other - Staff expenses	-	-	2,832	2,832	0
	<u>112,102</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,673</u>	<u>117,773</u>	<u>89,348</u>

### 4. Trustees

No Trustee received remuneration in the year, directly or indirectly, from the charity. No expenses were reimbursed to the Trustees during the year.

### 5. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade Debtors	<u>3,030</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>3030</u>	<u>0</u>

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

#### 6. Creditors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals	450	0
Trade Creditors	0	0
PAYE	0	0
Deffered income (LBH)	0	1229
	<u>450</u>	<u>1229</u>

#### 7. Restricted Funds

	Balance at 01 April 2021	Amount received in year	Amount expended in year	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
ELBA	0	1,230	-1,230	0	0
LB Hackney	0	79,509	-79,509	0	0
Coop	802	0	0	0	802
Skate ramp	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>802</u>	<u>80,739</u>	<u>-80,739</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>802</u>

#### 8. Capital Commitments

The charity had £3000 capital commitments at 31 March 2022 (2021 - £2000).

#### 9. Contingent Liabilities

In the opinion of the Trustees there were no contingent liabilities at 31 March 2022 (2021 - £nil).

#### 10. Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions during the financial year.

**SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND**

England & Wales - Charity number 1156526

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# Accounts

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**SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**APRIL 2020 - MARCH 2021**



**Registered Company Number: 7289310 (England & Wales)**

**Registered Charity Number: 1156526**

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## **THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

### **CONTENTS**

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# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

### CHARITY INFORMATION

Company Registration Number 7289310

Charity Registration Number 1156526

#### Management Committee Trustees

Nitasha Kapoor	Chair
Omarie Mears	Treasurer
Tom Reid	Trustee
Ariane Harman	Trustee

#### REGISTERED OFFICE

c/o 39 Albion Grove  
Stoke newington  
London N16 BRE

#### ACCOUNTANTS

Spartan Accounting Group Ltd  
71-75 Shelton Street  
Covent Garden  
WC2H 9JQ

#### Natwest Bank

20 Amhurst Rd,  
London E8 1JW

#### Staff:

Unfortunately, we closed the site on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 due to Covid restrictions, but we were able to re-open for Summer 2020 with Guillermo Lloret Fariña as Senior Playworker, supported by Playworkers Jake Milne, Gemma Reid, Ebony-Marie Douglin, Joel Lewis, Teleasha Hawthorne, Erykah Holder and George Van de Byl.

Following the January - March 2021 lockdowns, we welcomed Gemma Reid to lead the team, Kaysha Omole as Deputy Playworker and Sarah Wilson as highly experienced Playworker.

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

### CHAIR REPORT

*“Letting yourself go free, playing around until something comes, can be very hard work” - Corita Kent, Artist and educator*

*“Take your play seriously” - Charles Eames, Architect and designer*

While 2020 will always be remembered as the year the Covid virus changed how people work, play, shop, travel, socialise, educate and take care of each other, the first three months of 2021 proved to be some of the hardest months the UK has faced, with a deadlier variant causing the virus to spread more quickly, and the colder, darker winter months making outside activity and socialising less practical. Christmas get-togethers were cancelled, all non-essential shops closed and schools would stay shut until mid-March.

Teachers had by and large managed to help most children get access to technology and homeschooling resources, but this system was less than perfect with often the most vulnerable children falling through the cracks. Homeschooling required a tremendous amount of time and energy from parents, who were simultaneously juggling the demands of work, family and home. Never before have parents and carers witnessed firsthand what children need to be happy and healthy - and the importance of play, often taken for granted in the national narrative, jumped into the spotlight. It is within this climate that I write this report, and present how Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground is positioned to meet the very serious business of play.

SWAPA has worked hard to respond to the increased pressure on families by extending our opening hours to include Wednesdays after school (and soon to be extended further), providing healthy, hot lunches during the half term and Easter holidays and when safe to do so, we opened up the courtyard during lockdowns to allow children using the ball games court opposite the site to use our toilets, and have access to drinking water. This enabled our staff to stay connected with local children and families while we waited for our regular play provision to start up again.

We know how much the younger children have missed the playground and we will open up sessions to include parental supervision as soon as possible. The main building continues to be off limits to the children, with the exception of the toilets.

The shift in how the children can use the playground highlighted that the time was right to redesign the outdoor areas to stimulate children's play in new ways, attract the older end of our demographic (11-15) and make improvements to the main

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)

building while kids aren't allowed inside. Projects in progress and to be completed in 2021 include:

- Mini skate ramp, equipment and sessions to help kids learn the basics
- Music studio with recording booth and instruments to experiment with music production
- Tools workshop for kids to build their own play equipment, objects, anything they'd like!
- Our very own raised 'Shakespeare's Walkway' for climbing and adventures and offering a different perspective to the space
- Redesign of the bonfire, pizza oven and outdoor kitchen area to encourage even more of an emphasis on learning through cooking and trying different foods
- Working with East London artist Morag Myerscough to refresh the perimeter fence and redesign the main building

These improvements have been made possible by The Garden School's use of the playground throughout the year and donations from the Co-op's community fund, East London Business Association (Elba) and individual community members, made simple via our new donation platform ([www.ko-fi.com/swapa](http://www.ko-fi.com/swapa)). We are grateful for the ongoing support of Hackney Council, in particular Stephen White and Hayley Birch at Young Hackney, and Kay O'Brien at Hackney Play Association. Thank you to everyone who showed the playground their kindness and generosity.

As always, our playground is only as strong as its staff and the work they do to create a nurturing environment for our young people. I'd like to say a huge thank you to Jake, Joel, Tilly, Ebony-Marie, Erykah and George for their work and flexibility over this difficult year. And we are pleased to welcome three new members of staff! Having spent many years working at SWAPA and getting to know the children and our community, Gemma Reid has joined as Senior Playworker to lead the team and manage the playground. Kaysha Omole joins as Deputy to support the team with a background in fine arts, accounting and office management. Sarah Wilson joins as a Playworker, bringing years of experience working with children at other adventure playgrounds, as well as having completed an MA in play design.

Finally, 2021 marks the playground's 45th anniversary! Our fingers are crossed that we can throw a big community party in September to celebrate this fantastic playspace and its incredible history, which means so much to so many. To this end,

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)**

we are pleased to share a new mission statement, designed to showcase how our playspace is unique and invaluable to the community:

Our mission is to allow children and young people to play as naturally as possible, that is, to feel free to try things out, experiment and build resilience - all crucial building blocks for growth and development. We do this by creating a nurturing, collaborative and fun space to make mistakes, learn through trial and error, take risks and build skills that will empower children to manage situations in the future. Our mission includes asking all trustees and staff to work within the Play Principles and relevant legislation.

If you are keen to join the team as a playworker, please drop us a line at [helloswapa@swapa.org.uk](mailto:helloswapa@swapa.org.uk) and we can share any vacancies. We welcome local parents and community members to join our mailing list (which can be found on our website) to keep up with news and volunteer opportunities. If you would like to join as a trustee please email [trustees@swapa.org.uk](mailto:trustees@swapa.org.uk) for more information.

Nitasha Kapoor  
Chairperson, SWAPA trustees  
Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

#### **Legal Status**

Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground moved to use our charitable company Limited by Guarantee status as from July 2014, Shakespeare Walk Adventure, Company number 07289310 and charity number 115626. We continue to use our alias SWAP.

#### **Charity:**

Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground Association was established by a constitution on 2 December 1995 and is registered in England & Wales as a charity on 20 April 1976. Registered charity number Charity Registration Number 1156526. Company Registered Number 02289310

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)

### **Aims:**

Our aim is to provide safe and stimulating open access play opportunities for young people, primarily through the Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground. Through our activities, we contribute to the development of individual young people's social, emotional and physical development, and provide benefits to the local community, for example, increased community cohesion and reduced antisocial behavior. The Trustees have paid due regard to Charity Commission guidance on public benefits in deciding what activities SWAP should undertake.

### **Objectives:**

The objectives of the charity are to provide facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation for children resident in Stoke Newington, and to promote their physical, mental and spiritual well being to help improve their quality of life through play.

This is achieved through the day-to-day experience provided by SWAP, and also through specific projects, such as trips to the seaside, bike repairs workshops etc.

### **Hackney Play Association**

This is an umbrella organisation for adventure playgrounds and play providers in Hackney. HPA has a newsletter, which has information useful to our charity, such as fundraising ideas, training for our staff and the opportunity to advertise our open days and our AGM. We have also looked to recruit staff through HPA processes and have shared resources and asked for support for certain things, for instance negotiations with LB Hackney over the terms of the lease for the site.

### **How Our Activities deliver Public benefits**

The key activity of the playground is to offer an accessible and safe space for children to play. The opening hours during term time are:

- Wednesday to Friday: 3:30-6:30pm
- Saturday: 12-5pm

Holiday opening hours (half terms, Easter and Summer holidays) are 11am – 6pm weekdays, with a lunch club held in addition to existing play activities.

### **Main objectives for the year**

Our strategies for achieving stated objectives, with details of significant activities that will contribute to this:

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)

- We are aiming to build on the opportunities that a fully renovated building and redeveloped external play space will offer.
- We aim to develop greater professionalism in terms of staffing structures and processes, on site accountability and support to staff.
- We aim to raise the general level of income to cover increasing costs and more on site staff input.
- We intend to serve more of the local community, by using the attractiveness of the new facilities to draw in parents and children who may not have had material contact with the playground before.
- We wish to engage more young people in the community by getting them involved in genuine and meaningful consultation, and through participation in decision-making.
- We have been developing enterprising ideas, one being hiring out our site (when not in use by the children) for training – this has proved very popular for corporate away days. We have also hired out the site to be used by the Garden School, a local SEN school who have benefited tremendously by giving their students more access to outdoor learning.

#### Statement for readers:

The extent of involvement from users from a variety of backgrounds has been encouraging. The participation of parents continues to be valuable and supportive to the play setting and activities. Community engagement has been successful, particularly in the links made through providing healthy, hot lunches during half terms and opening the courtyard during lockdowns to provide access to toilets and drinking water. SWAP has increased and developed its links with residents' groups, the community police team and various other agencies and is well established as part of the neighbourhood network.

#### Policies:

Improved communication now exists between SWAP's employees and its management committee. In addition, there is ongoing feedback and consultation from users and the rest of the community, accompanied by a solid process of monitoring. SWAP welcomes the wider community at its Open Days, and it takes every possible opportunity to engage in networking with other stakeholders, including local residents associations, local youth clubs and the police. SWAP take a hands-on approach to trainees and volunteers, by training them on site. SWAP prides itself in meeting deadlines, whatever the nature of the task or project.

There has also been an expansion in the range of services offered to the community, for example the site has been made available out of working hours for external meetings, training, and social events.

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)**

### **Principal funding sources**

#### **LB Hackney**

LB Hackney is our main funder, awarding us £59,000 pa to cover staff salaries and the running costs of the organisation.

#### **Users**

The children and parents have participated in fundraising events.

#### **Local Businesses**

SWAP have had a positive relationship with local businesses that have helped provide funds for events and support with raffle prizes.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

Governing Document:

Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground was established under a Memorandum of Association, incorporated on 18 June 2010 and registered as charity on 3 April 2014. The governing document which established the objects and power of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

#### **Recruitment of Trustees:**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held every 12 to 18 months – it is just prior to this that we advertise for trustees. The invitation to become a trustee is included on our official notice of the AGM, which is sent as a public notice to newspapers in the area, displayed as a poster in shop windows, and handed out to users, parents and door to door.

Users themselves carry this out, as well as staff and the management committee. When talking ordinarily about the site to colleagues and friends, we often invite people to visit the site and encourage them to get more involved.

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)

#### Induction:

New members of the management committee are given an information pack to enable them to better understand how to contribute to the running of the playground.

We have a question and answer session and invite nominations for the roles of secretary and treasurer. Where possible HPA are there to assist this process, and we offer training via HPA and other recognised organisations/training providers to staff and new members.

#### Statement confirming major risks:

Risks include:

- Increases in core costs (staff sickness and supply cover, maternity leave)
- Staff management issues, with direct staff management residing with the Management Committee and not delegated to paid staff
- Changes in Hackney Council's funding policy; especially in the current financial climate
- Legal action against SWAP by a user, for example because of injuries sustained whilst using the site

#### The management of these risks includes

- Working with a planned budget, with staff and a management committee that are acutely aware of the funding issues;
- The reinforcing and reviewing of policies and good practices with staff and users;
- The provision of training, which is made available for all participants in all areas
- Outsourcing specialist Human Resource and Health & Safety support and advice.
- Increasing our insurance to protect our users, staff and management committee.

#### Reserve Policy

The trustees review their reserve policy periodically and aim to retain an adequate sum to ensure the continuity of its activities. This is to ensure that in the event of a *significant drop in funding, the charity will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.*

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Plans for the future of SWAP

This includes:

- Access to all outdoor play, focusing on inclusion (access for all with mobility and visual impairments).
- Extending the use of the site to community groups and other groups with an interest in play.
- Extending the membership of the management committee to include more parents/community members and seek advice in specialist areas where necessary
- Continuing to acknowledge the importance of the "Every Child Matters" objectives, and encouraging healthy lifestyles through good diet and physical play.

Continuing to seek to expand its variety of activities whilst remaining accountable, responsible and sustainable.

## Balance sheet

Details of the major items on the balance sheet can be found in the notes to the accounts.

The fluctuations in debtors and creditors year on year are purely the results of timing of receipts and payment around the year end.

## Accountants

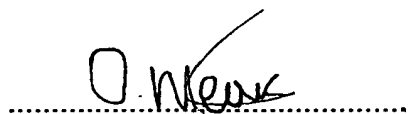
The Management Committee will re-appoint Spartan Accounting Group Ltd at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by the trustees on

And signed on its behalf by



Nitasha Kapoor  
Chair



Omarie Mears  
Treasurer

05/10/2021

05/10/2021

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

### **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on pages 14 to 18.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

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

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

#### Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not prove 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 next statement.

## SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

### Independent examiner's statement

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

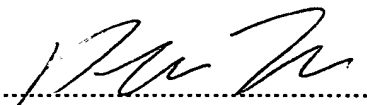
(1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- To keep accounting records in accordance with the section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met or

(2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of accounts to be reached

(3) After further examination, I concluded that the charity made the necessary steps to avoid significant changes in the funds and the services and managed the risk well despite the Covid-19 uncertainty.

David Zoboki BA (Hons) MICB  
Spartan Accounting Group Ltd  
71-75 Shelton Street  
Covent Garden  
London  
WC2H 9JQ



05/10/2021

and signed on its behalf by

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

### Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
<b>Incoming resources:</b>					
<i>Charitable activities</i>					
LB Hackney - Specialist Grant		-	59,000	59,000	59,000
ELBA		-	4,300	4,300	-
Bookings - Garden School		-	7,582	7,582	5,152
Coop		-	3,000	3,000	-
Skate Ramp		-	3,000	3,000	-
Furlough		-	15,084	15,084	-
<i>Voluntary Income</i>					
Donations / Fundraising		1,517	-	1,517	8,588
Rates Refund		-	-	-	-
<b>Total Incoming resources</b>		<b>1,517</b>	<b>91,966</b>	<b>93,484</b>	<b>77,740</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Charitable activities	3	-	87,817	87,817	69,532
Fundraising activities	3	-	-	-	-
Governance costs	3	1,532	-	1,532	1,357
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>1,532</b>	<b>87,817</b>	<b>89,349</b>	<b>70,889</b>
<b>NET (EXPENDITURE) / INCOME AND MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>(15)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,135</b>	<b>6,851</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		-	-	13,552	6,701
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>(15)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,687</b>	<b>13,552</b>

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The notes on page 16 form part of these financial statements

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

### Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets		-	-	-	-
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Cash at bank and in hand		18,916		16,479	
Debtors	5	-		573	
		<u>18,916</u>		<u>17,052</u>	
<b>CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year</b>					
	6	<u>(1,229)</u>		<u>(3,500)</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			<u>17,687</u>		<u>13,552</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u><u>17,687</u></u>		<u><u>13,552</u></u>
<b>CHARITY FUNDS</b>					
Restricted funds	7	-		-	
Unrestricted funds			<u>17,687</u>		<u>13,552</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>			<u><u>17,687</u></u>		<u><u>13,552</u></u>

The notes on page 16 form part of these financial statements

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

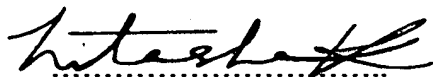
The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 396 and 397 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.

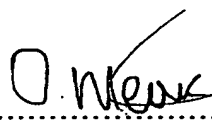
The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on

05/10/2021

and signed on their behalf by:



Nitisha Kapoor (chair)



Omarie Mears (Treasurer)

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

#### 1. Accounting policies

##### **Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with 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 (FRS102)(effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)) Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and to the Companies Act 2006.

Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground is an incorporated charity domiciled and registered in England, which constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially reassigned at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

##### **Reconciliation with Previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice**

In preparing the accounts, the Trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS102 and the Charities SORP FRS102 the reinstatement of comparative items was required. At the date of transition the Trustees consider that no statement is required.

##### **Income**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Income is recognised when it is due under terms of funding agreements.

##### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT that cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. Expenditure is allocated between;

- Expenditure incurred directly in the fulfilment of the charity's objectives (charitable expenditure),
- Expenditure incurred directly in the effort to raise voluntary contributions (costs of fundraising)

##### **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.

##### **Cash-flow Statement**

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 1 from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

#### Going Concern

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and is well placed to manage its business risks successfully despite the current uncertain economic outlook. The charity has significant reserves and accordingly the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis.

#### 2. Legal Status

The company is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital, and is also a registered charity; it is not liable to corporation tax. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the limited liability company.

#### 3. Expenditure

	Charitable activities	Funding activities	Governance costs	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries / ENIC	64,345	-	0	64,345	48,755
Other Staffing Costs	1,014	-	0	1,014	845
Play Activities / Materials etc	9,409	-	0	9,409	10,450
Premises Costs	12,853	-	0	12,853	9,004
Operational Costs	198	-	0	198	479
Trustee Expenses	0	-	0	0	0
Accountancy Fees	-	-	400	400	363
HR Consultancy	-	-	1,132	1,132	994
Other	-	-	0	0	0
	<u>87,818</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,532</u>	<u>89,349</u>	<u>70,890</u>

#### 4. Trustees

No Trustee received remuneration in the year, directly or indirectly, from the charity. No expenses were

#### 5. Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade Debtors	<u>0</u>	<u>573</u>
	<u>0</u>	<u>573</u>

# SHAKESPEARE WALK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

## Shakespeare Walk Adventure Playground

Notes to the financial statements  
for the year ended 31 March 2021

### 6. Creditors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade Creditors	0	0
PAYE	0	0
Deferred income (LBH)	<u>1229</u>	<u>3500</u>
	<u>1229</u>	<u>3500</u>

### 7. Restricted Funds

	Balance at 01 April 2020	Amount received in year	Amount expended in year	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
ELBA	0	4,300	-4,300	0	0
LB Hackney	0	59,000	-59,000	0	0
Coop	0	3,000	-2,198	0	802
Skate ramp	0	3,000	-3,000	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>69,300</u>	<u>-68,498</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>802</u>

### 8. Capital Commitments

The charity had £2000 capital commitments at 31 March 2021 (2020 - £nil).

### 9. Contingent Liabilities

In the opinion of the Trustees there were no contingent liabilities at 31 March 2021 (2020 - £nil).

### 10. Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions during the financial year.