

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings

Registered charity, number 1161078

Trustee Report and Financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

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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 2024

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	Maureen Gardiner Lou Woodcock Lyn Beeney Lisa Bartholomew Alan Turner
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.

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Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 March 2024 (cont'd)

April 2023 seems like years ago when reading through the minutes of meetings. We were preparing to take over the running of Broomgrove community Centre by dipping our toes into the water by covering parties at weekends, looking into what our responsibilities would be on health and Safety with Rachel from Southern Housing and we started to put our mark on the centre by buying some lovely second hand sofas and chairs for the meeting room. We also had new shelving in our cupboard which were put up by Reg from the Men's shed.

We had 5 women regularly attend sewing sessions on Saturday mornings, Energise Sussex Coast were visiting each Wednesday to help residents acquire new white goods or provide advice on keeping draughts out and lowering utility bills. Our Projects Manager was also gearing up for summer outings with bid writing and scouring the internet for prices of venues and emailing coach companies for prices of transport

Through the following couple of months we held quiz nights to help raise a few pounds for our unringfenced funds, added our Chairperson Mo to our online banking so we could pay bills more easily, and we were in discussion about setting a new bank account for the centre for when we were taking over. This was a very busy period of time for us. So many new things to think about while still needing to find the time to organise outings and activities, attend meetings and look after the finances..... and of course this workload has not stopped as delved deeper into the day to day running of the centre.

Oasis Projects Manager and Oasis Trustees continued meeting the Trustees of Broomgrove Residents Association and the meetings were overseen by Steve Manwaring from Hastings voluntary Action to help us navigate our way through all the information.

June saw us all take and pass our Health and Hygiene certificates in preparation for events and future cooking sessions, and this came in handy when we were called on to help heat up food for a groups party, and the temperatures the food needed to reach to be safe all kicked in again, so we really put into practice what we had learnt.

The Projects Manager and Trustees continued to attend meetings at Education Futures Trust, Big local – North East Hastings (our Projects Manager is Vice Chair), Ageing Well and the Hastings food Network to find out what projects were being delivered in the town, meet people from other organisations and information to take back to our group. These have been very informative and certainly help us to try new activities and see what other groups are delivering and learn from their experiences. Our Projects Manager also starting attending meetings about funding for Broomgrove estate through a government funding programme – Shared Prosperity.

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Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 March 2024 (cont'd)

This funding was to provide activities and opportunities for local residents for the longer term to help to revitalise the neighbourhood increase prospects for residents and improve the general look of the estate. This funding of capital and revenue funding is to last a year so there has been lots of discussion to make decisions to ensure outcomes are met in the timescale. The panel meets to decided on the activities that were to be delivered and how the funding was to be spent.

The busy summer saw us go on group walks, group meals at Indian and Turkish restaurants, lunch at the Isabel Blackman centre, outings to Drusillas, Knockhatch, Kent County Show, Kent and East Sussex Railway for the 1940s weekend, ten pin bowling, Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch railway to name a few.

As meetings progressed with Broomgrove Residents Association, an agreement and a lease were signed in December 2023. This gives Oasis a 25 year lease with a 5 year break clause to run the community centre day to day, and the length of the lease is great to be able to apply for funding bids as funders prefer a longer lease to ensure their funding has long term outcomes. There were also lots of meetings and emails with Shared Prosperity and at the end of 2023 it was decided to provide £200,000 to the community Centre for us to make additions to the centre to enable the venue to run on a more efficient and productive way. The additions are to increase the size of the office and kitchen, to add a new cupboard for the tables and chairs as the current cupboard is too small and unsuitable for so many tables and chairs. This extra cupboard space will mean Oasis can expand into the cupboard next door and be able to actually see all of our equipment and this in turn will make us a bit more efficient. being able to store items on more shelves.

Chairperson Mo added "This year has been quite eventful one way or another. We have done a lot this year of interesting activities and outings. A few examples are group meals out, theatre trips, summer trips for families, panto, fruit picking and Warm Welcome Wednesdays to name just a few.

We have at last taken over the running of the Broomgrove centre, by lease but Residents Association have retained the building and its repairs. It has been a busy time with a lot achieved so far since we took over the day to day running with the centre, been cleared of a lot of outdated furniture and clutter making better use of storage and cupboards etc. We have had new purchases of a new cupboard for the office, a range cooker, and microwave purchased along with 2 long tables which can be folded.

There is exciting building work planned to improve the centre and make it even more usable and attractive. One disappointment was being turned down for 2 grants that usually pay or go towards summer outings, which means we will still put some on just trimmed down. The Oasis numbers have increased due to talking to residents at all the sports activities the Levelling Up Funding have put on and the fun days St Michael's Hospice have delivered at the centre.

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**Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 March 2024 (cont'd)**

The bookings are going well and parties at the centre are proving very popular. So far so good, plenty of new ideas in the offing. Onwards and Upwards are the new watch words for Oasis Community Hub at Broomgrove”

In 2024 we began to make more progress in understanding what needed to be achieved in the running of the centre with taking bookings, covering parties at weekends and covering groups in the weekday evenings that do not have a key, reporting repairs, ensuring health and safety is maintained, managing buying resources for the centre like hand towels, washing up liquid etc keeping and ensuring the building is able to function efficiently. This extra work means our Projects Manager Jackie now has two roles - that of Manager of Oasis and now Centre Manager and of course the with extra titles comes extra responsibility and extra workload, and to cover the new roles, we decided to change Jackie's title to Oasis Community hub and Development Manager – so it says what it does on the tin.

Oasis Trustees and staff have a vision for the centre for the future and going forward we want to refer to the building as a Hub, because we want to see it thrive and be full of residents all gaining use out of it, and we will all be working hard in the future to see this happen and our vision come to fruition.

This sentiment is also echoed by our Treasurer Lyn, who writes “We have continued throughout this last financial year working with Broomgrove Residents Association and supported by Hastings Voluntary Action in taking over the management of the Community Centre to facilitate the day to day running of this. It has brought much extra work for all concerned. We have tried to encourage visitors and new members to our many sessions we have (lunches and fundraising) and to participate in these.

We look forward to the future with thanks to the levelling up fund whereby the community centre will be extended and hopefully more residents will be able to enjoy the facility and all we have to offer”.

In February 2024, we took stock of the funds we had in in preparation to book summer outings, look at what activities we could deliver in the Hub and our Community Hub Manager contacted coach companies and venues to begin our summer programme, spoke to local residents about joining our mailing list so they find out what activities we deliver and attended more meetings with other organisations that we can work with more. Our Community hub Manager sits on the panel for Shared prosperity so she can have input into the spending of the funds to have knowledge of what the programme is delivering and has an in depth knowledge of the building works that will happen in the hub, Jackie is also Vice Chair of Big Local - which is a ten year programme run by local residents that is nearing the end of ten years and Jackie writes " I am very proud to have been involved in Big Local North East Hastings, seeing how we have helped transform the North Hastings area,

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Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 March 2024 (cont'd)

increased the interaction between all the different organisations that work in the area and provided funds to local groups with much less red tape than some other funders. Big Local has improved the overall feel of North-East Hastings improving the residents' insight into what activities are in our area and has achieved a better community. Reflecting on all the events and groups however small that we have helped in the last 10 years, the fun we had watching a Panto be put on by local residents, large fun days organised and our funds leading to groups being able to secure larger grants is satisfying, and to know I have helped be a part of that outcome is a good feeling"

The end of the financial year saw us in a great position of setting up a new bank account to take in bookings payments, set up new systems, gathering in funding from bids and having a variety of groups using the centre.

One of our Trustees Alan wrote "This is my first year being an Oasis Trustee and the first time of taking over the running of a community venue, meeting with the Broomgrove Residents Association, so there has been a lot of learning for me. It will be a good thing if we can KEEP the centre open & stop one more centre from folding as well as enhancing all the other things Oasis does."

Our other Trustees for 2023/24 were Lou (Secretary) and Lisa.

Our Oasis Community Hub and Development Manager ends this report by writing

"2023/24 has been a more challenging year than the past 27 years Oasis has been going. I have seen the project start from one of the sub groups of Ore Valley Forum, and set up and run By Clare Croft (as was then) when we were based in the parade of shops on Malvern Way – about a minute's walk from the venue we are based in now. Then we moved into the Surestart (as was then) building before landing in the Broomgrove Community centre over 10 years ago. We became independent from Hastings Trust and applied to become a registered Charity, then an Incorporated Charity, all staying within the Broomgrove estate.

I have seen the estate evolve through the years through troubles and good times and a community Centre has been the mainstay of the community all this time. The original building was literally hand built and fundraised for by local residents, this was demolished and the current building was built 20 years ago and was quite modern in its time. In 20 years, technology has changed beyond what we would have recognised then so we are in the process of updating systems, updating some furniture, installing new products like the large range gas cooker which will really help when we have cooking classes in the building, and we are updating booking procedures to be online although paper booking will still be taken.

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Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 March 2024 (cont'd)

Our online presence in advertising will be increasing to enable us to reach many more people and we are really excited about the building works that are taking place this year which will help increase bookings, improve the general running and will increase storage, all positives. The building work is being funded through Shared prosperity, a government scheme which is also funding a one year post of a Community Development Worker who will be bringing in more residents, helping to increase the activities we provide and develop the building as we travel through this next phase for Oasis, and we are looking forward to her starting working with us.

We were fortunate to have gained a grant from the lottery "Cost of Living" Fund in December 2023 and this grant enabled us to continue to deliver our Warm Welcome Wednesday – a warm lounge type project – which has helped residents enormously through the winter months as they didn't have to put heating on at home while they were at the Hub, and residents could participate in a range of activities followed by a FREE two course home made lunch. This project has helped residents not to be isolated or lonely at home, they have made new friends and the project provided volunteer opportunities to increase skills and knowledge.

One of the providers of free food bags in the area is no longer able to deliver these to residents and Oasis alongside Hastings Voluntary Action from funding provided by Shared Prosperity will be starting a social supermarket. This will be open once a week and is aimed at Broomgrove residents to come and pay a small donation and choose 10 items of food that will be available. This service will be of great benefit to families that are really struggling with the raised prices of food and utility bills and we are overjoyed to be able to offer this service to Broomgrove residents. Alongside this service we are aiming to have a wraparound service with organisations that can help people in need such as Citizens Advice, HARC, and these services will be invaluable towards us helping residents in these difficult times.

For the future we are aiming to add in a variety of activities for residents, and to build on the work St Michael's Hospice and Active Hastings have been delivering in the area, working more with The Hastings food network and the Ageing better Network, increasing meeting up with new residents, encouraging local people to come and use the hub and help them feel they have a stake in the building and its future success.

We do have further plans to increase the building and would love to be able to offer a café and other meeting rooms, a health facility and office space to rent out, so watch this space for 2024/ 25 to see what we have achieved".

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings

**Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 March 2024 (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:

L. S. Beeny
Trustee

L. S. BEENY
Print name

Lou Woodcock
Trustee

P. Woodcock.
Print name

Date: 8. 6. 24.

**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 11.

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

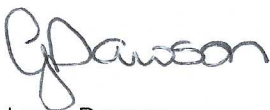
Basis of independent examiner's report

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: 13/6/202

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings

Receipts & Payment accounts

for the period
01 April 2023 to **31 March 2024**

		Current Year			Previous Year
	Community Hub Account	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total funds	
<u>Receipts</u>					
Grants		23,966	400	24,366	28,774
Lettings for Hub	220	-	-	220	-
Membership		-	1,057	1,057	885
Donations		-	991	991	640
Trips & activities		-	6,277	6,277	5,268
Fundraising		-	1,827	1,827	2,178
TOTAL RECEIPTS	220	23,966	10,553	34,739	37,745
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Activities		12,612	8,774	21,385	15,977
Salaries & oncosts		10,787	3,870	14,657	21,637
Insurance		663	47	710	640
Transport & Parking		447	-	447	395
HVA Services		139	59	198	175
Office costs		3,358	1,118	4,476	2,964
Independent examination		110	-	110	-
Equipment		-	-	-	272
Hub Costs	29	-	-	29	-
Accounts		-	-	-	-
Misc/Sundry		-	-	-	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS	29	28,116	13,866	42,012	42,060
Net surplus/(deficit)	191	(4,150)	(3,314)	(7,273)	(4,314)
Fund balances b/f 1/4/23	-	15,481	5,374	20,855	25,169
Fund balances c/f 31/3/24	191	11,331	2,060	13,582	20,855

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings

Statement of Assets & Liabilities

as at

31 March 2024

		Community Hub Account	Restricted Income	Unrestricted Income	Total	Previous year Total
Current assets						
Current Account	@ 31/03/24		11,331	1,711	13,042	20,666
Cash in hand	@ 31/03/24			349	349	188
Hub Current Account	@ 31/03/24	170			170	
Hub Petty Cash	@ 31/03/24	21			21	
Receipts awaiting banking					-	-
		191	11,331	2,060	13,582	20,856
Current liabilities						
Uncashed cheques			-	-	-	-
		191	11,331	2,060	13,582	20,856

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 8th June 2024 and signed on their behalf by

L. S. Beeney Lyn Beeney - Treasurer

P. Woodcock Lou Woodcock - Secretary

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings
Breakdown of restricted funding at 31 March 2024

Notes

1 Lottery - Reaching Communities	£	£	
Grant b/f		3,576	
Grant received		-	
Expenditure (items)			3,556
Balance c/f			20
 3 Big Local Activities May 21	 £	 £	
Grant b/f		256	
Grant received			
Expenditure (items)			256
Balance c/f			-
 4 Big Local - Outings 2022	 £	 £	
Grant b/f		808	
Grant received			
Expenditure (items)			808
Balance c/f			-
 5 Orbit	 £	 £	
Grant b/f		1,278	
Grant received		-	
Expenditure (items)			641
Balance c/f			637
 6 Chalk Cliff	 £	 £	
Grant b/f		3,870	
Grant received			
Expenditure (items)			3,870
Balance c/f			-
 7 Sussex Community Foundation - Mens	 £	 £	
Grant b/f		972	
Grant received			
Expenditure (items)			
Balance c/f			972

(continued)

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings
Breakdown of restricted funding at 31 March 2024
(continued)

8 Sussex Community Foundation - Warm	£	£	
Grant b/f		2,650	
Grant received			
Expenditure (items)			2,650
Balance c/f			-
9 Active Sussex	£	£	
Grant b/f		162	
Grant received			
Expenditure (items)			162
Balance c/f			-
10 Isabel Blackman Foundation	£	£	
Grant b/f		520	
Grant received		-	
Expenditure (items)			520
Balance c/f			-
11 Magdalen & Lasher Outings	£	£	
Grant b/f		200	
Grant received			
Expenditure (items)			200
Balance c/f			-
12 Awards for All	£	£	
Grant b/f		127	
Grant received		-	
Expenditure (items)			127
Balance c/f			-
13 Big Local - March 23	£	£	
Grant b/f		1,065	
Grant received			
Expenditure (items)			516
Balance c/f			549
14 Isabel Blackman Outings 2023	£	£	
Grant b/f		-	
Grant received		1,500	
Expenditure (items)			1,409
Balance c/f			91
15 Magdalen & Lasher 2023	£	£	
Grant b/f		-	
Grant received		1,500	
Expenditure (items)			913
Balance c/f			587

(continued)

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings
Breakdown of restricted funding at 31 March 2024

(continued)

16 Food Partnership - Bag Scheme	£	£
Grant b/f	-	
Grant received	2,500	
Expenditure (items)		133
Balance c/f		2,367
17 Big Local - Dec 23	£	£
Grant b/f	-	
Grant received	1,066	
Expenditure (items)		742
Balance c/f		324
18 Southern Housing for Pop up Café	£	£
Grant b/f	-	
Grant received	3,000	
Expenditure (items)		-
Balance c/f		3,000
19 Lottery - Cost of Living	£	£
Grant b/f	-	
Grant received	12,900	
Expenditure (items)		11,615
Balance c/f		1,285
20 Mag & Lash March 24	£	£
Grant b/f	-	
Grant received	1,500	
Expenditure (items)		
Balance c/f		1,500

Total Restricted Funding Held

11,331

OASIS Community Project - East Hastings Notes

1 Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the charity during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debt as they become due.

2 Premises & staff

The premises are provided by Broomgrove Residents Association.
The organisation has one paid staff member.

3 Trustees' remuneration

During the accounting period trustees received no expenses, remuneration or benefits.

4 Previous period comparison

The previous period's figures have been included for comparison.

6 Glossary of terms

Restricted funds: These are funds given to the charity, subject to specific restrictions set by the donor, but still within the general objects of the charity.