

LAYTON COMMUNITY HOUSE

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

2022 was a momentous year for Layton Community House (LCH). After spirited and successful attempts to emerge from lockdown in 2022 the House reached a new level with more customers than ever before and the introduction of social programmes to mitigate the cost of living crisis. We became not just a social venue but also a venue for social change.

The brilliant Rebecca Eliott finally departed LCH early in the year. She had performed every financial transaction since we started as a charity and produced the monthly cashbook. She is one of those selfless individuals who are rarely recognised.

We were particularly fortunate to find a Trustee replacement for Rebecca in Melanie Kelly. Melanie took on all Rebecca's activity. She also handled our social media and was a tremendous contributor to all our discussions. More than anybody she originated the social programmes which were so successful later in the year.

The House's central personality was, as always, the House Manager, Peter Mercer. We were particularly impressed with the way he adapted to the breadth and range of our programmes.

We said goodbye to our experienced and capable administrator Karen Pennington though we are sure she will help out if we are in need. Alison Raisbeck ably substituted.

It was a particularly strong year for our craft groups which meet four times a week. We widened our focus, going above and beyond our previous activities. New volunteer Kitty Flowers gave instruction in painting and sewing. She was so versatile that she even started a singing group at one point though this, alas, was short-lived. Kitty created an empathetic environment in which some who had been

socially isolated or had experienced crises in their lives felt more welcome and able to contribute.

Melanie Kelly's cake decorating group, helped with Communities Together funding, also was a forum through which those who lacked resources and confidence could release their inner creativity. Some stunning displays were produced

Our neighbourhood police held surgeries at the House early in the year. Otherwise, an innovative attempt was made to set up an Autism Spectrum Disorder Group which met twice a week for a while. Sadly, this was disbanded before the end of the year. Much CBT counselling took place at the House. Our longstanding Friday afternoon mental health recovery group continued to function very well, we know how much the participants look forward to it. Some groups; the Ladies Trefoil Group, Reading Group and Philosophy Café, were happy to use the House on a monthly basis.

We weren't surprised to win Blackpool in Bloom (the small community garden category) for the third time. The garden really is a tribute to our House Manager and his band of volunteers.

The Trustees anticipated the problems caused by the explosion in energy prices. By the summer of 2022 we had equally stunning increases in the cost of living, so much so that it was difficult for many to afford basic household hygiene and sanitary items.

In July 2022 we announced financial help for people on benefits who had gas or electric prepayment meters. We gave out £20 a household.

The cash payments were administered efficiently with the minimum of bureaucracy. We are grateful for the volunteers who helped our House Manager administer the scheme. On Friday mornings when we gave out the money the House was packed and we enjoyed entertaining new customers, some of whom became involved in our

other activities. The customers were polite and orderly, rather in contrast to how this demographic is often portrayed in the media. The support given was targeted, non-judgemental and very effective.

We didn't just give out money, we also gave support to families with children who were struggling with the rising cost of essentials. We supplied nappies, formula milk, baby wipes, toiletries and sanitary products completely free of charge. Customers were often moved to tears.

The demographic of house users changed as more young people passed through our front door. The House now has more supporters than ever before and a greater than ever number of users.

To fund these social programmes we effectively bid to the Household Support Fund (administered by the Council) and later the Tenants Project Fund (run by Blackpool Coastal Housing). As winter approached we gave out electric blankets, fleeces, thermal flasks and dehumidifiers. Our support was desperately needed and very much appreciated.

We used some of the funding to establish the House as a Warm Hub. We put the heating on earlier in the morning and supplied hot drinks to everyone who wanted them. Of course we already operated as a drop-in centre but towards the end of 2022 we markedly increased our number of guests.

Summary

We would like to thank Blackpool Coastal Housing, Blackpool Council, the Community Foundation for Lancashire, the Arnold Clark Community Fund and the Co-op as well as our volunteers and staff.

2022 was the year we had more customers than ever before, undertook more activities than ever before, enjoyed more recognition and made more funding bids. We continued our

successful relationship with the Tudor Trust although the best news from that quarter came after the close of the year.

The Trustees are very proud of the very real differences Layton Community House has made to people's lives. We have matured as a charity and if we meet future challenges with the resilient spirit of 2022 we can look forward to further success.

Martin Mitchell

Chair

Layton Community House



72 Rathlyn Avenue Blackpool FY3 8ED

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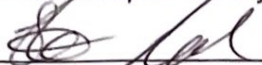
Accountants report to Layton Community House on the review of the Unaudited Financial Information of Layton Community House

In accordance with your instruction we have reviewed the financial information of Layton Community House which comprises the Profit & Loss Account, Balance Sheet and related notes from the entity's accounting records and from the information and explanations you have given us for the accounting period 2022.

This report is made solely to you in accordance with your instructions. Our work has been undertaken solely to review for your approval the financial information of Layton Community House and state those matters that we have agreed to state to you in this report in accordance with standard accountancy practice. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Layton Community House for our report.

You have approved the financial information for the year and have acknowledged your responsibility for it, for the appropriateness of the financial reporting framework adopted and for providing all information and explanation necessary for its compilation.

We have verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us.

Signed  13/09/2023

Steven Rudman

SGR Accounting Solutions

72 Rathlyn Avenue

Layton

Blackpool

FY3 8ED

Layton Community House

Registered Charity No 1170042

5 Grenfell Avenue, Blackpool, FY3 7BP

Accounts for the year ending December 2022

Layton Community House

Profit and Loss Account

to 31st December 2021

	2022	2021
Income		
Grants	28517.02	19269.21
Room Hire	2847.50	555.00
Donations	165.00	
Fundraising	231.00	144.80
Collections from groups	2193.84	832.10
Other	60.13	6615.87
TOTAL INCOME	34014.49	27416.98

	2022	2021
Expenditure		
Salary & on costs	18709.61	16921.68
Insurance	96.00	96.00
Telephone	644.89	754.56
Heat & Light	1398.97	688.28
Rates & Water	685.92	257.54
Repairs, Renewals & Checks*	578.00	105.89
Maintenance Checks		168.00
Postage & Stationery*	20.00	65.33
Cleaning & Sundries*		179.95
User Involvement Engagement*	198.75	223.38
Accountancy	50.00	37.50
Services		800.00
Other	11736.63	596.46
Co-op Grant		100.00
Lottery Grant		3246.55
Petty Cash	980.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	35098.77	24241.12

Loss/Surplus for the year	1084.28	3175.86
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Layton Community House

Registered Charity No 1170042

Balance Sheet at the 31st December 2022

Current Assets	2022	2021
Cash at Bank	41936.55	43020.83
Cash in hand	0.00	0.00
Debtors	0.00	225.00
Prepayments	96.00	88.00
Total Assets	42032.55	43333.83

Accruals	150.00	879.75
Creditors	16368.22	2257.30
Total Liabilities	16518.22	3137.05

Total Assets less Current Liabilities:	25514.33	40196.78
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Capital & Reserves

Profit & Loss as at 31st of December 2022	1084.28
Profit & Loss brought forward from 2021	3403.39
TOTAL FUNDS	2319.11

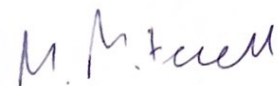
Capital & Reserves

Reserves as per Reserves Policy	13000.00
Unrestricted	0.00

TOTAL FUNDS	15319.11
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Signed  (Audited by SGR Accounting Solutions)

Date 13/09/2023

Signed  (Chairman of LCH Trustees)

Date 15/09/2023



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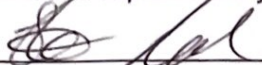
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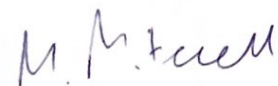
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