

Westridge Trust - Trustees' Annual Report 2022/23

Reference and Administration Details:

Name: Westridge Trust

Address: Westridge Studio, Andover Road, Highclere, Newbury, Berkshire RG20 9QS.

Registered Charity Number: 1169481

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity:

Michael York (Chairman)

Sally Izett

Michael Jenkins

Angela Tiley

Structure, governance and management:

Westridge Trust is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation first registered 04 October 2016. The three original trustees were appointed by the Highclere Parish Council to lead the new trust in its initial phase. The trustees have responsibility for the appointment of further trustees. These appointments will be for a period of 3 years and will be made at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. The original trustees were appointed for the following terms:

Sally Izett 4 years

Michael York 3 years

Michael Jenkins 2 years

Angela Tiley was appointed from September 4 2017 following a decision made by Trustees at a meeting held on July 31 2017. Mrs Tiley is the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) for the Westridge Trust. Mr Jenkins was reappointed, at a meeting of Trustees for a further two years. All Trustees have agreed to continue their period of service. We were able to attract another Trustee this year but unfortunately, due to personal reasons, she was unable to continue.

At the AGM we hope to increase the number of trustees by one. It has been difficult to attract voluntary help/support for the Studio this year, as in previous years, but we are constantly attempting to persuade local volunteers to join us.

In 2022/3 meetings were structured as follows:

In 2023 the Management Group met on four occasions (March, May, July and October) and we continued the policy of meeting three or four times a year with special events or projects requiring subgroups to meet and then report back to the full committee. I must emphasize the amazing work of this dedicated group of volunteers who have worked tirelessly to make this project work.

Fund raising activities have continued a small scale. We have received grant funding, mainly from the Parish Council for targeted, essential projects. The main community event was our long, overdue Opening.

The fifth AGM is scheduled for Saturday 25th November, 2023.

Objectives and Activities:

The charitable objects:

- To promote the Arts and to advance education in the arts for the public benefit in particular but not exclusively at the premises known as Westridge Studio for the benefit of residents in the civil parish of Highclere and the neighbouring area.
- To provide facilities in the interests of Social Welfare for Education, Recreation and other leisure time occupations at the said premises with the aim of improving the conditions of life (including the good health and well-being) of those residents in the area of benefit.
- In furtherance of the objects of the charity to associate together with the local residents, voluntary organizations and local authorities with the aim to maintain and manage the premises as an Arts, Educational and Recreational facility for the public benefit without distinction of gender, sexual orientation, race, age, disability or political, religious or other opinions.
- To promote such other charitable purposes (charitable under English Law) as the trustees may, from time to time deem appropriate.

2022/23 has been another challenging year for the Studio. Our aim was to build on the successful work of last year, attracting users back to the venue. We have, thanks to our Bookings Manager, been very successful and we have returned to profit in that respect. However, the main challenge has been maintaining that level of bookings in the face of a 'Cost of Living Crisis' where our running costs have risen significantly. Thanks to the hard work of the committee, the support from the community has continued to grow. We are now in a situation where our range of activities has expanded and we continue to meet our original objectives and operate on a sound financial footing.

In order to meet the challenge of rising energy costs and costs in general, we had to adjust our rates from September 2022 but the full impact of these increases did not impact until September 23 when all users were required to pay the same charges. Thankfully, the new rates don't seem to have deterred existing or new users. We hope that continues! The benefits of a very well insulated and newly refurbished facility have helped us keep our costs down.

I think that our progress overall has been impressive. When I reflect on the starting point for our project and where we are now, having weathered the storm of a pandemic, followed by a serious economic challenge, I think we can all be proud of our achievements.

The highlight of the year was our official Opening Ceremony. This was delayed by factors beyond our control but on May 13th we invited the community, all our supporters and the Mayor of Basingstoke to join us in celebrating the 'Opening' of our facility. It was a wonderful occasion and well covered by the local press.

Our hope now is that we can consolidate this year and develop further next year. In order to achieve that we will have to improve equipment and facility levels. With grant funding we have succeeded in demolishing the old garage on the site, with a view to increasing parking spaces. In addition, we have attracted sponsorship from Howdens Kitchens to add additional wall units in our kitchen. A microwave has also been purchased for use by users of the Studio.

We have focused, this year, on improving our outside facilities. A new plan has been developed to landscape the external area of the site with improvement to the overall environment, entrances, parking etc. This has been supported by the Parish Council, in terms of a grant contribution and we want to make the outside area more attractive for community use. This will continue into next year and, hopefully, make the Studio even more attractive to local users.

The Business plan needs to be updated/reviewed this year. Our priority has been to grow the service and consolidate our financial position. This we have achieved.

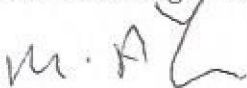
The Studio is currently available for rental purposes and is being marketed via the website and various other channels. Potential client groups are being contacted and encouraged to use the facility.

Achievements and Performance:

It has been, once again, a very challenging year for anyone involved in Community Education. We have, as stated above, managed to consolidate and grow the project. We have high hopes for 2023/24!

Financial Information:

Financial information, including the policy on reserves, is currently available in the Westridge Trust Financial Regulations Document.



Michael York
Chairman

25 NOVEMBER 2023

WESTRIDGE TRUST

CHARITY NUMBER 1169481

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

WESTRIDGE TRUST
CHARITY NUMBER 1169481
RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

| | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | | | TOTAL FUNDS |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2023 | 2023 | 2023 | 2022 |
| | General fund | Fabric fund | Total funds | |
| | £ | £ | £ | |
| RECEIPTS | | | | |
| Donations received | 135 | - | 135 | 1,015 |
| Grants | 1,000 | - | 1,000 | 9,500 |
| Fundraising events | 1,265 | - | 1,265 | 1,239 |
| Rental income | 11,115 | - | 11,115 | 5,250 |
| Interest | 64 | - | 64 | 3 |
| Total receipts | 13,579 | - | 13,579 | 17,007 |
| | | | - | |
| PAYMENTS | | | | |
| Bank charges | 103 | - | 103 | 102 |
| Broadband charges | 575 | - | 575 | 623 |
| Cleaning | 1,688 | - | 1,688 | 677 |
| Gardening | 1,065 | - | 1,065 | 405 |
| Insurance | 1,415 | - | 1,415 | 1,362 |
| Other professional fees | 6 | - | 6 | 102 |
| Light & heat | 740 | - | 740 | 517 |
| Loan repayment | - | 2,000 | 2,000 | 17,000 |
| Repairs & maintenance | 1,347 | - | 1,347 | 1,024 |
| Software | 144 | - | 144 | 144 |
| Studio equipment | 1,112 | - | 1,112 | 3,032 |
| Subscriptions | 55 | - | 55 | 35 |
| Water rates | 73 | - | 73 | 60 |
| | 8,323 | 2,000 | 10,323 | 25,083 |
| Asset purchases | | | - | |
| Additions to land and buildings | - | - | - | - |
| Total payments | 8,323 | 2,000 | 10,323 | 25,083 |
| Excess of receipts over payments | 5,256 | (2,000) | 3,256 | (8,076) |
| Cash funds at 1 April 2022 | 25,000 | 8,080 | 33,080 | 41,156 |
| Transfers between funds | (5,256) | 5,256 | - | - |
| Cash funds at 31 March 2023 | £25,000 | £11,336 | £36,336 | £33,080 |

WESTRIDGE TRUST
 CHARITY NUMBER 1169481
 STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
 AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

| | Unrestricted funds 2023 £ | Restricted funds 2023 £ | Total funds 2023 £ | Total funds 2022 £ |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Assets retained for the charity's own use | | | | |
| Land and buildings - cost brought forward | - | 342,228 | 342,228 | 342,228 |
| Capital additions in the period | - | - | - | - |
| Total fixed assets | - | 342,228 | 342,228 | 342,228 |
| | Unrestricted funds | | Total unrestricted funds | Total unrestricted funds |
| | General fund | Fabric fund | funds | funds |
| | 2022 | 2022 | 2022 | 2021 |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Cash funds | | | | |
| Current account | 1,779 | - | 1,779 | 1,088 |
| Deposit account | 26,557 | 8,000 | 34,557 | 31,992 |
| Total cash funds | 28,336 | 8,000 | 36,336 | 33,080 |
| Current liabilities | | | | |
| Unsecured loan | - | (8,000) | (8,000) | (10,000) |
| Net current assets | 28,336 | 0 | 28,336 | 23,080 |
| Net assets | | | £370,564 | £365,308 |
| Represented by: | | | | |
| | | | £ | |
| Restricted fund | | | 342,228 | 342,228 |
| Fabric fund (unrestricted) | | | 3,336 | (1,920) |
| General fund (unrestricted) | | | 25,000 | 25,000 |
| | | | £370,564 | £365,308 |

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

Michael York

M.A. York

Date: 3/10/23

Angela Tiley

A. Tiley

Date: 3/10/23.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

WESTRIDGE TRUST

On accounts for the year
ended

31 MARCH 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1169481

Set out on pages

1 - 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement ~~The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

16/11/23

Name:

NICHOLAS C.C. SPENCER

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

FCA

(if any):

Address:

HILL HOUSE, HOLLINGTON CROSS, HIGHCLERE

NEWBURY

RG20 9SE

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.