

THE PATCHWORKING GARDEN PROJECT

England & Wales · Charity number 1162471

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2015-06-30

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 50 Woodlands Road
Little Bookham
Leatherhead
Surrey
KT23 4HF

Phone 07814544420

Email info@patchworkinggardenproject.co.uk

Website www.patchworkinggardenproject.co.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROVIDE OR ASSIST IN THE PROVISION OF THERAPEUTIC GARDENING AND HORTICULTURE 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 AGE, INFIRMITY, DISABILITY OR SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE.

Activities: PROMOTING THE THERAPEUTIC BENEFITS OF GARDENING IN A VOLUNTEER SUPPORTED ENVIRONMENT: BETTER PHYSICAL HEALTH, IMPROVED PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH & SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES, LEARNING NEW SKILLS, ACCESS TO THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT. USING VOLUNTEERING TO INCREASE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, RAISING CONFIDENCE & SELF-ESTEEM. WE AIM TO REDUCE STIGMA OF PHYSICAL DISABILITY, PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH PROBLEMS, OLD AGE AND INFIRMITY.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Surrey

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£54,246	£68,977	-	-
2024-03-31	£53,335	£46,871	-	-
2023-03-31	£39,415	£50,353	-	-
2022-03-31	£141,326	£77,906	-	-
2021-03-31	£58,150	£71,557	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ISOBEL GOWAN	Chair	2015-04-01
Chris Munford		2023-12-11
Daniel Andrew		2015-11-30
Dr Rebecca Ward		2025-03-06
Helen McHenry		2022-03-08
Peter Stamps		2026-05-18
Rupert Taverner		2025-07-25

THE PATCHWORKING GARDEN PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1162471

Accounts

The Patchworking Garden Project - Trustees Report 31 March 2025



The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2025

For the year 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Reference and Administration Details

Charity name	The Patchworking Garden Project
Registered Charity number	1162471 (Registered in England and Wales)
Charity's Principal Address	Chris Munford 50 Woodlands Road Little Bookham Leatherhead, Surrey KT23 4HF
Website	www.patchworkinggardenproject.co.uk Find us also on Instagram and Facebook

Trustees

Name	Office (if any)
Isobel Gowan	Chair
Dan Andrew	Treasurer
Dr Glenn Cornish	Mental Health Adviser
Helen McHenry	HR Adviser
Chris Munford	Academy and Supported Volunteer Lead
Rebecca Ward	Fundraiser (Appointed 6 March 2025)
Others who served during the year / Date of Resignation	
Carmel O'Shea 26 June 2025	
Val Theobald 28 June 2024	Helen Clifford-Jones 28 June 2024

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2025

Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document	The Constitution was adopted on 23 April 2015.
How the Charity is constituted	<p>The Patchworking Garden Project is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members comprising its trustees and its management committee.</p> <p>Its registration as a Charity was effective from 1 April 2015.</p>
Trustee selection methods	Trustees are appointed for a three-year term. There must be a minimum of five and a maximum of nine. Vacancies or new appointments may be filled by the Trustees. The appointment of such interim Trustees must be confirmed at the next Annual General Meeting. From the second Annual General Meeting onwards one third of Trustees must retire annually but may be reappointed for further terms.
Decision-making	<p>Decisions are made both by the Trustees or are delegated to the Management Committee.</p> <p>The definition of Members was widened in April 2024 to add both Volunteers and Supported Volunteers to the Management Committee and Trustees.</p> <p>In the event of a matter being raised to the Members for a decision then a quorum of fifteen is required and a simple majority is required from the voting members.</p>

Other relevant governance matters

The project has policies and procedures in place covering the operation of the garden and what is expected of our volunteers. We also have policies for safeguarding, equal opportunities, health and safety, GDPR/consent, how we manage our income and expenditure and a reserves policy. These policies are reviewed on a regular basis.

The project works closely with local mental health and learning disability services, General Practitioners, volunteer agencies and other charities supporting individuals with physical and mental health needs.

The trustees and the management committee give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits. The project is entirely run by a dedicated group of volunteers who give freely of their time and many skills.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2025

Objectives and activities

The objectives of The Patchworking Garden Project are:

- The promotion of improvement in well-being as a result of accessing the therapeutic benefits of gardening in a volunteer supported environment, which include better physical health, improved psychological health, improved social opportunities, learning new skills and access to the natural environment.
- The promotion of volunteering to increase engagement with the community, enhancing the use of community resources and raising confidence and self-esteem.
- The reduction of stigma associated with physical disability, psychological health problems, old age and infirmity by creating an inclusive project where the contribution of each person is equally acknowledged.
- To provide this service within the Mole Valley area of Surrey.

Activities and Achievements

2024-25 has been a busy and successful year for the project but also a time for thinking about change as we enter into our 10th year. This was a year for welcoming new supported and support volunteers as well as Trustees. We also said a fond farewell to many people.

- Our calendar of public facing events, spring plant sale, Summer Open Day, and Christmas wreath and craft sale were very well attended and an early highlight in May 2024 was Westival. This is a local music event, and we were lucky enough to be selected as their charity of the year. Our team were amazing all weekend and the support we received was utterly fantastic, raising £10,000!
- Fundraising continues to be hard work but our community events along with a generous 2-year grant from the National Lottery Community Fund, additional support from Mole Valley District Council and a new fundraising volunteer writing our applications has made everything feel more manageable this year.
- Our Academy students are to be congratulated both for their academic achievement and for the subsequent employment gained by several.
- We can support up to 90 people alongside our 60 support volunteers and will keep to that number. It has been lovely to see how people thrive in our project, especially as we regain a focus on friendship and fun.
- There has been a huge drive through the year of raising our profile with other charities, social prescribers and the public with over 70 posters advertising what we offer and how to access our services posted around the area.
- We are lucky enough to have experienced volunteers helping with marketing and social media alongside a local company which means our profile is maintained regularly and is well recognised.
- One of our supported volunteers has joined our management committee and is bringing welcome insight into how our sessions operate.
- Our visionary founder is stepping down in June 2025, so we used an external facilitator to help us prepare for that big change. She designed a process that included

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2025

everyone in the project so we feel confident that the redistribution of roles and responsibilities will stand us in good stead as we look forward.

Challenges

- We enter the 2025 year in a healthy financial position but have been much saddened by several break ins and will have to spend funds on increased security.
- We were close to finalising a long-term lease with our new landlord Stonegate homes who had plans to develop the former Aviva site, but the whole site is now up for sale.
- At the time of writing in June 2025 we are bidding a very fond farewell to our founder Carmel O'Shea. Carmel's vision, tenacity and skills will be much missed, but we have a strong team in place to carry the project on though we all know it will be challenging at times.

Benefits in kind and Value of Volunteer Time

We would like to formally record the generous support we receive from local businesses Buckland Nurseries, Downs Solicitors, Dave Ford Tree Services and RB Fencing. Many others kindly gave us a variety of discounts which all helps !

We would also like to acknowledge the value of the time that our volunteers, support staff and trustees contribute to the project. We are a £175,000 a year operation if you added the value of volunteer time, estimated at £130,000, to our running costs of £45,000.

That volunteer time commitment is invaluable and makes the project the success it has been. Like the local business support, it shows nowhere in our financial numbers.

Looking forward

- We will keep publishing our quarterly newsletter to those who like to hear about our work.
- We will approach local businesses more formally with a view to establishing a network from whom we can ask for ongoing financial support.
- We are continuing to build more links within our community to ensure our students and others we support can find new opportunities for employment and volunteering.
- We are investing in our site as funds become available and ensuring a wide range of activities are available for everyone who attends.

Financial Review

This year our total income increased £900 to £54,200 however our expenses increased £22,100 compared to the prior year. With reserves of £71,000 however, we remain in an acceptable financial position going into this year.

Our 31 March 2025 balance sheet shows total funds of £71,000. (2024 : £85,700) a decrease of £14,700.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2025

Our result for this year was close to the budget set by the Trustees and was impacted by two significant matters: the first being essential expenditure to replace both the kitchen area roof and the Academy shelter for a total cost of £13,500. The second was exceptional expenditure on consultancy fees of £4,100 to help guide the Charity on the design and adoption of a new organisation model for the next ten years.

It should also be noted that in March 2024 we received a National Lottery grant of £20,000 for the two years from June 2024. Our result would be close to break even if we adjusted this year's result for that early funding and the exceptional costs mentioned above.

Funds are held in cash at NatWest (£51,000) and in a CCLA Equity Investment Fund at a cost of £20,000 (Market Value on 31 March 2024 - £21,200). Our funds are unrestricted funds except for the remaining deferred National Lottery grant (£10,000) and further restricted grants of a net £2,007 held for future expenditure.

Our income increase of £900 can be broken down as follows :

- Fundraising increased further to £23,600 (Last year £15,300) an increase of £8,300.
- This included our three annual events – the April Plant Sale, July Open Day and our Xmas Wreaths plus the result from the Westival Music Festival where, over the May Bank Holiday weekend as their designated charity, we made an incredible £9,600.
- Donations received totalled £8,100 (Last year £6,900) an increase of £1,200.
- Grants were received of £16,300 (Last year £29,000) a decrease of £12,700. However, we did receive £10,000 for this year which was shown in the 2023/4 accounts meaning our adjusted grant income was near flat, year-on-year.
- Legacies income added £3,700 (Last Year £800) an increase of £2,900.
- Interest and Investment Income added £2,500 (Last year £1,300) an increase of £1,200.

Our costs increased to £69,000 (Last Year £46,900) an increase of £21,100 This can be broken into three parts.

- Running costs totalled £25,800 (Last year £18,400) an increase of £7,400. This includes all garden costs including activities, repairs and maintenance, fund-raising, insurance and other overhead costs plus, for this year, the exceptional consultancy costs of £4,100 mentioned above.
- Academy tutor and other training costs totalled £22,400 (Last year £23,800)
- Our investment in the Pixham site increased to £20,500 (Last year £4,700) with essential expenditure on the Academy shelter, Kitchen Roof (Total £13,500) and the Events shed, replacement front gate and fencing and the Fire Pit (Total £7,000).
- Expenditure to develop the site's facilities looks complete and we will move to a care and maintenance phase from this year onwards.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2025

Financial outlook

Our total running costs for the year to 31 March 2026 are budgeted at £41,000 plus additional expenditure of £2,500 for car park repairs, if we can secure additional grants or use our reserves. Given our typical fundraising income, we will then have a shortfall of £10,000 which we will look for grants to cover.

Grants will always remain essential for the Academy to cover its annual running costs of £21,000. We will continue to manage our expenditure carefully due to the uncertainties over the availability of grant money.

Reserves Policy

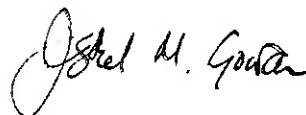
Our Reserves Policy requires the Charity to retain a year's running costs in reserve, which for the Garden and Academy, excluding further development expenditure, is a combined total of £41,000. With reserves of £71,000 we are pleased to report that we have almost two years of running costs.

The reserves we have will be retained to cover any shortfalls in income, for unforeseen expenditure and to make appropriate investments that the Trustees and Management Committee agree be made in furtherance of our charitable objectives.

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 11 July 2025



Name	Isobel Gowan	Dan Andrew
Position	Chair	Treasurer

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2025



The Patchworking Garden Project	Reg. 1162471 England & Wales
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the year	01-Apr-24	To	31-Mar-25	Form : CC16a
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Last Year £
Receipts				
Fundraising	23,634	-	23,634	15,273
Donations including Gift Aid	8,114	-	8,114	6,933
Grants Received	14,092	2,200	16,292	28,994
Legacies and In Memory Donations	3,675	-	3,675	818
Interest and Investment Income	2,531	-	2,531	1,316
Total receipts	52,046	2,200	54,246	53,335
Payments				
Kitchen Roof and Academy Shelter Upgrades	13,533	-	13,533	-
Other Site Development Expenditure	7,012	-	7,012	4,680
Garden, Craft supplies and Equipment	7,182	-	7,182	8,601
Training Costs	22,426	-	22,426	23,761
Fundraising Costs	2,419	-	2,419	2,222
Other Expenses	16,212	193	16,405	7,607
Total payments	68,784	193	68,977	46,871
Net (Deficit)/Surplus	(16,738)	2,007	(14,731)	6,464
Transfers between funds	10,500	(10,500)	-	-
Opening funds	65,202	20,500	85,702	79,238
Cash funds this year-end	58,965	12,007	70,971	85,702

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

		31-Mar-25 £	31-Mar-24 £
B1 - Cash and Investments	NatWest - Current Account	1,836	1,215
	NatWest - Deposit Accounts	49,135	63,267
	Virgin Money - Charity Deposit Account	-	1,220
	CCLA - Global Equity Fund Units (Market Value £21,203)	20,000	20,000
		70,971	85,702
Funds	Unrestricted Funds	58,965	65,202
	Restricted Funds	12,007	20,500
		70,971	85,702
B4 - Assets retained for the charity's own use	No book value is placed on our buildings, equipment or development expenditure at Pixham.	None	None
B5 - Liabilities	Liabilities	None	None

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2025

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Patchworking Garden Project Registered charity number 1162471

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Patchworking Garden Project ('the Project') for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Project, 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 Project's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Project as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matter 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.

Signed:



Mr David Huw Bassett FCCA
Tamar,
Harrow Road East,
Dorking,
Surrey

Date: 11 July 2025

THE PATCHWORKING GARDEN PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1162471

Accounts

The Patchworking Garden Project - Trustees Report 31 March 2024



The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2024

For the year 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

Reference and Administration Details

Charity name	The Patchworking Garden Project
Registered Charity number	1162471 (Registered in England and Wales)
Charity's Principal Address	Carmel O'Shea 44 West Bank Dorking Surrey RH4 3DH
Website	www.patchworkinggardenproject.co.uk Find us also on Instagram and Facebook

Trustees

Name	Office (if any)
Isobel Gowan	Chair
Carmel O'Shea	Founder
Dan Andrew	Treasurer
Helen McHenry	
Chris Munford	Appointed 11 December 23
Dr Glenn Cornish	Mental Health Adviser, Appointed 11 December 23
Others who served during the year / Date of Resignation	
Val Theobald to 28 June 24 Joanne Olney to 23 August 23	Helen Clifford-Jones to 28 June 2024

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2024

Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document	The Constitution was adopted on 23 April 2015.
How the Charity is constituted	<p>The Patchworking Garden Project is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members comprising its trustees and its management committee.</p> <p>Its registration as a Charity was effective from 1 April 2015.</p>
Trustee selection methods	Trustees are appointed for a three-year term. There must be a minimum of five and a maximum of nine. Vacancies or new appointments may be filled by the Trustees. The appointment of such interim Trustees must be confirmed at the next Annual General Meeting. From the second Annual General Meeting onwards one third of Trustees must retire annually but may be reappointed for further terms.
Decision-making	<p>Decisions are made both by the Trustees or are delegated to the Management Committee.</p> <p>The definition of Members was widened in April 2024 to include both Volunteers and Supported Volunteers, in addition to the Management Committee and Trustees. In the event of a matter being raised to the members for a decision then a quorum of fifteen is required and a simple majority is required from the voting members.</p>

Other relevant governance matters

The project has policies and procedures in place covering the operation of the garden and what is expected of our volunteers. We also have policies for safeguarding, equal opportunities, health and safety, GDPR/consent, how we manage our income and expenditure and a reserves policy. These policies are reviewed on a regular basis.

The project works closely with local mental health and learning disability services, General Practitioners, volunteer agencies and other charities supporting individuals with physical and mental health needs.

The trustees and the management committee give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits. The project is entirely run by a dedicated group of volunteers who give freely of their time and many skills.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities

The objectives of The Patchworking Garden Project are:

- The promotion of improvement in well-being as a result of accessing the therapeutic benefits of gardening in a volunteer supported environment, which include better physical health, improved psychological health, improved social opportunities, learning new skills and access to the natural environment.
- The promotion of volunteering to increase engagement with the community, enhancing the use of community resources and raising confidence and self-esteem.
- The reduction of stigma associated with physical disability, psychological health problems, old age and infirmity by creating an inclusive project where the contribution of each person is equally acknowledged.
- To provide this service within the Mole Valley area of Surrey.

Activities and Achievements

2023-2024 has been a busy and successful year for the project. We have had all sorts of weather of course but this was a year for welcoming new supported and support volunteers as well as Trustees. We also said a fond farewell to many people.

- Our calendar of public facing events, spring plant sale, Summer Open Day, and Christmas wreath and craft sale were very well attended as local support continues to grow, so special thanks to all our team who make these events such a success!
- 2023-24 was a tough year for Fundraising but our community events along with legacies means we have continued to invest whilst also keeping a tight rein on costs.
- Our Academy students are to be congratulated both for their academic achievement and for the subsequent employment gained by some.
- We can support up to 90 people alongside our 60 support volunteers and will keep to that number. It has been lovely to see how people thrive in our project.
- There has been a huge drive through the year of raising our profile with other charities, social prescribers and the public with over 70 posters advertising what we offer and how to access our services posted around the area.
- We are lucky enough to have experienced volunteers helping with marketing and social media alongside a local company which means our profile is maintained regularly and is well recognised.
- We recruited two new Trustees: one is our Mental Health Adviser, and the other is leading on Fundraising and Communications. Both bring hugely welcome experience and expertise.
- We have strengthened our amazing admin team and have a new volunteer who is focussed on helping us apply for grants.
- Although it is technically in our 2024/25 year, we were blown away by the support shown to us during the Dorking Westival Music event at the beginning of May as the final total raised was an amazing £10,000.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2024

Challenges

- Inevitably keeping up with fundraising is always a major challenge but we have many great supporters, and our 2023 events showed us the great support we have.
- At the beginning of 2024 we have been successful in applying for a number of grants but know that continuing to be successful will be tougher given the impact of the pandemic and the UK economy; we are lucky to have sufficient reserves but know that other charities do not.
- We are close to finalising a long-term lease with our new landlord Stonegate homes who are developing the former Aviva site.

Benefits in kind and Value of Volunteer Time

We would like to formally record the generous support we receive from local businesses Buckland Nurseries and Downs Solicitors. Many others kindly give us a variety of discounts which all helps !

We would also like to acknowledge the value of the time that our volunteers, support staff and trustees contribute to the project. We are a £172,000 a year operation if you added the value of volunteer time, estimated at £125,000, to our recorded costs of £47,000.

That volunteer time commitment is invaluable and makes the project the success it has been. Like the local business support, it shows nowhere in our financial numbers.

Looking forward

- We will keep publishing our quarterly newsletter to those who like to hear about our work.
- We will approach local businesses more formally with a view to establishing a network from whom we can ask for ongoing financial support.
- We are continuing to build more links within our community to ensure our students and others we support can find new opportunities for employment and volunteering.
- We are investing in our site as funds become available and ensuring a wide range of activities are available for everyone who attends.

Financial Review

This year our income increased by £13,900 and our expenses fell £3,400 compared to the prior year and, with reserves of £85,700, we remain in a strong financial position.

Our 31 March 2024 balance sheet shows total funds of £85,700. (2023 : £79,200) an increase of £6,500.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2024

An important caveat is that in March 2024 we received a National Lottery grant of £20,000 for the two years from June 2024. Adjusting this year's cash result for that early payment creates a deficit of £13,500 for the current year.

Funds are held in cash at NatWest (£64,400), Virgin Money (£1,200) and in a CCLA Equity Investment Fund at a cost of £20,000 (Market Value at 31 March 2024 - £22,575). Our funds are unrestricted funds except for the National Lottery grant and a smaller grant of £500, both of which will be released to unrestricted reserves in future years.

Our income increase of £13,900 can be broken down as follows :

- Donations received totalled £6,900 (Last year £6,500) an increase of £400.
- Grants were received of £29,000 (Last year £15,000) an increase of £14,000.
- This year included the National Lottery two-year award described above.
- Fundraising remained strong at £15,300 (Last year £16,800) a reduction of £1,500.
- Investment and Interest Income added £1,300 (Last year £100) an increase of £1,200.
- Legacies added £800 (Last Year £1,000) a reduction of £200.

Our costs decreased by £3,400 to £46,900 which can be broken into three parts.

- Running costs totalled £18,400 (Last year £21,900). This includes all the costs of the garden including activities, maintenance, fund-raising and other overhead costs.
- Our Academy tutor and other training costs totalled £23,800 (Last year £20,000)
- Our investment in the Pixham site was reduced to £4,700 (Last year £8,400). Funds this year were invested in extending our irrigation system to the Academy plots (and for which we received a grant of £3,000) and other improvements.

Financial outlook

Our total running costs for the year to 31 March 2025 are forecast at £44,000 plus additional development expenditure of £12,000, if we can secure grants or use reserves. We regard the receipt of regular grant income as essential for the Academy due to its annual running costs of £22,000. We will manage our expenditure accordingly as there may be less grant money available in the immediate future.

Reserves Policy

Our Reserves Policy requires the Charity to retain a year's running costs in reserve, which for the Garden and Academy, excluding further development expenditure, is a combined total of £44,000. We are pleased to report that we have almost two years of running costs.

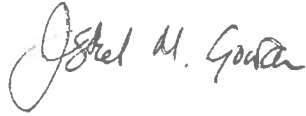
The reserves we have will be retained to cover any shortfalls in income, for unforeseen expenditure to make appropriate investments that the Trustees and Management Committee agree should be made in furtherance of our charitable objectives.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2024

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 30 August 2024



Name	Isobel Gowan	Dan Andrew
Position	Chair	Treasurer

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2024



The Patchworking Garden Project	Reg. 1162471 England & Wales
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the year	01-Apr-23	To	31-Mar-24	Form : CC16a
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Last Year £
Receipts				
Donations including Gift Aid	6,933	-	6,933	6,509
Grants Received	8,494	20,500	28,994	15,000
Fundraising	15,273	-	15,273	16,806
Investment income and Interest	1,316	-	1,316	100
Legacies Received	818	-	818	1,000
Total receipts	32,835	20,500	53,335	39,415
Payments				
Expenditure to develop the Garden	4,680	-	4,680	8,377
Garden, Craft supplies and Equipment	8,601	-	8,601	10,953
Training Costs	23,761	-	23,761	19,990
Fundraising Costs	2,222	-	2,222	1,426
Other Expenses	7,607	-	7,607	9,508
Total payments	46,871	-	46,871	50,253
Net surplus/(deficit)	(14,036)	20,500	6,464	(10,838)
Opening funds	79,238	-	79,238	90,076
Cash funds this year-end	65,202	20,500	85,702	79,238

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

		31-Mar-24 £	31-Mar-23 £
B1 - Cash and Investments	NatWest - Current Account	1,215	4,238
	NatWest - Deposit Accounts	63,267	-
	Virgin Money - Charity Deposit Account	1,220	75,000
	CCLA - Global Equity Fund Units (Market Value £22,575)	20,000	-
		85,702	79,238
Funds	Unrestricted Funds	65,202	79,238
	Restricted Funds	20,500	-
		85,702	79,238
B4 -Assets retained for the charity's own use	No book value is placed on our buildings, equipment or development expenditure at Pixham.	None	None
B5 - Liabilities	Liabilities	None	None

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2024

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Patchworking Garden Project Registered charity number 1162471

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Patchworking Garden Project ('the Project') for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Project, 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 Project's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Project as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matter 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.

Signed:



Mr David Huw Bassett FCCA
Tamar,
Harrow Road East,
Dorking,
Surrey

Date: 30 August 2024

THE PATCHWORKING GARDEN PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1162471

Accounts

The Patchworking Garden Project - Trustees Report 31 March 2023



The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2023

For the year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Reference and Administration Details

Charity name	The Patchworking Garden Project
Registered Charity number	1162471 (Registered in England and Wales)
Charity's Principal Address	Carmel O'Shea 44 West Bank Dorking Surrey RH4 3DH
Website	www.patchworkinggardenproject.co.uk

Trustees

Name	Office (if any)
Isobel Gowan	Chair
Carmel O'Shea	Founder
Dan Andrew	Treasurer
Helen McHenry	
Val Theobald	
Joanne Olney	Mental Health Adviser Appointed 10 October 2022
Helen Clifford-Jones	Appointed 16 March 2023
Others who served during the year	
Helen Flanagan	Resigned 1 June 2022

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2023

Chris Blockey	Resigned 25 October 2022
David Lloyd	Resigned 3 January 2023
Chris Munford	Resigned 31 March 2023

Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document	The Constitution was adopted on 23 April 2015.
How the Charity is constituted	The Patchworking Garden Project is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members comprising its trustees and its management committee. Its registration as a Charity was effective from 1 April 2015.
Trustee selection methods	Trustees are appointed for a three-year term. There must be a minimum of five and a maximum of seven. Vacancies or new appointments may be filled by the Trustees. The appointment of such interim Trustees must be confirmed at the next Annual General Meeting. From the second Annual General Meeting onwards one third of Trustees must retire annually but may be reappointed for a second term.
Decision-making	Decisions are made both by the Trustees or are delegated to the Management Committee. In the event of a matter being raised to the members for a decision then a simple majority is required from the voting members.

Other relevant governance matters

The project has policies and procedures in place covering the operation of the garden and what is expected of our volunteers. We also have policies for safeguarding, equal opportunities, health and safety, how we manage our income and expenditure and a reserves policy. These policies are reviewed on a regular basis.

The project works closely with local mental health and learning disability services, General Practitioners, volunteer agencies and other charities supporting individuals with physical and mental health needs.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2023

The trustees and the management committee give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits. The project is entirely run by a dedicated group of volunteers who give freely of their time and many skills.

Objectives and activities

The objectives of The Patchworking Garden Project are:

- The promotion of improvement in well-being as a result of accessing the therapeutic benefits of gardening in a volunteer supported environment, which include better physical health, improved psychological health, improved social opportunities, learning new skills and access to the natural environment.
- The promotion of volunteering to increase engagement with the community, enhancing the use of community resources and raising confidence and self-esteem.
- The reduction of stigma associated with physical disability, psychological health problems, old age and infirmity by creating an inclusive project where the contribution of each person is equally acknowledged.
- To provide this service within the Mole Valley area of Surrey.

Activities and Achievements

2022-23 has been a busy and successful year for the project. We have had all sorts of weather of course but this was a year for staying open, welcoming new supported and support volunteers as well as Trustees. We also said a fond farewell to many people.

- Our year started well in April with the son of a volunteer running the Manchester marathon to raise funds for us, then we had our Spring celebration with the official opening of our fabulous glasshouse and our amazing roundhouse; our fabulous Summer Open Day came around very quickly and soon it was Christmas and time for our seasonal sprays and beautiful crafts!
- We established a new 'noisy shed' for woodworking and sewing machines;
- Our founder Carmel spoke at the first RHS Wisley's Wellbeing forum;
- We have been lucky again to sustain fundraising and thanks to that along with legacies we have continued to invest;
- We were especially delighted to be awarded funds for our Academy by the RHS Flourish Fund which was established to encourage diversity in those pursuing work in horticulture;
- Our first cohort of Academy students have achieved their level 2 City & Guilds Diploma in Horticulture-huge congratulations to them!
- A big shout out too to the staff of Atkins Engineering who raised a magnificent £2600 in their sunflower growing competition;
- We now support up to 90 people alongside our 60 support volunteers and will keep to that number:
- We finished updating our website and have been lucky enough to recruit two experienced volunteers to help with marketing and social media.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2023

- We recruited two new Trustees: one who is our Mental Health Adviser and the other is leading on Fundraising and Communications.

Challenges

- Inevitably keeping up with fundraising is always a major challenge but we have many great supporters, and our 2022 events showed us the great support we have;
- We have successfully applied for a number of grants but know that being successful will be tougher given the impact of the pandemic and the UK economy;
- We have changed landlords but are protected by new planning permission for our site. We hope soon to finally be able to negotiate a long-term lease with our new landlord Stonegate homes who are developing the former Aviva site.

Looking forward

- We will keep publishing our quarterly newsletter to those who like to hear about our work.
- We will approach local businesses more formally with a view to establishing a network from whom we can ask for ongoing financial support.
- We are continuing to build more links within our community to ensure our students and others we support can find new opportunities for employment and volunteering.

Financial Review

This year saw both our income and our expenses fall compared to the prior year however we remain in a strong financial position.

Overall, our deficit was £10,838 (2022 : surplus of £63,400) a change of £74,300. Our 31 March 2023 balance sheet shows total funds of £79,200. (2022 : £90,100).

Funds are unrestricted and are held in cash at NatWest (£4,200) and Virgin Money (£75,000)

Our income was significantly boosted last year by legacies of £70,000. Our income decreased by £31,900 to £39,400 when that exceptional income is excluded. This can be broken down into three parts :

- Donations decreased to £7,600 (Last year £17,500) a reduction of £9,900.
- Grants were received of £15,000 (Last year £33,900) a reduction of £18,900.
- Fundraising added £16,800 (Last year £19,900) a reduction of £3,100.

Our costs also decreased by £27,600 to £50,300 which again can be broken down into three elements.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2023

- Running costs totalled £22,100 (Last year £16,400) This includes all costs of running the garden and activities and our maintenance and overhead costs.
- Our Academy tutor costs totalled £19,800 (Last year £18,000)
- Our investment in the Pixham site was reduced to £8,400 (Last year £43,500). Funds this year were invested in our irrigation system, the Academy greenhouse, completion of the Roundhouse and other site improvements.

Financial outlook

Our total running costs this year are budgeted at £42,000. These will be funded from our normal fundraising activities and grant income. Whilst our reserves have been boosted by our legacy income, we regard the receipt of regular grant income as essential for the Academy due to its annual running costs of £22,000. However there may be less grant money available in the immediate future and we will manage our expenditure accordingly.

Reserves Policy

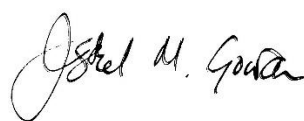
Our Reserves Policy requires the Charity to retain a year's running costs in reserve, which for the Garden and Academy, excluding further development expenditure, is a combined total of £42,000. We are pleased to report that we have almost two years of running costs.

The reserves we have will be retained to cover any shortfalls in income, for unforeseen expenditure to make appropriate investments that the Trustees and Management Committee agree should be made in furtherance of our charitable objectives.

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 11 August 2023.



Name	Isobel Gowan	Dan Andrew
Position	Chair	Treasurer

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2023



The Patchworking Garden Project	Reg. 1162471 England & Wales
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the year	01-Apr-22	To	31-Mar-23	Form : CC16a
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds (Academy) £	Total Funds £	Last Year £
Receipts				
Donations including Gift Aid	7,609	-	7,609	17,493
Grants Received	15,000	-	15,000	33,900
Fundraising	16,806	-	16,806	19,933
Legacies Received	-	-	-	70,000
Total receipts	39,415	-	39,415	141,326
Payments				
Expenditure to develop the Garden	8,377	-	8,377	43,493
Garden, Craft supplies and Equipment	10,953	-	10,953	9,420
Training Costs	205	19,785	19,990	18,004
Fundraising Costs	1,426	-	1,426	1,051
Other Expenses	8,094	1,414	9,508	5,938
Total payments	29,054	21,199	50,253	77,906
Net surplus/(deficit)	10,361	(21,199)	(10,838)	63,420
Transfers between funds	(11,806)	11,806	-	-
Opening funds	80,683	9,393	90,076	26,656
Cash funds this year-end	79,238	-	79,238	90,076

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

		31-Mar-23 £	31-Mar-22 £
B1 - Cash funds	NatWest Dorking - Current Account	4,238	15,076
	Virgin Money - Charity Deposit Account	75,000	75,000
		79,238	90,076
Funds	Unrestricted Funds	79,238	80,683
	Restricted Funds	-	9,393
		79,238	90,076
B4 -Assets retained for the charity's own use	No book value is placed on our buildings, equipment or development expenditure at Pixham.	None	None
B5 - Liabilities	Liabilities in respect of site development costs.	None	£4,300

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2023

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Patchworking Garden Project Registered charity number 1162471

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Patchworking Garden Project ('the Project') for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Project, 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 Project's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Project as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matter 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.

Signed:



Mr David Huw Bassett FCCA
Tamar,
Harrow Road East,
Dorking,
Surrey

Date: 11 August 2023

THE PATCHWORKING GARDEN PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1162471

Accounts

The Patchworking Garden Project - Trustees Report 31 March 2022



The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2022

For the year 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

Reference and Administration Details

Charity name	The Patchworking Garden Project
Registered Charity number	1162471 (Registered in England and Wales)
Charity's Principal Address	Carmel O'Shea 44 West Bank Dorking Surrey RH4 3DH
Website	www.patchworkinggardenproject.co.uk

Trustees

Name	Office (if any)
Isobel Gowan	Chair
Carmel O'Shea	Founder
Dan Andrew	Treasurer
Chris Blockey	
David Lloyd	
Helen McHenry	Appointed 8 March 2022
Chris Munford	
Val Theobald	Appointed 20 Jan 2022
Helen Flanagan	Resigned 1 June 2022

All Trustees served for the whole period unless indicated.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2022

Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document	The Constitution was adopted on 23 April 2015.
How the Charity is constituted	The Patchworking Garden Project is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members comprising its trustees and its management committee. Its registration as a Charity was effective from 1 April 2015.
Trustee selection methods	Trustees are appointed for a three-year term. There must be a minimum of five and a maximum of seven. Vacancies or new appointments may be filled by the Trustees. The appointment of such interim Trustees must be confirmed at the next Annual General Meeting. From the second Annual General Meeting onwards one third of Trustees must retire annually but may be reappointed for a second term.
Decision-making	Decisions are made both by the Trustees or are delegated to the Management Committee. In the event of a matter being raised to the members for a decision then a simple majority is required from the voting members.

Other relevant governance matters

The project has policies and procedures in place covering the operation of the garden and what is expected of our volunteers. We also have policies for safeguarding, equal opportunities, health and safety, how we manage our income and expenditure and a reserves policy. These policies are reviewed on a regular basis.

The project works closely with local mental health and learning disability services, General Practitioners, volunteer agencies and other charities supporting individuals with physical and mental health needs.

The trustees and the management committee give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits. The project is entirely run by a dedicated group of volunteers who give freely of their time and many skills.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2022

Objectives and activities

The objectives of The Patchworking Garden Project are:

- The promotion of improvement in well-being as a result of accessing the therapeutic benefits of gardening in a volunteer supported environment, which include better physical health, improved psychological health, improved social opportunities, learning new skills and access to the natural environment.
- The promotion of volunteering to increase engagement with the community, enhancing the use of community resources and raising confidence and self-esteem.
- The reduction of stigma associated with physical disability, psychological health problems, old age and infirmity by creating an inclusive project where the contribution of each person is equally acknowledged.
- To provide this service within the Mole Valley area of Surrey

Activities and Achievements

The 2021-2022 year has been a great success for the project. Following the slow easing of the pandemic we were delighted to welcome our supported and support volunteers back to the garden with renewed energy and many successes.

- We have successfully implemented our moving on programme for those who have enjoyed two years at the project. This allows us to welcome new supported volunteers and keep up with an increase in referrals.
- We have been lucky enough to sustain fundraising and thanks to that along with two legacies we have continued to invest-this year we have been able to ensure our Academy students have a shaded area to work under and we have been able to create a dedicated workspace for noisy activities such as woodworking and sewing.
- Our students completed their level one Diploma in Horticulture and are currently making steady progress towards City and Guilds level 2.
- The roundhouse designed by our supported volunteers was opened officially in April 2022 and offers a lovely quiet space.
- We were exceptionally pleased to enter and win a competition to have a new glasshouse erected in the centre of the garden along with new cold frames. This replaces our polytunnel and is already well used. We are hugely proud of our supported volunteers who created two video pieces to win us this competition.
- We have continued to recruit to our amazing cohort of support volunteers and are making sure we offer them appropriate training and support.
- We recruited two additional Trustees with expertise in Adult Education and in Human Resources.
- We have been delighted to get involved in the RHS Gardening for Wellbeing programme

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2022

Challenges

- Inevitably keeping up with fundraising is always a major challenge but we have many great supporters and our 2021 Open Day showed us how much we are loved by our local community with over 900 visitors!
- We are likely to change landlords but are protected by the Mole Valley local plan so we hope to finally be able to negotiate a long term lease or licence.

Looking forward

- We can support up to 80 people alongside our 50 support volunteers and will keep to that number.
- We are almost finished updating our website and have been lucky enough to recruit two experienced volunteers to help with marketing and social media.
- We will keep publishing our quarterly newsletter to those who like to hear about our work.
- We will approach local businesses more formally with a view to establishing a network from whom we can ask for ongoing financial support.
- We are continuing to build more links within our community to ensure our students and others we support can find new opportunities for employment and volunteering.
- We would like to open the garden regularly for even more community groups to enjoy. During 2021/22 we established an opportunity for children from CAMH services to use the garden in half terms and other days when we are not present which has been very successful. We intend again to offer visits to Nursing homes and Dementia/Carer groups when we can.

Financial Review

Overall, our surplus was £63,400 (2021 : deficit of £13,400) an improvement of £76,800. Our 31 March 2022 balance sheet shows total funds of £90,100. (2020 : £26,700).

Funds are held in cash at NatWest and Virgin Money and are split between unrestricted funds totalling £80,700 and restricted Academy funds of £9,400.

Our income was significantly boosted by legacies totalling £70,000 and grants from the Community Foundation for Surrey (£20,000), the National Lottery Community Fund (£8,000) and The Orchid Environmental Trust (£5,000).

Compared to last year our income increased from £58,200 to £141,300 an increase of £83,100. This can be broken down into four parts :

- Donations increased to £17,500 (Last year £8,900)
- Grants of £33,900 (Last year £30,000) were received for both the Academy and the Garden.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2022

- With the resumption of a fuller calendar of activities our fundraising added £19,900 (Last year's was £19,300 but included our Covid Reopening appeal total of £14,900). This year's total includes the record-breaking July Open Day total of £6,500, the Xmas Wreath sale added £3,100 and our London Marathon Runners with a further £5,400.
- Legacy income of £70,000 was very welcome and in addition to boosting our reserves allowed us to invest further in our Pixham site, more details of which are below.

Overall, our costs increased from £71,600 to £77,900. An increase of £6,300. This can be broken down into three elements.

- Our investment in the Pixham site totalled £43,500 (Last year £49,300). Funds were invested in our Woodworking Shed, the refurbishment of our main shed, an irrigation system, and other improvements to the site and our access to it.
- Our Academy Tutor costs totalled £18,000 (Last year £10,700) with the increase in teaching days as Covid-restrictions decreased.
- With less restrictions on our activities, our other running cost totalled £16,400 (Last year £11,600)

Financial outlook

Our running costs this year are forecast at £42,000. These will be funded from our normal fundraising activities and grant income raised for the Academy or the Garden. Whilst our reserves have been boosted by our legacy income, we regard the receipt of regular grant income essential for the Academy due to its annual running costs of £24,000.

Reserves Policy

Our Reserves Policy requires the Charity to retain a year's running costs in reserve, which for the Garden and Academy combined, is £42,000. We are pleased to report that we have more than two years of running costs, thanks to our legacies (£70,000) and our continued strong fundraising income from all its sources : donations, fundraising events, and grants.

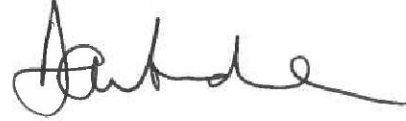
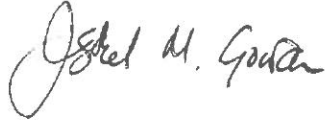
We have no firm plans yet to invest our increased reserves. These will be retained for unforeseen expenditure and appropriate investments that the Trustees and Management Committee agree should be made in furtherance of our charitable objectives.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2022

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf
of the charity's
trustees:
Signatures



Full Name	Isobel Gowan	Dan Andrew
Position	Chair	Treasurer
Date	10 August 2022	

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2022



The Patchworking Garden Project	Reg. 1162471 England & Wales
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the year	01-Apr-21	To	31-Mar-22	Form : CC16a
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds (Academy) £	Total Funds £	Last Year £
Receipts				
Donations including Gift Aid	17,493	-	17,493	8,864
Grants Received	23,900	10,000	33,900	30,000
Fundraising	19,933	-	19,933	19,286
Legacies Received	70,000	-	70,000	-
Total receipts	131,326	10,000	141,326	58,150
Payments				
Expenditure to develop the Garden	38,980	4,513	43,493	29,136
Garden, Craft supplies and Equipment	9,420	-	9,420	5,994
Training Costs	-	18,004	18,004	10,660
Fundraising Costs	1,051	-	1,051	1,401
Other Expenses	5,123	815	5,938	4,166
Expenditure to establish the Academy at Pixham	-	-	-	20,200
Total payments	54,574	23,332	77,906	71,557
Net surplus/(deficit)	76,752	(13,332)	63,420	(13,407)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Opening funds	3,931	22,725	26,656	40,063
Cash funds this year-end	80,683	9,393	90,076	26,656

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

		31-Mar-22 £	31-Mar-21 £
B1 - Cash funds	NatWest Dorking - Current Account	15,076	9,656
	Virgin Money - Charity Deposit Account	75,000	17,000
		90,076	26,656
Funds	Unrestricted Funds	80,683	3,931
	Restricted Funds	9,393	22,725
		90,076	26,656
B4 - Assets retained for the charity's own use	No book value is placed on our buildings, equipment or other development expenditure at Pixham.	None	None
B5 - Liabilities	Liabilities in respect of site development costs.	£4,300	None

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2022

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Patchworking Garden Project Registered charity number 1162471

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Patchworking Garden Project ('the Project') for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Project, 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 Project's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Project as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matter 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.

Signed:

David Huw Bassett

Mr David Huw Bassett FCCA
Tamar,
Harrow Road East,
Dorking, Surrey

Date: 10 August 2022

THE PATCHWORKING GARDEN PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1162471

Accounts

The Patchworking Garden Project - Trustees Report 31 March 2021



The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2021

For the year 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021

Reference and Administration Details

Charity name	The Patchworking Garden Project
Registered Charity number	1162471 (Registered in England and Wales)
Charity's Principal Address	Carmel O'Shea 44 West Bank Dorking Surrey RH4 3DH
Website	www.patchworkinggardenproject.co.uk
Social Media (Facebook and Instagram)	Search for patchworkinggardenproject

Trustees

Name	Office (if any)
Isobel Gowan	Chair
Carmel O'Shea	Founder
Dan Andrew	Treasurer
Chris Blockey	
Helen Flanagan	Mental Health Adviser
David Lloyd	
Chris Munford	

All Trustees served for the whole period unless indicated.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2021

Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document	The Constitution was adopted on 23 April 2015.
How the Charity is constituted	The Patchworking Garden Project is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members comprising its trustees and its management committee. Its registration as a Charity was effective from 1 April 2015.
Trustee selection methods	Trustees are appointed for a three-year term. There must be a minimum of five and a maximum of seven. Vacancies or new appointments may be filled by the Trustees. The appointment of such interim Trustees must be confirmed at the next Annual General Meeting. From the second Annual General Meeting onwards one third of Trustees must retire annually but may be reappointed for a second term.
Decision-making	Decisions are made both by the Trustees or are delegated to the Management Committee. In the event of a matter being raised to the members for a decision then a simple majority is required from the voting members.

Other relevant governance matters

The project has policies and procedures in place covering the operation of the garden and what is expected of our volunteers. We also have policies for safeguarding, equal opportunities, health and safety, how we manage our income and expenditure and a reserves policy. These policies are reviewed on a regular basis.

The project works closely with local mental health and learning disability services, General Practitioners, volunteer agencies and other charities supporting individuals with physical and mental health needs.

The trustees and the management committee give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits. The project is entirely run by a dedicated group of volunteers who give freely of their time and many skills.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2021

Objectives and activities

The objectives of The Patchworking Garden Project are:

- The promotion of improvement in well-being as a result of accessing the therapeutic benefits of gardening in a volunteer supported environment, which include better physical health, improved psychological health, improved social opportunities, learning new skills and access to the natural environment.
- The promotion of volunteering to increase engagement with the community, enhancing the use of community resources and raising confidence and self-esteem.
- The reduction of stigma associated with physical disability, psychological health problems, old age and infirmity by creating an inclusive project where the contribution of each person is equally acknowledged.
- To provide this service within the Mole Valley area of Surrey

Activities and Achievements

The 2020-2021 year has been hugely challenging for the project due to the pandemic. Sadly, we had to close our doors in March 2020 in line with the national lockdown so had to think quickly about how to continue supporting those who attend the garden. We also wanted to ensure the garden would be ready to re-open when permitted. On reflection we achieved quite a lot:

- During the lockdown periods we stayed in touch with our supported volunteers with fortnightly newsletters, fortnightly mailing of craft activities and phone calls to about 75 individuals.
- We used a generous donation to create new paths throughout the site to allow safe, year-round access to all areas, especially for those who use wheelchairs or are just a bit unsteady on their feet.
- The car park has been cleared, enlarged and new composting bins set up.
- Toilets and washing facilities have been upgraded.
- A new covered area has been created around the outdoor kitchen which will allow us to meet and work safely whatever the weather.
- Due to a change in circumstances we decided to move our Academy on to the Pixham site, kindly helped by our then landlords, Aviva, giving us an extra piece of land
- Our Academy students now enjoy a classroom, greenhouse and their own marked plots protected by deer and rabbit proof fencing. With the addition of outdoor shelter in June 2021 their facilities are complete.
- All our students are nearing completion of a Level 1 Diploma in Horticulture, and we are planning to apply to City and Guilds to deliver Level 2 qualifications.
- During periods of closure two people at a time would go to the garden to water, weed and pick vegetables which were then donated to the Dorking Community Fridge
- A roundhouse designed by our supported volunteers is now well under construction.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2021

Challenges

- Apart from the obvious and difficult challenges caused by having to stay closed for prolonged periods, increasing the isolation felt by many we support, we also had to stop taking new referrals.
- We had to cancel our popular fundraising events and opening the garden to other community groups.
- Our local community and our local council, Mole Valley, came to the rescue in August 2020 when we launched a re-opening appeal-their hugely generous support allowed us to re-open safely within enhanced toilet, hand washing and other facilities set up.
- The winter lockdown was tough for everyone so we made sure we re-opened again as soon as we could so that we could also start taking new referrals.

Looking forward

- We can safely support up to 80 people alongside our 50 support volunteers so have re-established the principle that those who are able to move on to other opportunities will be supported to do so at the end of 2 years in the project. This will allow us to keep taking new referrals.
- We will be updating our website and renewing our marketing and publicity effort with links to social media such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, hopefully with the help of some new volunteers.
- We will keep up our quarterly newsletter to those who like to hear about our work and will re-launch our “Friends of the Patchworking Garden” scheme to encourage regular giving to help cover our running costs.
- We will approach local businesses more formally with a view to establishing a network from whom we can ask for ongoing financial support.
- At present we have a short-term annual licence for our site. Following the change in ownership of the whole Aviva site we hope to persuade the new landlords, Surrey County Council, to give us more security of tenure.
- We would like to establish more links within our community to ensure our students and others we support can find new opportunities for employment and volunteering.
- We would like to open the garden regularly for even more community groups to enjoy. We have just established such an opportunity for children from CAMH services to use the garden in half terms and other days when we are not present. We intend again to offer visits to Nursing homes and Dementia/Carer groups when we can.

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2021

Financial Review

Overall, our deficit was £13,400 (2020 : surplus of £21,900) and our balance sheet shows total funds of £26,700 with no liabilities. (2020 : £40,100). These are split between our unrestricted funds £8,900 and restricted Academy funds of £17,800. Funds are held at NatWest and Virgin Money.

Despite the impact of Covid on our activities our income was significantly boosted from two sources : a grant of £20,000 from the National Gardens Scheme and our Covid-Reopening appeal of £14,900 which included a Mole Valley District Council grant of £5,000.

As a result, we took the opportunity to make major infrastructure improvements at Pixham totalling £29,100 and spent a further £20,100, later in the year, moving and establishing the Academy at Pixham.

In more detail :

The Garden

Our deficit this year of £21,400 (2020: surplus of £7,200) was mainly due to our significant investment costs.

Total income rose £23,300. Grant income increased £10,000 and the Covid Reopening Appeal added £14,900. However, with no summer Open Day, our Fundraising Income fell £5,200 but this was partly offset by an increase in other donations of £3,600.

Our expenses increased £47,800 caused mainly by increased invested at Pixham of £49,400 (2020 : £800). Our other running costs of £11,200 (2020 : £12,100) were slightly lower.

The Trustees approved that expenditure both to move the Academy and improve their facilities be funded from our Unrestricted Funds. The grants and other donations received for the Academy prior to this year were used for running costs only.

The Academy

Total income of £19,000 came from two sources: grants of £15,000 and donations of £4,000. Expenditure totalled only £11,000 due to the Covid-impact which reduced the number of months of teaching from the planned nine to four. With all other Academy costs being funded from general reserves, the surplus of £8,000 increased restricted reserves to £22,700 (2020:£14,700)

Financial outlook

The Academy's budgeted costs for this year of £24,000 represent around two-thirds of our total forecast costs of £37,000. Whilst the Trustees may reallocate funds from general reserves on either a temporary or permanent basis the securing of regular grant income for the Academy is likely to remain critical to its success. Our budget for this year shows a further reduction in

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2021

our total funds, confirming the need to watch our expenditure closely and to focus on fundraising, from various sources.

Reserves Policy

Our Reserves Policy requires the Charity to retain a year's running costs in reserve, which for the Garden and Academy combined is £37,000. We were below that at year-end by £10,300 as our reserves totalled £26,700.

A financial review has been undertaken which has confirmed that our Garden reserves should be restored by the end of March 2022. The Academy however has double the annual running costs of the Garden and will always rely on grant applications to cover a significant proportion of those costs. The Academy has funding to the end of March 2022 and grant applications and approaches to other potential donors are underway.

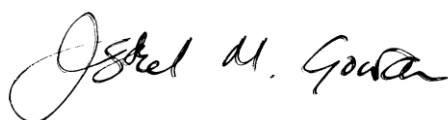
If there are delays in the receipt of grants or other funding shortfalls, the Trustees will re-allocate funds from general reserves on either a temporary or permanent basis to support the Academy.

Any excess funds will remain available for unforeseen expenditure and appropriate investments that the Trustees and Management Committee agree should be made in furtherance of our charitable objectives.

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf
of the charity's
trustees:
Signatures



Full Name	Isobel Gowan	Dan Andrew
Position	Chair	Treasurer
Date	18 July 2021	

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2021



The Patchworking Garden Project	Reg. 1162471 England & Wales
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the year	01-Apr-20	To	31-Mar-21	Form : CC16a
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds (Academy) £	Total Funds £	Last Year £
Receipts				
Donations including Gift Aid	4,864	4,000	8,864	8,132
Covid Reopening Appeal and MVDC Grant (£5,000)	14,903	-	14,903	-
Grant from National Garden Scheme	15,000	5,000	20,000	-
Other Grants Received	-	10,000	10,000	32,300
Fundraising	4,383	-	4,383	14,409
Total receipts	39,150	19,000	58,150	54,841
Payments				
Expenditure to develop the Garden	29,136	-	29,136	7,171
Expenditure to establish the Academy at Pixham	20,200	-	20,200	-
Garden, Craft supplies and Equipment	5,994	-	5,994	7,653
Training Costs	-	10,660	10,660	10,534
Fundraising Costs	1,401	-	1,401	592
Other Expenses	3,809	357	4,166	6,998
Total payments	60,540	11,017	71,557	32,946
Net (deficit)/surplus	(21,390)	7,983	(13,407)	21,895
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Opening funds	25,321	14,742	40,063	18,168
Cash funds this year-end	3,931	22,725	26,656	40,063

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

		31-Mar-21 £	31-Mar-20 £
B1 - Cash funds	NatWest Dorking - Current Account	9,656	5,063
	Virgin Money - Charity Deposit Account	17,000	35,000
		26,656	40,063
Funds	Unrestricted Funds	3,931	25,321
	Restricted Funds	22,725	14,742
		26,656	40,063
B4 - Assets retained for the charity's own use	No book value is placed on our buildings, equipment or other development expenditure at Pixham.	None	None
B5 - Liabilities		None	None

The Patchworking Garden Project Trustees Report – 31 March 2021

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Patchworking Garden Project Registered charity number 1162471

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Patchworking Garden Project ('the Project') for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Project, 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 Project's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Project as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matter 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.

Signed:



Mr David Huw Bassett FCCA
Tamar,
Harrow Road East,
Dorking,
Surrey

Date: 18 July 2021