

Westridge Trust – Trustees' Annual Report 2023/24

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.

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 2023/4 meetings were structured as follows:

In this period the Management Group met on four occasions (January, May, September and twice in November) 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 again the amazing work of this dedicated group of volunteers who have worked tirelessly to make this project work.

Fund raising activities have continued on a small scale. We have received grant funding from the Parish Council for targeted, essential projects but our real success was a grant from the UK government's 'UK Shared Prosperity Fund'

administered by, and supported by, Basingstoke and Deane Council. This grant was for just over £13,000.

The fifth AGM is scheduled for Thursday 21st November, 2024.

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.

2023/24 has been another challenging year for the Studio. Our aim was to build on the successful work of last year and maintain our user base. We have, thanks to our Bookings Manager, been very successful and we have continued to operate in profit. 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. We took the decision to raise our rates last year to cover our operating costs. 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.

Following our successful 'Official' opening last year the Studio has continued to grow and become well established within our community. One area that continued to frustrate us was our relatively poor outside facilities. Plans were drawn up to improve this and the search began to find ways of funding our plan. Thanks to one of our Trustees, Sally Izett, we were able to secure a grant from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund which was supported by our Local Authority, Basingstoke and Deane. This grant, added to support from the Parish Council and various other small grants has allowed us to put into action a significant part of our plan to improve parking, landscape the site, erect improved signage and

generally present a much more positive image to the community. The addition of Disabled Parking is a major breakthrough. Work begins on this project shortly after the AGM.

The Business plan needs to be updated/reviewed this year. Our priority has been to grow the service, improve external facilities 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:

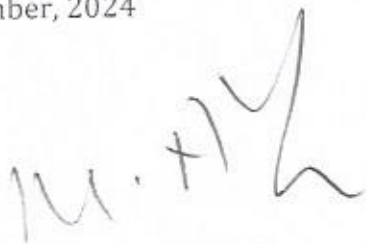
It has been, once again, a very challenging year for anyone involved in Community Education. We have, as stated above, managed to consolidate and grow the project. We have high hopes for 2024/25!

Financial Information:

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

Michael York
Chairman

25 November, 2024

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. York', with a stylized flourish at the end.

WESTRIDGE TRUST

CHARITY NUMBER 1169481

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

WESTRIDGE TRUST
 CHARITY NUMBER 1169481
 RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			TOTAL FUNDS
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	General fund	Fabric fund	Total funds	
	£	£	£	
RECEIPTS				
Donations received	327	-	327	135
Grants	707	-	707	1,000
Fundraising events	1,125	-	1,125	1,265
Rental income	11,840	-	11,840	11,115
Interest	375	-	375	64
Total receipts	14,374	-	14,374	13,579
			-	
PAYMENTS				
Bank charges	107	-	107	103
Broadband charges	620	-	620	575
Cleaning	1,955	-	1,955	1,688
Gardening	1,362	-	1,362	1,065
Insurance	1,602	-	1,602	1,415
Other professional fees	-	-	-	6
Light & heat	1,172	-	1,172	740
Loan repayment	-	2,000	2,000	2,000
Repairs & maintenance	2,468	-	2,468	1,347
Software	144	-	144	144
Studio equipment	300	-	300	1,112
Subscriptions	35	-	35	55
Water rates	427	-	427	73
	10,192	2,000	12,192	10,323
Asset purchases	-	-	-	-
Additions to land and buildings	-	-	-	-
Total payments	10,192	2,000	12,192	10,323
Excess of receipts over payments	4,182	(2,000)	2,182	3,256
Cash funds at 1 April 2023	25,000	11,336	36,336	33,080
Transfers between funds	(4,182)	4,182	-	-
Cash funds at 31 March 2024	£25,000	£13,518	£38,518	£36,336

WESTRIDGE TRUST
 CHARITY NUMBER 1169481
 STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
 AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
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	Total unrestricted
	General fund	Fabric fund	funds	funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Cash funds				
Current account	2,087	-	2,087	1,779
Deposit account	30,431	6,000	36,431	34,557
Total cash funds	32,518	6,000	38,518	36,336
Current liabilities				
Unsecured loan	-	(6,000)	(6,000)	(8,000)
Net current assets	32,518	0	32,518	28,336
Net assets			£374,746	£370,564
Represented by:			£	
Restricted fund			342,228	342,228
Fabric fund (unrestricted)			7,518	3,336
General fund (unrestricted)			25,000	25,000
			£374,746	£370,564

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

Michael York

Date: 12.9.24

M. York

Angela Tiley

Date: 12.9.24

A. Tiley



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

WESTRIDGE TRUST

On accounts for the year
ended

31 MARCH 2024

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 trustees of the Trust, 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 the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and 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.

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

Signed:

Date:

16 Oct 2024

Name:

N.C.C. SPENCER

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

F.C.A.

Address:

HILL HOUSE, HOLLINGTON CROSS, HIGHCLERE
NEWBURY
RG20 9SE

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.