

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings

Registered charity, number 1161078

Trustee Report and Financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

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Hastings Voluntary Action
Jackson Hall
Portland Place
Hastings
East Sussex
TN34 1QN

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings
Registered charity, number 1161078

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Full name	OASIS Community Project - East Hastings
Legal structure	Charitable Incorporate Organisation. Registered with the charity commission on 26 March 2015.
Registered charity number	1161078
Principal address	Broomgrove Community Centre, 85 Malvern Way, Hastings, TN34 3PY
Trustees	Valerie Coleman Moir Ward Maureen Gardiner Lou Woodcock Lyn Beenev
Bankers	Barclays Bank, Hastings branch
Independent Examiner:	Laura Dawson, employee of Hastings Voluntary Action Jackson Hall, Portland Place, Hastings, TN34 1QN
Governance and management	<p>The charity is operated under the rules of its constitution adopted January 2015.</p> <p>The methods adopted for the recruitment and appointment of new trustees is laid down in the constitution.</p>
Aims and objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The advancement for the public benefit of education.• The advancement of health and the preservation and protection of public health generally.• The relief of persons who are in need, hardship or distress and the prevention and relief of poverty.• To provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.• Such other charitable purposes for the public benefit as the trustees shall from time to time determine.

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 March 2023 (cont'd)

We started last April 2022 with bit of a buzz, looking forward to celebrating the Queens Jubilee by organising a group afternoon tea, and we kept ourselves busy fundraising with a sponsored silence and a quiz.

In June 2022 we visited the Kent County Show on a day that became one of the hottest in the year! It was a great feeling, being able to shake off the shackles of COVID after two years, with less restrictions while keeping vigilant.

During the summer, we had exercises for older people and playing archery, boules and seated football and outings to Maidstone and ten pin bowling, a day on Hastings seafront, Drusillas and Knockhatch, Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway and Wingham Wildlife centre. We also ran a sewing course at the Community Centre with a local seamstress. Our membership numbers grew as new families joined us for our summer outings and we had some great feedback about the venues we visited.

We had funding for the outings and activities from Big Local -North East Hastings, Magdalen & Lasher Foundation, Isabel Blackman Foundation and our fundraising efforts.

Autumn and winter saw the cost of living rise for everyone and as gas and electric prices increased more people attended the weekly food bag collections as their budgets were not matching their outgoings. We applied for funding from Asda Community Foundation and we successfully gained £500 which started our "Warm lounge" project to cover the winter period. This project meant we could open up a day a week for the whole day delivering a range of different activities in the morning, a two course lunch then afternoon activities and finishing before it got dark so residents could get home safely. The all day sessions mean that residents would not need their heating on while they were at the centre, they would be less isolated in the dark winter months, ate a meal and they could take home what was left to make another meal, so again saving them money. A successful bid to Sussex Community Foundation meant we were able to continue this important work further and for longer with funding of £3,820. We fed on average 12 people at each session.

We invited Energise Sussex coast to hold a stall each week during the winter months and they were excellent at helping residents with solving problems with bills, helping residents on low incomes obtain new white goods, giving out items to help keeping draughts out and the heating in. residents who used the free service were really pleased at the help they were given.

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 March 2023 (cont'd)

One of our returning Trustees, Lyn shared her thoughts on this project " **Creating the warm lounge project has been a highlight for Oasis, giving good food and companionship for users. Excellent conversations, laughter and sharing experiences through reminiscence sessions. The table games created a competitive edge, albeit friendly competition.**

We have worked closely with social prescribers who brought new people to our group.

We walked the length of the seafront to raise some much needed funds and held a musical bingo night with a curry supper, this proved very popular as it was a fun evening and new residents attended"

Trying out new fundraising ideas, means there is a way most of our members can get involved and we do not get stuck in a rut doing the same things year after year.

Our Chairperson Mo says " **We have had many achievements in this last year and the warm lounge was a successful project we worked on. We have increased our networking, by attending more meetings with other organisations and invited guest speakers to come and provide information to the group. We tried a new fundraiser in Musical bingo, and this turned out to be a great income boost to our unfenced funds.**

We also supported other organisations in the town by attending their quizzes and events, meeting new people, having a laugh and helping to boost their profits as its important to help each other out.

We had two six week courses of sewing class which brought in two new residents, who heard about oasis through our social media platform, we are now awaiting the finished clothes to be paraded on the catwalk.

We added to our fundraising efforts with quizzes, a sponsored walk, a sponsored silence and donations and this enabled Oasis to subsidise evening meals out, exercise classes and group lunches out.

We have lots in the pipeline for the future with training courses, summer outings for 2023 /24 and the planned taking over of the community centre on a day to day basis. Hopefully everything will be finalised soon and this will give us more scope to fulfil our aim of decreasing isolation, loneliness and increasing the bringing together of all ages together to help improve residents lives, as Oasis has certainly helped me in my life

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 March 2023 (cont'd)

One of our new Trustees Lou, echoed Mo's thought saying "Oasis provides a range of great activities including musical bingo, quizzes, theatre shows, group walks and group lunches for all ages. These are good for bringing residents together and most of all is a feel good factor, improved sense of wellbeing and making new friends"

One of our Trustees Moira, stepped down from her Treasurers position and being a Trustees at the end of the financial year in March 2023. Moira had been a Trustee for a few years and had played a vital role in gathering information on the income and the outgoings of Broomgrove Community Centre for the last three years to see if the finances were strong enough for us to consider taking over the day today running of the centre. The present organisation running the Community centre are Broomgrove Residents Association and they have decided they all wanted to step down so were looking for another charity with similar aims and objectives to take over the centre. Oasis have been attending meetings each month for the last year, to discuss all the relevant information that we needed to ensure the decision was right for Oasis and that we were the right people to run the community centre. Moira gathered figures so we would be aware of the extra costs and responsibilities we would be taking on and also asked an expert on saving costs on heating to come and look around the centre to give us some pointers on how we could lower costs, especially in the winter months. We give a big thank you to Moira for all the work she put into this.

The work into taking over the Community Centre is not over yet, and we remain in meetings, working away behind the scenes to put everything in place. There will be lots more work involved with running Oasis and running the Community Centre. We will be applying to funders for bids for wages for new members of staff and we will be trying to recruit new volunteers to help us with the smooth running of the centre.

Of course we are always pleased to welcome new Trustees to Oasis too, so please do have a think through today if you would be involved. We hold a meeting each month and we change this to a time and day of the week that is convenient to most Trustees.

Trustees make decisions about funding and expenditure, activities, outings, who we work with, what our plans are for the future and we also have a laugh !

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 March 2023 (cont'd)

Oasis staff and Trustees have been attending lots of meetings to help with networking and finding out what else goes on in the area. We attend the Education Futures Trust East Hastings hub meetings which provides us with lots of information. Education futures trust are based in Elphinstone Road, so it is within walking distance to our venue. We have also been involved in meetings at Central Hall in Hastings town centre for Ageing well meetings. These meeting help us meet other residents from other organisations to discuss how Hastings can help older people have a better life in the town.

Near the beginning of 2023 we also worked with "The grumpy Cook" and he provided cooked breakfasts at the Community centre for £2 for four weeks on a Tuesday morning which included bacon, a sausage, fried egg, a slice of toast and a cup of tea. We had a stall at Winchelsea grounds in August 2022 and a Christmas stall at an event Association of Carers organised In December 2022, and we put together a team to join in the Association of Carers quiz night, although we didn't win, we have a lovely time. Our Projects Manager Jackie also represents us on the Big Local Partnership where she is vice chair (The Chair, Richard and others from Big Local are also in attendance today) and Jackie also sits on the panel of the Levelling up Fund / Prosperity Fund (again with Richard and Andy who is the Chair of that group is also here today).

This government fund was announced for the Broomgrove area in December 2022 and has 1 million pounds to spend over three years on Broomgrove community centre, the environment and other organisations as the Adventure playground. Andy was invited to inform this AGM a bit more about the funding and what changes will be happening.

So as you have heard working behind the scenes of all the activities and outings, we have all had a very busy year, increasing our networking, meeting new people, visiting other community centres and working on the taking over of Broomgrove Community Through winter holiday of 2022 we organised a group trip to the local panto (oh yes we did!), an evening trip to see the spectacular winter lights at Bedgebury, and arranged a group Christmas dinner which saw a range of ages attend and add another good time to their family memories together

In January 2023 Our Projects Manager Jackie, sent out a survey to all our members and mailing list to see what they might be interested in taking part in for 2023, and this included outings, cooking, sewing, art, training and places for a group walk. These responses feed into our plans for the rest of the financial year and knowing what residents will attend means you are only spending funds on delivering activities you know will be supported and gives good value to our funds that have been raised through bid writing or by our own efforts.

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 March 2023 (cont'd)

One of our other new Trustees, Lisa shared her thoughts "After becoming a Trustee of Oasis is when I realised just how much Oasis do for our community. So much work goes on behind the scenes to organise projects. It's not just about trips out for families and individuals, although they have proved successful tackling isolation and for children to experience new adventures that they probably wouldn't usually do, because of cost.

One thing that sticks in my mind is a musical bingo evening at the community centre, this sounds trivial, however, I could see how much people enjoyed the evening with a meal. Some residents really appreciated the event as it got people out to socialise and to eat, it proved very popular.

Partnership working with other organisations and projects are a necessity and oasis excels at it. We have projects in the pipeline partnering organisations that will potentially benefit residents with health care, social isolation, education and more, with the UK prosperity fund investment, there are exciting times ahead".

One of our long standing trustees Val, added "I really enjoyed the free sewing sessions that were held at the community centre last year. These sessions were advertised on our social media and attracted two new people that were not previously members of Oasis. I made a pair of culottes and others made others clothes too, so it helped us save money and learn lots of new sewing skills. Other venues offering sewing were quite expensive, and we were lucky to have been offered these free, from a funding pot that Jackie applied for."

Our plans for this year coming up – from April 2023

Last year we said in our annual report that our plans for 2022 and 2023 included increasing our workload to start working with Broomgrove Residents Association in running the centre. These discussions, a year on, are still ongoing but we do think it will be very imminent that Oasis will take over the running day to day of Broomgrove Community Centre.

We said "This will mean more challenges, certainly more work and more freedom to try new activities and ways of Oasis working. This will be gradual as there is lots for us all to learn and understand. It will mean more time spent working on projects and talking to organisations that offer activities at the centre.

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings

**Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 March 2023 (cont'd)**

A big step for us, in taking more of a role, but we are working as a team to build up our knowledge by arranging some training courses for our Trustees and our members, recruiting volunteers to help with some small tasks, making new partnerships with organisations and working with new people in the town, so after being unable to deliver so much in the last two years, we are using our strengths –our team of Trustees -building upwards, adding to our promotion and publicity and we hope that you will come with us on this new adventure"

Oasis Community Project is based in Broomgrove Community Centre, which sits in the heart of the estate and our work, and our future plans are now boosted by the UK prosperity Fund which has a million pounds to spend over three years to help improve the area of Broomgrove as I spoke about earlier.

We are working with Heather, who is the new physical activity sports worker for Broomgrove, Hastings Borough Council and the levelling up panel to bring lasting changes to the area.

This funding will help towards bringing activities to the area and other local projects, improving environmental areas around the estate and making building improvements to the community centre to leave a legacy for years to come and we are excited to play a part in this improvement work for the area in which we work and for the residents that live in this area exciting and busy times ahead !

Our other plans include raising more funds so we can deliver more outings and activities, write more applications to funders to gather ringfenced money in, attend more meetings to widen the number of other organisations that know about our services and network more help even more residents on a one to one basis – as we have not at least 6 in

Can I finish by Thanking all the Trustees (and past Trustees for 2022/23) and staff at Oasis for all the work that has been put in during the last year and remind anyone that might have two hours a month for meetings (day or evenings) and a little time to help at events to please sign up to be a Trustee to support all the activities Oasis provides.

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings

**Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 March 2023 (cont'd)**

The charity's policy on reserves

The charity has no specific policy with regard to the level of reserves.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

M. Gardiner
Chair

M. GARDINER
Print name

L. S. Beeny
Secretary

L. S. BEENY
Print name

Date: 24/6/2023

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Committee of
OASIS Community Project - East Hastings**

I report on the accounts of the charity which are set out on pages 2 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of committee & examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities 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 procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- 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 supporting documentation presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking 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 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 section 130 of the Charities Act
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Laura Dawson
Finance Manager
Hastings Voluntary Action
Jackson Hall, Portland Place, Hastings, TN34 1QN

Dated: 23.06.2023

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings

Receipts & Payment accounts

for the period
01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

	Current Year			Previous Year
	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total funds	
Receipts				
Grants	28,774	-	28,774	32,619
Membership	-	885	885	-
Donations	-	640	640	30
Trips & activities	-	5,268	5,268	2,167
Fundraising	-	2,178	2,178	1,640
TOTAL RECEIPTS	28,774	8,972	37,745	36,456
Expenditure				
Activities	9,224	6,753	15,977	8,252
Salaries & oncosts	21,637	-	21,637	23,135
Insurance	640	-	640	701
Transport & Parking	395	-	395	-
HVA Services	176	-	176	-
Office costs	2,964	-	2,964	2,392
Travel, committee expenses, A/c	-	-	-	324
Independent examination	-	-	-	-
Equipment	-	272	272	140
Office rental	-	-	-	618
Training	-	-	-	100
Accounts	-	-	-	30
Misc/Sundry	-	-	-	3
TOTAL PAYMENTS	35,035	7,025	42,060	35,696
Net surplus/(deficit)	(6,261)	1,947	(4,314)	760
Fund balances b/f 1/4/22	21,742	3,427	25,169	24,409
Fund balances c/f 31/3/23	15,481	5,374	20,855	25,169

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings

Statement of Assets & Liabilities



as at

31 March 2023

						Previous year
						Total
			Restricted Income	Unrestricted Income	Total	
Current assets						
Current Account	@	31/03/23	15,481	5,186	20,666	25,031
Cash in hand	@	31/03/23		188	188	139
Receipts awaiting banking					-	-
			15,481	5,374	20,855	25,169
Current liabilities						
Uncashed cheques			-	-	-	-
			15,481	5,374	20,855	25,169

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 1993. The trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Approved by the Trustees on 24/6/23 and signed on their behalf by

 Maureen Gardiner
 Moira Ward

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings
Breakdown of restricted funding at 31 March 2023

Notes

1 Lottery - Reaching Communities	£	£	
Grant b/f		14,527	
Grant received		14,861	
Expenditure (items)			25,811
Balance c/f			3,576
3 Big Local Activities May 21	£	£	
Grant b/f		560	
Grant received			
Expenditure (items)			305
Balance c/f			256
4 Big Local - Outings 2022	£	£	
Grant b/f		259	
Grant received		4,158	
Expenditure (items)			3,609
Balance c/f			808
5 Orbit	£	£	
Grant b/f		1,673	
Grant received		-	
Expenditure (items)			395
Balance c/f			1,278
6 Asda Foundation	£	£	
Grant b/f			
Grant received		500	
Expenditure (items)			500
Balance c/f			-
7 Chalk Cliff	£	£	
Grant b/f			
Grant received		3,870	
Expenditure (items)			
Balance c/f			3,870
8 Sussex Community Foundation - Mens	£	£	
Grant b/f		982	
Grant received			
Expenditure (items)			10
Balance c/f			972

(continued)

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings
Registered charity, number 1161078

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings
Breakdown of restricted funding at 31 March 2023
(continued)

9 Sussex Community Foundation - Warm	£	£	
Grant b/f		-	
Grant received		3,820	
Expenditure (items)			1,170
Balance c/f			2,650
10 Active Sussex	£	£	
Grant b/f		775	
Grant received			
Expenditure (items)			614
Balance c/f			162
11 Isabel Blackman Foundation	£	£	
Grant b/f		1,500	
Grant received		-	
Expenditure (items)			981
Balance c/f			520
12 Magdalen & Lasher Outings	£	£	
Grant b/f			
Grant received		500	
Expenditure (items)			300
Balance c/f			200
13 Awards for All	£	£	
Grant b/f		1,467	
Grant received		-	
Expenditure (items)			1,340
Balance c/f			127
14 Big Local - March 23	£	£	
Grant b/f			
Grant received		1,065	
Expenditure (items)			
Balance c/f			1,065
Total Restricted Funding Held			15,481