

THE DOT COLLECTIVE

England & Wales · Charity number 1169951

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2016-10-31

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 180 Camberwell Grove
London
SE5 8RH

Phone 07885456135

Email contact@thedotcollective.com

Website www.thedotcollective.com

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE TO ADVANCE, IMPROVE, DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC EDUCATION IN, AND APPRECIATION OF THE PERFORMING ARTS BY ANY MEANS ITS TRUSTEES SEE FIT, INCLUDING THROUGH THE PROVISION OF WORKSHOPS, PUBLIC EVENTS AND PERFORMANCES, PARTICULARLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE BENEFIT OF ELDERLY PEOPLE LIVING IN CARE HOMES.

Activities: The Activities advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of the performing arts, including the provision of theatrical workshops, public events and performances, particularly for the benefit of elderly people living in care and with dementia. Activities offer cognitive stimulation to beneficiaries in care and raise awareness of dementia to the public at large.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-10-31	£98,213	£85,135	-	-
2023-10-31	£95,471	£99,732	-	-
2022-10-31	£52,553	£60,464	-	-
2021-10-31	£43,895	£23,531	-	-
2020-10-31	£5,328	£1,097	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
H J MAYFIELD	Chair	2016-10-31
Anne Williams		2023-05-26
NICOLA LESLEY NEWMAN		2016-10-31
ROBERT CHARLES FITZGERALD HICKSON		2016-10-31

THE DOT COLLECTIVE

England & Wales - Charity number 1169951

Accounts

THE DOT COLLECTIVE ANNUAL REPORT

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 October 2024

Legal and Administrative Information

The trustees, who are also the members, of The Dot Collective present their annual report together, as required by company law, with the audited financial statements of The Dot Collective (the Charity) for the year ended 31st October 2024. The Trustees confirm that the Trustees' report and financial statements of the Charity comply with the current statutory requirements, requirements of the Charity's governing document, and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

The Dot Collective is a charitable incorporated organisation (foundation) (CIO) and was incorporated on 31 October 2016 with registered charity number 1169951 and commenced trading on that date.

Charity name: The Dot Collective

Charity number: 1169951

Charity's public registered office address: 60 Coleman Road, London, SE5 7TG

Incorporation date: 31 October 2016

TRUSTEES

The trustees, who are also the members, of the CIO during the year were:

Ms H J Mayfield

Mrs. N L Newman

Mr. R C F Hickson

Ms A Williams

Independent Examiners

Spencer-Davis & Co

Chartered Certified Accountants

4-6 Peterborough Road

Harrow HA1 2BQ

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank - Business

Business Customer Services

PO Box 250

Skelmersdale

WN8 6WT

MISSION, VISION, VALUES AND ACTIVITIES

Our Vision

Creating theatre with access needs at its core, creates more engaging theatre for everybody.

Our Mission

The Dot Collective helps older people and those with additional needs and dementia stay connected with their communities, to feel self worth, learn new skills, enjoy the theatre at all stages of their lives, alleviating loneliness, improving health and wellbeing and making communities stronger through the provision of professional theatre and storytelling activities. The Dot Collective allows multiple generations to access professional theatre, to sit together within the comfort of their community and feel socially stimulated.

Our Values

We improve the quality of life for those in care.

We raise awareness of the importance of professional theatre within the community.

We educate the arts industry to understand that performance for audiences with access needs in the community is of the same value as a conventional theatre audience.

We boost confidence and self belief for those in care.

We bring joy, vitality and warmth to every setting we enter.

We have a 'can do' attitude.

We encourage everyone to share their unique skills, talents, passions and experience with each other.

We are always connecting.

We know that connecting with other people is critical to everyone's wellbeing.

We respect the individual.

We see the person, not their age or ability and always truly listen to the person in front of us, seeking to understand their point of view.

We work in strong partnerships and link older people with our volunteers and with other services when that will help them and their communities thrive.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution and Governance

The CIO is governed by its Constitution. On 31 October 2024 there were 4 members who were all trustees of the CIO at the time.

The activities of the CIO are supervised by the trustees, who meet as a Board up to 4 times each year, or more often if necessary. The trustees delegate the day-to-day management of the CIO to its' artistic director. The professional experience of the Board provides good support and advice to the artistic director through individual meetings, e-mail correspondence and board meetings.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees recognise the need for a strong board with a broad base of skills covering theatre production management and development, artistic strategy, governance, legal expertise, human resources, development and fundraising. Potential new trustees are discussed by the board and met by at least one member of the board before consideration and appointment by approval of a simple majority of the trustees. All trustees are members of the CIO.

Risk management

The trustees, with the artistic director, consider risk across all areas of the CIO's activities. Risk assessment of the operation is carried out on an ongoing basis and is reviewed annually. Where needed policies and procedures will be implemented in order to mitigate risk. Risk assessments are carried out on a project by project basis, ensuring that the RAMS are appropriate for the CIO's activities.

This has included additional RAMS and training for aerial circus performances and workshops that the charity plans to carry out going forward. Additions include:

- Rigger qualification for Artistic Director Laura Harling
- Public and employer liability Insurance to cover working at height up to 7 metres

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects

The objects for which the CIO is formed are to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of the performing arts by any means its trustees see fit, including through the provision of workshops, public events and performances, particularly but not exclusively for the benefit of elderly people living in care homes, in particular those living with dementia and learning disabilities.

Public benefit

The trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the CIO's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS, PERFORMANCE

The Dot Collective continues to be a member of the Independent Theatre Council (ITC).

November 2023 - October 2024

- 'A MAP TO YOU' project with funding from The City Bridge Trust entered the 3rd year, continuing the work with older people and those living with dementia in London. The project funding included creative workshops with older people in care, finding out their stories and developing them into The Dot Collective's productions. These productions then toured to the care groups from the workshops as well as the public, raising awareness.
- The Dream Sequence. A pivotal research and development project to aid The Dot Collective's touring productions, this project joined the various threads of our activities. Working across three stages, the project worked alongside those living with dementia, those with additional needs and the general public to identify methods to integrate access into performance for all audience types. A team of professional creatives developed a piece in response to participants that then toured to those involved as well as the wider community. This project was funded by The Arts Council as well as other trusts and foundations.
- Touring productions into residential care. The CIO produced two professional theatre productions that toured care homes, dementia cafes, community spaces, arts venues and arts festivals. The productions were:

- The Elves and The Shoemaker (November/December 2023)) - This was a revival production for The Dot Collective, and received funding from trusts and foundations to tour this production to care homes at Christmas including those in East Sussex, West Sussex, London, Dorset and Devon. This production received 100% positive feedback, and affirmed the benefits and importance of touring our work in Christmas months in care homes, tackling the increasing issue of isolation and loneliness for those in care.
- The Dream Sequence: A production developed in response to care participants associations with Dreams.

Together these productions reached:

- 25 residential care homes for dementia and nursing for older people (for those living in care, their families and carers)
- 10 dementia groups & memory cafes (performances for those living with dementia at home)
- 11 arts and cultural community spaces (performances for public raising awareness of dementia/additional needs and those living in care at home)
- 3 additional needs groups for adults and children

Live audiences reached: 3,800

New care contacts and partnerships: 15

The productions toured in: London, Suffolk, East Sussex, West Sussex, Devon, Oxfordshire, Dorset, Kent, Oxford, Hampshire.

The projects and productions worked with existing and new partners, supporting the charity's growth.

October/November 2024: The Oxford Playhouse - Family by choice

The Dot Collective were commissioned by The Oxford Playhouse to work in partnership with a care home in Oxfordshire. The project was to run a series of storytelling workshops with care home residents between 2024 - 2025 and create a new play based on the stories, memories and imagination of the residents. The aim is to bridge the gap between professional theatres and their outreach while offering agency and stimulation for older people in care and raising a positive awareness of older people and dementia to the wider community. The care home chosen was Isis House in Oxford and the project commenced with first workshops in October 2024. This project has been funded by The Oxford Playhouse.

Fundraising activities

December 2023 - After an unsuccessful bid to The Arts Council, the CIO took on the challenge to run the distance from London to their further venue (Devon) to raise the remainder of the funds needed to tour The Elves and the Shoemaker into care at Christmas 2023. As a collective, the creative team ran over 190 miles and raised £2500.

FUTURE PLANS

December 2024 - A Christmas Carol tour into care homes in partnership with Open Bar Theatre Ltd. Open Bar Theatre produce professional productions that tour into Fullers Pubs. The Dot Collective will tour their existing production A Christmas Carol into care homes, this minimises the overall cost of a production as costs are shared.

January - October 2025

Paradise Island - research and development project

The CIO will continue the development started on 'The Dream Sequence' project, looking further into creating a methodology for performance in care and in public. The research will also investigate how to overcome some of the challenges presented in touring open air theatre, how to adapt and still create spectacle under unforeseen circumstances. This will include looking at creating the same level of spectacle that an aerial circus gives through video projection and design. We will be researching the best tools to completely transform a care home with theatre aesthetics.

The practice based research will form a methodology for a manifesto that can be used going forward through production development and training/teaching creatives. Ultimately the research will raise accessibility awareness within the arts industry.

FINANCIAL

The CIO's financial status has increased consistently from year to year as the charity grows. The growth of the CIO's reach has meant more funding is required to run the projects and productions. The charity's income is funding from grants applied for and public donations made through public events such as theatre performances.

The CIO and the trustees have a reserves policy of £7,000 minimum to be utilised for project shortfalls when agreed by the board. The reserves are raised through charity donations and funds raised through public performance ticket sales revenue. The trustees recognise the need for the CIO to have increased reserves. They aim to attain greater financial stability and sustainability through fundraising (both long term and short term) and plan to focus on raising public donations and core, unrestricted multiple year funding to obtain unrestricted reserves. We plan to have reserves of 3 months costs which would be unrestricted funds of £10,131.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'H J Mayfield'.

By order of the Board
Ms Helen Jane Mayfield

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Dot Collective

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Dot Collective for the year ended 31 October 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity 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 Dot Collective'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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with my examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of The Dot Collective as required by section 130 of the Act: or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Jane E Spencer-Davis BA FCCA CTA
Spencer-Davis & Co
4-6 Peterborough Road
Harrow HA1 2BQ

27 August 2025

The Dot Collective
Income and Expenditure Account
Year Ended 31 October 2024

			2024	2023
	Projects	General	Total	Total
Income				
Donations	9,086		9,086	1,784
Grants	79,490		79,490	79,279
Ticket sales		9,637	9,637	14,408
	<u>88,576</u>	<u>9,637</u>	<u>98,213</u>	<u>95,471</u>
Expenditure				
Costumes, set and props	5,448		5,448	8,041
Project costs	146		146	5,487
Freelance fees	56,355		56,355	60,863
Subscriptions and royalties			0	0
Venue hire	1,427		1,427	1,115
Travel and subsistence	16,203		16,203	18,866
Insurance	585		585	593
Advertising and publicity	1,640		1,640	2,083
General admin costs		3,211	3,211	2,564
Accountancy		120	120	120
	<u>81,804</u>	<u>3,331</u>	<u>85,135</u>	<u>99,732</u>
Surplus of income over expenditure	<u>6,772</u>	<u>6,306</u>	<u>13,078</u>	<u>(4,261)</u>

The Dot Collective
Balance Sheet
As at 31 October 2023

	2024	2023
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	26,382	13,304
Current liabilities		
Sundry creditors	120	120
	<u>26,262</u>	<u>13,184</u>
Represented by		
Projects	(1,204)	(7,976)
General funds	27,466	21,160
	<u>26,262</u>	<u>13,184</u>

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England & Wales - Charity number 1169951

Accounts

THE DOT COLLECTIVE ANNUAL REPORT

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Mrs. N L Newman

Mr. R C F Hickson

Ms A Williams

Independent Examiners

Spencer-Davis & Co

Chartered Certified Accountants

4-6 Peterborough Road

Harrow HA1 2BQ

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Business Customer Services

PO Box 250

Skelmersdale

WN8 6WT

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We know that connecting with other people is critical to everyone's wellbeing.

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The activities of the CIO are supervised by the trustees, who meet as a Board between 4 times each year, or more often if necessary. The trustees delegate the day-to-day management of the CIO to its' artistic director. The professional experience of the Board provides good support and advice to the artistic director through individual meetings, e-mail correspondence and board meetings.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees recognise the need for a strong board with a broad base of skills covering theatre production management and development, artistic strategy, governance, legal expertise, human resources, development and fundraising. Potential new trustees are discussed by the board and met by at least one member of the board before consideration and appointment by approval of a simple majority of the trustees. All trustees are members of the CIO. The CIO intends 1 more trustee with a background in finance within the next year.

Risk management

The trustees, with the artistic director, consider risk across all areas of the CIO's activities. Risk assessment of the operation is carried out on an ongoing basis and is reviewed annually. Where needed policies and procedures will be implemented in order to mitigate risk. Risk assessments are carried out on a project by project basis, ensuring that the RAMS are appropriate for the CIO's activities.

This has included additional RAMS and training for aerial circus performances and workshops that the charity plans to carry out going forward. Additions include:

- Rigger qualification for Artistic Director Laura Harling
- Public and employer liability Insurance to cover working at height up to 7 metres

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects

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Public benefit

The trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the CIO's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS, PERFORMANCE

The CIO continued to be impacted by the aftermath of the Covid-19 Pandemic, but with a year of adapting to government guidelines and care community restrictions, we were able to plan for the future which was the return of productions within care homes and caring community spaces.

November 2022 - March 2023

'A MAP TO YOU' project continued with funding from The City Bridge Trust. The project completed its 2nd year of funding by:

- producing a podcast called Life Stories From the Living - sharing the short stories of those living with

dementia in Southwark, London. This meant holding weekly creative workshops with dementia groups and encouraging their voice, giving them the safe and comfortable environment needed to share their memories which were recorded by new playwrights and performers - then adapted and recorded for an 8 episode podcast published online.

The CIO was offered the opportunity by The City Bridge Trust to apply for a 3 year continuation of the grant, which was approved in September 2023 meaning our work in South East London with dementia peer groups can continue until 2026.

November 2022 - September 2023

Touring into residential care to recommence.

The CIO produced two professional theatre productions that toured care homes, dementia cafes, community spaces, arts venues and arts festivals.

The productions included:

- The Elves and The Shoemaker (November 2022 - January 2023) - This was a new production for The Dot Collective, and received funding from The Arts Council England (Grants for the Arts) alongside support from other trusts and foundations to tour this production to care homes at Christmas. The first Christmas production since 2018 into care homes in East Sussex, West Sussex, London, Portsmouth and Devon. It toured to 20 care homes, dementia cafes and community spaces and established new relationships with care communities including Aria Care. This production received 100% positive feedback, and affirmed the benefits and importance of touring our work in Christmas months in care homes, tackling the increasing issue of isolation and loneliness for those in care.
- Remount of 'Alice's Adventures in Aerialand' (June - September 2023) - The production went into further development with the aim to increase accessibility and further audience reach. This included touring the production to schools and public festivals with an emphasis on reaching people with additional needs. The production received a longer tour spanning 3 months.

Together these productions reached

- 25 residential care homes for dementia and nursing for older people (for those living in care, their families and carers)
- 10 dementia groups & memory cafes (performances for those living with dementia at home)
- 12 arts and cultural community spaces (performances for public raising awareness of dementia/additional needs and those living in care at home)

Live audiences reached: 3,800

New care contacts and partnerships: 18

The productions toured in: London, Suffolk, East Sussex, West Sussex, Portsmouth, Devon, Oxfordshire, Dorset, Kent.

The projects worked with existing and new partners, supporting the charity's growth.

March - April 2023: Artistic residency with The Seagull Theatre, Suffolk.

The CIO were awarded a fully funded 4 week residency under the newly appointed NPO (National

Portfolio Organisation) The Seagull Theatre. Over the period, The Dot Collective artistic team worked alongside additional needs groups FABBA and SQUARK and Dementia Cafes held by the theatre to research how best to integrate accessibility into professional theatre with dementia and additional needs at the core. We ran workshops with young adults with additional needs and older people with dementia and developed original theatre techniques used to create a short piece of theatre performed to the target audience at the end of the residency. The learning now influences how The Dot Collective creates accessible theatre on all projects.

August 2023

On 16th August 2023, The Dot Collective became a member of the Independent Theatre Council (ITC).

September 2023 - A Map to You at The Arcola

The Dot Collective were presented the opportunity to share the podcast stories of those with dementia at The Arcola Theatre - following on as a post show event from the main house production 'In Other Words' - a theatre piece that raised awareness about dementia. These post show performances of A Map to You - Life stories from the Living promoted the podcast, raised dementia awareness and furthered The Dot Collective's reach establishing new relationships as a result.

FUTURE PLANS

December 2023 - The Elves and The Shoemaker 2nd year tour

To maximise our charitable outputs under the project funding e.g some production costs are covered in the first year meaning more emphasis to widen reach. We intend all of our touring productions to receive at least 2 years of touring (as per Alice in Aerialand) to support our environmental responsibility and to give each production the time for growth and expansion. This will also set a precedent for assuming costs and managing our environmental responsibility. Therefore we will tour The Elves and the Shoemaker for a 2nd year, redeveloping the production from our learnings from the previous tour and visiting new care homes, community spaces and arts venues with the production. The production aims to hold more public performances to raise funds that can contribute to unrestricted reserves.

January - October 2024

The Dream Sequence - research and development

The CIO will embark on a new project that brings together the learnings over the last few years. This includes building a project based on the feedback of projects:

A Map to You

Alice in Aerialand

The Elves and the Shoemaker

Project Portmanteau

The Dream Sequence will unite communities living in care with professional performers to produce a unique, open-air, physical theatre touring production that explores the concept of dreams as sensory, cognitive, emotional occurrences. The narrative will reflect perceptions, experiences and association

of dreams for those with cognitive impairments & special educational needs & disabilities (SEND). It will be multi-sensory & truly accessible.

Project development will take place in 3 stages:

1) Research: We'll facilitate storytelling/physical theatre workshops with: dementia groups, care homes, SEND groups.

Workshops will encourage/support participants to express themselves to share their responses. This will shape 2 core project elements:

- Narrative - physical & verbal
- Accessible & engaging performance styles - based on techniques they respond to best

2) Development & devising with professional performer ensemble specialising in: aerial circus theatre, dance, clown, music. They'll draw from participants' material to steer a devised sequence of highly sensory, interactive performances that share participants' stories from multiple angles. The creation will focus on multiple ways of engagement: Non verbal/physical storytelling, BSL/creative captioning, sensory theatre (scenic design/audience interaction) to stimulate Olfaction/ Tactioception/proprioception ensuring inclusivity for those who are deaf, visually/cognitively impaired

3) Performances of 'The Dream Sequence'

Performed as a 1 hour open-air production or each sequence as a stand alone piece (including digital sensory film), offering groups with profound & multiple learning disabilities (PMLD) meaningful engagement. The tour invites critical feedback for further development(2025)

4) Documentary short film: shares development of the production across all stages incl participants' input and participation to help:

- raise awareness to public of accessible theatre
- gather interest for future development

The project plays a vital role in the difference we want to make within accessible theatre, that:

- audiences of all abilities and ages can equally engage within one space
- breaks conventions of conditioned audience behaviour
- challenges stigma of theatre in care
- reduces marginalisation within theatre audiences

We began by working with people with dementia, uncovering forgotten stories & performing them to those who inspired them. Over 8 years of development, we've realised the community that benefits is bigger than we thought: anyone in care, carers, young adults/children with additional needs.

Working with these marginalised (often forgotten) groups consistently reveals:

- diverse/untold stories that can be developed individually/part of a bigger project
- unique/alternative ways to tell stories (aerial/non verbal/sensory)
- accessible techniques to enhance workshops/performance

- benefits of professional arts on mental/physical wellbeing (cognitive stimulation/reduced social isolation)
- truly accessible art is engaging for all, challenging stigma

Feedback from our productions proved family audiences engage on a profound level, uniting audience demographic (Alice in Aerialand)

Previous projects have:

- Created new plays based on life stories of those in care staged for the public with arts/cultural venues as immersive/promenade performances. (A Map to You 2022)
- Touring theatre productions adapted from classic stories to care communities(Alice 2023)
- R&D creating theatre with accessibility at core (Project Portmanteau/Seagull Theatre 2023) The Dream Sequence combines all three.

October 2024 - 2025 Collaboration with Oxford Playhouse

The Dot Collective will work alongside The Oxford Playhouse over a year to facilitate a new project that listens and tells the stories of those living with dementia and in care at Isis Court Care Home Oxford. The first stage of the project will take place between October 2024 - February 2025, where new short plays will be created as a result of 10 creative writing workshops. There is a vision to develop this project further in 2025 - 2026.

City Bridge Trust 3 year funding extension - 2025 - 2026

The City Bridge Trust funding allows The Dot Collective to continue benefiting care groups in London, in particular in Southwark. This includes running creative workshops with care homes and dementia peer groups - including new (Time and Talents/Rose Court) and established (Alzheimers society/Link Age Southwark) relationships. The funding will be split across both A Map to You project extension - recommencing the podcast in 2025 and touring theatre productions in care (The Dream Sequence/Elves and the Shoemaker).

FINANCIAL

The CIO's financial status has increased consistently from year to year as the charity grows and is more successful with funding, and we consider it to have recovered after the pandemic, with project funding secured and the growth of the project's reach has meant more funding is required to run the projects. The charity's income is project funding from grants applied for and public donations made through public events such as theatre performances.

The CIO and the trustees have a reserves policy of £5000 minimum to be utilised for project shortfalls when agreed by the board. The reserves are raised through charity donations and funds raised through public performance ticket sales revenue. The trustees recognise the need for the CIO to have increased reserves. They aim to attain greater financial stability and sustainability through fundraising (both long term and short term) and plan to focus on raising public donations and core, unrestricted multiple year funding to obtain unrestricted reserves. We plan to have reserves of 3 months costs which would be unrestricted funds of £10,131.

H J Mayfield

By order of the Board
Ms Helen Jane Mayfield

The Dot Collective
Income and Expenditure Account
Year Ended 31 October 2023

	Projects	General	2023 Total	2022 Total
Income				
Donations	1,784		1,784	18,350
Grants	79,279		79,279	28,480
Ticket sales		14,408	14,408	5,723
	<u>81,063</u>	<u>14,408</u>	<u>95,471</u>	<u>52,553</u>
Expenditure				
Costumes, set and props	8,041		8,041	380
Project costs	5,487		5,487	7,031
Freelance fees	60,863		60,863	40,522
Subscriptions and royalties			0	0
Venue hire	1,115		1,115	2,911
Travel and subsistence	18,866		18,866	7,325
Insurance	593		593	641
Advertising and publicity	2,083		2,083	1,261
General admin costs		2,564	2,564	273
Accountancy		120	120	120
	<u>97,048</u>	<u>2,684</u>	<u>99,732</u>	<u>60,464</u>
Surplus of income over expenditure	<u>(15,985)</u>	<u>11,724</u>	<u>(4,261)</u>	<u>(7,911)</u>

The Dot Collective
Balance Sheet
As at 31 October 2023

	2023	2022
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	13,304	17,565
Current liabilities		
Sundry creditors	120	120
	<u>13,184</u>	<u>17,445</u>
 Represented by		
Projects	(7,976)	8,009
General funds	21,160	9,436
	<u>13,184</u>	<u>17,445</u>

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Dot Collective

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Dot Collective for the year ended 31 October 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity 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 Dot Collective'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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with my examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of The Dot Collective as required by section 130 of the Act: or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Jane E Spencer-Davis BA FCCA CTA
Spencer-Davis & Co
4-6 Peterborough Road
Harrow HA1 2BQ

31 August 2024

THE DOT COLLECTIVE

England & Wales - Charity number 1169951

Accounts

THE DOT COLLECTIVE ANNUAL REPORT

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 October 2022

Legal and Administrative Information

The trustees, who are also the members, of The Dot Collective present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of The Dot Collective (the Charity) for the year ended 31st October 2022. The Trustees confirm that the Trustees' report and financial statements of the Charity comply with the current statutory requirements, requirements of the Charity's governing document, and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

The Dot Collective is a charitable incorporated organisation (foundation) (CIO) and was incorporated on 31 October 2016 with registered charity number 1169951 and commenced trading on that date.

Charity name: The Dot Collective

Charity number: 1169951

Charity's public registered office address: 60 Coleman Road, London, SE5 7TG

Incorporation date: 31 October 2016

TRUSTEES

The trustees, who are also the members, of the CIO during the year were:

Ms H J Mayfield

Mrs. N L Newman

Mr. R C F Hickson

Independent Examiners

Spencer-Davis & Co

Chartered Certified Accountants

4-6 Peterborough Road

Harrow HA1 2BQ

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank - Business

Business Customer Services

PO Box 250

Skelmersdale

WN8 6WT

Mission, Vision, Values and Activities

Our Vision

Creating theatre with access needs at its core, creates more engaging theatre for everybody.

Our Mission

The Dot Collective helps older people and those with additional needs and dementia stay connected with their communities, to feel self worth, learn new skills, enjoy the theatre at all stages of their lives, alleviating loneliness, improving health and wellbeing and making communities stronger through the provision of professional theatre and storytelling activities. The Dot Collective allows multiple generations to access professional theatre, to sit together within the comfort of their community and feel socially stimulated.

Our Values

We improve the quality of life for those in care.

We raise awareness of the importance of professional theatre within the community.

We educate the arts industry to understand that performance for audiences with access needs in the community is of the same value as a conventional theatre audience.

We boost confidence and self belief for those in care.

We bring joy, vitality and warmth to every setting we enter.

We have a 'can do' attitude.

We encourage everyone to share their unique skills, talents, passions and experience with each other.

We are always connecting.

We know that connecting with other people is critical to everyone's wellbeing.

We respect the individual.

We see the person, not their age or ability and always truly listen to the person in front of us, seeking to understand their point of view.

We work in strong partnerships and link older people with our volunteers and with other services when that will help them and their communities thrive.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution and Governance

The CIO is governed by its Constitution. On 31 October 2022 there were 3 members who were all trustees of the CIO at the time.

The activities of the CIO are supervised by the trustees, who meet as a Board at least 4 times each year, or more often if necessary. The trustees delegate the day-to-day management of the CIO to its' artistic director. The professional experience of the Board provides good support and advice to the artistic director through individual meetings, e-mail correspondence and board meetings.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees recognise the need for a strong board with a broad base of skills covering theatre production management and development, artistic strategy, governance, legal expertise, human resources, development and fundraising. Potential new trustees are discussed by the board and met by at least one member of the board before consideration and appointment by approval of a simple majority of the trustees. All trustees are members of the CIO. The CIO intends 1 more trustee with a background in dementia care and community engagement within the next year, and another trustee with a background in finance within the next two years. During the year recruitment was discussed and

as of August 2023 a 4th trustee will join the board.

Risk management

The trustees, with the artistic director, consider risk across all areas of the CIO's activities. Risk assessment of the operation is carried out on an ongoing basis and is reviewed annually. Where needed policies and procedures will be implemented in order to mitigate risk. Risk assessments are carried out on a project by project basis, ensuring that the RAMS are appropriate for the CIO's activities.

This has included additional RAMS and training for aerial circus performances and workshops that the charity plans to carry out going forward. Additions include:

- Rigger qualification for Artistic Director Laura Harling
- Public and employer liability Insurance to cover working at height up to 7 metres

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects

The objects for which the CIO is formed are to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of the performing arts by any means its trustees see fit, including through the provision of workshops, public events and performances, particularly but not exclusively for the benefit of elderly people living in care homes, in particular those living with dementia and learning disabilities.

Public benefit

The trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the CIO's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS, PERFORMANCE

The CIO continued to be impacted by the aftermath of the Covid-19 Pandemic, but with a year of adapting to government guidelines and care community restrictions, we were able to plan for the future which was the return of productions within care homes and caring community spaces.

November 2021 - March 2022

'A MAP TO YOU' project continued with funding from The City Bridge Trust. The project completed its 1st year of funding by:

- publishing the book of plays as staged in previous year
- producing the films of the plays
- recording the plays as audio books

This was all made available online with detailed information about the project where participants, their families and wider public can access the material.

April 2022 - October 2022

Touring into residential care to recommence.

After 2 years unable to tour theatre into residential care, The Dot Collective produced their first post pandemic tour after a year of research and development.

The touring production of 'Alice's Adventures in Aerialand' rehearsed in April/May 2022 and toured to residential care and community spaces across the south east in June/July 2022. The production was developed as a multi-sensory aerial circus show with access needs for dementia and multiple learning disabilities at the core. The production toured:

- 9 residential care homes for dementia and nursing for older people (for those living in care, their families and carers)
- 7 dementia groups & memory cafes (performances for those living with dementia at home)
- 7 arts and cultural community spaces (performances for public raising awareness of dementia/additional needs and those living in care at home)

Live audiences reached: 1,250

New care contacts and partnerships: 11

The production toured in: London, Suffolk, East Sussex, West Sussex, Portsmouth, Devon, Oxfordshire

The pandemic meant a lot of care contacts were lost, and a large amount of time was spent connecting with new care centres and communities. This meant the project worked with existing and new partners, supporting the charity's growth.

April 2022: The CIO applied for regular funding from Arts Council England under their National Portfolio (NPO), to enable the CIO to employ artistic director and founder Laura Harling as well as a part time administrator to support the growth of the charity and contribute to project costs however The Dot Collective were unsuccessful. The trustees met to discuss next steps, and agreed to continue with project funding under the Arts Council, strengthening the charity structure with a view to reapplying in 2026.

August 2022 - October 2022

The Dot Collective obtained project funding for a Christmas production to tour into care in December 2022. Project planning has been underway during this time, securing further funding to support the reach of the tour.

FUTURE PLANS

December 2022 - The Elves and The Shoemaker care home and community tour

The Dot Collective have project funding to tour the first christmas production since 2018 into care homes in East Sussex, West Sussex, London, Portsmouth and Devon. It will tour to approximately 20 care homes, dementia cafes and community spaces.

January 2023 - March 2023

A MAP TO YOU PODCAST - In the 2nd year of funding from The City Bridge Trust, The Dot Collective will run creative storytelling workshops with Link Age Southwark and The Daffodil

dementia memory cafe run by the Southwark Alzheimer's society. A team of creatives will have 2 days to write up short stories inspired by the participants to be recorded as a podcast episode. Each workshop will have an episode on the podcast. We intend to release 8 episodes that share multiple stories from the lives of those living with dementia in Southwark and also raise awareness through interviews with writers, healthcare professionals and family carers.

April 2023

PROJECT PORTMANTEAU - Research and Development into creating professional theatre with dementia and additional needs at the core. The Dot Collective will work with The Seagull Theatre in Suffolk over 4 weeks to develop a new form of theatre. We will run workshops with young adults with additional needs and older people with dementia. The learning will influence how The Dot Collective creates accessible theatre moving forward.

May 2023 - September 2023

'ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN AERIALAND'

We plan a longer tour of our successful open air show, hoping to double our performance reach on the previous year, holding workshops alongside.

FINANCIAL

The CIO's financial status continues to increase and recover after the years of the pandemic. The growth of the CIO's reach has meant more funding has been required and secured to run the projects during the financial year. The charity's income is project funding from grants applied for and public donations made through public theatre performances.

The CIO and the trustees recognise the need for the CIO to have reserves. We now aim to attain £5,000 unrestricted reserves to provide greater financial stability and sustainability. We plan to focus on attaining the unrestricted reserves through fundraising and ticket sales at public performances (both long term and short term) and increasing public donations through theatre performance events.



By order of the Board
Ms Helen Jane Mayfield

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Dot Collective

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Dot Collective for the year ended 31 October 2022

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity 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 Dot Collective'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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with my examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of The Dot Collective as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Jane E Spencer-Davis BA FCCA CTA
Spencer-Davis & Co
4-6 Peterborough Road
Harrow HA1 2BQ

9 May 2023

The Dot Collective
Balance Sheet
As at 31 October 2022

	2022	2021
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	17,565	25,476
Current liabilities		
Sundry creditors	<u>120</u>	<u>120</u>
	<u>17,445</u>	<u>25,356</u>
Represented by		
Projects	8,009	21,250
General funds	<u>9,436</u>	<u>4,106</u>
	<u>17,445</u>	<u>25,356</u>

The Dot Collective
Income and Expenditure Account
Year Ended 31 October 2022

	Projects	General	2022 Total	2021 Total
Income				
Donations	18,350		18,350	1,250
Grants	28,480		28,480	42,645
Ticket sales		5,723	5,723	0
	<u>46,830</u>	<u>5,723</u>	<u>52,553</u>	<u>43,895</u>
Expenditure				
Costumes, set and props	380		380	2,861
Project costs	7,031		7,031	1,540
Freelance fees	40,522		40,522	16,739
Subscriptions and royalties			0	88
Venue hire	2,911		2,911	175
Travel and subsistence	7,325		7,325	579
Insurance	641		641	221
Advertising and publicity	1,261		1,261	740
General admin costs		273	273	468
Accountancy		120	120	120
	<u>60,071</u>	<u>393</u>	<u>60,464</u>	<u>23,531</u>
Surplus of income over expenditure	<u>(13,241)</u>	<u>5,330</u>	<u>(7,911)</u>	<u>20,364</u>

THE DOT COLLECTIVE

England & Wales - Charity number 1169951

Accounts

THE DOT COLLECTIVE ANNUAL REPORT

The trustees, who are also the members, of The Dot Collective present their annual report together with their accounts for the year ended 31 October 2021.

The Dot Collective is a charitable incorporated organisation (foundation) (CIO) and was incorporated on 31 October 2016 with registered charity number 1169951 and commenced trading on that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity name: The Dot Collective

Charity number: 1169951

Charity's public address: 60 Coleman Road, London, SE5 7TG

Incorporation date: 31 October 2016

TRUSTEES

The trustees, who are also the members, of the CIO during the year were:

Ms H J Mayfield

Mrs. N L Newman

Mr. R C F Hickson

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution and Governance

The CIO is governed by its Constitution. On 31 October 2021 there were 3 members who were all trustees of the CIO at the time.

The activities of the CIO are supervised by the trustees, who meet as a Board between 4 to 6 times each year, or more often if necessary. The trustees delegate the day-to-day management of the CIO to its' artistic director. The professional experience of the Board provides good support and advice to the artistic director through individual meetings, e-mail correspondence and board meetings.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees recognise the need for a strong board with a broad base of skills covering theatre production management and development, artistic strategy, governance, legal expertise, human resources, development and fundraising. Potential new trustees are discussed by the board and met by at least one member of the board before consideration and appointment by approval of a simple majority of the trustees. All trustees are members of the CIO. The CIO intends to recruit 2 more trustees within the next two years. In this year recruitment was discussed and paused due to the decision to apply for NPO (National Portfolio Status) from the Arts Council England.

Risk management

The trustees, with the artistic director, consider risk across all areas of the CIO's activities. Risk assessment of the operation is carried out on an ongoing basis and is reviewed annually. Where needed policies and procedures will be implemented in order to mitigate risk. Risk assessments are carried out on a project by project basis, ensuring that the RAMS are appropriate for the CIO's activities.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects

The objects for which the CIO is formed are to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of the performing arts by any means its trustees see fit, including through the provision of workshops, public events and performances, particularly but not exclusively for the benefit of elderly people living in care homes, in particular those living with dementia and learning disabilities.

Public benefit

The trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the CIO's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

Activities

In its fifth year, the CIO continued to be impacted by the Covid-19 Pandemic, and as a result was unable to operate to its usual capacity during November 2020 - April 2021 which would have been to produce a number of creative projects for elderly people in care and those with dementia from December 2020 - April 2021. The CIO did use this time for preparatory production, planning projects and raising the funds to carry out the proposed projects when lockdown eased. The projects were the first to research and develop how to work within Covid restrictions, where the charity adapted its work to be able to provide in person activities for the benefit of elderly people in care. This focused on one key project: *A Map to You* as well as further research and development on how to tour theatre productions safely into care centers within lockdown/covid restrictions.

From November 2020 - March 2021, the CIO raised funds for a new writing and befriending project, *A Map to You*. Funds were secured during this time from The Postcode Society Trust, London Catalyst, Haberdashers Foundation, Cicely Northcote Trust, Local Connections Fund. The Local Connections fund was secured to trial the project workshops. The trial included holding a series of one hour storytelling workshops on zoom for a dementia peer group run by Link Age Southwark. The group were sent 'workshop kits' to their homes, provided by The Dot Collective and delivered by volunteers from befriending charity, Link Age Southwark. This meant that all participants and their families, no matter their situation had access to the same materials including: note pads, water colour paints, postcards, stationery, props and costume. The weekly workshops took place on Zoom from The Dot Collective's office to the homes of 10 participants and 2 care providers, where each week they explored a new theme and spoke about their experiences, memories and created short stories and poems. These were all recorded. The workshops, despite the obvious issues with being online and not in person, were a successful temporary solution and meant we could plan our project *A Map to You* in part online until restrictions were eased and it was safe to work in person with participants. We also worked with Kings College London on their Civic Challenge project, connecting students with local charities to collaborate on project proposals with the chance to be awarded funding. The Dot Collectives team was successful and awarded The Arts and Health awards along with a £5000 grant from Kings College.

In April 2021 we were awarded an artist residency from local aerial circus training centre, Flying Fantastic to research and develop how to take an accessible production on tour in care environments post pandemic. The charity spent a week exploring a new adaptation of *Alice in Wonderland*, using aerial circus and showcased ideas to a neighboring SEN school who watched behind glass windows.

In May 2021 the charity commenced main activities for *A Map to You*. This included more online storytelling and creative writing workshops with Link Age southwark dementia peer group, recruiting 3 professional playwrights and connecting them with 3 local families who were living/dealing with dementia through the pandemic. Each playwright befriended a person living with dementia and their family, visited them one-to-one in person (open-air) to hear their life stories, memories, and get to know them. Each playwright had six ninety minute sessions with their participant. Artistic Director, Laura Harling also worked in the same way with the Link Age Southwark group. In June 2021 the Link Age Southwark group finally had their last workshop session in person, a memorable occasion. All four playwrights spend July/August 2021 writing a 20 minute short play in response to the information/stories provided by the participants. These were shared with the participants for feedback and further information during further workshops in September 2021.

Further funding was secured from The Arts Council England project grants and Arnold Clark fund to produce the short plays as an immersive experience in London for all participants and the public to attend. Funding was also secured from The City Bridge Trust to run the *A Map to You* project over 2 years.

In October - November 2021 *A Map to You* was staged at Longfield Hall, London as a professional, immersive theatre production. All participants saw their life memories and work on stage, and public audiences who attended were given a positive awareness of dementia. These plays were not about dementia, but inspired by the lives of those living with the disease, and portrayed what those with dementia can still do, not what they can't do. The production received media coverage from Sky News and BBC Radio 4 Loose Ends. The plays were filmed, and recorded as audio books. They will be made into a printed book where all participants will receive a copy in 2022.

In September 2021, The CIO was awarded funding from Local Connections Fund to further develop our production of *Alice in Wonderland*, which took place over 3 weeks working at Flying Fantastic and inviting audiences from Alzheimer's Society, Link Age Southwark and Cherry Garden SEN school to watch ideas and give feedback.

Future plans

For 2021/22 the CIO plans to continue with project 'A MAP TO YOU', publishing the book, and editing the films. This will all be made available online with detailed info about the project and a community hub where participants can access creative resources. The CIO has recognised the growing importance of digital platforms. Although the CIO will always work on a face-to-face basis (as is more beneficial for our charitable objectives) we will support our work by introducing an online hub. The online hub will be a community space for carers and those in care to access creative resources. The second year of the project will be developed, finding new ways to work post pandemic, benefitting more people. This is to include a podcast, monologue short plays, and poetry developed with Southwark dementia groups.

The CIO plans to tour residential care homes and community spaces with their production of 'Alice in Wonderland' in June/July 2022 entitled *Alice in Aerialand*. The production will be developed as an aerial circus adaptation to entertain older people in care and children with complex needs.

The CIO plans to apply for regular funding from Arts Council England under their National Portfolio (NPO), the CIO will apply for approximately £60,000 a year for 3 years in 2022. This will enable the CIO to employ artistic director and founder Laura Harling as well as a part time administrator to support the growth of the charity. It will also contribute to project costs. Decisions will be made in October 2022.

FINANCIAL

The CIO's financial status has increased and recovered after the year of the pandemic, with funding secured. The charity's income is project funding from grants applied for.

The CIO and the trustees recognise the need for the CIO to have reserves. They aim to attain greater financial stability and sustainability through fundraising (both long term and short term) and plan to focus on raising public donations and further funding from grants to obtain unrestricted reserves.



By order of the Board
Mr. R C F Hickson

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Dot Collective

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Dot Collective for the year ended 31 October 2021

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity 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 Dot Collective'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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with my examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of The Dot Collective as required by section 130 of the Act: or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Jane E Spencer-Davis BA FCCA CTA
Spencer-Davis & Co
4-6 Peterborough Road
Harrow HA1 2BQ

23 February 2022

The Dot Collective
Income and Expenditure Account
Year Ended 31 October 2021

	Projects	General	2021 Total	2020 Total
Income				
Donations	0	1,250	1,250	5,328
Grants	42,645		42,645	0
Ticket sales		0	0	0
	<u>42,645</u>	<u>1,250</u>	<u>43,895</u>	<u>5,328</u>
Expenditure				
Costumes, set and props	2,861		2,861	0
Project costs	1,540		1,540	62
Freelance fees	16,739		16,739	690
Subscriptions and royalties	88		88	0
Venue hire	175		175	0
Travel and subsistence	579		579	0
Insurance	221		221	0
Advertising and publicity	740		740	0
General admin costs		468	468	225
Accountancy		120	120	120
	<u>22,943</u>	<u>588</u>	<u>23,531</u>	<u>1,097</u>
Surplus of income over expenditure	<u>19,702</u>	<u>662</u>	<u>20,364</u>	<u>4,231</u>

The Dot Collective
Balance Sheet
As at 31 October 2021

	2021	2020
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	25,476	5,232
Current liabilities		
Sundry creditors	120	240
	<u>25,356</u>	<u>4,992</u>
 Represented by		
Projects	21,250	1,548
General funds	4,106	3,444
	<u>25,356</u>	<u>4,992</u>

THE DOT COLLECTIVE

England & Wales - Charity number 1169951

Accounts

THE DOT COLLECTIVE ANNUAL REPORT

The trustees, who are also the members, of The Dot Collective present their annual report together with their accounts for the year ended 30 October 2020.

The Dot Collective is a charitable incorporated organisation (foundation) (CIO) and was incorporated on 31 October 2016 with registered charity number 1169951 and commenced trading on that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity name: The Dot Collective

Charity number: 1169951

Charity's public address: 60 Coleman Road, London, SE5 7TG

Incorporation date: 31 October 2016

TRUSTEES

The trustees, who are also the members, of the CIO during the year were:

Ms H J Mayfield

Mrs. N L Newman

Mr. R C F Hickson

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution and Governance

The CIO is governed by its Constitution. At 31 October 2020 there were 3 members who were all trustees of the CIO at the time.

The activities of the CIO are supervised by the trustees, who meet as a Board between 4 to 6 times each year, or more often if necessary. The trustees delegate the day-to-day management of the CIO to its' artistic director. The professional experience of the Board provides good support and advice to the artistic director through individual meetings, e-mail correspondence and board meetings.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees recognise the need for a strong board with a broad base of skills covering theatre production management and development, artistic strategy, governance, legal expertise, human resources, development and fundraising. Potential new trustees are discussed by the board and met by at least one member of the board before consideration and appointment by approval of a simple majority of the trustees. All trustees are members of the CIO.

Risk management

The trustees, with the artistic director, consider risk across all areas of the CIO's activities. Risk assessment of the operation is carried out on an ongoing basis and is reviewed annually. Where needed policies and procedures will be implemented in order to mitigate risk.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects

The objects for which the CIO is formed are to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of the performing arts by any means its trustees see fit, including through the provision of workshops, public events and performances, particularly but not exclusively for the benefit of elderly people living in care homes, in particular those living with dementia.

Public benefit

The trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the CIO's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

Activities

In its fourth year, the CIO was severely impacted by the Covid-19 Pandemic, and as a result was unable to operate to its usual capacity which would be to produce a number of creative projects for elderly people in care and those with dementia.

In November 2019 the CIO was planning for a touring theatre production to visit residential care across London and the south east of England. Due to the pandemic, all plans were paused in early March 2020.

From March 2020 the charity had to re-evaluate ways in which they could reach beneficiaries, and with no funding available, the artistic director worked on a voluntary basis to provide online storytelling workshops for care providers to use within their care settings. The CIO had the support of past employees who volunteered to record a music video that was shared with beneficiaries living in care to maintain our activities and reach charitable objectives.

In August 2020, the CIO began to develop an idea for a new project that would be able to run under Covid-19 restrictions and beyond. The project entitled 'A MAP TO YOU' received initial funding from The Healthy Living Club and the Cicely Northcote Trust in order to commence. The CIO then focused on raising the appropriate funds to run the project within the next financial year, supporting care partners in delivering their work (Link Age Southwark, Dementia Action Alliances) and updating their digital presence online, making video footage of previous projects digital workshops available for viewing.

Future plans

For 2020/21 the CIO plans to run the project 'A MAP TO YOU', which will connect people with dementia to professional playwrights. The CIO will provide a series of reminiscence sessions with the beneficiaries and playwrights allowing the beneficiaries cognitive stimulation and social interaction. The playwrights will write short plays in response to the beneficiaries life stories that will then be produced as an immersive theatre production, short films, in print and audio book. All beneficiaries will be provided access to the entertainment they have helped create. This project will continue to meet the CIO's aims and objectives by providing stimulation and social activities for those in care and with dementia as well as raising awareness of dementia to the public at large.

The CIO has recognised the growing importance of digital platforms. Although the CIO will always work on a face-to-face basis (as is more beneficial for our charitable objectives) we will support our work by introducing an online hub. The online hub will be a community space for carers and those in care to access creative resources.

The CIO plans to develop a touring residential care production of 'Alice in Wonderland' in partnership with Open Book Theatre. The production will be developed as an aerial circus adaptation to entertain older people in care and children with complex needs.

FINANCIAL

The CIO's financial status within this year is not comparable to other years due to projects unable to take place. The charity's income is mainly project funding from grants applied for, as we were unable to run our projects this is reflected in our financial records.

The CIO and the trustees recognise the need for the CIO to have reserves. They aim to attain greater financial stability and sustainability through fundraising (both long term and short term) and plan to focus on raising public donations and further funding from grants to obtain unrestricted reserves.



By order of the Board
Mr. R C F Hickson

The Dot Collective

Accounts

Year Ended 31 October 2020

Accountants Report

We have prepared the attached accounts from the books and records of our client and from information and explanations provided to us and certify that they are in accordance therewith.

We have not carried out an audit.

Spencer-Davis & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants

4-6 Peterborough Road
Harrow
Middx HA1 2BQ

The Dot Collective
Income and Expenditure Account
Year Ended 31 October 2020

	Projects	General	2020 Total	2019 Total
Income				
Donations	5,328	0	5,328	5,766
Grants	0		0	27,602
Ticket sales		0	0	2,558
	<u>5,328</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,328</u>	<u>35,926</u>
Expenditure				
Costumes, set and props	0		0	1,675
Project costs	62		62	7,300
Freelance fees	690		690	24,115
Subscriptions and royalties	0		0	94
Venue hire	0		0	0
Travel and subsistence	0		0	4,201
Insurance	0		0	0
Advertising and publicity	0		0	0
General admin costs		225	225	76
Accountancy		120	120	120
	<u>752</u>	<u>345</u>	<u>1,097</u>	<u>37,581</u>
Surplus of income over expenditure	<u>4,576</u>	<u>(345)</u>	<u>4,231</u>	<u>(1,655)</u>

The Dot Collective
Balance Sheet
As at 31 October 2020

	2020	2019
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	5,232	1,001
Current liabilities		
Sundry creditors	240	240
	<u>4,992</u>	<u>761</u>
 Represented by		
Projects	1,548	(3,028)
General funds	3,444	3,789
	<u>4,992</u>	<u>761</u>