

The Paradise Co-Operative Independent

Examiners Report to the Trustees

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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



Peter Ellington FAIA

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

27 March 2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01 Jan 2023 To 31 Dec 2023

Charity name: The Paradise Co-operative

Charity registration number: 1159176

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The charity has two combined objectives</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To promote and provide for the benefit of the community, facilities for education and other leisure time occupation with the object of improving the quality of life of the public at large.2. To advance the education of the public at large in agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry protection and improvement of the natural environment, through best environmental practice including the use of no chemicals and minimal use of machinery
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>Community Volunteering</p> <p>We ran free weekly volunteer sessions throughout the year. Our community joined us to learn new skills in sustainable urban growing and connect with others.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Community Growing Volunteer Sessions Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds join us every Sunday to grow and learn together. Regular free workshops enhance educational value for volunteers.2. Mindful Growing Volunteer Sessions Designed to improve physical and mental health and wellbeing and combat loneliness and isolation by allowing local people to learn new skills in a welcoming and inclusive space. We provide free workshops and activities to support nature connection. <p>Community Food Initiative</p> <p>Our Community Food Initiative has continued to grow this year - producing local, sustainable, organic food with the community, for the community. The food we grow is donated to local community groups and social enterprises where the produce supports</p>

		<p>community initiatives. Excess produce is shared with volunteers.</p> <p>Education with local schools Over 2,500 children, from six local primary schools, visited in 2023 to take part in sessions designed to connect children with nature through curriculum-led workshops. Our Head of Education has visited these schools to deliver assemblies focused on biodiversity and provides on-site staff training providing teachers with practical advice on connecting children with nature.</p> <p>We also offered free workshops to just over 150 children in receipt of pupil premium funding with a focus on activities to support nature connection.</p> <p>Wildlife Regeneration We continued to make improvements to our one-acre site with biodiversity in mind, striving to create a sanctuary for nature as well as our community. Activities with our volunteers to enhance biodiversity took place regularly including habitat creation and planting for pollinators.</p> <p>Community Festivals 300 people took part in our 2023 community festivals, raising our profile in the community, connecting attendees with nature and providing opportunities for local people to learn skills in gardening with nature and for biodiversity.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Trustees have read the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
--	----------------	--

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p><u>Community Education</u> More than 650 individuals, of all ages and backgrounds, have volunteered with us this year. This provided our community with a vital opportunity for environmental education, fostering the development of various skills linked to sustainable food growing and managing land for biodiversity.</p> <p>Over 2,500 children benefited from opportunities to engage in curriculum-led and nature focused workshops, supporting children to develop a lasting connection with nature and enhancing educational objectives.</p> <p><u>Community wellbeing</u> Our workshops and volunteer sessions support local people to build enduring connections with other members of their community and with nature, promoting good mental wellbeing. Providing opportunities for local people to take part in light gardening activities promotes good physical wellbeing.</p> <p>Volunteers are able to contribute meaningfully to their wider community, both by supporting our projects on site and contributing to our Community Food Initiative.</p> <p><u>Positive environmental impact</u> Supporting local people to connect with nature encourages future pro-environmental and pro-nature behaviors. We provide our volunteers with the skills they need to grow food using sustainable methods and promote biodiversity in areas beyond our garden.</p>
---	-----------	--

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The Charity continues to work towards a sustainable operating model through charging for education courses to cover the costs of operating them and maintaining the field site for the wider community.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Cash reserves are held for expected legal fees connected with a planned site tenancy agreement and a contingency fund to ensure contractors can still be paid in the event of a cash flow crunch.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Cash balance at the end of the year was £34,158.81.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	The Charity remains dependant on a single field site held under an agreement with the Ministry of Justice and on being able to generate income from school education courses.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Appointment by existing trustees

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	The Paradise Co-operative
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1159176
Charity's principal address	5 Tranmere Road, London SW18 3QH, UK

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Scott Thompson	Trustee		
2	Joanne Osborne	Trustee		
3	Paul Lickman	Treasurer		
4	Claire Powell	Trustee		
5	John Deakins	Trustee		
6	Rachael Stokes	Trustee		
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
n/a		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
n/a		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	None
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	None

Additional information (optional)**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

--

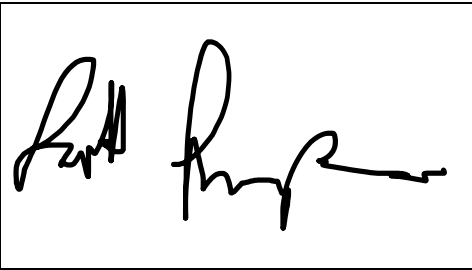
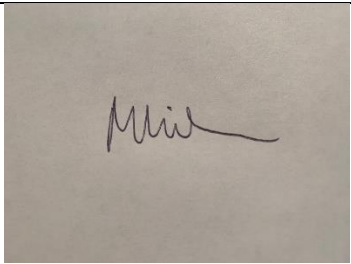
Other optional information

--

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Scott Thompson	Paul Lickman
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer
Date	2 nd March 2024	

**The Paradise Co-operative Receipts and Payments Accounts
For the Year Ending 31st December 2023**

	2023 General Funds	2023 Restricted Funds	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources				
Paradise Wild - Holiday clubs	-	-	-	1,149
Priority Schools	26,853	-	26,853	18,925
Courses	3,011		3,011	3,383
Grant		57,836	57,836	47,933
Other income	13,440	-	13,440	-
Beekeeping	1,628	-	1,628	-
Total Incoming Resources	44,931	57,836	102,767	71,390
Direct Charitable Expenses				
Accountancy	578	-	578	551
Courses	850	-	850	2,400
Garden	-	43,370	43,370	37,335
Insurance	728	-	728	-
Plants	-	-	-	-
Running costs	2,645	895	3,540	2,048
Salaries	25,009	12,248	37,258	3,151
Miscellaneous	180	534	714	-
Schools 2021/2022	-	-	-	21,620
Schools 2022/2023	11,693	-	11,693	-
Total Charitable Expenditure	41,685	57,047	98,732	67,105
Net Income/(Outgoing) Resources for the year	3,247	789	4,036	4,285
Balances brought forward as 1st January	9,919	20,204	30,123	30,123
Balances brought forward 31st December	13,165	20,993	34,158	30,123

**The Paradise Co-operative Statements of Assets and Liabilities
For the Year Ending 31st December 2022**

Assets retained for the charity's own use	2023	2022
Current Assets		
Bank Current Account	34,158	30,123
	<hr/>	
Net Current Assets	34,158	30,123
Cash Funds		
Unrestricted funds	13,165	9,919
Restricted funds	20,993	20,204
	<hr/>	
	34,158	30,123