ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

England & Wales · Charity number 1166483

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2016-04-12
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	4 Constantine Street Oldham OL4 3HB
Phone	07801 351046
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Activities

Objects: 1. THE PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN HEALTHY RECREATION IN PARTICULAR BY THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR THE PLAYING OF FOOTBALL AND OTHER SPORTS. 2. TO ACT AS A RESOURCE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE UP TO THE AGE OF 25 LIVING IN TAMESIDE, GREATER MANCHESTER, AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS BY PROVIDING ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE AND ORGANISING PROGRAMMES OF PHYSICAL, EDUCATIONAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES AS A MEANS OF: (A) ADVANCING IN LIFE AND HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE BY DEVELOPING THEIR SKILLS, CAPACITIES AND CAPABILITIES TO ENABLE THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN SOCIETY AS INDEPENDENT, MATURE AND RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUALS; (B) ADVANCING EDUCATION; (C) RELIEVING UNEMPLOYMENT.3. PROVIDING RECREATIONAL AND LEISURE TIME ACTIVITY IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN THE AREA OF BENEFIT WHO HAVE NEED BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABILITY, POVERTY OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES, WITH A VIEW TO IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE OF SUCH PERSONS.

Activities: WE ARE THE BRIDGE BETWEEN ASHTON UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB AND THE COMMUNITY, AND SUPPORT THE WORK OF VOLUNTEERS ASSOCIATED TO ASHTON UNITED AND THE PROJECTS, EVENTS, AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES THAT TAKE PLACE. AS A FOCAL POINT OF THE COMMUNITY OF ASHTON HURST WE AIM TO TACKLE LOCAL ISSUES IDENTIFIED THROUGH CONSULTATION WITH OUR USERS, AND POTENTIAL USERS.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Amateur Sport, Economic/community Development/employment, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Tameside

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£54,001	£65,324	-	-
2023-12-31	£49,979	£64,345	-	-
2022-12-31	£87,667	£74,429	-	-
2021-12-31	£56,105	£78,040	-	-
2020-12-31	£60,024	£39,106	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Andrew Ernest Clayton		2021-04-28
David Stephen Burke		2019-05-01
Eric Clegg		2024-03-27
Jill Tichborne		2022-06-18
Julie Wilson		2019-02-20
MICHAEL GEORGE BROWN		2015-03-03
Peter Lawrence O'Brien		2022-10-13

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ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1166483

Accounts

Registered Charity No. 1166483

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2024

The King's Award
for Voluntary Service

The MBE for volunteer groups awarded 2024

Patrons: Angela Rayner MP (To September 2024) & Jonathan Sayer

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

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Report of the trustees for the year ended 31st December 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31st December 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and 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 published (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Reference and administrative information

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Name: Ashton United in the Community
Charitable Incorporated Organisation Number: 1166483
Date Registered: 12th April 2016

Trustees

The trustees serving during the year to 31st December 2024 were as follows:

Michael George Brown		
John North	Treasurer	(resigned July 2024)
Andrew Clayton	Secretary	
Julie Wilson		
David Burke		
Jill Tichborne		
Pete O'Brien	Treasurer	
Eric Clegg		(appointed March 2024)

Secretary Contact Details

Mr Andrew Clayton
4 Constantine Street
Oldham OL4 3HB
Tel: 07801 351046
Email: info@auitc.co.uk

Project Manager Contact Details

Stephen Hobson
6 Parkwood Drive
Rawtenstall
BB4 6RP
Tel: 07868 849184
Email: stevehobsonaufc@live.co.uk

Bankers

Trustee Savings Bank
Po Box 373
Leeds
LS14 9GQ

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the charity are:

1. The promotion of community participation in healthy recreation in particular by the provision of facilities for the playing of football and other sports.

2. To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25 living in Tameside, Greater Manchester, and the surrounding areas by providing advice and assistance and organising programmes of physical, educational and other activities as a means of:

(a) advancing in life and helping young people by developing their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals;
(b) advancing education;
(c) relieving unemployment

3. Providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for people living in the area of benefit who have need by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, poverty or social and economic circumstances, with a view to improving the conditions of life of such persons.

Appointment of trustees

As set out in the constitution trustees are elected by the members of the charitable organisation attending the Annual General meeting. Trustees are appointed for a period of three years and shall retire from office by rotation based on their length of service and may offer themselves for re-election.

Trustee induction and training

Trustees are given information about their role and responsibilities on first being appointed. They are also given a copy of the constitution, information about staffing and the charity management, and are shown copies of policy documents.

Organisation

The trustees administer the charity and meet approximately every 6 weeks. A volunteer Project Manager has been appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity and he is supported by a paid Community Development Officer, originally operating on a freelance basis, but following a pilot scheme appointed in April 2021 as a member of Ashton United in the Community staff, on an annual contract, subject to funding. Sadly this post was made redundant in July 2024 due to lack of funding.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a trustee or senior manager with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. Trustees must declare any conflict of interest as a standard agenda item at each meeting.

Structure, governance and management

Ashton United in the Community is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its constitution dated 3rd March 2015 and registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Foundation) number

1166483 with the Charity Commission on 12th April 2016.
The current Board of Trustees number 7 people. There is no Chair Person, the Chair Person being elected at each meeting for the duration of the meeting and to have the casting vote in the circumstances of a need to make a decision. The trustees recognise there is room for additional members and will actively seek to recruit the right people for the role.

The Trustees and volunteers
The Trustees of Ashton United in the Community CIO have the necessary skills and experience to govern the charity. In addition, we have access to several advisors including capacity builders, fundraisers, accountants, IT, PR & marketing consultancy's. As well as qualities such as concern for the community, Trustees and Advisors have a range of skills between them including HR, financial management, legal, project planning, senior public and private sector management, retail, public relations/media and marketing, and fundraising.

Smallshaw Hurst Profile – A United Community

Smallshaw Hurst and District encompassing Hurst Cross and the home to AUITC and Ashton United Football Club (AUFC), where all our events and activities take place—is among the top 2% most deprived neighbourhoods in England. Over the past year, we have engaged with approximately 3,000 individuals, the vast majority of whom are local residents.

We address key local issues identified through consultations with our current and potential users. Our work has been entirely delivered by local volunteers, supported by our Community Development Officer (until July 2024). Our events and activities are designed specifically for members of the local community, reflecting the challenges they face, such as limited or no disposable income, and widespread poor mental and physical health and wellbeing. Where children are involved, most come from disadvantaged backgrounds, including living in poverty, having parents who are unemployed, not in education or training, or being part of single-parent families or the care system.

The outlook for our community remains tough, with high inflation, rising fuel costs, reductions in benefits, and significant national insurance costs further straining household finances.

Throughout the year, AUITC has collaborated with partners to deliver coordinated efforts aimed at systemic change for the benefit of the entire community. A special thanks goes to Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community, with whom we have closely worked to align strategies, organise events, and run activities. A particular highlight was HurstFest, led by Lydia Wright—our gratitude for her hard work and unwavering efforts managing the event.



This highly effective partnership structure functions like a jigsaw puzzle, with each organisation contributing its unique piece. This collaboration has facilitated joint consultations to identify needs, common issues, and a shared pool of skills and specialist knowledge, bringing significant benefits such as:

- Economies of scale
- Shared learning
- Resource sharing among staff and volunteers
- Joint initiatives
- Consistent and compatible monitoring and evaluation systems
- Comprehensive impact measurement

Over the past five years, the partnership has flourished, growing stronger as joint initiatives are launched and trust, confidence, and mutual understanding among partners deepen providing local people with services and activities delivered within a sphere of trust and openness.



As AUITC continues to gain recognition as a key player in the community and an "anchor charity," we've seen a notable outcome: local individuals and groups increasingly turn to us for assistance, viewing us as a reliable resource in times of need. While maintaining our core operations, we are fortunate to have the support of trustees and funding partners who value our ability to adapt and address emerging needs, no matter how diverse.

Our capacity to connect with others and guide them toward solutions has allowed us to expand the range of services we offer or influence. However, our greatest challenge—shared by our partners—remains meeting the growing demand for support with ever-diminishing resources.

A review of achievements and performance

By Project Manager Steve Hobson

In 2024, Ashton United in the Community (AUITC) has upheld its reputation as a positive force for good, playing a pivotal role in supporting the communities of Smallshaw, Hurst, Hazelhurst, and Broadoak—some of the most economically disadvantaged areas in both England and Tameside.

This past year presented numerous challenges, particularly as we responded to increased demands stemming from the success of our previous service delivery. Compounding this were reduced funding opportunities, which forced the redundancy of our Community Development Officer in July 2024 due to insufficient finances to sustain a paid staff role.

In September 2024 we were disappointed to hear that, due to political protocol, our patron Angela Rayner MP, Deputy Prime Minister, had to resign her position with the charity. We have, over the past 5yrs or more, been well supported by Angela and her team. We can only say a huge thanks for that support and wish her well with the 'bigger picture' she has to address.

Despite these setbacks, the unwavering commitment of our trustees, staff, and volunteers has been instrumental in securing the financial and in-kind resources needed to sustain the majority of our services. Our continued success is built on the strength of our partnerships, which remain the foundation of our impact.

Rather than facing the complex issues experienced by our communities in isolation, collaboration enables us to maximise resources, share expertise, and achieve far greater outcomes. The diverse support we receive—whether through guidance, funding, or in-kind contributions—reinforces our belief in the power of collective action among local stakeholders to address the numerous challenges faced by individuals in deprived areas, challenges which are no fault of their own.

The financial landscape of 2024 has been challenging, with a significant reduction in grants secured during

2023 carrying over into this year. Local authorities and grant-giving trusts, upon which we heavily rely to keep our services free for end users, are grappling with reduced funding and increased demands, stretching their already limited resources even further.

It has often been said that we find ourselves in the midst of a storm, collectively navigating shared hardships. However, the lived experiences of those we support stand in stark contrast to those who seem to sail effortlessly through these turbulent times. At Ashton United in the Community, we remain steadfast in our commitment to championing the marginalised. This commitment is deeply rooted in the 147-year history of charitable work tied to our football partner, Ashton United FC, and is fully embraced by our current trustees.



Island in a Storm

The following stories and photographs showcase just some of the impactful activities carried out throughout 2024. It is with immense pride that I reflect on the difference our work has made—not only in the lives of the individuals we serve but also among our incredible group of volunteers. Many joined us facing significant personal challenges, and to witness their transformation into confident, happy individuals and key contributors to our team has been a source of joy and pride for everyone involved.

The King's Award for Voluntary Service

I am delighted to report that in November 2024 Ashton United in the Community was recognised in King Charles III birthday honors list by being awarded the 'King's Award for Voluntary Service' an award, equivalent of an MBE, recognising the efforts of our fantastic band of volunteers past and present, and the social impact they make. (See report later)

Cedar Park Pantry

Our commitment to Cedar Park Pantry, as a key initiative of the Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group (SSHCAG), remains steadfast. Until July 2024, Ashton United in the Community provided hands-on support through our Community Development Officer (CDO), who played a vital role in the pantry's operations. Unfortunately, the redundancy of the CDO position in July meant we had to withdraw this dedicated staff support.

Despite this, AUITC continues to collaborate with the pantry by sharing staff and volunteers to ensure its continued success. Notably, an AUITC volunteer has stepped into the paid role of Pantry Manager, funded directly by the pantry itself, which is now demonstrating increasing independence.

The combined volunteer pool from both organisations has shown remarkable commitment, supporting a steadily growing number of attendees at the pantry each month. This growth has become especially significant towards the year's end as more families and individuals face the pressures of winter fuel poverty, the loss of the winter fuel allowance, and rising prices at local shops. With membership now exceeding 400 families, demand continues to rise, culminating in over 142 individuals accessing the pantry on a single day in December.



Food from Fans

Close links between the charity and Ashton United, and in turn other football clubs, has benefitted the pantry through donations. In April one such team was Marine FC from Liverpool whose supporters generously donated food for Cedar park Pantry upon their visit to Hurst Cross for a Northern Premier League fixture. Such initiatives strengthens the bond between clubs, demonstrating that rivalry can coexist with mutual support and shared values. It shows that clubs are united in serving their broader community. This kind of donation showcases how sports fandom, often associated with rivalry, can be a force for good, uniting people for a noble cause and demonstrating the positive influence of football on society.



Football Cares

Gardening Projects

We continued our gardening group during the spring, supported by our Community Development Officer (CDO), recognising the extensive health benefits of gardening. Research, including a report by The King's Fund, highlights significant reductions in depression and anxiety, improved social functioning, and the potential to maintain independence and prevent cognitive decline through gardening. During this time, we helped maintain the grounds at St John's Church and the community space at Cedar Park.

However, following the redundancy of the CDO in July, we have had to scale back the gardening project. Despite this, we continue to offer outdoor volunteering opportunities through pitch maintenance activities at Hurst Cross. Volunteers gain hands-on experience in sports turf preparation and maintenance, safe machinery operation, and seasonal turf care.

The gardening project has been a success over the years, and it remains a strong ambition for both our volunteers and AUITC trustees to further develop this initiative—provided we can secure the necessary resources.

Digi Drop-In

Throughout the year, in partnership with the PCrefurb Digital Wellbeing Project Tameside and Glossop, and with financial support from Voicescape, Tameside Rotary and the Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund we hosted weekly sessions at Hurst Cross, with the operational support of volunteer Digital Champions. These sessions were designed to improve the digital skills of local residents, offering a free, welcoming space for individuals of all skill levels to drop in and receive IT support.



Guided by expert trainers, attendees received personalised assistance tailored to their needs. Everyone was warmly greeted and offered complimentary refreshments, creating an inclusive and friendly environment. The sessions proved to be a success, attracting a steady stream of visitors—some seeking technical help and others simply enjoying a friendly chat!

In addition to improving digital skills, these drop-in sessions introduced

attendees to other AUITC services, encouraging deeper engagement with our programmes. Based on this success, we plan to run similar sessions again in 2025.

Community Van



Toys for All

The Community Van remains an essential asset for AUITC and our partners, offering the flexibility needed to support activities such as collecting food donations, making deliveries, and transporting equipment to pop-up events. Owned, managed, and maintained by AUITC, the van is also available for use by partners like the Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group (SSHCC), Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community (SSHCC), the Pantry, and AUFC. It has proven invaluable in supporting project delivery across the neighbourhood and is frequently seen in action, promoting our partners through its branded livery as it travels throughout Smallshaw, Hurst, and the surrounding districts.

For many families in our communities, hardship and poverty are daily realities. Christmas, as always, is an especially challenging time, with parents facing immense pressure to ensure their children wake up to gifts on Christmas morning. Recent research shows that over a third of Tameside children are living in poverty, and for many families this winter, the choice between "heat or eat" is all too real—making Christmas expenses impossible to afford.

As the 2024 holiday season approached, the Community Van—operated by AUITC's volunteer "elves"—played an important role in the Action Together Tameside Toy Appeal. It was frequently used to collect and deliver the larger collections of toys, spreading festive cheer to families in need.



Little? Elves

Chief 'sleigh' (community van) driver, Trustee Andy Clayton said, ***'The last two weeks have been very busy for our volunteers in the lead up to Christmas time when the work we do in the community is needed more than ever. Myself and my trainee elves, Luke & Steve have been involved with collecting and delivering toys for the Tameside Toy Appeal run by Action Together Tameside. It never ceases to amaze me, the generosity of the people and businesses of Tameside. In gives so much to those less fortunate and making sure the children have something to open on Christmas Day.'***

Hurst Village Band Contest

The Hurst Village Brass Band Contest is a celebrated event within a broader cultural offering. As part of the renowned Saddleworth and Tameside Brass Band Contest—hailed as "The Greatest Free Show on Earth"—it carries a legacy spanning over a century. The contest's enduring appeal and historical significance, dating back to 1884, draws bands from across the UK and even overseas. Its continued success relies on the unwavering dedication of volunteers who ensure its place on the brass band calendar and its role in the local community.



Mossley Band

The 2024 Annual Hurst Village Brass Band Contest, held on Friday, May 27, at Hurst Cross, was organised by Ashton United in the Community in partnership with Ashton United Football Club, Save the Children, and with generous financial support from the Granada Foundation and other local sponsors. In its 32nd year in 2024, the Hurst Village contest expanded its reach, welcoming 34 amateur and semi-professional brass bands from across the country to compete. The event benefited from perfect weather, with a warm evening sun setting the stage for the competition. Up to 450 spectators gathered to witness the musical contest, where bands competed for over £2000 in prize money.

This free-to-attend event offers attendees and volunteers from diverse backgrounds the chance to experience brass band music and develop new skills and interests. Amidst the ongoing cost-of-living crisis, it provides families affected by food and fuel poverty with a rare opportunity for a cost-free day out. For many in the community, attending similar events would be impossible due to barriers like transportation costs. AUITC, in collaboration with AUFC and partners, brings the festival to their doorstep, enabling not only enjoyment of the performances but also opportunities to volunteer and feel part of the event—a draw that has consistently resonated over the years.



Family Time

A team of 20 volunteers played an integral role in managing all aspects of the event, including catering, marshalling, band announcements, coach parking, and overall coordination. Special thanks go to adjudicator Jack Capstaff, who generously provided his expertise to rank the bands' performances. As the contest concluded on a high note, preparations began for an even bigger and better event in 2025.

HurstFest

HurstFest 2024 was an outstanding success, building on the positive momentum established since the covid pandemic in 2020. Responding to the enthusiastic feedback from the local community following each HurstFest, we were delighted to host the event in Cedar Park once again, made possible through financial backing facilitated by partners Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community (SSHCC) and their sponsors from associates of Save the Children Fund.





Despite rather inclement weather on the morning of the event, with the collaborative effort of our community partners, we arranged a remarkable family-oriented celebration that featured an array of activities, food, and drinks—all offered free of charge to local participants (Refreshments, hot dogs, Samosa's and ice cream to anyone that wanted them), primarily to those people living in the OL6 postcode area. This year's event surpassed expectations: boasting an expanded lineup that included more ice cream, face painters, circus skills, a band, festival make-up artists, inflatables, football skills and drills, crafts, diverse food options, hair braiding, circus acts and Bangla bands, a very popular petting zoo, an impressive stage with live performers, and much more.





The success of the event owes much to the dedicated efforts of Lydia Wright from SSHCC, who played a pivotal role in anchoring the coordination of the festivities. On a day marred by heavy rain and strong winds in the morning the community turned out in force whereupon we still attracted nearly 1500 people to enjoy the festivities.

Special thanks too are extended to Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community for their financial support for Skillz & Drillz sessions at HurstFest, contributing to the overall success and enjoyment of the event and all the volunteers for giving up their time to make the event such a great day. Also to the many local partners and agencies that attended to give out advice and goodie bags.

Having debriefed the event we are already planning for HurstFest 2025 which will likely take place on 28th August 2025. We will be looking to make it bigger and better still with street dancers, a magician, balloon artist, stalls, 3-a-side football and once more representation from partners across the community.

Testimonials
Angela: ***We had such a lovely day, well organised and such a friendly family fun place to be. Thank you to you all, the volunteers and organisers***
Christine: ***Thank you for amazing day hurst festival was amazing thank you Smallshaw-Hurst Children's Community, Ashton United and everyone who funded make it happen amazing fantastic x***
Bekkah: ***It was a brilliant day wasn't it!***
Tejal: ***Thank you to all the volunteers and the stall holders***
Tameside Police: ***Yesterday, Our Hurst and St Michaels Neighbourhood Beat Officers attended The Hurst Festival 🎭 🎪 Despite the weather, It was a fun filled day for all who attended and a great opportunity for us to engage with families, the local community and children.***
Angela: ***We had a great afternoon, thank you everybody. You all worked so hard x***

Skillz & Drillz – Holiday Hunger

In 2024, we successfully hosted free Skillz and Drillz coaching sessions during school holidays and at HurstFest. We are delighted to have been awarded a grant from the Barclays Community Football Fund, delivered in partnership with Sported. These sessions, as in previous years, were supported by our Holiday Hunger scheme, which ensured that all children attending received packed lunches. Over 546 children aged 6-16 participated, and 594 light packed lunches, including meals for coaches and some siblings, were distributed.



594 light packed lunches distributed

During school holidays, these ever-popular football sessions provided local children with opportunities to learn new skills and make new friends, with over 100 participants each week. Special thanks go to Al Byrne and Nathan Lowe from Ashton United FC 1st team squad for leading the sessions, as well as to our partners, Save the Children, for their generous funding which also included providing children with tee shirts.

However, the number of Skillz and Drillz sessions was reduced during the winter months. This decision was driven by a reduction in available funding and the high costs associated with hiring indoor facilities to meet child safeguarding requirements during bad weather. We remain optimistic that we can resume winter sessions in the future if sufficient funding is secured and a suitable local venue becomes available.



Fun For All

Mum Kelly said about her sons attendance at Skillz & Drillz, ***'He's really enjoyed coming and I wanted to say thank you. It's such a great thing and we'd be lost without it. Some of the other clubs that are all day can be too much during the holidays, this is perfect and he loves it.'***

Luncheon Club

Pilot and Expansion

In January 2023, we piloted a luncheon club that quickly gained popularity, engaging 50 participants per session and registering 90 members. Following the pilot's success, attendees expressed a strong desire for a more permanent club. With necessary resources secured, the luncheon club became a regular feature from November 2023 through May 2024, pausing for the summer to support the "Wednesday's Together" group established by club volunteers.

Ashton United in the Community

Target Audience and Approach

The club, run by eight dedicated volunteers and a sessional cook, is open to all over 60s, with a focus on addressing the needs of isolated and lonely older adults, a pressing issue in the Smallshaw Hurst (OL6) area. Over a 22 week period 8 volunteers have contributed approximately 704hrs volunteering time which, valued at a median of £15 per hour equates to the equivalent of £10,560 in kind support.

Luncheon Club Attracting 40+ people per week

At luncheon club we engage with individuals who:

- Are elderly and disproportionately affected by fuel and food poverty.
- Experience loneliness and isolation, impacting their mental and physical health.
- Are hesitant to leave their homes.

Attendees benefit from free two-course meals, drinks, and opportunities for social interaction and entertainment. These gatherings serve as a gateway for further support, with guest speakers offering guidance on housing, NHS services, and welfare.

In March 2024, thanks to donations from a major clothing brand, we provided attendees with free spring and summer attire, further enhancing their experience.

Outcomes Achieved



A place for friendship

The Luncheon Club has delivered significant positive outcomes, including:

- Reduced isolation for local residents.
- Improved mental and physical health and well-being.
- Skill development and confidence-building among volunteers.
- Meaningful volunteering experiences, leading to qualifications or employment.
- Enhanced trust and a sense of belonging among attendees.
- Increased resilience and knowledge through guest speaker presentations.
- Strengthened community cohesion and new friendships.

Additional Event

- **Summer Tea Party** (10th July 2024): Despite unseasonal weather, 36 attendees enjoyed a traditional afternoon tea, including sandwiches, cakes, and scones, with a glass of fizz. Entertainment by “Tony the Crooner” included nostalgic songs, bingo, and games. Food was prepared by Angela Gratton and her team of volunteers, whose efforts were invaluable.
- **Acknowledgments**:
    - Taylor Wimpey for generous financial support, enabling the event.

- Matalan (via Charlotte Hobson) for donating free clothing distributed at the event.



New Clobber All Round

Christmas Lunches: In December 2024, due to high demand, we hosted two Christmas Lunches for local older people, further strengthening our commitment to supporting the community.

Thank You All



Time for Thanks - their time to celebrate too!

Throughout the year our fantastic group of Luncheon Club volunteers have given up at least 4 hours of their time every Wednesday to provide a nutritious lunch and entertainment to around 40 older people from the OL6 postcode area.

Buying in provisions, cooking food, setting out the room, providing tea/coffee to visitors, washing pots and cleaning the facilities, nothing has been too much trouble for them week in and week out.

Well, just before Christmas it was time to treat the volunteers and say thank you for their efforts. Off we went for a Christmas Carvery lunch to spoil them in the manner they have spoilt others for so long.

Future Plans

After consulting members and volunteers, the trustees decided to continue the Luncheon Club from October 2024 into 2025. This continuation is made possible by the outstanding contribution and commitment of Ashton United in the Community volunteers together with funding from:

- Manchester Guardian Society.
- Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund.
- Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust.
- TMBC Community Wellbeing Fund.
- A legacy donation from Ian and Laura Scorah.

Testimonials

'My name is Rose, and my friend's name is Rose, but their isn't a thorn between us! We both enjoy coming here on Wednesday, especially for the lunch – and bingo, and raffle' – Two Roses.

'Love to come meet new friends. Love the food, gets all of us here on this table out, and meet up and have a good laugh. Love the activities, like the Easter hats and the Christmas party, great time, and the bingo and raffle – great prizes. All in all love coming here the staff very welcoming' – Caroline, Brenda, Nina.

Social, friendship, somewhere to be. Staying at home can become our normality which isn't good; and some people have no family or friends, sadly. So yes, places like this are a lifeline, and we do appreciate all you and the team do. Thank you' – Barry & Ada

Look forward to coming out here on Wednesday and meet people. It's good company. Much better than being alone in own house. Food very good. Volunteers/staff are very helpful and cheerful. We miss it when it's not on!' – Joyce & Lillie

Andy's Man's Club



With the financial support of the CRH Charitable Trust, we run a weekly men's suicide prevention session, providing free peer-to-peer support groups aimed at breaking the stigma around men's mental health. These sessions harness the power of conversation to help men navigate their mental health challenges.

The sessions, delivered in partnership with Andy's Man Club (Registered Charity No. 1179647) and supported by Ashton United in the Community (AUITC) volunteers, take place over 40 weeks of the year. Open to all men aged 18 and over, they specifically target local men with the simple goal of encouraging open discussion about their issues and offering mutual support. Each session lasts three hours, with capacity to engage over 40 men weekly. Since the inaugural session, which drew 71 attendees, we've consistently seen attendance of up to 45 men each Monday, including approximately 5-6 first-time visitors each session. Participants range from regular weekly attendees to those who drop in occasionally or just once.

Ashton United in the Community

AUITC and Ashton United FC also provide volunteering opportunities for attendees, supporting their ongoing mental and physical well-being. The sessions have been an overwhelming success, fostering a supportive community and encouraging positive mental health practices, indeed the sessions have been so successful that Andy's Man's Club are looking to open a second Tameside venue in Denton, in 2025.



You're Not Alone

Volunteering opportunities and Impact
We've been thrilled to offer volunteering opportunities to session participants, with:

- Five men supporting the Ashton Hurst Band Contest: They acted as stewards and promoted Andy's Man Club to visitors.
- Additional volunteers at HurstFest, a free community festival organised by AUITC in partnership with Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community (part of Save the Children Fund): Volunteers served as stewards, litter pickers, and general helpers.

All the volunteers thoroughly enjoyed their experiences, reporting enriched mental health and expressing interest in further opportunities. These activities have not only supported their well-being but also strengthened their sense of purpose and community involvement.

With respect to personal successes there are many. The following testimonials, publicly available via Facebook, from Ben Rochford and Anthony Howard Cofield encapsulate just some of the impact made; identifying the quick success we have achieved, and why we want to continue with Andy's man's Club at Ashton United in the Community for as long as we can:

Case Study 1 - Benn's Story: I'm Benn a new facilitator at AMC Ashton.

My story begins with the fallout from Covid-19, lockdowns and the cost of living crisis hitting hard which impacted my business and just before Christmas 2023 I had no option but to close down and seek employment elsewhere.

I was very lucky and landed a full time job reasonably quickly in the new year.

Before starting my new job I had to have an occupational health assessment. And during that assessment the nurse said something to me that didn't really register with me for weeks and weeks afterwards. She said "Take some time to grieve for your business and process that your life is now different career wise. After many years of being your own boss and doing what you love to starting over is a big change...."

It was only when I started my new job that the full impact of what was said hit me like a freight train and had the realisation that closing my business down had literally ripped my heart and soul from me. I was good at what I did, I was passionate about what I did, I was making a positive difference but it wasn't viable anymore due to the cost of living crisis and knock on effect from Covid-19.



We don't bite!

And then my wife noticed that I wasn't myself. I wasn't eating for days on end, low mood, wasn't sleeping well, no interest in anything or anyone and was just on screen saver mode going through the motions and doing whatever needed to be done on a daily basis. But my wife wanted her husband back. The man who has always been easy going, happy go lucky and with a childish sense of humour. And my wife asked me to seek help and to go to Andy's Man Club or to do something.

I didn't do anything for a couple of weeks. Until I realised myself that I was for the first time in my life suffering with depression and anxiety.

And the next Monday I turned up at AMC Ashton like many men thinking I'll stay for a little bit and then just go home and say it's not for me.... but I was met by the lead facilitator at the door and welcomed with open arms and showed to the brew station (a sure way to get my attention I'm a big coffee drinker 🥰)

And I sat in my first Andy's Man Club thinking I'll just sit here, say nothing and leave. But I was in a mixed group of men from different backgrounds and walks of life and something clicked for me. This is what I needed and I could actually see this working for me.

Week in, week out I kept turning up, sharing with the group, listening to others, supporting each other and just been there for one another with no conditions or expectations.

And like many men say each week we've become a family, a band of brothers.

And when I got the call asking me to join the facilitator team I couldn't say no the guys. They've helped me so much since the beginning of the year. And I owe it to AMC Ashton to be there for the next man who walks through them doors not knowing what to expect or if it's even for them.

And I'm happy to report that my wife has her almost 40yr old husband with the childish sense of humour back. And that's thanks to AMC Ashton and every gentleman who walks through them doors on a Monday evening.

Benn 👌

Case Study 2 – Ant: ***"Hi I'm Ant a new facilitator at AMC Ashton.***
My story begins with addiction and the life that comes with it. After finally working on my addiction I'm finally becoming a better person I am learning a lot about ADHD and that it is okay to talk about things and worries. Also I'm learning about myself through therapy. Therapy itself opened my eyes along with support from proper friends from the real world not the drug world. With this correct support from the

real people I wouldn't have come so far as I have but AMC has changed my life for the better.

I now have more motivation on moving forward with things instead of hiding away from my problems I can now tackle those worries and problems straight on. I have become more alert with daily tasks. Without the support from AMC and true proper friends I have realised there's a happier way of living.

I was so far wrapped up in the drug life like I totally lost sight on who I was and I hated the person I became until one day my friend mentioned about AMC Ashton. I was scared at first and I would walk around the venue until a facilitator came to me to tell me everything's okay but after being at AMC since April 2024 it got easier and easier each and every time I went. Like so many other men on their first time at AMC thinking I'll say nothing and then ultimately end up leaving. I stayed and it has been the best decision I've made in my life. I turn up to AMC week in week out. We have become a band of brothers.

Then I got a call inviting me to be part of the facilitator team and I jumped at the chance to give something back. I'm still working on myself but being involved with AMC has helped me to grow stronger

Ant"

Ashton United in the Community Receives The King's Award for Voluntary Service 2024



Ashton United in the Community (AUITC), closely associated with Ashton United Football Club (AUFC), has been awarded The King's Award for Voluntary Service for 2024. This prestigious accolade is the highest honor a local voluntary group can receive in the UK and is equivalent to an MBE. AUITC acts as the bridge between AUFC and the community, facilitating the efforts of volunteers who contribute to various projects, events, and community activities. As a central pillar of the Hurst community, AUITC addresses local issues identified through consultation with current and potential users. This is achieved by providing volunteering opportunities that help individuals build confidence, enhance their physical and mental health, and develop skills and knowledge that can lead to employment opportunities.

In addition to supporting events at AUFC's Hurst Cross, AUITC volunteers are involved in a range of projects aimed at tackling issues associated with deprivation in the area, such as poverty, loneliness, isolation, poor health, community safety concerns, lack of education, and unemployment. AUITC is one of 281 local charities, social enterprises, and voluntary groups to receive this prestigious award in 2024. Their efforts, along with those of other recipients across the UK, highlight the incredible impact volunteers have on their local communities and the ways they improve the lives of those around them.

The King's Award for Voluntary Service was established in 2002 to commemorate Her Majesty the late Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee and continues under His Majesty The King. It recognises exceptional contributions by local volunteer groups to their communities. 2024 marks the second year of The King's Award under the reign of King Charles III. Recipients are announced annually on November 14th, The King's Birthday. This year's winners include a diverse range of volunteer groups from across the UK. Representatives from AUITC will receive the award crystal and certificate from Diane Hawkins, Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester, in the summer of 2025. Additionally, two AUITC volunteers will attend

a Buckingham Palace garden party in May and June 2025 alongside other award recipients.

Project Manager Steve Hobson expressed his pride in the achievement, stating, ***"The volunteers at AUITC have changed the face of the community in Hurst. Local people giving back to local people and encouraged to do so by the football club and our partners has seen some remarkable outcomes, both for the individuals and the community as a whole. We are thrilled to be recognised in this way, an award that will lift spirits and boost everyone's desire to do even more."***

Volunteers

Our ongoing commitment revolves around offering local individuals opportunities to engage in volunteer work. Throughout 2024, our efforts to recruit and mobilise a substantial number of volunteers have persisted. We successfully registered 90 volunteers during the year, and collectively, they dedicated 15890 hours to volunteering. This represents a decrease in recorded volunteering hours compared to 2023 when a volunteer count of 75 contributed 17,960 hours, a figure that was unsurprising due to the redundancy of our Community Development Officer post in July. The good news is we were able to create paid employment for some of the people who previously volunteered their services including stewarding, facilities management and groundwork.

The opportunities to develop volunteering and support volunteers through their journey was however diminished through employment, nevertheless we were able to increase the numbers of volunteers and maintain good levels of opportunity and support. The challenge for 2025 will be to sustain levels of recruitment and support.

In April 2024, the median hourly earnings for full-time employees in the United Kingdom were £18.64, according to the Government Office for National Statistics. Valuing our volunteers' time at a nominal rate of £15.00 per hour in 2024, we can calculate a social value contribution to volunteering amounting to £238,350. This achievement remains noteworthy, particularly for a small charity.



Manchester Marathon Marshals

Volunteers are integral to our work, offering their support not just at Hurst Cross but also across the wider Smallshaw Hurst and district areas. Some volunteers contribute remotely, providing general assistance to our charity, while others take part in pop-up events and collaborate with our partners and fellow charities. For example, this year, several volunteers worked with the local Rotary Club to bring festive cheer during Santa's visits, and a group of 13 volunteers assisted with marshalling duties for the Manchester marathon.



Volunteer Heroes

Our volunteer base is diverse, comprising individuals from various backgrounds, including those from the LGBTQ+ community, people with learning disabilities, students, the unemployed, and individuals dealing with loneliness and isolation. Together, they form the 'Ashton United Family,' and through their involvement, they have gained confidence and developed new skills. Their contributions are wide-ranging, including ground maintenance, media work, stewarding, coaching, helping at pop-up events, supporting the food pantry, participating in the luncheon club, taking part in the Hurst Band Concert, collecting toys for the Action Together and Ashton United Supporters Club toy appeals, and contributing to HurstFest. We greatly value their dedication, as we rely on their goodwill and commitment for the successful operation of our initiatives.

At Ashton United in the Community, we foster a supportive environment where volunteers feel encouraged to express themselves. This approach boosts their confidence and helps them understand that, when faced with challenges, they can count on peer support to address issues and learn valuable lessons. Over the years, this approach has allowed many volunteers to thrive, developing new skills and growing in confidence, both individually and within their teams.

Throughout the year, volunteers have opportunities to engage in a variety of indoor and outdoor activities, all of which contribute to their mental and physical well-being while working as part of a team. By promoting confidence, reducing isolation, and fostering new connections, we ensure that volunteers are integrated into a positive, supportive environment. Our doors are always open to those who wish to join our volunteer programme.

Case Studies

Case Study 1



Andy Clayton

Andy Clayton is a trustee and Secretary of Ashton United in the Community and spends almost 6hrs every day of the week engaged either with the charity or football club. A retired IT Manager with a national telecommunications company Andy is involved both behind the scenes and 'at the coal face' in almost every activity of the charity.

Andy says, ***'Upon my retirement I was looking for something to occupy my time and I became involved with the charity through my interest in Ashton United Football Club. I can honestly say I have never worked so hard in my life since retirement, but what joy and fulfillment it brings. No day is the same and the sense of belonging to 'a family', something really special, pervades everything I get involved in. I never thought that volunteering could be so rewarding. I am proud to be making a difference and delighted that both my wife and son have joined me as volunteers'***

Case Study 2

For many years Ashton United in the Community has engaged with students primarily to offer internships and experience of operating in a 'live' environment. The contribution from those at universities including

Central Lancashire, Keele, University Campus of Football Business (UCFB) has been invaluable and we, in turn, have seen some students progress into very good employment positions including professional club secretary, DAZN Senior Content Planner, JOE.co Senior Content Creator, Media Managers, PR roles, Head of Crowd Safety at Wembley. In late 2024 we joined a joint FA/British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) pilot scheme offering the following roles to students:

- Media & Marketing Officer
- Fundraising & Sponsorship Officer
- Club & Community Engagement Officer
- Fan Experience Officer
- Facilities Development Officer
- Volunteer Officer

Through 2025, 4 students from Manchester Metropolitan University and UA92, Salford will be given the opportunity to gain knowledge and experience at Ashton United FC and with our partners.

Training

We are keen to support the volunteers in our charity, exploring ways to enhance their support and training for more effective role delivery. We aim to offer opportunities for continuous professional development (CPD) to acquire additional skills and knowledge, benefiting both AUITC and their personal life journey.

Case study

Nick is a volunteer who, in 2023, asked AUITC if we could offer any opportunities for him to follow his interest in sports photography. We arranged for him to attend Ashton United FC matches and follow his ambitions. Over time Nick became proficient in sports photography and is now the AUFC official photographer attending both home and away matches. In 2024, when interviewed as part of our continuing appraisal of volunteer needs and aspirations, Nick expressed an interest in furthering his knowledge of First Aid and specifically football First Aid. We have been able to send Nick on courses where we are pleased to say he has achieved three accredited qualifications:

- Introduction to First Aid in Football (IFAiF)
- Level 2 IFAiF Certificate
- Level 3 Emergency Medical First Aid in Football

Nick said, ***‘ I am grateful for the opportunities provided through volunteering with Ashton United in the Community. Not only have I explored my interest in sports photography but I now have the knowledge and skills to support the team/club with any injury situation. I have really enjoyed the learning experience. It was very rewarding and hopefully will come in useful in the future.’***

Alongside providing our own training to volunteers and the local community, we successfully organised training courses at Hurst Cross. The venue's quality attracted agencies and trainers who approached us to use the space and connect with the local audiences attending our events. While we were able to accommodate some of these requests, our capacity to do so became more limited from July onward, as we no longer had a full-time staff member available to facilitate the sessions.

Staff



Andy Finnigan

This year, we partially maintained a staffing structure similar to the previous year, consisting of a full-time Community Development Officer supported by trustees, a volunteer Project Manager, and a Training and Development Coordinator. However, the Community Development Officer role became redundant in July, leaving the trustees to assess our ability to maintain the same level of delivery during the second half of the year. A huge thanks must go to Andy Finnigan for his enthusiasm and commitment to developing the charity. A person living locally and

empathetic to the people with whom we engage, his personality and endearing nature helped the charity thrive and gain the trust of stakeholders. Andy's full time commitment will be missed although we do hope to retain his services as a volunteer; his current work role permitting.

To meet continued demand, sessional staff, including coaches, caterers, face painters, artists, and partner organisations, were engaged on an as-needed basis. The success of this approach was driven by the dedication and enthusiasm of everyone involved, each striving to excel in their roles and contribute their best to the charity. Furthermore, the pantry duties are now undertaken by a sessional manager.

The loss of a full-time staff member highlighted the need for a more sustainable model. In alignment with the 2024–26 business plan, the trustees acknowledged the importance of operating within the charity's financial capacity. While there is a clear need and desire to appoint an operational staff member, it is crucial to first secure the resources required to sustain such a position. During the latter half of the year, all activities were delivered entirely by volunteers and sessional staff. This model allowed us to maintain services but placed additional pressure on trustees and volunteers who took on extra responsibilities. However, this is not a model the charity envisions for the long term.

Grant funding has remained vital in supporting the delivery of services and activities to the local community. Unfortunately, 2024 saw a further reduction in grant support, largely due to the cost-of-living crisis. This presents a significant challenge as we strive to rebuild a staff team and secure the resources needed to offer longer-term contracts, ensuring the stability and quality of our workforce.

Partnerships

AUITC works with a number of local partners including:

- Working in partnership with schools has been successful in including students as part of an alternate education project. Practical learning at Hurst Cross e.g. measuring pitch markings to specific sizes puts maths into context, writing reviews for programmes and proof reading helps with English together with the peer support that they get is proving, to be very beneficial to their learning process.
- Part of a steering group of representatives from the statutory, voluntary and faith sectors to plan HurstFest, a free to enter annual community festival.
- Action Together Tameside the third sector umbrella group helps support volunteering opportunity at Ashton United in the Community through the online promotion of vacancies across the district via its website and social media platforms.
- Ashton United Football Club provides volunteering opportunities on matchdays and throughout the year, together with facilities and matched resources in support of the volunteers and the activities they undertake.
- Ashton United Football Club Supporters Association provide practical and financial support to the charity. The group is also a good source of volunteers. They have embraced the #oneclub partnership between Ashton United Supporters Association, Ashton United FC and Ashton United in the Community creating a force for good not only within local football circles but further afield. This is exemplified by their presenting, at every away club, a football shirt to a home club nominated volunteer as a token of respect for that persons commitment to his/her club and a mutual friendship between the competing clubs.



A Deserving Recipient

- Collaboration with other specialist third sector providers introduces new skills and activities to the people of Hurst (e.g. Andy's man's Club, PCrefurb) and provides best value for service delivery.
- AUITC is a member of Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community (Save the Children) which aims to bring local services, communities and systems leaders together to create and deliver an ambitious vision for change for local children and families. It aims to ensure that local services work together to meet the needs of children, across all aspects of their lives and all stages of their childhood. The work of AUITC will, where possible, fully support these aims.

Case Study 1 – One Club Partnership

Over 1st and 2nd March of a group of seven intrepid Ashton United supporters undertook a mammoth 40 mile, two-day sponsored charity walk; starting from the club's Hurst Cross ground in Lancashire, the group trekked all the way up into The Peak District for the weekend's Pitching In Northern Premier League Premier Division fixture with Matlock Town - all with the aim of raising money and awareness for Ashton United In The Community.



All weather walkers

This was no spring stroll - Day One consisted of a 30 mile stage that climbed just short of a 1,000 feet and, after starting at 7.30 in the morning, the walkers soon found themselves battered by snowstorms as they headed up through Stalybridge, then into the hills beyond Glossop. A weather induced detour saw them tackle a stretch of the walk over the Derbyshire hills in snow over a foot deep before dropping into Chinley.

After a break for lunch, the walkers made headway for Dove Holes, where shortly afterwards they were joined along part of their route by Ashton United FC squad member George Milner (who lives in the area) as they made their way towards the next big target - joining the Monsal Trail near Buxton. The trail runs along what was formerly the Manchester to London Midland Railway Line and, after eleven and a half hours on the go, took the walkers into Bakewell for a well-deserved overnight rest stop. Following a couple of beers, and an hour or so dissecting the day's events, they headed off to bed in the hope of recharging for the day ahead.

Day Two started with brighter weather, but Saturday morning also saw two casualties - one of the walkers dropped out with a re-occurrence of an old knee problem and, after running repairs on the Monsal Trail the night before, Stephen Parker's walking boots ended up in the hotel's bin and he had to make do with a pair of training shoes for the last leg of the journey. Worse still was the ominous news coming out of Matlock that there was a pitch inspection



Football Meets NHS With Common Goal

planned for 10.15 - just about the time the group were setting off for the final stage, with some ten miles still to cover.

As the walkers were still getting into their stride, the news came through that the playing surface had become the third casualty of the day - the referee had had no choice but to postpone the fixture. Undaunted - and with no other options either - the group carried on to the end, and a number of volunteers quickly came forward with offers to drive up from Ashton to Matlock and collect the walkers at the end of their route.

The reception at Matlock was great to see, after just under 16 hours walking, the group were greeted by a 7ft tall foam Gladiator, Matlock Town's very own mascot, a number of fans and players from Matlock Town FC, the Ashton United Supporters who had made the trip over regardless, and more importantly, a pint and a chip butty, kindly provided free of charge by the staff at the ground.



Gladiators One And All!

Asked if he was disappointed by the postponement, Ashton United Supporters' Club Chairman Luke Sayle said "It wasn't unexpected to be honest, the weather was terrible yesterday, we knew Matlock would be up against it to get their pitch back in shape, and having seen the surface it was understandable - of course we wanted to see the game after walking so far, but we have still achieved our aim of raising money and awareness for the AUITC charity... and the whole experience has brought the supporters closer together - not just those of us that walked, but the ones who offered support before and during the walk, then came to our rescue when we were stuck up here with no way of getting home. And no, I'm not walking back for the re-arranged fixture."

Ian Matthews: "We did this walk to Matlock, to raise money for Ashton United in the Community. I enjoy walking but didn't realise how difficult it would be. The weather was against us however as a team we supported each other and I met some amazing people who I shared the experience with. These will be friends for life. It was a great achievement and I am proud of us all. A big thank you to everyone involved and to everyone who donated to such a great cause!"

Wayne Schofield: "I did the walk to get more involved with the supporters club and to raise money for a very good cause. I found it physically (two toe nails missing now) and mentally challenging as I hadn't pushed myself like this for many a year. It means a lot to me not just to do it, but do it with likeminded people in which we all supported each other throughout the whole challenge. Well done everyone."

Walkers; Scott Bruton, Emma Gordon, Ellie Matthews, Ian Matthews, Stephen Parker, Luke Sayle & Wayne Schofield, support vehicle driver - Stacie Hadfield.

In all the sponsored walk raised over £3000 towards the activities of Ashton United in the community.

Case Study 2

In keeping with the #OneClub ethos a number of the Ashton United first team squad members Tom

Denton, Al Byrne & George Chmiel, volunteered their time to delivered some Christmas presents, sourced by Ashton United Supporters Association, to the Children's Unit at Tameside Hospital. Tom Denton spoke about our visit, saying, **"Was a pleasure to go in and represent Ashton United in the Community to hand some presents over to the children and staff at the children's ward and we hope that it brings them some comfort and happiness at this time of year!"**

Case Study 3



Even the sun was out

In October , working together with Ashton Primary care Network team and Ashton United, we were able to introduce the health promotion team to the supporters and volunteers at Hurst Cross during a league match. Nurse Gemma Douglas said**, ' It was great to have the opportunity to reach out to local people in a setting where they ordinarily would not be considering their good health. With home supporters primarily men we were able to generate conversation about positive health. We look forward to collaborating with Ashton United in the Community and their partners in the future.'**



Lots to learn

Consultation with Users

AUITC's greatest strength lies in its belief that local people are best positioned to drive positive change in the community's best interests. As such, we involve local people at every stage of our work—as trustees, staff, volunteers, mentors, and beneficiaries. This approach fosters a sense of ownership, builds trust within the community, and ensures a deep understanding of local needs and aspirations. Our local volunteers, with their lived experience, play a pivotal role in shaping our project delivery. We are regarded as a 'go-to organisation,' where community members bring their challenges, and we support them in finding solutions. All our trustees, staff, and volunteers are local, either living or working in the area, bringing a diverse range of skills, abilities, and connections. By working alongside local people, we encourage and empower them to take ownership and leadership in their community.



Let's hear your views

The local community is actively involved through events, activities, and visits to the Food Pantry and Luncheon Club, allowing us to understand their immediate needs and gather their views on future initiatives. This includes collecting feedback on what works well, identifying areas for improvement, determining preferences for activity packs to engage children during holidays and non-school periods, and assessing training needs for volunteers. Regular communication with volunteers and partners from the voluntary and statutory sectors is a key priority. This fosters an environment where volunteers feel encouraged to share their needs and suggestions for improving their roles and experiences, while beneficiaries receive support tailored to their needs and aspirations. The

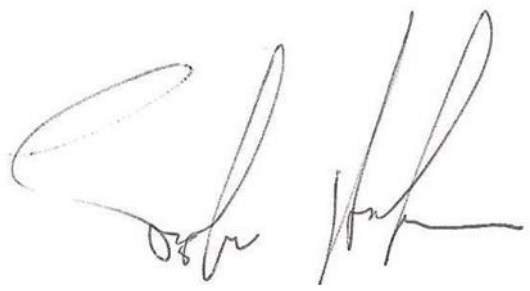
feedback gathered informs the role of the Training and Development Coordinator, who collaborates with community members to create opportunities for skill and knowledge development, empowering individuals to enhance their lives while advancing the charity's initiatives.

Financial Review

During the year Ashton United in the Community were successful in a number of grant applications. We are extremely thankful for the support of the following organisations providing grant support (predominantly over £500) toward a number of objectives:

- Action Together Tameside Community Wellbeing Fund
- Barclays Community Football Fund
- Voicescape
- Granada Foundation
- Sported
- Manchester Guardian Society
- GM High Sheriff's Police Trust
- W O Street Charitable Foundation
- Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust
- Save the Children Fund
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council
- Duchy of Lancaster benevolent Fund
- CRH Charitable Trust
- The Burke Family
- Ashton United FC Supporters Association
- Ashton United FC players, management & officials
- The Trident Community Foundation
- Ian & Lorna Scorah

The grants we receive allow AUITC to grow as an anchor charity in the Hurst, Smallshaw & Broadoak area of Ashton-under-Lyne, achieving positive outcomes for local residents impacted by the complex challenges of living in some of the most deprived areas in England, including Tameside. These challenges are expected to intensify as low wages, fuel poverty, and rising living costs place additional strain on those already facing significant hardships. Together, we are committed to helping people not only survive but thrive.



Steve Hobson
Ashton United in the Community
Project Manager

Date: 17th January 2025

Investment powers and policy

The trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of operating the charity, have kept available funds in a 'Treasurers Account'.

Reserves policy and going concern

The balance held in unrestricted reserves at 31st December 2024 was £22,875 of which all are free reserves, after allowing for funds tied up in tangible fixed assets.

The Charity's main source of income is grants and charitable donations. The Trustees consider that it is appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis and, consequently, the accounts do not include any adjustments that would be necessary if these sources of income should cease.

The trustees aim to establish and maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to respond to applications for grants and ensure that support and governance costs are covered.

The trustees consider that the charity is a going concern. Any reliance on grant funding is managed through a flexible approach to activities and project delivery.

Risk management

As the charity continues to establish itself the trustees will conduct regular reviews of the major risks to which the charity may be exposed and systems will be established to mitigate those risks.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees will be required to:

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with legal requirements. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

By order of the trustees

Peter O'Brien
Treasurer

Date: 27th October 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1166483

I report on the accounts of the charity, for the year ended 31st December 2024 which are set out on pages 29 to 40.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner
The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is preparing accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Report
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out below.

Independent Examiner's Statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:
(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records have in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act,

have not been met; or
(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Signed: …….

Jim Hilton Jones FCCA

Date: 27th October 2025

Hilton Jones t/a Community Accountancy Service
Hollinwood Business Centre, Albert Street, Oldham OL8 3QL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

	Further Details	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds Year Ended 31 December 2024	Total Funds Year Ended 31 December 2023
		£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	(3)	15,400	-	15,400	2,260
Charitable Activities	(4)	-	30,500	30,500	39,700
Other Trading Activities	(5)	8,101	-	8,101	7,817
Other Income		-	-	-	202
Total		23,501	30,500	54,001	49,979
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds	(6)	-	1,277	1,277	5,048
Charitable Activities	(6)	4,801	59,246	64,047	59,297
Total		4,801	60,523	65,324	64,345
Net income/(expenditure)		18,700	(30,023)	(11,323)	(14,366)
Transfers between funds	(17)	(631)	631	-	-
Net movement in funds		18,069	(29,392)	(11,323)	(14,366)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	(17)	4,806	38,595	43,401	57,767
Total funds carried forward	(17)	22,875	9,203	32,078	43,401

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 32 to 40 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets	(11)	-	4,149
Total fixed assets		-	4,149
Current assets:			
Stocks	(12)	-	-
Debtors	(13)	494	1,435
Cash at Bank & in Hand		32,755	39,157
Total current assets		33,249	40,592
Liabilities:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(14)	1,171	1,340
Net current assets or liabilities		32,078	39,252
Total assets less current liabilities		32,078	43,401
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	(16)		
Provisions for liabilities		-	-
Total net assets or liabilities		32,078	43,401
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds	(17)	9,203	38,595
Unrestricted income funds	(17)	22,875	4,806
Total charity funds		32,078	43,401

Approved on behalf of the Trustees Management Committee

Peter O'Brien

Andrew Clayton

Date: 27th October 2025

The notes on pages 32 to 40 form part of these accounts.

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2024

Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	Year Ended 31 December 2024	Year Ended 31 December 2023
	£	£
Net movement in funds	(11,323)	(14,366)
Add back depreciation	4,149	4,150
Deduct investment income	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	941	78
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(169)	(373)
Net cash used in operating activities	(6,402)	(10,511)
Cash flows from investment activities:		
Interest	-	-
Purchase of fixed assets	-	-
Net cash provided by investing activities	-	-
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year	(6,402)	(10,511)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	39,157	49,668
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**32,755**	**39,157**

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

1. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2019 preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 1st January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

(b) Funds structure

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. There are 20 restricted funds.

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.

Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 17.

(c) Income recognition

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

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank. Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

(d) Expenditure Recognition

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 settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. For more information on this attribution refer to note (f) below.

(e) Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

(f) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to independent examination and legal fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs.

Governance costs and support costs relating to charitable activities have been apportioned based on type of expense. The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in note 8.

(g) Costs of raising funds

The costs of raising funds consists of events.

(h) Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include governance costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in note 7.

(i) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation
All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and valued at historical cost. Depreciation is charged on the following basis:

Equipment	33.33% on cost
Motor Vehicles	25% on cost

(j) Realised gains and losses
All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their varying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(k) Pensions
The charity currently does not administer contributions to a pension scheme on behalf of individuals.

(l) Debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

(m) Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2. Related party transactions and trustees' expenses and remuneration
The trustees all give freely their time and expertise without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or kind Expenses paid to the trustees in the year totalled £nil (2023: £nil).

3. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2024	Year Ended 31 December 2024	Year Ended 31 December 2024	Year Ended 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£
Donations	15,400	-	15,400	2,260
	15,400	-	15,400	2,260

Previous reporting period:

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2023
	£	£	£
Donations	2,260	-	2,260
	2,260	-	2,260

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2024	Year Ended 31 December 2024	Year Ended 31 December 2024	Year Ended 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£
Restricted grants:				
Action Together	-	-	-	15,000
Action Together - Andy's Man Club	-	1,000	1,000	-
Anton Jurgens Trust	-	3,000	3,000	-
Barclays Community Fund	-	-	-	500
Charities Trust	-	-	-	1,000
CRH Charitable Trust	-	6,000	6,000	-
Duchy of Lancaster	-	2,000	2,000	-
Granada Foundation	-	2,000	2,000	-
Jigsaw Housing	-	6,000	6,000	5,000
Manchester College	-	-	-	5,000
Manchester Guardian Society	-	2,000	2,000	-
High Sheriff's Trust	-	-	-	3,500
Barclays Community "Sported" Foundation	-	2,000	2,000	-
Trident Challenge Hub Foundation	-	4,000	4,000	-
FM DES Voicecap Charity	-	1,000	1,000	-
WO Street	-	-	-	3,000
Tameside MBC - Skillz & Drillz	-	-	-	3,700
Tameside MBC - Luncheon Club	-	1,500	1,500	3,000
	-	30,500	30,500	39,700

Previous reporting period:

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2023
	£	£	£
Restricted grants:			
Action Together	-	15,000	15,000
Barclays Community Fund	-	500	500
Charities Trust	-	1,000	1,000
Jigsaw Housing	-	5,000	5,000
Manchester College	-	5,000	5,000
High Sheriff's Trust	-	3,500	3,500
WO Street	-	3,000	3,000
Tameside MBC - Skillz & Drillz	-	3,700	3,700
Tameside MBC - Luncheon Club	-	3,000	3,000
	-	39,700	39,700

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2024	Year Ended 31 December 2024	Year Ended 31 December 2024	Year Ended 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£
Income from Van Rental & Other Recharges	4,462	-	4,462	6,447
Fundraising Income	3,639	-	3,639	1,370
	8,101	-	8,101	7,817

Previous reporting period:

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2023
	£	£	£
Income from Van Rental & Other Recharges	6,447	-	6,447
Fundraising Income	1,370	-	1,370
	7,817	-	7,817

6. Expenditure

	Community Engagement in Tameside	Year Ended 31 December 2024	Year Ended 31 December 2023
	£	£	£
Expenditure on raising funds:			
Advertising	-	-	2,378
Fundraising costs	-	-	50
Event costs	1,277	1,277	2,620
	1,277	1,277	5,048
Expenditure on charitable activities:			
Employment Costs	13,197	13,197	26,523
DBS Costs	64	64	-
Volunteer Expenses	3,747	3,747	-
Licences	51	51	-
Social Events	-	-	467
Grounds Expenses	50	50	-
Donations Paid	-	-	1,375
Refreshments	189	189	6,551
Project Costs	14,811	14,811	2,121
Equipment	-	-	411
Motor Expenses	1,738	1,738	1,303
Room & Facility Hire	15,085	15,085	5,210
Subscriptions	1,085	1,085	1,135
Computer & Internet Costs	561	561	140
Insurance	1,029	1,029	574
Governance	8,135	8,135	8,892
Post, Printing & Stationery	156	156	445
Depreciation	4,149	4,149	4,150
	64,047	64,047	59,297
	65,324	65,324	64,345
Unrestricted funds		4,801	7,482
Restricted funds		60,523	56,863
		65,324	64,345

7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

As per note 6.

8. Allocation of governance and support costs

The breakdown of support costs and how these were allocated between governance and other support costs is shown below:

	General Support	Governance	Total 2024	Basis of apportionment
Accountancy Fees	-	895	895	type of expense
Room Hire for Trustee Meeting	-	90	90	type of expense
Other Professional Services	7,150	-	7,150	type of expense
	7,150	985	8,135	

Previous reporting period;

	General Support	Governance	Total 2023	Basis of apportionment
Accountancy Fees	-	990	990	type of expense
Other Professional Services	7,902	-	7,902	type of expense
	7,902	990	8,892	

9. Analysis of staff costs

	Year Ended 31 December 2024	Year Ended 31 December 2023
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	10,729	25,751
Redundancy	2,146	-
Social Security Costs	-	-
Pension Costs	322	772
	13,197	26,523
Charitable activities	13,197	26,523
Support costs	-	-
	13,197	26,523

The average number of employees during the year was 1 (2023: 1).

The charity considers its key management personnel comprises the trustees and consultant project manager. The total employment benefits, including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel were £nil (2023: £nil).

No employee has benefits in excess of £60,000.

10. Independent Examiner Fees

	Year Ended 31 December 2024	Year Ended 31 December 2023
	£	£
Independent examination fees	895	990
	895	990

11. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Motor Vehicles	Equipment	Total
Cost	£	£	£
At 01 January 2024	14,388	12,473	26,861
Additions	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	14,388	12,473	26,861
Depreciation			
At 01 January 2024	10,791	11,921	22,712
Charge for Year	3,597	552	4,149
At 31 December 2024	14,388	12,473	26,861
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2024	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	3,597	552	4,149

12. Stocks

The charity does not hold stocks of any items.

13. Analysis of debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Prepayments	494	1,435
	494	1,435

Debtors and prepayments relate to restricted funds £nil (2023: £844) and unrestricted funds £494 (2023: £591).

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other creditors	-	150
Accruals	865	840
Taxation and social security	306	350
	1,171	1,340

15. Deferred income

The CIO did not have any deferred income at the period end.

16. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Provisions for liabilities	-	-
	-	-

17. Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 01 January 2024	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	4,806	23,501	(4,801)	(631)	22,875
	4,806	23,501	(4,801)	(631)	22,875

Previous reporting period:

	Balance at 01 January 2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	2,793	10,279	(7,482)	(784)	4,806
	2,793	10,279	(7,482)	(784)	4,806

Name of unrestricted fund:	Description, nature and purpose of the fund
General Fund	The "free reserves" after allowing for all designated funds

Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 01 January 2024	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Action Together - We're in this Together	3,986	-	(3,986)	-	-
Action Together	4,027	-	(4,319)	292	-
Action Together - Andy's Man Club	-	1,000	(1,025)	25	-
Anton Jurgens Trust	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Action Together - Volunteer Recognition	8,209	-	(8,207)	-	2
Charities Trust	1,000	-	(1,014)	14	-
CRH Charitable Trust	-	6,000	(4,950)	-	1,050
Duchy of Lancaster	-	2,000	(1,817)	100	283
Granada Foundation	-	2,000	(1,850)	-	150
Jigsaw Housing	580	6,000	(2,975)	-	3,605
Manchester Guardian Society	-	2,000	(613)	-	1,387
Barclays Community "Sported" Foundation	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
High Sheriff's Trust	2,475	-	(2,454)	-	21
Community Fund	516	-	(457)	-	59
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	5,797	-	(5,794)	-	3
Community Fund - Happy Hurst	5,090	-	(5,079)		11
Tameside MBC	1,756	-	(625)	-	1,131
Trident Challenge Hub Foundation	-	4,000	(3,355)	-	645
FM DES Voicecap Charity	-	1,000	(1,200)	200	-
Tameside MBC - Luncheon Club	5,159	1,500	(5,803)	-	856
	38,595	30,500	(60,523)	631	9,203

17. Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in restricted funds

Previous reporting period:

	Balance at 01 January 2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
National League Trust	83	-	(183)	100	-
Action Together - We're in this Together	14,356	-	(10,370)	-	3,986
Action Together - Hate Crime	56	-	(56)	-	-
Action Together - Defra	1,232	-	(1,232)	-	-
Action Together	-	15,000	(10,973)	-	4,027
Action Together - Volunteer Recognition	500	-	(500)	-	-
Action Together - Volunteer Recognition	8,209	-	-	-	8,209
Barclays Community Fund	-	500	(500)	-	-
Charities Trust	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Jigsaw Housing	-	5,000	(4,420)	-	580
Manchester College	-	5,000	(5,023)	23	-
High Sheriff's Trust	40	3,500	(1,065)	-	2,475
Community Fund	677	-	(161)	-	516
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	5,797	-	-	-	5,797
Trident Foundation	858	-	(858)	-	-
Community Fund - Happy Hurst	5,137	-	(47)	-	5,090
Tameside MBC	3,824	-	(2,068)	-	1,756
Tameside MBC - Safety Fund	6,197	-	(6,197)	-	-
WO Street	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Tameside MBC - Skillz & Drillz	-	3,700	(3,861)	161	-
Tameside MBC - Luncheon Club	8,000	3,000	(6,341)	500	5,159
Tameside Action Together	8	-	(8)	-	-
	54,974	39,700	(56,863)	784	38,595

Name of restricted fund:	Description, nature and purpose of the fund
Action Together - We're in this Together	for salaries, fulfilment/activities/core costs
Action Together	for Community Development Officer salary
Action Together - Andy's Man Club	to support Andy's Man Club Men's Mental Health support group
Anton Jurgens Trust	for a luncheon club
Action Together - Volunteer Recognition	for volunteer support
Charities Trust	emergency response community support fund
CRH Charitable Trust	to support Andy's Man Club Men's Mental Health support group
Duchy of Lancaster	for a digital drop in ICT support club and for a luncheon club
Granada Foundation	for a community band festival
Jigsaw Housing	towards running costs of Hurstfest community event
Manchester Guardian Society	for a luncheon club
Barclays Community "Sported" Foundation	to support school holiday activities
High Sheriff's Trust	towards general running costs of Hurstfest community event
Community Fund	for a volunteer project
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	to set up a food pantry
Community Fund - Happy Hurst	for volunteer engagement, Hurstfest, Hurst Band Contest, Gardening Group, marketing and communications
Tameside MBC	for the purchase of a van
Trident Challenge Hub Foundation	for a volunteer support programme
FM DES Voicecap Charity	for a digital drop in ICT support club
Tameside MBC - Luncheon Club	for a luncheon club

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	23,552	-	9,203	32,755
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(677)	-	-	(677)
Creditors of more than one year	-	-	-	-
Total	22,875	-	9,203	32,078

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Previous reporting period:				
Tangible fixed assets	4,149	-	-	4,149
Cash at bank and in hand	1,212	-	37,945	39,157
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(555)	-	650	95
Creditors of more than one year	-	-	-	-
Total	4,806	-	38,595	43,401

19. Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised on a transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at an amortised cost using the effective interest method.

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1166483

Accounts



Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

Registered Charity No. 1166483

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

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Report of the trustees for the year ended 31st December 2023

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31st December 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and 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 published (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Reference and administrative information

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Name: Ashton United in the Community
Charitable Incorporated Organisation Number: 1166483
Date Registered: 12th April 2016

Trustees

The trustees serving during the year to 31st December 2023 were as follows:

Michael George Brown		
John North	Treasurer	(resigned July 2024)
Andrew Clayton	Secretary	
Julie Wilson		
David Burke		
Jill Tichborne		
Peter O'Brien	Treasurer	
Eric Clegg		(appointed March 2024)

Secretary Contact Details

Mr Andrew Clayton
4 Constantine Street
Oldham OL4 3HB
Tel: 07801 351046
Email: info@auitc.co.uk

Project Manager Contact Details

Stephen Hobson
6 Parkwood Drive
Rawtenstall
BB4 6RP
Tel: 07868 849184
Email: stevehobsonaufc@live.co.uk

Bankers

Trustee Savings Bank
8 Halifax Road
Todmorden
OL14 8AD

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the charity are:

1. The promotion of community participation in healthy recreation in particular by the provision of facilities for the playing of football and other sports.

2. To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25 living in Tameside, Greater Manchester, and the surrounding areas by providing advice and assistance and organising programmes of physical, educational and other activities as a means of:
(a) advancing in life and helping young people by developing their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals;
(b) advancing education;
(c) relieving unemployment ·

3. Providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for people living in the area of benefit who have need by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, poverty or social and economic circumstances, with a view to improving the conditions of life of such persons.

Structure, governance and management

Ashton United in the Community is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its constitution dated 3rd March 2015 and registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Foundation) number 1166483 with the Charity Commission on 12th April 2016.
The charity currently has 6 trustees. At the end of the financial year Treasurer John North resigned from his position as Treasurer after 6 years of dedicated service. Whilst standing down from the role John will continue to offer guidance and support to the charity and specifically his replacements, as he continues as a Trustee. John was outstanding in the role of Treasurer and the manner in which he kept such a tight control of finances. He will be replaced by a new Treasurer Pete O'Brien (Trustee) and Assistant Treasurer Jill Tichborne (Trustee).

Appointment of trustees

As set out in the constitution trustees are elected annually by the members of the charitable organisation attending the Annual General meeting. Trustees are appointed for a period of three years and shall retire from office by rotation based on their length of service and may offer themselves for re-election.

Trustee induction and training

Trustees are given information about their role and responsibilities on first being appointed. They are also given a copy of the constitution, information about staffing and the charity management, and are shown copies of policy documents.

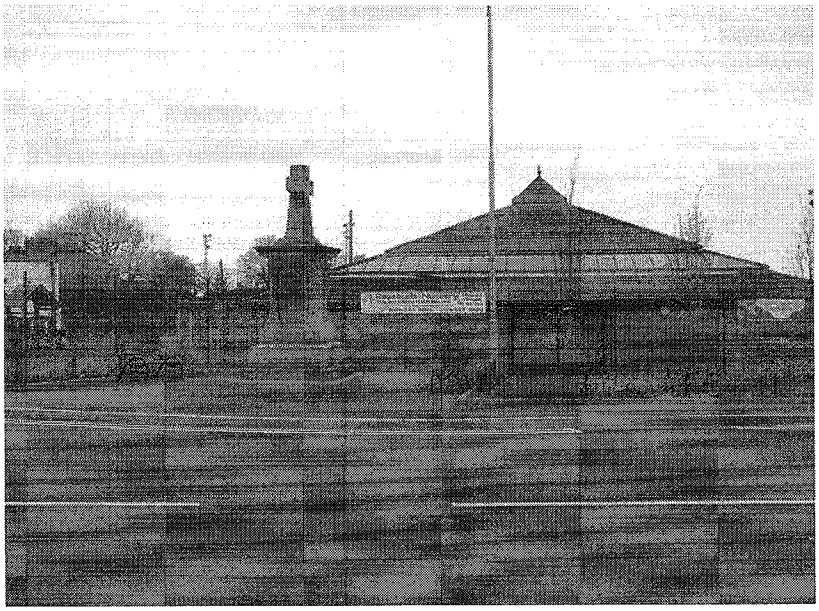
Organisation

The trustees administer the charity and meet monthly. A volunteer Project Manager has been appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity and he is supported by a paid Community Development Officer originally operating on a freelance basis but following a pilot scheme appointed in April 2021 as a member of Ashton United in the Community staff, on a 1 year contract.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

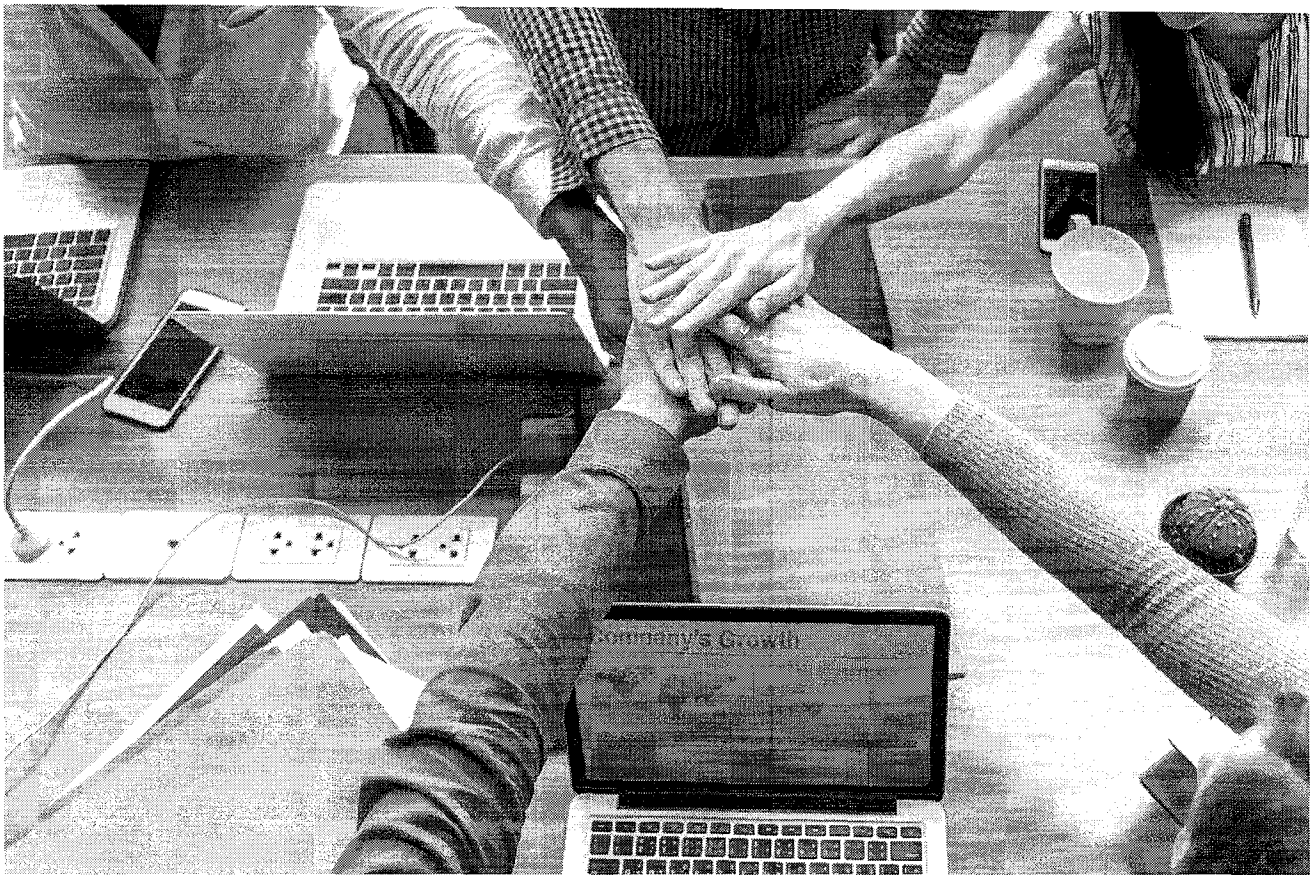
None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a trustee or senior manager with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. Trustees must declare any conflict of interest as a standard agenda item at each meeting.

Smallshaw Hurst Profile – A United Community



Smallshaw Hurst and District, where Hurst Cross and AUITC is located, and all of our events and activities take place, is a neighbourhood in the top 2% most deprived in England. Over the past 12 months we have engaged with circa 3000, predominantly local people. We tackle local issues identified through consultation with our users, and potential users. All of our work is delivered by local volunteers who are supported operationally by our Community Development Officer. The events and activities we have provided are aimed at the people from the local community with most, if not all, reflecting the fact that those taking part have little or no disposable income; many suffering from poor mental and physical health and wellbeing. Where children are involved, most are children who are living in poverty, many with parents not in employment, education or training, from single parent families, or in the care system. The future, for people across our community, looks to be challenging with, amongst other things, high inflation and fuel costs on, together with reductions in benefits and, for those in work, high national insurance costs.

AUITC has worked throughout the year with partners to deliver joined up working to the benefit of local people striving to achieve systemic change to the benefit of the whole community. Special thanks must go to Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community with whom we work particularly closely on shared strategy, events and activities – thanks Lydia Wright for taking the lead on HurstFest..



It is this strong and effective partnership structure which has enabled joint consultation that identifies need, common issues, and a skills and specialist knowledge resource bank from which the partnership benefits from the likes of:

- economies of scale
- shared learning
- staff resource sharing
- joint initiatives
- consistent and compatible monitoring & evaluation systems and processes
- impact measurement.

The partnership has thrived over the past 5 years and continues to develop as joint initiatives come on stream and partners gain the confidence, trust and understanding in each other's ability and willingness to contribute.

As AUITC gains more recognition within the community as an active organisation, an 'anchor charity', a notable result is that local individuals and groups seek our assistance—a convenient resource in times of necessity. While we maintain essential operations, we're fortunate that both the trustees and our funding partners endorse the flexibility for the charity to address evolving needs, no matter how varied they may be. Our capacity to connect with others and guide them toward solutions for their challenges contributes to a growing range of services that we can either provide or impact. The biggest challenge for AUITC, and indeed the partners we work with, is how to satisfy the increasing demand with ever decreasing resources.

A review of achievements and performance

By Project Manager Steve Hobson

In 2023, Ashton United in the Community (AUITC) has emerged as a positive force, playing a vital role in benefiting the communities of Smallshaw, Hurst, Hazelhurst, and Broadoak—some of the most

economically challenged areas in England, not to mention Tameside. Throughout the past year, we have encountered various challenges, particularly in responding to the heightened demands resulting from our successful service delivery in previous years. The dedication of our trustees, staff, and volunteers has been unwavering as they tirelessly worked to secure the necessary resources, both financial and in kind, to ensure the prosperity of the charity. Our success continues to hinge on strong partnerships, serving as a cornerstone for our accomplishments. Instead of standing alone in the face of the intricate difficulties people encounter, collaboration allows us to maximise resources and share best practices, resulting in much greater impact. The support we receive—whether in counsel, financial aid, or in-kind contributions—from a diverse array of sources reinforces our faith in the collective ability of local stakeholders to effectively address the multitude of challenges faced by individuals in deprived communities, challenges that they bear through no fault of their own.

On the downside 2023 has proven to be a challenge in financial terms due to a £25,000 reduction in grants secured. This trend appears to be continuing since local authorities and grant giving trusts, upon whom we are so reliant in order to keep our services free to the end users, are themselves suffering from reduced funding and increasing demand to make their scarce resources go even further.

In a figurative sense, it has frequently been expressed that we find ourselves amid a tempest; that we are collectively navigating through shared challenges. If you inquire about the perspectives of individuals we assist, you'll likely find their experiences diverge significantly from those who effortlessly sail through the current difficulties in luxurious yachts. Ashton United in the Community is committed to fervently advocating for the marginalised, embracing a principle that has developed over the 142-year history of charitable involvement with our football partner, Ashton United FC. This commitment has been enthusiastically embraced by the current trustees of the charity.

The following narrative and photographs highlight just some of the activities that have taken place across 2023. It is with a great sense of collective pride that I report upon the difference our work has made not only to those people taking part as beneficiaries, but also to the lives of the phenomenal group of volunteers we have supporting our work. We have seen people join us, some with really challenging personal issues; to see them blossom into confident, happy individuals, as key members of our team has brought great pride and joy to all members of the team.

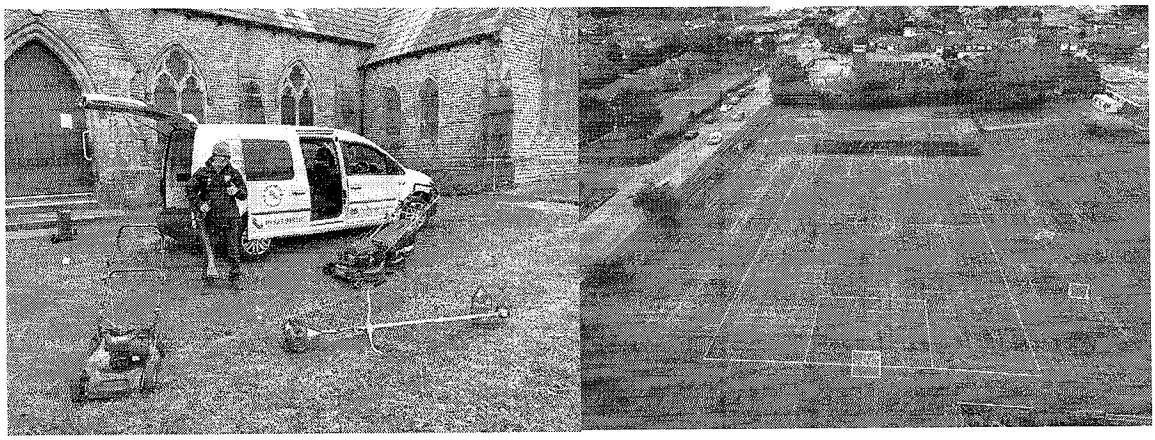
Cedar Park Pantry

Our commitment to Cedar Park Pantry, as part of the Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group (SSHCAG), remains unwavering. Ashton United in the Community, under our Community Development Officer (CDO), continues to supply the necessary staff/volunteers to facilitate the seamless operation of the service. The volunteers have consistently demonstrated exceptional dedication, supporting a progressively growing number of attendees at the pantry each month. The membership, which now exceeds 350 families accessing pantry services, has steadily increased over the year. This growth has been particularly notable towards the end of the year, as more families experience the challenges of winter fuel poverty and the ongoing rise in prices at local shops.



Gardening Projects

We continue to support our gardening group since we recognise that the health benefits of gardening were found to be broad and diverse, with research studies (A King's Fund report) showing significant reductions in depression and anxiety and improved social functioning. Gardening can also help maintain independence and prevent cognitive decline. This year we were grateful for the support of the Yorkshire



Building Society who funded the purchase of lawn mowers, helping us to maintain church grounds at St John's Church; and St Christophers Primary School helping to prepare the school for inter school football matches.

The members of the gardening group are also supportive of maintenance activities at Hurst Cross with volunteers learning about sports turf pitch preparation and maintenance, how to operate machinery safely and seasonal turf maintenance.

Digi Drop-In

From January to April, in collaboration with the PCrefurb Digital Wellbeing Project Tameside and Glossop, we, with the assistance of volunteer Digital Champions, conducted weekly sessions at Hurst Cross. These sessions aimed to enhance the digital skills of local residents, providing them with an opportunity to drop in and receive IT support. The sessions were open to all, free of charge, and welcomed individuals at any level of proficiency. Accompanied by expert trainers, visitors received guidance tailored to their understanding. Everyone was warmly welcomed and enjoyed complimentary refreshments. The sessions garnered success, attracting a consistent flow of people seeking support—some simply for a friendly chat! Attending the Drop In also gave people insight into other services offered by AUITC and an opportunity for them to engage further with our offer. We plan to repeat these sessions in 2024.

Community Van

The acquisition of a Community Van in 2021 has granted us and our partners the flexibility to engage in activities such as collecting food donations, making deliveries, and transporting equipment to pop-up events. AUITC owns, manages, and maintains the vehicle, making it available to other partners like Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group (SSHCC), Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community (SSHCC), the Pantry and AUFC. This van has proven to be a valuable asset in supporting project delivery throughout the neighbourhood. It is consistently in use, serving as a regular sight that promotes partners through its livery across Smallshaw & Hurst and the surrounding districts.



As the Christmas period approached in 2023, the van, operated by a couple of AUITC volunteer elves, was utilised for collecting and delivering toys as part of the Action Together Tameside Toy Appeal.

Literacy Kicks

With funding provided by Ashton United FC through the Trident Community Foundation we set up a pilot literacy scheme 'Literacy Kicks' in two local primary schools. The programme utilises the medium of sports reporting to engage children in reading, writing, and editing; taking students inside the captivating world of sports journalism and presenting innovative and authentic tasks for them to complete. Literacy Kicks provides children with an alternative, enjoyable platform to improve their reading and writing skills, as well as offering a fascinating insight into the sports journalism industry.

The first stage of the programme took place at 2 primary schools, and our local secondary school in July 2023:

- St Christopher's Primary – 31 x Year 5 pupils
- Hurst Knoll Primary – 28 x Year 5 pupils
- Great Academy Ashton – 73 pupils from Years 7,8 & 9 of mixed abilities

The sessions were run by Gareth Walker from Literacy Kicks and typically involved running 6 individual sessions over 6 weeks followed by a visit to Hurst Cross to report on a first team fixture.
Children were able to put their new found knowledge and skills into practice with the visit to Hurst Cross whereupon they returned to the classroom and wrote a match report. The best reports from each school were then published in the next home match programme with the children given the programme for inclusion in their school portfolio.

Working closely with our partners SSHCC, who carried out an interim evaluation of the programme, we were able to show really positive outcomes from Literacy Kicks including:

- ✓ The programme has been really well received by pupils taking part. The pupils at both schools really enjoyed the sessions with pupils also saying how much this has increased their enjoyment of both writing and reading.
- ✓ 85% of pupils said that they enjoyed writing more and close to 60% of pupils also said they enjoyed reading more, post the programme.

- ✓ The sessions influenced pupils' aspirations with over a half agreeing that the programme has helped them think about other jobs they might want to do when they leave school.

The feedback from pupils at the primary schools was overwhelmingly positive with pupils enjoying all aspects of the programme. The most often mentioned sport or activity they enjoyed the most was football and also editing seems to have gone down very well. In terms of negatives there was really nothing of note coming through

There was a lot of positive feedback from the teachers involved as well. As an example, we asked whether the sessions have improved pupils' confidence in writing and expression? The response back from Hurst Knoll was ***"It helped that there were awards for some writers, they were extremely proud of the work that they wrote, which improved fluency and stamina for writing. Many children were extremely engaged with the writing especially as the format was the same for each article."***

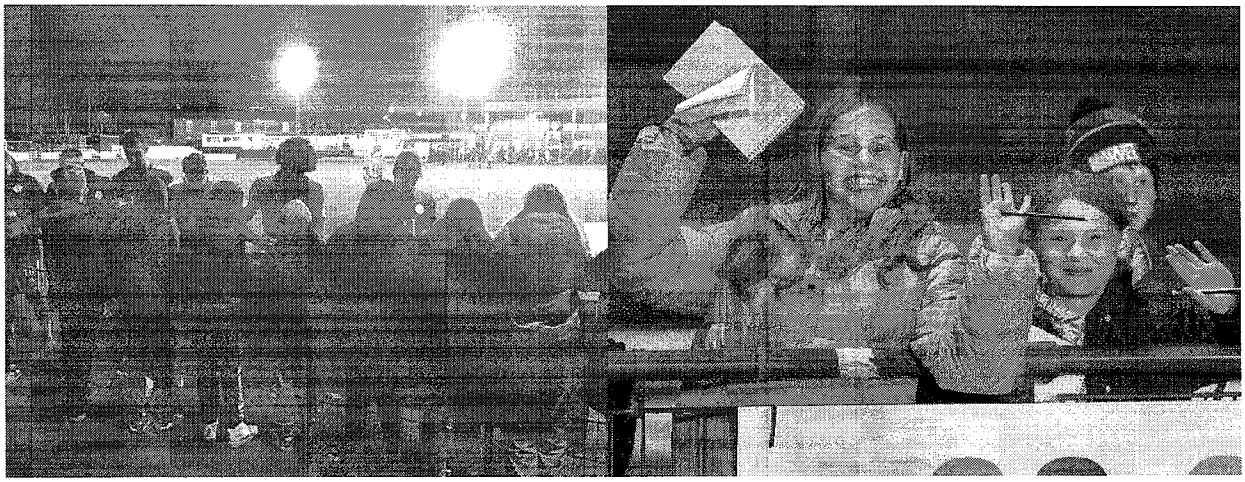


Cub reporters at their first live match

Following a visit to Hurst Cross to report on a live match one teacher wrote:
"I just wanted to say massive thank you to everyone involved in setting up opportunity for the children to attend the game on Saturday night.

The club was phenomenal with the children and made us all feel incredibly welcome. All of the children had a brilliant time and the players coming over to sign the children's notepads after the game really was amazing to see. We can't thank you enough and hopefully will get more children attending the matches in future!

..... you have done an outstanding job with the children and it has been a pleasure to see you work with the children to promote a love of writing through sport. I have had so many reluctant writers, particularly boys, really push themselves and grow in confidence with their writing, which has also carried through into my own English lessons. Thank you once again and I really hope you can come to our school again, the experience has been invaluable for our students....."



Collecting autographs from their hero's!

As a result of positive feedback from Primary Schools our partners SSHCC were able to attract match funding to deliver a secondary school programme. The programme has been picked up by other non-league football teams with schools in Crosby, Merseyside set to benefit next. AUITC and SSHCC will continue to seek the resources needed to deliver the programme to other cohorts of children and young people in the future.

Hurst Village Band Contest

Ashton United in the Community, in collaboration with Ashton United Football Club, Save the Children, and various sponsors, once again organised the Annual Hurst Village Brass Band Contest, held at Hurst Cross on Friday 2nd June 2023. The weather was favorable, and a delightful evening sun graced the occasion as 37 bands vied for substantial prize funding exceeding £2000. Over 300 spectators gathered to enjoy the musical competition for an evening of free entertainment, described by Tameside Council as The Greatest Free Show on Earth. Such is the attraction and history (dating back to 1884) of the Tameside contests that bands are prepared to travel the length and breadth of the country to participate. Some even come in from overseas. The contests remain primarily due to the indefatigable dedication of the volunteers who refuse to let the event disappear not just from the brass band calendar, but their local community.



The Greatest Free Show on Earth

A team of approximately 20 volunteers played a crucial role in ensuring the event's success by managing various aspects, including catering, marshalling, band announcements, coach parking, and overall coordination to ensure a seamless night. Special thanks are extended to our Adjudicator, Jack Capstaff, who generously contributed his services, offering judgment and ranking of the bands' performances during the event. The 2024 event is eagerly anticipated with preparations already under way to make it bigger and better on Friday 24th May 2024.

HurstFest

HurstFest 2023 was an outstanding success, building on the positive momentum established in 2021 & 22 the event having transitioned to Cedar Park and shifted to a midweek schedule. Responding to the enthusiastic feedback from the local community following each HurstFest, we were delighted to host the event once again, made possible through financial backing from MasterCard, facilitated by partners Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community (SSHCC) and their sponsor, Save the Children Fund.

With the collaborative effort of our community partners, we arranged a remarkable family-oriented celebration that featured an array of activities, food, and drinks—all offered free of charge to local participants (vouchers were given out for food and drink prior to the event), primarily those from the OL6 postcode area. This year's event surpassed expectations: with a dinosaur theme boasting an expanded lineup that included more ice cream, additional face painters, circus skills, a band, festival make-up artists, inflatables, football skills and drills, crafts, diverse food options, an impressive stage with live performers, and much more.

The success of the event owes much to the dedicated efforts of Lydia Wright from SSHCC, who played a pivotal role in anchoring the coordination of the festivities. On a day marred by heavy rain in the morning and showers throughout the event, we still attracted 1100 people to enjoy the festivities.





A rather wet HurstFest 2023

Special thanks too are extended to Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community for their financial support for Skillz & Drillz sessions at HurstFest, contributing to the overall success and enjoyment of the event.
Mum Charlotte said: ***'This was a brilliant day even in the rain .. so much do!! Really enjoyed it ❤ lovely free day out for larger families like mine 😁'***
Having debriefed the event we are already planning for HurstFest 2024 which will take place on 22nd August 2024. We will be looking to make it bigger and better still with street dancers, a magician, balloon artist stalls and 3-a-side football.

Skillz & Drillz – Holiday Hunger

We were able to provide, free to attend, Skillz and Drillz coaching sessions during school holidays, and at HurstFest. As last year the sessions were complimented by our Holiday Hunger scheme where children in attendance were provided with a packed lunch. During 2023 465 Children have taken part Ages 6-16, 511 Light Packed Lunches, including coaches, have been provided.





During the year, the trustees of AUITC came to the difficult decision to reduce the number of Skillz and Drillz sessions during winter months. The decision was made on account of there being a reduction in

funding available to the charity and the prohibitive cost of hiring indoor facilities in the instance of inclement weather. This decision may well be reversed should sufficient funding be secured, and an appropriate local venue be found. Skillz & Drillz session will take place during school holidays in 2024 from April to September.



Skillz & Drillz in full flow

Kellie, mother of a child with ASD and whose motor skills are not great: ***'I did want to say though how grateful we are for the place in skills and drills. It might not seem like it but it's done so much for him already. He's gone from just watching from the side on the first day to doing about an hour a day so far. It takes a lot for him to break his barriers but between all of your input- you and your SEN experience convincing me to bring him along in the first place, Lewis having a quiet kick about with him, even Patrick and Angela's friendly welcome, he's really started to believe in himself more and feel like part of something. We've tried so many different groups and activities in the past which have either not worked out straight away or fizzled off after a couple of times but there's so much to do at skills and drills and with the friendly, inclusive atmosphere he really is keen to carry on. Which is a major first! Anyway, just wanted to say thanks and let u know how much we appreciate it.'***

Emma, mother of 4 children attending Skillz & Drillz: ***'Really enjoyed the football this last two weeks, especially as these are free. I cannot afford the football in other circumstances at other Clubs. These football camps give me back a little bit of time. Thanks to Ashton United Community.'***

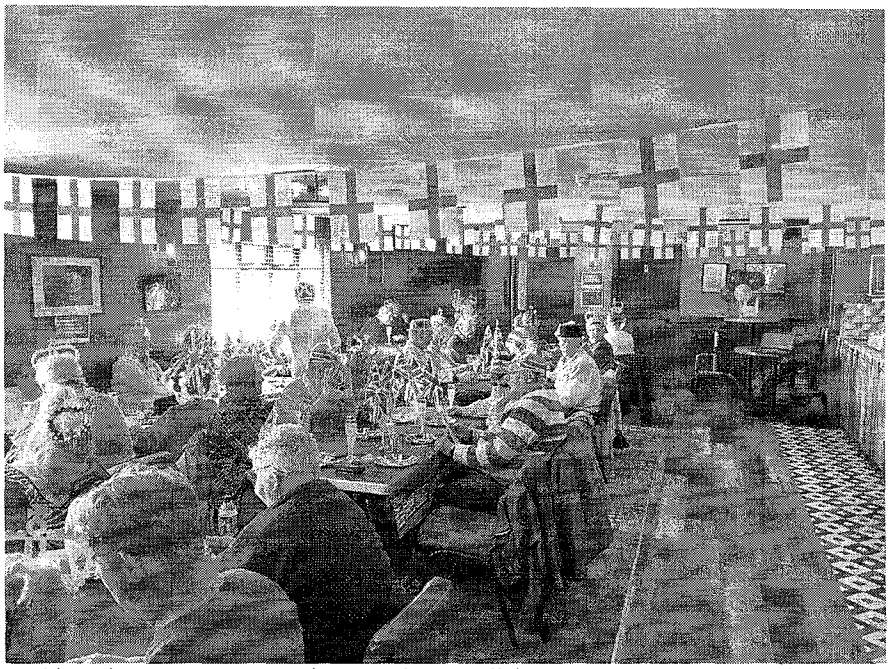
Golf Day

At the end of July, Ashton United Supporters Club held their second Ashton United Golf Day at Ashton-Under-Lyne Golf Club with funds raised donated to Ashton United in the Community. Once again, the event gave many volunteers the opportunity to experience delivering an event including management, setting up and closing down.

Ashton United Supporters Club Chairperson Luke Sayle said ***'The sight of local people coming together to stage an event from which they and their peers will ultimately benefit was uplifting. It was remarkable to see the transformation in people who, only last year were nervous about operating out of their comfort zone, taking control of an event and running it so smoothly.'***

Luncheon Club

In January 2023 we piloted a luncheon club which quickly became extremely popular engaging with 50 people per session, with 90 registered as members. Following the successful pilot those attending asked if we could make the club more permanent starting in the autumn. This was achieved by securing the resources necessary to run a more permanent luncheon club from November 2023 through to May 2024 whereupon we would close for the summer months providing support to the 'Wednesday's Together' group set up by luncheon club volunteers.



The luncheons, run by 8 volunteers, supported by a sessional cook, are open to all over 60's but specifically targeting older people isolated and lonely, an issue prevalent in the Smallshaw Hurst community (OL6 postcode area). The people we engage with are:

- Elderly, suffering disproportionately from fuel/food poverty
- Lonely and isolated, suffering from poor mental/physical health and wellbeing
- Reluctant to leave home

At the beginning of the year, thanks to kind donations of new clothing from a major clothing brand we were able to provide coats, warm winter clothing and summer attire, free of charge to those people





attending the luncheon club. The free 2 course meal, drinks (tea/coffee/juice) and social interaction/entertainment we provide is the hook to engagement and we are able to introduce support/guidance with guest speakers e.g. housing, NHS, welfare.

Two local residents met at the luncheon club and renewed an old acquaintance having discovered that they had both attended school together 60 years earlier.

As a result of our luncheon club, we have achieved the following outcomes:

- Local people feeling less isolated
- Improved mental and physical health & wellbeing
- Volunteers gaining confidence and learning new skills
- People reporting a meaningful volunteering experience

Ashton United in the Community

- Volunteers achieving qualifications or employment
- People reporting feeling trusted and part of a 'family' group
- People reporting increased resilience
- People better informed through guest speaker presentations
- Increased community cohesion
- People making new friends

Our older residents were delighted to be able to share the celebrations of the coronation of King Charles III, and for some this was the second coronation they were able to celebrate having been children at the coronation of Elizabeth 1





In December 2023, following high demand, we were able to host two Christmas Lunches for local older people.

Wednesday's Together



In May 2023, Wednesday's Together was initiated by the same dedicated volunteers committed to the successful luncheon club during the winter. The program was introduced to Cedar Park Ashton and facilitated by Ashton United in the Community. To foster community engagement, a budget was allocated for a weekly coffee morning spanning 16 weeks. Local residents, numbering 20-25 each week, gathered to enjoy drinks, biscuits, cakes, and friendly conversations. The event, held in Cedar Park Youth building, provided a relaxed atmosphere for discussions on local issues, health, and wellbeing. Additionally, activities such as Bingo and raffles entertained the participants, with around 350 residents of OL6 attending across the summer months and into Autumn.

The initiative, led by AUITC volunteer Christine Beresford, received positive feedback from attendees who expressed their appreciation for the way the group gathering helped ease the isolation, loneliness, and anxiety suffered by many of those who attended regularly. The warm weather further enhanced the experience, offering a weekly highlight for the community.

Christine Beresford, along with four dedicated volunteers, contributed over 160 collective hours from May to September, ensuring the project's success. The positive impact prompted the formal constitution of the group, supported by AUITC and SSHCC, signifying the commitment to sustaining the initiative in the years to come.

Volunteers

Our ongoing commitment revolves around offering local individuals opportunities to engage in volunteer work. Throughout 2023, our efforts to recruit and mobilise a substantial number of volunteers have persisted. We successfully registered 75 volunteers during the year, and collectively, they dedicated 17,960 hours to volunteering. This represents an almost 8% increase in recorded volunteering hours compared to 2022 when a similar volunteer count (77) contributed 16,676 hours.

In 2023, the median hourly earnings for all employees in England stood at £15.88, according to the Government Office for National Statistics. Valuing our volunteers' time at a nominal rate of £12.50 per hour in 2023, we can calculate a social value contribution to volunteering amounting to £224,500. This achievement remains noteworthy, particularly for a small charity.



Just some of the many fabulous Luncheon Club volunteers

Volunteers play a crucial role in our efforts, extending their support not only within Hurst Cross but also in the surrounding areas of Smallshaw Hurst and district. Some contribute remotely, providing general assistance to our charity, while others actively participate in our pop-up events and collaborate with our partners and fellow charities. For instance, several volunteers teamed up with the local Rotary Club this year, spreading joy to the community as part of Santa's visits.



The Football Association visit Hurst Cross to speak to volunteers

In November 2023 Ashton United was visited by a team from the Football Association, who wanted to make a podcast about the vital role of AUITC volunteers in a non-league football environment, shining a light on the football club and Ashton United in the Community as an example of best practice across the

game. The podcast is available through this link: https://youtu.be/NNbOB6xmvg0?si=MlJhjCXY8PynfwHP

Our volunteer base consists of diverse individuals, some facing various personal challenges, including those from the LGBTQ community, individuals with learning disabilities, students, unemployed individuals, and those experiencing loneliness and isolation. These individuals, collectively known as the 'Ashton United Family,' have not only gained confidence but also acquired new skills. Their involvement spans activities such as ground maintenance, media work, stewarding, coaching, participation in pop-up events, contributing to the food pantry, engagement in the luncheon club, participation in Hurst Band Concert, and involvement in HurstFest. We take considerable pride in their invaluable contribution, recognising that simply to function we are dependent on their goodwill, commitment and dedication.

At Ashton United in the Community, we cultivate a culture that encourages volunteers to express themselves freely. This not only boosts their confidence but also instills the belief that, when challenges arise, they can rely on peer support to address issues and gain valuable lessons. This successful approach has witnessed volunteers flourishing over numerous years, acquiring new skills, and growing in confidence, both individually and collectively with their peers.

Throughout the year, ample opportunities arise for volunteers to engage in both indoor and outdoor activities, promoting mental and physical well-being as part of a team. This is achieved by building confidence, alleviating isolation and loneliness, fostering new connections, and integrating volunteers into a supportive team environment. Our doors are always open to those interested in joining our volunteer program.







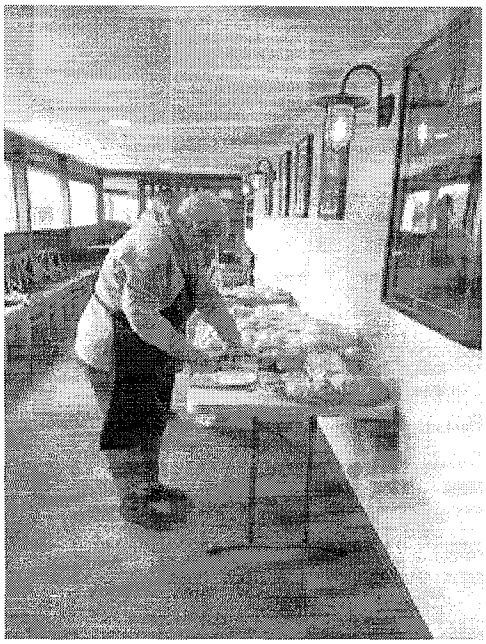
In July 2023 volunteers were on hand to help water a new pitch at Ashton United FC. After the laying of a new playing surface the scorching hot summer weather was in danger of ruining the efforts to create a new facility. AUITC volunteers offered to help our partner club and gave up many hours late into the night to move sprinkler systems around the playing surface. Working late was necessary since daytime operation would have wasted efforts as the water would quickly evaporate due to the high daytime temperatures. Their efforts rescued the project but, more importantly, the volunteering opportunity gave many people the chance to bond, to share experiences with family members, meet

others, to talk and share life experiences.

Case Studies

Case Study 1

Angela has been involved with the club for approximately 15 years, with periods of active participation totaling approximately 5,000 hours over the 15-year period. Over the past 5 years, Angela has dedicated around 400 volunteer hours annually to Ashton United in the Community. Initially responsible for managing the Football club match day Tea Hut, Sponsors meals, and events catering, Angela has been a dependable volunteer, particularly in organising meals for the local community.



Following Angela's redundancy from a part-time job at a restaurant in Ashton, AUITC approached her to assist the Pantry Manager. Angela embraced the role with enthusiasm, taking on responsibilities such as shopping, collecting donations, stock rotation, and cleaning fridges and freezers. When the Luncheon Club commenced in January 2023, Angela expressed interest in overseeing the catering, leveraging her food hygiene qualifications and skills. The 2023 Luncheon Club has been notably successful, thanks to Angela's dedicated contributions. Angela says. ***"I have been involved for a long time and I know a lot of the local community people, this gives me so much satisfaction and the training I have undertaken will be beneficial to me gaining new employment and assisting Ashton United in the Community with future projects."***

Case Study 2

Initially, Jenny joined the pantry as a member to collect food and expressed interest in becoming a volunteer. She mentioned her desire to contribute more to her local community, explaining that her attention was mainly focused on dogs at the moment and she felt the need for interaction with local residents as she was relatively new to the area. Jenny, who initially had some anxiety and feelings of isolation, aimed to address these issues. Over the past 6 months, she has become an integral part of the Pantry we support. Jenny is now actively involved with other volunteers and has become a member of our Luncheon Club, further supporting AUITC through community engagements.

Jenny says: ***"Now I have been a volunteer for 6 months now, I don't know what I was worried about. Everyone is like a new Family, It's great. One of the main points for me is, I am so confident now with my involvement with Ashton United in the Community"***

Case Study 2

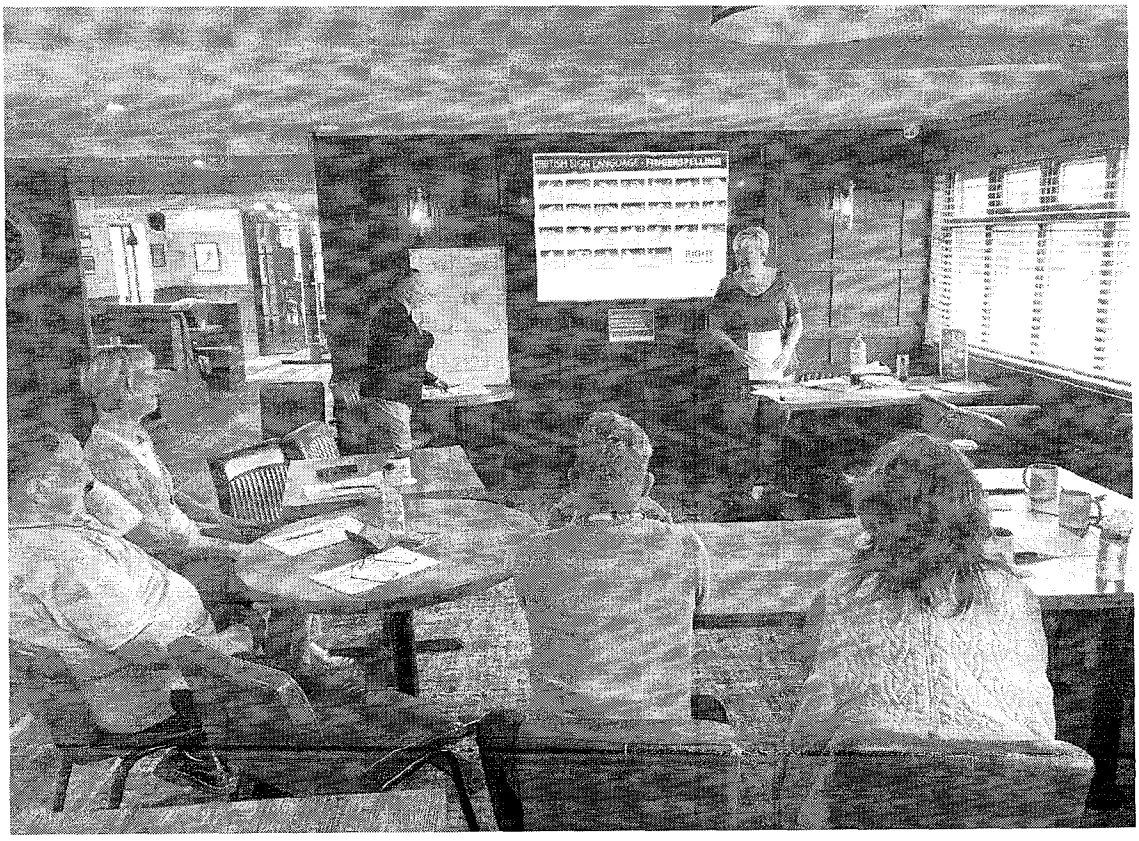
Pauline, our latest volunteer, became a part of the Luncheon Club in November. She expressed a desire to stay engaged and active during her transitional period after recently becoming redundant. With previous experience working in the NHS, Pauline was eager to contribute to her local community. Following her induction, she promptly immersed herself in the activities of our Luncheon Club, assisting fellow volunteers in catering to the needs of individuals over 60. Her responsibilities include making tea and coffee, calling bingo, serving meals, and handling dishwashing duties.
Pauline said ***"This is marvelous, I just want to give back and what better way to do it, than with these terrific group of volunteers"***

Training

We are pleased to have had Alison Clayton as a volunteer with us throughout the year. In her role as Training and Development Coordinator, Alison engaged with all volunteers in our charity, exploring ways

to enhance their support and training for more effective role delivery. Additionally, she discussed opportunities for continuous professional development (CPD) to acquire additional skills and knowledge, benefiting both AUITC and their personal life journey.
During the year Alison has organised a number of training and support programmes for groups of volunteers and individuals:

- Deaf Awareness training course delivered by Tameside Council Deaf Team – 7 volunteers attended
- Stroke Awareness training course delivered by Nick Clarke of Stroke Information.co.uk – 10 volunteers attended
- Emergency First Aid at work, Action Counters Terrorism (ACT) and Spectator Safety for Stewards - level 2 – Lewis Perkins and Shaun Cooper. The ACT and first aid qualification had to be taken in order for both these volunteers to achieve the stewards certificate.
- Emergency First Aid at work – Angela Gratton
- FA Intro to First Aid in Football (AFiAF) – Andy Finnigan
- Risk Assessment for VCSE sector – Andy Finnigan & Steve Hobson
- Safeguarding Adults (FA) – Andy Finnigan & Jackie Tierney
- Safeguarding Children (FA) – Andy Finnigan
- Mental Health First Aid & Advocacy online training is currently being undertaken by Kelly McCoy and Alison Clayton and is due to be completed February 2024.



Deaf awareness training course delivered by Tameside Council Deaf Team

In addition to offering our own training to volunteers and the local community, we have successfully organised training courses at Hurst Cross. We are currently witnessing a growing demand, with agencies

and trainers approaching us to utilise this excellent training venue and to engage with the 'captive audiences' of local people attending our events.

Staff

This year, we have maintained a staffing structure similar to the previous year, comprising a full-time Community Development Officer supported by trustees and a volunteer Project Manager. A noteworthy addition has been the appointment of a Training and Development Coordinator to enhance support for our volunteers. Sessional staff, including coaches, catering, face painters, artistes, and partner organisations, have been brought in as needed. The success of this structure is attributed to the dedication and enthusiasm of everyone involved with the charity, striving to excel in their respective roles – to be the best they can be!



Not simply paperwork! CDO Andy with the gardening group

As the charity continues to grow, it has become evident that there is a need for a more sustainable model. In line with the business plan for 2023-25, the trustees recognise the importance of appointing a Community Director to facilitate this evolution.

Grant support has played a crucial role in covering staffing costs, enabling us to successfully deliver services and activities to the local community. However, in 2023 there was a reduction in grant support, due primarily to the cost of living crisis, placing pressure on the charity to maintain existing staffing levels, let alone expand the workforce. We are confronted with the challenging task of not only growing the team but also securing the necessary resources to offer longer-term contracts to our staff, ensuring the continued quality of our workforce.

Consultation with Users

AUITC's greatest strength is the belief that local people are best placed to bring about positive changes in the best interests of the community and as such involves local people at every stage of our work as: our trustees, staff, volunteers, mentors and as beneficiaries, all of which has developed a sense of ownership and the trust of the local community and a sound knowledge of local need and aspirations. It's having local volunteers on the ground, with lived experience, that informs our project delivery. We are seen as a 'go to organisation' where they highlight their problems and we support them to resolve them. Our staff/volunteers/trustees are all local people either living or working in the area, with a broad range of skills, abilities and contacts. We work alongside local people, encouraging and enabling them to take

ownership and leadership

The local community is actively engaged during various occasions such as events, activities, and visits to the Food Pantry and Luncheon Club. This engagement aims to assess both their immediate requirements and their perspectives on future initiatives. This includes gathering insights on what is effective and areas for improvement, determining preferences for activity packs or to engage children during holidays and non-school periods, and identifying training needs for volunteers. Additionally, ongoing communication with volunteers is prioritised, fostering an environment where they are encouraged to express their needs and suggestions for enhancing their roles and volunteering experiences. The received feedback, particularly regarding training needs, plays a crucial role in shaping the responsibilities of the Training and Development Coordinator. This role involves collaborating with community members to provide opportunities for skill and knowledge development, ultimately empowering individuals to enhance their lives and contributing to the charitable initiatives we offer.



Financial Review

During the year Ashton United in the Community were successful in a number of grant applications.
The grants we receive enable AUITC to continue to develop as an anchor charity in the Hurst, Smallshaw & Broadoak area of Ashton under Lyne; delivering positive outcomes for local people adversely affected by the complex issues they face living in some of the poorest areas in England, let alone Tameside. These issues are set to expand as the effects of low wages, fuel poverty and rising costs of living put further pressure on those facing the greatest challenges in society. Together we can, and will, help people survive and thrive.

Investment powers and policy

The trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of operating the charity, have kept available funds in a 'Treasurers Account'.

Reserves policy and going concern

The balance held in unrestricted reserves at 31st December 2023 was £4,806 of which £657 are free reserves, after allowing for funds tied up in tangible fixed assets.

The Charity's main source of income is grants and charitable donations. The Trustees consider that it is appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis and, consequently, the accounts do not include any adjustments that would be necessary if these sources of income should cease.

The trustees aim to establish and maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to respond to applications for grants and ensure that support and governance costs are covered.

The trustees consider that the charity is a going concern. Any reliance on grant funding is managed through a flexible approach to activities and project delivery.

Risk management

As the charity continues to establish itself the trustees will conduct regular reviews of the major risks to which the charity may be exposed and systems will be established to mitigate those risks.

Plans for Future Periods

The challenges ahead for AUITC include the necessity to sustain existing services and staff resources. The team is diligently striving to address local requirements within the constraints of limited resources. A key aspect of our service delivery model involves collaborating with other charities, and Ashton United, to offer cost-effective facilities and volunteer support, facilitating the delivery of services by others. This approach has proven successful in the past with initiatives like Digi Drop-in and training courses, and we aim to replicate this model by advancing the involvement of other partners.

We are delighted to be welcoming back PCrefurb Digital Wellbeing Project Tameside and Glossop, together with a weekly luncheon club, and very excited to be bringing two new initiatives to Hurst Cross:
We will provide a weekly men's suicide prevention session, offering free-to-attend peer-to-peer support groups to try to end the stigma surrounding men's mental health and help men through the power of conversation. The events will be run in conjunction with Andy's Man's Club (Registered Charity No 1179647), supported by Ashton United in the Community volunteers and Community Development Officer will be held over 40 weeks of the year, open to all men over the age of 18yrs but specifically targeting local men with a simple aim of talking through their issues and helping each other deal with their mental health. Each session will last for 3hrs and will build capacity to reach 40+ individuals. AUITC and AUFC will provide volunteering opportunities to those in attendance to help support their continued good mental and physical health and wellbeing.



We are excited to be developing a collaborative programme that will provide extended adult learning opportunities for volunteers, through a partnership with Job Gym GM. The Job Gym GM has over 12 years' experience and has supported over 20,000 Greater Manchester residents with the skills, knowledge and behaviour required to thrive in life and work. Our partnership will seek to develop accredited learning for people wishing to engage in the sport industry and beyond.

Everyone at Ashton United in the Community was especially thrilled to receive word that, in 2023, the charity had been nominated for a Kings Award for Voluntary Service, the highest award given to local volunteer groups across the UK. The Award seeks to recognise groups that are volunteer driven, making an outstanding impact in their local community, and when viewed across the UK, exceptional at a national level. The nomination is now under consideration by the authorities and we wait with baited breath to hear if we have been successful in achieving the award.

The King's Award for Voluntary Service

The MBE for volunteer groups

Thank You

During the year Ashton United in the Community were successful in a number of grant applications. We are extremely thankful for the support of the following organisations providing grant support (predominantly over £500) toward a number of objectives:

- Action Together Tameside Wellbeing Fund
- Barclays Community Football Fund
- The Charity Service
- W O Street Charitable Foundation
- Jigsaw Housing Trust
- Jigsaw Foundation
- GM High Sheriff's Police Trust
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust
- Save the Children Fund
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council
- Yorkshire Building Society
- Jonathan Sayer
- The Burke Family
- Mischief Theatre Company
- Ashton United FC players, management & officials
- The Trident Community Foundation

The grants we receive enable AUITC to continue to develop as an anchor charity in the Hurst, Smallshaw & Broadoak area of Ashton under Lyne; delivering positive outcomes for local people adversely affected by the complex issues they face living in some of the poorest areas in England, let alone Tameside. These issues are set to expand as the effects of low wages, fuel poverty and rising costs of living put further pressure on those facing the greatest challenges in society. Together we can, and will, help people survive and thrive.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees will be required to:

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with legal requirements. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

By order of the trustees

P L O'Brien

Peter O'Brien
Treasurer

Date: 21st October 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1166483

I report on the accounts of the charity, for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out on pages 27 to 38.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is preparing accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records have in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act,

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: A.M. King

AM King FCCA
Date: 21st October 2024

Community Accountancy Service Ltd
The Grange, Pilgrim Drive, Beswick,
Manchester, M11 3TQ

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023
(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

	Further Details	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds Year Ended 31 December 2023 £	Total Funds Year Ended 31 December 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	(3)	2,260	-	2,260	2,914
Charitable Activities	(4)	-	39,700	39,700	79,160
Other Trading Activities	(5)	7,817	-	7,817	5,593
Other Income		202	-	202	-
Total		10,279	39,700	49,979	87,667
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds	(6)	5,048		5,048	7,612
Charitable Activities	(6)	2,434	56,863	59,297	66,817
Total		7,482	56,863	64,345	74,429
Net income/(expenditure)		2,797	(17,163)	(14,366)	13,238
Transfers between funds	(17)	(784)	784	-	-
Net movement in funds		2,013	(16,379)	(14,366)	13,238
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	(17)	2,793	54,974	57,767	44,529
Total funds carried forward	(17)	4,806	38,595	43,401	57,767

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 30 to 38 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets	(11)	4,149	8,299
Total fixed assets		4,149	8,299
Current assets:			
Stocks	(12)	-	-
Debtors	(13)	1,435	1,513
Cash at Bank & in Hand		39,157	49,668
Total current assets		40,592	51,181
Liabilities:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(14)	1,340	1,713
Net current assets or liabilities		39,252	49,468
Total assets less current liabilities		43,401	57,767
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	(16)		
Provisions for liabilities		-	-
Total net assets or liabilities		43,401	57,767
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds	(17)	38,595	54,974
Unrestricted income funds	(17)	4,806	2,793
Total charity funds		43,401	57,767

Approved on behalf of the Trustees Management Committee

Peter O'Brien

Andrew Clayton

Date: 21st October 2024

The notes on pages 30 to 38 form part of these accounts.

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2023

Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2022
	£	£
Net movement in funds	(14,366)	13,238
Add back depreciation	4,150	4,150
Deduct investment income	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	78	(625)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(373)	428
Net cash used in operating activities	(10,511)	17,191
Cash flows from investment activities:		
Interest	-	-
Purchase of fixed assets	-	(1,658)
Net cash provided by investing activities	-	(1,658)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year	(10,511)	15,533
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	49,668	34,135
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**39,157**	**49,668**

Notes to the accounts

1. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2019 preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 1st January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

(b) Funds structure

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. There are 22 restricted funds.

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.

Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 17.

(c) Income recognition

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

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank. Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

(d) Expenditure Recognition

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 settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. For more information on this attribution refer to note (f) below.

(e) Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

(f) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to independent examination and legal fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs.

Governance costs and support costs relating to charitable activities have been apportioned based on type of expense. The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in note 8.

(g) Costs of raising funds

The costs of raising funds consists of events.

(h) Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include governance costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in note 7.

(i) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation
All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and valued at historical cost. Depreciation is charged on the following basis:

Equipment	33.33% on cost
Motor Vehicles	25% on cost

(j) Realised gains and losses
All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their varying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(k) Pensions
The charity currently does not administer contributions to a pension scheme on behalf of individuals.

(l) Debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

(m) Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2. Related party transactions and trustees' expenses and remuneration
The trustees all give freely their time and expertise without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or kind
Expenses paid to the trustees in the year totalled £nil (2022: £nil).

3. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£
Donations	2,260	-	2,260	2,914
	2,260	-	2,260	2,914

Previous reporting period:

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2022
	£	£	£
Donations	2,914	-	2,914
	2,914	-	2,914

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£
Restricted grants:				
Action Together - We're in this Together	-	-	-	25,000
Action Together - Hate Crime	-	-	-	1,000
Action Together - Defra	-	-	-	4,785
Action Together	-	15,000	15,000	-
Asda - Back to School	-	-	-	500
Barclays Community Fund	-	500	500	-
Charities Trust	-	1,000	1,000	-
Jigsaw Housing	-	5,000	5,000	15,000
Manchester College	-	5,000	5,000	-
High Sheriff's Trust	-	3,500	3,500	-
Trident Foundation	-	-	-	5,000
WO Street	-	3,000	3,000	-
Community Fund - Happy Hurst	-	-	-	9,875
Tameside MBC - Safety Fund	-	-	-	10,000
Tameside MBC - Skillz & Drillz	-	3,700	3,700	-
Tameside MBC - Luncheon Club	-	3,000	3,000	8,000
	-	39,700	39,700	79,160

Previous reporting period:

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2022
	£	£	£
Restricted grants:			
Action Together - We're in this Together	-	25,000	25,000
Action Together - Hate Crime	-	1,000	1,000
Action Together - Defra	-	4,785	4,785
Asda - Back to School	-	500	500
Jigsaw Housing	-	15,000	15,000
Trident Foundation	-	5,000	5,000
Community Fund - Happy Hurst	-	9,875	9,875
Tameside MBC - Safety Fund	-	10,000	10,000
Tameside MBC - Luncheon Club	-	8,000	8,000
	-	79,160	79,160

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£
Income from Van Rental & Other Recharges	6,447	-	6,447	754
Fundraising Income	1,370	-	1,370	4,839
	7,817	-	7,817	5,593

Previous reporting period:

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2022
	£	£	£
Income from Van Rental	754	-	754
Fundraising Income	4,839	-	4,839
	5,593	-	5,593

6. Expenditure

	Community Engagement in Tameside	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2022
	£	£	£
Expenditure on raising funds:			
Advertising	2,378	2,378	3,247
Fundraising costs	50	50	-
Event costs	2,620	2,620	4,365
	5,048	5,048	7,612
Expenditure on charitable activities:			
Employment Costs	26,523	26,523	26,329
DBS Costs	-	-	77
Training	-	-	5,620
Telephone	-	-	10
Social Events	467	467	-
Grounds Expenses	-	-	220
Donations Paid	1,375	1,375	-
Refreshments	6,551	6,551	3,821
Project Costs	2,121	2,121	8,369
Equipment	411	411	1,005
Motor Expenses	1,303	1,303	2,291
Room & Facility Hire	5,210	5,210	5,830
Subscriptions	1,135	1,135	431
Computer & Internet Costs	140	140	1,057
Insurance	574	574	277
Governance	8,892	8,892	7,230
Post, Printing & Stationery	445	445	100
Depreciation	4,150	4,150	4,150
	59,297	59,297	66,817
	64,345	64,345	74,429
Unrestricted funds		7,482	10,604
Restricted funds		56,863	63,825
		64,345	74,429

7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

As per note 6.

8. Allocation of governance and support costs

The breakdown of support costs and how these were allocated between governance and other support costs is shown below:

	General Support	Governance	Total 2023	Basis of apportionment
Accountancy Fees	-	990	990	type of expense
Other Professional Services	7,902	-	7,902	type of expense
	7,902	990	8,892	

Previous reporting period;

	General Support	Governance	Total 2022	Basis of apportionment
Accountancy Fees	-	750	750	type of expense
QuickBooks Training	135	-	135	type of expense
Consultancy	6,300	-	6,300	
Trustee Expenses	-	45	45	type of expense
	6,435	795	7,230	

9. Analysis of staff costs

	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2022
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	25,751	25,562
Redundancy	-	-
Social Security Costs	-	-
Pension Costs	772	767
	26,523	26,329
Charitable activities	26,523	26,329
Support costs	-	-
	26,523	26,329

The average number of employees during the year was 1 (2022: 1).

The charity considers its key management personnel comprises the trustees and consultant project manager. The total employment benefits, including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel were £nil (2022: £nil).

No employee has benefits in excess of £60,000.

10. Independent Examiner Fees

	Year Ended 31 December 2023	Year Ended 31 December 2022
	£	£
Independent examination fees	990	750
QuickBooks Training	-	135
	990	885

11. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Motor Vehicles	Equipment	Total
Cost	£	£	£
At 01 January 2023	14,388	12,473	26,861
Additions	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	14,388	12,473	26,861
Depreciation			
At 01 January 2023	7,194	11,368	18,562
Charge for Year	3,597	553	4,150
At 31 December 2023	10,791	11,921	22,712
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2023	3,597	552	4,149
At 31 December 2022	7,194	1,105	8,299

12. Stocks

The charity does not hold stocks of any items.

13. Analysis of debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Debtors	-	-
Prepayments	1,435	1,513
	1,435	1,513

Debtors and prepayments relate to restricted funds £844 (2022: £650) and unrestricted funds £591 (2022: £863).

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other creditors	150	466
Accruals	840	750
Taxation and social security	350	497
	1,340	1,713

15. Deferred income

The CIO did not have any deferred income at the period end.

16. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Provisions for liabilities	-	-
	-	-

17. Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 01 January 2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	2,793	10,279	(7,482)	(784)	4,806
	2,793	10,279	(7,482)	(784)	4,806

Previous reporting period:

	Balance at 01 January 2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	12,596	8,507	(10,604)	(7,706)	2,793
	12,596	8,507	(10,604)	(7,706)	2,793

Name of unrestricted fund:	Description, nature and purpose of the fund
General Fund	The "free reserves" after allowing for all designated funds

Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 01 January 2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
National League Trust	83	-	(183)	100	-
Action Together - We're in this Together	14,356	-	(10,370)	-	3,986
Action Together - Hate Crime	56	-	(56)	-	-
Action Together - Defra	1,232	-	(1,232)	-	-
Action Together	-	15,000	(10,973)	-	4,027
Action Together - Volunteer Recognition	500	-	(500)	-	-
Action Together - Volunteer Recognition	8,209	-	-	-	8,209
Barclays Community Fund	-	500	(500)	-	-
Charities Trust	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Jigsaw Housing	-	5,000	(4,420)	-	580
Manchester College	-	5,000	(5,023)	23	-
High Sheriff's Trust	40	3,500	(1,065)	-	2,475
Community Fund	677	-	(161)	-	516
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	5,797	-	-	-	5,797
Trident Foundation	858	-	(858)	-	-
Community Fund - Happy Hurst	5,137	-	(47)	-	5,090
Tameside MBC	3,824	-	(2,068)	-	1,756
Tameside MBC - Safety Fund	6,197	-	(6,197)	-	-
WO Street	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Tameside MBC - Skillz & Drillz	-	3,700	(3,861)	161	-
Tameside MBC - Luncheon Club	8,000	3,000	(6,341)	500	5,159
Tameside Action Together	8	-	(8)	-	-
	54,974	39,700	(56,863)	784	38,595

17. Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in restricted funds

Previous reporting period:

	Balance at 01 January 2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
National League Trust	83	-	-	-	83
The Big Lottery Fund	-	-	(44)	44	-
Action Together - We're in this Together	-	25,000	(10,644)	-	14,356
Action Together - Hate Crime	-	1,000	(944)	-	56
Action Together - Defra	-	4,785	(3,553)	-	1,232
Action Together - Volunteer Recognition	-	-	-	500	500
Asda - Back to School	-	500	(500)	-	-
Tameside MBC	8,585	-	(376)	-	8,209
High Sheriff	40	-	-	-	40
Awards for All	75	-	(171)	96	-
Community Fund	677	-	-	-	677
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	9,616	-	(3,819)	-	5,797
Jigsaw Housing	-	15,000	(15,157)	157	-
Trident Foundation	-	5,000	(4,142)	-	858
Community Fund - Happy Hurst	-	9,875	(4,738)	-	5,137
Tameside MBC	12,849	-	(9,085)	60	3,824
Tameside MBC - Safety Fund	-	10,000	(3,803)	-	6,197
Tameside MBC - Luncheon Club	-	8,000	-	-	8,000
Tameside Action Together	-	-	(6,849)	6,849	-
Tameside MBC - Luncheon Club	8	-	-	-	8
	31,933	79,160	(63,825)	7,706	54,974

Name of restricted fund:	Description, nature and purpose of the fund
National League Trust	to support 'Volunteer Matter' programme with both capital and revenue costs
Action Together - We're in this Together	for salaries, fulfilment/activities/core costs
Action Together - Hate Crime	for hate crime awareness, skillz & drillz @ Hurstfest, publicity
Action Together - Defra	for food, household essentials, core costs, publicity, equipment, food
Action Together	for Community Development Officer salary
Action Together - Volunteer Recognition	for a volunteer recognition evening
Action Together - Volunteer Recognition	for the food pantry
Barclays Community Fund	towards running costs of Hurstfest community event
Charities Trust	emergency response community support fund
Jigsaw Housing	towards running costs of Hurstfest community event
Manchester College	to support volunteers programme
High Sheriff's Trust	towards general running costs associated with HurstFest
Community Fund	for a volunteer project
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	for setting up a food pantry
Trident Foundation	for delivery of skillz & drillz, food
Community Fund - Happy Hurst	for volunteer engagement, Hurstfest, Hurst Band Contest, Gardening Group, marketing and communications
Tameside MBC	for the purchase of a van
Tameside MBC - Safety Fund	for activities and core costs
WO Street	for Skillz & Drillz
Tameside MBC - Skillz & Drillz	for Skillz & Drillz
Tameside MBC - Luncheon Club	for Luncheon Club
Tameside Action Together	for a hunger/poverty project and for school children during school holidays

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	4,149	-	-	4,149
Cash at bank and in hand	1,212	-	37,945	39,157
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(555)	-	650	95
Creditors of more than one year	-	-	-	-
Total	4,806	-	38,595	43,401

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Previous reporting period:				
Tangible fixed assets	8,299	-	-	8,299
Cash at bank and in hand	(4,656)	-	54,324	49,668
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(850)	-	650	(200)
Creditors of more than one year	-	-	-	-
Total	2,793	-	54,974	57,767

19. Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised on a transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at an amortised cost using the effective interest method.

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1166483

Accounts



Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2022

Registered Charity No. 1166483

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

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Report of the trustees for the period 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31st December 2022. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and 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 published (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Reference and administrative information

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Name: Ashton United in the Community
Charitable Incorporated Organisation Number: 1166483
Date Registered: 12th April 2016

Trustees

The trustees serving during the year to 31st December 2022 were as follows:

Michael George Brown		
John North	Treasurer	
Andrew Clayton	Secretary	
Christopher Tomlisson		(resigned July 2022
Victor Tomlisson		(resigned July 2022
Julie Wilson		
David Burke		
Jill Tichborne		(appointed June 2022)
Peter O'Brien		(appointed October 2022)

Secretary Contact Details

Mr Andrew Clayton
4 Constantine Street
Oldham OL4 3HB
Tel: 07801 351046
Email: info@auitc.co.uk

Project Manager Contact Details

Stephen Hobson
6 Parkwood Drive
Rawtenstall
BB4 6RP
Tel: 07868 849184
Email: stevehobsonaufc@live.co.uk

Bankers

Trustee Savings Bank
8 Halifax Road
Todmorden
OL14 8AD

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the charity are:

1. The promotion of community participation in healthy recreation in particular by the provision of facilities for the playing of football and other sports.

2. To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25 living in Tameside, Greater Manchester, and the surrounding areas by providing advice and assistance and organising programmes of physical, educational and other activities as a means of:
(a) advancing in life and helping young people by developing their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals;
(b) advancing education;
(c) relieving unemployment.

3. Providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for people living in the area of benefit who have need by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, poverty or social and economic circumstances, with a view to improving the conditions of life of such persons.

Structure, governance and management

Ashton United in the Community is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its constitution dated 3rd March 2015 and registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Foundation) number 1166483 with the Charity Commission on 12th April 2016.

Appointment of trustees

As set out in the constitution trustees are elected annually by the members of the charitable organisation attending the Annual General meeting. Trustees are appointed for a period of three years and shall retire from office by rotation based on their length of service and may offer themselves for re-election.

Trustee induction and training

Trustees are given information about their role and responsibilities on first being appointed. They are also given a copy of the constitution, information about staffing and the charity management, and are shown copies of policy documents.

Organisation

The trustees administer the charity and meet monthly. A volunteer Project Manager has been appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity and he is supported by a paid Community Development Officer originally operating on a freelance basis but following a pilot scheme appointed in April 2021 as a member of Ashton United in the Community staff, on a 1 year contract.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a trustee or senior manager with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. Trustees must declare any conflict of interest as a standard agenda item at each meeting.

Smallshaw Hurst Profile – A United Community

take place, is a neighbourhood in the top 2% most deprived in England. The events and activities we have provided are aimed at the people from the local community with most if not all reflecting the fact that those taking part have little or no disposable income. Where children are involved, most are children who are living in poverty, many with parents not in employment, education or training, from single parent families, or in the care system. The future, for people across our community, looks to be challenging with, amongst other things, increases in inflation and in fuel costs on the horizon, together with reductions in benefits and, for those in work, increased national insurance costs.

AUITC, together with our primary partners AUFC and Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community SSHCC is a founder member of Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group, and a member of Growing Well in Tameside Partnership, working to support a number of providers across our community. The SSHCC is made up from a collaboration of statutory, voluntary, private organisations, local stakeholders, local communities, children, young people and families seeking to effect systems change in support of local people.
This includes:
Tameside MBC – population health, early years, children and young people's partnership forum, education, Integrated Care Foundation Trust, CCG, GP's, Healthy Young Minds, TOG Mind, local schools, Ashton 6th Form College, JIGSAW Housing Group, voluntary groups, Broadoak and Smallshaw Community Centre, Greater Manchester Police, Action Together, Active Tameside, Ashton United in the Community, Ashton United FC, local faith groups, local early years providers and local parents. This collaboration is not exhaustive and continues to link into stakeholders - groups, services and people who have a role to play in ensuring a positive impact on children's lives. The work delivered is closely linked to the outcomes of the partnership with shared monitoring and evaluation of activities. SSHCC has a full-time analyst to manage monitoring and evaluation of joint projects.

AUITC has worked throughout the year with these partners to deliver joined up working to the benefit of local people striving to achieve systemic change to the benefit of the whole community. Particular thanks must go to Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community with whom we work particularly closely with on shared events and activities.

It is this strong and effective partnership structure which has enabled joint consultation that identifies need, common issues, and a skills and specialist knowledge resource bank from which the partnership benefits from the likes of:

- economies of scale
- shared learning
- staff resource sharing
- joint initiatives
- consistent and compatible monitoring & evaluation systems and processes
- impact measurement.

The partnership has thrived over the past 4 years and continues to develop as joint initiatives come on stream and partners gain the confidence, trust and understanding in each other's ability and willingness to contribute.

A review of achievements and performance

By Project Manager Steve Hobson

2022 has been an exciting year, one during which Ashton United in the Community has established itself as a catalyst for good serving the communities of Smallshaw, Hurst, Hazelhurst and Broadoak, some of

challenges not least responding to the increased demands brought about through successful service delivery in previous years. Throughout the year the trustees, staff and volunteers have worked tirelessly to provide the resources, both financially and in kind, to ensure the charity thrives. Partnership remains the key component of our performance and achievements. Standing alone against the onslaught of complex difficulties people face we would achieve very little by way of support for them; working together to maximise resources and share best practice we are able to achieve so much more. The counsel, financial and in-kind support we receive from a plethora of sources restores faith in the ability of local stakeholders to collectively resolve the avalanche of issues people in deprived communities face through no fault of their own.

Metaphorically, it has been said many times that we are in the midst of a storm; that we are all in the same boat. Try asking some of the people we support what their boat looks like, considerably different no doubt to the sleek yachts some people cruise the current storm in. Ashton United in the Community will work determinedly to champion the cause of the underdog, a mantra that has evolved over the 142 year history of the charitable engagement of our football partner Ashton United FC, a mantle picked up with gusto by the current trustees of the charity.



At the start of the year the charity welcomed a new volunteer, Alison Clayton, to the role of Training and Development Coordinator. Alison's role involved speaking to each of the volunteers across our charity and discussing ways in which we could support and/or train them to deliver their role as efficiently as possible. Furthermore, any continuous professional development (CPD) they might want in order to gain additional skills and knowledge to benefit not only the organisation, but their own personal life journey.

The appointment has proven to be a real success with Alison swiftly settling into her role and organising a programme of training and support throughout the year. 10 internal courses have been held – Training such as Hate Crime Awareness, Dementia awareness, First Aid at work, Food Safety Level 2, Introduction to Bid writing, Manual handling, Risk Assessment training for VCSE Sector, FA Safeguarding awareness, NVCO understanding the numbers & Volunteer rights & responsibilities. There will be more training recognised as we grow our volunteer network and further understanding of their needs. 18 different volunteers have attended the courses on offer with more than 50 certificates presented to people on completion of their course. Trustee Jill Tichborne is seen here presenting successful trainees with their certificates.



As well as providing our own training for our volunteers and local people we have also been able to facilitate training courses at Hurst Cross and are experiencing a rising demand in agencies and trainers approaching us to utilise the excellent training venue.

Glossop to facilitate 12 sessions to improve digital skills with the help of volunteer Digital Champions for local people to drop in to Hurst Cross and get support with IT. The sessions were free and open to all to attend. Expert trainers were on hand to show visitors the ropes whatever level of understanding they may or may not have. All are made very welcome and benefit from free refreshments too! The sessions proved to be successful with a steady stream of people calling in for support – some just for a brew and a chat! We will be repeating the sessions in 2023.

In December we were also able to facilitate the opportunity for the Richmond Fellowship to deliver training for local service providers surrounding suicide prevention and dealing with ligatures.

Cedar Park Pantry



Our support for Cedar Park Pantry through our membership of Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group, has continued unabated with Ashton United in the Community providing the staff, through our CDO, needed to ensure the smooth running of the service. The volunteers have, yet again, been remarkable supporting steadily increasing numbers attending the pantry month on month. In January/February alone 266 families accessed the pantry services; this has grown steadily throughout the year particularly so towards the end of the year as more and more families began to feel the pressure of winter fuel poverty and rising prices in the shops.





A new innovation was the introduction of Full-time Recipes to the pantry, a move proven to have been very popular, certainly evidenced by the response received on all social media platforms: AUITC, SSHCC, SSHCAG, AUFC.
Monday evenings has seen us offer support to families, within the Tameside Youth Service Youth Club, to cook nutritious food on a budget. The pantry team supplied the ingredients and recipes for families, costing around £3.50 per family of four, and were encouraged to see children getting actively involved with cooking the recipes. Numbers increased quickly where we were giving out 25 units per session. This project enabled the pantry volunteers to reach out to the families of the children involved, encouraging them to become pantry members and benefit from low cost nutritional food.



The Food Pantry has received donations of food from a cross section of the community. From local individuals through to businesses, schools, faith groups and uniform organisations. Pictured here is volunteer Lewis at Ashton United FC where the home game v Marine FC was designated as one where supporters of both teams could bring with them tinned food items for the pantry. We are grateful to both teams for support on the day and

to the Directors of Ashton United FC for their continuing and unwavering support for all elements of AUITC work.

An outcome of AUITC becoming better known across the community as a doing organisation is that local people and organisations turn to us for support; a one stop shop in times of need. Sure, we have core activities, but thankfully the trustees and our funding partners are happy for the charity to meet changing needs, where possible, as diverse as they might seem. Our ability to network and signpost people to a solution to their problems leads to an increasing portfolio of services we are able to either deliver or influence.

Some examples of alternative needs were:

The Community Safety Partnership funded AUITC community van was put in action one week. One of the SSHCAG pantry volunteers, who's partner has his own bed company, responded to a family desperately in need of a bed by donating one. AUITC CDO and volunteers delivered a brand-new bed, the response from the recipient being ***"This is wonderful, I have never had a new bed before. Thank you so much you are all wonderful."***



The reaction from the partners to respond so quickly to the emerging need was fantastic.

In a similar vein our team were approached by a woman who had found herself in urgent need due to a complex domestic situation. She had to move her children and herself away from her partner immediately, had secured accommodation for them but literally had no furniture, bed, bedding, cooking utensils, etc. An appeal was made via AUITC and AUFC and partner social media channels and within hours we had secured all the goods needed to set the woman up in her new home. Her words: ***'I can't thank Ashton United in the Community enough for the help, advice and referrals. I don't know where I would be without the help & support of such a wonderful group of people"***



In May we received the following appeal from one of our partners' team members: ***'I am currently working with a family who are very disadvantaged, very low income, reliant on food banks weekly and really struggling just to make ends meet. The family has had to re-locate to another part of Ashton as they were unable to heat their previous home and got in a lot of arrears with energy companies. The young boy I am working with is in year 7, he is sleeping with his mum and dad in a 1 bedroom flat no bigger than most standard living rooms.***

One of the main things that has some out of our sessions

is that he is very cut off from his friends outside of school, because he has moved to a different area he is unable to afford to travel to see them. He is also much further away from school meaning he must get two buses to get there thus adding another financial burden to the family. His attendance at school has dropped dramatically as they cannot afford to get him here. School have supported as much as we can so far, providing him with meals, breakfast, bus fare etc.

One of the things that came out of our sessions was his love for riding his bike, he actually identified this as just one of the things he most enjoyed. Unfortunately, his bike is broken....

So my plea is- can you help?'

Our fantastic staff team and volunteers sprang into action and within a week or so the bike was repaired The young person was so thrilled he took the trouble to draw a picture and say thank you for the help provided.

Another 'out of the blue' request was a chance conversation with a mum whose story about fleeing conflict in another country touched our volunteers. In the context of football she was explaining about how disappointed she was she couldn't support her son, a promising footballer, to pursue his interest in the sport; since buying football boots was not high on the list of priorities for the family budget.

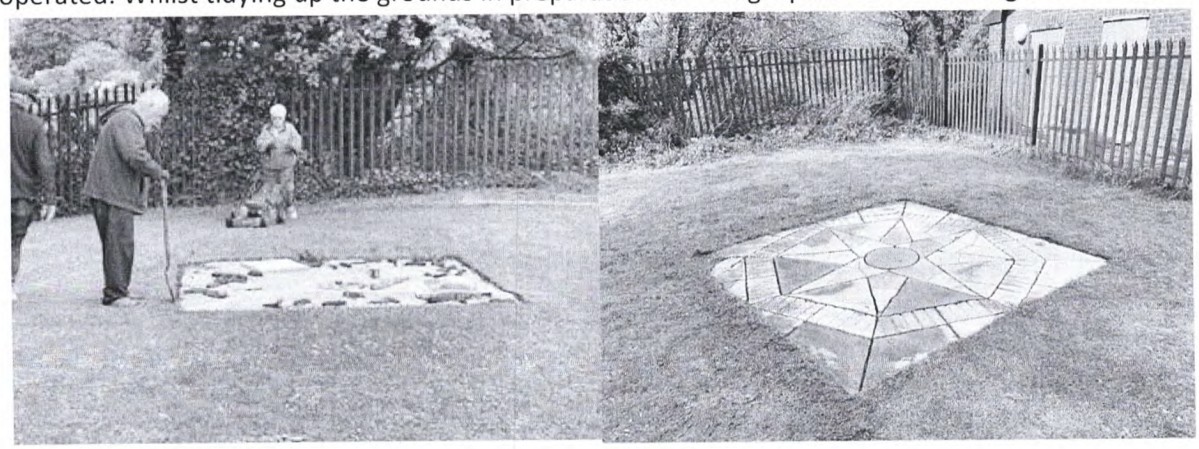


Cue our network of contacts within the game and within 24hrs a new pair of football boots were made available to her son courtesy of contacts within Ashton United FC.

Pictured here is Community Development Officer Andy Finnigan (left) delivering the boots to Walleed who said, ***"I cannot Thank Ashton United in the Community enough, these boots will help me so much. Not only to play the game I love but to give me such a lift and respect on a personal level with mates of mine, who previously I didn't fit in with. My Mum could never afford such a great pair of footy boots"***

Gardening Projects

Our gardening group has been busy this year with an outstanding result at one of the sites where they operated. Whilst tidying up the grounds in preparation for fixing a planter and seating the volunteers



came across a hard surface just below the grass. Further investigation revealed a piece of long forgotten artwork that had overgrown. The team worked hard to restore the piece (pictured) which now holds

pride of place in Cedar Park, in a seated area with planters where local people can come and reflect, meet friends and benefit on pantry days from the food pantry, and from information, advice and guidance from the team.



With the site completed ongoing maintenance through the winter months, is undertaken by a local volunteer, with support from AUITC when required.

The team has also been working on a site at St John's Church placing seating and planters in the garden near to the entrance. It has been a particularly challenging area to maintain due to its size, as it is a weekly task which we just don't have the capacity to maintain. Fortunately, a program of ongoing maintenance by a representative of St John's has kept the site looking good and AUITC gardening group offer support as and when available.

In terms of supporting our volunteers with their mental and physical health and wellbeing the gardening project has proven to be a huge success with volunteers telling us they have thoroughly enjoyed the experience; although listening to some of them complain about blisters, aches and pains one might wonder if they were so sure!



Hurst Village Band Contest



Friday 10th June 2022 saw the return of the Annual Hurst Village Brass Band Contest after the COVID restrictions. The contest was run by Ashton United in the Community in partnership with Ashton United Football Club, Save the Children and various other sponsors. The weather was very kind to us and a crowd of over 300 people watched in glorious evening sunshine as 31 bands competed for a total prize fund of over £2000. Around 20 volunteers were involved in providing food & drink, marshalling and announcing the bands, parking coaches and generally ensuring that the night ran smoothly.

Thanks must also go to our Adjudicator, Ritchie Howard, who gave his services for free judging and ranking the bands performances on the night.

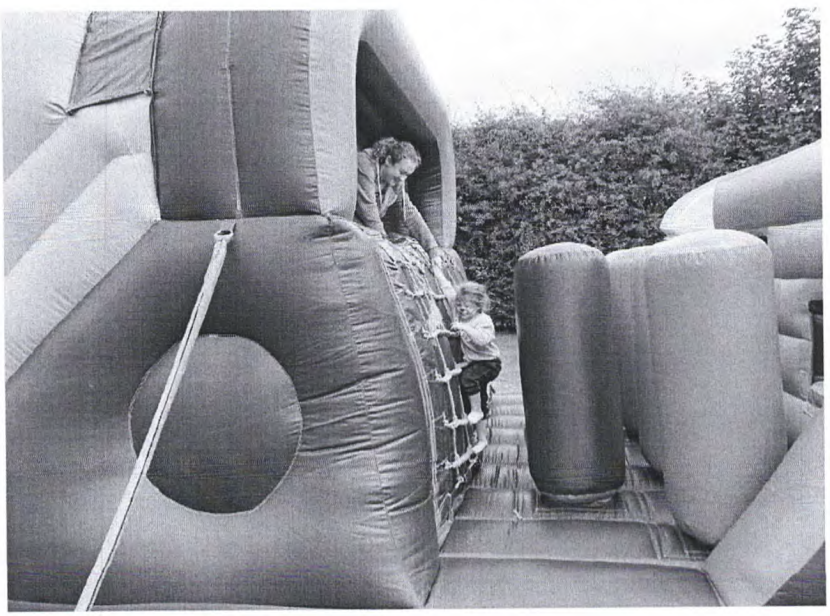
The first band to play at 4pm were local band, St Johns, Mossley (pictured) and the overall winners on the night were Rothwell Band from Leeds.

Spectator testimonial: ***"Great to have the contest back, it was bigger and better than ever, we have missed it for 2 years and are looking forward to coming back next year. Thank you to all the volunteers at Ashton United for your efforts"***

HurstFest



Following the huge success of the 2021 HurstFest moving to Cedar Park, and taking place midweek rather than at a weekend, local people expressed a desire for the event to be repeated. With financial support secured from Bvlgari via partners Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community (SSHCC) and their sponsors Save the Children fund, we were able to work with our community partners to plan and deliver another fantastic family event with a host of activities food and drinks, free to local participants (largely OL6 postcode area). This year – bigger and better with more ice-cream – more face painters, circus skills, samba band, festival make-up, inflatables, football skills & drills, crafts, food, stage and performers, and much more. A huge thanks to Lydia Wright from SSHCC for undertaking the anchor role in coordinating the event. A wonderful free summers day was enjoyed by some 600 children together with around 200 of their parents/carers.

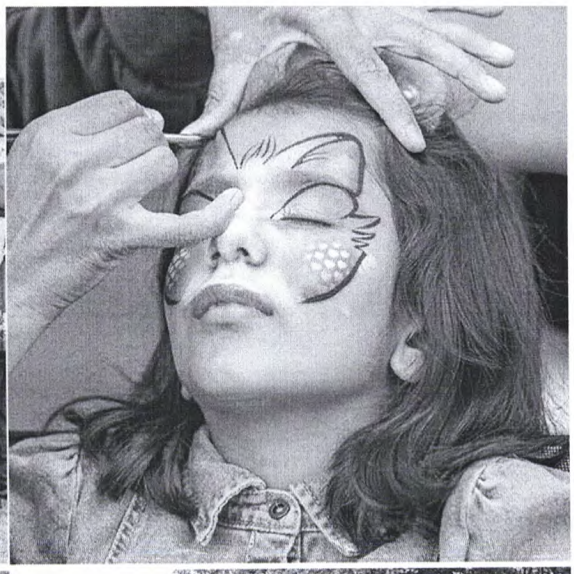


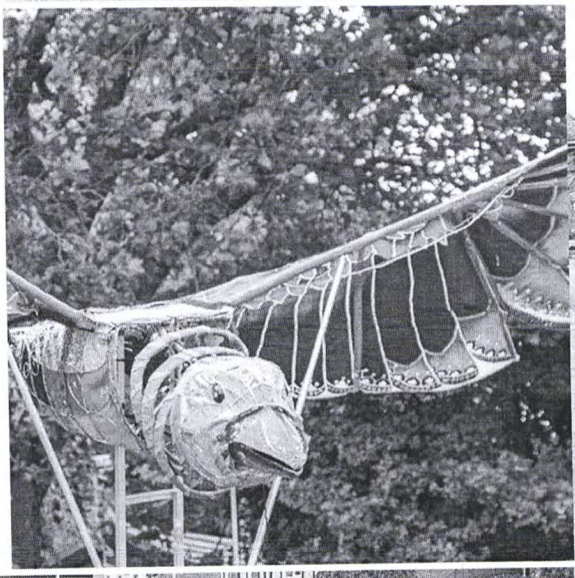
AUITC were grateful to the Hate Crime Awareness team from Tameside Community Safety Partnership who supported the Skillz & Drillz sessions at HurstFest.

Ashton United in the Community

Here are some images from 2022 HurstFest









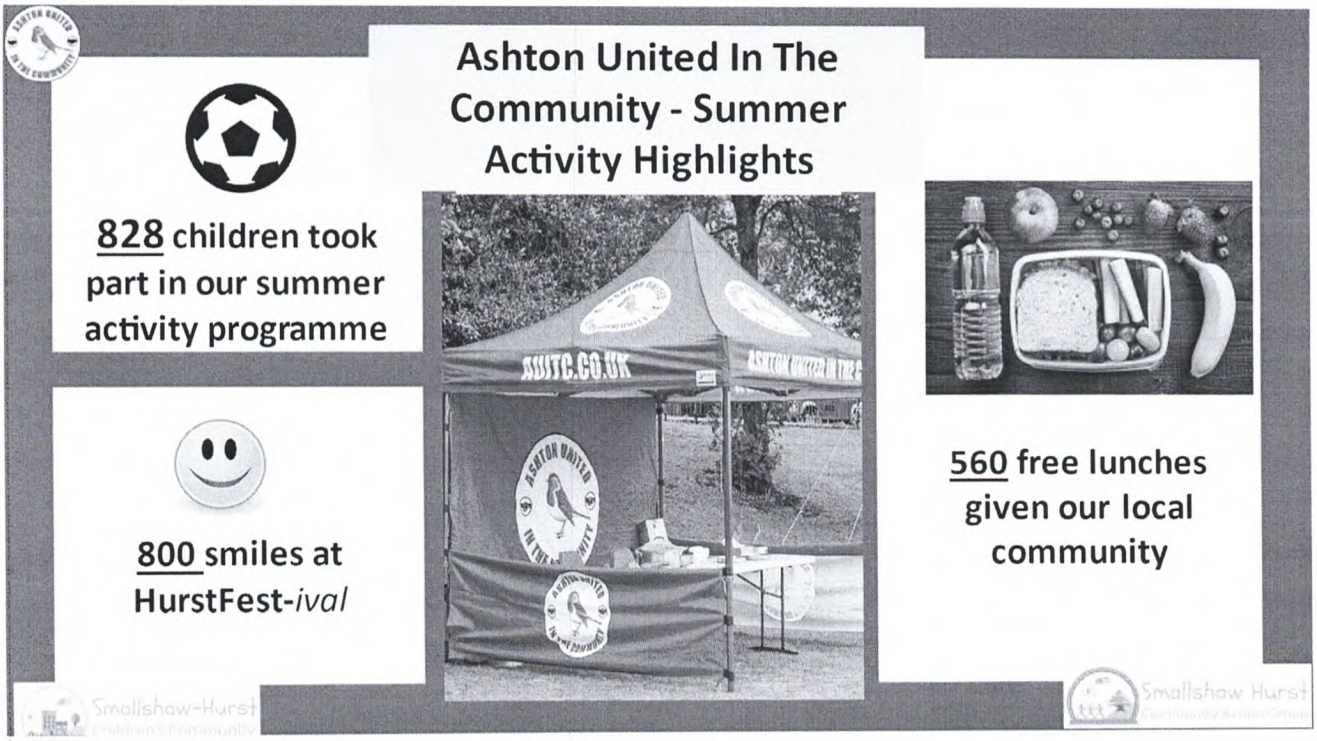


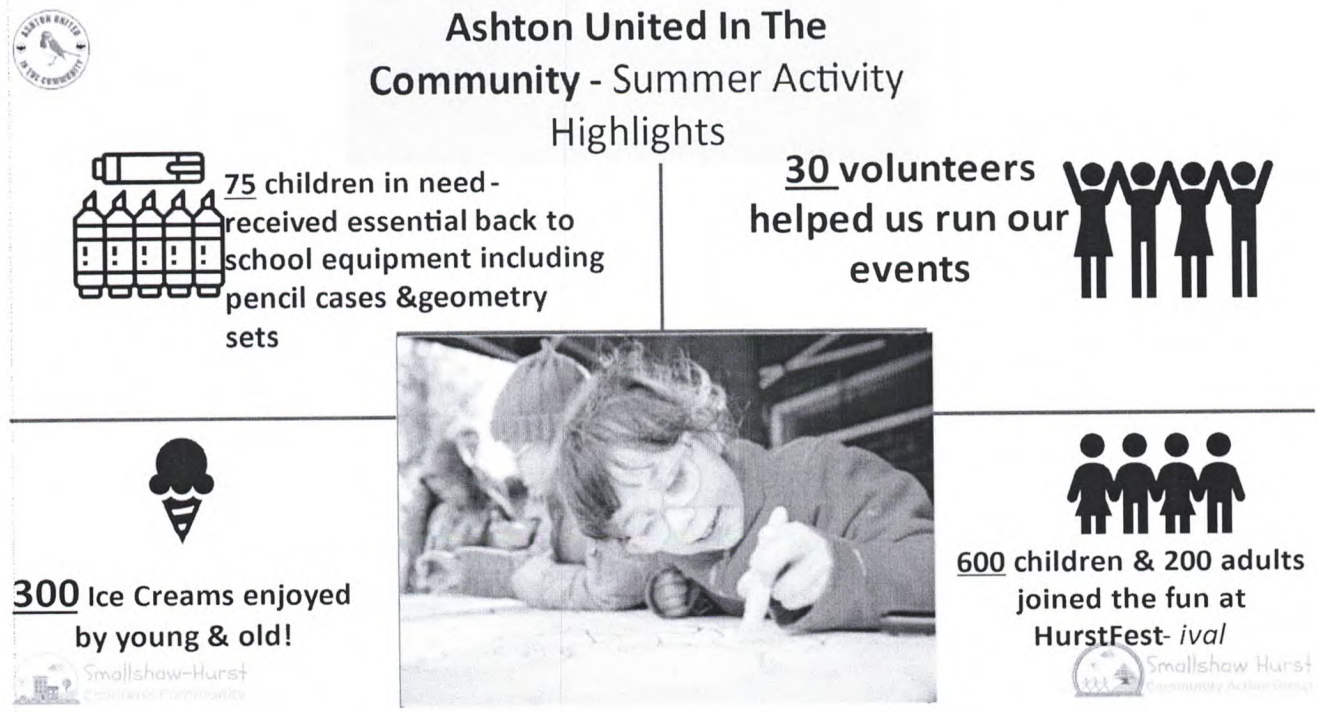


Councillor Dan Costello tweeted: ***'Hurst-fest-ival was a great success today. So good to see so many families from the local community enjoying the good weather and the activities.'***

Summer Activities Summary

Whilst the highlight of the summer activities was HurstFest there were other events running that engaged with the community. The following two infographics highlight those activities:





Women's Moving On' Packs

With support from several funders including DEFRA, Big Lottery and Tameside Community Safety Partnership we have again been able to offer some support to our local women's refuge.



We have provided 50 'Moving On' packs worth approximately £30 per pack, in support of those women leaving the hostel for pastures new, and in need of items to help them set up in their new home environment. The packs included items such as: towel sets, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, sanitary products, back scrubbers, nail brushes, and face cloths. Initially we had 25 families in the women's refuge who will benefit first of all, then following that we were able to support 25 other beneficiaries, people in our immediate area, making a total of 50 packs. Links have been forged with B&M Bargains stores offering us a staff discount of 10% enabling the charity to access a broader range of products.



Thanks so much to our volunteer helpers in shopping and pulling together the packs for distribution including Ashton United General Manager and AUITC Trustee, Andy Clayton (pictured at the refuge), and AUITC Patron, Angela Rayner MP, Labour Party Deputy Leader pictured helping with the sorting of products.



Mr Vijay Patel (store Manager, B&M Heywood) said ***"We as a store are happy to support such a wonderful charity and supply these items to your local women's refuge in Ashton-Under-Lyne"***

Winter Pressure Fund 2022

Summary

Since January 2022, the scale and pace of our engagement with our local community has been incredible. Our activities, including running the Cedar Park Pantry Store and activities for local people have continued to grow. Our aim for the Winter Pressure Fund was to support our most vulnerable local families, and adults by helping them keep warm and healthy over the winter period; this includes older people, people with mental health issues, people with learning difficulties, people with no access to public funds and those in and facing homelessness.

Our activities have been two-fold; devised to support the 'whole' person and/or family, mind, and body and also to give beneficiaries wherever possible a choice in how they feel is best to keep themselves fit and healthy. We have achieved this by supporting our most vulnerable people and families, distributing vouchers, and equipping people with knowledge and resources to withstand the Cost-of-Living crisis.

Early in 2022 the UK began lower Covid-19 lockdown restrictions; with the Winter Pressure Fund we were able to use art and raise awareness about good health & hygiene to support our local community to adjust to life after lockdown. Using our activity packs, events, food pantry, social media, we have used art as a medium to relieve stress and encourage people to come together to share anxieties and fears and importantly, recreate community spirit.

Winter Pressure Fund Activity

1. Supporting resilience and providing food to those most in need

An emerging theme has been the cost-of-living crisis and the disproportional devastating impact upon our local community. However, through our networks and connections we have been able to collect local experiences, engage with support services and the voluntary sector, to provide insights into how to better target and support those most in need. Our creative children have been involved in #endpoverty – Full Time Meals and are also devising their own recipes, keeping an eye on the budget and understanding the importance of choice and nutrition.

Meanwhile, our adult community have been busy exploring ways to source nutritious, affordable food, using low energy equipment and expanding knowledge and skills, making best use of ingredients available from the Pantry Store. With our partners in the Tameside Food Network, they have provided cooking lessons and advice to our community. Activity includes sourcing foods ethically and cheaply, preparing meals from scratch, making the best use of food bulking, using vegetables pulses and beans, batch cooking, storing food, whilst building confidence in both using equipment and confidence in cooking. Importantly, building peer support by bringing people together and encouraging members to share experience and ideas.

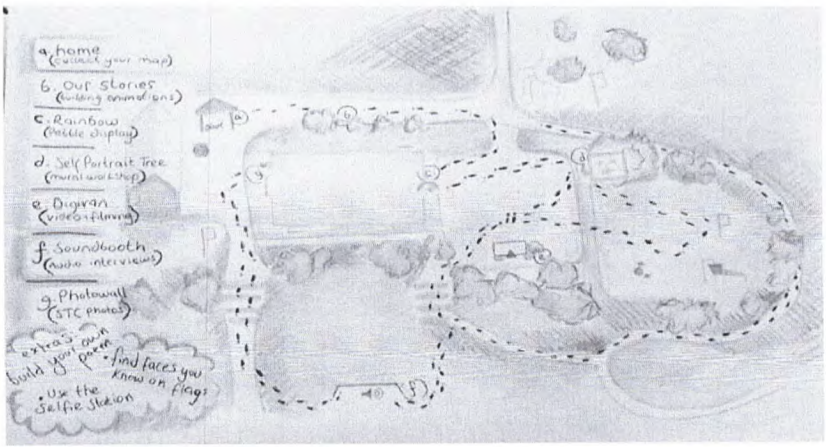
2. **Co-producing solutions to keep healthy**

We have provided vouchers to enable people to keep well, beneficiaries decide on what they need, as oppose what 'we think' they need. These vouchers provide the means and choice to obtain nutritious foods, warm clothes, bedding, cooking utensils and heating. We have targeted the resource to ensure it reaches those who need it the most by taking referrals from partner agencies including JIGSAW Housing, the Early Help Team, schools, and the Youth Service. This has proved popular by partners and beneficiaries alike as it offers the opportunity for us to provide the means and beneficiaries exercising their own choices.

3. Using Art to achieve healthy living

Over the last 2 years, we have lived with COVID-19, and AUITC has come together with partners to create safe space for our local community to come together to express feelings, support one another and find solutions to problems. Art and storytelling have played a big factor in capturing experience of life at the various stages of lockdown and the more recent lifting of restrictions. Using our activity packs and events, we have used art as a medium to relieve stress, share anxieties and fears.

We have been able to provide the materials for local people to experience and get involved in crafting, painting, colouring etc and our volunteers have been busy capturing and collecting artworks and stories through social media, visual methods including drawings, pictures, soundbites, narratives, and ethnographic methods including video, film, and animations. We teamed up with partners and a local artist to curate an exhibition using a variety of the artworks created.



The artworks were displayed in a local public park (Cedar Park) so that it was visually and physically accessible to all the community. The local artist created an Art Trail throughout the park using various methods to show the art installations, set in different locations. Our artists (the local community) were given a map of the exhibition to help them negotiate the trail. Over 200 people attended which was an amazing turn out for everyone involved.

4. Our Winter Pressure Fund activity has directly reached 837 people

Overall number of people directly benefitted from our activities	837
Number of people/families supported to cook on a budget	61
Number of people & families provided with hot nutritious food	61
Number of food bags provided	378
Number of people benefiting from Art packs	250
Number of people or families receiving vouchers to the value of £50 - £75	75
Number of people benefiting from vouchers to the value of £50 - £75	209

With thanks to trustee Julie Wilson for the Winter Pressure Fund report

Pumpkin Carving



On Friday 28th October, at Cedar Park Pavilion, we geared up for another event building our services to promote and support families in accessing a fun environment in their local parks. Spooktacular Pumpkin Carving for Halloween provided 150+ pumpkins at the



ready and a team of 10 volunteers to support the children, some dressed up for the occasion, and families for the two hour long activity. Let the carving begin! Attacking the pumpkins with gusto were more than 150 children creating some creepy carvings whilst taking part in this, one of our most popular events.

With free pumpkins and carving kits for all, together with plenty of sweets, teas and coffee the opportunity for family time was relished by everyone. The feedback from parents and carers was very positive with some taking to social media to publicly express their thanks for a great day out.
Paige said ***"A brilliant afternoon out and the kids loved it"***
Christine ***"Fabulous afternoon, my grandchildren loved it. Thank you"***
Thanks again to the army of volunteers who made the afternoon such a great success.

Skillz & Drillz – Holiday Hunger

Working with Ashton United Football Club, supported by Tameside Community Safety Partnership, the National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All England programme and Smallshaw Hurst Children's





Community we were able to provide, free to attend, Skillz and Drillz coaching sessions during school holidays, and at HurstFest. As last year the sessions were complimented by our Holiday Hunger scheme where children in attendance were provided with a packed lunch.

In total 501 children ages 6-16 have taken part, 525 Packed Lunches were given out. Over the sessions FA qualified coaches have delivered 264 coaching hours over 22 days ably supported by two volunteer assistants between them volunteering for 176 hours.

Michelle and her son Jacob said ***"he continually enjoys the sessions and he wants to join the Ashton United Juniors"***
Linda and her girls ***"really look forward to the school holidays"***
'Shop Steward' on Twitter: ***Thanks @AshtonUnitedFC for looking after the kids during the summer holiday. It's a brilliant football training camp and my kids love it ...you do fantastic work supporting the local community and you're a wonderful football club***

Manchester City Mascots



Thanks to our partnership with Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community, and their relationship with Save the Children Fund and Mastercard, 24 of the children that attended our autumn term Skillz & Drillz sessions were given the opportunity to act as pre-match escorts to the teams competing in the November Champions League fixture between Manchester City and Sevilla. Despite torrential rain the children (and their escorting parents/volunteers/guardians) had a blast!



Part and parcel of the work with Ashton United is providing opportunity for local families to share experiences together. We invite families along to Hurst Cross to share The Matchday Experience and make a fuss of them. Introductions are made to the team in the changing rooms and they join in with the players during the pre-match warmup, walking out with both teams for the handshakes and also warming up at half-time with the substitutes. Whilst not on the scale of the Champions League and Premier League day out we see just as many smiles and memories generated by those involved.

Golf Day

At the end of July, Ashton United Supporters Club held their first Ashton United Golf Day at Ashton-Under-Lyne Golf Club with funds raised being donated to Ashton United in the Community. The event gave many volunteers the opportunity to experience delivering an event including management, setting up and closing down.

Ashton United Supporters Club Chairman Luke Sayle said ***'It was amazing to see so many members of the local community, who didn't necessarily have any previous connections with the football club or AUITC,***





coming together to enjoy the wonderful weather and raise money for a fantastic cause. These ties within our community are invaluable. Hopefully it highlights to everyone what volunteers can do when they come together. It serves as a fine example of what we are aiming to achieve, by bringing members of different organisations within the community together and holding events of mutual benefit to all.'

The winning team on the day just so happened to be the Ashton United 3 first team coaches, Michael Clegg, Nicky Hunt and Andy Heald who, with former Welsh International footballer Dean Saunders as their mentor for the day, managed to amass an impressive 97 points! A special mention for Dean, who very kindly donated the £100 prize back to the charity. The event made a profit of over £2000, which was donated to Ashton United in the Community.

Winter Warmer



On Thursday 1 December, together with our partners Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community, we arranged for Ashton United's Cross Bar to open its doors to the people of Tameside for a Winter Warmer Event aimed at the over 55s. We had a slow but steady stream of visitors throughout the day and everyone benefitted from the sound information, advice and guidance on offer.



Around ten different support organisations attended on the day and visitors were welcomed with a nice hot drink and a choice of lunch, all provided by AUITC. Those organisations that attended were, Citizens Advice, Helping Hand Tameside, Action Together, Be Well Tameside, Age UK Tameside (pictured right), Greater Manchester Fire Service, Groundwork, Digital Wellbeing Project, and Jigsaw Homes (pictured left).

Reflecting back on the event and discussing the day with participating organisations we recognised that older people were still struggling to come to terms with leaving their homes after the Covid experiences.

Apparently other such events had struggled to attract large numbers of people. We did not help ourselves by restricting the event to over 55's. A lesson learned and something we will address at future events.

GAA Academy Links

One of our aims at the start of the year was to forge closer links with Great Academy Ashton. Together





with the use of facilities at the Academy site for Skillz and Drillz sessions the relationship manifested itself this year with an alternative education project where a number of academy students visited Hurst Cross and were introduced, by our Community Development Officer and AUITC volunteers, to a programme of activities that demonstrated 'real life' use of English and mathematics.

The activities included reading about the rules and regulations for sports pitch marking, measuring pitch





dimensions, counting seats and space for ground capacity calculations, pitch maintenance regimes and practical methods of creating patterns on turf.

The young people were fully engaged with the processes and procedures. They enjoyed the experiences so much over the six week period they also chose to return, in their own time, as volunteers for Ashton United first team matches.



It's Party Time

In the two weeks leading up to Christmas 2022 we hosted two big parties, one for OAP's and one for children in the Cross Bar. Both events were fully subscribed and a great time was had by all. The OAP's enjoyed a full, three course,



Christmas dinner, with all the trimmings and were entertained by a great singer. The children had party food and were enthralled by a children's entertainer who had them up dancing and playing party games. All were all given selection boxes as they went home. Both events were heavily supported by our team of volunteers giving up their time, not only to staff the events but to set up and tidy up afterwards - no mean task in the case of the children's party!

Volunteers

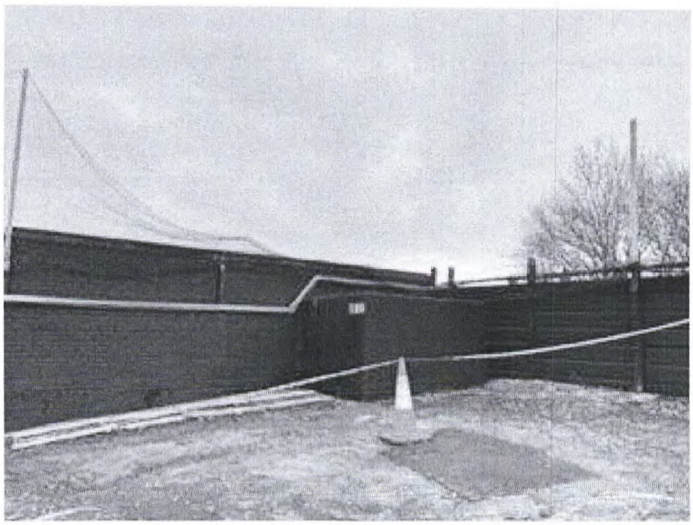
A cornerstone of our work continues to be providing local people with volunteering opportunity. During 2022 some people have again been restricted to the amount of time they could offer to volunteer, and indeed some were still reluctant to volunteer due to concerns over their personal safety after isolating or shielding. This being said, we have continued to recruit and deploy volunteers. In 2022 we have registered 76 volunteers who collectively have recorded 16676.25 hours volunteering. This is almost a 50% increase in recorded volunteering hours on 2021, where roughly the same number of volunteers (70+) delivered 8997hrs volunteering!

In 2019 the estimated average equivalent market hourly wage rate across a range of volunteer activities was around £13.70 (Power to Change 'Assessing the value of volunteers in community businesses' report June 2020). If we were to place a nominal value of £11 per hour on our volunteer's time in 2022 this equates to a social value contribution to volunteering of £183,438.75, a quite remarkable achievement when still, some people were reluctant to return to volunteering post Covid.

Volunteers are utilised in our work beyond Hurst Cross and in and around Ashton United FC, some through home working and giving general support to our charity others by supporting our pop-up events and those events organised by our partners and other charities e.g. several of our volunteers were out and about with the local Rotary Club bringing the joys of Santa to the local community.
People, many with complex needs including LGBTQ, learning disabled, students, unemployed or lonely and isolated individuals, have gained confidence and learned new skills as part of the 'Ashton United Family'. They have engaged in ground maintenance, media, stewarding, and coaching, together with pop up events, the food pantry, at Hurst Band Concert and HurstFest. We are very proud of their contribution without which we could not function.

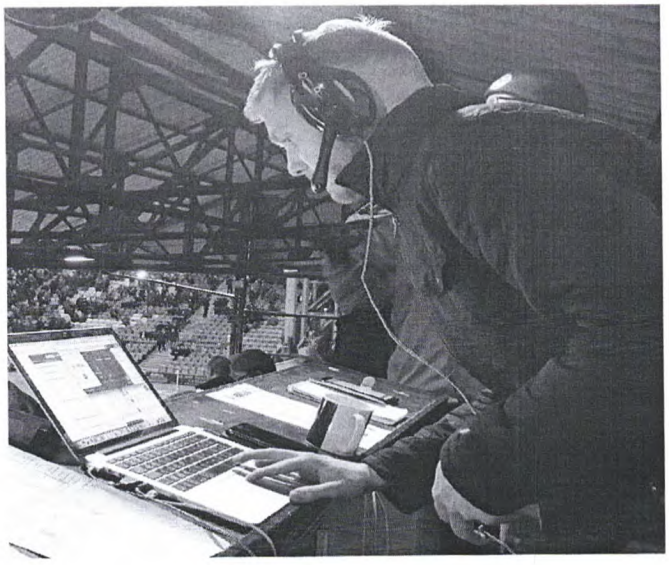
Throughout the year there are always plenty of opportunities for volunteers to get out and about in the fresh air, and be part of a team, engaging in activities that improve general mental and physical health and wellbeing. This is achieved by building confidence, reducing isolation and loneliness, making new

friends and becoming part of a team. Our doors are always open to people wanting to join our volunteer programme.



Some severe stormy weather early on in the year left Hurst Cross with major repairs needed due to wind damage to perimeter netting, roofs and general infrastructure; but the plus side was plenty of opportunity for our ground maintenance volunteers to pull together as a team learning new skills and gaining confidence along the way. New volunteers were recruited through our friends at Action Together and they were given the opportunity to join our team.

Alan's story (not his real name): Alan contacted Action Together wishing to do some volunteering. Within an hour of receiving an email we had contacted Alan's mum Kate to come to Hurst Cross and see what her son would like to get involved with. Alan arrived and it quickly became apparent he would need quite a bit of support. Alan has some complex needs with Autism so our Community Development Officer (CDO) Andy Finnigan, supported him through the day. Alan then arrived home and Andy called his Mum to ensure he arrived home safely. She was so thankful for the experience he had at Ashton United in the Community, even though Alan arrived home 'like a drowned rat'. Kate then emailed Action Together with some very pleasing comments about Alan's wonderful experience.



In last year's report we introduced Matt as our volunteer Media Manager. Matt has contributed so much over the course of the year and has passed on his skills and expertise to several other volunteers wanting to follow in his footsteps. This includes Luke, who started volunteering as a matchday photographer, with his grandad John, then progressed to media assistant filming matches, and has now gained casual part time employment as a result of the confidence and skills he has gained as a volunteer. We continue to support Luke as he looks for full time employment supporting him with references and with job search.

In September we were contacted by James' mother Emma asking if we could offer any volunteering opportunity to her 14yr old son who was seeking voluntary work as a part of his Duke of Edinburgh award and to pursue a love for journalism and specifically sport journalism. James was invited along with a parent and, under Matt's watchful eye, was tasked with supporting Ashton United 1st team matchday media activities.

In James's own words: ***'During my introduction, and first of hopefully many days at the club, I was introduced to two members of the board and the Head of Media, and also many other very caring, passionate and overall excellent members of the club. Contrary to what I imagined I'd be doing on the day, I was thrown completely into the deep end and, due to two staff being absent, I had the honour of recording the match and I had to manage the scoreboard. Overall I enjoyed an extremely welcoming and productive day.***

I would like to thank the media manager, Matt Clayton for being so helpful and welcoming during my visit, Steve the vice-chairman for giving me this extraordinary opportunity and finally the fans for creating a great atmosphere and for showing me how vital this club is in the community.'

James enjoyed his time so much whilst volunteering he has now become a regular AUITC volunteer. Hopefully, in time, we will help him realise his ambitions to work in sports media and journalism.

At Ashton United in the Community we like to encourage our volunteers to express themselves. This helps them build confidence and, where things go wrong as they will from time to time, have the self-belief that they can get support from their peers to put things right and learn. This philosophy has worked well for us over many years with volunteers blossoming as they learn new skills and gain confidence in their ability, and that of the rest of their fellow volunteers.



This thinking was exemplified in November of 2022 when Matt took it upon himself to issue a rather 'tongue in cheek' press release on behalf of Ashton United FC requesting a 28-day loan for a Norwegian player not involved in the World Cup due to his country failing to qualify:

'Ashton United can confirm that the club has submitted a 28-day loan approach for Manchester City striker Erling Haaland. With the current Premier League champions not in action until late December due to the 2022 FIFA World Cup, The Robins have reached out to our neighbours at the Etihad in order to keep Haaland's match fitness with him not being involved in Qatar.'

The response to the audacious statement was a viral media frenzy highlighting both the football club and charity with media outlets worldwide. Almost every media channel in the UK covered the story and there were interviews with TV/radio stations as far and wide as Australia, Egypt, Hungary, Germany, Norway and others. In total, within a week, there were 48 million media impressions. In marketing terms this single piece of marketing genius by a volunteer has a marketing value of over £2million.

It just goes to show the benefit of trust in your volunteers and giving them the opportunity and confidence to express themselves!

Volunteer Recognition

On Friday 21st October we held a recognition and celebration evening at Ashton United's, The Cross Bar. The evening, supported by a grant from Action Together and supplemented by others, was a celebration of our volunteer's achievements during the year and was also a chance for team building and socialising with each other. Around 80 volunteers and partners enjoyed a fantastic evening of food and musical entertainment. We took the opportunity to thank volunteers for their support and to share with the audience the successes of several individuals by presenting them with their certificates for completing courses in Mental First Aid, Dementia Awareness, Safeguarding and Hate Crime Awareness. People

celebrated and reflected on the achievements they had made changing their own lives, as well as the support they had given to others across the community with theirs. We were delighted to be able to welcome some family members of volunteers, brought along to share in the success and camaraderie of the Ashton United in the Community volunteering experience.



Throughout the year of 2022 many volunteers received accredited training from Ethical Enterprises' Jill Tichborne, to help them understand better the community we serve; at the football club, at the pantry and across the district; and systems and processes that will underpin their work. Furthermore two volunteers were recognised by Ashton United FC for their lifelong outstanding contribution as volunteers by being awarded Life Membership of the club. Fed and watered those attending had a fantastic evening rounded off with entertainment from a band to which they danced the night away. Pictured is Jill Tichborne (left) presenting certificates to volunteer Angela Gratton.

But not all volunteers were able to attend the evening event, some due to age, and visiting licensed premises not appropriate for safeguarding reasons. To ensure that they did not miss out we arranged for a visit to a local restaurant for the group of volunteers under aged 16yrs. Here some are pictured with a youth worker chaperone and Andy Finnigan our Community Development Officer, about to tuck in.



Staff

This year we have continued with the same staffing structure as last year viz. a full time Community Development Officer ably supported by trustees and a volunteer Project Manager. We have brought in sessional staff as required including coaches, catering, face painters, artistes, partner organisations, etc. This structure has worked, primarily due to the commitment and enthusiasm of everyone connected to the charity to be the best at everything they do, however, as the charity has grown it has become apparent for the need to put in place a more sustainable model which would include appointing a Community Director, something recognised by the trustees in their business plan for 2023-25.

The grant support we have continued to receive towards the staffing costs has been crucial to the successful delivery of services and activities to local people, without which our operational capabilities would be severely restrained. The challenge is to grow the team and secure the resources needed to offer longer term contracts to staff in order to maintain the quality of our employees

Community van

The purchase of a Community Van in 2021 has enabled us and our partners to be flexible enough to pick up food donations, make deliveries, move equipment around to pop up events, etc. The vehicle, owned and managed by AUITC has been available to other partners to use e.g. Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group, SSHCC, Tameside Youth Services, and AUFC and has proven to be a real asset when supporting project delivery across the neighbourhood. The vehicle is in constant use and is a regular sight, promoting the partners, via it's livery, across Smallshaw & Hurst.

Matchdays

Ashton United is a strong supporter of Ashton United in the Community; not just a football club, a family run club that embraces its community and recognises that, in difficult times everyone should all pull together. Importantly our football club partner and their suppliers hold similar values. Volunteering opportunities are available for Saturday and Tuesday fixtures for Ashton United throughout the football season. Volunteers attend prior, during and after games to meet and greet fans, carry out pitch and facilities maintenance, stewarding duties, media, etc. This is the chance for people to socialise, learn new skills, put their training into practice and has proven to be a great grounding for volunteers to hone new skills, put into practice learning and gain confidence as they undertake their duties.

Strong Political Support

Throughout the year we were again grateful to be able to call upon the strong support of local elected members who 'rolled up their sleeves' and got stuck into the task of supporting local constituents.

They were ably supported by both of our Patrons Angela Rayner MP, Deputy Leader of the Labour Party who found time during her very busy schedule to support many of our initiatives; and Jonathan Sayer who supported the charity with fundraising through his Mischief Theatre Company.

Consultation with Users

Local people are canvassed when attending, events, activities and the Food Pantry, to determine both their immediate needs and also what they would like to see in the future e.g. what works and what could be done better, what activity packs would people like to see for themselves and also to occupy children during holidays and out of school time, what training needs are there amongst volunteers, etc. We also have regular dialogue with our volunteers who are encouraged to speak to us about what their needs are, what they/we might do to improve their role and/or volunteering experience. The feedback we receive, specifically around training needs, informs the role of Training and Development Coordinator; to work with our people, to create opportunities for them to develop the skills and knowledge they seek to improve their lives and the offer we have as a charity.

Coming Soon

In 2023, together with maintaining our core provision, e.g. Skillz N Drillz, Holiday Hunger, Hurst Band Contest, HurstFest and pop up events across the year, we are looking to introduce a weekly luncheon club during the winter and early spring. We are also working on a Literacy Kicks project that is in two local primary schools. The programme utilises the medium of sports reporting to engage children in reading, writing and editing; taking students inside the captivating world of sports journalism and presenting innovative and authentic tasks for them to complete.

Literacy Kicks provides children with an alternative, enjoyable platform to improve their reading and writing skills, as well as offering a fascinating insight into the sports journalism industry. Subject to securing sufficient funding our project will be supported by Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community delivering a similar programme to an older cohort of children and young people.
Our gardening group will be deployed in Cedar Park to engage local people with a tree planting project and with maintaining community space across the neighbourhood.

Financial Review

During the year Ashton United in the Community were successful in a number of grant applications. We are extremely thankful for the support of the following organisations providing grant support (predominantly over £500) toward a number of objectives:

- Action Together Tameside Wellbeing Fund
- ASDA Foundation
- Jigsaw Housing Trust
- Jigsaw Foundation
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- HM Government
- Save the Children Fund
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council
- Tameside Community Safety Partnership
- Jonathan Sayer
- Mischief Theatre Company
- Ashton United FC players, management & officials.

The grants we receive enable AUITC to continue to develop as an anchor charity in the Hurst, Smallshaw & Broadoak area of Ashton under Lyne; delivering positive outcomes for local people adversely affected by the complex issues they face living in some of the poorest areas in England, let alone Tameside. These issues are set to expand as the effects of low wages, fuel poverty and rising costs of living put further pressure on those facing the greatest challenges in society. Together we can, and will, help people survive and thrive.

Accounts

Despite the ongoing issues from the Covid19 pandemic the year started very well with plenty of great ideas planned for the forthcoming year ahead and a substantial budget to work with. Unfortunately, the year and the charities plans were halted with the subsequent lockdown of schools and various outlets – this amounted to a huge challenge for the charity as we had many things planned, at an early Trustee meeting we discussed how this was going to impact the local area and the community generally.
We gained various grants over the year, mainly from the government and local organisations (named above) that could see the hard work that the charity was doing in the community, the charity used the income from the grants really well and the replanning and hard work has been rewarded with the charity being more recognised and having a bigger presence in the area.

Investment powers and policy

The trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of operating the charity, have kept available funds in a 'Treasurers Account'.

Reserves policy and going concern

The balance held in unrestricted reserves at 31st December 2022 was £2,793 of which -£5,506 are free reserves, after allowing for funds tied up in tangible fixed assets.

The Charity's main source of income is grants and charitable donations. The Trustees consider that it is appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis and, consequently, the accounts do not include any adjustments that would be necessary if these sources of income should cease.

The trustees aim to establish and maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to respond to applications for grants and ensure that support and governance costs are covered.

The trustees consider that the charity is a going concern. Any reliance on grant funding is managed through a flexible approach to activities and project delivery.

Risk management

As the charity continues to establish itself the trustees will conduct regular reviews of the major risks to which the charity may be exposed and systems will be established to mitigate those risks.

Plans for Future Periods

The appointment of a full time Community Development Officer during 2020, to support volunteering and deliver a broad range of experiences for local people to engage was a 'game changer' for the charity and is something we developed further throughout 2022.

The main thrust of the charity's work for 2023 will be continued operational and peer support for the Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group Food Pantry, now as an independent entity. We will help Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group maintain and develop their volunteers within their Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status and offer peer support to the group as it continues to develop its own identity.

Plans are in hand to join with partners to organise and deliver HurstFest 2023 which will be held at Cedar Park and Hurst Village Band contest.

We will continue to support the development of football for our junior teams, women and girls and will support Ashton United FC to achieve England Football 3 star community hub club status.

AUITC is a managing partner of the Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community (SSHCC) and Tameside Partnership, working to support a number of providers across our community. We will continue to support the growth of these partnerships and to support the joint initiatives surrounding local need, developed through consultation with local people. AUITC will seek to expand its relationship with local schools and in particular Great Academy Ashton a senior high school accommodating circa 1500 students in the heart of the community we serve.

The charity will continue to support volunteering across all aspects of opportunity available in conjunction with Ashton United FC and our partners.
AUITC have recently started a Luncheon Club for local residents and this will continue in the Winter period along with organising days out for members in the summer. We also expect to organise with our volunteers, amongst other things, a volunteer recognition event later in the year and pop-up events across the district that will include seasonal events e.g., Soccer School training, a children's Halloween event, a Childrens Xmas party, an older persons Christmas party.
Volunteers will continue to learn new skills e.g., media training, stadium maintenance, stewarding, catering, customer service, and more.

the community to determine what is needed and how they would like that need to be met in an inclusive way. Support will be given to people to address their complex needs e.g. CV writing, work readiness training, interview techniques, etc. and is designed through social engagement to help improve confidence and self-esteem, reduce loneliness and isolation, and increase knowledge and skills.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees will be required to:

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with legal requirements. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

By order of the trustees



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John North

Treasurer

Date: 23rd March 2023

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1166483

I report on the accounts of the charity, for the year ended 31st December 2022 which are set out on pages 30 to 40.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is preparing accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records have in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act,

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: ....A.M.King.....

AM King FCCA
Date: 23rd March 2023

Community Accountancy Service Ltd
The Grange, Pilgrim Drive, Beswick,
Manchester, M11 3TQ

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022
(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

	Further Details	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds Year Ended 31 December 2022 £	Total Funds Year Ended 31 December 2021 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	(3)	2,914	-	2,914	8,167
Charitable Activities	(4)	-	79,160	79,160	47,695
Other Trading Activities	(5)	5,593	-	5,593	243
Total		8,507	79,160	87,667	56,105
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds	(6)	4,817	2,795	7,612	2,460
Charitable Activities	(6)	5,787	61,030	66,817	75,580
Other	(6)	-	-	-	-
Total		10,604	63,825	74,429	78,040
Net income/(expenditure)		(2,097)	15,335	13,238	(21,935)
Transfers between funds	(17)	(7,706)	7,706	-	-
Net movement in funds		(9,803)	23,041	13,238	(21,935)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	(17)	12,596	31,933	44,529	66,464
Total funds carried forward	(17)	2,793	54,974	57,767	44,529

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 33 to 40 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets	(11)	8,299	10,791
Total fixed assets		8,299	10,791
Current assets:			
Stocks	(12)	-	-
Debtors	(13)	1,513	888
Cash at Bank & in Hand		49,668	34,135
Total current assets		51,181	35,023
Liabilities:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(14)	1,713	1,285
Net current assets or liabilities		49,468	33,738
Total assets less current liabilities		57,767	44,529
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	(16)		
Provisions for liabilities		-	-
Total net assets or liabilities		57,767	44,529
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds	(17)	54,974	31,933
Unrestricted income funds	(17)	2,793	12,596
Total charity funds		57,767	44,529

Approved on behalf of the Trustees Management Committee

John North

Andrew Clayton

Date: 23rd March 2023

The notes on pages 33 to 40 form part of these accounts.

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2021
	£	£
Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities		

	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2021
	£	£
Net movement in funds	13,238	(21,935)
Add back depreciation	4,150	4,517
Deduct investment income	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(625)	(577)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	428	805
Net cash used in operating activities	17,191	(17,190)
Cash flows from investment activities:		
Interest	-	-
Purchase of fixed assets	(1,658)	(14,388)
Net cash provided by investing activities	(1,658)	(14,388)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year	15,533	(31,578)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	34,135	65,713
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**49,668**	**34,135**

Notes to the accounts

1. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2019 preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 1st January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

(b) Funds structure

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. There are 20 restricted funds.

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.

Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 17.

(c) Income recognition

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

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank. Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

(d) Expenditure Recognition

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 settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. For more information on this attribution refer to note (f) below.

(e) Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

(f) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to independent examination and legal fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs.

Governance costs and support costs relating to charitable activities have been apportioned based on type of expense. The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in note 8.

(g) Costs of raising funds

The costs of raising funds consists of events.

(h) Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include governance costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in note 7.

(i) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and valued at historical cost. Depreciation is charged on the following basis:

Equipment	33.33% on cost
Motor Vehicles	25% on cost

(j) Realised gains and losses

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their varying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(k) Pensions

The charity currently does not administer contributions to a pension scheme on behalf of individuals.

(l) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

(m) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2. Related party transactions and trustees' expenses and remuneration

The trustees all give freely their time and expertise without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or kind Expenses paid to the trustees in the year totalled £nil (2021: £nil). Whisky, costing £45, was purchased for two trustees who resigned during the year.

3. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£
Donations	2,914	-	2,914	8,017
Raffle Winnings	-	-	-	150
	2,914	-	2,914	8,167

Previous reporting period:

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2021
	£	£	£
Donations	8,017	-	8,017
Raffle Winnings	150	-	150
	8,167	-	8,167

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted grants:				
Asda Foundation	-	-	-	600
Action Together	-	-	-	10,000
Football Foundation	-	-	-	750
Restricted grants:				
Charity Services	-	-	-	1,000
Action Together - We're in this Together	-	25,000	25,000	-
Action Together - Hate Crime	-	1,000	1,000	-
Action Together - Defra	-	4,785	4,785	-
Asda - Back to School	-	500	500	-
Jigsaw Housing - Food Pantry	-	-	-	10,000
Jigsaw Housing	-	15,000	15,000	-
Trident Foundation	-	5,000	5,000	-
Community Fund - Happy Hurst	-	9,875	9,875	-
Tameside MBC	-	-	-	9,345
Tameside MBC	-	-	-	15,000
Tameside MBC - Safety Fund	-	10,000	10,000	-
Tameside MBC - Luncheon Club	-	8,000	8,000	-
Tameside Action Together	-	-	-	1,000
	-	79,160	79,160	47,695

Previous reporting period:

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2021
	£	£	£
Unrestricted grants:			
Asda Foundation	600	-	600
Action Together	10,000	-	10,000
Football Foundation	750	-	750
Restricted grants:			-
Charity Services	-	1,000	1,000
Jigsaw Housing - Food Pantry	-	10,000	10,000
Tameside MBC	-	9,345	9,345
Tameside MBC	-	15,000	15,000
Tameside Action Together	-	1,000	1,000
	11,350	36,345	47,695

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted Year Ended 31 December 2022	Restricted Year Ended 31 December 2022	Total Funds Year Ended 31 December 2022	Total Funds Year Ended 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£
Income from Van Rental	754	-	754	243
Fundraising Income	4,839	-	4,839	-
	5,593	-	5,593	243

Previous reporting period:

	Unrestricted Year Ended 31 December 2021	Restricted Year Ended 31 December 2021	Total Funds Year Ended 31 December 2021
	£	£	£
Income from Van Rental	243	-	243
	243	-	243

6. Expenditure

	Community Engagement in Tameside	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2021
	£	£	£
Expenditure on raising funds:			
Advertising	3,247	3,247	2,405
Event costs	4,365	4,365	55
	7,612	7,612	2,460
Expenditure on charitable activities:			
Employment Costs	26,329	26,329	19,412
DBS Costs	77	77	48
Training	5,620	5,620	2,255
Freelance Costs	-	-	6,490
Telephone	10	10	120
Referees & League Fees	-	-	501
Grounds Expenses	220	220	-
Travel Costs	-	-	40
Refreshments	3,821	3,821	1,744
Project Costs	8,369	8,369	9,984
Third Party Funds	-	-	13,798
Equipment	1,005	1,005	2,537
Cleaning and Rubbish Removal	-	-	2,600
Bank Charges	-	-	69
Motor Expenses	2,291	2,291	755
Repairs and Maintenance	-	-	1,724
Room & Facility Hire	5,830	5,830	-
Subscriptions	431	431	53
Computer & Internet Costs	1,057	1,057	968
Insurance	277	277	291
Governance	7,230	7,230	7,410
Post, Printing & Stationery	100	100	264
Depreciation	4,150	4,150	4,517
	66,817	66,817	75,580
Other expenditure:			
Sundry	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	74,429	74,429	78,040
Unrestricted funds		10,604	9,488
Restricted funds		63,825	68,552
		74,429	78,040

7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

As per note 6.

8. Allocation of governance and support costs

The breakdown of support costs and how these were allocated between governance and other support costs is shown below:

	General Support	Governance	Total 2022	Basis of apportionment
Accountancy Fees	-	750	750	type of expense
QuickBooks Training	135	-	135	type of expense
Consultancy	6,300	-	6,300	type of expense
Trustee Expenses	-	45	45	type of expense
	6,435	795	7,230	

Previous reporting period;

	General Support	Governance	Total 2021	Basis of apportionment
Accountancy Fees	-	720	720	type of expense
Consultancy	6,000	-	6,000	type of expense
Professional Services	690	-	690	type of expense
	6,690	720	7,410	

9. Analysis of staff costs

	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2021
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	25,562	18,850
Redundancy	-	-
Social Security Costs	-	-
Pension Costs	767	562
	26,329	19,412
Charitable activities	26,329	19,412
Support costs	-	-
	26,329	19,412

The average number of employees during the year was 1 (2021: 1).

The charity considers its key management personnel comprises the trustees and consultant project manager. The total employment benefits, including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel were £nil (2021: £nil).

No employee has benefits in excess of £60,000.

The community development manager was employed from April 2021.

10. Independent Examiner Fees

	Year Ended 31 December 2022	Year Ended 31 December 2021
	£	£
Independent examination fees	750	720
QuickBooks Training	135	-
	885	720

11. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Motor Vehicles	Equipment	Total
Cost	£	£	£
At 01 January 2022	14,388	10,815	25,203
Additions	-	1,658	1,658
At 31 December 2022	14,388	12,473	26,861
Depreciation			
At 01 January 2022	3,597	10,815	14,412
Charge for Year	3,597	553	4,150
At 31 December 2022	7,194	11,368	18,562
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2022	7,194	1,105	8,299
At 31 December 2021	10,791	-	10,791

12. Stocks

The charity does not hold stocks of any items.

13. Analysis of debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Debtors	-	-
Prepayments	1,513	888
	1,513	888

Debtors and prepayments relate to restricted funds £650 (2021: £215) and unrestricted funds £863 (2021: £673).

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other creditors	466	212
Accruals	750	720
Taxation and social security	497	353
	1,713	1,285

15. Deferred income

The CIO did not have any deferred income at the period end.

16. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Provisions for liabilities	-	-
	-	-

17. Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 01 January 2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	12,596	8,507	(10,604)	(7,706)	2,793
	12,596	8,507	(10,604)	(7,706)	2,793

Previous reporting period:

	Balance at 01 January 2021	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	6,449	19,760	(9,488)	(4,125)	12,596
	6,449	19,760	(9,488)	(4,125)	12,596

Name of unrestricted fund:	Description, nature and purpose of the fund
General Fund	The "free reserves" after allowing for all designated funds

Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 01 January 2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
National League Trust	83	-	-	-	83
The Big Lottery Fund	-	-	(44)	44	-
Action Together - We're in this Together	-	25,000	(10,644)	-	14,356
Action Together - Hate Crime	-	1,000	(944)	-	56
Action Together - Defra	-	4,785	(3,553)	-	1,232
Action Together - Volunteer Recognition	-	-	-	500	500
Asda - Back to School	-	500	(500)	-	-
Charity Services	8,585	-	(376)	-	8,209
High Sheriff	40	-	-	-	40
Awards for All	75	-	(171)	96	-
Community Fund	677	-	-	-	677
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	9,616	-	(3,819)	-	5,797
Jigsaw Housing	-	15,000	(15,157)	157	-
Trident Foundation	-	5,000	(4,142)	-	858
Community Fund - Happy Hurst	-	9,875	(4,738)	-	5,137
Tameside MBC	12,849	-	(9,085)	60	3,824
Tameside MBC - Safety Fund	-	10,000	(3,803)	-	6,197
Tameside MBC - Luncheon Club	-	8,000	-	-	8,000
Tameside Action Together	-	-	(6,849)	6,849	-
Tameside MBC	8	-	-	-	8
	31,933	79,160	(63,825)	7,706	54,974

17. Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in restricted funds

Previous reporting period:

	Balance at 01 January 2021	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Donations for Women's Team	2,301	-	(3,916)	1,615	-
Donations for Food Pantry	598	-	(598)	-	-
The Big Lottery Fund	546	-	(553)	7	-
National League Trust	83	-	-	-	83
Restricted grants:	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Charity Services	3,146	10,000	(4,561)	-	8,585
High Sheriff	126	-	(86)	-	40
Awards for All	604	-	(529)	-	75
Community Fund	724	-	(47)	-	677
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	9,616	-	-	-	9,616
Tameside MBC	10,000	9,345	(19,345)	-	-
Tameside MBC	-	15,000	(4,654)	2,503	12,849
Tameside MBC	8	-	-	-	8
Tameside Action Together	32,263	1,000	(33,263)	-	-
	60,015	36,345	(68,552)	4,125	31,933

Name of restricted fund:	Description, nature and purpose of the fund
National League Trust	to support 'Volunteer Matter' programme with both capital and revenue costs
The Big Lottery Fund	for Hurstfest 2020
Action Together - We're in this Together	for salaries, fulfilment/activities/core costs
Action Together - Hate Crime	for hate crime awareness, skillz & drillz @ Hurstfest, publicity
Action Together - Defra	for food, household essentials, core costs, publicity, equipment, food
Action Together - Volunteer Recognition	for a volunteer recognition evening
Asda - Back to School	for children's school packs
Charity Services	for the food pantry
High Sheriff	towards general running costs associated with HurstFest
Awards for All	towards a governance, business planning and capacity building project
Community Fund	for a volunteer project
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	for setting up a food pantry
Jigsaw Housing	for salary and core costs
Trident Foundation	for delivery of skillz & drillz, food
Community Fund - Happy Hurst	for volunteer engagement, Hurstfest, Hurst Band Contest, Gardening Group, marketing and communications
Tameside MBC	for the purchase of a van
Tameside MBC - Safety Fund	for activities and core costs
Tameside MBC - Luncheon Club	for Luncheon Club
Tameside Action Together	to support 'Volunteer Matter' programme with both capital and revenue costs
Tameside MBC	for a hunger/poverty project and for school children during school holidays

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	8,299	-	-	8,299
Cash at bank and in hand	(4,656)	-	54,324	49,668
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(850)	-	650	(200)
Creditors of more than one year	-	-	-	-
Total	2,793	-	54,974	57,767

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Previous reporting period:				
Tangible fixed assets	10,791	-	-	10,791
Cash at bank and in hand	2,513	-	31,622	34,135
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(708)	-	311	(397)
Creditors of more than one year	-	-	-	-
Total	12,596	-	31,933	44,529

19. Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised on a transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at an amortised cost using the effective interest method.

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1166483

Accounts



Registered Charity Number 1166483

Annual Report and Accounts 2021

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

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Report of the trustees for the period 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2021

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31st December 2021. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and 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 published (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Reference and administrative information

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Name: Ashton United in the Community
Charitable Incorporated Organisation Number: 1166483
Date Registered: 12th April 2016

Trustees

The trustees serving during the year to 31st December 2021 were as follows:

Michael George Brown		
Carol Finnigan		(resigned April 2021)
John North	Treasurer	
Christopher Tomlisson		
Victor Tomlisson	Secretary	
Julie Wilson		
David Burke		
Kenneth Philburn		(resigned October 2021)
Andrew Clayton		(appointed April 2021)

Secretary Contact Details

Mr Victor Tomlisson
11 Thornlee Court
Grotton
Oldham
OL4 5RG
Tel: 0161 620 3683
Email: info@auitc.co.uk

Project Manager Contact Details

Stephen Hobson
6 Parkwood Drive
Rawtenstall
BB4 6RP
07868849184
Email: stevehobsonaufc@live.co.uk

Bankers

Trustee Savings Bank
8 Halifax Road
Todmorden
OL14 5AD

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the charity are:

1. The promotion of community participation in healthy recreation in particular by the provision of facilities for the playing of football and other sports.

2. To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25 living in Tameside, Greater Manchester, and the surrounding areas by providing advice and assistance and organising programmes of physical, educational and other activities as a means of:
(a) advancing in life and helping young people by developing their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals;
(b) advancing education;
(c) relieving unemployment.

3. Providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for people living in the area of benefit who have need by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, poverty or social and economic circumstances, with a view to improving the conditions of life of such persons.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, in planning future activities, and setting the policies for the year.

The charity furthers its charitable purposes for the public benefit through undertaking community activities defined following consultation with users and local people e.g. through a community audit

Structure, governance and management

Ashton United in the Community is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its constitution dated 3rd March 2015 and registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Foundation) number 1166483 with the Charity Commission on 12th April 2016.

Appointment of trustees

As set out in the constitution trustees are elected annually by the members of the charitable organisation attending the Annual General meeting. Trustees are appointed for a period of three years and shall retire from office by rotation based on their length of service and may offer themselves for re-election.

Trustee induction and training

Trustees are given information about their role and responsibilities on first being appointed. They are also given a copy of the constitution, information about staffing and the charity management, and are shown copies of policy documents.

Organisation

The trustees administer the charity and meet monthly. A volunteer Project Manager has been appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity and he is supported by a paid Community Development Officer originally operating on a freelance basis but following a pilot scheme appointed in April 2021 as a member of Ashton United in the Community staff, on a 1 year contract.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a trustee or senior manager with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. Trustees must declare any conflict of interest as a standard agenda item at each meeting.
Trustee Carol Finnigan declared that her spouse Andrew Finnigan is appointed as the Community Development Officer and, declaring a conflict of interest, resigned her position as a trustee in April 2021.

Smallshaw Hurst Profile – A United Community

Smallshaw Hurst and District, where Hurst Cross and AUITC is located, and all of our events and activities take place, is a neighbourhood in the top 2% most deprived in England. The events and activities we have provided are aimed at the people from the local community with most if not all reflecting the fact that those taking part have little or no disposable income. Where children are involved most are children who are living in poverty, many with parents not in employment, education or training, from single parent families, or in the care system. The future, for people across our community, looks to be challenging with, amongst other things, increases in inflation and in fuel costs on the horizon, together with reductions in benefits and, for those in work, increased national insurance costs.

AUITC, together with AUFC and Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community SSHCC is a founder member of Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group, and a member of Growing Well in Tameside Partnership, working to support a number of providers across our community. The SSHCC is made up from a collaboration of statutory, voluntary, private organisations, local stakeholders, local communities, children, young people and families seeking to effect systems change in support of local people.
This includes:
Tameside MBC – population health, early years, children and young people's partnership forum, education, Integrated Care Foundation Trust, CCG, GP's, Health Young Minds, TOG Mind, local schools, Ashton 6th Form College, JIGSAW Housing Group, voluntary groups, Broadoak and Smallshaw Community Centre, Greater Manchester Police, Action Together, Active Tameside, Ashton United in the Community, Ashton United FC, local faith groups, local early years providers and local parents. This collaboration is not exhaustive and continues to link into groups, services and people who have a role to play in ensuring a positive impact on children's lives. The work delivered is closely linked to the outcomes of the partnership with shared monitoring and evaluation of activities. SSHCC has a full-time analyst to manage monitoring and evaluation of joint projects.

AUITC has worked throughout the year with these partners to deliver joined up working to the benefit of local people.

A strong and effective partnership structure has enabled joint consultation that identifies need, common issues, and a skills and specialist knowledge resource bank from which the partnership benefits from the likes of:

- economies of scale
- shared learning
- staff resource sharing
- joint initiatives
- consistent and compatible monitoring & evaluation systems and processes
- impact measurement.

The partnership has thrived over the past 3 years and continues to develop as joint initiatives come on stream and partners gain the confidence, trust and understanding in each other's ability and willingness to contribute.

A review of achievements and performance

2021 has proven to be an exciting, albeit challenging year. The stop/start nature of lockdowns - reopening on 2nd December 2020 only to go back into lockdown between January 4th 2021 and 12th April 2021 meant that Ashton United in the Community had to be resilient enough to respond to rapidly changing needs, yet with limited unrestricted funding to do so. Best laid plans were accelerated and despite the challenges of Covid-19 the charity was able to expound upon excellent links with partners, remain resilient and adapt quickly to changes by good planning and networking with stakeholders.

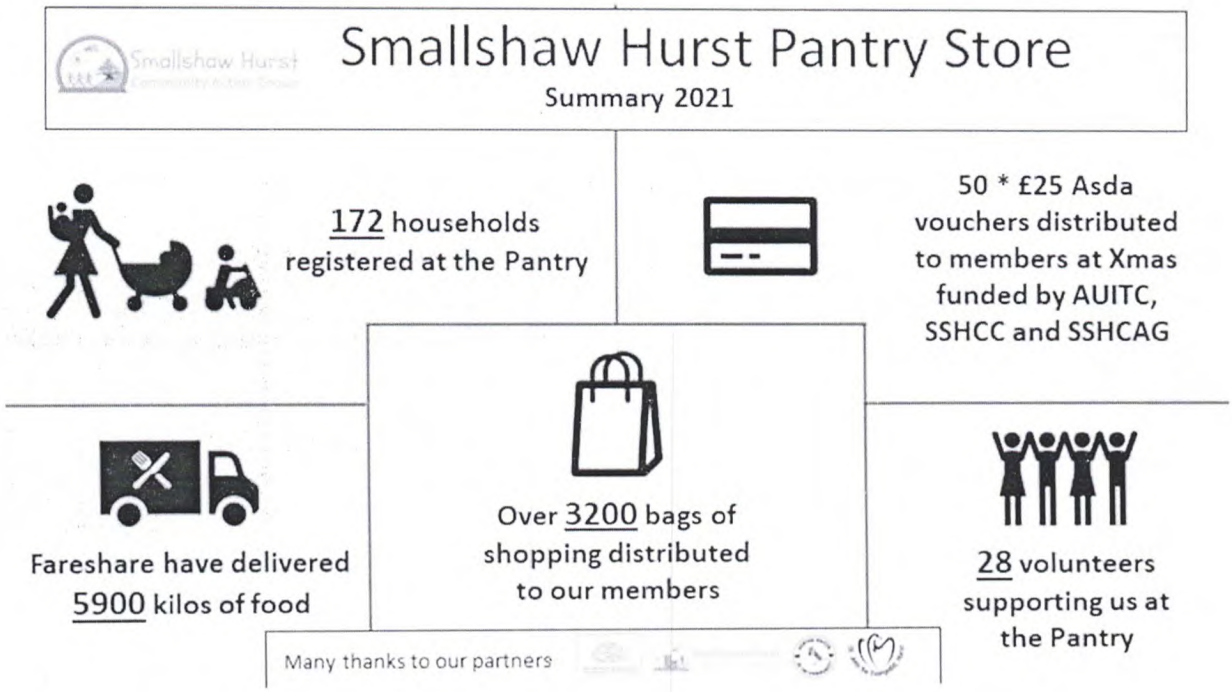
Evidence of this came early in the year with the establishment of Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group, a collaboration between Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community, Ashton United in the Community, Broadoak Community Centre, Ashton United Football Club and St. John's Church. Volunteers representing each of these organisations had expressed an interest in managing the Food Pantry, established at Hurst Cross during 2020 in response to the onset of Covid-19.



Ashton United in the Community

Through building the capacity of the Food Pantry and supporting volunteers to 'stand on their own two feet' we were able to set up and peer support Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group (SSHCAG) to achieve Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status, and establish the running of the food pantry from Cedar Park rather than Hurst Cross stadium. The success of Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group lay in the strong partnership ethos of the organisations involved in founding the group. The shared commitment to make the pantry succeed pervaded all elements of the work, with volunteers from all of the partner organisations coming together for a common good. AUITC continues to play a lead role in the pantry with our Community Development Officer leading the operational aspects of the work and the Project Manager offering guidance re governance and funding.





Also in the early part of 2021 we were able to distribute £10k in vouchers to needy families as part of the TMBC allocated Winter Pressures Fund. Through the voucher scheme people had choice about what they wanted and needed. We used this fund to support our most vulnerable local families, children and individuals to keep warm and healthy over the winter period. Our activities were two-fold; devised to support the 'whole' person and/or family, mind and body and also to give beneficiaries choice in how they felt best to keep fit and healthy.

Taking advice from Tameside Citizens Advice Bureau, we provided ASDA George vouchers for people to buy goods and foods that would help keep them healthy and warm over the winter period. We also provided, activity packs for children, families and individuals; these included older people and people with mental health issues and learning difficulties.

We identified beneficiaries using our strong connections with partners that included:

1. Action Together – Early Help Team
2. Anthony Seddon Trust
3. Smallshaw Hurst Pantry Store

4. Smallshaw-Hurst Children's Community
5. Community Champions
6. Jigsaw Homes

Local people benefitted from the distribution of vouchers:

260 people benefitted from ASDA vouchers
100 vouchers distributed
70 Adult Art Activity Packs distributed
100 Children's Art Activity Packs distributed
100 Family and Children's Physical Activity Packs distributed

Testimonials

The pandemic saw many people losing businesses overnight and almost as quickly plunged people into poverty; many waiting up to 6 weeks for Universal Credit. We have so many examples of how this fund supported people through a bleak winter being able to buy heating and nutritious food. As well as the obvious health benefits this project brought out the best in people and gave people hope and cheer when they most needed it. We had lots of comments from beneficiaries knowing that someone cared enough to reach out; having the gift to do that and reduce loneliness and isolation particularly during the 3rd lockdown was priceless.

'I am overwhelmed with the vouchers. I could not believe that people are so kind, you have made my family so happy. Her eldest son was so pleased that someone has been so kind to his mum ..... we bought fish and vegetables and warm coats for the children'



'My son is non-verbal autistic, on Mother's Day we both coloured, it can be incredibly stressful living with my son but I found the activity relaxing, and we coloured together, discovering something that we both enjoy and can share'

'Thank you sooo much you've all been absolutely amazing and I'm really grateful for this'

'I loaded up my food shopping and was able to spend extra on gas and electric - thank you so much – lockdown has made life so stressful and extra heating, has meant we have less money and struggle, thanks again'

'This put a big smile on my face – I bought fleecy bedding and socks for my children and warm throw – thank you'

'I purchased items for a Beef Stew with Dumplings which is a treat for us. Thank you I am very grateful'

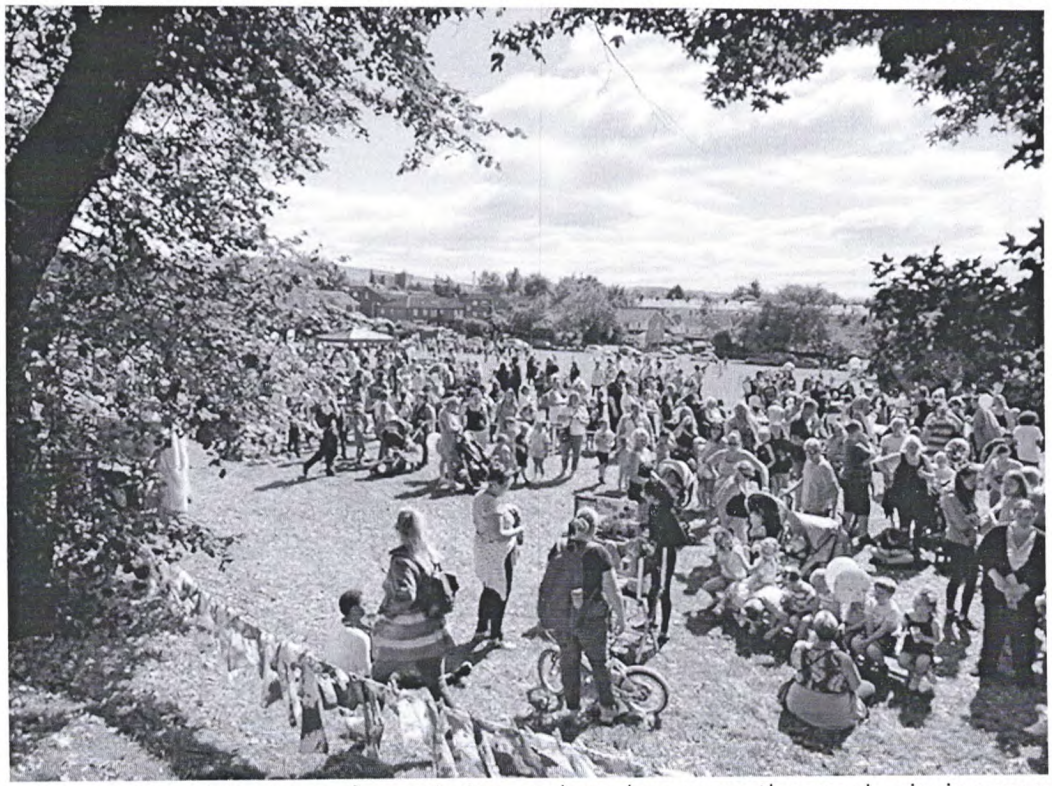
'You are amazing, thank you for thinking of us'

'Thank you for letting us choose what we want – we bought extra meat and fish, to make meals that keep you full and make you feel warm'

HurstFest

With HurstFest 2020 postponed we were keen to ensure that the popular community event continued. The lockdown during the early part of 2021 meant that we were unable to be assured of being able to hold HurstFest 2021 at Hurst Cross but could potentially do so in Cedar Park in the summer.

We are extremely grateful to our partners Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community who managed to secure funding to offer local people, once again, a free to attend event and vouchers to obtain free food, ice cream and a drink.



More than 2000 people attended on a very sunny day in August and were treated to a host of activities including, Skillz & Drillz coaching sessions, circus skills, dance, face painting , archery, bouncy castles, music, singing, games, yoga classes, street performers, cycling course, and much more.



Patron Angela Rayner MP (right) sharing her seat!

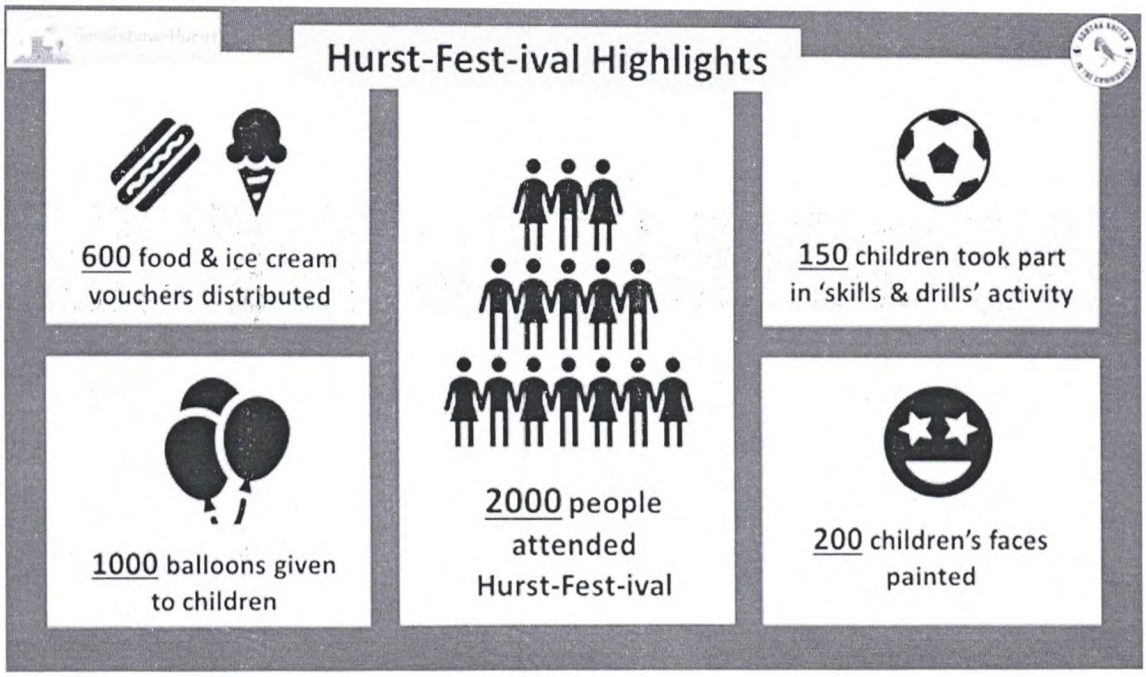


The team of local volunteers worked tirelessly on the day, in scorching heat, to make sure that everyone had a great day out.

The Indian food and yoga sessions and 'clowning around' proved to be very popular







The overwhelming feedback from many of our local residents was. "you have got to do this again" "This is incredible" "It's been such a long time since we gathered together like this" "Loved it" "oh, well done you guys"

Volunteers

A cornerstone of our work continues to be providing local people with volunteering opportunity. During 2021 some people have again been restricted to the amount of time they could offer to volunteer, and indeed some were unable to volunteer due to concerns over their personal safety through shielding. This being said, we have continued to recruit and deploy volunteers (70+ registered delivering 8997hrs volunteering in 2021).

In 2019 the estimated average equivalent market hourly wage rate across a range of volunteer activities was around £13.70 (Power to Change 'Assessing the value of volunteers in community businesses' report June 2020). If we were to place a nominal value of £11 per hour on our volunteers time in 2021 this equates to a social value contribution to volunteering of £98,967, this during a period of time when

volunteering opportunities were restricted by lockdown and a reluctance by some volunteers to engage due to their own health reasons.



Volunteers are utilised in our work beyond Hurst Cross and in and around Ashton United FC, some through home working and giving general support to our efforts to combat Covid-19. People, many with complex needs including LGBTQ, learning disabled, students, unemployed or lonely and isolated individuals, have gained confidence and learned new skills as part of the 'Ashton United Family'. They have engaged in ground maintenance, media, stewarding, and coaching, together with pop up events, the food pantry and in HurstFest.

The ground maintenance volunteers: proud of the contribution they make.

During the summer months there are always plenty of opportunities for volunteers to get out and about in the fresh air, and be part of a team, engaging in activities that improve general mental and physical health and wellbeing. This is achieved by building confidence, reducing isolation and loneliness, making new friends and becoming part of a team.

Volunteer ground duties at Ashton United FC increased with this year the team working on the Main Stand removing old seating, cleaning the terrace area and preparing it for new seating to be installed. They also painted the media suite, swept and power washed terracing ready for painting. With large scale





facility improvements to Hurst Cross the team also busied themselves assisting with demolition of the bar, with removal of the pitch perimeter wall and the erecting of the new barrier fence surrounding the pitch, all labour intensive works.

In between their duties the team also found time to support Tameside Council Environmental services to clean up our area.

Ashton United in the Community

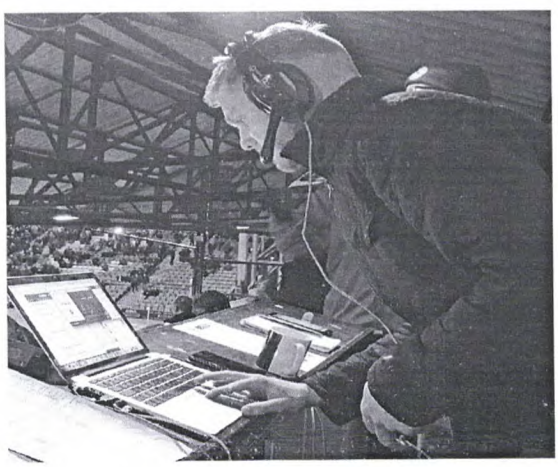
We are pleased to say that at least 3 previously unemployed people have found permanent roles as a consequence of volunteering with us. This year we continued to provide opportunity for people referred to us by The Prince's Trust. In the first two weeks of July a candidate joined us as a full time volunteer putting in 32 hours per week and learning about the various options we offer both to volunteers and in providing support to local people. The placement proved to be a challenge this time round since the person was difficult to engage with and manage. Still, the team persevered and we will continue to accept placements in the future.

In March 2021 we welcomed a new volunteer to the charity. Andy Clayton, with a background in IT, had recently retired from his full time employed role, and first joined to support us with an IT review. He very quickly got the volunteering 'bug' and became indispensable. Within weeks he was committing 20hrs per week to volunteering with the charity and then joined us as a trustee in April 2021. Andy continues to play a vital role in supporting day to day operational duties and the strategic management of the charity.



Volunteer Pauline: A woman exiting an abusive relationship. She was lacking in confidence and self-esteem. She spent time volunteering with the pantry, making new friends and gaining confidence. She undertook a food hygiene course and developed IT skills whilst with us. This led to her securing part time employment with the Ashton United FC catering team: 'My therapist thought it would be good for me to do some volunteer work so I agreed, she got in touch with Action Together who put her in touch with Andy Finnigan at AUITC. Andy invited me join the team, all great people who work together as a team; this is where I met Carol Finnigan who invited me to do some work at Ashton United football club, where I work with another team of great people. This volunteer work has helped me so much with my confidence and kept me from isolation as I live on my own.

Matt was thrown into the limelight as the new Head of Media due to the previous person occupying the voluntary role gaining full time employment and departing. Stepping up from his role as a media volunteer at AUFC, Matt has responded magnificently to a leadership role steering a team of media volunteers, each delivering consistently positive outputs as they learn new skills, and gain knowledge and experience in their chosen discipline for CV's and to present to potential employers.



Matt started volunteering at Ashton United in the Community in 2018 and was deployed as part of the media team at Ashton United, gaining experience through providing radio commentary for home and away games whilst he was studying Sports Journalism at university in Preston. Having graduated in 2019, Matt now works full time as a Branch Manager for an estate agent but his love for sport means he continues to volunteer for AUITC. He is now responsible for the team of volunteers that manage all AUFC social media and website output including for the newly refurbished Cross Bar, match commentaries and filming, interviews and also PA announcements in the ground on match day. Matt commented " I am very grateful to the club for giving me the chance of work experience whilst I was studying and continue to support the club now; it is a great organisation and I hope I can help to provide similar experience and pass on my knowledge to others in the future."



Patrick is a volunteer who devotes many hours of his time to supporting Ashton United in the Community. He always makes himself available for just about every task that is going. In August of the year Patrick decided he wanted to support the charity appeal for a community van by undertaking a sponsored walk from Ashton United's Hurst Cross to Stalybridge Celtic's, Bower Fold; a distance of around 3 miles. Not a huge distance for many, one might think, but a very real challenge for Patrick who was born with Cerebral Palsy. Patrick (pictured to the left of the flag, with well-wishers as he set off) raised just over £1700 towards the running costs of the vehicle and was presented with a certificate as 'Fundraiser of the Year' at the Volunteer Recognition event in November 2021 (pictured above).



Whilst volunteers are proving to be successful in their roles with the charity, with many moving on to further their careers or education, and this remains a desired outcome for the charity, it does present challenges with a high churn rate requiring a constant flow of new volunteers, and a need to provide appropriate training for them relative to their roles. We have managed to maintain the flow of volunteers as people have seen the impact on others and they too are wanting to experience a similar journey. There is a challenge meeting the varying needs of individuals. Keeping people with complex needs focused is difficult when they are volunteering on an ad hoc basis. The charity is looking to develop additional resources to help people learn skills associated to their voluntary role through in-house training or sourcing external provision.

Staff



From April 2021, following the success of the pilot scheme, where our Volunteer Coordinator was redeployed as a Community Development Officer, it was decided to continue with the 'hands on' nature of the role, (here shown foreground overseeing the Skillz & Drillz sessions in Cedar Park).

Utilising grant support from Action Together through the Community Wellbeing Fund, AUITC was able to offer a one year contract to the Community Development Officer. He would again be supported by trustee Julie Wilson as Line Manager and Project Manager Steve Hobson acting in a strategic capacity. Both officers

supporting the Community Development Officer were operating in a voluntary capacity, both with extensive knowledge and experience of the voluntary sector.

The grant support we have continued to receive towards the staffing costs has been crucial to the successful delivery of services and activities to local people, without which our operational capabilities would be severely restrained.

With the confidence that, yet again, we have delivered the outcomes and outputs demanded by our funders, the trustees resolved to becoming an employer rather than engaging self-employed staff. The move to becoming an employer proved to be an arduous journey when factoring HMRC registration and providing a staff pension; the charity is grateful to Treasurer John North for the time and effort expended to conclude the process.

Once again we believe the year has been a huge success albeit in very challenging circumstances. Volunteers we work with thrive on the varying opportunities they are given, gaining confidence and learning new skills. They have demonstrated that, with the opportunities to do so, they can expand their volunteering to the wider community, for example something we have seen in abundance with AUITC volunteers embracing the running of the Food Pantry.

A look into our year

In 2021, still in the grip of the Covid pandemic, the key priorities for Ashton United in the Community had not moved, indeed the demand from local people was increasing as more and more became aware of the services and activities the charity was able to provide, and their personal circumstances changed for the worse. Referrals were increasing from partner organisations and by word of mouth. The immediate needs remained viz. to combat mental and physical health and wellbeing, currently exacerbated by the National lockdown. People continued to suffer loneliness and isolation, lack of food and increased poverty in a community in the top 25 most deprived in England.

Skillz & Drillz



Working with Ashton United Football Club and supported by Active Tameside and Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community we were able to provide free to attend Skillz and Drillz coaching sessions in the summer, at HurstFest and during the October half term.

During the October half-term week Football Skillz & Drillz began on Monday with Ashton United FC First team Player/Coach, and former Barclays Premier League player, Nicky Hunt developing skills and fitness with the Children in an effort to improve their talents in a fun environment. More than 80 Children enjoyed the week of coaching, and we also provided each child with a well-deserved pack lunch, courtesy of Active Tameside. Following the sessions



the children got involved with making spooky faces on the pumpkins to take home, a truly spooktacular day! On the Thursday we were supported by our partner Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community who provided arts & craft sessions to further engage the children. 134 Pumpkins were carved out and taken home by all the participants of the frighteningly great Halloween Activity day.

Pop Up Events



Throughout the holidays we held a programme of pop up events, e.g. the pop-up in Hadfield Crescent/Palace Road was very well attended by parents and children from the area, a neighbourhood with people from diverse backgrounds.

40 children and 18 parents enjoyed playing rounders, skittles and an assault course. Once again participants were provided with a pack lunch as part of the 'Holiday Hunger' initiative. Following the sports element, arts & crafts provided by AUITC partners SSHCC, proved to be a firm favourite for younger children. This event together with all the others on the calendar provided great opportunity for the team to get out and about, chat to residents, parents, carers and friends, youth workers and children to find out about what worked, what we could do better, and what people would like to see in the future.

The Matchday Experience

Part and parcel of the work with Ashton United is providing opportunity for local families to share experiences together. We invite families along to Hurst Cross and make a fuss of them.

The home fixture v Buxton saw two young Robin's fans Derrie & Reece (pictured) thoroughly enjoy themselves through having experienced the job as team mascots.

Introductions were made to the team in the changing rooms by player/coach Nicky Hunt and they joined in with the players during the pre-match warmup, walking out with both teams for the handshakes and also warming up at half-time with the substitutes. Parents of both said they will remember their day for a very long time.



Crowd Funding and community van

The commitment made in support of the food pantry, now managed by Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group, led to a need for transport to enable us and our partners to be flexible enough to pick up food donations, make deliveries, move equipment around to pop up events, etc. In August 2021 we set up a crowd funder appeal to enable the community to have the use of its own van. The vehicle would be owned and managed by AUITC but would be insured and available to other partners to use e.g. Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group, SSHCC, Tameside Youth Services, and AUFC.



Setting a target of £15k the community quickly rallied their support for the project and, together with a grant from Tameside Community Safety Partnership, the target was reached and a vehicle purchased.

Angela Rayner (Ashton United in the Community Patron) presented Steve Hobson (AUITC Project Manager) with the keys to a VW Caddy giving the green light to start utilising the vehicle across the community. The Labour Deputy Leader and local MP said, 'As an incredibly proud AUITC patron, it was my pleasure to unveil their new van which will be a huge help with the incredible work they do throughout my constituency". Steve Hobson said, 'This is another milestone in local community partnership that will benefit us. all. I have to say a massive thanks to those Robins fans, and others, who supported the crowd funder, and also the help we received from the Community Safety Partnership at Tameside Council.

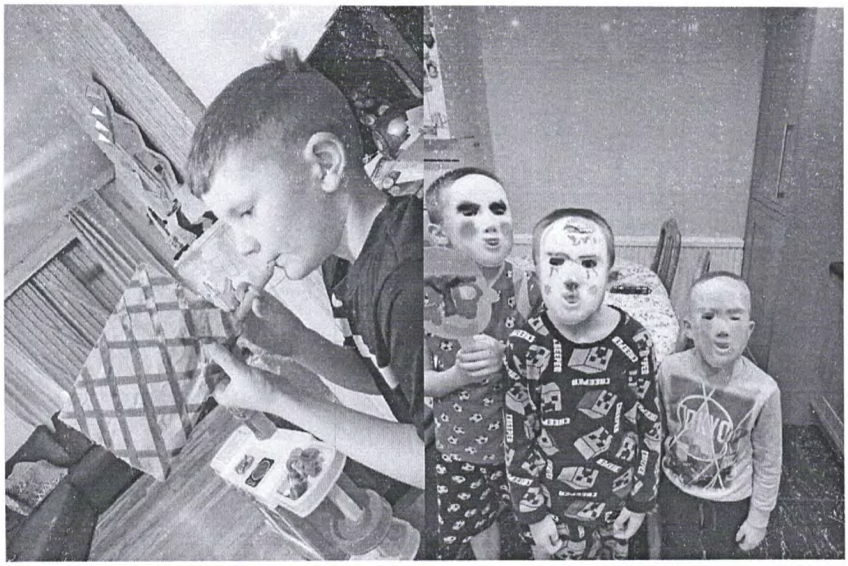
Tameside Councils Executive member for neighbourhoods Allison Gwynne was on hand to officially hand over the keys to Community Development Officer Andy Finnigan at the food pantry said. "I am delighted we have been able to provide the van for all the volunteers at Ashton United in the Community, who do such a vital job in the Hurst and Smallshaw area".



Since it has come into operation the van has been in constant use and is a regular sight, promoting the partners via it's livery, across Smallshaw & Hurst.

Activity packs

Throughout the year Ashton United in the Community has worked very closely with Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community to provide activity packs to keep children occupied. The packs have ranged from arts & crafts, to sports equipment, stickers books and to growing vegetables and sunflowers. The following are some pictures of children enjoying their efforts with letters thanking AUITC & SSHCC for their community support:



[redacted]

22-02-21

Dear AUITC and SHCAG,

I want to let you know that I am really grateful that you make different activity packs for us all during lockdown. They really help us not be bored. I like that the packs have lots of different themes and give us information about different events, like Chinese New year and Burns Night. My favourite activity was the OX as I can look out of the window and see rainbow colours.

I think the volunteers who make these packs are really brilliant! So thank you so much, I will miss them when I go back to school

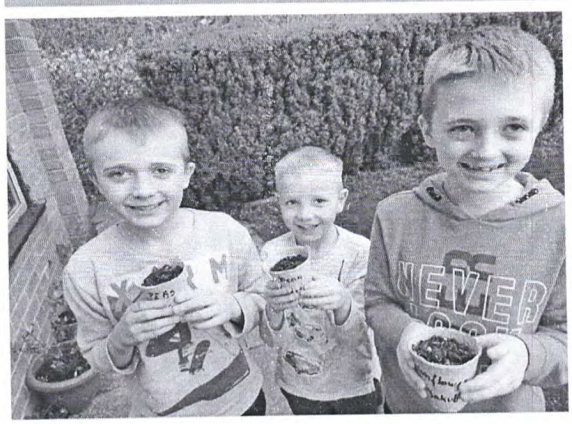
Yours sincerely, Mia (age 9)

For more fantastic resources visit us at www.purplemash.com or follow us on Social Media

[redacted]

22nd February

Dear Community Hero's,
(AUITC and SHCAG)
I would like to thank you for all the work you do for our community.
I was so excited when my mum told me that we would be to able to collect your fun activity packs. I haven't completed them all yet. I did make the valentines heart with flowers. I ~~did not~~ gave this to my ~~AA~~ Nana because she cannot have real flowers. She absolutely loved it!! All us kids are soooo grateful to have these activity packs from you.
Thank-you!!
Yours faithfully
Mia Kendall
Aged 8





Ashton United in the Community

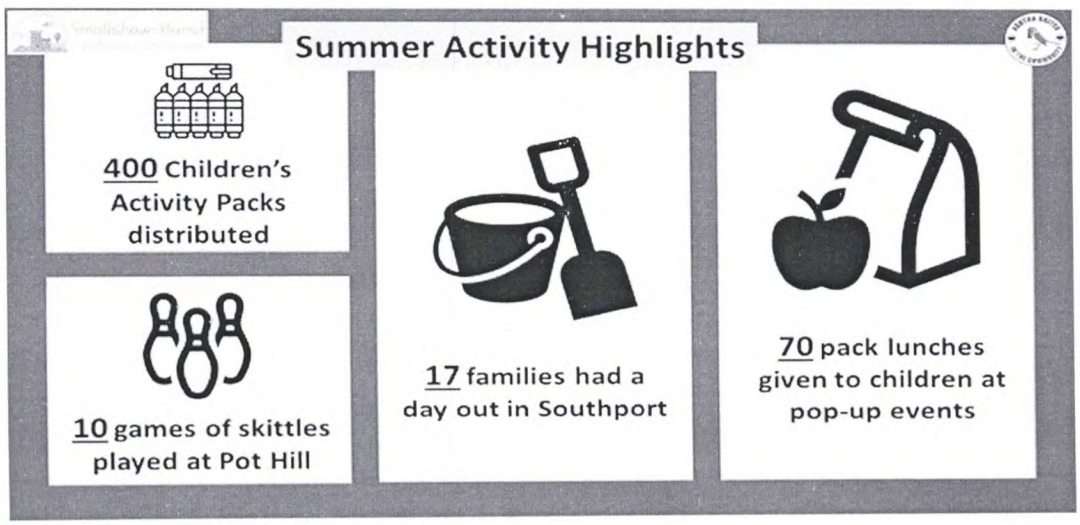
A measure of the level of recognition and trust that Ashton United in the Community has achieved from both the community and partners operating in the neighbourhood was exemplified early in the year when staff from Jigsaw Homes asked for referrals from the team for families to receive Winter Warmer packs. We supported the distribution to 10 families referred by AUITC, by Jigsaw Homes of a duvet or blanket, energy light bulbs, plug socket light timers, socks, gloves and hats.

We received the following response from those referred:

Becky – 'thank you for Ashton United in the Community for nominating our family. At this time of year we look to buy our children new duvets. These items received from AUITC have made a great saving. Once again thank you.'

Maggie: 'Thank you so much it means a lot that you thought of us. I have passed the winter pack on to my daughter for my granddaughter who is a Jigsaw resident as well.'

Summer Activity





Local families enjoyed a day of fun in the Southport sun thanks to a joint fundraising effort spearheaded by our Patron, Ashton-under-Lyne MP Angela Rayner. MP Rayner, Labours' Deputy Leader teamed up with Ashton Hurst Councillor Dolores Lewis, Smallshaw-Hurst Children's Community and Ashton United In The Community to give local families something to smile about after months of misery due to the pandemic and lockdown restrictions. The coach was funded by Councillor Philip Fitzpatrick and Councillor Jacqueline Owen who organised raffles, tombola's and football cards.

Once in Southport, families were able to enjoy the fairground, eat fish and chips and walk along the pier before partaking in a game of rounders on the beach.

Community enterprise



Samie attended at the food pantry during lockdown and told us about her starting a cake business the month before lockdown began. The business was unsuccessful failing primarily due to the onset of the lockdown. She was keen to get the business moving again and was supported by AUITC who brokered a relationship with AUFC where Samie provided cakes for boardroom hospitality for visiting Directors. These cakes are very special since she produced caked iced with the badge of the visiting club. The impetus gained from this new start, and with the help of AUITC to promote her offer locally Samie has begun to develop her business further.

Quality in Action award



In June 2021, after working hard to manage high standards, AUITC was thrilled to have achieved the prestigious Action Together, 'Quality in Action Award', a recognised framework for voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) organisations, working across Tameside, to prove their impact. The award offers an independent, local seal of approval which publicly demonstrates our commitment to quality assurance and continuous improvement. Trustee Andy Clayton is seen here receiving the award on behalf of the charity from Community Development Officer Fouzia Shaikh representing Action Together

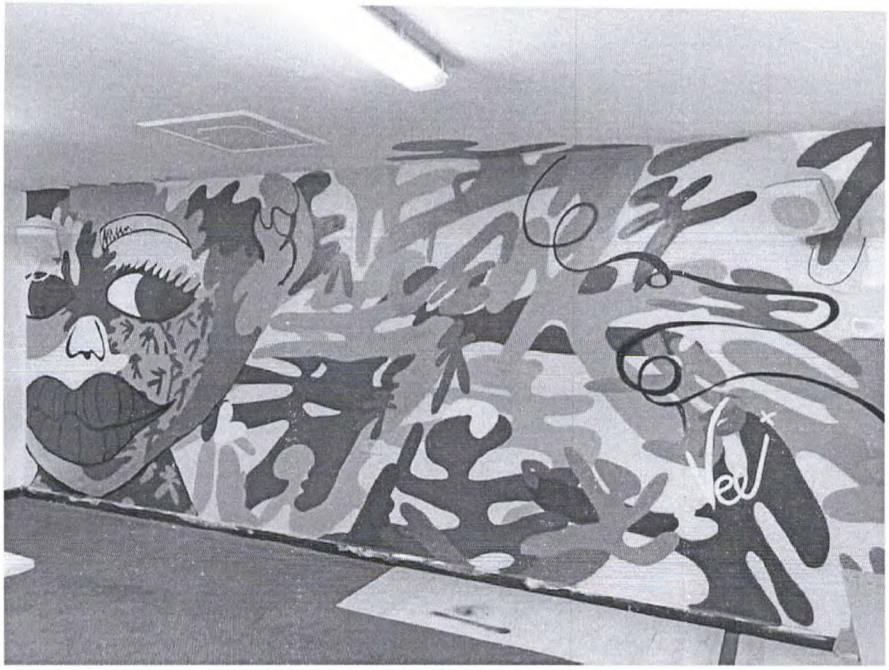
Working Together

AUITC is delighted to be able to work with partners to support local people. Together with those mentioned earlier there are other examples where a partner organisation might be better placed to deliver a particular service of activity but may need our support to facilitate the process. A good example of this was working with our partners from Tameside Youth Service; AUITC secured a grant for sports equipment to be used by young people at the Cedar Park pavilion when engaged with staff from the youth service. With a grant we secured we cere able to buy Badminton Set (4 racquets, 1 x net and 2 shuttles in carry bag), Skipping ropes x 10, Cricket Set x 2, 18 ft Water Slide, Body Bubbles x 2, Rounders Set, Wilson





Basketball x 5, and 20 training bibs. This equipment will be utilised to engage local children and young people helping to improve their mental and physical health and wellbeing and likely to divert them from getting involved in nuisance crime and antisocial behaviour during holidays and evenings.



The partnership also worked through us supporting SSHCC and the youth service by removing rubbish (3 trips to the council tip) from the park pavilion and therein painting (white) the internal rooms prior to SSHCC bringing in an artist to paint a mural (pictured), and supporting greater use of the park pavilion.

AUITC, Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community and Ashton United Football Club have continued to build upon the strong working relationships, established over the past 2 years or more, supporting each other's activities with both financial and staffing resources, and the use of facilities, in the interests of meeting local need.



On 23rd December AUITC supported a Christmas in the Park event organised by SSHCC. Children were thrilled to be visited by Father Christmas and his real life reindeer. 156 children, attending with parents and/or carers, were given presents and hot chocolate drinks with marshmallows. They played games together and were shown and took part in learning Circus skills. All this was provided for visitors to get involved in.

Local people are canvassed when attending the Food Pantry, events, and activities, to determine both their immediate needs and also what they would like to see in the future e.g. what works and what could be done better, what activity packs would people like to see for themselves and also to occupy children during lockdown, what training needs are there amongst volunteers, etc. We also have regular dialogue with our volunteers who are encouraged to speak to us about what their needs are, what they/we might do to improve their role and/or volunteering experience. One important outcome from this process has been a decision to appoint a Training and

Development Coordinator to work with our people, to create opportunities for them to develop the skills and knowledge they seek to improve their lives and the offer we have as a charity.

Coming to You

The 2021 Pensioners Party was cancelled due to the Covid pandemic however thanks to a donation from a pantry volunteer we were able to get out and visit local people with the community van, to deliver Christmas food hampers in lieu. 55 hampers containing food and toiletries were distributed, the value of each hamper, which included well stocked quality food and toiletries, was circa £50.



Volunteer Patrick with SSHCAG Chair Nick



A very grateful recipient with Patrick



In the lead up to Christmas 2021 Ashton United in the Community was supportive of the Tameside Toy Appeal, organised by Action Together. The community van was deployed to pick up toys collected by local businesses and their employees, and delivered to locations for distribution. Pictured is AUITC Trustee Andy Clayton, together with is AUITC Project Manager Steve Hobson out and about with the van and delivering the toys to a local children's centre. Trustee Andy Clayton (left) & Project Manager Steve Hobson (right) seen here with the AUITC Community Van delivering toys for the Tameside Toy Appeal



Early in November 2021 all of the volunteers in the charity were invited to a Volunteer Recognition Evening. The event was the opportunity for people to be recognised for their achievements but, perhaps just as important, the chance to 'let their hair down', share their experiences and bond as a group. With musical entertainment provided by a family member of one of the volunteers and refreshments courtesy of a grant from Action Together the evening was

a huge success and one that will be repeated next year together with other bonding sessions the volunteers have asked to take place. Volunteer Lewis is pictured with his certificate of achievement presented by Project Manager Steve Hobson under the watchful eye of Community Development Officer Andy Finnigan.

Matchdays



Ashton United is a strong supporter of Ashton United in the Community; not just a football club, a family run club that embraces its community and recognises that, in difficult times everyone should all pull together. Importantly our football club partner and their suppliers hold similar values. Volunteering opportunities are available for Saturday and Tuesday fixtures for Ashton United throughout the football season. Volunteers attend prior, during and after games to meet and greet fans, carry out pitch and facilities maintenance, stewarding duties, media, etc. This is the chance for people to socialise, learn new skills, put their training into practice and has proven to be a great grounding for volunteers to hone new skills, put into practice learning and gain confidence as they undertake their duties.

Strong Political Support

Throughout the year we were again grateful to be able to call upon the strong support of local elected members who 'rolled up their sleeves' and got stuck into the task of supporting local constituents.

They were ably supported by both of our Patrons Angela Rayner MP, Deputy Leader of the Labour Party who found time during her very busy schedule to support many of our initiatives; and Jonathan Sayer who supported the charity with fundraising through his Mischief Theatre Company.

Financial review

During the year Ashton United in the Community were successful in a number of grant applications. We are extremely thankful for the support of the following organisations providing grant support (predominantly over £500) toward a number of objectives:

- Action Together Tameside Wellbeing Fund
- The Charity Service
- Active Tameside – Fuel4Fun
- ASDA Foundation
- TESCO
- Jigsaw Housing Trust
- Jigsaw Foundation
- Councillor Mike Glover
- The National Lottery Community Fund

- HM Government
- Save the Children Fund
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council
- Jonathan Sayer
- Ashton United FC players, management & officials.

The grants enable AUITC to develop as a charity and deliver positive outcomes for local people impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, fuel poverty and rising costs of living.

Accounts

Despite the ongoing issues from the Covid19 pandemic the year started very well with plenty of great ideas planned for the forthcoming year ahead and a substantial budget to work with. Unfortunately, the year and the charities plans were halted with the subsequent lockdown of schools and various outlets – this amounted to a huge challenge for the charity as we had many things planned, at an early Trustee meeting we discussed how this was going to impact the local area and the community generally.
We gained various grants over the year, mainly from the government and local organisations (named above) that could see the hard work that the charity was doing in the community, the charity used the income from the grants really well and the replanning and hard work has been rewarded with the charity being more recognised and having a bigger presence in the area.

Investment powers and policy

The trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of operating the charity, have kept available funds in a 'Treasurers Account'.

Reserves policy and going concern

The balance held in unrestricted reserves at 31st December 2021 was £12,596 of which £1,805 are free reserves, after allowing for funds tied up in tangible fixed assets.

The Charity's main source of income is grants and charitable donations. The Trustees consider that it is appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis and, consequently, the accounts do not include any adjustments that would be necessary if these sources of income should cease.

The trustees aim to establish and maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to respond to applications for grants and ensure that support and governance costs are covered.

The trustees consider that the charity is a going concern. Any reliance on grant funding is managed through a flexible approach to activities and project delivery.

Risk management

As the charity continues to establish itself the trustees will conduct regular reviews of the major risks to which the charity may be exposed and systems will be established to mitigate those risks.

Plans for Future Periods

The appointment of a full time Community Development Officer during 2020, to support volunteering and deliver a broad range of experiences for local people to engage was a 'game changer' for the charity and is something we developed upon during 2021.

The main thrust of the charity's work for 2021 will be continued operational and peer support for the Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group Food Pantry, now as an independent entity. We will help Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group maintain and develop their volunteers within their Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status and offer peer support to the group as it continues to develop its own identity.

Plans are in hand to join with partners to organise and deliver HurstFest 2022 and Hurst Village Band Contest both with a Jubilee theme to celebrate the Queens 70th years reign.

We will continue to support the development of football for junior teams, women and girls and will support Ashton United FC to achieve England Football 3 star community hub club status.

AUITC is a managing partner of the Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community (SSHCC) and Growing Well in Tameside Partnership (GWT), working to support a number of providers across our community. We will continue to support the growth of these partnerships and to support the joint initiatives surrounding local need, developed through consultation with local people. AUITC will seek to expand its relationship with local schools and in particular Great Academy Ashton a senior high school accommodating circa 1500 students in the heart of the community we serve.

The charity will continue to support volunteering across all aspects of opportunity available in conjunction with Ashton United FC and our partners. This will involve, amongst other things, organising a volunteer recognition event and pop up events across the district that will include seasonal events e.g. children's Halloween and older persons Christmas parties. Volunteers will continue to learn new skills e.g. media training, stadium maintenance, stewarding, catering, customer service, and more.

These activities will be delivered through the Community Development Officer engaging with partners and the community to determine what is needed and how they would like that need to be met in an inclusive way. Support will be given to people to address their complex needs e.g. CV writing, work readiness training, interview techniques, etc. and is designed through social engagement to help improve confidence and self-esteem, reduce loneliness and isolation, and increase knowledge and skills.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

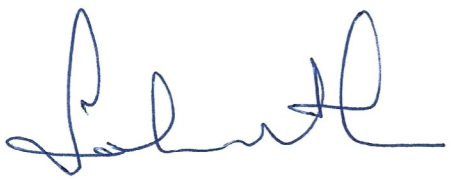
The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees will be required to:

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with legal requirements. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

By order of the trustees



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John North
Treasurer

Date: 11th April 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1166483

I report on the accounts of the charity, for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out on pages 26 to 33.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is preparing accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records have in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act,

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: A.M. King .....

AM King FCCA
Date: 11th April 2022

Community Accountancy Service Ltd
The Grange, Pilgrim Drive, Beswick,
Manchester, M11 3TQ

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021
(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

	Further Details	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds Year Ended 31 December 2021 £	Total Funds Year Ended 31 December 2020 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	(3)	8,167	-	8,167	5,797
Charitable Activities	(4)	11,350	36,345	47,695	54,227
Other Trading Activities	(5)	243	-	243	-
Total		19,760	36,345	56,105	60,024
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds	(6)	1,308	1,152	2,460	5,327
Charitable Activities	(6)	8,180	67,400	75,580	33,779
Other	(6)	-	-	-	-
Total		9,488	68,552	78,040	39,106
Net income/(expenditure)		10,272	(32,207)	(21,935)	20,918
Transfers between funds	(17)	(4,125)	4,125	-	-
Net movement in funds		6,147	(28,082)	(21,935)	20,918
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	(17)	6,449	60,015	66,464	45,546
Total funds carried forward	(17)	12,596	31,933	44,529	66,464

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 29 to 36 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets	(11)	10,791	920
Total fixed assets		10,791	920
Current assets:			
Stocks	(12)	-	-
Debtors	(13)	888	311
Cash at Bank & in Hand		34,135	65,713
Total current assets		35,023	66,024
Liabilities:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(14)	1,285	480
Net current assets or liabilities		33,738	65,544
Total assets less current liabilities		44,529	66,464
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	(16)		
Provisions for liabilities		-	-
Total net assets or liabilities		44,529	66,464
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds	(17)	31,933	60,015
Unrestricted income funds	(17)	12,596	6,449
Total charity funds		44,529	66,464

Approved on behalf of the Trustees Management Committee

John North

Andrew Clayton

Date: 11th April 2022

The notes on pages 29 to 36 form part of these accounts.

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2020
	£	£
Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities		

	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2020
	£	£
Net movement in funds	(21,935)	20,918
Add back depreciation	4,517	1,283
Deduct investment income	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(577)	895
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	805	120
Net cash used in operating activities	(17,190)	23,216
Cash flows from investment activities:		
Interest	-	-
Purchase of fixed assets	(14,388)	-
Net cash provided by investing activities	(14,388)	-
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year	(31,578)	23,216
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	65,713	42,497
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**34,135**	**65,713**

Notes to the accounts

1. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2019 preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 1st January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

(b) Funds structure

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. There are 14 restricted funds (2020: 13).

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.

Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 17.

(c) Income recognition

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

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank. Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

(d) Expenditure Recognition

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 settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. For more information on this attribution refer to note (f) below.

(e) Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

(f) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to independent examination ad legal fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs.

Governance costs and support costs relating to charitable activities have been apportioned based on type of expense. The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in note 8.

(g) Costs of raising funds

The costs of raising funds consists of events.

(h) Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include governance costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in note 7.

(i) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and valued at historical cost. Depreciation is charged on the following basis:

Equipment	33.33% on cost
Motor Vehicles	25% on cost

(j) Realised gains and losses

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their varying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(k) Pensions

The charity currently does not administer contributions to a pension scheme on behalf of individuals.

(l) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

(m) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2. Related party transactions and trustees' expenses and remuneration

The trustees all give freely their time and expertise without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or kind Expenses paid to the trustees in the year totalled £nil (2020: £nil).

3. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£
Donations	8,017	-	8,017	5,797
Raffle Winnings	150	-	150	-
	8,167	-	8,167	5,797

Previous reporting period:

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020
	£	£	£
Donations	3,541	2,256	5,797
	3,541	2,256	5,797

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted grants:				
Asda Foundation	600	-	600	487
Action Together	10,000	-	10,000	-
Football Foundation	750	-	750	-
Groundwork	-	-	-	500
Restricted grants:				
Charity Services	-	1,000	1,000	-
Jigsaw Housing - Food Pantry	-	10,000	10,000	2,000
New Charter Housing	-	-	-	5,600
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	-	-	-	9,640
Tameside MBC	-	9,345	9,345	10,000
Tameside MBC	-	15,000	15,000	-
Tameside Action Together - Smallshaw	-	-	-	1,000
Tameside Action Together	-	1,000	1,000	25,000
	11,350	36,345	47,695	54,227

Previous reporting period:

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020
	£	£	£
Unrestricted grants:			
Asda Foundation	487	-	487
Groundwork	500	-	500
Restricted grants:			
Jigsaw Housing - Food Pantry	-	2,000	2,000
New Charter Housing	-	5,600	5,600
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	-	9,640	9,640
Tameside MBC	-	10,000	10,000
Tameside Action Together - Smallshaw	-	1,000	1,000
Tameside Action Together	-	25,000	25,000
	987	53,240	54,227

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£
Income from Van Rental	243	-	243	-
	243	-	243	-

Previous reporting period:

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020
	£	£	£
Fundraising events	-	-	-
	-	-	-

6. Expenditure

	Community Engagement in Tameside	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2020
	£	£	£
Expenditure on raising funds:			
Advertising	2,405	2,405	300
Event costs	55	55	5,027
	2,460	2,460	5,327
Expenditure on charitable activities:			
Employment Costs	19,412	19,412	-
DBS Costs	48	48	48
Training	2,255	2,255	1,440
Freelance Costs	6,490	6,490	19,511
Telephone	120	120	384
Referees & League Fees	501	501	150
Travel Costs	40	40	40
Refreshments	1,744	1,744	2,621
Project Costs	9,984	9,984	-
Third Party Funds	13,798	13,798	-
Equipment	2,537	2,537	2,215
Cleaning and Rubbish Removal	2,600	2,600	-
Bank Charges	69	69	-
Motor Expenses	755	755	
Repairs and Maintenance	1,724	1,724	-
Room & Facility Hire	-	-	2,664
Subscriptions	53	53	-
Computer & Internet Costs	968	968	1,593
Insurance	291	291	346
Governance	7,410	7,410	480
Post, Printing & Stationery	264	264	1,004
Depreciation	4,517	4,517	1,283
	75,580	75,580	33,779
Other expenditure:			
Sundry	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	78,040	78,040	39,106

Unrestricted funds	9,488	1,360
Restricted funds	68,552	37,746
	78,040	39,106

7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

As per note 6.

8. Allocation of governance and support costs

The breakdown of support costs and how these were allocated between governance and other support costs is shown below:

	General Support	Governance	Total 2021	Basis of apportionment
Accountancy Fees	-	720	720	type of expense
Consultancy	6,000	-	6,000	type of expense
Professional Services	690	-	690	type of expense
	6,690	720	7,410	

Previous reporting period;

	General Support	Governance	Total 2020	Basis of apportionment
Accountancy Fees	-	480	480	type of expense
	-	480	480	

9. Analysis of staff costs

	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2020
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	18,850	-
Redundancy	-	-
Social Security Costs	-	-
Pension Costs	562	-
	19,412	-
Charitable activities	19,412	-
Support costs	-	-
	19,412	-

The average number of employees during the year was 1 (2020: nil).
The charity considers its key management personnel comprises the trustees and volunteer project manager. The total employment benefits, including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel were £nil (2020: £nil).
No employee has benefits in excess of £60,000.
The community development manager was employed from April 2021.

10. Independent Examiner Fees

	Year Ended 31 December 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2020
	£	£
Independent examination fees	720	480
	720	480

11. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Motor Vehicles	Equipment	Total
Cost	£	£	£
At 01 January 2021	-	10,815	10,815
Additions	14,388	-	14,388
At 31 December 2021	14,388	10,815	25,203
Depreciation			
At 01 January 2021	-	9,895	9,895
Charge for Year	3,597	920	4,517
At 31 December 2021	3,597	10,815	14,412
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2021	10,791	-	10,791
At 31 December 2020	-	920	920

12. Stocks

The charity does not hold stocks of any items.

13. Analysis of debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Debtors	-	-
Prepayments	888	311
	888	311

Debtors and prepayments relate to restricted funds £215 (2020: £nil) and unrestricted funds £673 (2020: £311).

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other creditors	212	-
Accruals	720	480
Taxation and social security	353	-
	1,285	480

15. Deferred income

The CIO did not have any deferred income at the period end.

16. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Provisions for liabilities	-	-
	-	-

17. Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 01 January 2021	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	6,449	19,760	(9,488)	(4,125)	12,596
	6,449	19,760	(9,488)	(4,125)	12,596

Previous reporting period:

	Balance at 01 January 2020	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	5,042	4,528	(1,360)	(1,761)	6,449
	5,042	4,528	(1,360)	(1,761)	6,449

Name of unrestricted fund:	Description, nature and purpose of the fund
General Fund	The "free reserves" after allowing for all designated funds

Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 01 January 2021	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Donations for Women's Team	2,301	-	(3,916)	1,615	-
Donations for Food Pantry	598	-	(598)	-	-
The Big Lottery Fund	546	-	(553)	7	-
National League Trust	83	-	-	-	83
Charity Services	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Jigsaw Housing - Food Pantry	3,146	10,000	(4,561)	-	8,585
High Sheriff	126	-	(86)	-	40
Awards for All	604	-	(529)	-	75
Community Fund	724	-	(47)	-	677
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	9,616	-	-	-	9,616
Tameside MBC	10,000	9,345	(19,345)	-	-
Tameside MBC	-	15,000	(4,654)	2,503	12,849
Tameside Action Together - Smallshaw	8	-	-	-	8
Tameside Action Together	32,263	1,000	(33,263)	-	-
	60,015	36,345	(68,552)	4,125	31,933

Previous reporting period:

	Balance at 01 January 2020	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Donations for Women's Team	2,389	1,658	(1,746)	-	2,301
Donations for Food Pantry	-	598	-	-	598
The Big Lottery Fund	546	-	-	-	546
National League Trust	2,121	-	(2,038)	-	83
Jigsaw Housing - Food Pantry	-	2,000	-	1,146	3,146
High Sheriff	126	-	-	-	126
Awards for All	604	-	-	-	604
Community Fund	-	5,600	(2,876)	(2,000)	724
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	-	9,640	(24)	-	9,616
Tameside MBC	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Tameside Action Together - Smallshaw	-	1,000	(4,861)	3,869	8
Tameside Action Together	27,024	25,000	(19,761)	-	32,263
	32,810	55,496	(31,306)	3,015	60,015

Transfers were made from Community Fund into unrestricted funds during the prior year. This was with the consent of the funder.

Name of restricted fund:	Description, nature and purpose of the fund
Donations for Women's Team	for the women's team
Donations for Food Pantry	for the food pantry
The Big Lottery Fund	for HurstFest 2020
National League Trust	to support 'Volunteer Matter' programme with both capital and revenue costs
Charity Services	for project costs
Jigsaw Housing - Food Pantry	for the food pantry
High Sheriff	towards general running costs associated with HurstFest
Awards for All	towards a governance, business planning and capacity building project
Community Fund	for a volunteer project
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	for setting up a food pantry
Tameside MBC	winter pressure grant
Tameside MBC	for the purchase of a van
Tameside Action Together - Smallshaw	for a hunger/poverty project and for school children during school holidays
Tameside Action Together	to support 'Volunteer Matter' programme with both capital and revenue costs

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	10,791	-	-	10,791
Cash at bank and in hand	2,513	-	31,622	34,135
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(708)	-	311	(397)
Creditors of more than one year	-	-	-	-
Total	12,596	-	31,933	44,529

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Previous reporting period:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	920	920
Cash at bank and in hand	6,929	-	58,784	65,713
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(480)	-	311	(169)
Creditors of more than one year	-	-	-	-
Total	6,449	-	60,015	66,464

19. Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised on a transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at an amortised cost using the effective interest method.

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1166483

Accounts



Annual Report and Accounts 2020

Report of the trustees for the period 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31st December 2020. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and 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 published (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Reference and administrative information

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Name: Ashton United in the Community
Charitable Incorporated Organisation Number: 1166483
Date Registered: 12th April 2016

Trustees

The trustees serving during the year to 31st December 2020 were as follows:

Michael George Brown
Carol Finnigan
John North (Treasurer)
Christopher Tomlisson
Victor Tomlisson (Secretary)
Julie Wilson
David Burke
Kenneth Philburn

Secretary Contact Details

Mr Victor Tomlisson
11 Thornlee Court
Grotton
Oldham
OL4 5RG
Tel: 0161 620 3683
Email: info@auitc.co.uk

Project Manager Contact Details

Stephen Hobson
6 Parkwood Drive
Rawtenstall
BB4 6RP
07868849184
Email: stevehobsonaufc@live.co.uk

Bankers

Trustee Savings Bank, Sort Code: 77-76-18

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the charity are:

1. The promotion of community participation in healthy recreation in particular by the provision of facilities for the playing of football and other sports.

2. To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25 living in Tameside, Greater Manchester, and the surrounding areas by providing advice and assistance and organising programmes of physical, educational and other activities as a means of:
(a) advancing in life and helping young people by developing their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals;
(b) advancing education;
(c) relieving unemployment.

3. Providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for people living in the area of benefit who have need by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, poverty or social and economic circumstances, with a view to improving the conditions of life of such persons.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, in planning future activities, and setting the policies for the year.

The charity furthers its charitable purposes for the public benefit through undertaking community activities defined following consultation with users and local people e.g. through a community audit

Structure, governance and management

Ashton United in the Community is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its constitution dated 3rd March 2015 and registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Foundation) number 1166483 with the Charity Commission on 12th April 2016.

Appointment of trustees

As set out in the constitution trustees are elected annually by the members of the charitable organisation attending the Annual General meeting. Trustees are appointed for a period of three years and shall retire from office by rotation based on their length of service and may offer themselves for re-election.

Trustee induction and training

Trustees are given information about their role and responsibilities on first being appointed. They are also given a copy of the constitution, information about staffing and the charity management, and are shown copies of policy documents.

Organisation

The trustees administer the charity and meet monthly. A volunteer Project Manager has been appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity and he is supported by a paid Community Development Officer operating on a freelance basis.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a trustee or senior manager with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. Trustees must declare any conflict of interest as a standard agenda item at each meeting.
Trustee Carol Finnigan declares that her spouse Andrew Finnigan is appointed as the Community Development Officer and, declaring a conflict of interest, absents herself from any discussions related to the role during trustees meetings.

A review of achievements and performance

The early part of 2020 started with AUITC providing Media Training courses. The courses, 'Introduction to Media', were delivered free to participants by media professionals from My Tameside, James Dean and Josh Littlehales, and were open to all to attend. The course was split into modules where people could book one or more of the modules they were interested in, on the dates determined. The sessions were for 2½hrs on Monday and Thursday evenings in January/February 2020 and were 'taster' sessions aimed at giving an overview to people wanting to understand more about media engagement in a sports and/or charity background.
Of 12 participants across the programme 11 were either happy or very happy about the content and delivery with responses to the course evaluation such as:
'I was worried it would be beyond me but I understood everything, felt comfortable and had a few laughs alongside learning a lot'
'Good look at Facebook & Twitter, learnt some good general info and some top tips'

At the end of January, collaborating with partners from Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community, New Charter Homes and Broadoak Community Centre we were able to launch New Year, New You New Opportunities – Little People and Friends was free weekly play sessions designed to give partners the opportunity to support building confidence in parents and build awareness of their critical role in their child's development, accessible peer support; and also, helping to further map the early years system from a beneficiary perspective and collect that much needed quantitative data to give a valuable insight into the system. Little People and Friends was well received by local people with numbers increasing weekly from a standing start. 5 child minders and 5 parents, between 20 – 25 children, age 0 – 3 were attending each week by March. What was interesting and worthy of note was that, many parents and tots groups exclude Child Minders, as they are seen as a business, but we are of the view that these local children still benefit from socialising. We had a group of parents and childminders ready to take on the running of the group and move to a bigger space at the Broadoak & Smallshaw Community Centre but COVID-19 stopped that! As soon as possible the charity will support our partners will reach out to engage this group and support home learning and child development, encouraging engagement with books and puppets.

Ashton United in the Community

On 24th February 2020 our newly appointed Community Development Manager resigned, for personal reasons. Given the nature of the work being undertaken it was decided by the trustees to extend the working hours of the Volunteer Coordinator and redeploy him as a Community Development Officer to be supported by trustee Julie Wilson as Line Manager and Project Manager Steve Hobson acting in a strategic capacity. Both officers supporting the Community Development Officer were operating in a voluntary capacity, both with extensive knowledge and experience of the voluntary sector.

Plans for HurstFest 2020 were well under way until the Covid-19 pandemic started to spread rapidly and the difficult decision to cancel was made in early March when it became apparent that the safety of people might be compromised if the event were to go ahead. By the end of March, early April, the decision to cancel was vindicated by Government advice regarding the cancellation of all such events and suspension of all football activities at Hurst Cross.

With the steadily increasing spread of Covid-19 the demands on Ashton United in the Community grew rapidly. Local people looked to the charity for support and the trustees responded swiftly to focus all of the charities resources on tackling local need. Ashton United in the Community operating in Smallshaw-Hurst during the Covid 19 pandemic recognised early that we were reaching out to some of the most vulnerable people in the community of Ashton, if not England.
Consequently the focus of the charity's efforts was shifted from March off to support those most in need in our community. AUITC formed a partnership with Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community, St John's Church, Ashton United Football Club and Broadoak Community Centre to target local need under the auspices of Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group.



The partners swiftly undertook some consultation and research to identify what local people needed to address the situation they found themselves in, compounded by Covid-19. The immediate need was to combat mental and physical health and wellbeing brought about by the National lockdown. People were suffering loneliness and isolation, lack of food and increased poverty in an area already in the top 25 most deprived in England.

Ashton United in the Community



AUITC and Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community collaborated with both financial and staffing resources, and Ashton United Football Club the use of facilities, to set up a Pop-Up Food Pantry, and deliver Pop-Up events distributing activity sets and Fare Share food packs for families across the neighbourhood. During the early days local people were canvassed regarding their immediate needs with some volunteering to support local resilience to the pandemic. Others gave their views on the type of activities they would like to see to occupy children during lockdown.

From mid-April the partnership was able to provide a weekly theme of activities, with free resources to families with which to follow the theme and events as follows:

April – Colouring and games





Just got ours, thank you so much, very much appreciated after an emotional day! Kids love them ❤xx - Dawn

May – VE Day, Slime, Growing Sunflowers, Bubble Paints

We had a request from Angela Rayner MP to choose three of your VE Day pictures to frame and put up in parliament. It was so hard to choose!



Our volunteers selected these three amazing pics from the Selby family, Beth and Mckenzie Carr and Tanish Mistry ❤️💙❤️💙❤️💙



They look fantastic! I'm so proud of all the children's work. I'm looking forward to putting them up in the Palace *(Westminster)* so everyone else who visits including our international guests once we are through this pandemic can see how talented the children from Ashton are. 😇
Angela Rayner MP,
Labour Deputy Leader
Patron AUITC



He loves messy stuff haha 😂
thank you again such a lovely thing to do for the community 😊 xx - Anon





My children and I absolutely love what you are all doing for our local community.
These kind of activity packs that you are giving the families are just what they need
to keep them occupied during these strange times.
Thank you so much ❤️❤️ - Dawn



Ashton United in the Community

June - Face Painting, AUFC Gifts, Pom Poms, Painting & Printing







Guess what we've been doing today ..... thank you so much we had such a good day the minis are now looking online at Snazzaroo 🤔🤦🏾‍♀️🤣 x x - Sammie





Ashton United in the Community

July - Projectors, Under the sea, Mixed Greens, Mini Beasts, Science, Fareshare



Thank you so very much for my pack, I'm grateful for the delivery, while I've been in work all the lockdown, you have been and are an amazing team 👏😘❤️ - Leanne





Having fun in the sun doing some experiments with his science activity. Thank you so much you are all amazing😊😊 - Anon



Thank you for our mixed green veg activity. Maisy has really enjoyed it. You are all doing a great job of keeping our children entertained during this difficult time.😊😊

Ashton United in the Community

August – Origami, Clay Modelling, Rice Krispie Buns, Fareshare



Here is an amazing team, and each week activities that my girls love, best thing since lockdown...
staff are brilliant and friendly pop down or message get joined up
xxx - Emma



I left the girls to make the rice crispy cakes by themselves. I just supervised when they microwaved the chocolate. They did pretty good and didn't make too much mess and Tilly 'helped' to clean up after 😂😂 - Anon



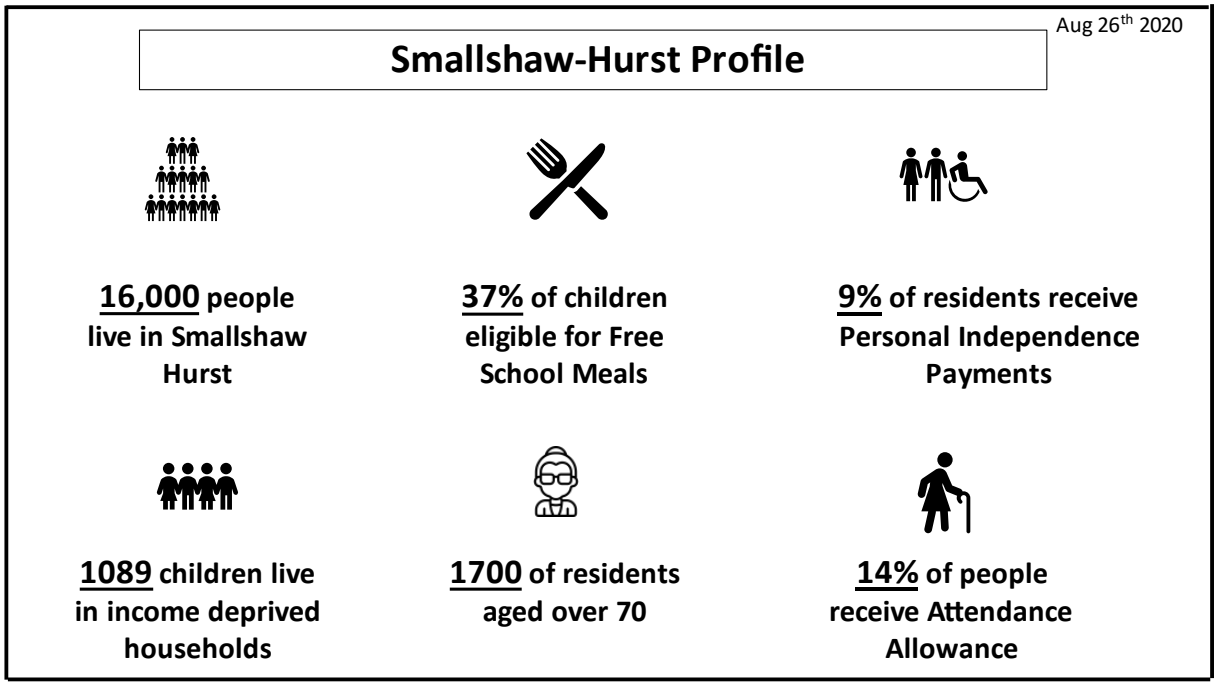




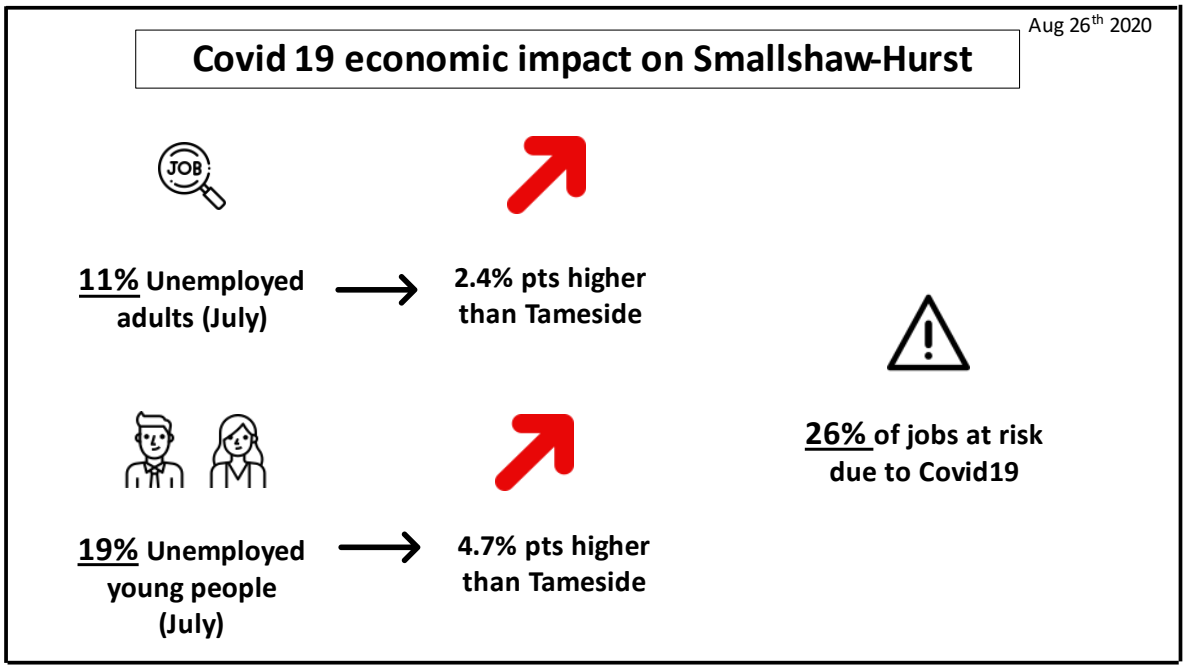
And parent's wanted to have a go too!!
Not only the kids enjoying the aired dried clay.
Mummy had a little play earlier, my little clay- Anon

Whilst the weekly activities were proving to be a huge success and a lifeline to so many families we were still able to provide food distributed at our pop up events as part of the holiday hunger initiative, and through our Food Pantry operating out of Ashton United Football Club

By August 2020 the impact of Covid-19 was becoming more apparent and a piece of research was undertaken, coordinated by our partners Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community, which examined the profile of Smallshaw Hurst and compared the economic impact of Covid-19 on people already suffering from the effects of deprivation.



The research, measured against the statistics for the wider borough, clearly demonstrated that the impact on people in Smallshaw – Hurst was disproportionate to the rest of Tameside as a whole.



Ashton United in the Community

By the end of August 2020, working with our friends under the title of Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group, we had been able to make a huge impact on the lives of local people, who were turning to us in numbers for support.



In September 2020 the schools returned and the need for weekly activities dissipated whereupon the focus of the charity was more towards developing a food pantry. A steering group was established with a view to exploring the opportunity for a Food Pantry to become a more permanent feature of the community, and an entity in its own right.

Community events and neighbourhood support continued however they were limited by the restrictions imposed on communities by the Government, and to ensure the safety of everyone engaging with what was on offer.

Rather than simply cancelling the planned events we demonstrated the resilient nature of the charity and the people we support by adapting to the challenges presented to us.



At Halloween it was simply a case of adapting the Food Pantry offer to include games and activities for children to enjoy.

Ashton United in the Community



Swiftly followed by an alternative to the Pensioners Party the delivery of food hampers in lieu, prepared by our volunteers in the kitchens at Hurst Cross stadium.







And of course the kids couldn't miss out on Father Christmas visiting, albeit socially distanced.

Robins Recycling Shows GR8 Teamwork

Community news out of Hurst Cross: in the run up to Christmas the team displayed a great team effort to provide some furniture to local families. Ashton United Co-Chairman David Burke was replacing two, two-seater settees in his home and called upon Ashton United in the Community to find a 'home' for each.

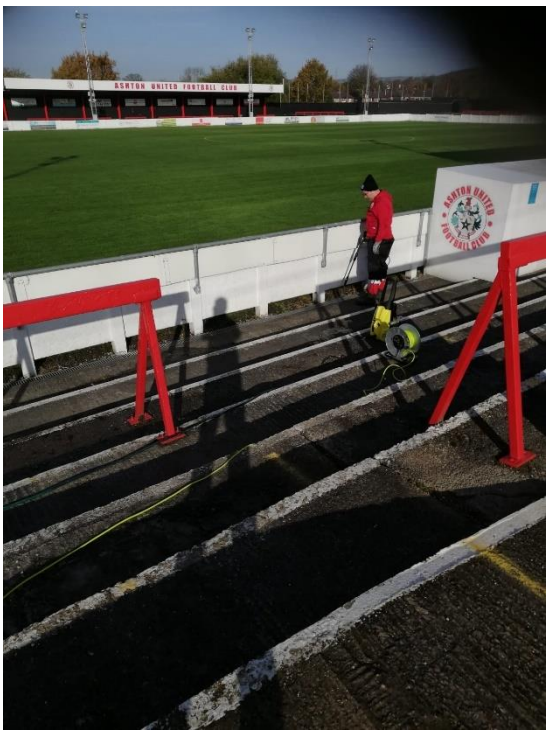


The community team utilised their local contacts and quickly found two families that would benefit from the gift.

How do we shift them was the next problem? Up stepped Paul Marr, Managing Director of Ashton United club kit suppliers, GR8 Sports, who offered his own time and transport to make sure two families received an early Christmas present.



Ashton United is a strong supporter of Ashton United in the Community; not just a football club, a family run club that embraces its community and recognises that, in difficult times everyone should all pull together. Importantly our football club partner and their suppliers hold similar values.



Volunteering

A cornerstone of our work is providing local people with volunteering opportunity. During 2020 some people have been restricted to the amount of time they could offer to volunteer, and indeed some were unable to volunteer due to concerns over their personal safety through shielding. This being said, over the year 66 volunteers were engaged and have delivered 12,666 hours volunteering their time, each volunteer reporting their commitment each month.

They have been engaged daily volunteering at Hurst Cross, through home working, supporting the food pantry, pop up events, holiday hunger and giving general support to our efforts to combat Covid-19. In 2019 the estimated average equivalent market hourly wage

rate across a range of volunteer activities was around £13.70 (Power to Change 'Assessing the value of volunteers in community businesses' report June 2020). If we were to place a nominal value of £10 per hour on our volunteers time this equates to a social value contribution to volunteering of £126,660

Once again we believe the year has been a huge success albeit in very challenging circumstances. The grant support we have received towards the staffing costs has been the key driver of our success. We've learned that the volunteers we work with thrive on the varying opportunities they are given. They tell us that through social interaction and commitment to volunteering they gained confidence and learned new skills, such that they want to reach out across the wider community and support others, both individuals and organisations, to make positive change in their lives.

Matchdays – Saturday and Tuesday fixtures for Ashton United throughout the football season.





Volunteers attend prior, during and after games to meet and greet fans, carry out pitch and facilities maintenance, stewarding duties, media, etc. This is the opportunity for people to socialise, learn new skills, put their training into practice. Here we see volunteers learning about grounds maintenance and pitch renovation methods.

Case Studies

Individual 1 - No Child Should Go Hungry (NCSGH) December Campaign.

Claire (not her real name) is mum to five children and her youngest child is pre-school age. Her husband works full time and earns above average wage, but they struggle to make ends meet, particularly over the Christmas period and during school holidays. She says the weekly food pantry has provided a lifeline to her and her family. The variety of food available provides ingredients, fresh fruit and vegetables for breakfast, dinner and tea and more recently, ideas for recipes.

Claire reports 'I come to Ashton United Football Club and everyone is warm and welcoming, I was nervous at first but came with a friend, I look forward to the weekly chat with the volunteers and I also enjoy the FaceBook page. I get to find out other information as well and I also know that it isn't just my family in this situation, where my husband works full time and we still struggle financially, I can't thank these guys enough'.

Individual 2 – ***Stuart*'s *story*** (not his real name) an unemployed family man low on confidence and self-esteem, first became involved with Ashton United in the Community through attending the Food Pantry with his partner and children. Having been so grateful for the support given to him he offered to volunteer his time as '*my way of giving back for the support received*'. After several weeks helping out at

Food Pantry, on ground maintenance duties, and on match days as a steward Stuart's confidence and self-esteem grew and he was able to secure full time employment. He still remains a committed volunteer in his spare time.

Smallshaw Hurst Profile – A United Community

Smallshaw Hurst and District, where Hurst Cross and AUITC is located, and all of our events and activities take place, is a neighbourhood in the top 2% most deprived in England. The events and activities we have provided are aimed at the people from the local community with most if not all reflecting the fact that those taking part have little or no disposable income. Where children are involved most are children who are living in poverty, many with parents not in employment, education or training, from single parent families, or in the care system. AUITC, together with AUFC and Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community SSHCC is a founder member of Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group, and a member of Growing Well in Tameside Partnership, working to support a number of providers across our community. The SSHCC is made up from a collaboration of statutory, voluntary, private organisations, local stakeholders, local communities, children, young people and families seeking to effect systems change in support of local people.

This includes:

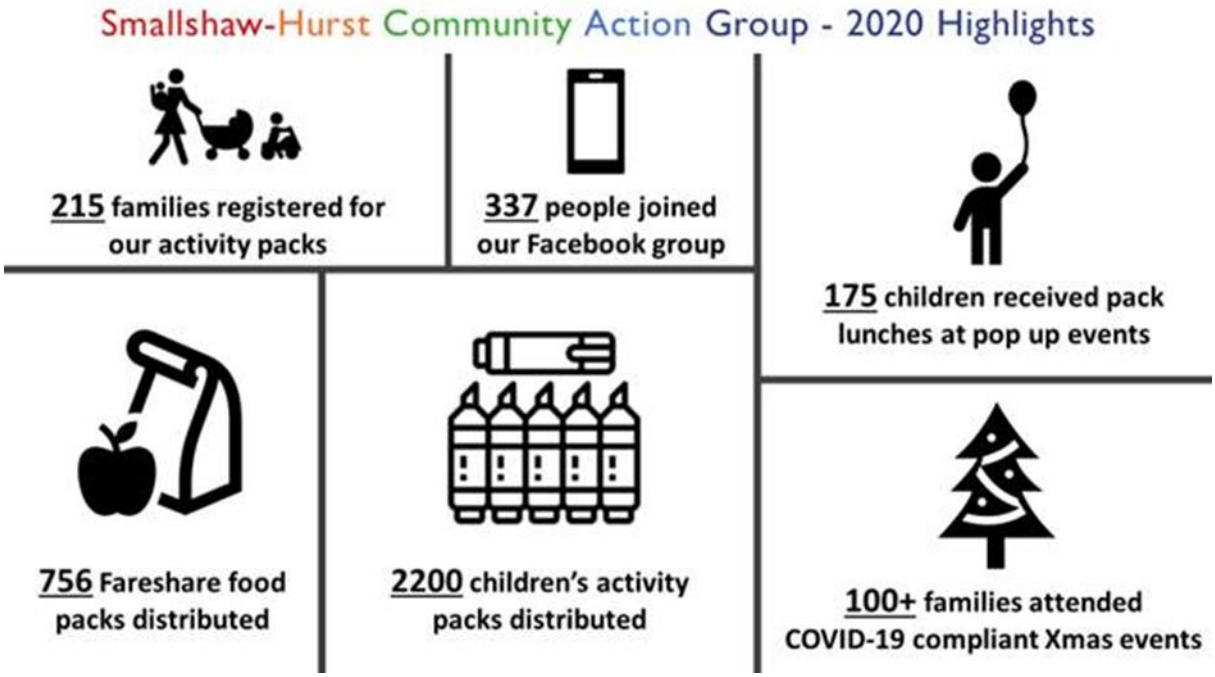
Tameside MBC – population health, early years, children and young people's partnership forum, education, Integrated Care Foundation Trust, CCG, GP's, Health Young Minds, TOG Mind, local schools, Ashton 6th Form College, JIGSAW Housing Group, voluntary groups, Broadoak and Smallshaw Community Centre, Greater Manchester Police, Action Together, Active Tameside, Ashton United in the Community, Ashton United FC, local faith groups, local early years providers and local parents. This collaboration is not exhaustive and continues to link into groups, services and people who have a role to play in ensuring a positive impact on children's lives. The work delivered is closely linked to the outcomes of the partnership with shared monitoring and evaluation of activities. SSHCC has a full-time analyst to manage monitoring and evaluation of joint projects.

AUITC has worked throughout the year with these partners to deliver joined up working to the benefit of local people.

A strong and effective partnership structure has enabled joint consultation that identifies need, common issues, and a skills and specialist knowledge resource bank from which the partnership benefits from the likes of:

- economies of scale
- shared learning
- staff resource sharing
- joint initiatives
- consistent and compatible monitoring & evaluation systems and processes
- impact measurement.

The partnership has thrived over the past 2 years and continues to develop as joint initiatives come on stream and partners gain the confidence and understanding in each other's ability and willingness to contribute.



Strong Political Support

Throughout the year we were grateful to be able to call upon the strong support of local elected members who 'rolled up their sleeves' and got stuck into the task of supporting local constituents.



Such was the interest in this initiative that our local Councillors, Leigh Drennan and Mike Glover, attended and were delighted to help out by distributing the food parcels.

They were ably supported by both of our Patrons Angela Rayner MP, Deputy Leader of the Labour Party who found time during her very busy schedule to help pack food for our Holiday Hunger project; and Jonathan Sayer who supported the charity with fundraising through his Mischief Theatre Company

Financial review

During the year Ashton United in the Community were successful in a number of grant applications. We are extremely thankful for the support of the following organisations providing grant support (predominantly over £500) toward a number of objectives:

- Action Together Tameside Wellbeing Fund
- ASDA Foundation
- TESCO
- Jigsaw Housing
- Councillor Mike Glover
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- HM Government
- Save the Children Fund
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council
- Jonathan Sayer
- Ashton United FC players, management & officials.

The grants enable AUITC to develop as a charity and engage with local people who are supporters of the football club, and the wider community. The early part of 2020 was spent delivering projects in support of funding secured in 2019, with other grant funding support primarily focussed on delivering improved outcomes for local people impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Accounts

The year started very well with plenty of great ideas planned for the forthcoming year ahead and a substantial budget to work with. Unfortunately, the year and the plans were quickly halted with the Covid19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown of schools and various outlets – this amounted to a huge challenge for the charity as we had many things planned, we discussed how this was to impact the local area and the community generally.
We gained various grants over the year, mainly from the government and local organisations (named above) that could see the hard work that the charity was doing, we used the grant money really well and the hard work has been rewarded with the charity being more recognised and having a bigger presence in the area.

Investment powers and policy

The trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of operating the charity, have kept available funds in a 'Treasurers Account'.

Reserves policy and going concern

The balance held in unrestricted reserves at 31st December 2020 was £65,379.18 of which £10,059.83 are free reserves, after allowing for funds tied up in tangible fixed assets.

The Charity's main source of income is grants and charitable donations. The Trustees consider that it is appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis and, consequently, the accounts do not include any adjustments that would be necessary if these sources of income should cease.

The trustees aim to establish and maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to respond to applications for grants and ensure that support and governance costs are covered.

The trustees consider that the charity is a going concern. Any reliance on grant funding is managed through a flexible approach to activities and project delivery.

Risk management

As the charity continues to establish itself the trustees will conduct regular reviews of the major risks to which the charity may be exposed and systems will be established to mitigate those risks.

Plans for Future Periods

The appointment of a full time Community Development Officer during 2020, to support volunteering and deliver a broad range of experiences for local people to engage with, has been a 'game changer' for the charity and is something we hope to expand upon during 2021.

The main thrust of the charity's work for the early part of 2020 will be supporting the establishment of a Food Pantry as an independent entity. We will help Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group secure Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status and offer peer support to the group as it begins to 'stand on its own two feet'.

Covid-19 permitting we will explore the opportunity to organise and deliver HurstFest 2021, the date of which will be dependent upon restrictions being lifted. In a similar vein we would look to be part of the organising group for Ashton Band contest, should it too go ahead.

We will continue to support the development of women and girls football and utilise the restricted funding we hold specifically for this purpose.

AUITC is a managing partner of the Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community (SSHCC) and Growing Well in Tameside Partnership (GWT), working to support a number of providers across our community. We will continue to support the growth of these partnerships and to support the joint initiatives surrounding local need, developed through consultation with local people.

The charity will continue to support volunteering across all aspects of opportunity available in conjunction with Ashton United FC and our partners. This will involve, amongst other things, organising a volunteer recognition event and pop up events across the district that will include seasonal events e.g. children's Halloween and older persons Christmas parties. Volunteers will continue to learn new skills e.g. media training, stadium maintenance, stewarding, catering, customer service, and more.

These activities will be delivered through the Community Development Officer engaging with partners and the community to determine what is needed and how they would like that need to be met in an inclusive way. Support will be given to people to address their complex needs e.g. CV writing, work readiness training, interview techniques, etc. and is designed through social engagement to help improve confidence and self-esteem, reduce loneliness and isolation, and increase knowledge and skills.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees will be required to:

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with legal requirements. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

By order of the trustees



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Treasurer Date: 1st March 2021

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Registered Charity No. 1166483

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

INDEX

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Annual Report and Accounts 2020

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31st December 2020

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31st December 2020. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and 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 published (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Reference and administrative information

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Name: Ashton United in the Community
Charitable Incorporated Organisation Number: 1166483
Date Registered: 12th April 2016

Trustees

The trustees serving during the year to 31st December 2020 were as follows:

Michael George Brown		
Carol Finnigan		
John North	Treasurer	
Christopher Tomlisson		(appointed May 2020)
Victor Tomlisson	Secretary	
Julie Wilson		
David Burke		
Kenneth Philburn		

Project Manager

Stephen Hobson

Principal Office

11 Thornlee Court
Grotton
Oldham
OL4 5RG

Independent Examiners

Community Accountancy Service Limited
The Grange
Pilgrim Drive
Beswick
Manchester
M11 3TQ

Bankers

Trustee Savings Bank
8 Halifax Road
Todmorden
OL14 5AD

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the charity are:

1. The promotion of community participation in healthy recreation in particular by the provision of facilities for the playing of football and other sports.

2. To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25 living in Tameside, Greater Manchester, and the surrounding areas by providing advice and assistance and organising programmes of physical, educational and other activities as a means of:
(a) advancing in life and helping young people by developing their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals;
(b) advancing education;
(c) relieving unemployment.

3. Providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for people living in the area of benefit who have need by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, poverty or social and economic circumstances, with a view to improving the conditions of life of such persons.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, in planning future activities, and setting the policies for the year.

The charity furthers its charitable purposes for the public benefit through undertaking community activities defined following consultation with users and local people e.g. through a community audit

Structure, governance and management

Ashton United in the Community is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its constitution dated 3rd March 2015 and registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Foundation) number 1166483 with the Charity Commission on 12th April 2016.

Appointment of trustees

As set out in the constitution trustees are elected annually by the members of the charitable organisation attending the Annual General meeting. Trustees are appointed for a period of three years and shall retire from office by rotation based on their length of service and may offer themselves for re-election.

Trustee induction and training

Trustees are given information about their role and responsibilities on first being appointed. They are also given a copy of the constitution, information about staffing and the charity management, and are shown copies of policy documents.

Organisation

The trustees administer the charity and meet monthly. A volunteer Project Manager has been appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity and he is supported by a paid Community Development Officer operating on a freelance basis.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a trustee or senior manager with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. Trustees must declare any conflict of interest as a standard agenda item at each meeting.
Trustee Carol Finnigan declares that her spouse Andrew Finnigan is appointed as the Community Development Officer and, declaring a conflict of interest, absents herself from any discussions related to the role during trustees meetings.

A review of achievements and performance

The early part of 2020 started with AUITC providing Media Training courses. The courses, 'Introduction to Media', were delivered free to participants by media professionals from My Tameside, James Dean and Josh Littlehales, and were open to all to attend. The course was split into modules where people could book one or more of the modules they were interested in, on the dates determined. The sessions were for 2½hrs on Monday and Thursday evenings in January/February 2020 and were 'taster' sessions aimed at giving an overview to people wanting to understand more about media engagement in a sports and/or charity background.
Of 12 participants across the programme 11 were either happy or very happy about the content and delivery with responses to the course evaluation such as:
'I was worried it would be beyond me but I understood everything, felt comfortable and had a few laughs alongside learning a lot'
'Good look at Facebook & Twitter, learnt some good general info and some top tips'

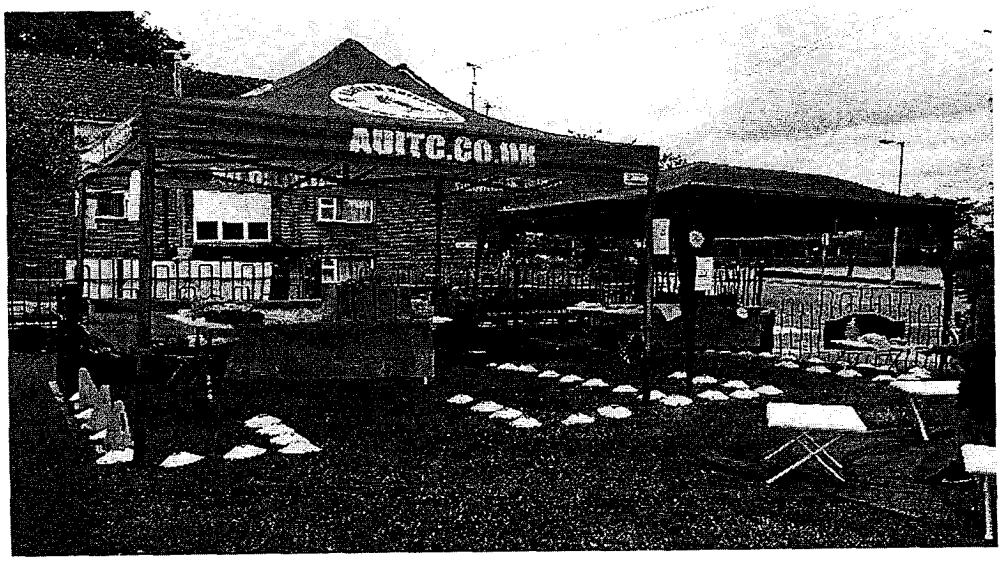
At the end of January, collaborating with partners from Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community, New Charter Homes and Broadoak Community Centre we were able to launch New Year, New You New Opportunities – Little People and Friends was free weekly play sessions designed to give partners the opportunity to support building confidence in parents and build awareness of their critical role in their child's development, accessible peer support; and also, helping to further map the early years system from a beneficiary perspective and collect that much needed quantitative data to give a valuable insight into the system. Little People and Friends was well received by local people with numbers increasing weekly from a standing start. 5 child minders and 5 parents, between 20 – 25 children, age 0 – 3 were attending each week by March. What was interesting and worthy of note was that, many parents and tots groups exclude Child Minders, as they are seen as a business, but we are of the view that these local children still benefit from socialising. We had a group of parents and childminders ready to take on the running of the group and move to a bigger space at the Broadoak & Smallshaw Community Centre but

COVID-19 stopped that! As soon as possible the charity will support our partners will reach out to engage this group and support home learning and child development, encouraging engagement with books and puppets.

On 24th February 2020 our newly appointed self-employed Community Development Manager resigned, for personal reasons. Given the nature of the work being undertaken it was decided by the trustees to extend the working hours of the Volunteer Coordinator and redeploy him as a self-employed Community Development Officer to be supported by trustee Julie Wilson as Line Manager and Project Manager Steve Hobson acting in a strategic capacity. Both officers supporting the Community Development Officer were operating in a voluntary capacity, both with extensive knowledge and experience of the voluntary sector.

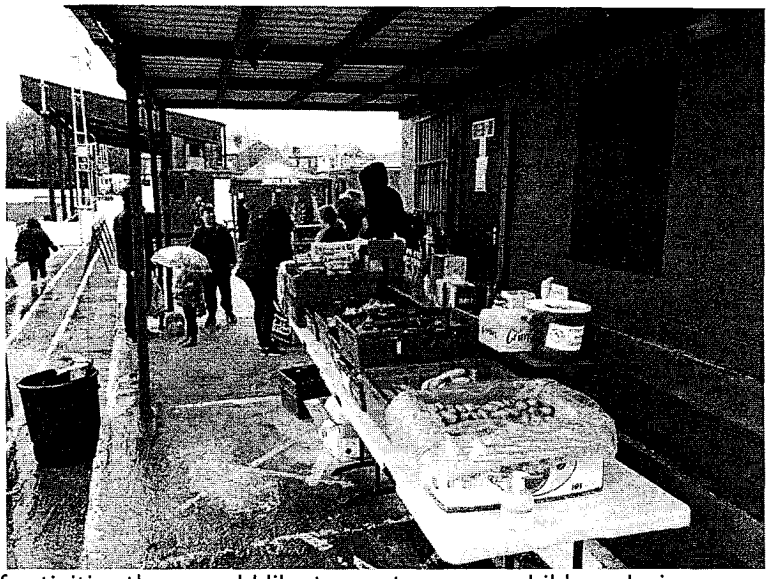
Plans for HurstFest 2020 were well under way until the Covid-19 pandemic started to spread rapidly and the difficult decision to cancel was made in early March when it became apparent that the safety of people might be compromised if the event were to go ahead. By the end of March, early April, the decision to cancel was vindicated by Government advice regarding the cancellation of all such events and suspension of all football activities at Hurst Cross.

With the steadily increasing spread of Covid-19 the demands on Ashton United in the Community grew rapidly. Local people looked to the charity for support and the trustees responded swiftly to focus all of the charities resources on tackling local need. Ashton United in the Community operating in Smallshaw-Hurst during the Covid 19 pandemic recognised early that we were reaching out to some of the most vulnerable people in the community of Ashton, if not England.
Consequently the focus of the charity's efforts was shifted from March off to support those most in need in our community. AUITC formed a partnership with Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community, St John's Church, Ashton United Football Club and Broadoak Community Centre to target local need under the auspices of Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group.



The partners swiftly undertook some consultation and research to identify what local people needed to address the situation they found themselves in, compounded by Covid-19. The immediate need was to combat mental and physical health and wellbeing brought about by the National lockdown. People were suffering loneliness and isolation, lack of food and increased poverty in an area already in the top 25 most deprived in England.

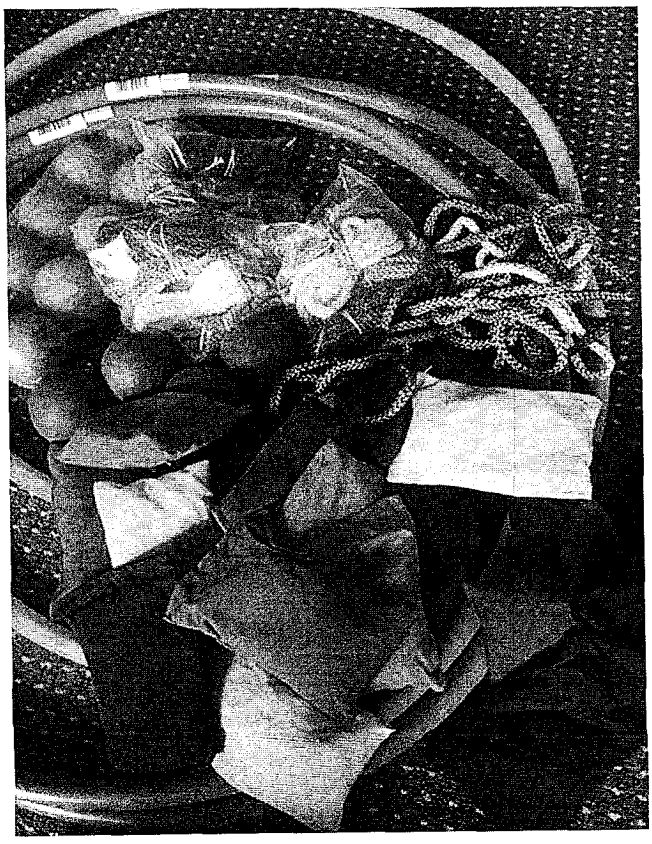
ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

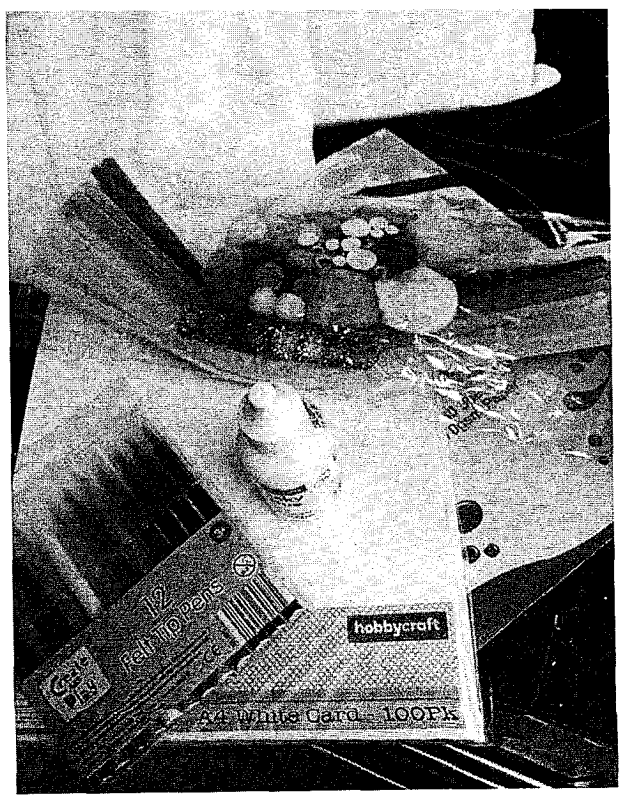


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Just got ours, thank you so much, very much appreciated after an emotional day! Kids love them ♡ □xx - Dawn

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

May – VE Day, Slime, Growing Sunflowers, Bubble Paints

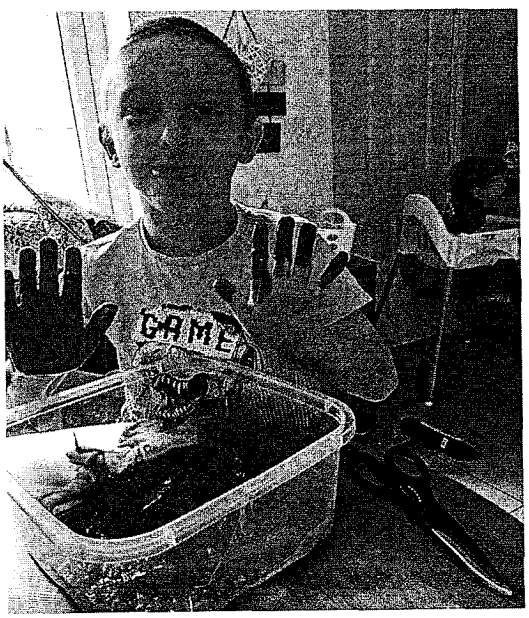
We had a request from Angela Rayner MP to choose three of your VE Day pictures to frame and put up in parliament. It was so hard to choose!



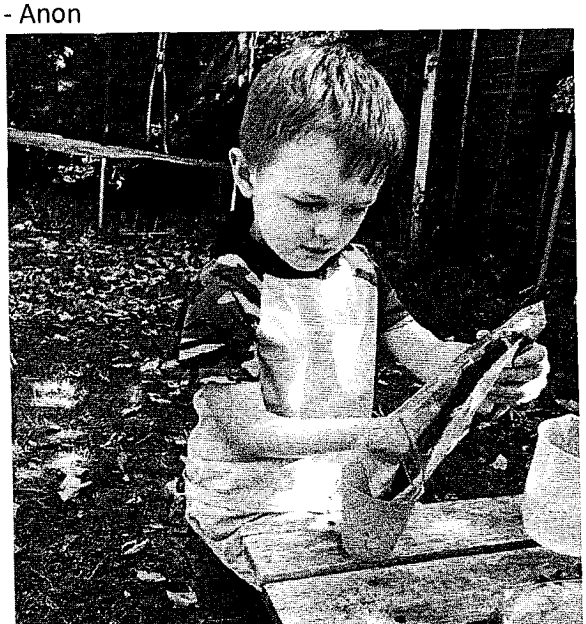
Our volunteers selected these three amazing pics from the Selby family, Beth and Mckenzie Carr and Tanish Mistry ♡□❤♡□❤♡□❤



They look fantastic! I'm so proud of all the children's work. I'm looking forward to putting them up in the Palace *(Westminster)* so everyone else who visits including our international guests once we are through this pandemic can see how talented the children from Ashton are. 😊
Angela Rayner MP,
Labour Deputy Leader
Patron AUITC



He loves messy stuff haha 😂
thank you again such a lovely thing to do for the community
😊 xx - Anon





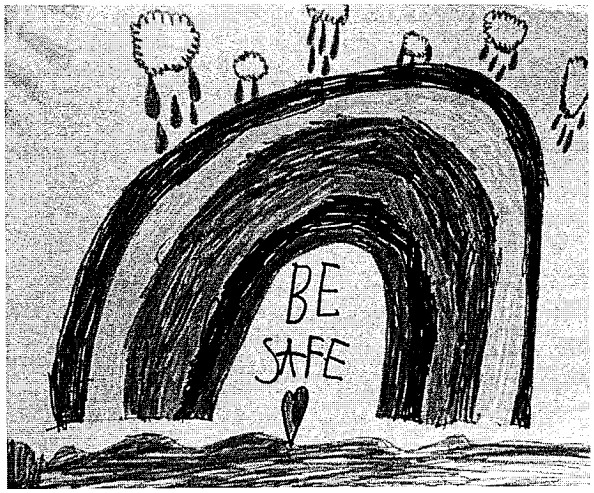
My children and I absolutely love what you are all doing for our local community.
These kind of activity packs that you are giving the families are just what they need
to keep them occupied during these strange times.
Thank you so much ♡□♡□ - Dawn



ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

June - Face Painting, AUFC Gifts, Pom Poms, Painting & Printing





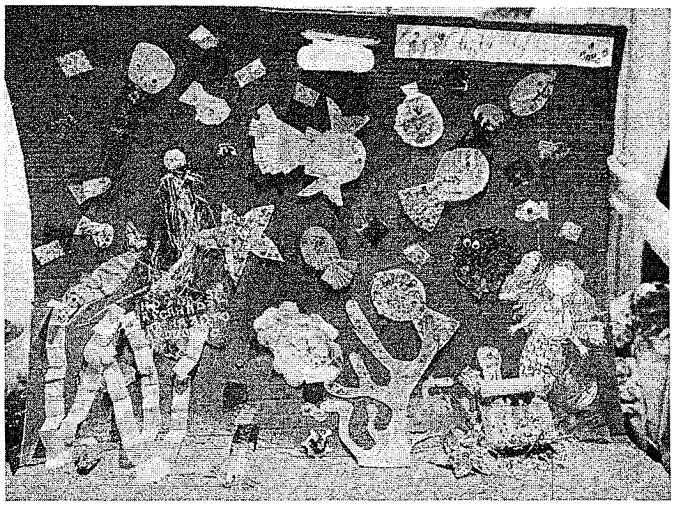
Guess what we've been doing today ..... thank you so much we had such a good day the minis are now looking online at Snazzaroo 🤭👧🏻🟪🔑🟫🤭 x x - Sammie



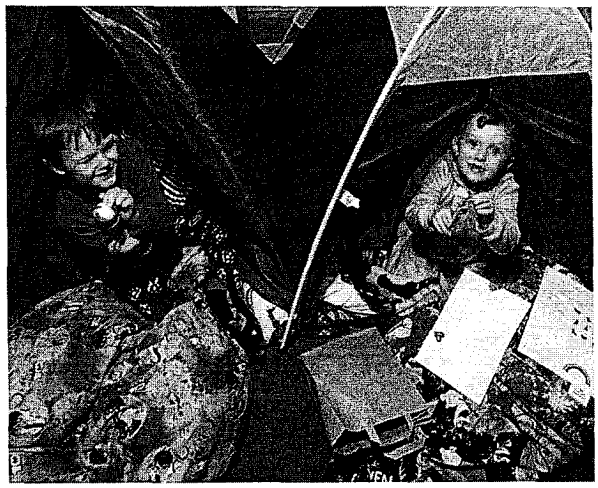


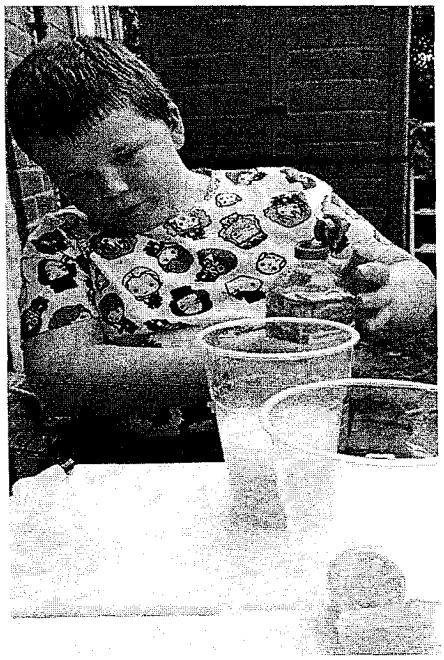
ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

July - Projectors, Under the sea, Mixed Greens, Mini Beasts, Science, Fareshare

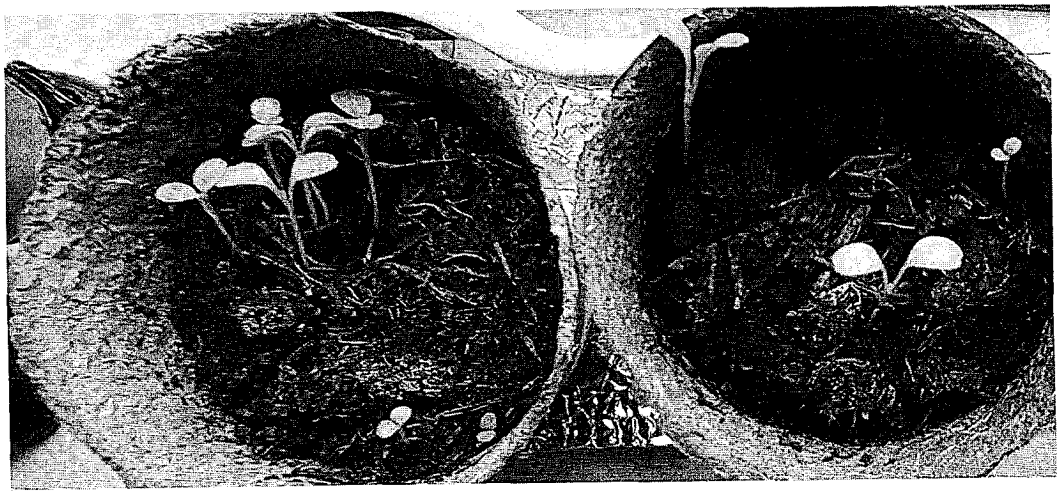


Thank you so very much for my pack, I'm grateful for the delivery, while I've been in work all the lockdown, you have been and are an amazing team 👏😘♡ - Leanne





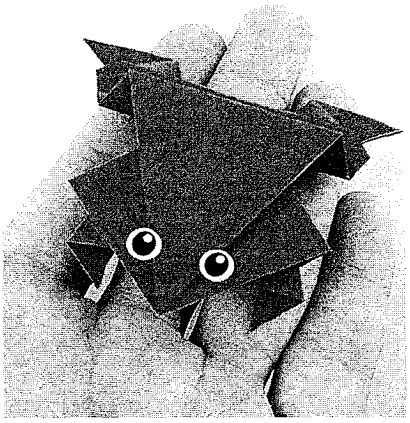
Having fun in the sun doing some experiments with his science activity. Thank you so much you are all amazing😊😊 - Anon



Thank you for our mixed green veg activity. Maisy has really enjoyed it. You are all doing a great job of keeping our children entertained during this difficult time.😊😊

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

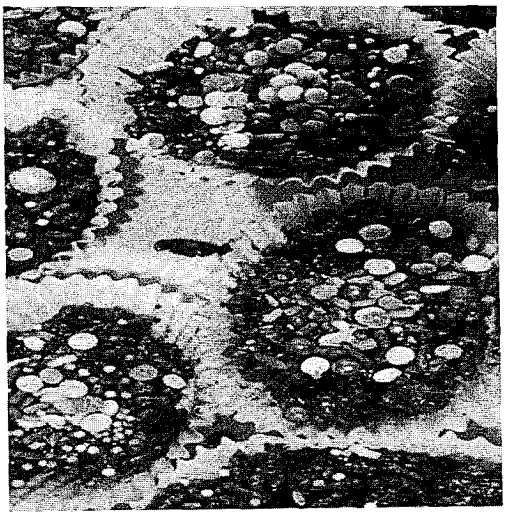
August – Origami, Clay Modelling, Rice Krispie Buns, Fareshare



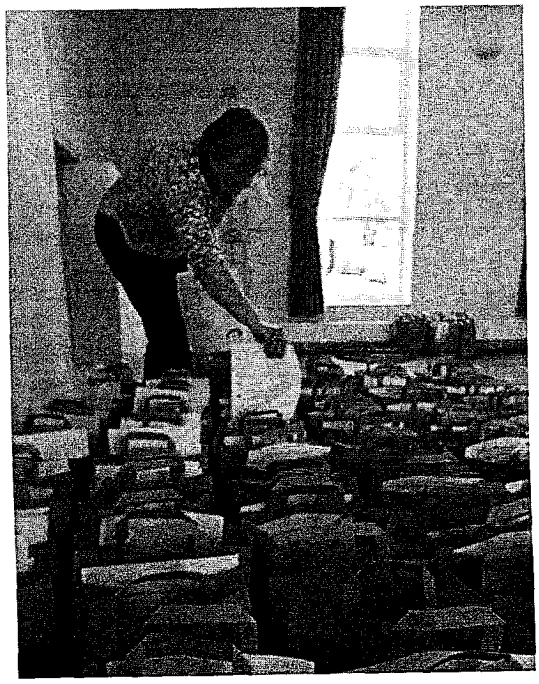
Here is an amazing team, and each week activities that my girls love, best thing since lockdown... staff are brilliant and friendly pop down or message get joined up xxx - Emma



I left the girls to make the rice crispy cakes by themselves. I just supervised when they microwaved the chocolate. They did pretty good and didn't make too much mess and Tilly 'helped' to clean up after 😂😂 - Anon





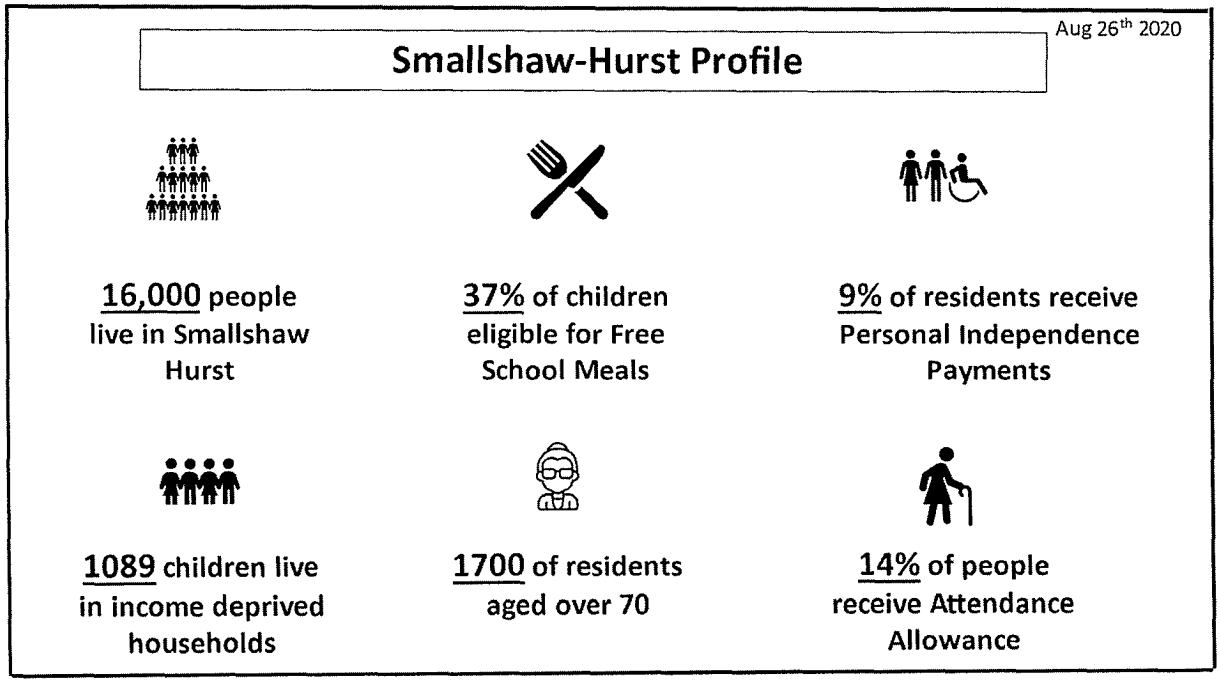


And parent's wanted to have a go too!!
Not only the kids enjoying the aired dried clay.
Mummy had a little play earlier, my little clay- Anon

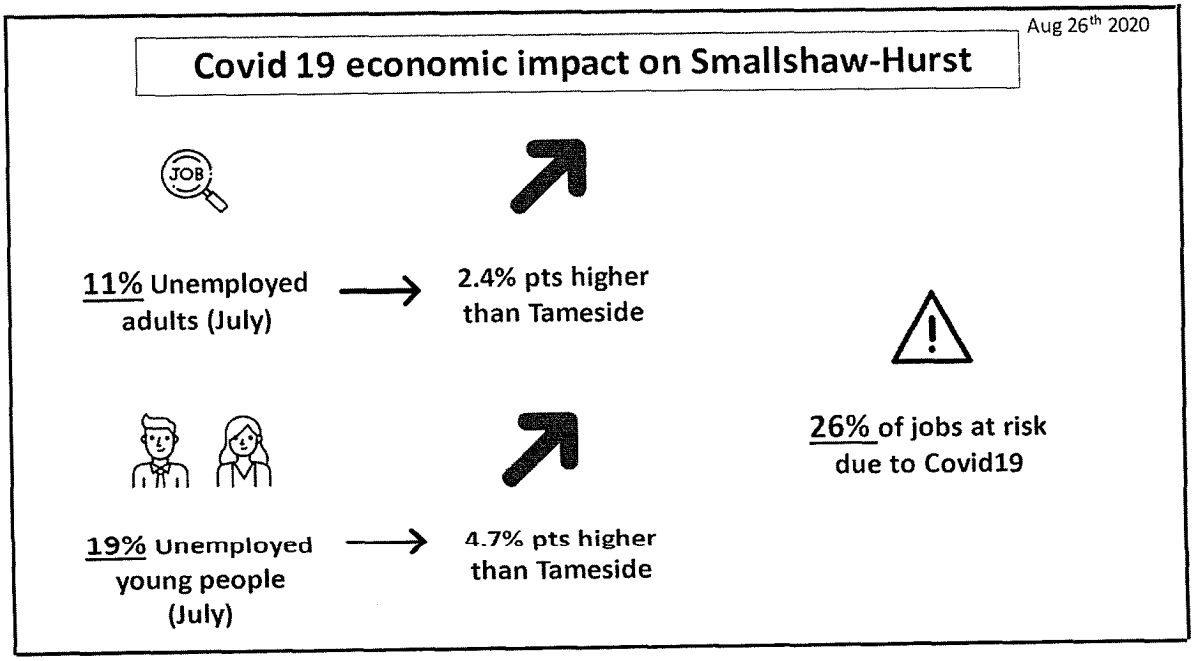
Whilst the weekly activities were proving to be a huge success and a lifeline to so many families we were still able to provide food distributed at our pop up events as part of the holiday hunger initiative, and through our Food Pantry operating out of Ashton United Football Club

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

By August 2020 the impact of Covid-19 was becoming more apparent and a piece of research was undertaken, coordinated by our partners Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community, which examined the profile of Smallshaw Hurst and compared the economic impact of Covid-19 on people already suffering from the effects of deprivation.



The research, measured against the statistics for the wider borough, clearly demonstrated that the impact on people in Smallshaw – Hurst was disproportionate to the rest of Tameside as a whole.



ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

By the end of August 2020, working with our friends under the title of Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group, we had been able to make a huge impact on the lives of local people, who were turning to us in numbers for support.



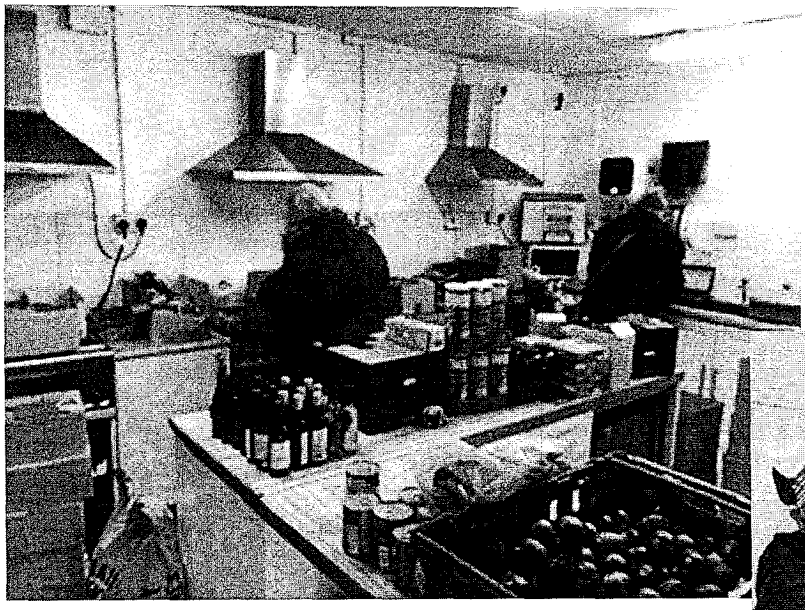
In September 2020 the schools returned and the need for weekly activities dissipated whereupon the focus of the charity was more towards developing a food pantry. A steering group was established with a view to exploring the opportunity for a Food Pantry to become a more permanent feature of the community, and an entity in its own right.

Community events and neighbourhood support continued however they were limited by the restrictions imposed on communities by the Government, and to ensure the safety of everyone engaging with what was on offer.

Rather than simply cancelling the planned events we demonstrated the resilient nature of the charity and the people we support by adapting to the challenges presented to us.



At Halloween it was simply a case of adapting the Food Pantry offer to include games and activities for children to enjoy.



Swiftly followed by an alternative to the Pensioners Party the delivery of food hampers in lieu, prepared by our volunteers in the kitchens at Hurst Cross stadium.





And of course the kids couldn't miss out on Father Christmas visiting, albeit socially distanced.



ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

Robins Recycling Shows GR8 Teamwork

Community news out of Hurst Cross: in the run up to Christmas the team displayed a great team effort to provide some furniture to local families. Ashton United Co-Chairman David Burke was replacing two, two-seater settees in his home and called upon Ashton United in the Community to find a 'home' for each.

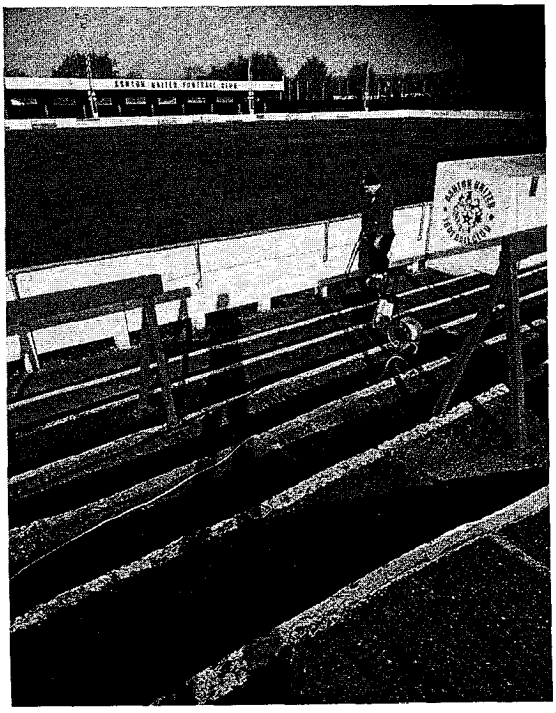


The community team utilised their local contacts and quickly found two families that would benefit from the gift.

How do we shift them was the next problem? Up stepped Paul Marr, Managing Director of Ashton United club kit suppliers, GR8 Sports, who offered his own time and transport to make sure two families received an early Christmas present.



Ashton United is a strong supporter of Ashton United in the Community; not just a football club, a family run club that embraces its community and recognises that, in difficult times everyone should all pull together. Importantly our football club partner and their suppliers hold similar values.



Volunteering

A cornerstone of our work is providing local people with volunteering opportunity. During 2020 some people have been restricted to the amount of time they could offer to volunteer, and indeed some were unable to volunteer due to concerns over their personal safety through shielding. This being said, over the year 66 volunteers were engaged and have delivered 12,666 hours volunteering their time, each volunteer reporting their commitment each month.

They have been engaged daily volunteering at Hurst Cross, through home working, supporting the food pantry, pop up events, holiday hunger and giving general support to our efforts to combat Covid-19. In 2019 the estimated average equivalent market hourly wage rate across a range of volunteer activities was around £13.70 (Power to Change 'Assessing the value of

volunteers in community businesses' report June 2020). If we were to place a nominal value of £10 per hour on our volunteers' time this equates to a social value contribution to volunteering of £126,660

Once again we believe the year has been a huge success albeit in very challenging circumstances. The grant support we have received towards the staffing costs has been the key driver of our success. We've learned that the volunteers we work with thrive on the varying opportunities they are given. They tell us that through social interaction and commitment to volunteering they gained confidence and learned new skills, such that they want to reach out across the wider community and support others, both individuals and organisations, to make positive change in their lives.

Matchdays – Saturday and Tuesday fixtures for Ashton United throughout the football season.



Volunteers attend prior, during and after games to meet and greet fans, carry out pitch and facilities maintenance, stewarding duties, media, etc. This is the opportunity for people to socialise, learn new skills, put their training into practice. Here we see volunteers learning about grounds maintenance and pitch renovation methods.

Case Studies

Individual 1 - No Child Should Go Hungry (NCSGH) December Campaign.

Claire (not her real name) is mum to five children and her youngest child is pre-school age. Her husband works full time and earns above average wage, but they struggle to make ends meet, particularly over the Christmas period and during school holidays. She says the weekly food pantry has provided a lifeline to her and her family. The variety of food available provides ingredients, fresh fruit and vegetables for breakfast, dinner and tea and more recently, ideas for recipes.

Claire reports 'I come to Ashton United Football Club and everyone is warm and welcoming, I was nervous at first but came with a friend, I look forward to the weekly chat with the volunteers and I also enjoy the FaceBook page. I get to find out other information as well and I also know that it isn't just my family in this situation, where my husband works full time and we still struggle financially, I can't thank these guys enough'.

Individual 2 – *Stuart*'s *story* (not his real name) an unemployed family man low on confidence and self-esteem, first became involved with Ashton United in the Community through attending the Food Pantry with his partner and children. Having been so grateful for the support given to him he offered to volunteer his time as *'my way of giving back for the support received'*. After several weeks helping out at

Food Pantry, on ground maintenance duties, and on match days as a steward Stuart's confidence and self-esteem grew and he was able to secure full time employment. He still remains a committed volunteer in his spare time.

Smallshaw Hurst Profile – A United Community

Smallshaw Hurst and District, where Hurst Cross and AUITC is located, and all of our events and activities take place, is a neighbourhood in the top 2% most deprived in England. The events and activities we have provided are aimed at the people from the local community with most if not all reflecting the fact that those taking part have little or no disposable income. Where children are involved most are children who are living in poverty, many with parents not in employment, education or training, from single parent families, or in the care system. AUITC, together with AUFC and Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community SSHCC is a founder member of Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group, and a member of Growing Well in Tameside Partnership, working to support a number of providers across our community. The SSHCC is made up from a collaboration of statutory, voluntary, private organisations, local stakeholders, local communities, children, young people and families seeking to effect systems change in support of local people.

This includes:

Tameside MBC – population health, early years, children and young people's partnership forum, education, Integrated Care Foundation Trust, CCG, GP's, Health Young Minds, TOG Mind, local schools, Ashton 6th Form College, JIGSAW Housing Group, voluntary groups, Broadoak and Smallshaw Community Centre, Greater Manchester Police, Action Together, Active Tameside, Ashton United in the Community, Ashton United FC, local faith groups, local early years providers and local parents. This collaboration is not exhaustive and continues to link into groups, services and people who have a role to play in ensuring a positive impact on children's lives. The work delivered is closely linked to the outcomes of the partnership with shared monitoring and evaluation of activities. SSHCC has a full-time analyst to manage monitoring and evaluation of joint projects.

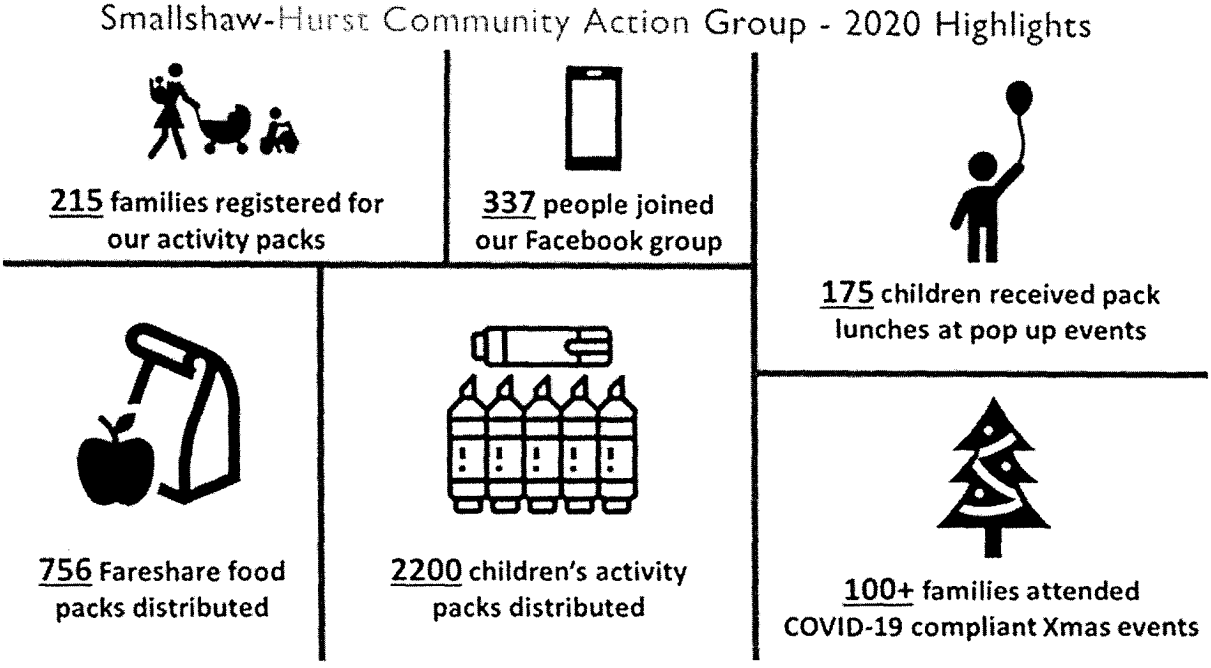
AUITC has worked throughout the year with these partners to deliver joined up working to the benefit of local people.

A strong and effective partnership structure has enabled joint consultation that identifies need, common issues, and a skills and specialist knowledge resource bank from which the partnership benefits from the likes of:

- economies of scale
- shared learning
- staff resource sharing
- joint initiatives
- consistent and compatible monitoring & evaluation systems and processes
- impact measurement.

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

The partnership has thrived over the past 2 years and continues to develop as joint initiatives come on stream and partners gain the confidence and understanding in each other's ability and willingness to contribute.



Strong Political Support

Throughout the year we were grateful to be able to call upon the strong support of local elected members who 'rolled up their sleeves' and got stuck into the task of supporting local constituents.



Such was the interest in this initiative that our local Councillors, Leigh Drennan and Mike Glover, attended and were delighted to help out by distributing the food parcels.

They were ably supported by both of our Patrons Angela Rayner MP, Deputy Leader of the Labour Party who found time during her very busy schedule to help pack food for our Holiday Hunger project; and Jonathan Sayer who supported the charity with fundraising through his Mischief Theatre Company

Financial review

During the year Ashton United in the Community were successful in a number of grant applications. We are extremely thankful for the support of the following organisations providing grant support (predominantly over £500) toward a number of objectives:

- Action Together Tameside Wellbeing Fund
- ASDA Foundation
- Community Fund
- New Charter Housing/Jigsaw Housing
- Councillor Mike Glover
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- Groundwork
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council
- Jonathan Sayer
- Ashton United FC players, management & officials.

The grants enable AUITC to develop as a charity and engage with local people who are supporters of the football club, and the wider community. The early part of 2020 was spent delivering projects in support of funding secured in 2019, with other grant funding support primarily focussed on delivering improved outcomes for local people impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Accounts

The year started very well with plenty of great ideas planned for the forthcoming year ahead and a substantial budget to work with. Unfortunately, the year and the plans were quickly halted with the Covid19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown of schools and various outlets – this amounted to a huge challenge for the charity as we had many things planned, we discussed how this was to impact the local area and the community generally.
We gained various grants over the year, mainly from the government and local organisations (named above) that could see the hard work that the charity was doing, we used the grant money really well and the hard work has been rewarded with the charity being more recognised and having a bigger presence in the area.

Investment powers and policy

The trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of operating the charity, have kept available funds in a 'Treasurers Account'.

Reserves policy and going concern

The balance held in unrestricted reserves at 31st December 2020 was £6,449 of which all are free reserves, after allowing for funds tied up in tangible fixed assets.

The Charity's main source of income is grants and charitable donations. The Trustees consider that it is appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis and, consequently, the accounts do not include any adjustments that would be necessary if these sources of income should cease.

The trustees aim to establish and maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to respond to applications for grants and ensure that support and governance costs are covered.

The trustees consider that the charity is a going concern. Any reliance on grant funding is managed through a flexible approach to activities and project delivery.

Risk management

As the charity continues to establish itself the trustees will conduct regular reviews of the major risks to which the charity may be exposed and systems will be established to mitigate those risks.

Plans for Future Periods

The appointment of a full time self-employed Community Development Officer during 2020, to support volunteering and deliver a broad range of experiences for local people to engage with, has been a 'game changer' for the charity and is something we hope to expand upon during 2021.

The main thrust of the charity's work for the early part of 2020 will be supporting the establishment of a Food Pantry as an independent entity. We will help Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group secure Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status and offer peer support to the group as it begins to 'stand on its own two feet'.

Covid-19 permitting we will explore the opportunity to organise and deliver HurstFest 2021, the date of which will be dependent upon restrictions being lifted. In a similar vein we would look to be part of the organising group for Ashton Band contest, should it too go ahead.

We will continue to support the development of women and girls football and utilise the restricted funding we hold specifically for this purpose.

AUITC is a managing partner of the Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community (SSHCC) and Growing Well in Tameside Partnership (GWT), working to support a number of providers across our community. We will continue to support the growth of these partnerships and to support the joint initiatives surrounding local need, developed through consultation with local people.

The charity will continue to support volunteering across all aspects of opportunity available in conjunction with Ashton United FC and our partners. This will involve, amongst other things, organising a volunteer recognition event and pop up events across the district that will include seasonal events e.g. children's Halloween and older persons Christmas parties. Volunteers will continue to learn new skills e.g. media training, stadium maintenance, stewarding, catering, customer service, and more.

These activities will be delivered through the Community Development Officer engaging with partners and the community to determine what is needed and how they would like that need to be met in an inclusive way. Support will be given to people to address their complex needs e.g. CV writing, work readiness training, interview techniques, etc. and is designed through social engagement to help improve confidence and self-esteem, reduce loneliness and isolation, and increase knowledge and skills.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees will be required to:

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with legal requirements. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

By order of the trustees

_____

John North
Treasurer

Date: 25th March 2021

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1166483

I report on the accounts of the charity, for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out on pages 23 to 32.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is preparing accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records have in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act,

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: ..... A.M.King .....

AM King FCCA
Date: 25th March 2021

Community Accountancy Service Ltd
The Grange, Pilgrim Drive, Beswick,
Manchester, M11 3TQ

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

	Further Details	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds Year Ended 31 December 2020	Total Funds Year Ended 31 December 2019
		£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	(3)	3,541	2,256	5,797	8,516
Charitable Activities	(4)	987	53,240	54,227	45,365
Other Trading Activities	(5)	-	-	-	418
Total		4,528	55,496	60,024	54,299
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds	(6)	53	5,274	5,327	7,845
Charitable Activities	(6)	1,307	32,472	33,779	41,712
Other	(6)	-	-	-	80
Total		1,360	37,746	39,106	49,637
Net income/(expenditure)		3,168	17,750	20,918	4,662
Transfers between funds	(17)	(1,761)	1,761	-	-
Net movement in funds		1,407	19,511	20,918	4,662
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	(17)	5,042	40,504	45,546	40,884
Total funds carried forward	(17)	6,449	60,015	66,464	45,546

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 26 to 32 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets	(11)	920	2,203
Total fixed assets		920	2,203
Current assets:			
Stocks	(12)	-	-
Debtors	(13)	311	1,206
Cash at Bank & in Hand		65,713	42,497
Total current assets		66,024	43,703
Liabilities:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(14)	480	360
Net current assets or liabilities		65,544	43,343
Total assets less current liabilities		66,464	45,546
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	(16)		
Provisions for liabilities		-	-
Total net assets or liabilities		66,464	45,546
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds	(17)	60,015	40,504
Unrestricted income funds	(17)	6,449	5,042
Total charity funds		66,464	45,546

Approved on behalf of the Trustees Management Committee

John North

Carol Finnigan

Date: 25th March 2021

The notes on pages 26 to 32 form part of these accounts.

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£	£
Net cash used in operating activities	23,216	6,017
Cash flows from investment activities:		
Interest	-	-
Purchase of fixed assets	-	(2,760)
Net cash provided by investing activities	-	(2,760)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year	23,216	3,257
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	42,497	39,240
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**65,713**	**42,497**

Notes to the accounts

1. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2019 preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 1st January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

(b) Funds structure

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. There are 13 restricted funds (2019: 7).

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.

Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 17.

(c) Income recognition

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

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank. Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

(d) Expenditure Recognition

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 settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. For more information on this attribution refer to note (f) below.

(e) Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

(f) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to independent examination ad legal fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs.

Governance costs and support costs relating to charitable activities have been apportioned based on type of expense. The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in note 8.

(g) Costs of raising funds

The costs of raising funds consists of events.

(h) Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include governance costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in note 7.

(i) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation
All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and valued at historical cost. Depreciation is charged on the following basis:

Equipment	33.33% on cost

(j) Realised gains and losses
All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their varying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(k) Pensions
The charity currently does not administer contributions to a pension scheme on behalf of individuals.

(l) Debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

(m) Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2. Related party transactions and trustees' expenses and remuneration
The trustees all give freely their time and expertise without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or kind
Expenses paid to the trustees in the year totalled £nil (2019: £nil).
The self-employed volunteer project manager is the husband of a trustee. The Charity Commission have given approval for this and the trustee is not involved in any decisions regarding this role.

3. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£	£	£	£
Donations	3,541	2,256	5,797	8,516
	3,541	2,256	5,797	8,516
Previous reporting period:	1,103	7,413	8,516	

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted grants:				
Asda Foundation	487	-	487	-
Groundwork	500	-	500	-
Restricted grants:				
National League Trust	-	-	-	10,000
Jigsaw Housing - Food Pantry	-	2,000	2,000	-
New Charter Housing	-	5,600	5,600	-
Community Fund	-	-	-	9,900
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	-	9,640	9,640	-
Tameside MBC	-	10,000	10,000	-
Tameside Action Together - Smallshaw	-	1,000	1,000	-
Tameside Action Together	-	25,000	25,000	25,465
	987	53,240	54,227	45,365
Previous reporting period	-	45,365	45,365	

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising events	-	-	-	418
	-	-	-	418
Previous reporting period	418	-	418	

6. Expenditure

	Community Engagement in Tameside	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£	£	£
Expenditure on raising funds:			
Advertising	300	300	3,848
Event costs	5,027	5,027	3,997
	5,327	5,327	7,845
Expenditure on charitable activities:			
DBS Costs	48	48	349
Training	1,440	1,440	2,370
Freelance Costs	19,511	19,511	23,031
Telephone	384	384	120
Referees Fees	150	150	45
Travel Costs	40	40	27
Refreshments	2,621	2,621	1,713
Volunteer Expenses	-	-	229
Equipment	2,215	2,215	939
Grounds Maintenance	-	-	30
Bank Charges	-	-	69
Repairs and Maintenance	-	-	668
Room & Facility Hire	2,664	2,664	2,220
Clothing & Kit	-	-	5,690
Computer & Internet Costs	1,593	1,593	380
Insurance	346	346	361
Governance	480	480	360
Post, Printing & Stationery	1,004	1,004	756
Depreciation	1,283	1,283	2,355
	33,779	33,779	41,712
Other expenditure:			
Sundry	-	-	80
	-	-	80
	39,106	39,106	49,637
Unrestricted funds		1,360	997
Restricted funds		37,746	48,640
		39,106	49,637

7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

As per note 6.

8. Allocation of governance and support costs

The breakdown of support costs and how these were allocated between governance and other support costs is shown below:

	General Support	Governance	Total	Basis of apportionment
Accountancy Fees	-	480	480	type of expense
	-	480	480	

9. Analysis of staff costs

	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	-	-
Redundancy	-	-
Social Security Costs	-	-
Pension Costs	-	-
	-	-
Charitable activities	-	-
Support costs	-	-
	-	-

The average number of employees during the year was nil (2019: nil).

The charity considers its key management personnel comprises the trustees and volunteer project manager. The total employment benefits, including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel were £nil (2018: £nil).

No employee has benefits in excess of £60,000.

The volunteer project manager is self-employed.

10. Independent Examiner Fees

	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£	£
Independent examination fees	480	360
	480	360

11. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Equipment	Total
Cost	£	£
At 01 January 2020	10,815	10,815
Additions	-	-
At 31 December 2020	10,815	10,815
Depreciation		
At 01 January 2020	8,612	8,612
Charge for Year	1,283	1,283
At 31 December 2020	9,895	9,895
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31 December 2020	920	920
At 31 December 2019	2,203	2,203

12. Stocks

The charity does not hold stocks of any items.

13. Analysis of debtors

	2020	2019
	£	£
Debtors	-	1,000
Prepayments	311	206
	311	1,206

Debtors and prepayments relate to restricted funds in 2020 and 2019.

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Other creditors and accruals	480	360
	480	360

15. Deferred income

The CIO did not have any deferred income at the period end.

16. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Provisions for liabilities	-	-
	-	-

17. Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 01 January 2020	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	5,042	4,528	(1,360)	(1,761)	6,449
	5,042	4,528	(1,360)	(1,761)	6,449

Previous reporting period:

	Balance at 01 January 2019	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	4,518	1,521	(997)	-	5,042
	4,518	1,521	(997)	-	5,042

Name of unrestricted fund:	Description, nature and purpose of the fund
General Fund	The "free reserves" after allowing for all designated funds

Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 01 January 2020	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Donations for Women's Team	2,389	1,658	(1,746)	-	2,301
Donations for Food Pantry	-	598	-	-	598
The Big Lottery Fund	546	-	-	-	546
National League Trust	2,121	-	(2,038)	-	83
Jigsaw Housing - Food Pantry	-	2,000	-	1,146	3,146
High Sheriff	126	-	-	-	126
Awards for All	604	-	-	-	604
New Charter Housing	-	5,600	(2,876)	(2,000)	724
Community Fund	7,694	-	(6,440)	(1,254)	-
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	-	9,640	(24)		9,616
Tameside MBC	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Tameside Action Together - Smallshaw	-	1,000	(4,861)	3,869	8
Tameside Action Together	27,024	25,000	(19,761)	-	32,263
	40,504	55,496	(37,746)	1,761	60,015

Transfers were made from Community Fund into unrestricted funds during the year. This was with the consent of the funder.

Previous reporting period:

	Balance at 01 January 2019	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Donations	-	7,413	(5,024)		2,389
The Big Lottery Fund	1,618	-	(1,072)	-	546
National League Trust	8,528	10,000	(16,407)	-	2,121
High Sheriff	616	-	(490)	-	126
Awards for All	604	-	-	-	604
Community Fund	-	9,900	(2,206)		7,694
Tameside Action Together	25,000	25,465	(23,441)	-	27,024
	36,366	52,778	(48,640)	-	40,504

Name of restricted fund:	Description, nature and purpose of the fund
Donations for Women's Team	for the women's team
Donations for Food Pantry	for the food pantry
The Big Lottery Fund	for HurstFest 2020
National League Trust	to support 'Volunteer Matter' programme with both capital and revenue costs
Jigsaw Housing - Food Pantry	for the food pantry
High Sheriff	towards general running costs associated with HurstFest
Awards for All	towards a governance, business planning and capacity building project
New Charter Housing	for activity packs for children during school holidays and lockdown
Community Fund	for a volunteer project
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	for setting up a food pantry
Tameside MBC	winter pressure grant
Tameside Action Together - Smallshaw	for a hunger/poverty project and for school children during school holidays
Tameside Action Together	to support 'Volunteer Matter' programme with both capital and revenue costs

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	920	920
Cash at bank and in hand	6,929	-	58,784	65,713
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(480)	-	311	(169)
Creditors of more than one year	-	-	-	-
Total	6,449	-	60,015	66,464

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Previous reporting period:				
Tangible fixed assets	363	-	1,840	2,203
Cash at bank and in hand	4,679	-	37,818	42,497
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	-	-	846	846
Creditors of more than one year	-	-	-	-
Total	5,042	-	40,504	45,546

19. Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised on a transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at an amortised cost using the effective interest method.

20. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£	£
Net movement in funds	20,918	4,662
Add back depreciation	1,283	2,355
Deduct investment income	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	895	(1,060)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	120	60
Net cash used in operating activities	23,216	6,017

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Registered Charity No. 1166483

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

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Annual Report and Accounts 2020

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31st December 2020

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31st December 2020. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and 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 published (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Reference and administrative information

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Name: Ashton United in the Community
Charitable Incorporated Organisation Number: 1166483
Date Registered: 12th April 2016

Trustees

The trustees serving during the year to 31st December 2020 were as follows:

Michael George Brown		
Carol Finnigan		
John North	Treasurer	
Christopher Tomlisson		(appointed May 2020)
Victor Tomlisson	Secretary	
Julie Wilson		
David Burke		
Kenneth Philburn		

Project Manager

Stephen Hobson

Principal Office

11 Thornlee Court
Grotton
Oldham
OL4 5RG

Independent Examiners

Community Accountancy Service Limited
The Grange
Pilgrim Drive
Beswick
Manchester
M11 3TQ

Bankers

Trustee Savings Bank
8 Halifax Road
Todmorden
OL14 5AD

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the charity are:

1. The promotion of community participation in healthy recreation in particular by the provision of facilities for the playing of football and other sports.

2. To act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25 living in Tameside, Greater Manchester, and the surrounding areas by providing advice and assistance and organising programmes of physical, educational and other activities as a means of:
(a) advancing in life and helping young people by developing their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals;
(b) advancing education;
(c) relieving unemployment.

3. Providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for people living in the area of benefit who have need by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, poverty or social and economic circumstances, with a view to improving the conditions of life of such persons.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, in planning future activities, and setting the policies for the year.

The charity furthers its charitable purposes for the public benefit through undertaking community activities defined following consultation with users and local people e.g. through a community audit

Structure, governance and management

Ashton United in the Community is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its constitution dated 3rd March 2015 and registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Foundation) number 1166483 with the Charity Commission on 12th April 2016.

Appointment of trustees

As set out in the constitution trustees are elected annually by the members of the charitable organisation attending the Annual General meeting. Trustees are appointed for a period of three years and shall retire from office by rotation based on their length of service and may offer themselves for re-election.

Trustee induction and training

Trustees are given information about their role and responsibilities on first being appointed. They are also given a copy of the constitution, information about staffing and the charity management, and are shown copies of policy documents.

Organisation

The trustees administer the charity and meet monthly. A volunteer Project Manager has been appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity and he is supported by a paid Community Development Officer operating on a freelance basis.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a trustee or senior manager with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. Trustees must declare any conflict of interest as a standard agenda item at each meeting.
Trustee Carol Finnigan declares that her spouse Andrew Finnigan is appointed as the Community Development Officer and, declaring a conflict of interest, absents herself from any discussions related to the role during trustees meetings.

A review of achievements and performance

The early part of 2020 started with AUITC providing Media Training courses. The courses, 'Introduction to Media', were delivered free to participants by media professionals from My Tameside, James Dean and Josh Littlehales, and were open to all to attend. The course was split into modules where people could book one or more of the modules they were interested in, on the dates determined. The sessions were for 2½hrs on Monday and Thursday evenings in January/February 2020 and were 'taster' sessions aimed at giving an overview to people wanting to understand more about media engagement in a sports and/or charity background.
Of 12 participants across the programme 11 were either happy or very happy about the content and delivery with responses to the course evaluation such as:
'I was worried it would be beyond me but I understood everything, felt comfortable and had a few laughs alongside learning a lot'
'Good look at Facebook & Twitter, learnt some good general info and some top tips'

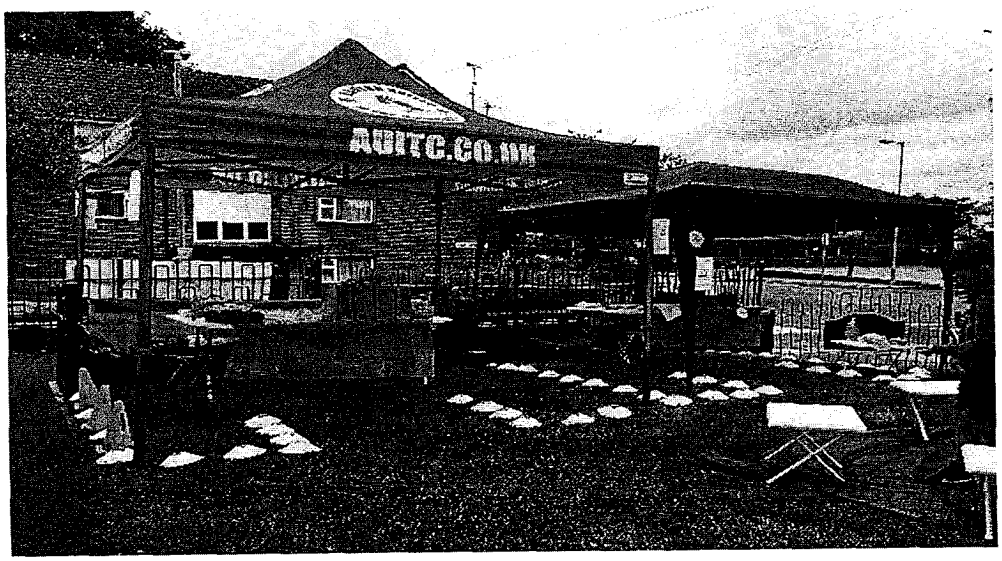
At the end of January, collaborating with partners from Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community, New Charter Homes and Broadoak Community Centre we were able to launch New Year, New You New Opportunities – Little People and Friends was free weekly play sessions designed to give partners the opportunity to support building confidence in parents and build awareness of their critical role in their child's development, accessible peer support; and also, helping to further map the early years system from a beneficiary perspective and collect that much needed quantitative data to give a valuable insight into the system. Little People and Friends was well received by local people with numbers increasing weekly from a standing start. 5 child minders and 5 parents, between 20 – 25 children, age 0 – 3 were attending each week by March. What was interesting and worthy of note was that, many parents and tots groups exclude Child Minders, as they are seen as a business, but we are of the view that these local children still benefit from socialising. We had a group of parents and childminders ready to take on the running of the group and move to a bigger space at the Broadoak & Smallshaw Community Centre but

COVID-19 stopped that! As soon as possible the charity will support our partners will reach out to engage this group and support home learning and child development, encouraging engagement with books and puppets.

On 24th February 2020 our newly appointed self-employed Community Development Manager resigned, for personal reasons. Given the nature of the work being undertaken it was decided by the trustees to extend the working hours of the Volunteer Coordinator and redeploy him as a self-employed Community Development Officer to be supported by trustee Julie Wilson as Line Manager and Project Manager Steve Hobson acting in a strategic capacity. Both officers supporting the Community Development Officer were operating in a voluntary capacity, both with extensive knowledge and experience of the voluntary sector.

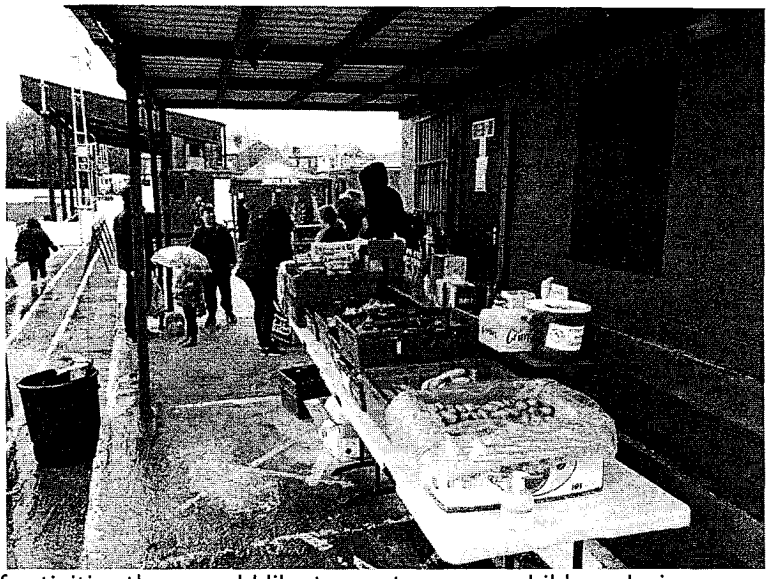
Plans for HurstFest 2020 were well under way until the Covid-19 pandemic started to spread rapidly and the difficult decision to cancel was made in early March when it became apparent that the safety of people might be compromised if the event were to go ahead. By the end of March, early April, the decision to cancel was vindicated by Government advice regarding the cancellation of all such events and suspension of all football activities at Hurst Cross.

With the steadily increasing spread of Covid-19 the demands on Ashton United in the Community grew rapidly. Local people looked to the charity for support and the trustees responded swiftly to focus all of the charities resources on tackling local need. Ashton United in the Community operating in Smallshaw-Hurst during the Covid 19 pandemic recognised early that we were reaching out to some of the most vulnerable people in the community of Ashton, if not England.
Consequently the focus of the charity's efforts was shifted from March off to support those most in need in our community. AUITC formed a partnership with Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community, St John's Church, Ashton United Football Club and Broadoak Community Centre to target local need under the auspices of Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group.



The partners swiftly undertook some consultation and research to identify what local people needed to address the situation they found themselves in, compounded by Covid-19. The immediate need was to combat mental and physical health and wellbeing brought about by the National lockdown. People were suffering loneliness and isolation, lack of food and increased poverty in an area already in the top 25 most deprived in England.

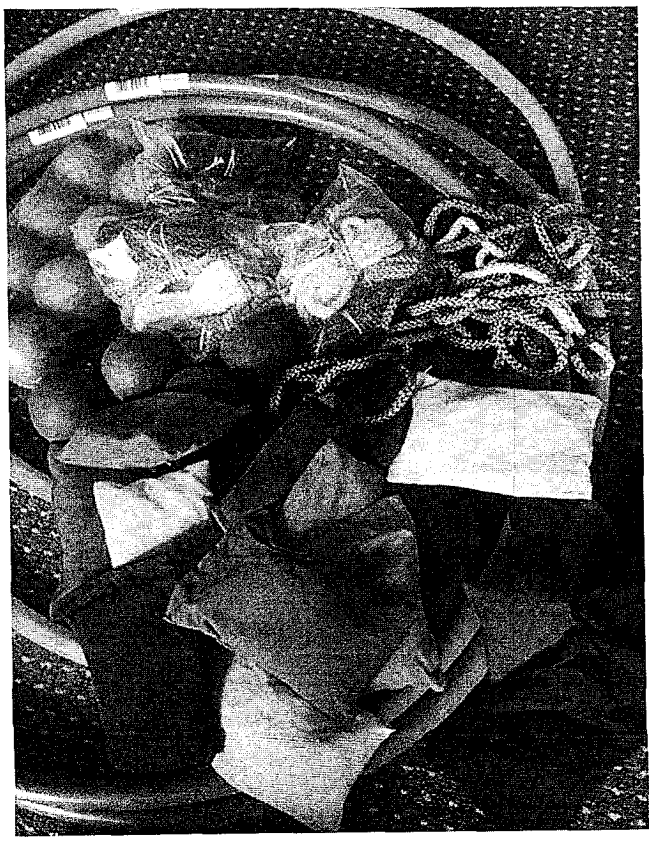
ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

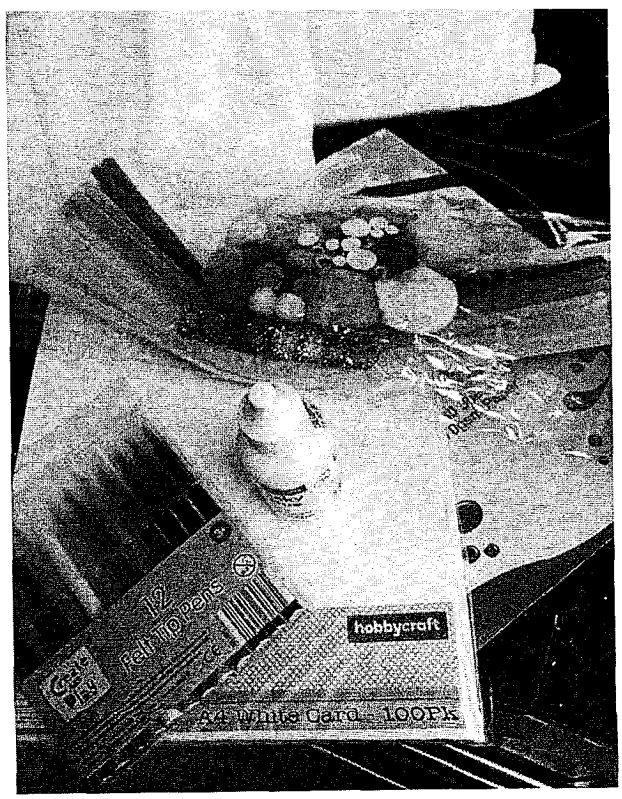


AUITC and Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community collaborated with both financial and staffing resources, and Ashton United Football Club the use of facilities, to set up a Pop-Up Food Pantry, and deliver Pop-Up events distributing activity sets and Fare Share food packs for families across the neighbourhood. During the early days local people were canvassed regarding their immediate needs with some volunteering to support local resilience to the pandemic. Others gave their views on the type of activities they would like to see to occupy children during lockdown.

From mid-April the partnership was able to provide a weekly theme of activities, with free resources to families with which to follow the theme and events as follows:

April – Colouring and games





Just got ours, thank you so much, very much appreciated after an emotional day! Kids love them ♡ □xx - Dawn

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

May – VE Day, Slime, Growing Sunflowers, Bubble Paints

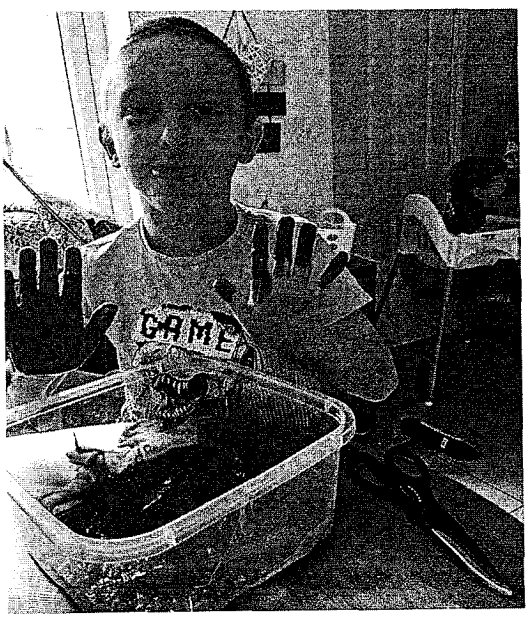
We had a request from Angela Rayner MP to choose three of your VE Day pictures to frame and put up in parliament. It was so hard to choose!



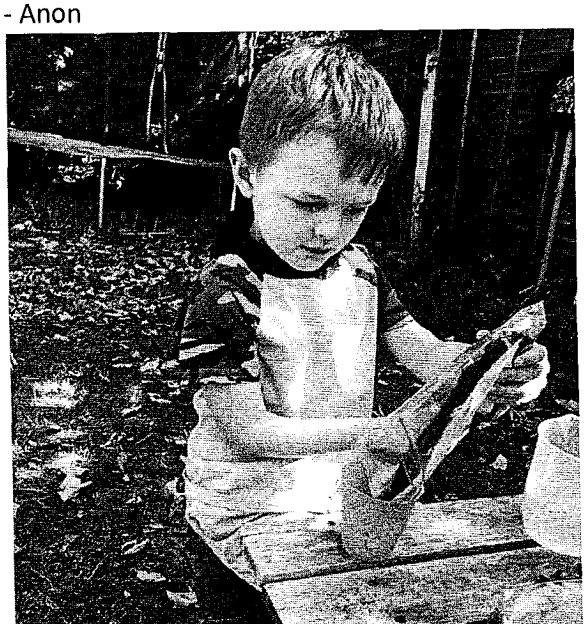
Our volunteers selected these three amazing pics from the Selby family, Beth and Mckenzie Carr and Tanish Mistry ♡□❤♡□❤♡□❤



They look fantastic! I'm so proud of all the children's work. I'm looking forward to putting them up in the Palace *(Westminster)* so everyone else who visits including our international guests once we are through this pandemic can see how talented the children from Ashton are. 😊
Angela Rayner MP,
Labour Deputy Leader
Patron AUITC



He loves messy stuff haha 😂
thank you again such a lovely thing to do for the community
😊 xx - Anon





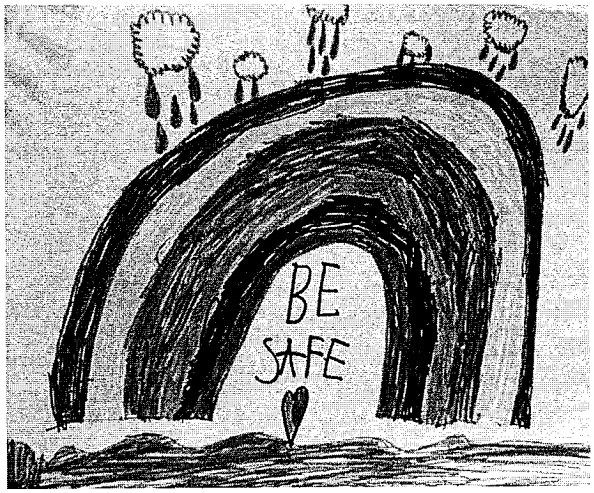
My children and I absolutely love what you are all doing for our local community.
These kind of activity packs that you are giving the families are just what they need
to keep them occupied during these strange times.
Thank you so much ♡□♡□ - Dawn



ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

June - Face Painting, AUFC Gifts, Pom Poms, Painting & Printing





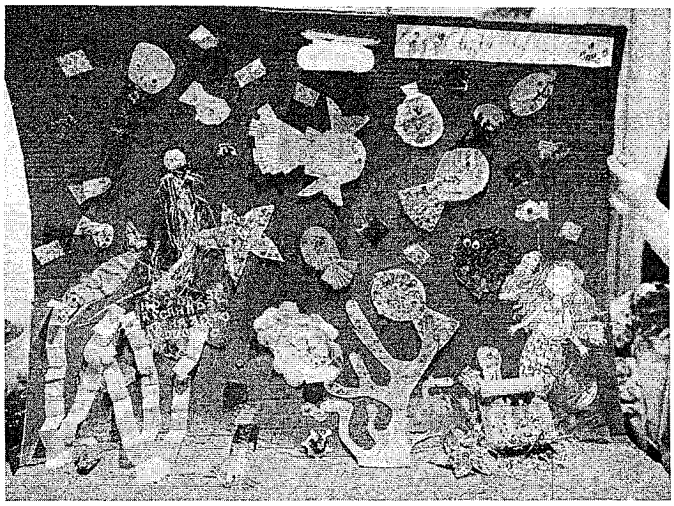
Guess what we've been doing today ..... thank you so much we had such a good day the minis are now looking online at Snazzaroo 🤭👧🏻🟪🔑🟫🤭 x x - Sammie



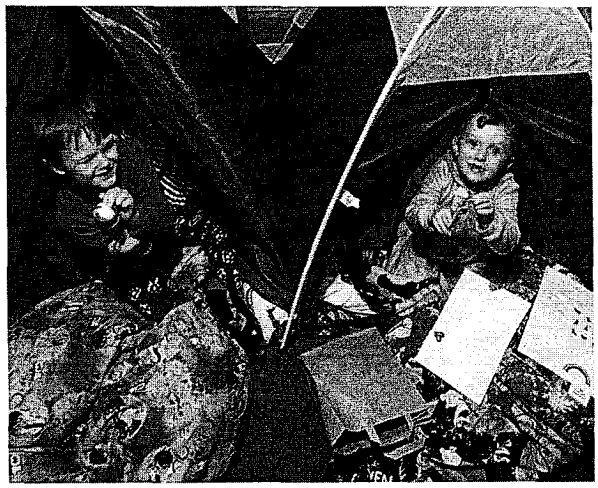


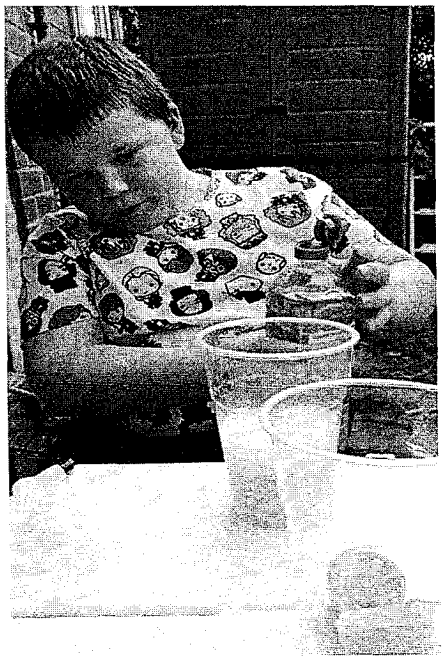
ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

July - Projectors, Under the sea, Mixed Greens, Mini Beasts, Science, Fareshare

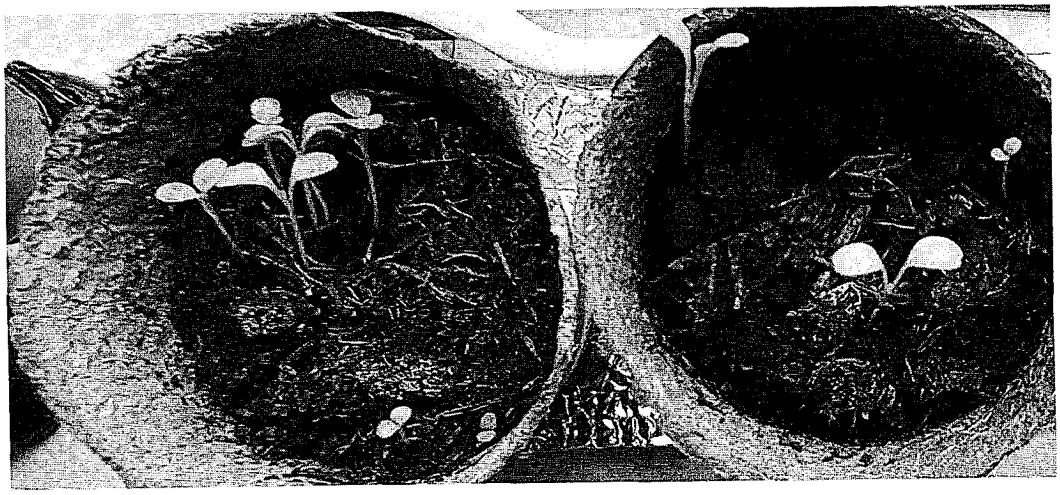


Thank you so very much for my pack, I'm grateful for the delivery, while I've been in work all the lockdown, you have been and are an amazing team 👏😘♡ - Leanne





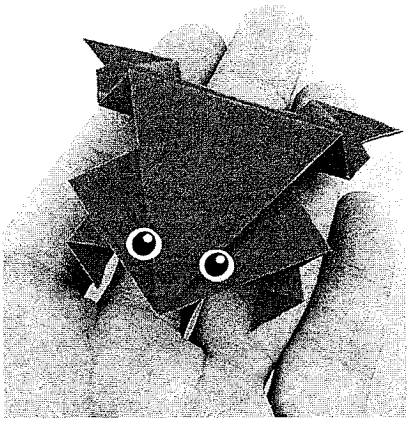
Having fun in the sun doing some experiments with his science activity. Thank you so much you are all amazing😊😊 - Anon



Thank you for our mixed green veg activity. Maisy has really enjoyed it. You are all doing a great job of keeping our children entertained during this difficult time.😊😊

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

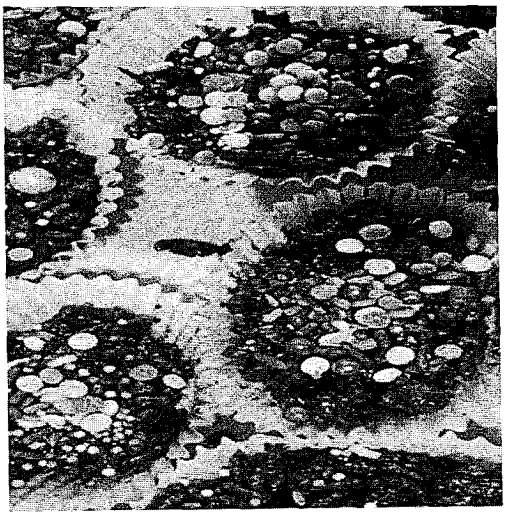
August – Origami, Clay Modelling, Rice Krispie Buns, Fareshare



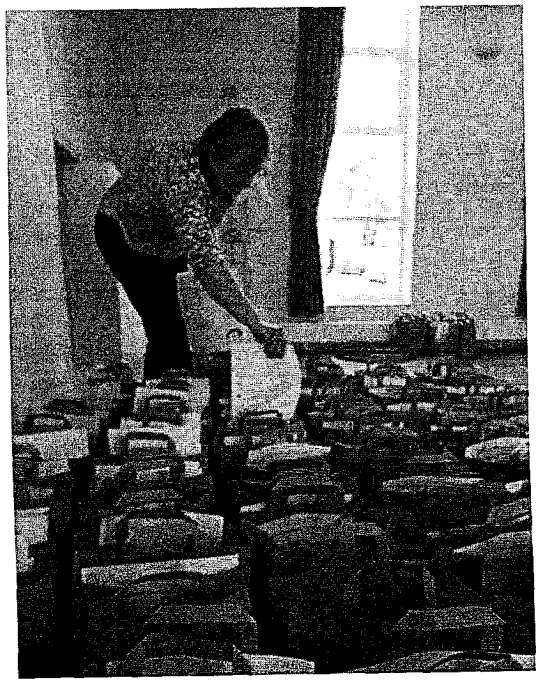
Here is an amazing team, and each week activities that my girls love, best thing since lockdown... staff are brilliant and friendly pop down or message get joined up xxx - Emma



I left the girls to make the rice crispy cakes by themselves. I just supervised when they microwaved the chocolate. They did pretty good and didn't make too much mess and Tilly 'helped' to clean up after 😂😂 - Anon





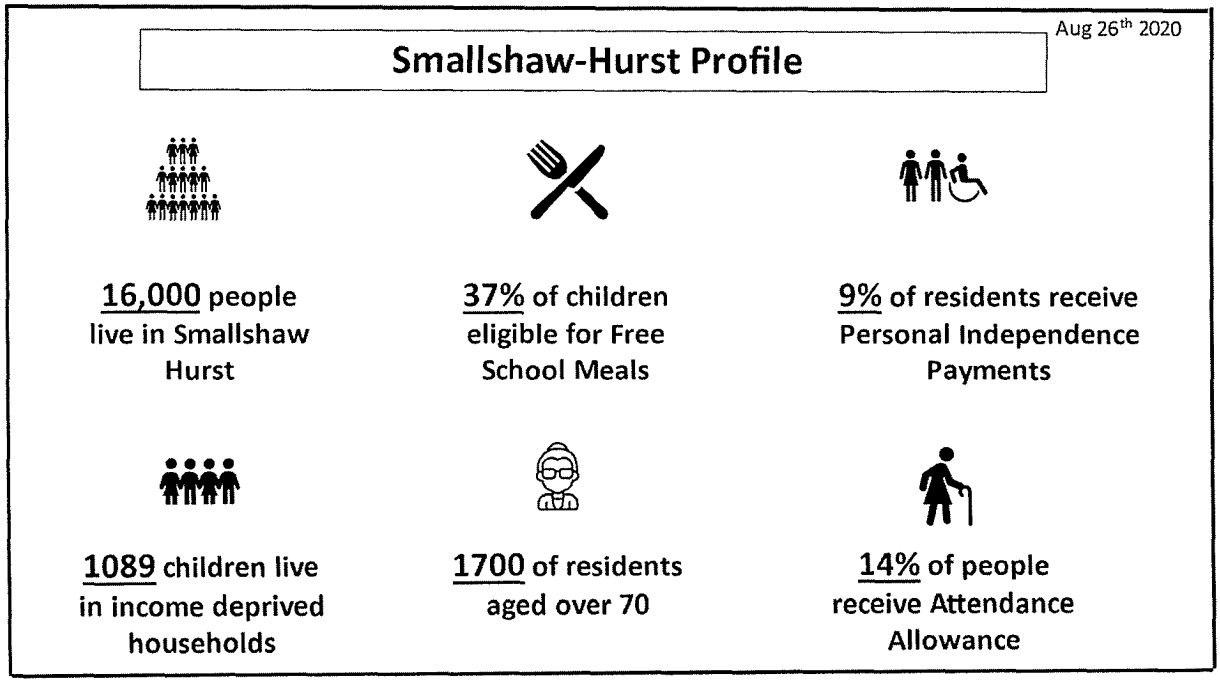


And parent's wanted to have a go too!!
Not only the kids enjoying the aired dried clay.
Mummy had a little play earlier, my little clay- Anon

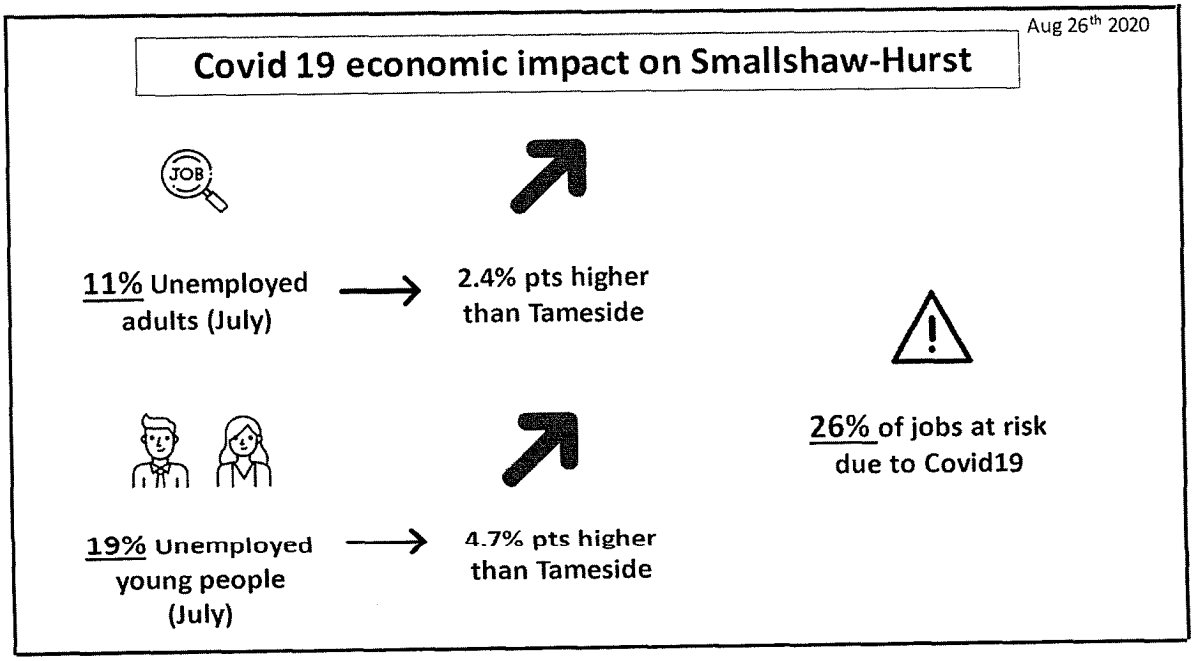
Whilst the weekly activities were proving to be a huge success and a lifeline to so many families we were still able to provide food distributed at our pop up events as part of the holiday hunger initiative, and through our Food Pantry operating out of Ashton United Football Club

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

By August 2020 the impact of Covid-19 was becoming more apparent and a piece of research was undertaken, coordinated by our partners Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community, which examined the profile of Smallshaw Hurst and compared the economic impact of Covid-19 on people already suffering from the effects of deprivation.



The research, measured against the statistics for the wider borough, clearly demonstrated that the impact on people in Smallshaw – Hurst was disproportionate to the rest of Tameside as a whole.



ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

By the end of August 2020, working with our friends under the title of Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group, we had been able to make a huge impact on the lives of local people, who were turning to us in numbers for support.



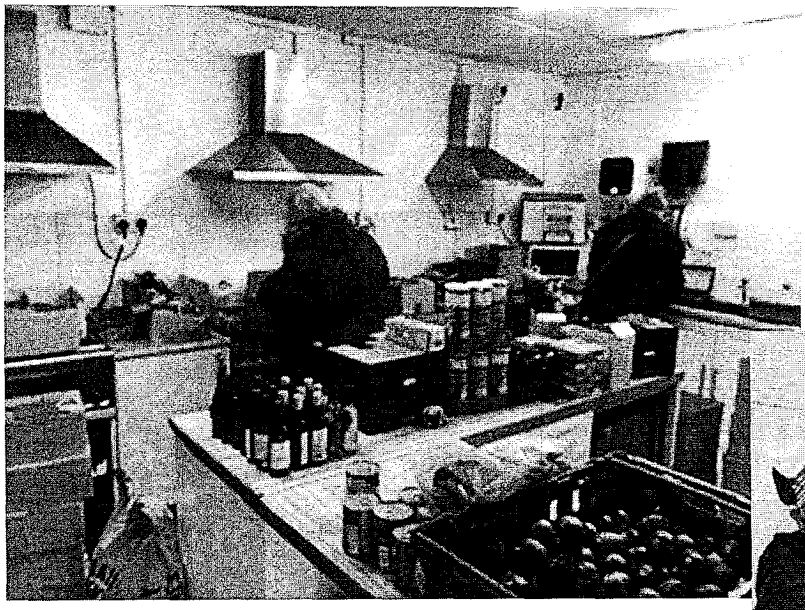
In September 2020 the schools returned and the need for weekly activities dissipated whereupon the focus of the charity was more towards developing a food pantry. A steering group was established with a view to exploring the opportunity for a Food Pantry to become a more permanent feature of the community, and an entity in its own right.

Community events and neighbourhood support continued however they were limited by the restrictions imposed on communities by the Government, and to ensure the safety of everyone engaging with what was on offer.

Rather than simply cancelling the planned events we demonstrated the resilient nature of the charity and the people we support by adapting to the challenges presented to us.



At Halloween it was simply a case of adapting the Food Pantry offer to include games and activities for children to enjoy.



Swiftly followed by an alternative to the Pensioners Party the delivery of food hampers in lieu, prepared by our volunteers in the kitchens at Hurst Cross stadium.





And of course the kids couldn't miss out on Father Christmas visiting, albeit socially distanced.



ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

Robins Recycling Shows GR8 Teamwork

Community news out of Hurst Cross: in the run up to Christmas the team displayed a great team effort to provide some furniture to local families. Ashton United Co-Chairman David Burke was replacing two, two-seater settees in his home and called upon Ashton United in the Community to find a 'home' for each.

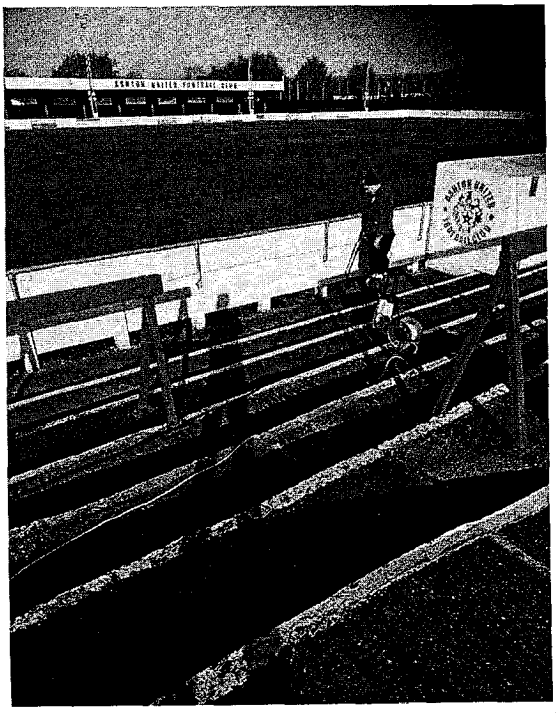


The community team utilised their local contacts and quickly found two families that would benefit from the gift.

How do we shift them was the next problem? Up stepped Paul Marr, Managing Director of Ashton United club kit suppliers, GR8 Sports, who offered his own time and transport to make sure two families received an early Christmas present.



Ashton United is a strong supporter of Ashton United in the Community; not just a football club, a family run club that embraces its community and recognises that, in difficult times everyone should all pull together. Importantly our football club partner and their suppliers hold similar values.



Volunteering

A cornerstone of our work is providing local people with volunteering opportunity. During 2020 some people have been restricted to the amount of time they could offer to volunteer, and indeed some were unable to volunteer due to concerns over their personal safety through shielding. This being said, over the year 66 volunteers were engaged and have delivered 12,666 hours volunteering their time, each volunteer reporting their commitment each month.

They have been engaged daily volunteering at Hurst Cross, through home working, supporting the food pantry, pop up events, holiday hunger and giving general support to our efforts to combat Covid-19. In 2019 the estimated average equivalent market hourly wage rate across a range of volunteer activities was around £13.70 (Power to Change 'Assessing the value of

volunteers in community businesses' report June 2020). If we were to place a nominal value of £10 per hour on our volunteers' time this equates to a social value contribution to volunteering of £126,660

Once again we believe the year has been a huge success albeit in very challenging circumstances. The grant support we have received towards the staffing costs has been the key driver of our success. We've learned that the volunteers we work with thrive on the varying opportunities they are given. They tell us that through social interaction and commitment to volunteering they gained confidence and learned new skills, such that they want to reach out across the wider community and support others, both individuals and organisations, to make positive change in their lives.

Matchdays – Saturday and Tuesday fixtures for Ashton United throughout the football season.



Volunteers attend prior, during and after games to meet and greet fans, carry out pitch and facilities maintenance, stewarding duties, media, etc. This is the opportunity for people to socialise, learn new skills, put their training into practice. Here we see volunteers learning about grounds maintenance and pitch renovation methods.

Case Studies

Individual 1 - No Child Should Go Hungry (NCSGH) December Campaign.

Claire (not her real name) is mum to five children and her youngest child is pre-school age. Her husband works full time and earns above average wage, but they struggle to make ends meet, particularly over the Christmas period and during school holidays. She says the weekly food pantry has provided a lifeline to her and her family. The variety of food available provides ingredients, fresh fruit and vegetables for breakfast, dinner and tea and more recently, ideas for recipes.

Claire reports 'I come to Ashton United Football Club and everyone is warm and welcoming, I was nervous at first but came with a friend, I look forward to the weekly chat with the volunteers and I also enjoy the FaceBook page. I get to find out other information as well and I also know that it isn't just my family in this situation, where my husband works full time and we still struggle financially, I can't thank these guys enough'.

Individual 2 – *Stuart*'s *story* (not his real name) an unemployed family man low on confidence and self-esteem, first became involved with Ashton United in the Community through attending the Food Pantry with his partner and children. Having been so grateful for the support given to him he offered to volunteer his time as *'my way of giving back for the support received'*. After several weeks helping out at

Food Pantry, on ground maintenance duties, and on match days as a steward Stuart's confidence and self-esteem grew and he was able to secure full time employment. He still remains a committed volunteer in his spare time.

Smallshaw Hurst Profile – A United Community

Smallshaw Hurst and District, where Hurst Cross and AUITC is located, and all of our events and activities take place, is a neighbourhood in the top 2% most deprived in England. The events and activities we have provided are aimed at the people from the local community with most if not all reflecting the fact that those taking part have little or no disposable income. Where children are involved most are children who are living in poverty, many with parents not in employment, education or training, from single parent families, or in the care system. AUITC, together with AUFC and Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community SSHCC is a founder member of Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group, and a member of Growing Well in Tameside Partnership, working to support a number of providers across our community. The SSHCC is made up from a collaboration of statutory, voluntary, private organisations, local stakeholders, local communities, children, young people and families seeking to effect systems change in support of local people.

This includes:

Tameside MBC – population health, early years, children and young people's partnership forum, education, Integrated Care Foundation Trust, CCG, GP's, Health Young Minds, TOG Mind, local schools, Ashton 6th Form College, JIGSAW Housing Group, voluntary groups, Broadoak and Smallshaw Community Centre, Greater Manchester Police, Action Together, Active Tameside, Ashton United in the Community, Ashton United FC, local faith groups, local early years providers and local parents. This collaboration is not exhaustive and continues to link into groups, services and people who have a role to play in ensuring a positive impact on children's lives. The work delivered is closely linked to the outcomes of the partnership with shared monitoring and evaluation of activities. SSHCC has a full-time analyst to manage monitoring and evaluation of joint projects.

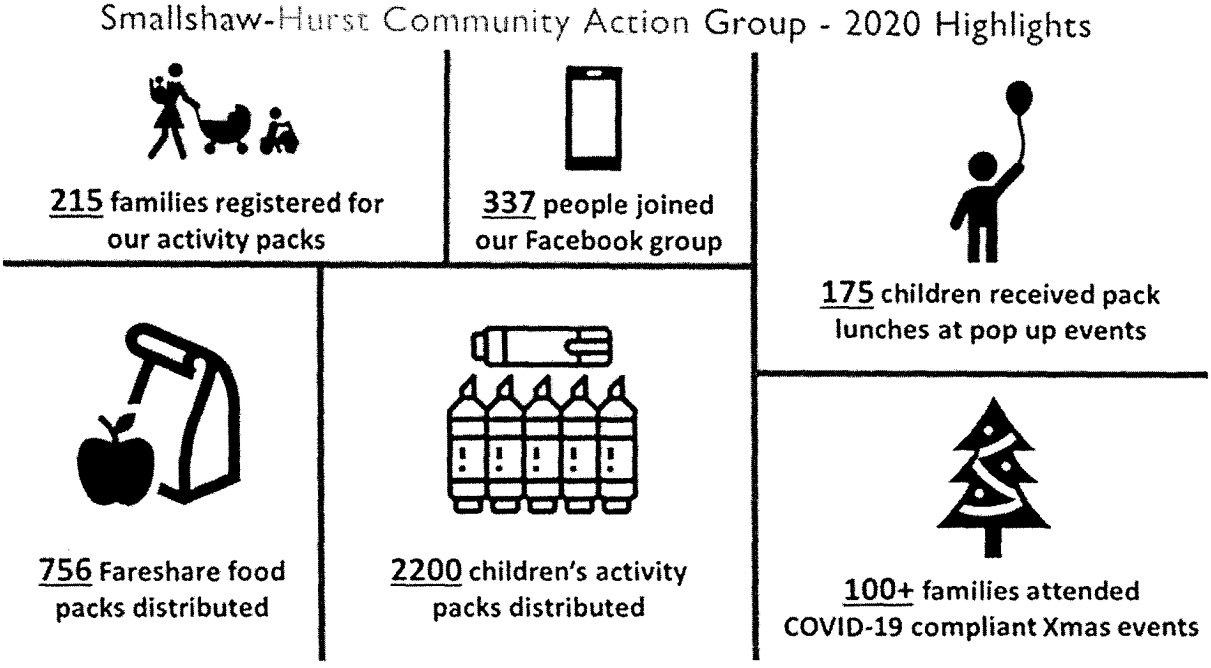
AUITC has worked throughout the year with these partners to deliver joined up working to the benefit of local people.

A strong and effective partnership structure has enabled joint consultation that identifies need, common issues, and a skills and specialist knowledge resource bank from which the partnership benefits from the likes of:

- economies of scale
- shared learning
- staff resource sharing
- joint initiatives
- consistent and compatible monitoring & evaluation systems and processes
- impact measurement.

ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

The partnership has thrived over the past 2 years and continues to develop as joint initiatives come on stream and partners gain the confidence and understanding in each other's ability and willingness to contribute.



Strong Political Support

Throughout the year we were grateful to be able to call upon the strong support of local elected members who 'rolled up their sleeves' and got stuck into the task of supporting local constituents.



Such was the interest in this initiative that our local Councillors, Leigh Drennan and Mike Glover, attended and were delighted to help out by distributing the food parcels.

They were ably supported by both of our Patrons Angela Rayner MP, Deputy Leader of the Labour Party who found time during her very busy schedule to help pack food for our Holiday Hunger project; and Jonathan Sayer who supported the charity with fundraising through his Mischief Theatre Company

Financial review

During the year Ashton United in the Community were successful in a number of grant applications. We are extremely thankful for the support of the following organisations providing grant support (predominantly over £500) toward a number of objectives:

- Action Together Tameside Wellbeing Fund
- ASDA Foundation
- Community Fund
- New Charter Housing/Jigsaw Housing
- Councillor Mike Glover
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- Groundwork
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council
- Jonathan Sayer
- Ashton United FC players, management & officials.

The grants enable AUITC to develop as a charity and engage with local people who are supporters of the football club, and the wider community. The early part of 2020 was spent delivering projects in support of funding secured in 2019, with other grant funding support primarily focussed on delivering improved outcomes for local people impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Accounts

The year started very well with plenty of great ideas planned for the forthcoming year ahead and a substantial budget to work with. Unfortunately, the year and the plans were quickly halted with the Covid19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown of schools and various outlets – this amounted to a huge challenge for the charity as we had many things planned, we discussed how this was to impact the local area and the community generally.
We gained various grants over the year, mainly from the government and local organisations (named above) that could see the hard work that the charity was doing, we used the grant money really well and the hard work has been rewarded with the charity being more recognised and having a bigger presence in the area.

Investment powers and policy

The trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of operating the charity, have kept available funds in a 'Treasurers Account'.

Reserves policy and going concern

The balance held in unrestricted reserves at 31st December 2020 was £6,449 of which all are free reserves, after allowing for funds tied up in tangible fixed assets.

The Charity's main source of income is grants and charitable donations. The Trustees consider that it is appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis and, consequently, the accounts do not include any adjustments that would be necessary if these sources of income should cease.

The trustees aim to establish and maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to respond to applications for grants and ensure that support and governance costs are covered.

The trustees consider that the charity is a going concern. Any reliance on grant funding is managed through a flexible approach to activities and project delivery.

Risk management

As the charity continues to establish itself the trustees will conduct regular reviews of the major risks to which the charity may be exposed and systems will be established to mitigate those risks.

Plans for Future Periods

The appointment of a full time self-employed Community Development Officer during 2020, to support volunteering and deliver a broad range of experiences for local people to engage with, has been a 'game changer' for the charity and is something we hope to expand upon during 2021.

The main thrust of the charity's work for the early part of 2020 will be supporting the establishment of a Food Pantry as an independent entity. We will help Smallshaw Hurst Community Action Group secure Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status and offer peer support to the group as it begins to 'stand on its own two feet'.

Covid-19 permitting we will explore the opportunity to organise and deliver HurstFest 2021, the date of which will be dependent upon restrictions being lifted. In a similar vein we would look to be part of the organising group for Ashton Band contest, should it too go ahead.

We will continue to support the development of women and girls football and utilise the restricted funding we hold specifically for this purpose.

AUITC is a managing partner of the Smallshaw Hurst Children's Community (SSHCC) and Growing Well in Tameside Partnership (GWT), working to support a number of providers across our community. We will continue to support the growth of these partnerships and to support the joint initiatives surrounding local need, developed through consultation with local people.

The charity will continue to support volunteering across all aspects of opportunity available in conjunction with Ashton United FC and our partners. This will involve, amongst other things, organising a volunteer recognition event and pop up events across the district that will include seasonal events e.g. children's Halloween and older persons Christmas parties. Volunteers will continue to learn new skills e.g. media training, stadium maintenance, stewarding, catering, customer service, and more.

These activities will be delivered through the Community Development Officer engaging with partners and the community to determine what is needed and how they would like that need to be met in an inclusive way. Support will be given to people to address their complex needs e.g. CV writing, work readiness training, interview techniques, etc. and is designed through social engagement to help improve confidence and self-esteem, reduce loneliness and isolation, and increase knowledge and skills.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees will be required to:

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with legal requirements. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

By order of the trustees

_____

John North
Treasurer

Date: 25th March 2021

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ASHTON UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1166483

I report on the accounts of the charity, for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out on pages 23 to 32.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is preparing accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records have in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act,

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: ..... A.M.King .....

AM King FCCA
Date: 25th March 2021

Community Accountancy Service Ltd
The Grange, Pilgrim Drive, Beswick,
Manchester, M11 3TQ

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

	Further Details	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds Year Ended 31 December 2020	Total Funds Year Ended 31 December 2019
		£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	(3)	3,541	2,256	5,797	8,516
Charitable Activities	(4)	987	53,240	54,227	45,365
Other Trading Activities	(5)	-	-	-	418
Total		4,528	55,496	60,024	54,299
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds	(6)	53	5,274	5,327	7,845
Charitable Activities	(6)	1,307	32,472	33,779	41,712
Other	(6)	-	-	-	80
Total		1,360	37,746	39,106	49,637
Net income/(expenditure)		3,168	17,750	20,918	4,662
Transfers between funds	(17)	(1,761)	1,761	-	-
Net movement in funds		1,407	19,511	20,918	4,662
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	(17)	5,042	40,504	45,546	40,884
Total funds carried forward	(17)	6,449	60,015	66,464	45,546

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 26 to 32 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible assets	(11)	920	2,203
Total fixed assets		920	2,203
Current assets:			
Stocks	(12)	-	-
Debtors	(13)	311	1,206
Cash at Bank & in Hand		65,713	42,497
Total current assets		66,024	43,703
Liabilities:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(14)	480	360
Net current assets or liabilities		65,544	43,343
Total assets less current liabilities		66,464	45,546
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	(16)		
Provisions for liabilities		-	-
Total net assets or liabilities		66,464	45,546
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds	(17)	60,015	40,504
Unrestricted income funds	(17)	6,449	5,042
Total charity funds		66,464	45,546

Approved on behalf of the Trustees Management Committee

John North

Carol Finnigan

Date: 25th March 2021

The notes on pages 26 to 32 form part of these accounts.

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£	£
Net cash used in operating activities	23,216	6,017
Cash flows from investment activities:		
Interest	-	-
Purchase of fixed assets	-	(2,760)
Net cash provided by investing activities	-	(2,760)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year	23,216	3,257
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	42,497	39,240
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	**65,713**	**42,497**

Notes to the accounts

1. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2019 preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 1st January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

(b) Funds structure

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. There are 13 restricted funds (2019: 7).

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.

Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 17.

(c) Income recognition

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

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank. Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

(d) Expenditure Recognition

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 settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. For more information on this attribution refer to note (f) below.

(e) Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

(f) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to independent examination ad legal fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs.

Governance costs and support costs relating to charitable activities have been apportioned based on type of expense. The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in note 8.

(g) Costs of raising funds

The costs of raising funds consists of events.

(h) Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include governance costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in note 7.

(i) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation
All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and valued at historical cost. Depreciation is charged on the following basis:

Equipment	33.33% on cost

(j) Realised gains and losses
All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their varying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(k) Pensions
The charity currently does not administer contributions to a pension scheme on behalf of individuals.

(l) Debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

(m) Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2. Related party transactions and trustees' expenses and remuneration
The trustees all give freely their time and expertise without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or kind
Expenses paid to the trustees in the year totalled £nil (2019: £nil).
The self-employed volunteer project manager is the husband of a trustee. The Charity Commission have given approval for this and the trustee is not involved in any decisions regarding this role.

3. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£	£	£	£
Donations	3,541	2,256	5,797	8,516
	3,541	2,256	5,797	8,516
Previous reporting period:	1,103	7,413	8,516	

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted grants:				
Asda Foundation	487	-	487	-
Groundwork	500	-	500	-
Restricted grants:				
National League Trust	-	-	-	10,000
Jigsaw Housing - Food Pantry	-	2,000	2,000	-
New Charter Housing	-	5,600	5,600	-
Community Fund	-	-	-	9,900
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	-	9,640	9,640	-
Tameside MBC	-	10,000	10,000	-
Tameside Action Together - Smallshaw	-	1,000	1,000	-
Tameside Action Together	-	25,000	25,000	25,465
	987	53,240	54,227	45,365
Previous reporting period	-	45,365	45,365	

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising events	-	-	-	418
	-	-	-	418
Previous reporting period	418	-	418	

6. Expenditure

	Community Engagement in Tameside	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£	£	£
Expenditure on raising funds:			
Advertising	300	300	3,848
Event costs	5,027	5,027	3,997
	5,327	5,327	7,845
Expenditure on charitable activities:			
DBS Costs	48	48	349
Training	1,440	1,440	2,370
Freelance Costs	19,511	19,511	23,031
Telephone	384	384	120
Referees Fees	150	150	45
Travel Costs	40	40	27
Refreshments	2,621	2,621	1,713
Volunteer Expenses	-	-	229
Equipment	2,215	2,215	939
Grounds Maintenance	-	-	30
Bank Charges	-	-	69
Repairs and Maintenance	-	-	668
Room & Facility Hire	2,664	2,664	2,220
Clothing & Kit	-	-	5,690
Computer & Internet Costs	1,593	1,593	380
Insurance	346	346	361
Governance	480	480	360
Post, Printing & Stationery	1,004	1,004	756
Depreciation	1,283	1,283	2,355
	33,779	33,779	41,712
Other expenditure:			
Sundry	-	-	80
	-	-	80
	39,106	39,106	49,637
Unrestricted funds		1,360	997
Restricted funds		37,746	48,640
		39,106	49,637

7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

As per note 6.

8. Allocation of governance and support costs

The breakdown of support costs and how these were allocated between governance and other support costs is shown below:

	General Support	Governance	Total	Basis of apportionment
Accountancy Fees	-	480	480	type of expense
	-	480	480	

9. Analysis of staff costs

	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£	£
Wages and Salaries	-	-
Redundancy	-	-
Social Security Costs	-	-
Pension Costs	-	-
	-	-
Charitable activities	-	-
Support costs	-	-
	-	-

The average number of employees during the year was nil (2019: nil).

The charity considers its key management personnel comprises the trustees and volunteer project manager. The total employment benefits, including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel were £nil (2018: £nil).

No employee has benefits in excess of £60,000.

The volunteer project manager is self-employed.

10. Independent Examiner Fees

	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£	£
Independent examination fees	480	360
	480	360

11. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Equipment	Total
Cost	£	£
At 01 January 2020	10,815	10,815
Additions	-	-
At 31 December 2020	10,815	10,815
Depreciation		
At 01 January 2020	8,612	8,612
Charge for Year	1,283	1,283
At 31 December 2020	9,895	9,895
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31 December 2020	920	920
At 31 December 2019	2,203	2,203

12. Stocks

The charity does not hold stocks of any items.

13. Analysis of debtors

	2020	2019
	£	£
Debtors	-	1,000
Prepayments	311	206
	311	1,206

Debtors and prepayments relate to restricted funds in 2020 and 2019.

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Other creditors and accruals	480	360
	480	360

15. Deferred income

The CIO did not have any deferred income at the period end.

16. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Provisions for liabilities	-	-
	-	-

17. Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 01 January 2020	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	5,042	4,528	(1,360)	(1,761)	6,449
	5,042	4,528	(1,360)	(1,761)	6,449

Previous reporting period:

	Balance at 01 January 2019	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	4,518	1,521	(997)	-	5,042
	4,518	1,521	(997)	-	5,042

Name of unrestricted fund:	Description, nature and purpose of the fund
General Fund	The "free reserves" after allowing for all designated funds

Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 01 January 2020	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Donations for Women's Team	2,389	1,658	(1,746)	-	2,301
Donations for Food Pantry	-	598	-	-	598
The Big Lottery Fund	546	-	-	-	546
National League Trust	2,121	-	(2,038)	-	83
Jigsaw Housing - Food Pantry	-	2,000	-	1,146	3,146
High Sheriff	126	-	-	-	126
Awards for All	604	-	-	-	604
New Charter Housing	-	5,600	(2,876)	(2,000)	724
Community Fund	7,694	-	(6,440)	(1,254)	-
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	-	9,640	(24)		9,616
Tameside MBC	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Tameside Action Together - Smallshaw	-	1,000	(4,861)	3,869	8
Tameside Action Together	27,024	25,000	(19,761)	-	32,263
	40,504	55,496	(37,746)	1,761	60,015

Transfers were made from Community Fund into unrestricted funds during the year. This was with the consent of the funder.

Previous reporting period:

	Balance at 01 January 2019	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Donations	-	7,413	(5,024)		2,389
The Big Lottery Fund	1,618	-	(1,072)	-	546
National League Trust	8,528	10,000	(16,407)	-	2,121
High Sheriff	616	-	(490)	-	126
Awards for All	604	-	-	-	604
Community Fund	-	9,900	(2,206)		7,694
Tameside Action Together	25,000	25,465	(23,441)	-	27,024
	36,366	52,778	(48,640)	-	40,504

Name of restricted fund:	Description, nature and purpose of the fund
Donations for Women's Team	for the women's team
Donations for Food Pantry	for the food pantry
The Big Lottery Fund	for HurstFest 2020
National League Trust	to support 'Volunteer Matter' programme with both capital and revenue costs
Jigsaw Housing - Food Pantry	for the food pantry
High Sheriff	towards general running costs associated with HurstFest
Awards for All	towards a governance, business planning and capacity building project
New Charter Housing	for activity packs for children during school holidays and lockdown
Community Fund	for a volunteer project
Community Fund - Picking up the Pieces	for setting up a food pantry
Tameside MBC	winter pressure grant
Tameside Action Together - Smallshaw	for a hunger/poverty project and for school children during school holidays
Tameside Action Together	to support 'Volunteer Matter' programme with both capital and revenue costs

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	920	920
Cash at bank and in hand	6,929	-	58,784	65,713
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(480)	-	311	(169)
Creditors of more than one year	-	-	-	-
Total	6,449	-	60,015	66,464

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Previous reporting period:				
Tangible fixed assets	363	-	1,840	2,203
Cash at bank and in hand	4,679	-	37,818	42,497
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	-	-	846	846
Creditors of more than one year	-	-	-	-
Total	5,042	-	40,504	45,546

19. Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised on a transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at an amortised cost using the effective interest method.

20. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	Year Ended 31 December 2020	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£	£
Net movement in funds	20,918	4,662
Add back depreciation	1,283	2,355
Deduct investment income	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	895	(1,060)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	120	60
Net cash used in operating activities	23,216	6,017