

ESCOMBE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT for 2021

1. Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisers.

1.1 The name of the charity is Escombe Community Association.

1.2 The registration number of the charity is 1162706.

1.3 The address and phone number of the principal office is:
Escombe Community Association,
The Village Hall,
High Escombe,
BISHOP AUCKLAND,
County Durham.
DL14 7ST

Telephone: 07470 819 800

email: escombevillagehall@gmail.com

website: www.escombecommunityassociation.org.uk

1.4 The trustees of the charity are:

Councillor R. Yorke - Chairman

Mrs. L. Heslop - Vice-chair

Mrs. E. Taylor – Secretary, Co-Treasurer

Miss A. Mavin – Co-Treasurer, Booking & Utilities

Mrs. J. Thompson

Mrs. G. Balmer

Mr. D. Jackson – Auditor and financial advisor from 01.01.2020 (co-opted member of the finance team)

1.5 The principal advisers of the charity are:

Durham Community Action

Vicky Prendergast - Durham County Council Support Officer

Councillor Rob Yorke –Local Councillor

2. Structure, governance and management.

2.1 The structure of the charity.

The charity was an association formed by the amalgamation of the George Pit Recreation Committee, which managed the children's playground and the Escombe Amenity Hall Association, which managed the village hall. A new association was inaugurated on 25th March 2004 as Escombe Amenity Hall and George Pit Community Association. The Association was registered as a charity and the governing document, the Constitution, was adopted. A new playground was created in 2012 and is managed by Durham County Council.

As from 30th September 2015, the association is governed by a new constitution. A Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Escombe Community Association, was set up on the advice of Durham County Council in preparation for taking over the lease of the hall which also includes the car park, patio, garden and hard court area.

A 30 year '*fully repairing and insuring*' lease was signed with Durham County Council on 27th April 2016.

2.2 The management of the charity.

There were six charity trustees, including the officers, throughout 2021 who comprise the Management Committee of the association. Our treasurer is a member of our community who has been co-opted onto the finance team.

From the constitution;

Section 14. Delegation by charity trustees

1. The charity trustees may delegate any of their powers or functions to a committee or committees and, if they do, they shall determine the terms and conditions on which the delegation is made. The charity's trustees may at any time alter those terms and conditions, or revoke the delegation.

1a. a committee may consist of two or more persons, but at least one member of each committee must be a charity trustee.

All matters of management and governance are decided by the Trustees, the Management Committee, who normally meet for meetings throughout the year and at the AGM. The finance team would meet whenever necessary. This was not possible at the beginning of 2021 during the Covid pandemic lockdown and tier system so business and the AGM were done mainly by telephone and email.

2.3 The Recruitment and training of charity trustees.

All charity trustees are recruited from within the association community. All members of the Management Committee (the charity trustees) continue in service from year to year unless they submit their resignation in writing to the secretary of the association.

On election, each new member receives a copy of "Duties and Responsibilities of Managing Charity Trustees" and signs a declaration to say they have studied the Constitution and that they understand the duties and responsibilities involved in being a trustee.

The duties and responsibilities of managing charity trustees are reviewed at meetings of the Management Committee when necessary.

3. Public benefit statement.

- 3.1** The activities undertaken by the charity to further its charitable purposes for the public benefit are stated in section 5 Achievements and Performance.
- 3.2** The charity trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.
- 3.3** The public benefits which the charity seeks to provide are to improve the quality of life of the inhabitants of the area of benefit through the advancement of community development, culture and heritage and amateur sport, leisure and recreation.
- 3.4** Through a pricing policy implemented by the association, the public benefits which the charity seeks to achieve are available to all the inhabitants of the Escombe area.
NB The 'area of benefit' is not defined geographically but as a political area.
- 3.5** The inhabitants of the area of benefit do not need to become members of the Escombe Community Association in order to participate in and benefit from the activities and facilities provided.

4. Aims, Objectives and Activities.

- 4.1** The aim of the charity is to promote community development and provide a safe and pleasant environment for activities to improve the quality of life of the inhabitants of the area of benefit.
- 4.2** The objectives of the charity as stated in the constitution are:
 - a) "to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Escombe area (hereinafter called the 'area of benefit') without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or political, religious or other opinions by associating together the said inhabitants, local authority and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time activities with the object of improving the quality of life of the said inhabitants."
 - b) "to establish, or secure the establishment of a community centre (hereinafter called 'the Centre') and to maintain and manage the Centre whether alone or in co-operation with any local authority or other person or body, in furtherance of these objectives."
 - c) "to promote such other charitable purposes as may, from time to time, be determined. The Association shall be non-party in politics and non sectarian in religion."

5. Achievements and Performance.

5.1 Achievements and Performance (Jan. to Dec. 2021)

Our programme of weekly activities and classes continued after lockdown finished and included carpet bowls, ballet classes, kalma life (baby yoga), Pimms and Needles, U3a Genealogy, U3A Wildlife and dog obedience training and heelwork to music.

Two new groups started; an adult yoga class and a Little Movers group for toddlers and children. Sadly, the Little Movers group has not thrived but the adult yoga is going well.

The monthly coffee morning and book exchange continue to be popular.

We followed government advice and guidance during lockdown and reopened to educational and children's groups on 12th April. Our groups were very keen to start classes as soon as possible and get back to normal life. Our older age groups started again in May or even later when they felt it was the right time for them.

In addition to the regular weekly and monthly hiring, the village hall was used by other groups for different activities.

April - ballet examinations took place

6th May – the local election was held

August - 4 sessions of Family action (Community Services support)

October half-term – 1 session of Family Action

3rd December - Senior Citizens' Christmas lunch

12th December - Yoga party

December - 3 days of first aid training

Children's parties - we held 9 parties from August to the end of year

The Christmas lunch was brilliant. The food was made and served by our younger volunteers and was excellent. We had agreed that we (trustees) would take masks and see how things went but there wasn't a mask in sight. It was wonderful to see everyone hugging each other and enjoying being together again. Happily, everyone escaped the dreaded Omicron.

We also had four 3/4yearly inspections by Durham County Council who own the premises and land:

Compliance; Building; Electrics; Kitchen/hygiene.

In 2020 our water bills had escalated to a phenomenal height due to a water leak in the car park. The leak was mended in July 2020 but we were still paying for the lost water until, in October 2021, 'Wave' paid us almost £1,000 back in over payments and reduced the monthly bill from £159 per month to £20. This was somewhat of a relief.

In November 2021 we bought a defibrillator to be sited on the east wall of the village hall. The defibrillator arrived quickly but we are still waiting for the casing. This, like so many

other commodities, is in short supply because of Covid or transport and haulage difficulties or whatever else.

5.2 Volunteers

We thank our volunteers – the gardeners, the plants men and women, the cooks and bakers, the waitresses, the stall holders and the furniture movers. Their presence was gratefully accepted in preparations for the Christmas lunch. Thank you to you all.

5.3 The charity trustees feel that the association has achieved its aims and objectives to the best of its ability with circumstances as they were in 2021. We hope to get back to absolute normality in 2022.

6. Financial review.

6.1 Income and Expenditure

For the financial year ending 31 st December 2021:	Income	£26,455.86
	Payments	£7,969.80
	Surplus	£ 18,486.06

End of year balances are:	Current Account	£32,578.72
	Cash Account	£30.00
	Premium Business Acc. (Deposit)	£ 20,010.04
	Total	£ 52,618.76

This is the total amount of monetary assets of the association for 2021.
Statement of accounts attached.

6.2 Policy on financial reserves:

Currently there is a ring-fenced amount of £10,000 for maintenance of the building as and when necessary.

There is also a reserve of £5,000 which would cover six months running costs if we had no income.

6.3 Grants:

We have again been very fortunate to receive grants from central government via our local council because of Covid 19 restrictions. This has provided money for maintaining the outside of the premises e.g. fences, gates and garden. It has also saved us the worry about future maintenance of the site.

08.01.21	£238.21	Local restrictions support grant or businesses
20.01.21	£2,001	5 th Jan – 15 th Feb. Mandatory closure due to national restrictions
	£4,000	one off payment – mandatory lockdown due to national restrictions
03.03.21	£2096	16 th Feb – 31 Mar mandatory closure due to national restrictions
03.04.21	£8000	Restart grant
06.09.21	£3000	Covid recovery – one off grant – we opted for outside work
Total grants = £19,335.21		

6.4 Donations:

In 2021 the association made a donation of £100 to Escombe Saxon Church and a donation of £100 to 'Dorothy's Well' (a local charity that builds wells in Tanzania). We have continued our monthly direct debit of £10 to the Great North Air Ambulance.

We received a donation of £200 from Alderman and Mrs. Douthwaite and a donation of £20 from Mr. & Mrs. R. Wilson towards the Christmas lunch.

6.5 Finance team:

Mr. David Jackson continues as our accounts advisor. Mrs. E. Taylor is acting treasurer.

7. Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others.

There are no funds currently held by the charity as custodian trustees on behalf of another charity.

8. Independent Examiner

Mr John Yarrow, FCA has been appointed as independent examiner for the year.

Signed by order of the trustees

Trustee

K. Laylor.

Date:

20.10.22.

ESCOMBE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ESCOMBE
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are set out on the following pages.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

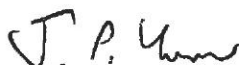
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Mr John Yarrow FCA
Independent examiner

20/10/22
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CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Escombe Community Association

No: 1162706

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/01/2021

To

31/12/2021

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants	19,335	448	-	19,783	13,903
Hall Hire	5,511	-	-	5,511	3,114
Donations	220	-	-	220	342
Feed In Tarriff	662	-	-	662	660
Interest	2	-	-	2	8
Events	28	-	-	28	63
Election	250	-	-	250	250
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	26,008	448	-	26,456	18,340
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	26,008	448	-	26,456	18,340
A3 Payments					
Utilities	2,265	-	-	2,265	5,887
Insurance	480	-	-	480	470
Compliance & Maintenance	1,596	448	-	2,044	3,057
Admin Costs	65	-	-	65	68
Donations	320	-	-	320	440
Fees & Subscriptions	69	-	-	69	155
Cleaning & Sundry	984	-	-	984	1,074
Function Costs	286	-	-	286	-
Other cosrs	-	-	-	-	3
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	6,065	448	-	6,513	11,154
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Defibrillator	1,457	-	-	1,457	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,457	-	-	1,457	-
Total payments	7,522	448	-	7,970	11,154
Net of receipts/(payments)	18,486	-	-	18,486	7,186
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	34,133	-	-	34,133	26,947
Cash funds this year end	52,619	-	-	52,619	34,133

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current Account	32,579	-	-
	Deposit Account	20,010	-	-
	Petty Cash	30	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	52,619	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Defibrillator	Unrestricted	1,457	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	E. TAYLOR	20.10.22