



The Bentswood Community Partnership

Working for a better future

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE AGM FOR 2022-23

Dear BCP Members and residents,

This has been a something of a year of two halves that have shown great work and great difficulties for the BCP and the community.

To this end, the Trustees have met at least seven times since last year's AGM, more than double the usual amount, and I would firstly like to pay tribute to my colleagues for their contributions and thanks for the imposition upon their time.

The first half of the year saw the continuation of the superb and varied work carried out by volunteers and the paid Hub Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator through the Bentswood Hub in America Lane. I shall not go into great detail on the activities as they are largely known to residents, suffice to say that their scope fulfilled many of the Objects of this charity and supported many of the families, young and older people living in Bentswood and nearby. Recent events and feedback from residents has shown how highly this was appreciated and accolades and awards were rightly won by Sussex Clubs for Young People's (SCYP) team. With this in mind the BCP Trustees supported work by SCYP and Clarion Futures to raise funds to support the running of the Hub, the employment of staff and the key activities being carried out. The success of their efforts can be seen in the funds that we are currently holding.

Sadly, in late June/early July SCYP went into administration and the knock-on effect of this was hugely felt in Bentswood and, indeed, across the whole of Sussex such was the scope of their work with young people and increasingly their wider community activities. For us here it meant that the Hub had to immediately close as the lease effectively fell away and along with it the relevant building and liability insurances. Sadly it also meant the loss of the staff running the Hub and we should bear in mind the huge impact upon them personally as well as the loss to the Community.

However, Clarion Futures made the huge decision to directly take on the lease of the Hub and the employment of staff and we should recognise the commitment of Nicky Dodds and Dawn Rennie to this community that they managed to persuade their Directors to take this new direction for Clarion Futures. The lease was agreed in relatively short time for these things but other administrative matters unfortunately went at the slow pace that these things do in huge organisations and this caused real difficulties for all concerned.

In October we learnt of the forming of the "Bentswood Hub CIC" and it has transpired that they have subsequently worked on setting up their projects around the larder and youth activities independently. This has left Clarion Futures with the problem of the commitment of a 3-year lease but without the benefit of the previous Hub staff to call upon.

The BCP Trustees continue to meet regularly to keep appraised of this evolving situation and remain committed to support all Partners who are delivering services to support our community. Before signing off I would also like to pay tribute to the Town Council for their support during the year but also as intermediaries over the last couple of months as we seek to find a way forward for joint working between Clarion Futures, BCP and the new CIC.

I wish you all a wonderful Festive Season and would like to express my deepest thanks to each and every one of you who give up your time and energy to support our residents.

Stephen R Hillier, Chairman 2014 – present

6th December 2023



Registered Address: c/o Warden Park Primary Academy, New England Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 3JS
Registered Charity Number: 1167891



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st September 2022 To 31st August 2023

Charity name: **BENTSWOOD COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**

Charity registration number: **1167891**

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To develop the capacity and skills of the members of the socially and economically disadvantaged community of the Bentswood Ward in Haywards Heath and surrounding areas in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	We are one of three partners in the hugely successful Bentswood Hub. This is now where the vast majority of the activities are carried out and includes: a food larder using supermarket waste to support struggling residents, weekly drop-ins with supportive agencies such as CAB, youth groups, Sunday roasts for isolated older people. In addition the BCP supports community events
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The guidance has been circulated this year to all Trustees

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	As a rule we are not a grant-making organisation but we have procedures for residents to follow if they wish support with a new project
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The work of our volunteers is priceless! Mostly through the work of the Development Officer there are now in excess of 30 regular volunteers supporting the Hub and volunteering to assist is strongly encouraged in the youth groups
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The first half of the year saw the continuation of the superb and varied work carried out by volunteers and the paid Hub Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator through the Bentswood Hub in America Lane. I shall not go into great detail on the activities as they are largely known to residents, suffice to say that their scope fulfilled many of the Objects of this charity and supported many of the families, young and older people living in Bentswood and nearby. Recent events and feedback from residents has shown how highly this was appreciated and accolades and awards were rightly won by Sussex Clubs for Young People's (SCYP) team. With this in mind the BCP Trustees supported work by SCYP and Clarion Futures to raise funds to support the running of the Hub, the employment of staff and the key activities being carried out. The success of their efforts can be seen in the funds that we are currently holding. Sadly, in late June/early July SCYP went into administration and the knock-on effect of this was hugely felt in Bentswood. However, Clarion Futures made the huge decision to directly take on the lease of the Hub and the employment of staff and we should recognise the commitment of Nicky Dodds and Dawn Rennie to this community. The BCP Trustees continue to meet regularly to keep apprised of this evolving situation and remain committed to support all Partners who are delivering services to support our community. Before signing off I would also like to pay tribute to the Town Council for their support during the year but also as intermediaries over the last couple of months as we seek to find a way forward for joint working between Clarion Futures, BCP and the new CIC

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	We are in a good financial position but it should be noted that due to the hiatus resulting from the demise of Sussex Clubs for Young People, we are holding significant specific reserves awaiting the recommencement of delivery projects
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Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We keep fixed outgoings to an absolute minimum and therefore have virtually no formal need for reserves. However, bearing in mind the comment above, we try to hold sufficient funds to ensure key projects like youth support can be maintained during the year
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	See CC16a
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	A mix of grant applications, community events and activities such as the volunteer-run coffee morning and the youth-run Saturday breakfasts
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A

A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	At present we can foresee none. We have minimal fixed costs and no long-standing financial commitments and are supported by a good number of Trustees
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		n/a
Type of governing document	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	Para 1.25	Charitable CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Prospective Trustees apply, completing a form, and are decided upon by the Trustees. There is an Annual Meeting for all members where these are validated and the Officers elected

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Bentswood Community Partnership
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1167891
Charity's principal address	c/o Warden Park Primary School New England Road Haywards Heath West Sussex RH16 3JS

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Stephen Hillier	Chairperson		
2	Joyce Sharma	Secretary		
3	Zoltan Demjan	Financial Officer	Appointed 28/10/22	
4	Barbara Lank			
5	Bryan Fairhall			
6	Nicky Dodds (representing Clarion Futures)			
7	Alan Jenkins			
8				
9				
10				

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	n/a
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	n/a

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

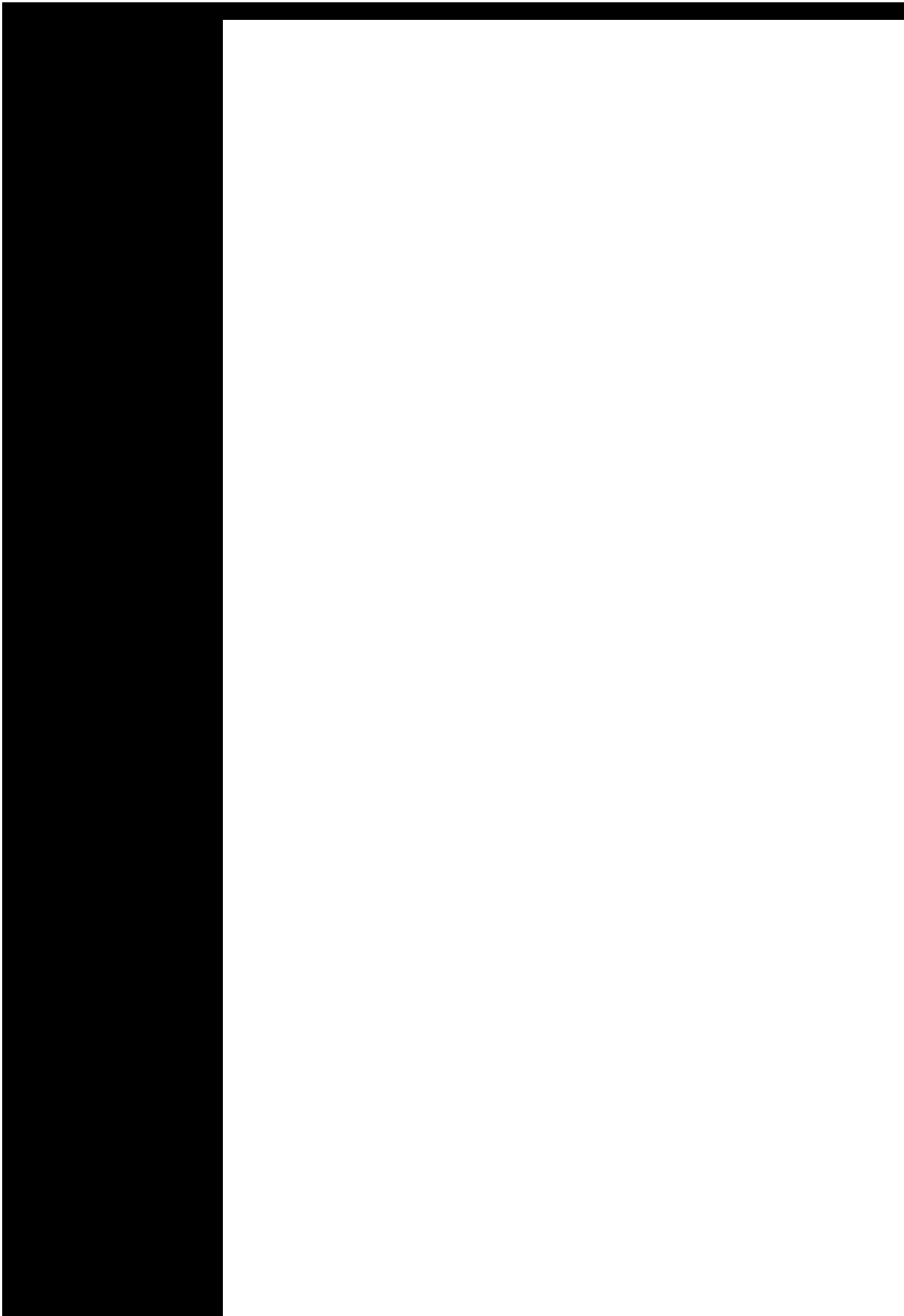
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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A

Other optional information



Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

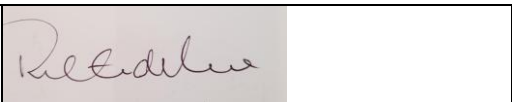
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Full name(s)

Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

Date 23/1/24

	
Stephen R Hillier	Ruth de Mierre
Chairperson	Trustee



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

BENTSWOOD COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

1167891

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/09/2022	To	31/08/2023
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
General Wellbeing	-	-	-	-	100
Youth Wellbeing	-	25,000	-	25,000	5,000
Community Events	-	-	-	-	2,166
Community Hub	-	3,450	-	3,450	13,119
Community Café	-	1,681	-	1,681	2,039
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	-	30,131	-	30,131	22,424
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	-	30,131	-	30,131	22,424
A3 Payments					
General Admin Costs	60	-	-	60	657
Youth Wellbeing	-	-	-	-	9,750
Community Events	-	278	-	278	870
Community Hub	-	7,809	-	7,809	9,576
Community Cade	-	4	-	4	296
Volunteer Support	-	54	-	54	218
Newsletter	-	167	-	167	-
Community Fun Day	-	82	-	82	-
General Wellbeing	-	-	-	-	273
Gardening Projects	-	-	-	-	27
Sub total	60	8,394	-	8,454	21,667
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	60	8,394	-	8,454	21,667
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 60	21,737	-	21,677	757
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	1,670	35,982	-	37,652	36,895
Cash funds this year end	1,610	57,719	-	59,329	37,652

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash at Bank	1,610	57,719	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	1,610	57,719	-

I agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)

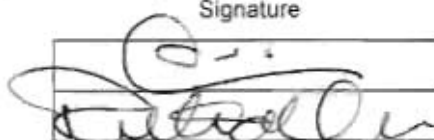
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Stephen R Hillier	23/03/2026
	Ruth de Mierré	23/03/2026



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	BENTSWOOD COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP		
On accounts for the year ended	31 August 2023	Charity no (if any)	1167981
Set out on pages	Receipts & payments Account (CC16-A) on pages 1&2		
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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect: • accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or • the accounts do not accord with the accounting records I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.		
Signed:		Date:	26 March 2026
Name:	Timothy Fraser		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	Chartered Accountant		
Address:	7 The Dell, Haywards Heath RH16 1JG		

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items
that the examiner wishes to
disclose.

None