

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 08463076 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1165244

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 25 MARCH 2021
FOR
THE SPIRE ARTS LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Simon Winnard & Company
Redington Court
69 Church Road
Hove
East Sussex
BN3 2BB

THE SPIRE ARTS LIMITED

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 25 MARCH 2021**

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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 25 MARCH 2021**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 25 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

To advance education for the public benefit by the promotion of the arts, in particular but not exclusively the art of drama.

Significant activities

- Operation of a building as a theatre/performance space
- presentation of drama and theatre performances
- commissioning of new theatre performances
- delivering community engagement projects to increase participation in theatre and performance
- trading activity related to the hire of the building, with income used to support core staffing cost and subsidising our theatre and performance activity.

Public benefit

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public guidance.

Volunteers

- Volunteers support our front of house team with stewarding of events.
- Volunteers support venue management with cleaning and maintenance of the historic building in which we're based.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The Spire Arts' key achievements for the period include:

- Presentation of a production with Brighton based theatre company True Story reaching a live audience of 1,200 in Dec 2020, including a complimentary ticket scheme for local low income families.
- Maintaining our organisation through the Covid-19 pandemic securing funding from Arts Council England, DCMS, Brighton & Hove City Council, Theatres Trust, Sussex Community Foundation for the delivery of our Brighton Festival 2021 programme, organisational overheads & access improvements to the building.
- Developing closer links with East Brighton and Kempdown through active engagement with networks and East Brighton Neighbourhood Arts Plan.

The Spire Arts has met audience targets for the period in light of restrictions caused by Covid-19 pandemic.

Financial key performance indicators are set and monitored by the trustees, for the financial year The Spire exceeded its targets.

Fundraising activities

The Spire Arts has a high proportion of success from grant fundraising, with positive results from 90% of bids submitted in the period.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The Spire Arts has remained sustainable through the Covid-19 pandemic due to grant funding. We aim to begin trading in June 2021, when social distancing eases. At this stage we aim to return to financial self-sufficiency, covering basic running costs with trading activity. We have maintained our unrestricted reserve of 10k through the period.

THE SPIRE ARTS LIMITED

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 25 MARCH 2021

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

- Trading activity
- small donations
- grant funding

Reserves policy

In agreement with trustees The Spire Arts hold unrestricted reserves of c. £10,000.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

We publicly advertise for new trustees and they are interviewed by the chair of the trustees and a co-artistic director of The Spire Arts.

50% of The Spire Arts trustees are selected by the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Brighton St. George with St. Anne and St. Mark (PCC), with prospective trustees interviewed at a meeting of the PCC.

Organisational structure

The Spire Arts is led by co-artistic directors David Sheppard and Faith Dodkins. The co-artistic directors are supported by event based staff working on a freelance basis.

The Spire Arts plays an active role in Brighton & Hove's arts & cultural networks working in close partnership with a range of other charities like Brighton Fringe, Brighton Festival and Vincent Dance Theatre.

Induction and training of new trustees

New trustees are given access to a shared folder containing access to The Spire Arts policies, financial documents and foundational documents (licence agreement).

New trustees are paired with experienced existing trustees for a period of 6 months in order to support them through the induction period.

Related parties

The Spire Arts has an ongoing relationship with the PCC, the freeholders of our venue base. The PCC have the option to appoint 50% of our board of trustees.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

08463076 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1165244

Registered office

The PCC of St George w St Anne & St Mark
St George's Church
St George's Road
Brighton
East Sussex
BN2 1ED

THE SPIRE ARTS LIMITED

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 25 MARCH 2021**

Trustees

Mrs S M Meek Chair
Reverend A H Manson-Brailsford (resigned 1/4/2021)
P M Skelly
R Rahman (resigned 13/7/2020)
Mrs A Vernon-Smith
Ms E Frankland (resigned 7/4/2020)
M D Adams
Ms L E Church
P A Johnson (resigned 10/4/2021)
B Moyle Rosser
Ms L S M Greci (appointed 25/9/2020)
C J Thorpe-Tracey (appointed 20/10/2020) (resigned 13/12/2020)

Independent Examiner

Simon Winnard & Company
Redington Court
69 Church Road
Hove
East Sussex
BN3 2BB

Approved by order of the board of trustees on X 2.5.21 and signed on its behalf by:

X Shm Meek

Mrs S M Meek - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE SPIRE ARTS LIMITED

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Spire Arts Limited ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 25 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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 Lawrence Vosper
MAAT
Simon Winnard & Company
Redington Court
69 Church Road
Hove
East Sussex
BN3 2BB

Date:29/04/21.....

THE SPIRE ARTS LIMITED

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 25 MARCH 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		112,587	-	112,587	26,034
Other trading activities	2	19,628	-	19,628	53,800
Investment income	3	6	-	6	1
Total		132,221	-	132,221	79,835
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		18,491	-	18,491	20,397
Charitable activities					
Activities for generating funds		57,475	-	57,475	40,440
Governance costs		630	-	630	300
Total		76,596	-	76,596	61,137
NET INCOME		55,625	-	55,625	18,698
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		26,787	200	26,987	8,289
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		82,412	200	82,612	26,987

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE SPIRE ARTS LIMITED

**BALANCE SHEET
25 MARCH 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7	2,321	-	2,321	2,909
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	270	-	270	3,656
Cash at bank		84,421	200	84,621	23,254
		<u>84,691</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>84,891</u>	<u>26,910</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(4,600)	-	(4,600)	(2,832)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>80,091</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>80,291</u>	<u>24,078</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>82,412</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>82,612</u>	<u>26,987</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>82,412</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>82,612</u>	<u>26,987</u>
FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted funds				82,412	26,787
Restricted funds				200	200
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>82,612</u>	<u>26,987</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 25 March 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 25 March 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

THE SPIRE ARTS LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET - continued
25 MARCH 2021

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on
X 2.5.21 and were signed on its behalf by:

X *S M Meek*
.....
S M Meek - Trustee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 25 MARCH 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Plant and machinery	- 25% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 25 MARCH 2021

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Event Income and Room Hire	13,210	50,740
Parking & storage rent	6,418	3,060
	<u>19,628</u>	<u>53,800</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2021	2020
	£	£
Deposit account interest	6	1
	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>

4. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2021	2020
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	1,097	970
Other operating leases	1,200	1,200
	<u>2,297</u>	<u>2,170</u>

5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 25 March 2021 nor for the year ended 25 March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 25 March 2021 nor for the year ended 25 March 2020.

6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund	Restricted fund	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	26,034	-	26,034
Other trading activities	53,800	-	53,800
Investment income	1	-	1
Total	<u>79,835</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>79,835</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	20,397	-	20,397
Charitable activities			
Activities for generating funds	40,440	-	40,440
Governance costs	300	-	300

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 25 MARCH 2021

6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
Total	61,137	-	61,137
NET INCOME	18,698	-	18,698
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	8,089	200	8,289
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	26,787	200	26,987

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 26 March 2020	642	3,032	205	3,879
Additions	509	-	-	509
At 25 March 2021	1,151	3,032	205	4,388
DEPRECIATION				
At 26 March 2020	161	758	51	970
Charge for year	287	758	52	1,097
At 25 March 2021	448	1,516	103	2,067
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 25 March 2021	703	1,516	102	2,321
At 25 March 2020	481	2,274	154	2,909

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 25 MARCH 2021

8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	270	3,656

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	3,580	2,022
Other creditors	420	420
Accrued expenses	600	390
	4,600	2,832

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 26/3/20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 25/3/21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	26,787	55,625	82,412
Restricted funds			
South Garden Fund	200	-	200
TOTAL FUNDS	26,987	55,625	82,612

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	132,221	(76,596)	55,625
TOTAL FUNDS	132,221	(76,596)	55,625

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 25 MARCH 2021

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 26/3/19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 25/3/20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	8,089	18,698	26,787
Restricted funds			
South Garden Fund	200	-	200
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>8,289</u>	<u>18,698</u>	<u>26,987</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	79,835	(61,137)	18,698
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>79,835</u>	<u>(61,137)</u>	<u>18,698</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 26/3/19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 25/3/21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	8,089	74,323	82,412
Restricted funds			
South Garden Fund	200	-	200
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>8,289</u>	<u>74,323</u>	<u>82,612</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 25 MARCH 2021

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	212,056	(137,733)	74,323
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>212,056</u>	<u>(137,733)</u>	<u>74,323</u>

11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 25 March 2021.

THE SPIRE ARTS LIMITED

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 25 MARCH 2021**

	2021 £	2020 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	946	3,393
Grants	111,641	22,641
	<u>112,587</u>	<u>26,034</u>
Other trading activities		
Event Income and Room Hire	13,210	50,740
Parking & storage rent	6,418	3,060
	<u>19,628</u>	<u>53,800</u>
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	6	1
	<u>132,221</u>	<u>79,835</u>
Total incoming resources		
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Purchases	309	7,814
Other direct costs	18,182	12,583
	<u>18,491</u>	<u>20,397</u>
Support costs		
Management		
Management fees	24,606	18,629
Rent	1,200	1,200
Rates and water	-	180
Insurance	4,957	4,446
Light and heat	3,453	1,998
Telephone	837	973
Postage and stationery	-	113
Advertising	479	1,259
Sundries	233	26
Subscriptions	305	305
Property repairs	11,929	5,289
Cleaning & waste removal	5,635	4,839
Computer & website expenses	2,294	207
Training	450	-
	<u>56,378</u>	<u>39,464</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

THE SPIRE ARTS LIMITED

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 25 MARCH 2021**

	2021 £	2020 £
Management		
Finance		
Bank charges	-	6
Other		
Plant and machinery	288	161
Fixtures and fittings	758	758
Computer equipment	51	51
	<u>1,097</u>	<u>970</u>
Governance costs		
Accountancy	630	300
Total resources expended	<u>76,596</u>	<u>61,137</u>
Net income	<u><u>55,625</u></u>	<u><u>18,698</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

SPIRE ARTS LIMITED TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT as at 09 August 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Spire Arts Ltd was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 26 March 2013 (Company number 08463076) and registered as a charity on 20 January 2016 (Registered Charity Number 1165244). Its governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The Board

The Spire Arts is governed by a Board of Trustees; these volunteers are trustees of the charity and members of the company. The minimum number of trustees is three and, unless otherwise determined by a General Meeting, a maximum of twelve. Twelve trustees served in 2020/21.

The Board meets at least four times a year, at quarterly intervals, and the Annual General Meeting precedes the October board meeting.

There are three permanent sub-groups of the Board; Operations, Buildings and Infrastructure, and Community Development and Engagement. The sub-groups meet at regular intervals, usually in advance of trustee meetings, and are convened when necessary outside of these times to support specific projects or advise the Co-Directors on issues that may arise.

In 2020/21 the Trustees were:

Susan Meek (Former Headmistress of St. Mary's Hall School) Fr Andrew Manson-Brailsford (Vicar of St George's Parish Church), Alison Vernon-Smith (Radio Producer), Paul Skelly (Fundraiser), Paul Johnson (Property Manager), Martin Adams (Technical Manager), Lauren Church (Producer), Rasheed Rahman (Arts Marketing Manager), Emma Frankland (Artist) and Beresford Moyle Rosser (Community Worker).

One third of the Trustees retire annually at the AGM but can be reappointed. The composition, development and capacity of the Board are regularly reviewed. Potential trustees are attracted either by advertisement or word of mouth and are selected based on their experience of life (personal and professional), skill and capacity. Candidates are interviewed by at least one trustee and one of the Co-Directors before attending a Board meeting as an observer. If both parties are keen to proceed, the trustee is elected at the next Board meeting they can attend. New trustees can be elected at any point in the year and are confirmed in office at the AGM.

Risk Management and safeguarding

The Spire Arts has a risk management policy and practice which helps us to anticipate risks to the organisation, assess their likely impact and plan how to reduce them and manage them.

The Spire Arts has a Safeguarding Policy, which is reviewed on a yearly basis.

Staffing

The Spire Arts is led by Co-Directors Faith Dodkins and David Sheppeard, both working one day per week on a freelance basis. Faith and David are jointly responsible for operations and building, finance, artistic programme, participation and audience development.

David and Faith maintain external freelance careers and this way of working has reaped rewards in attracting new projects and activity for The Spire Arts.

In addition to the Co-Directors, the staff team is made up of freelance subcontractors covering front of house duties, administration and marketing and repairs and maintenance tasks when required.

Volunteers

In 2020/21, The Spire Arts our work with volunteers was severely impacted due to the Covid-19 pandemic, which made it unsafe to engage volunteers in front of house and maintenance tasks. It is a priority for the new Operations sub-group to investigate the role of volunteers within the organisation and work with the Co-Directors to build capacity to support a greater number of volunteer roles as we emerge from the pandemic.

Partnerships

Funded partnerships: At a local level The Spire Arts retained and developed partnerships with TrueStory, contributing £2000.00 to the organisation's income.

In 2020/21 The Spire Arts continued to receive support from its main stakeholder the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Brighton St George with St Anne and St Mark in the form of a peppercorn rent agreement on our premises, which underpins our activity.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

In shaping our objectives and planning our activities for the year, the Trustees have given consideration to the duties set out in section 17 (5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit. The Trustees have considered how the planned activities will contribute to the overall aims and objectives that they have set.

The following paragraphs, 'Objectives and Activities' and 'Achievements and Performance', detail the benefits that The Spire Arts provides to the public.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Charity's objectives are to 'advance education for the public benefit by the promotion of the arts, in particular but not exclusively the art of drama.'

The Spire Arts supports the development and presentation of theatre and performance for the former listed church it occupies in East Brighton. It encourages an open dialogue between professional artists and local people within our space and produces a programme of audience development activity that strives to remove barriers to access, engagement and understanding.

The Spire Arts Programme comprises three interlinked strands of activity. These are:

- A rolling programme of artist support through the provision of free or low-cost development space for artist and companies
- At key moments in Brighton & Hove's cultural calendar we present a programme of events in partnership with other organisations (e.g. Brighton Festival, Brighton Digital Festival, Brighton Pride and at Christmas and Halloween)
- Advocacy and advice for local artists and companies comprising one-to-one sessions with the Co-Directors

In summary, The Spire Arts is working to:

- build new audiences for theatre and performance
- enable people of different ages, backgrounds and abilities to work with professional artists to develop and realise their own creative ideas
- create opportunities for active engagement with theatre and performance, particularly for young people and others for whom there are economic, cultural or other barriers to mainstream arts provision

- raise the level of debate about contemporary theatre and performance practice and develop an awareness of the creative process

- provide opportunities for artists to create new work in response to The Spire Art's unique space, or the immediate locality

- contribute to the economic and cultural life of Brighton and Hove and the wider region

- support the professional development of artists in the South East through the provision of advice and advocacy

- develop partnerships with other organisations, locally and further afield, to enhance what The Spire Arts has to offer.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE In 2020/21, The Spire Arts delivered:

- Our public programme was curtailed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, which resulted in the venue being closed for a large period of the year and with use severely restricted for others by social distancing guidelines.

- The Spire Arts' programme consisted of a limited run of 10 socially distanced performances of TrueStory's A Christmas Carol (this includes provision of 50 tickets for local people on low incomes to attend performances of A Christmas Carol free of charge).

- 4+ artist residencies with seed commissions with local artists supporting the development of new pieces of theatre and performance for future presentation at The Spire.

- Supported the development of The Candle Project by Abigail Conway, a new participatory artistic commission for Brighton Festival 2021.

Online Visitors and Social Media

The Spire Arts increased its online content and visitors. The Spire Arts social media followers on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram increased from 2872 in 2019/20 to 3126 in 2020/21.

Investing in Local Artists and Creative Development

In 2020/21 The Spire Arts worked with 4+ artists and companies, which is significantly fewer than a usual year due to the Covid 19 pandemic. The Spire Arts continued to champion the value of the arts, contributing to local and regional strategy, policy and provision of services through involvement with East Brighton Hub, What's Next Brighton & Hove and during the Covid-19 pandemic the ABCD plan for cultural recovery led by Brighton & Hove City Council

Venue Hire and Income Generation

Our ability to hire the venue in 2020-21 was heavily curtailed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. During 2020-21 £6418.43 in car parking and storage charges. Donations to the charity totaled £914.80.

Priorities and Policies

The Spire Arts has made successful applications for project support from Sussex Community Foundation, and People's Postcode Lottery to support our artistic programme

To support the ongoing capital redevelopment we secured funding from Sussex Community Foundation/Rampion Fund and the Theatres Trust to support energy efficiency and accessibility improvements.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

To ensure the survival of The Spire Arts through the pandemic we secured funding via Arts Council England's Emergency Fund, central government's Small Business Grant and DCMS's Cultural Recovery Fund. These funds have allowed us to maintain our core administrative function, artistic programme and essential building maintenance.

The level of reserves is monitored by the Trustees at its quarterly meetings and is currently considered to be reasonable, given the nature and scale of our activities. Our aim is that the level of free reserves (that is those funds not tied up in fixed assets and not designated or restricted) should be in the region of £10,000, which has been achieved successfully during 2020/21

The charity uses Lloyds Bank for its banking purposes.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

During 2020/21 The Spire Arts worked towards the objectives contained in our business continuity plan developed in response to Covid-19 by the Co Directors and the trustees. This articulates our strategy to ensure the survival of the organisation during Covid-19, programming plans and the principles behind our approach to audience development. The plan reflects our continued ambition to increase access to, and understanding and enjoyment of, theatre and performance. Designed to increase the quality of experience at The Spire Arts for artists, audiences, participants and partners, the plan positions the building as an everyday place, putting creative processes at the heart of people's daily lives.

Signed

Dated 24th Sep 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan Meek', written in a cursive style.

Susan Meek Chair of Trustees