



Brighton Pebbles Trustees' Annual Report
for the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

Brighton Pebbles is registered charity number 1166802.

It is a charitable incorporated organisation, registered on 28th April 2016, having been operating as an unincorporated organisation since January 2008.

The main contact address for the charity is:-

37 Graham Avenue, Portslade, Brighton, BN41 2WN

The management committee is made up of 6 trustees who are all parent/carers of children and young people with disabilities.

The trustees are:

Nicola Billington, Lisa Hinton, Anastasia Langford, Lorraine Roberts, Rhianydd Summersett and Marian Tipler

In the event of a trustee leaving post, a new trustee would be sought from the bank of parent carers who are involved in the charity, drawing on relevant expertise to meet the requirements necessary at the time.

The charity also employs a Finance Officer / Fundraiser to carry out all of the administrative and organisational duties needed to keep the charity running.

As the charity is involved in dealing with families, we have a safeguarding policy in place to ensure we follow appropriate guidelines and procedures. Staff and trustees have had safeguarding training and also have DBS checks carried out prior to taking their positions with the charity.

Charitable Objects

The object of the CIO is the promotion of social inclusion among families with disabled children and young people, who are socially excluded from society as a result of their disability or challenging behaviour, by providing recreational facilities and opportunities for disabled children, their parents and carers and their siblings.

Activities

In planning activities for the year, the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit was taken into consideration at trustee meetings. Activities are open to any family known to the charity who have a child or young person with disabilities.

Activities are arranged to support families with disabled children and young people living in the Brighton & Hove area.

Regular Activities

Our regular activities include:

- A weekly after school family drop-in session every Friday. These sessions are supported by a small team of playworkers who help to engage the children to take part in activities. Parents and carers stay onsite and have opportunities to network with others, offering mutual peer support.
- A weekly parent/carer pilates class offering a friendly session to meet up with others to improve both physical and mental health.
- A parent/carer craft group offering a chance to meet with others to chat whilst working on your favourite craft project. These sessions usually happen monthly.
- A monthly lunch meet up for parent/carers. Different venues are visited each time to make it easier for people to access across the geographical area.
- We host a private Facebook group for parents and carers to share information, ideas and support.

Main achievements for the period

In addition to our regular activities, we also arrange various other events through the year.

Days out are a big part of what we offer at weekends and during school holidays as these times are when families report the most isolation.

The family day trips have varied in size but attracted an average of 20 people during this period. Our busiest trip this year was a boat trip from Brighton Marina, which was for a total of 77 people!

Within this year we have arranged the following trips:

- 2 trips on the Bluebell Railway
- 1 visit to Middle Farm
- 1 visit to the Sealife Centre
- 1 visit to The Little Mermaid Show in Eastbourne
- 3 Bowling Sessions (2 with Pizza too)
- 4 visits to Sky High Trampoline Park

- 2 visits to Knockhatch Adventure Park
- 2 visits to Thames Valley Adventure Playground
- 1 visit to Washbrooks Farm
- 3 swimming trips
- 1 visit to Fishers Farm Park
- 1 visit to Tilgate Park
- 1 visit to the Cirque Show at the Brighton Centre
- 1 boat trip from Brighton Marina
- 1 trip on the i360
- 1 visit to the Aglow light show at Paradise Park
- 2 visits to Jump In Inflatable Fun
- 1 visit to the pantomime in Eastbourne
- 1 Christmas party

We have also started some trips specifically for young people aged 18-25 and their parents/carers. These have included a lunch meet up and a train trip to Eastbourne.

For parents, we organised a Christmas lunch meet up. Some of the dads also went on a weekend away in Slovenia.

We hired the Kench Hill Centre in Kent for a week in August and were able to offer a holiday to 13 families (a combination of 3 nights, 4 nights, and whole week) A total of 40 people managed to get a break at this lovely place. We were able to fund carers to come along and help families, enabling them to actually have time to relax as a family, as well as spend quality time with siblings. We also brought a cook to cater for such a large group. During the stay we arranged trips to the Kent & East Sussex Railway, the Romney Hythe & Dymchurch Railway, The Rare Breeds Centre, Port Lympne Wildlife Park, Bodiam Castle & Leeds Castle, as well as swimming and trampolining.

During the period covered by this report Brighton Pebbles has provided activities for 78 different families consisting of 126 adults and 139 children.

Financial Review

The charity has a Reserves Policy, recognising it is good practice to hold 3 months' worth of operational costs in the event of the charity needing to wind down.

Currently this is estimated at £2395 which is within the £4157 held as free reserves as of 31st March 2024

Most of the charity's funding comes from other grant making charities, together with some fundraising activities through the year.

At the beginning of the period the charity was holding existing grants & donations from the following organisations: -

- Capital grant from Brighton & Hove Council
- Noel Bennett Fund
- Chalk Cliff Trust
- Sussex Community Foundation
- Brighton & Hove Mencap
- Barbara Ward Children's Foundation
- Co-op Community Fund
- Skerrit's Independent Financial Advisers

During the year we were fortunate to be granted funds from the national grant giving charity Localgiving as part of their Magic Little Grants programme as well as from the following local sources:

- Wellesley Charitable Foundation
- Amaze PaCC Partner Fund
- Brighton & Hove Mencap
- Noel Bennet Fund
- Chalk Cliff Trust
- East Brighton Trust

We also received some transferred funds from the local charity Extratime who sadly ceased to operate this year.

We are extremely grateful for all of these funders who have supported us and enabled us to continue to support our families.

We have also received donations from private individuals and from fundraising activities throughout the year.

Brighton Pebbles aims to reduce social isolation for its families by offering activities for families to take part in within a safe and supportive environment. We feel that we have achieved this during the period detailed in this report.

A couple of quotes from families who managed to attend some of our trips during the year:-

"Having a SEN kid puts a lot of pressure on us as a family- mainly while being out and about in public as we find that in certain situations people aren't understanding or empathetic or kind. Trips that have been organised with Pebbles are different

though. We haven't taken the kids on a boat before as we weren't sure how they would react but we went on the boat trip with Pebbles this summer. Not only were we comfortable socially by joining other Pebbles families, but the whole trip was a success! The pressure being off both socially and financially really made a difference and we were all able to relax and enjoy this new experience together as a family. Some fabulous memories made and we are very appreciative of Pebbles for organising this"

"Brighton Pebbles is one of the last safe spaces left for severely disabled children and their families in an increasingly shrinking climate of cuts that has had a disproportionately punitive effect on the most vulnerable and at-risk families. The effort Pebbles go to to organise a wide variety of trips, including residentials, weekly after-school groups and parent lunches throughout the year is a vital ecosystem of support for a large cross section of the disabled community in Brighton. Pebbles affords parents and carers the chance to meet with others in the same situation, really get to know them and their families, for disabled young people to bond and for their siblings to form their own support networks. They are a wealth of wisdom and information whilst not being too rigid about their eligibility criteria and making everything inclusive and connecting families who would never have met otherwise. The positive effect it has had on my son is immeasurable, his Pebbles friends greet him with such joy and it's great for him to feel part of a community too."

Trustee Name..... MARIAN TIPLER
Signature..... Marian Tipler.
Date..... 18/9/24

Trustee Name..... Rhianydd Summersett
Signature..... R Summersett
Date..... 18-9-24

Brighton Pebbles CIO

Accounts for the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

Registered charity 1166802
Charity correspondent MRS SALLY HOWELL
 37 GRAHAM AVENUE
 PORTSLADE
 BRIGHTON

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis from information and explanations supplied by the charity.

Mireille Shimoda
Resource Centre
6 Tilbury Place
Brighton BN2 0GY
Date: 16th July 2024

These accounts have been approved by the Trustees of the charity.
Signed by one or two Trustees on behalf of all the Trustees

1. Marian Tipler
2. R. Smith
Date 18-9-24

Brighton Pebbles (CIO No.1166802)

Statement of Financial Activities from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

Summary receipts and payments

Receipts	2024			2023		
	restricted	unrestricted	total	restricted	unrestricted	total
Donations, grants and legacies	7,947	5,877	13,824	36,560	4,749	41,310
Income from charitable activities	3,455	5,632	9,087	4,823	1,496	6,319
Other income	-	30	30	-	8	8
Total Receipts	11,402	11,539	22,941	41,384	6,253	47,637
Payments						
Expenditure on charitable activities	25,279	5,689	30,968	29,228	4,391	33,618
Expenditure on raising funds	-	246	246	725	171	896
Total Payments	25,279	5,935	31,214	29,952	4,562	34,514
Net receipts (payments) for the period	(13,877)	5,604	(8,273)	11,432	1,691	13,123
Balance of funds at 1st April 2023	22,139	7,915	30,053	10,902	6,029	30,578
Adjustment to balance	-	-	-	(195)	195	-
Balance of funds at 31st March 2023	8,262	13,519	21,781	22,139	7,915	43,701

Brighton Pebbles (CIO No.1166802)

Receipts and Payments from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

Receipts			2024	2023		
	restricted	unrestricted	total	restricted	unrestricted	total
Donations, grants and legacies						
East Brighton Trust	750	-	750	-	-	-
Amaze	-	250	250	-	250	250
Awards for All	-	-	-	9,960	-	9,960
Barbara Ward Children's Foundation	-	-	-	4,000	-	4,000
Chalk Cliff Trust	2,500	-	2,500	-	-	-
Magic Little Grants	500	-	500	500	-	500
Mencap Brighton and Hove	1,500	-	1,500	1,500	-	1,500
Noel Bennett Fund	897	-	897	1,038	-	1,038
Wellesley Charitable Foundation	1,800	-	1,800	1,800	-	1,800
Sussex Community Foundation	-	-	-	9,292	-	9,292
Co-operative	-	-	-	3,472	-	3,472
Enjoolata Foundation Grant	-	-	-	4,998	-	4,998
Donation from Extratime (transfer of funds at closure)	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-
Donations and gift aid	-	627	627	-	4,499	4,499
Income from charitable activities						
Members' contribution for Kench Hill 2024	3,455	-	3,455	3,483	-	3,483
Members' contributions: activities and days out	-	235	235	1,340	228	1,568
Members' contributions: parent and siblings activities	-	1,050	1,050	-	582	582
Members' contributions: Friday drop-in	-	618	618	-	546	546
Fundraising activities	-	3,730	3,730	-	141	141
Other income						
Bank interest	-	30	30	-	8	8
Total Receipts	11,402	11,539	22,941	41,384	6,253	47,637
Payments			2024	2023		
Expenditure on charitable activities						
Friday Drop-in: salaries	4,539	863	5,402	5,946	-	5,946
Friday Drop-in: other costs	2,210	197	2,407	1,963	104	2,067
General activities and days out	4,029	1,642	5,671	4,562	1,363	5,925
Parents' and siblings' activities	1,516	1,642	3,158	2,250	1,009	3,259
Over 18s activities	71	179	251	-	-	-
Beach hut	-	-	-	-	1,030	1,030
Kench Hill 2024	10,281	-	10,281	12,705	80	12,785
Staff and volunteer expenses	53	230	283	-	190	190
Admin salaries	2,519	-	2,519	1,441	-	1,441
Admin and organisational costs (inc training)	61	872	933	361	553	914
Bank charges	-	63	63	-	61	61
Expenditure on raising funds						
Admin salaries	-	-	-	710	-	710
Fundraising expenses	-	246	246	15	171	186
Total Payments	25,279	5,935	31,214	29,952	4,562	34,514
Net receipts (payments) for the period	(13,877)	5,604	(8,273)	11,432	1,691	13,123
Balance of funds at 1st April 2023	22,139	7,915	30,053	10,902	6,029	16,931
Adjustment to balance	-	-	-	(195)	195	-
Balance of funds at 31st March 2024	8,262	13,519	21,781	22,139	7,915	30,053

Brighton Pebbles (CIO No.1166802)

Assets and Liabilities at 31st March 2024

Assets

Community account	20,026
Deposit (savings) account	687
Cottage Industries account	1,002
Cash in hand	66

Total assets	21,781
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Non-monetary Assets

none known

Liabilities

none known

Funds held at 31st March 2024

	Date funds received	Balance remaining at 31st March 2024
Restricted funds		
Kench Hill		375
Hinton Activity Fund		1,914
Fitzsimons Activity Fund		867
Brighton and Hove City Council, Manor Gym Capital Grant	Sep-14	382
Chalk Cliff Trust 2023	Jun-23	951
East Brighton Trust	Nov-23	76
Mencap Brighton and Hove 2023	Feb-22	1,299
Mencap Brighton and Hove 2024	Jan-24	1,500
Noel Bennett Fund	Dec-23	897
Restricted funds held at 31st March 2024		8,262

Unrestricted funds

Designated funds

Thomas Hunt donation	696
Local Giving (Skerrits fundraising)	1,343
Extratime	4,118
Diana Billington Memory	128
Marian Open House & Auction	350
Spanish Lady Pub Fundraiser	215
Neil's birthday fundraiser	1,602
Nicky's fundraiser	910
Free reserves	4,157

Unrestricted funds held at 31st March 2024	13,518
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Independent Examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees of *Brighton Pebbles CIO*

Registered Charity number 1166802

1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

The accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to: examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act, to follow the procedures specified in the General Directions of the Charity Commissioners (under section 145 (5)(b) of the Act) and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's 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 the 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 laid out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Report

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
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act: and
 - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 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.



Mireille Shimoda
Resource Centre
6 Tilbury Place
Brighton BN2 0GY

Date: 4th October 2024