



where being you counts

Charitable Incorporated Organisation 1158743

Trustees Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

turning disabilities into abilities

Registered office: Social Link, 84 Bookerhill Road, High Wycombe, BUCKS, HP12 4EX
www.social-link.co.uk
[#wherebeingyoucounts](https://twitter.com/wherebeingyoucounts)

Trustees Report for the year ended 31st March 2022

Constitution

Social Link was formed on 14th August 2014 and registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 1st October 2014 by the Charity Commission. Its purpose is to provide support, practical advice and social and recreational facilities for adults with learning disabilities in Buckinghamshire. A revised constitution featuring the opportunity for Proxy Voting was approved by the Board and members in July 2021, no further changes have been made to the constitution in 2021/2022.

Our Vision

A world where people with learning disabilities are valued equally, listened to, empowered to contribute to, and are included within our society.

Our Mission

To provide a safe, supported and stimulating environment for adults with learning disabilities to work and grow together as individuals, thereby helping them to build confidence, resilience and a sense of self-worth, develop independence and realise their potential.

Our Core Values**Putting our beneficiaries first**

By providing a service that is led by the needs, ambitions, passions, interests, hopes and dreams of our beneficiaries.

Embracing diversity and individual uniqueness

By celebrating our differences as well as the similarities that bring us together.

Promoting independence and social interaction

By being committed to developing members' enduring life skills through social experience and community membership.

Looking after ourselves and each other

By acting together in a caring, compassionate, considerate, celebratory, tolerant and respectful manner.

Championing equality, inclusion and belonging

By ensuring integration and involvement in communities, and by breaking down barriers which may cause isolation and exclusion.

Aspiring to be better

By ensuring that as an organisation we are responsive to the needs of our beneficiaries, we set no limits on individual growth and potential, we are ambitious for both the charity and its beneficiaries, and that we strive for continuous improvement.

Board of Trustees

The Trustees are:

Linda Laurence (Chair - retired 14/07/21)
James Boylan (Chair - appointed 14/07/21)
Carole Harvey (Treasurer and Vice Chair)
Glynis Wiseman
Janet Shuttlewood
Umair Manir
Steve Birch (Co-opted 15/12/21)

Services and Activities

2021/2022 has continued to be a transitional year for Social Link in its journey towards post-COVID recovery and the re-introduction of indoor services when Government advice permitted. The Social Link team has energetically and successfully managed to overcome the most insurmountable of obstacles to continue to motivate, challenge, stimulate and support over 140 Buckinghamshire-based adults with learning disabilities in a range of innovative ways. This has included:

- Provision of indoor activities within size restricted bubbles
- Filming of sessions shared between bubbles, so everyone felt a part of the whole charity
- Walking groups with step challenges and awards
- New sessions created for afternoons to reduce isolation anxieties
- Gardening
- Introduction of mindfulness sessions to support individuals within a group to share and develop coping mechanisms for their anxieties caused by the pandemic and changes to services
- Football training in preparing for future matches
- Demand-led growth of the football teams
- Sponsored walk – creating fundraising opportunities whilst balancing continued restrictions
- Re-introduction of evening social clubs
- Delivery of IT equipment and stationery to members to ensure individuals did not miss out due to personal and family circumstances.

As from April 2021 we were thrilled to announce the re-opening of our indoor Day Projects following government guidance after the second lockdown. The team was swift to ensure the innovative provision of a range of varied, stimulating and physical activities whilst balancing

working in safety bubbles with continuing restrictions. The team worked tirelessly to ensure members were fully supported to understand the importance and relevance of their bubbles and were given extra support with their anxieties around the lack of freedom of movement around the building, and not getting to see all their friends and team members.

We increased the days of provision in High Wycombe from four days a week to five - initially to reduce the numbers of members attending each day for COVID-safety reasons. However, this has been so successful we have continued to run the service on weekdays with a view to gradually increasing the numbers attending each day, thereby giving us the scope to offer our unparalleled services to a greater number of members.

We are pleased to say that there have been many positives despite COVID over the last few years. Social Link continues to attract fabulous individuals to our team who really have member development, needs and wishes at the heart of their work. We were lucky to welcome the addition of four new staff to the day projects: Harriet, Kat, Steph and Sarah K.

The members' own innovative newspaper (retitled last year as *The Social Link Lockdown Times*) has been given a make-over and after a member vote is now called *The Social Link Express*. A new online format was utilised involving members taking turns with writing and typing articles, editing pages and creating puzzles all using ICT skills. Members take responsibility for photocopying and putting the newspaper together each month. They have learned how to email their ideas and photos for the next issue to team member Sarah M. Each session begins with group discussions around Social Link news and more recently current national news, where agreements are made as to what news will feature before roles and responsibilities are assigned. This has resulted in some members progressing to editing pages completely independently and now going on to support and empowering their peers to gain these skills too. A monthly competition is held for members to submit their artwork to feature on the front cover, this has become hugely popular across the whole service. Thank you to Hannah S and Sarah M for developing such a great way for our members to increase their literacy and ICT skills.

Evening clubs both in High Wycombe and Aylesbury were finally able to resume with reduced numbers by dividing the group into two halves with each half attending fortnightly. Both services have seen a change in evening club leaders, with our fabulous media consultant Richard joining the Wycombe team and newcomer Kate joining the Aylesbury team. Welcome to both.

Referrals for both groups have continued to increase despite the lockdown, resulting in a possible need for additional evening clubs over the coming year. This is a real testimony to the success and enjoyment of these clubs but also clearly demonstrates a local need for such services.

Co-ordinators

The beginning of this year saw the appointment of two Service Co-ordinators. Jacci and Hannah are over-seeing the Day Opportunities' provision within Social Link, with a particular focus on our activity offering and how we maximise the development of our members to

ensure we are providing the best service we can to all who attend. Jacci and Hannah went through a four-stage interview process during which time their skills and experience shone through, ensuring their suitability for this crucial new role.

Social Link Football Teams

In response to a tenacious member with a passion for football and coaching plus the need to increase physical fitness after lockdown, 'Social Link FC' was formed. The team set up training sessions in Aylesbury and apprehensively yet excitedly signed up to the BOBI League, one of the largest pan-disability leagues in the country (a football league providing regular football opportunities for children and adults with physical and learning disabilities across Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire).

Due to popular demand and word of mouth, a second team was then formed. The enjoyment this generates has been contagious, even creating a following of supporters who travel far and wide to watch the teams play. We are grateful to one parent – *you know who you are* - who attends every game and has been so delighted by her son's involvement and development that she sends Social Link a monthly donation to assist with any costs associated with running these teams.

For the players, the opportunities that have arisen for them have been many: the development of social skills, communication and teamwork skills, along with development of technical football skills. Indeed, two players are about to embark upon coaching and referee training.

Through passionate conversations between the football team managers and other team members about how wonderful it would be to acquire new football kits, an incredibly generous offer to pay for a new kit for each team came from Owen White Solicitors. The players took great delight in choosing the style and colour and the sense of pride radiated from every player when putting on their new kits for the first time. Some of the players and managers met with Mike Smith from Owen White Solicitors to parade their new kit and to say a huge *Thank You* for this very welcome donation.

Wellbeing

Whilst supporting members with coping with the re-opening of services, being indoors and returning to mixing with larger numbers of people, the team recognised that some individuals were experiencing high levels of anxiety. This started to have a varied impact on their day-to-day activities ranging from being subdued, loss of confidence and lack of desire to engage in sessions previously loved. In extreme cases it affected attendance and created a sudden desire among individuals to isolate themselves even when at home with their families. This led to a member of the Social Link team requesting to gain wellbeing-based training with a view to looking at how we as an organisation support those struggling with anxiety and the feelings that have stemmed from experiencing a pandemic. Relevant training was sought and attended, and wellbeing sessions were introduced to the choice of activities offered to members. Members have been encouraged and supported to share their experiences, keep

journals and learn simple coping mechanisms/techniques that could be used anywhere and at any time when anxiety levels are increasing. This has had such a positive effect on the individuals accessing these sessions and feedback from families has confirmed that coping mechanisms learned are being shared at home. We aim to continue to develop these sessions and also to look at empowering individuals to make changes in their lives through advocacy. We would like to thank consultant Kim Galvani for her passion and determination with developing tailored sessions that promote wellbeing across our service.

New Parent / Carer Support Group

During the pandemic, it wasn't only recognised that members needed some support but also recognised that there was an opportunity to form a parent support group to enable parents and carers to have an opportunity to chat, socialise and share experiences and information. This is currently in the process of being started and will hopefully grow over the coming months. The Board would like to thank Glynis Wiseman for being instrumental in the development of this much needed opportunity for families and carers.

Strategic Review

In March this year, the Board of Trustees and the whole Social Link Team spent a day together with the aim of reviewing the purpose of the charity and to collectively plan for its future development. Previous Chair of Trustees, Linda Laurence, led the morning session and current Chair, James Boylan, led the afternoon session.

By attempting to meet the challenges posed by the pandemic, the charity has had to react in agile and decisive ways. In our post COVID-19 recovery, it was important for the charity to consider lessons learned during this challenging time and to use these to inform actions to enhance our present and future service offering and to ensure the long-term viability of the charity. While the pandemic presented an array of challenges, it also prompted new and innovative ways of working, which were important to capture.

The strategy day gave us a rare opportunity to be together (especially important for new team members) to reaffirm the charity's mission statement, aims and objectives, and to collectively agree strategic developments to ensure Social Link continues to provide the best service it can for all members.

Gardening Service

The Social Link Gardening Service offers members the opportunity of gaining work-based skills and has gone from strength to strength throughout the past year. During this time, the gardening crew has secured a wide range of garden and woodland maintenance contracts.

This year witnessed the crew proudly attain recognised certification in using the hand lawn mowers, leaf blowers and ride-on mowers. The feedback from members and parents of those attending this service continues to be extremely positive. With an emphasis on the acquisition of new skills, this has increased participants' confidence, resilience, and self-belief. Members

have blossomed and developed a strong desire to be part of a working team and to feel useful. Feedback from clients booking the team's services has been equally positive with comments identifying the high standard of work and leading to new word-of-mouth bookings. This wonderful new project has given us the added benefit of an extra income stream too. All work, once checked on completion that it is to the standard required, has been carried out in exchange for a donation to the charity.

We are currently looking at raising funds for the purchase of a specific gardening vehicle to enable this innovative service to expand and allow a greater number of members to access it. We would like to thank consultants Rob Thomas and Karen Atkins for continuing to drive this valuable service forward.

We extend our thanks to all employees, consultants and volunteers involved in organising and providing such wonderful opportunities for the beneficiaries of the charity, particularly going above and beyond during the last year to ensure that the safety of all our vulnerable members and their families was paramount.

Partnerships

LCVR Ltd

The charity continues to gain great benefit from the 9-seater vehicle provided to us by LCVR Ltd in Princes Risborough. The vehicle was upgraded in summer 2020 and continues to be used every day, enabling us to travel further afield and increasing the activities and opportunities on offer to our beneficiaries. A huge thank you again to everyone at LCVR Ltd.

Owen and White Solicitors

We are extremely thankful for the support Owen White Solicitors have given us not only with the purchase of our dazzling new football kits, but also for the invaluable legal support they provided us with this year.

Action for Youth

Wycombe-based teenagers spent time over the college holiday finding out about our charity and used this information to successfully fundraise on our behalf. We are hoping to work with these young volunteers face-to-face this summer.

Woodwork partnership

Chris Davies, a Social Link member, came to us with a new activity idea that he thought would excite our Social Link members and asked if he could be instrumental in the creation and development of a partnership working with a woodwork expert he knew. We supported Chris to launch his idea, mapping out session plans, health and safety processes, risk assessments, and liaising with him and the woodwork specialist Lyn. Chris and Lyn then carried out these sessions in 8-week blocks allowing up to 8 members at a time to join in. The members absolutely love these sessions and have gained and implemented fantastic new skills in drilling, shaving, filing and hammering to make the most wonderful creations. We are currently looking forward to members designing and creating their own re-usable photo frames. The Board would like to thank Chris and Lyn for all their hard work and for pulling together such a creative and innovative programme of activities for the benefit of our

members. We would also like to thank Elizabeth (Chris's sister) for so generously funding the materials needed to run these sessions.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when meeting the organisation's charitable objectives. The charity has continued to provide valuable advice, support and social, recreational, and educational experiences for adults with learning disabilities and difficulties.

During the last year, the charity increased its levels of support to those who needed it, including the addition of wellbeing sessions. The charity received increased referrals as other services were not opening or were being selective in their acceptance criteria. The activities of the charity are made available to all who meet the stated admission criteria.

The Trustees regularly review the circumstances of the charity's beneficiaries and Social Link provides financial assistance where this might be required to enable participation in its activities. Resources, including IT equipment, have also been made available to members where appropriate to ensure their inclusion in the charity's activities.

The Impact of COVID

General Income

The charity has successfully managed to navigate its second year through the pandemic, ensuring that the needs of the beneficiaries continued to be met. However, the pandemic has again had an expected negative impact on our general running costs.

During these last 12 months we have further adapted and developed our services bringing greater opportunities for experiences, learning and integration within local communities. This has resulted in an overall increase in our income both when compared against the previous 13 months and when compared against a pro-rata 12-month period, which is most evident in the increase in our income for our charitable activities.

However, as a consequence of opening indoor services and delivering these services in small "bubbles" our costs have increased significantly too. There is a continued need for higher ratios of staff to members, PPE, individual non-sharing activity resources in addition to extra rent charges for the indoor services. This was anticipated and reported in our previous annual report and financial provisions were made by the Board of Trustees. Last year we welcomed the support via the furlough scheme but this has not continued into this year.

Fundraising

Continued restrictions in place during the last year has meant we were sadly still unable to carry out our usual fundraising activities of pre-pandemic years. We were, however, able to carry out our delightful, sponsored *Walk For The Ones We Love* which raised an incredible £3,800. The walk was a delightful 8-mile walk from Bourne End to Marlow and back, with lots

of smiles and laughter, a welcome picnic in the park at the halfway point - and even a sing-along with Richard and his guitar! We would like to thank all those members, families and team members who took part in our walk or made a donation as part of the event. A special Thank You goes to Sayers Butterworth, The Martins, The Baldwins, and Caroline Picton (one of our members) for such an incredible amount raised.

We also raised a further £3,653 in fundraising from the following organisations and events: High Wycombe Lotto, The Social Link Garden party, The Social Link member Christmas party and incredible eBay sales. Thank you to all who donated such wonderful clothes and toys also to Bobby Faiers for her brilliant packaging and eBay-selling skills.

Donations

Despite yet another challenging year faced, the charity received a wonderful total of £8,066.16 in donations, including tax repayments under Gift Aid. Major donations were gratefully received from Instron, Azdio, Action for Youth, SUEZ Scope, Owen White Solicitors, County Financial, Howe and Co Fish and Chip Van 22, Sarah Turner, John Scanlon, Jennifer Stevenson, The Wray Family Trust, the Davy Family, Mr and Mrs Benton, Bernie Till, Vincent Scaffolding and Deanfield Homes.

We are extremely grateful to everyone who made donations which have supported the charity's activities during a very difficult time.

Grants

Due to the pandemic and rising costs, Social Link has been proactively and successfully seeking grants to support the development of new projects and assist with sustainability. We would like to thank the following organisations for their generosity:

- Chesham, Amersham and District MENCAP
- The Rothschild Foundation

Future Plans

Despite the pandemic, Social Link continues to go from strength to strength and is relentless in seeking to ensure the best provision for our beneficiaries. During the recent strategic review we agreed the following priorities:

1. Gardening Project – To further develop this into a standalone profit generating business unit, including the raising of funds to purchase a gardening vehicle.
2. To build on the current 'wellbeing' member sessions and to consider a potential advocacy service.
3. To continue with the development of a parent support group which would build upon the relationships that have been formed with member families during lockdown. It would provide a source of information to families as well as an opportunity to share experiences in an informal setting. In addition, it could assist in growing the number of Social Link supporters and helpers.

4. A 14-18/19 transitional service to ensure that young people leaving education are aware of Social Link and the options available to them. A focus to be placed on building a relationship with special schools in the county.
5. Supported employment opportunities – working in partnership with Buckinghamshire Council to develop an employment support service to provide opportunities for members and other individuals to learn and develop employment-related skills and enable them to access and retain employment.
6. Member Forum –To continue to develop a Member Forum where members’ voices help to shape the work of the charity and the activities and experiences they are able to enjoy.
7. Member reviews – Every Social Link Day Project member will have a key worker meeting and invite attendees of their choice to discuss service provision and their own aims and objectives they wish to work towards.
8. Café Takeover – Social Link members and team will be taking over the Hills Café in High Wycombe every Thursday afternoon starting from July 2022. This is to build on and develop work experience skills in a real-life commercial set up.
9. Development of the role of Social Link Co-ordinators and appointment of Deputy CEO – The CEO and Board are committed to securing the sustainability of Social Link through these middle and senior leadership roles. Furthermore, the Board is committed to ensuring that the CEO has appropriate leadership and management support to enable her to fulfil her essential duties to the best of her ability.
10. To create and sell a ‘Social Link model’ which could be applied in other locations beyond Buckinghamshire.

Board Membership

The Board of Trustees recently set out and approved a new Recruitment of Trustees Policy and Procedure. The Board is committed to ensuring it provides high quality governance of the charity, including having high quality Board membership. Recently the Board co-opted a new board member, Steve Birch. Steve has considerable experience in the business world which will be invaluable as the charity implements its strategic priorities.

Voting Membership

Voting Membership of the charity has recently increased in numbers and continues to be open to parents, carers and friends who would like to support our aims. Membership is available for a £25 annual subscription, which entitles the member to vote at the AGM and receive regular newsletters and enables the charity to claim a 25% tax rebate under gift aid, where the subscriber is a UK taxpayer.

Financial Update and Risk Review

Due to the COVID pandemic the charity has continued to face many challenges during the 12-month period to the 31st March 2022. We always prioritise the wellbeing of our members and are conscious of the support they need, which in many cases increased as a result of the pandemic. We have followed both best practice and regulations to ensure the safety of our members, staff and consultants whilst still providing continuous, enhanced and expanded

services throughout the year. This has incurred additional costs. As of 31st March 2022, the charity reported a deficit for the year of £17,961, which reduced our total funds carried forward to £111,704.

The Trustees meet regularly to monitor and review the income, expenditure and cash position.

We have applied for and have been notified of the award of several grants which will provide further support going forward. We are confident that we can continue to deliver all our expanded services and will continue to apply for grants to supplement our income and cover our costs.

As a charity which operates services for vulnerable adults, we are very conscious of the potential risks arising from our activities. We have established policies for the operation of our activities which are reviewed and monitored by the Trustees. The charity maintains a risk register which is regularly reviewed. Procedures are in place to protect the organisation from financial fraud.

Reserves Policy

The finances of the charity and the need for secure future funding are reflected in our Reserves Policy.

The charity has ongoing commitments to run its evening clubs and day sessions, which are a very valuable part of our members' lives. The Trustees have decided that the reserves need to be sufficient to cover risks that may arise and should, as a minimum, be sufficient to cover the level of direct expenditure on these activities for a period of four months, that is £111,000 without additional external support. We will continue to apply for further grants to supplement these reserves.

The Trustees consider that the current reserves of £111,704 of Unrestricted Funds in the Financial Statements, are sufficient but the charity continues to need to raise funds each year to meet its future requirements. As the charity continues to expand, and over the coming year with the effects of COVID the Trustees will continue to review the Reserves Policy.

Organisation of the Charity

The Trustees take policy decisions on behalf of the charity at their regular Board meetings. During the pandemic the Board met monthly; since restrictions have eased, the Board has resumed its bi-monthly meetings. Day-to-day decisions continue to be delegated to our wonderful CEO, Wendy Dunn, who leads all aspects of the charity's provision. The Chair and CEO meet weekly virtually or in-person to discuss strategic and operational matters. The CEO also has an advisory role at Board meetings. The Board thanks Wendy for her continuing passionate, determined and exemplary leadership of Social Link.

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the terms of the charity's constitution and the recently reviewed Trustee Appointment Policy. When appointing new Trustees, the charity looks for individuals who have a sensitivity towards adults with learning disabilities and difficulties and are appreciative of diversity and difference in the world. In addition, in appointing Trustees, the Board is conscious of creating a sustainable Board with a broad skills base to ensure governance of the highest standards. All trustees are required to commit to regular training.

Appreciation

Linda Laurence and previous Board members

On 14th July 2021 Linda Laurence resigned from her position of Chair of Trustees and the Board of Trustees. James Boylan was appointed as the new Chair of Trustees with Carole Harvey taking on the additional role of Vice-Chair of Trustees. The Board would like to express its gratitude to Linda for her contribution to the development of Social Link over a number of years, for her wise counsel at all times and for her incisive leadership during troubled times which has enabled Social Link to emerge as a stronger organisation. The Board is also very conscious of its trustee history. Each Board and Trustee cycle builds on the successes of previous Boards and Trustees. The Board would like at this time to remember the contributions of past Trustees who have all contributed to the charity as it is today – Richard and Sandy, Paul, Brian, Jenny and David.

The Board of Trustees

All Board members are volunteers and give their time freely to the Charity. During the year under review the Board was more than ever mindful of the uncertain and stressful environment in which Social Link was operating and so endeavoured to be as supportive as possible of the CEO and the Social Link operational team. The Chair of Trustees would like to express his appreciation again to Linda Laurence for the role model she provided as former Chair of Trustees and to current Board members for their energy, support, resilience, commitment, good sense and unfailing good humour at all times. Like the Social Link operational team, Board members have gone above and beyond to provide exemplary governance to ensure that Social Link has emerged as a strengthened organisation during the most challenging of times.

Chief Executive Officer

Wendy Dunn is the heart and soul of Social Link. The Board of Trustees would like to express its appreciation for all that Wendy has done and continues to do to ensure that some of Buckinghamshire's most vulnerable residents enjoy happy, meaningful, social, educative and fun times in all the ways they experience Social Link. Wendy is relentless in ensuring the best for members within and beyond Social Link. She embodies the values of Social Link and all that the charity strives to be for its members. We are proud to have Wendy Dunn as our CEO.

Employees, Leaders, Support Workers, Volunteers and Supporters

Organisations are only as good as the people within them. Social Link has great people. The Board of Trustees would like to say thank you to all employees, leaders, support workers, volunteers and supporters for all they contribute. Much of the work of these appreciated colleagues is unseen but the Board recognises the passionate commitment, relentless enthusiasm, resourcefulness, joyfulness, creativity and imagination, compassion and love that everyone brings to work every day. We are proud of all those who contribute to ensuring that members have the best possible experiences every day.

The Board of Trustees would also like to thank our donors and all the volunteers who have made the successes of the last year possible. Also, thanks to those local businesses who have supported the charity during this very challenging year.

Finally, the Board of Trustees would like to say a particular thank you to those behind the scenes who ensure that every day runs smoothly and that the financial management of the charity is as good as it can be. So, thank you to Victoria Fallon, Karen Marrinan and Laura Ripley for all you do.

The CEO would also like to say a special thank you to Victoria for her unwavering support, attention to detail and seamlessly stepping into her shoes as and when required. She would also like to thank Karen Marrinan for providing strong day-to-day financial oversight of the charity's activities. Both colleagues provide an important and essential behind-the-scenes role.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the 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 Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed subject to any departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on 24/06/22 by:

James Boylan

James Boylan, Chair of Board of Trustees

Address: Social Link, 84 Bookerhill Road, High Wycombe, BUCKS, HP12 4EX

Social Link

Statement of Financial Activities for the 12-month period ended 31st March 2022, the comparison for 2021 is for the 13-month period ended 31st March 2021.

	2022	2021
	12 months	13 months
Income from:		
Donations (Note 2)	£8,066	£10,818
Charitable activities (Note 3)	£319,269	£314,598
Other trading activities (Note 4)	£7,454	£5,415
Income from Infection Control Fund, Grants and Furlough	£35,136	£43,616
Interest (Note 5)	£13	£78
Total income	£369,938	£374,525
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds (Note 6)	£1,177	£444
Charitable activities (Note 7)	£386,722	£333,002
Total expenditure	£387,899	£333,446
Net income and movement in funds	-£17,961	£41,079
Total funds brought forward	£129,665	£88,777
Movement in designated funds		-£190
Total funds carried forward	£111,704	£129,665

The notes on pages 18 to 20 form part of these financial statements.

Social Link

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2022

	2022	2021
Intangible fixed assets (Note 8)	£250	£250
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand (Note 9)	£126,583	£166,373
Prepayments	£785	£1,265
Debtors (Note 10)	£15,363	£9,098
	£142,731	£176,736
Current liabilities		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 11)	£31,277	£47,321
Net current assets	£111,454	£129,415
Net assets	£111,704	£129,665
Unrestricted income fund	£111,704	£129,665
Total funds	£111,704	£129,665

The notes on pages 18 to 20 form part of these financial statements.

Social Link

Statement of cash flows for the 12-month period ended 31st March 2022, the comparison for 2021 is for the 13-month period ended 31st March 2021

	2022	2021
Net cash flow from operating activities		
Net income/deficit	-£17,961	£41,079
Movement in debtors and prepayments	-£5,785	£3,865
Movement in liabilities	-£16,044	£10,994
Capital expenditure	£0	£0
Net cash movement from operating activities	-£39,790	£55,938
 Cash at the beginning of the year	 £166,373	 £110,435
Cash at the end of the year	£126,583	£166,373

The notes on pages 18 to 20 form part of these financial statements.

Notes forming part of the Financial Statements for the 12 months ended 31st March 2022

1. Statement of accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies have been consistently applied. The financial statements also comply with the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS 102) and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

b) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are recorded in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income, the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy and it is probable that the amount will be received. Donations under gift aid together with income tax recoverable are recognised when the donation is receivable.

c) Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs relating to that activity.

The cost of small items of equipment is written off in the year it is incurred.

d) Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligations can be measured with reasonable certainty.

2. Donations

Donations include subscriptions for membership of the charity plus gift aid rebates.

3. Charitable activities

	2022	2021
Evening club revenues	£7,992	£9,238
Day sessions revenues	£311,277	£305,360
	£319,269	£314,598

4. Other trading activities

Our fund raising activities have been impacted by the pandemic.

5. Interest

This comprises income from the charity's bank deposit accounts.

6. Expenditure on raising funds

This represents direct expenditure on fund raising events which have been limited due to the pandemic

7. Charitable expenditure

	2022			2021		
	Direct Costs	Support Costs	Total	Direct Costs	Support Costs	Total
Evening Clubs	£6,900	£3,042	£9,942	£11,145	£5,672	£16,817
Day Sessions	£262,322	£115,635	£377,957	£209,842	£106,788	£316,630
Total	£269,222	£118,677	£387,899	£220,987	£112,460	£333,447

Support costs, which are mainly the employment and related costs of the charity's employees, are allocated in proportion to the direct costs of the evening clubs and the day sessions respectively.

8. Intangible assets at cost

The trademark "Social Link" is held at cost on the balance sheet

	2022	2021
At the beginning of the year	£250	£250
Additions	£0	£0
Disposals	£0	£0
At the end of the year	£250	£250

9. Cash at bank and in hand

This comprises bank current and deposit accounts plus petty cash. These are all liquid funds available for immediate use by the charity.

10. Debtors

Debtors comprise outstanding invoices in respect of day session beneficiaries and donations receivable.

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

These provisions represent liabilities for services provided but not yet invoiced and accrued costs, all of which have been settled since the year end.

	2022	2021
Trade creditors and accruals	£20,544	£15,808
Consultants	£6,978	£7,621
HMRC	£2,971	£3,088
Pensions	£784	£804
Deferred income		£20,000
	£31,277	£47,321

	2021	Increase in deferred income	Decrease in deferred income	2022
Deferred Income				
Grants from Heart of Bucks and Rothschild	£20,000		-£20,000	£0
Infection Control Fund from Bucks Council		£13,136	-£13,136	£0
Grant from Mencap		£2,000	-£2,000	£0
Furlough Grant		£11,718	-£11,718	£0
	£20,000	£26,854	-£46,854	£0

12. Trustees and Governance costs

No remuneration was paid to Trustees neither did they receive re-imbursement of out of pocket expenses but they were reimbursed for purchases made from time to time on behalf of the charity. There were no Governance costs.

13. Staff costs and volunteers

13.1 Staff Costs

	12 months 2022	13 months 2021
Salaries and wages	£140,149	£149,253
Social security costs	£8,579	£9,484
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	£5,355	£5,809
Other employee benefits		£0
Total staff costs	£154,083	£164,546

There are no staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

TRUE

	12 months 2022	13 months 2021
The total amount paid to key management personnel (includes trustees and senior management) for their services to the charity.	£47,277	£51,217

13.2 Average head count in the year

Parts of the charity in which the employees work

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Fundraising		
Charitable Activities	6	6
Governance		
Total	6	6

13.3 There were no ex-gratia payments to employees and others (excluding trustees).

13.4 There were no redundancy payments.

13.5 The charity relies on the generous contribution of time from unpaid volunteers in carrying out its activities. Volunteers provide substantial support to the beneficiaries at the evening clubs, day sessions and trips away. The value of this contribution, which is difficult to measure, is not included as income.

14. Taxation

Social Link is registered as a charity with both the Charity Commission and HM Revenue & Customs and is thus exempt from corporation tax on its income which is applied for charitable purposes.

15. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions.

Approved by the Trustees on 24/06/22 and signed on their behalf by-

James Boylan

James Boylan – Chair

Address: 84 Bookerhill Road, High Wycombe, HP12 4EX



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts**

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

SOCIAL LINK

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31ST MARCH 2022

**Charity no
(if any)**

1158743

Set out on pages

1-2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31/03/2022

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:

V M Simpson

Date:

19TH JUNE 2022

Name:

VERONICA MARY SIMPSON

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

FCCA

Address:

CLACKS COTTAGE BLACKTHORNE LANE

BALLINGER

GREAT MISSENDEN HP16 9LN

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

