

***The Bridge Recovery Community (CIO)
Annual Trustees Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 May 2021***

Charity Number: 1167634

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Charity Information

Charity Purpose and Registration

Contact: Robert Bell
 26a Haggard Road
 Twickenham
 Middlesex
 TW1 3AF

Principal Address: The Arches,
 Richmond Bridge
 Richmond Road
 Twickenham
 Middlesex
 TW1 2EF

Bankers: Lloyds Bank
 Business Banking
 BX1 1LT

About Us

The Bridge Recovery Community (BRCC) was set up to provide support and help for people who are struggling with addiction. We offer a range of services, including 12-step meetings, group therapy, and individual counselling. Our aim is to help people recover from addiction and build a better life for themselves.

When the bridge isn't being used for 12-step meetings, it's often available for other activities, such as workshops, events and activities. For example, the meditation group at a nearby park, and the London Polish group. When COVID restrictions allow, the latter group meet on a Sunday once every two months.

The charity raises funds from other private sources.

Notes: regular contributions to the charity, mainly from individuals, from the group at 26a Haggard Road.

Events: events held at Twickenham and the bridge are organised by a group of volunteers. The group at 26a Haggard Road is a separate group and is not affiliated with the charity.

Trustees Report

Charity Purpose and Registration

The purpose of the charity is stated in its foundation document as:

“To facilitate recovery from addiction in all its forms for the public good, by providing low cost meeting space for people attending 12 step fellowship groups; and the provision of a safe and recreational space for social, volunteering and community fellowship activities”.

The Charity is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with the following charitable objects:

“The object of the CIO is to promote, for the benefit of the public and society as a whole, social inclusion and relieve the needs of those in need who are dependent upon, addicted to, recovering from or affected by drugs, alcohol or other similar substances, in particular (without limitation) around the Richmond on Thames area, primarily (but not exclusively) through the provision of appropriate low cost meeting space for such people attending 12 step fellowship recovery groups, a safe space for social, volunteering and community fellowship activities and facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom they are intended.”

Operations

Room Rentals:

The Bridge Recovery Community's (The Bridge) main activity is to provide low cost meeting space for 12-step fellowship recovery groups. Before COVID 19 lockdowns, eight 12 Step fellowships held 19 weekly meetings at The Bridge between them. This meant that in the course of a year around 988 meetings take place.

When the Bridge isn't being used for 12 Step meetings, it is often available for recovery-related workshops events and activities, for example the meditation group on a Saturday morning and The London Polish Intergroup. When COVID restrictions allow, the latter group meet on a Sunday once every two months.

The Charity raises funds from three other principle sources:

Friends - regular contributors to the charity, mainly (but not exclusively) from the groups using the facilities

Events – events such as quiz nights and film nights are organised by an Events Committee consisting of certain trustees and additional members from the groups using the facilities

Anonymous donor – the charity has received a number of donations from a Charities Aid Foundation Donor, who has asked to remain anonymous. These donations make good any shortfall in resources of the charity, and are expected to be available in the future.

We are very grateful to all our contributors, who help to keep The Bridge running for the benefit of the local recovery community.

We are also very grateful to our many volunteers, who undertake a number of tasks to support The Bridge. These include running social and fundraising events, taking part in maintenance project working groups, a variety of administrative tasks and assisting the Caretaker/Manager with regular maintenance of The Bridge.

The part-time Manager/Caretaker runs and maintains The Bridge day to day. His costs are charged to the Charity on a monthly basis.

In addition, operational oversight and support is provided as required by Robert Bell, who is contracted by the Double 'O' Charity Limited for this and other charitable purposes.

The Charity undertakes occasional improvement projects for the benefit of users of the facilities. The projects to be undertaken in the year are approved by the Trustees at the time of setting the annual budget.

The Trustees meet regularly and hold an annual Strategy Meeting where the longer term development of the charity is discussed and agreed. In making decisions about current activities and future direction, the trustees have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

COVID 19 Impact:

For much of the year under review, The Bridge was unable to operate normally due to COVID restrictions. During these periods, The Bridge provided virtual meeting facilities and many groups used this resource to continue to meet online. Many continued to make contributions to The Bridge, although the Trustees did not make any formal requests.

The Treasurer sought and was granted some temporary support from Richmond Council (our landlord) in the form of a deferral of one quarter's rent for one year. As the accounts are prepared on a cash basis, this means that the rental expenses are approximately 75% of what would be expected in a normal year, and this will be made up in the following year.

The trustees are keeping the financial situation under constant review.

Trustees

The trustees during the year were as follows:

- Maria Pemberton (Chair from September 2020, resigned May 2021)
- Lisa Chittenden (Chair - resigned September 2020)
- Robert Bell
- Michael Pilling (Treasurer)
- Sarah Lavelle (Resigned May 2021)

- Ken Crosland (Chair from June 2021)
- Julia Bell
- Lindsey Pilling

Independent Examiners Report

Report to the trustees/ members of The Bridge Recovery Community (CIO number 1167634) on accounts for the year ended 31st May 2021 set out on pages 7 to 9

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) 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 laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

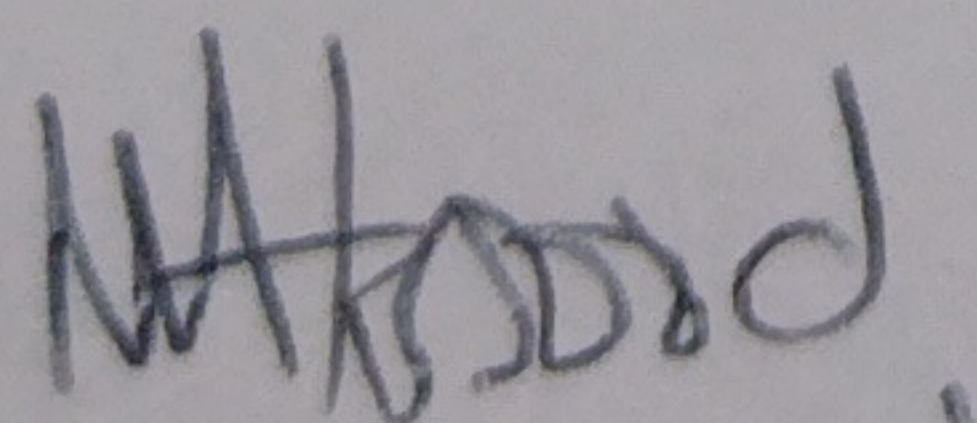
My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures 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 set out in the statement 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 in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave 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.

Signature:



Date: 9.2.22

Name: Neil Harwood

Relevant Professional Qualifications or Body (if any):

Address: Holly Tree House, Croasdale Drive, Parbold, Lancashire, WN8 7HR

Statement of Receipts and Payments, for the year ended 31 May 2021

	Unrestricted Funds Note (to nearest £) 2021	Total Funds (to nearest £) 2021	Total Funds (to nearest £) 2020
<i>Receipts</i>			
Rental income	5,668	5,668	16,667
Donations	18,205	18,205	6,044
Gift Aid	2 1,720	1,720	1,477
Income from Events	-	-	649
Additional contributions	3 -	-	15,000
	<hr/> 25,593	<hr/> 25,593	<hr/> 39,837
Asset and Investment Sales	-	-	-
	<hr/> 25,593	<hr/> 25,593	<hr/> 39,837
<i>Payments</i>			
Rental expense	5,614	5,614	7,000
Events expenses	-	-	204
Management and caretaking costs	19,000	19,000	20,193
Electricity	3,924	3,924	28
Repairs and Renewals	1,180	1,180	3,299
Insurance	327	327	326
Other operating expenses	2,099	2,099	2,738
	<hr/> 32,144	<hr/> 32,144	<hr/> 33,788
Asset and Investment Purchases	-	-	-
	<hr/> 32,144	<hr/> 32,144	<hr/> 33,788
Net of Receipts / (Payments)	<hr/> (6,551)	<hr/> (6,551)	<hr/> 6,049
Cash Funds last year end	26,372	26,372	20,323
	<hr/> 19,821	<hr/> 19,821	<hr/> 26,372
Cash Funds this year end	<hr/> 19,821	<hr/> 19,821	<hr/> 26,372

These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis, as permitted for non-corporate small charities.

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	Note	Unrestricted Funds (to nearest £) 31 May 2021	Total Funds (to nearest £) 31 May 2021	Total Funds (to nearest £) 31 May 2020
Cash funds	1	19,821	19,821	26,372

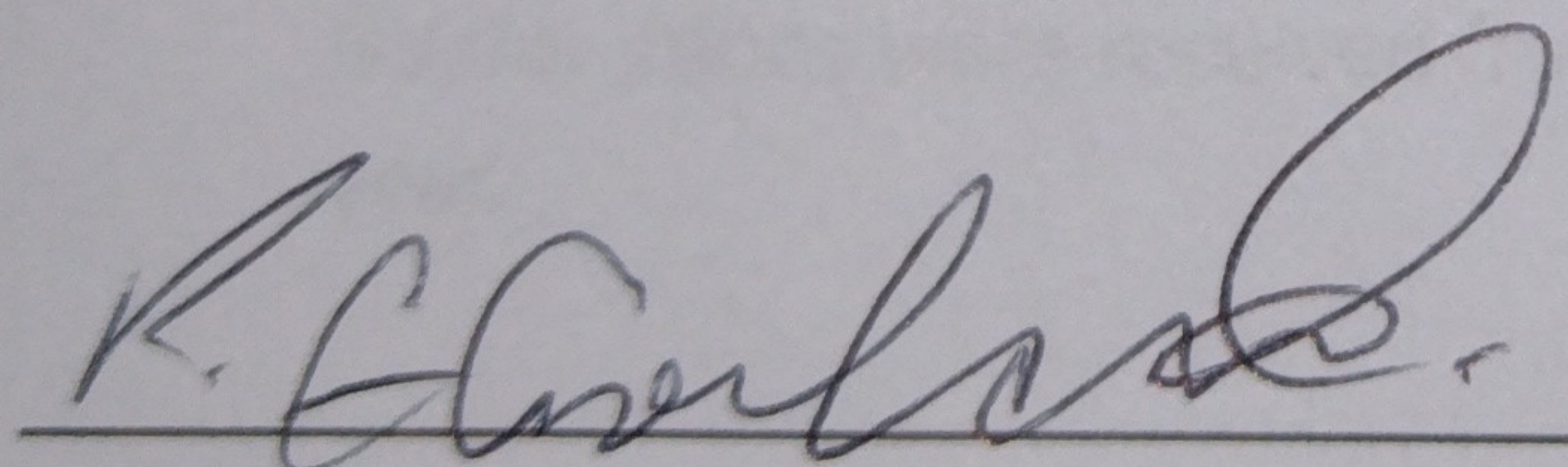
The Charity has no other monetary assets, investments or liabilities.

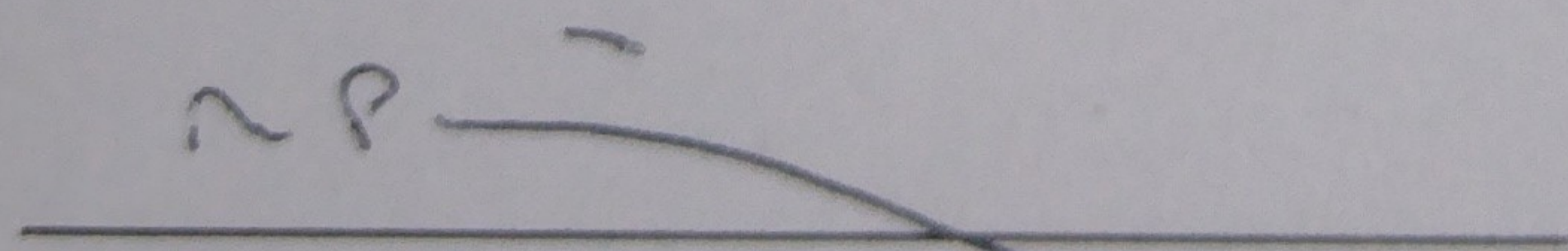
Assets retained for the Charity's own use consist of fixtures and fittings used within the premises, the principal items being:

- Flooring and under-floor heating
- Exterior decking
- Seating
- Laptop computer
- Kitchen equipment
- Leaf blower
- Sound and lighting equipment (used for events)

These items have all been expensed in the year of purchase within "repairs and renewals".

Signed by on behalf of all the trustees

 Ken Crosland (Chair of Trustees)

 Michael Pilling (Treasurer)

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Reserves Policy

The following outlines the reserves policy of the Bridge.

The Charity currently has no restrictions on its funds, and the trustees have therefore formulated a reserves policy which is appropriate to sustaining the Charity's activities without retaining excessive funds.

The income of the charity consists mainly of regular rental payments and donations which are fairly predictable in the short to medium term. However the longer term viability of the charity is currently dependent on the continued willingness of a Charities Aid Foundation donor (who wishes to remain anonymous) to provide support, or on the ability of the Trustees to secure an alternative should such support be withdrawn. Although such an event is considered unlikely, in the opinion of the Trustees it would take approximately 3-4 months to wind up the Charity's activities in an orderly manner, and adequate reserves should be retained to cover this eventuality. Our reserves policy is therefore to allow unrestricted cash reserves to reduce to approximately 4 months expenditure (currently around £12,000) before seeking additional funding from the C.A.F. donor.

2. Gift Aid

Gift Aid monies of £1,720 were received from HMRC during the year. These consisted of £1,324 in respect of the 2019/20 financial year with the remainder being in relation to current year donations paid through online donation platforms.

3. Donations from Charities Aid Foundation donor

No donations were received from the anonymous Charities Aid Foundation donor during the year.