



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01/10/2023 To 30/09/2024

Charity name: The Signal Box

Charity registration number: 1163454

Objectives and Activities

To further or benefit the residents of the Newtown district in Cambridge city, without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious, or other opinions by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort of improving the conditions of life for the residents. The objectives and activities are all designed for the public benefit as set out in the guidance issued by the charity commission.

Achievements and Performance

The Signal Box hosts a range of community events and activities with emphasis on providing a hub for the whole community, while providing additional support through activities for children, young people and vulnerable or isolated residents.

Classes including Sword Fighting and Qigong were ongoing throughout this period, and a new yoga class started in September 2024. Cambridge Blue Morris dancers used our space for practice and there were also regular theatre rehearsals throughout 2023/4. The Japanese Children's Reading Group has grown from strength to strength, with the whole building used on a fortnightly basis for their activities. In 2023/4 the smaller room was booked regularly for 1:1 tuition, supervised family meetings and used for women's circle meetings. SIN Cru started leading breakdancing sessions on a regular basis from May 2024, drawing in young people to the area and using the space. Table tennis sessions have continued throughout this period too.

A Montessori nursery continues to hire the main room weekdays throughout the year and continues to grow and support the centre with a regular income.

Ad-hoc bookings have remained at a positive level. Weekend children's birthday parties are still popular and were booked on average twice a month. It has also become a great venue for board games events and tournaments.

We planned to put on a week of summer bushcraft activities in August (led by an experienced provider) but unfortunately we did not get the take up we expected, and it could not go ahead. We hope to re-think for next year and run something a little different.

We did not receive any grants during this period. We continued to have two part-time members of staff (6 and 3 hrs pw) running the centre, taking bookings and other administrative tasks. As more room bookings are coming in and there is a need for increased community development, there are plans in place to recruit a part-time (18hrs) Community Centre Manager who will hopefully be in place end of 2024/early 2025.

The charity has continued to perform well and to show a gradual improvement. This improvement continues to be impacted by rising costs.

Financial Review


Essentially, all the finances needed to run the Signal Box are generated from room hiring. The Signal Box ran a profit of £3,646 over the financial year to 30 September 2024 from these bookings.



Structure, Governance and Management

The Signal Box is a registered Charity, and its constitution is that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

The Trustees meet several times a year to oversee the governance and management of the charity. Two part-time employees deal with the day-to-day operations

Receipts and Payments Accounts

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	The Signal Box CIO				1163454		CC16a		
	Receipts and payments accounts								
	For the period from	Period start date		To	Period end date				
01/10/2023		30/09/2024							
Section A Receipts and payments									
	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds		Endowment funds		Total funds		Last year
	to the nearest £		to the nearest £		to the nearest £		to the nearest £		to the nearest £
A1 Receipts									
Grants	-				-		-		10,505
Donations	-		-		-		-		-
Lettings	32,480		-		-		32,480		27,519
Other	52		-		-		52		87
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	32,532		-		-		32,532		38,111
A2 Asset and investment sales (see table)									
	-		-		-		-		-
Sub total	-		-		-		-		-
Total receipts	32,532		-		-		32,532		38,111
A3 Payments									
Rent & Rates	1,130				-				927
Centre Running Cost	16,790				-				8,390
Staff	9,838				-				6,130
Office & Administration	1,128				-				2,451
Community Development	-				-				1,572
Other			-		-				533
	-		-		-				-
Sub total	28,886		-		-				20,003
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)									
Sub total	-		-		-		-		-

Total payments	28,886	-	-	28,886	20,003
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,646	-	-	3,646	18,105
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	22,340	-	-	22,340	4,235
Cash funds this year end	25,986	-	-	25,986	22,340
Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period					
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	
B1 Cash funds		-	-	-	
	Total cash funds	25,986	-	-	
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	
	Details	to nearest £	to nearest £	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		-	-	-	
	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
		John Lewis			20/07/2025
		Andrew Moore			22/07/2025