

Deaf Hill Ward Regeneration Partnership

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements

1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021

Charity number: 1156860

Chairman's Annual Report

This is my first annual report, which I cannot start without first mentioning the sad passing away of our Chair Jim Grigg and paying tribute to the outstanding work he has done for The Partnership, the Centre and the Community. Jim was a very unassuming person and had been Chair from the inception of The Partnership, a position he held for 19 years. In that time Jim and the trustees has overseen many changes not only ensuring the building stayed opened, but brought many services to an area with very little services provision. I would like to place on record our gratitude to all his hard work and vision.

I am pleased to present my first year's Annual Report for Deaf Hill Ward Regeneration Partnership.

This has been again a difficult year with the current pandemic (Covid-19). We have been able to still deliver a number of projects that has benefited the local community and the most vulnerable people at a time when they needed us the most.

We have slowly reopened the building to the public with all of our staff now retuning to work. We still have some services which we have been unable to restart which is out our hands.

We were disappointed at the lack of support locally, it should be remembered that local people rely on the building and its services such as Food Bank and mental health support, which is now needed more than ever before.

I would like to thank all Trustees and volunteers for all their hard work, many who have had to shield as a result of this pandemic. I would like to thank members of the public for their continued support, help and donations.

I would in particular like to express our thanks, gratitude and appreciation to our Manager, who despite been furloughed, has volunteered to deliver food bank. He has also undertaken with the help of volunteers a lot of maintenance work, which we have estimated to have saved The Partnership around £25K and counting in labour costs alone.

Our appreciation goes to our Partners and outside agencies and all funders. Our MP and County Councillor's who supported our work

We have recorded a surplus in this year income; mostly from Covid support grants and funding for forthcoming projects We still hold a number of grants for projects either to finish or to start. We also have noted the auditor's comments and seek to address them in the coming year.

We are aware that Covid will still have an impact on our income for years to come, therefore any surplus should be ring fenced to ensure we can meet our needs into the future. While a lot of maintenance has been carried out we must increase our reserves to meet the increasing costs associated with a building which is 93 year old.

The Trustees continue to be concerned at the lack of services available in the

community, we fear services may be lost forever, in a village which already has poor service provision.

We have an excellent set of volunteers, but need to be mindful of demanding too much of them. We will continue to develop our younger volunteers who we continue to invest in over the years. While delighted with their achievements and see them move on, this also leaves a gap in young volunteers. This is why it is important to us to continue investing in our youth projects, again funding is required to maintain our youth projects. We continue to maintain and create new partnerships that benefit our work.

The focus over the last year has still been the continuation of updating the building. We secured additional funding to replace our timber fascia with upvc and install larger gutters. At this time we found out work on one of the flat roofs had not been carried out to a good standard and had to be replace, a cost which the partnership had to fund .

Over this coming year we will continue to focus on finishing the refurbishment of the building, funding for staff and funding for services. We are looking for funding to employ someone a few hours per week; this will take the pressure off our manager. It will free the manager's time so he can look for other funding streams to continue our work and develop other projects..

Our support for Mental Health services continues to thrive and provides such a life line to many users.

I am delighted we have been able to retain our manager who continues to be highly thought of and respected, whose enthusiasm and hard work is a credit to the Partnership. We however need to ensure we have funding to continue employing our manager as we believe he is an excellent and key asset to the Partnership and community.

Once again I thank everyone for their continued help and support to our Community Centre and the work we do for our village and community.

Derek Bradley – Chair

Deaf Hill Ward Regeneration Partnership 2020/21

Income		
	£	
Cree Project	2,021.45	
Furlough	23,346.39	
Covid support grant	10,805.00	
Lock down grant	32,153.50	
Tier 4 Grant	238.21	
Covid fresh project	10,100.00	
Refunds	802.98	
Donation	550.00	
room hire	200.00	
Fascia and Gutters project	5,000.00	
East Durham Create	2,750.00	
Bank interest	382.83	
Total Income	£88,350.36	
Expenditure		
	£	
Wages	28,434.28	
Administration	1,272.13	
Lunch Club write back	-63.00	
Utilities	6,323.95	
Insurance	833.33	
Cleaning	0.00	
Bar	0.00	
Equipment write back	-100.00	
Maintenance	3,750.01	
Licence	220.60	
Trips write back	-50.00	
Cree	454.47	
East Durham Creates	4,420.00	
Fresh fruit	11,206.92	
Youth Project	3,771.81	
Covid exp	31.50	
	£60,506.00	
Surplus for the year	27844.36	
Reconciliation		
	£	
Fund Balance as at 1/4/20	82166.07	
Surplus for year	27844.36	
Fund Balance as at 31/3/21	£110,010.43	
Bank Balances:		
	£	
Current account as at 31/3/21	52821.27	
Deposit Account as at 31/3/21	57189.16	
Add income to bank	0.00	
Unpresented cheques	0.00	
Reconciled	£110,010.43	

**DEAF HILL WARD REGENERATION PARTNERSHIP
2020/2021**

1 Introduction

- 1.1. In examination of the accounts for the Deaf Hill Ward Regeneration Partnership was carried out for the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021.
- 1.2. The contents of this report have been discussed and agreed with the Centre Manager and any recommendations are included in the report.

2 Scope of the Review

- 2.1. The examination tested and evaluated the efficiency and effectiveness of the income and expenditure records.
- 2.2. The areas of financial and administrative activity examined included:
- Income and expenditure spreadsheet
 - bank statements,
 - receipts/invoices,
 - cheque books, paying in books

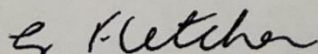
3 Findings

- 3.1. The Centre Manager records all income and expenditure on a spreadsheet under various headings. All income and expenditure were examined, and it was observed that the spreadsheet mirrored the income and expenditure shown on the bank statements. This is highlighted by the 4 errors found on the spreadsheet which if bank reconciliations had been carried out would have been identified.
- 3.2. As reported previously, the records do not show a running total of funds but the difficulty of completing this has previously been explained (and the low risk is accepted) and no regular bank reconciliations are carried out to the fund records.
- 3.3. Using the spreadsheet records a statement of accounts and fund reconciliation was produced detailing all the receipts and payments for the period. This gave a surplus for the year of £27,844.36 (mainly due to the grants support during the year), and the fund record of £110,010.43 reconciled to the current and deposit account bank accounts as at 31st March 2021.
- 3.4. There were 3 very old cheques which had not been presented, I have determined from previous accounts where these were from and put them back into the accounts. (Can be seen as a negative under the expenditure headings).

4. Conclusions/Recommendations

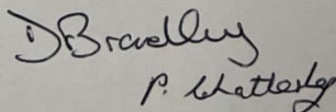
- 4.1. The fund records reconcile to the bank statements and all income and expenditure was accounted for.
- 4.2. Proper income and expenditure records do not appear to be kept as they are recorded from the bank statements. This will not identify if receipts and payments were correct and what cheques are unpresented or income had not been banked.

As previously recommended all income and expenditure should be recorded immediately when income is received and when cheques are issued, and not from the bank statement.



Gordon Fletcher, (C.M.I.I.A.)
Dated: 20th November 2021

Fund Auditor,


P. Bradley