

***The Bridge Recovery Community (CIO)
Annual Trustees Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 May 2022***

Charity Number: 1167634

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Charity Information

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

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 prior year, 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 in the previous year are approximately 75% of what would be expected in a normal year, and the current year, approximately 25% higher, as a result of catching up on the deferred rent.

The trustees are keeping the financial situation under constant review.

Trustees

The trustees during the year were as follows:

- Ken Crosland (Chair)
- Robert Bell
- Michael Pilling (Treasurer)
- Michael Bielanski (appointed 14 February 2022)
- Timothy Chichester Williams (appointed 8 July 2021)
- Chris Fegan
- Julia Bell
- Lindsey Miller

Independent Examiners Report

Report to the trustees/ members of The Bridge Recovery Community (CIO number 1167634) on accounts for the year ended 31st May 2022 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:

Kendra Clemo.

Date:

15 May 2023.

Name: Kendra Clemo

Relevant Professional Qualifications or Body (if any):

Address: 12 Emerald Square, London SW15 5FP

Statement of Receipts and Payments, for the year ended 31 May 2022

	Total Funds (to nearest £)	Unrestricted Funds (to nearest £)	Total Funds (to nearest £)
	2021	2022	2022
Receipts			
Rental income	5,668	14,799	14,799
Donations	18,205	17,980	17,980
Gift Aid *Note 2	1,720	946	946
Income from Events	-	552	552
Additional contributions *Note 3	-	7,500	7,500
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	25,593	41,777	41,777
Asset and Investment Sales	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Receipts	25,593	41,777	41,777
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Payments			
Rental expense	5,614	9,635	9,635
Events expenses	-	-	-
Management and caretaking costs	19,000	19,800	19,800
Electricity	3,924	1,958	1,958
Repairs and Renewals	1,180	514	514
Insurance	327	327	327

Other operating expenses	2,099	1,417	1,417
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	32,144	33,651	33,651
Asset and Investment Purchases	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Expenses	32,144	33,651	33,651
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net of Receipts / (Payments)	(6,551)	8,126	8,126
Cash Funds last year end	26,372	19,821	19,821
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash Funds this year end	19,821	27,947	27,947
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

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

	Total Funds Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	(to nearest £)	(to nearest £)
	31 May 2021	31 May 2022
Cash funds *Note 1	19,821	27,947

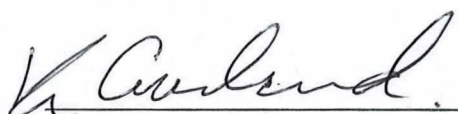
The Charity has no other monetary assets, investments or liabilities.

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 £946 were received from HMRC during the year. These related to current year donations paid through online donation platforms.

3. Donations from Charities Aid Foundation donor

A donation of £7,500 was received from the anonymous Charities Aid Foundation donor during the year.