SPARC TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1171350

Details

Other names	MERIDEN ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2017-01-27
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Meriden Adventure Playground Moorend Avenue Chelmsley Wood Birmingham B37 5TE
Phone	07912674136
Email	meridenadventureplayground@gmail.com
Website	meridenadventureplayground.com

Activities

Objects: TO PROVIDE, MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE FACILITIES AT MERIDEN ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND FOR CHILDREN RESIDENT IN CHELMSLEY WOOD AND SMITHS WOOD, THROUGH THE PROVISION OF SAFE AND STIMULATING PLAY OPPORTUNITIES SO AS TO DEVELOP THEIR PHYSICAL, SOCIAL AND MENTAL SKILLS.

Activities: Aims and objectives: To provide, maintain and develop opportunities and facilities for children, young people and families resident in North Solihull and its surrounding areas, through the provision of play, youth and community work

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People

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Geography

- **Area of benefit:** IN CHELMSLEY WOOD AND SMITHS WOOD
- Birmingham City
- Solihull

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£378,345	£353,383	-	-
2024-03-31	£346,106	£350,245	-	-
2023-04-03	£316,029	£353,187	-	-
2022-04-03	£394,612	£280,382	-	-
2021-04-03	£246,075	£144,791	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alison Wood	Chair	2016-10-12
David Anthony Wood		2019-02-25
Helen O'Connor		2025-11-25
JOHN LOUIS FREEMAN		2016-10-12
Jeanette Burrows		2022-11-10
Mark Wilson		2018-12-10
Mccallmont Clarke		2018-10-15

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SPARC TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1171350

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1171350

Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 for Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Meriden Adventure Playground
Moorend Avenue
Chelmsley Wood
Birmingham
B37 5TE

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1171350

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The trustees who present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Charitable purpose

MAPA exists to support children and young people through high-quality, inclusive, and adventurous play. We provide safe, engaging environments where young people can explore, grow, and connect with others. Our work includes open access play, youth programmes, therapeutic sessions, and community support rooted in the heart of Chelmsley Wood and surrounding areas.

Objectives and aims

To provide, maintain and develop facilities at Meriden Adventure Playground for children, young people and families resident in Chelmsley Wood and its' surrounding areas, through the provision of safe and stimulating play opportunities so as to develop their physical, social and mental skills.

We aim to:

- Offer free, accessible play opportunities to as many people as possible
- Support young people's emotional, social and physical development
- Strengthen families and community resilience
- Engage young people in shaping their environment and future

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Core services and activities

- 4 weekly open-access play sessions, often attended by children & parents with the opportunity for child only attendance
- Twice weekly youth group with 200+ members and regular number of 30-40 attendees
- Forest School sessions for toddlers, home-educated children, families and unaccompanied 11–13s at a wide range of times enabling access for all
- 'Inclusion Fusion' high-ratio sessions for children and young people with more complex needs
- Weekly Therapeutic play session for those that may need a quieter play environment and smaller group sizes.
- Weekly Therapeutic play session for those that may need a quieter play environment and smaller group sizes.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

- School holiday provision open 5 days/week, including hot meals for all children and additional 'closed gate' sessions for our Inclusion Fusion groups.

- Partnerships with local organisations enabling access to our site for their sessions.

Over 13,000 children's visits have been recorded to MAPA this year. Of our younger visitors, so not including parents, roughly a quarter of our visitors are in the under 6 age group, a quarter in the 6-9 age group, 35 % in the 10-13 age group and 15% in the 14-17 age group.

Expanding Support Around the Play

Recognising how many families/parents stay on site, we've continued to offer:

- 'Adventure Tots' sessions for preschoolers
- Second-hand clothes, food parcels, and referrals to support services
- 'Being a Parent' courses and signposting to specialist help

We've trialled and embedded:
- 'Parents Not Allowed' Forest School for 11–13s
- Saturday Family Forest School

Youth Work and Therapeutic Support
- Youth sessions include crafts, cookery, drama, trips and a residential
- Support with exams, college/job searches, and mental health issues
- Self-directed therapeutic play sessions continued after CAMHS partnership ended

Community and Partnerships
- National Playday saw 1,800+ attendees
- Fright Night and other events remained popular despite the rain
- Supported other local voluntary groups through the YO Solihull network
- Secured new Short Breaks funding and small project grants

Site and Team Development
- Installed a major new slide with Airport Community Trust support
- A complete refurb for our kitchen and update to the toilets at MAPA with thanks to the Community Buildings Fund.
- Undertook 'Build' training for 3 of our staff ensuring that we are able to continue to update and maintain our unique site.
- Welcomed new staff and volunteers - totalling 25 staff and 14 volunteers (including 3 young volunteers)

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

Key Achievements

- Kevin was shortlisted for the Frontline Playwork Award at the annual National Playwork Conference

- Across the year, our engagement in the 14–17 age group saw a huge 17% increase and youth is currently thriving. We are looking to expand some of our youth provision when funding allows to be able to offer more diverse opportunities. We notice a particular need in the 19-25 age group.

- We ran a really successful SEN Saturday programme, funded by Short Breaks and whilst funding is currently lacking in this area, we are working hard to identify some funds and capacity to reintroduce this work. This, and other, smaller, targeted group work has impacted on overall numbers slightly but the range of sessions, quality, development and need in those area's is significant.

- *We refurbished our Kitchen and toilets with thanks to the Community Buildings fund; this was* some much needed work and has resulted in lighter, brighter and more welcoming spaces.

- MAPA was a key partner on the Adolescent Neglect project with Solihull Safeguarding Children's Partnership raising awareness across sectors on the presentation and issues associated with Neglect in adolescence. This project was led by young people (about 70% of them from MAPA itself) and has been shared amongst National Safeguarding groups and as part of the NSPCC Neglect training network.

Financial Overview

As shown in the Statement of Financial Activities (page 9), the Charity's total income amounted to £378,345 for the year (2023-24: £346,106). Total expenditure amounted to £353,383 (2023-24: £350,245), resulting in a surplus of £24,962 (2023-24: £4,139 deficit).

At 31 March 2025 total funds were £315,148 (2023-24: £290,186) including £260,290 of unrestricted funds (2023-24: £200,106) and £54,858 of restricted funds (2023-24: £90,080).

Reserves Policy

A charity's free reserves are its general unrestricted funds (excluding any element represented by fixed assets) less any funds which have been designated for specific future projects by the Trustees. *Details of designated funds are given in note 14 of these financial statements.*

The charity's reserves policy is to hold a minimum level of free reserves equivalent to between six and twelve months expenditure, in order to ensure that any delay in the receipt of income by the charity, caused by the actions of third parties, does not affect the ability of the charity to meet its obligations to its beneficiaries.

As indicated on note 14, the level of unrestricted reserves at 31 March 2025 was £260,290 (2023-24: £200,106) which represents approximately 9 months total expenditure. The Trustees regularly review the appropriateness of the reserves policy with regard to the environment in which the Charity operates and believe the level of reserves to be appropriate.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

Plans for the future
To lead and influence on increased and improved play opportunities for Children & Young People.

Introduce, fund & develop a Young Volunteers project – weekly sessions for some of our 'older' young people to enable them to develop employment skills alongside some support for local projects, MAPA itself and possible Social Action projects.

Introduce Sunday opening to enable the development of specific projects and to reach out to/support the introduction of groups. individuals that aren't already accessing the playground.

Introduce a stakeholder group top better consult with our communities.

Secure multi-year funding for some key elements of our work.

Develop our mobile/outreach play offer.

Further invest in team training and wellbeing.

Networking coffee mornings with groups like SEN support and Solihull College

Develop our website and digital systems to be easier, more reflective of our work and quality and to enable us to expand our reach.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Number
1171350

Registered Office
Meriden Adventure Playground Association
Moorend Avenue
Chelmsley Wood
Birmingham
B37 5TE

Bankers
The Co-operative Bank PLC
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

Trustees
Alison Wood
David Wood
Jeanette Burrows
John Freeman
Marcus Brain
Mark Wilsom
Mccallmont Clarke

Accountants
SAB Accountancy Services Ltd
102 Hamstead Road
Great Barr
Birmingham
B43 5BN

Independent Examiners
Samantha Jackon
Pearl Accountancy Services Ltd
61 Bridge Street
Kington
HR5 3DJ

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the report of the trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom accounting standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 18 September 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Alison Wood
Trustee

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages' 9 to 21.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charity are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1) *accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the* Act; or

2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or

3) the accounts do 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.

4) the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for 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).

I have no concerns and have come across no 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.

Jackson.

Samantha Jackson
Pearl Accountancy Services Limited
61 Bridge Street
Kington
HR5 3DJ

19 September 2025

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

	Notes	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	2024-25 Total funds	2023-24 Total funds
		£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	7,721	-	7,721	13,849
Charitable activities	3	21,274	345,540	366,814	327,165
Other trading activities	4	3,810	-	3,810	5,092
Total income		***32,805***	***345,540***	***378,345***	*346,106*
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5	14,018	338,824	352,842	349,053
Raising funds	6	541	-	541	1,192
Total expenditure		**14,559**	**338,824**	**353,383**	350,245
Net income/-expenditure		18,246	6,716	**24,962**	- 4,139
Transfers between funds		41,938	- 41,938	-	-
Net movement in funds	14	**60,184**	**- 35,222**	**24,962**	- 4,139
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	14	**200,106**	**90,080**	**290,186**	294,323
Total funds carried forward		**260,290**	**54,858**	**315,148**	290,186

CONTINUING OPERATIONS
The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Balance Sheet
At 31 March 2025

	Notes	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	2024-25 Total funds	2023-24 Total funds
FIXED ASSETS		£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	17	77,327	-	**77,327**	52,204
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank and in hand		190,106	54,858	**244,964**	206,896
Debtors	8	37,602	-	**37,602**	38,010
		227,708	**54,858**	**282,566**	244,906
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	44,745	-	**44,745**	6,924
NET CURRENT ASSETS / - LIABILITIES		**182,963**	**54,858**	**237,821**	237,982
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**260,290**	**54,858**	**315,148**	290,186
NET ASSETS		**260,290**	**54,858**	**315,148**	290,186
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY	14				
Unrestricted funds		**260,290**	**-**	**260,290**	200,106
Restricted funds		**-**	**54,858**	**54,858**	90,080
		260,290	**54,858**	**315,148**	290,186

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities with respect to the accounting records and the preparation of the accounts.

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year, under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) - in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner whose report appears on page 8;

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 18 September 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

Alison Wood
Trustee

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Legal Status

The charity was entered onto the Register of Charities of the Charity Commission of England and Wales on 27 January 2017, with registered charity number 1171350.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the charitable entity have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 ' The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis using the historic cost concept.

Going Concern assumption

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the charity will continue to operate. The charity's business plan shows that the charity will be able to operate in the foreseeable future. Based on this understanding the director trustees believe that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. The financial statements do not include any adjustments, which would result from the basis of preparation being inappropriate.

Charitable Status

Meriden Adventure Playground Association (MAPA) is a registered charity and is exempt from corporation tax and capital gains tax provided its income and gains are applied for charitable purposes.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then the income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Income from grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 **ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

Income from trading activities includes income earned from the sale of food and drinks. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods, in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement occurs.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs relating to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to a particular heading they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Expenditure is classified under the following heading:

Expenditure on charitable activities comprise the direct costs of activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity, including grants payable and all associated support costs.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which expenditure was incurred.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event where it is probable that there will be an outflow of economic resources to settle the obligation and where creditors can be estimated or measured reliably.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of each asset, less its residual value, over its estimated useful economic life. The depreciation charge recognised each year relates to the class of the asset, the rates and classes are as follows:

Playground Equipment - *5 years straight line*
Container Structure - *15 years straight line*
Computer Equipment - *3 years straight line*

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor the year ended 31 March 2024 except for reasonable out of pocket expenses.

2 INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
	£	£	£	£
Donations	7,721	-	**7,721**	13,849

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
	£	£	£	£
Events	4,673	-	4,673	19,773
Grants	16,601	345,540	362,141	307,392
	21,274	**345,540**	**366,814**	327,165

4 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
	£	£	£	£
Other sales	121	-	121	1,255
Café sales	3,689	-	3,689	3,837
	3,810	**-**	**3,810**	5,092

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

5 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
	£	£	£	£
Accountancy	1,653	3,183	4,836	4,127
Casual Labour	-	4,774	4,774	4,623
Consultancy support	-	9,000	9,000	11,542
Depreciation	7,822	-	7,822	6,102
Insurance	260	24,811	25,071	21,417
Legal & professional	-	5,882	5,882	3,470
Low value tools & equipment	29	2,519	2,548	409
Office supplies & sundries	1,082	13,655	14,737	16,708
Play Resources	349	6,418	6,767	6,677
Site Development	294	5,809	6,103	7,599
Staff costs	2,440	260,652	263,092	264,784
Training	-	1,707	1,707	118
Travel	89	414	503	1,477
	14,018	**338,824**	**352,842**	349,053

6 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
	£	£	£	£
Cost of goods sold	541	-	**541**	1,192

7 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
	£	£
Trade creditors	36,307	813
Accrued expenditure	1,650	1,450
Deferred income	-	225
Taxes and social Security	6,788	4,436
	44,745	6,924

8 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
	£	£
Trade debtors	7,500	13,896
Prepaid expenditure	29,936	23,371
Accrued Income	166	743
	37,602	38,010

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

9 STAFF COSTS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENSES

	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
	£	£
Wages and salaries	**263,092**	264,784

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024-25	2023-24
Full time	4	4
Part time	12	12

These numbers are based on full time equivalents assuming that a full time employee works 37.5 hours per week.

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000

10 COMMITMENTS

There were no operating lease payments committed beyond the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

11 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no transactions with related parties in this reporting period.

12 CONTROLLING INTEREST

The Charity is controlled by its Trustees.

13 SUPPORT COSTS

	2024-25 Total	2023-24
		£
Governance	**1,650**	1,400

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

14 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at 01.04.24 £	Income £	Exp-enditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at 31.03.25 £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General funds					
General Funds	101,779	32,805	7,790	16,938	143,732
Designated funds					
Fixed assets	48,327	-	6,769	25,000	66,558
Site dilapidation	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
Service development	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
	98,327	-	6,769	25,000	116,558
Total Unrestricted funds	**200,106**	**32,805**	**14,559**	**41,938**	**260,290**
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Airport Community Trust	2,811	-	2,811	-	-
Eveson Trust	2,192	-	2,192	-	-
HAF Programme	5,370	30,943	31,288	- 5,025	-
Henry Smith	19,475	60,000	49,475	-	30,000
ICS Fund	5,829	18,250	15,000	- 9,079	-
Inclusion Fusion	1,310	-	1,310	-	-
National Lottery Reaching Con	11,852	74,633	79,346	-	7,139
Masonic Charitable Foundatior	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Fairer Futures	-	9,998	9,998	-	-
Short Breaks	-	9,002	9,002	-	-
Saintbury	-	2,000	2,000	-	-
Inclusive Communities Fund	-	30,000	30,000	-	-
Garfield Weston	-	30,000	27,166	- 2,834	-
Community Building Fund	-	35,714	-	- 25,000	10,714
Children In Need	-	40,000	33,745	-	6,255
Sport Solihull	750	-	-	-	750
Tudor Trust	40,491	-	40,491	-	-
Total Restricted funds	**90,080**	**345,540**	**338,824**	**- 41,938**	**54,858**
TOTAL FUNDS	**290,186**	**378,345**	**353,383**	**-**	**315,148**

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

14 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Our **Unrestricted funds** come from public donations or income we generate via a) sale of refreshments, b) entry fees at seasonal community events we run, c) our community swapshop and d) hiring out the playground and our staff to other organisations, including running targeted sessions for groups who cannot access the site in open busier sessions.

Unrestricted funds cover our bills, our day to day expenses and the ongoing repair and maintenance of the site and buildings.

We have **Designated funds** for service development – which includes strategic planning and development and also for site dilapidation so that there are sufficient funds to cover the costs of electricians, plumbers or roofers as required.

The fixed asset fund within **Designated funds** represents funds utilised for the purpose of capital expenditure, depreciation is charged against the designated fund for each asset purchased. Transfers relate to restricted funding used for the purchase of fixed assets.

Funds from **Airport Community Trust** were utilised to change our play space and install a slide on-site.

A grant provided by **Eveson Trust** was used to develop short four week pilots with young people.

Funding for the **HAF Programme** was holiday activity funding from towards our Summer, Easter & Christmas provision.

Funding from **Henry Smith** is part of a three year grant towards the running costs of the charity.

ICS Funding was provided to the charity towards community connections development work.

Funding for **Inclusion Fusion** was provided to support our specialist SEN sessions.

National Lottery Reaching Communities funding is part of a five year grant towards salaries and other running costs.

Funding from **Sport Solihull** paid for some canoeing sessions for youth, these will now be delivered in 2025.

The **Tudor Trust** awarded MAPA a grant toward the charity's operating costs for a period of three years.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

14 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Masonic Charitable Foundation provided us with a grant towards maintaining our core services integral to MAPA's operations.

Fairer Futures provided funding to support our Wednesday evening Therapeutic Play sessions.

Short Breaks funded our Saturday Inclusion sessions and contributed towards our Holiday Inclusion Fusion sessions.

Saintbury helped cover the delivery costs of working with 11 to 18 years olds.

Inclusive Communities Fund provided funding to support some of our sessions and community engagement (including work with other groups) and to support volunteer

Garfield Weston kindly provided a grant towards our core operating costs.

A grant from the **Community Building Fund** enabled us to transform our kitchen and toilet facilities including renovation of the flooring and lighting.

Grant funding from **Children In Need** was used to support our core operating costs in addition to improving our I.T infrastructure and making improvements to the way that we evaluate our work.

15 EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The pension costs charged to the Statement of Financial Activities represent the amount of the contributions payable to the schemes in respect of the accounting period.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

16 COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023-24 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	13,849	-	13,849
Charitable activities	30,489	296,676	327,165
Other trading activities	5,092	-	5,092
Total income	**49,430**	**296,676**	**346,106**
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities	47,119	301,934	349,053
Raising funds	997	195	1,192
Total expenditure	**48,116**	**302,129**	**350,245**
Net income/-expenditure	1,314	- 5,451	**- 4,139**
Net movement in funds	**1,314**	**- 5,451**	**- 4,139**
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	198,792	95,531	294,323
Total funds carried forward	**200,106**	**90,080**	**290,186**

17 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Leasehold Improvements	Container Structure	Office Equipment	Playground Equipment	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£	£
At 1st April 2024	-	66,087	3,137	3,253	72,477
Additions	25,000	7,944	-	-	32,944
At 31 March 2025	25,000	74,031	3,137	3,253	105,421
Depreciation					
At 1st April 2024	-	16,271	2,092	1,910	20,273
Charge for the year	1,190	4,935	1,045	651	7,821
At 31 March 2025	1,190	21,206	3,137	2,561	28,094
Net Book Value					
At 31 March 2025	**23,810**	**52,825**	**-**	**692**	**77,327**
At 31 March 2024	-	49,816	1,045	1,343	52,204

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

18 COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	2023-24 Total funds	2022-23 Total funds
FIXED ASSETS	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	52,204	-	**52,204**	58,307
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at bank and in hand	116,816	90,080	**206,896**	211,725
Debtors	38,010	-	**38,010**	33,625
	154,826	**90,080**	**244,906**	245,349
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	6,924	-	**6,924**	9,333
NET CURRENT ASSETS / - LIABILITIES	**147,902**	**90,080**	**237,982**	236,017
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	**200,106**	**90,080**	**290,186**	294,323
NET ASSETS	**200,106**	**90,080**	**290,186**	294,323
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY				
Unrestricted funds	**200,106**	**-**	**200,106**	198,792
Restricted funds	**-**	**90,080**	**90,080**	95,531
	200,106	**90,080**	**290,186**	294,323

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

19 COMPARATIVE MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Balance at 01.04.23 £	Income £	Exp-enditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at 31.03.24 £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General funds					
General Funds	91,094	49,430	42,319	3,573	101,779
Designated funds					
Fixed assets	57,697	-	5,797	- 3,573	48,327
Site dilapidation	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
Service development	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
	107,697	-	5,797	- 3,573	98,327
Total Unrestricted funds	**198,792**	**49,430**	**48,116**	**-**	**200,106**
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Airport Community Trust	-	5,000	2,189	-	2,811
Bleed Box	-	500	500	-	-
Children In Need - Next Steps	2,158	-	2,158	-	-
Eveson Trust	-	5,000	2,808	-	2,192
Extractor Fan Fund	-	1,605	1,605	-	-
Grantham Yorke	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Grimmitt Trust	-	1,200	1,200	-	-
HAF Programme	18,449	52,285	65,364	-	5,370
Heart of England	-	2,500	2,500	-	-
Henry Smith	22,139	50,000	52,664	-	19,475
ICS Fund	-	8,000	2,171	-	5,829
Inclusion Fusion	-	5,130	3,820	-	1,310
LGBTQ+	-	3,135	3,135	-	-
Masonic Charitable Foundation	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
National Lottery Reaching Communities	44,890	37,033	70,070	-	11,853
Playday	-	2,003	2,003	-	-
Sheldon Trust	-	8,867	8,867	-	-
SMBC Online System	7,896	-	7,896	-	-
Sport Solihull	-	750	-	-	750
Stellantis	-	493	493	-	-
Trusthouse	-	23,176	23,176	-	-
Tudor Trust	-	80,000	39,509	-	40,491
Total Restricted funds	**95,531**	**296,676**	**302,127**	**-**	**90,080**
TOTAL FUNDS	**294,323**	**346,106**	**350,243**	**-**	**290,186**

SPARC TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1171350

Accounts

MERIDEN ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION

GOING STRONG SINCE 2008

MERIDEN ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 2023 - MARCH 2024

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MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

It has been another busy and fruitful year of growing numbers, professional consolidation, and regularly rethinking our ongoing offer to ensure it is relevant, timely, and meeting needs. We are definitely still feeling the emotional impact of COVID-19 in terms of children and young people's ongoing anxiety and delayed development, due to those reduced opportunities for self-directed play, particularly outdoors. Parents, too, have needed a safe place to chat and find support, knowing their children are safe playing. We often see them visibly relax as they come on site, knowing this is also some personal time for them too.

We know, from both our observations and from feedback we have received throughout the year, that our sessions and services have had a significant positive impact on our community, providing essential support and enriching the lives of children, young people, and families. We are really glad but also humbled by this -.supporting and serving our community has always been MAPA's mission and we are always striving to do that as well as we can. Funding our work is becoming an ever-increasing challenge and whilst this report is a healthy and positive one, it is only due to some significant savings and work on the part of our amazing team and we are already working hard to secure what we need for the next few years. Many thanks to everyone who has supported us and helped out this year – and if any of you reading this want to know more about volunteering with us, please do get in touch!

ALI WOOD

Chair of the Board of Trustee's

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR

In response to the growing number of parents staying on site, we've expanded our family events and support services. The Adventure Tots program continues to thrive, fostering independence and outdoor exploration for young children. We've also provided essential second-hand clothes, emergency food parcels, and other necessities to families in need. Our 'Being a Parent' courses and weekly coffee mornings, often complete with toast and heartfelt discussions, have been a hit.

HAF funding has enabled us to hire the additional staff and secure the resources we need to be able to open our main play five days a week in the four main school holidays. Despite facing challenging weather conditions, we joyfully welcomed 6,792 visitors through our gates last summer. Holiday sessions are incredibly fun, brimming with new memories, friendships, and skill-building activities as well as enabling parents the chance to connect, take five and be signposted and supported into other organisations.

Community engagement is always at the heart of our efforts. We celebrated National Playday once again with a variety of play opportunities, attracting over 1,100 attendees. Despite heavy rain, our Fright Night event also saw impressive attendance as did our Christmas Craft sessions.

We also participated in local networking events, fostering collaboration with other organisations dedicated to children and families. Our work with YO (Young Opportunities) Solihull enables us to support other local voluntary organisations working with children and young people in Solihull.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR

Although our partnership with CAMHS psychologists concluded, we have remained committed to our essential self-directed therapeutic play sessions and have secured some funding to continue this important work. These sessions are crucial in helping children express their emotions and develop self-management skills. Our dedicated therapeutic playworker, and our wider team, continue to make a significant impact by supporting children with additional emotional, sensory or learning needs.

Youth nights have been bustling with activity, thanks to funding that allowed us to organise trips and adventurous activities including some day trips and a residential. Regular sessions have provided invaluable support to young people dealing with exams, school, college, job searches, and relationship issues alongside all that adolescence brings with it. We've offered a diverse range of activities, from crafts and cookery to drama and important discussions on topics like drugs and exploitation.

Our Forest School programmes have continued to flourish and expand, benefiting children not attending school, pre-schoolers, older children, and families. These sessions, which include foraging, shelter-building, camp cooking, and woodworking crafts, help children to thrive through outdoor exploration whatever their interests. The new family sessions at weekends and our "parents not Allowed' sessions for 11-13 year olds have been hugely popular, offering enriching experiences for all.

Site development remains a priority as we work to enhance our facilities and create an even better environment for our activities. This year has seen the biggest changes for a while with the installation of a slide thanks to support from the Airport Community Trust.

MAPA
PLAY TEAM

WHAT WE DO AT MAPA

Meriden Adventure Playground is an immersive and engaging outdoor adventure playground serving the communities of Chelmsley Wood and surrounding areas as well as offering specialist provision across Birmingham and beyond.

Strongly rooted in our local community, what MAPA offers is much broader than 'Adventure Play'. We offer open access youth sessions, enabling positive engagement with young people from across the area. Our youth nights are well attended with over 200 members.

In addition to our youth work, we offer 4 fully staffed open play sessions a week - during the lighter months, these are after school on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 3.30-5.30pm and on Saturdays 1-5.30pm. Open play will often be attended by parents and family members as well and is a fantastic opportunity for community based work. Many parents come to MAPA as a first port of call due to the positive relationships we have. At MAPA, staff can support with referring to a wide range of agencies including Multi-Agency Safeguarding, Social Care, FoodBanks, debt advice and we also we have our own 'Swap Shop' Community resource for helping families out with clothing, toys and equipment.

We hold three Forest School sessions a week for pre-school and home educated children and have an 'Adventure Tots' play session and 'Home Educators' session which regularly has 50 people attending.

During the school holidays, we are open Tuesday - Saturdays 1-5.30pm and feed all children on-site regardless of HAF coding because we know that many families are struggling regardless of their eligibility. During Easter 2023 alone there were 822 visits by children and young people to MAPA and 397 parent/guardian visits.

We deliver specialist high ratio ‘Inclusion Fusion’ sessions for those with complex needs and this year we started a session outside the school holidays with thanks to funding form Short Breaks.

MAPA believes that quality play experiences for children and young people at this site can:

- Help them to express themselves and to just be in unique and varied ways.
- Support children and young ceople to feel sufficiently secure to explore and extend their physical, social and emotional capabilities.
- Create opportunities for Children and young people to navigate changes and differences in themselves and others
- Build children and young people's confidence to make their own decisions and to question the truth of things as it may first be presented
- Help children and young people to explore and feel part of the playground and local community
- Help children, young people and communities to grow together
- Create lasting individual and community resilience.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Our main programme is busier than ever and people are returning/accessing the playground more than ever. We have begun to change focus a little as we recognise the value in the 'work around the play' which we have always done but which, as an organisation, we haven't really recognised or explored.

Over the course of the last year, we have trialled a variety of new sessions:

- Coffee Mornings for parents/carers
- Women's walks to connect and be active during the day
- Family Forest School on Saturdays enabling those who aren't available in the week to attend.
- 'Parents not Allowed' Forest School sessions targeted at 11-13's

ALL of our trials have been successful in meeting different needs and will continue to rotate into the programme wherever we can and where funding allows.

We are reaching out to connect people with other organisations and many of our parent events have invited/partnered with a whole host of other agencies/support such as Menopause Knowledge, SEN Parent support agencies and Solihull College.

Whilst our system currently doesn't support reporting over a financial year, we do know that over 21000 pairs of feet stepped through the gate at MAPA over the course of the academic year and more than 14700 of those belonged to visitors under the age of 18.

Last year we served more than 4000 meals to children in the holidays with a mixture of funding including that distributed through Solihull's Holiday Activity & Food Programme which supported 23 days of our provision across the year. Through the generosity of other funds and supporters and the hard work of our team, we are able to offer food across all of our weekday holiday provision. A partnership with Greggs also means that all of our youth sessions have a food offer.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Unrestricted funds **Total £49,430**

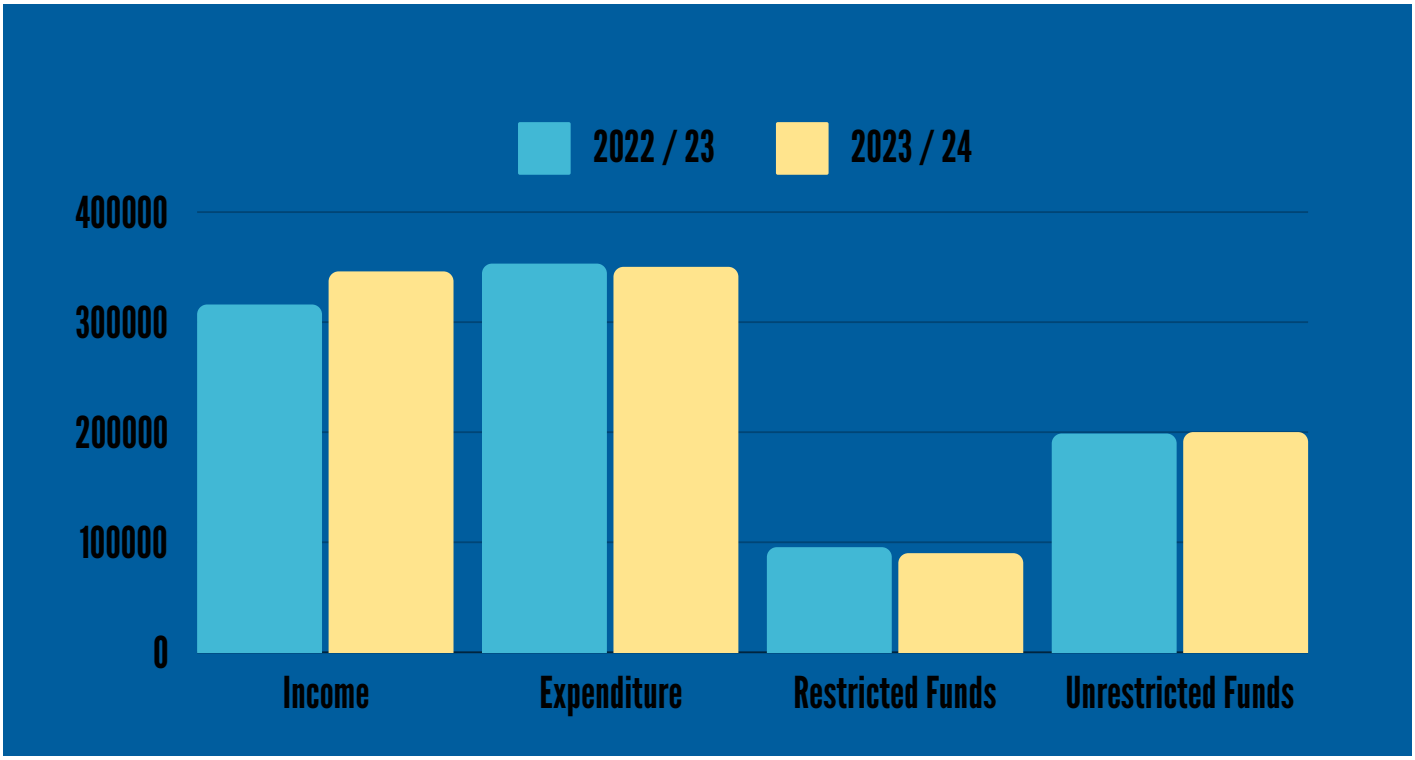
Invoiced & traded income (hire and group visits, home ed, forest schools etc)
Donations at the gate, swapshop, regular givers & ad-hoc/corporate donations.
Community fund-raising events
Café and other sales income
Smaller grants & gifts towards core costs
(Including Turner Trust, Barston Association, Cole Charitable Trust, William A Cadbury Charitable Trust, Gowling WLG Charitable Trust, Marsh Christian Trust, The Richard Cadbury Charitable Trust, WED Charitable Trust, 7Stars Foundation)

Our Restricted grants & funds (ie. where funds have been received for a specific purpose) **Total £296,676**

Large grants & Funds
Tudor Trust
Henry Smith
Sheldon Trust
The National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund
Trusthouse
Masonic Charitable MCF
Holiday Activities Fund Solihull
Holiday Activities Fund Birmingham

Additional restricted funds
Grantham Yorke
Eveson Trust
Bleed Box
Extractor Fund
FitCap - Safe Space Sessions
Heart of England Playday
Sport Solihull
Stellantis - Circus equipment
Grimmitt Trust
Airport Community Trust
Meals & More
ICS Project

COMPARATIVE INCOME & EXPENDITURE



NB: Unresricted funds (for accounting purposes) include fixed asset values (eg. the value of containers).

OUR FUNDERS

We have been very grateful to the funders we work with who recognise and support the work that we do at Meriden Adventure Playground. We rely heavily on grants and donations and the support from those partners has been amazing. Many of our applications are very heavily supported by work from our Board and Chair - it really is a whole team effort.

OUR SUPPORTERS

Here at MAPA we have to raise every penny to fund our staff, pay our bills and buy whatever resources and equipment we need to run all our different sessions and we plan our use of resources carefully to ensure the greatest impact. It is our ethos and policy not to charge for public open sessions because we believe that play is everyone's right, but we are hugely grateful for everyone who can help us via donations or gifts in kind – if everyone who came put just a pound or two in our 'spinner' at each visit, it would make an even bigger difference! We are very lucky at MAPA to be supported by a very wide range of businesses, organisations and individuals. Some of them fundraise for us, others donate resources, raffle prizes or gifts for Easter/Christmas and some support our teams at events or by bringing a team for a work day on-site and helping with our repairs and maintenance.

We would like to extend our huge thanks to: Taj - The Simla Restaurant & Cocktail Bar Linda and John Williams, Stellantis, The Co op, Bear Grylls, Hollywood Bowl , Cineworld, Gourmet Burger, JLR , Brian Miles, NEC, Seeds of Hope, Bishop Wilson School , Relax and Unwind with Penny, Morrisons, MADL (Making a Difference Locally - NISA), Barston Residents Association & Jane, Birmingham Business Park, Co -Op University Locks, Caleb (Youth night attendee), Lola (Young Volunteer), Penny Clarke & Family, Caroline Middleton, Tony Woods, Solar (CAMHS) fundraisers, T Gascoigne and C Clayton (young fundraisers), greggs, James Eckloff, Mark Bassett and Gary @ Pied Piper.

We absolutely couldn't do it without them.

LOOKING AHEAD

Play at MAPA should always involve changing, immersive and engaging activity and environments driven by the ages, interests and needs of the children, young people and communities we serve. To achieve this we need to enable our team the time and space to explore and develop our play spaces and this needs to be built into our programming and well resourced; something we are beginning to achieve.

In terms of delivery, we have a number of areas for development over the coming year. Firstly we would like to get out more! We would like to develop an outreach service to support play outside the playground and to be able to offer therapeutic play and Forest Schools in other area's. Engaging in and supporting well thought out and well resourced partnerships will also be key to reaching as many people as possible and sharing what we know.

Our youth team is hugely qualified and experienced and our sessions well attended; we need to better support this through some long term sustainable funding whilst continuing to develop our team to better meet the needs of our communities - by developing skills in outreach and detached youth work amongst other things.

Our SEN specific Inclusion Fusion sessions have continued to be a huge hit this year and the additional term-time session has had fabulous feedback from parents who have not only loved having this dedicated space for their children but who have also reported on the fantastic milestones some of their children have achieved. Moving forward, we need to work to secure these sessions in the longer term as well as finding them a winter home - for many children and young people with SEN-specific needs, the additional change and uncertainty that the weather brings alongside the additional sensory input can be too high for them to manage.

We need to plan and resource for bad weather and enable alternative spaces and activities and shelter. Enabling space outside the main playground will also help us to develop activities alongside our main play sessions and widen our reach.

Underpinning all of this is a need to develop a robust fundraising strategy to sit alongside our forward-thinking budget. Having spent the last 12 months consolidating all of our functions and thinking and establishing a true picture of MAPA, we now need to maximise our fundraising and funding opportunities to enable us to not only continue what we do but to grow it and to reach places we haven't reached before.

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1171350

Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 for Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Meriden Adventure Playground
Moorend Avenue
Chelmsley Wood
Birmingham
B37 5TE

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Message from Our Chair

It has been another busy and fruitful year of growing numbers, professional consolidation, and

We are definitely still feeling the emotional impact of COVID-19 in terms of children and young people's ongoing anxiety and delayed development, due to reduced opportunities for self-directed play, particularly outdoors.Parents, too, have needed a safe place to chat and find support, knowing their children are safe playing.

We often see them visibly relax as they come on site, knowing this is also some personal time for them.

We know from both our observations and from feedback we have received throughout the year, that our sessions and services have had a significant positive impact on our community, providing essential support and enriching the lives of children, young people, and families. We are really glad but also humbled by this -supporting and serving our community has always been MAPA's mission and we are always striving to do that as well as we can.

Funding our work is becoming an ever-increasing challenge and whilst this report is a healthy and positive one, it is only due to some significant savings and work on the part of our amazing team and we are already working hard to secure what we need for the next few years.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported us and helped out this year – and if any of you reading this want to know more about volunteering with us, please do get in touch!

Ali Wood
Chair of Trustees

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The trustees who present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

To provide, maintain and develop facilities at Meriden Adventure Playground for children, young people and families resident in Chelmsley Wood and its' surrounding areas, through the provision of safe and stimulating play opportunities so as to develop their physical, social and mental skills.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

What we do at MAPA

Meriden Adventure Playground is an immersive and engaging outdoor adventure playground serving the communities of Chelmsley Wood and surrounding areas as well as offering specialist provision across Birmingham and beyond.

Strongly rooted in our local community, what MAPA offers is much broader than 'Adventure Play'. We offer open access youth sessions, enabling positive engagement with young people from across the area. Our youth group is well attended with over 200 members.

In addition to our youth work, we offer 4 fully staffed open play sessions a week - these are after school Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and on Saturdays 1-5.30pm. Open play will often be attended by parents and family members and is a fantastic opportunity for community based work. Many parents come to MAPA as a first port of call due to the positive relationships we have. At MAPA, staff can support with referring to a wide range of agencies including Multi-Agency Safeguarding, Social Care, Foodbanks, debt advice and we also we have our own 'Swap Shop' Community resource for helping families out with clothing, toys and equipment.

We hold three Forest School sessions a week for pre-school and home educated children and have an 'Adventure Tots' play session and 'Home Educators' session which regularly has 50 people attending.

During the school holidays, we are open Tuesday - Saturdays 1-5.30pm and feed all children on-site regardless of HAF coding because we know that many families are struggling regardless of their eligibility. This Easter alone there were 822 visits by children and young people to MAPA and 397 parent/guardian visits.

We deliver specialist high ratio 'Inclusion Fusion' sessions for those with complex needs and this year we started a session outside the school holidays with thanks to funding form Short Breaks.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

MAPA believe that quality play experiences for children and young people at this site can:

- Help them to express themselves and to just be in unique and varied ways,
- Support Children and Young People to feel sufficiently secure to explore and extend their physical, social and emotional capabilities,
- Create Opportunities for Children and young people to navigate changes and differences in themselves and others,
- Build children and young people's confidence to make their own decisions and to question the truth of things as it may first be presented,
- Help children and young people explore and feel part of the playground and local community,
- Help children, young people and communities to grow together,
- Create lasting individual and community resilience.

Overview of the year

In response to the growing number of parents staying on site, we've expanded our family events and support services. The Adventure Tots program continues to thrive, fostering independence and outdoor exploration for young children. We've also provided essential second-hand clothes, emergency food parcels, and other necessities to families in need. Our 'Being a Parent' courses and weekly coffee mornings, complete with homemade soup and heartfelt discussions, have been a hit.

Additionally, expanding our Forest School programme to include some new family sessions at weekends and for unaccompanied 11-13 year olds immense popularity, offering enriching experiences for both children and parents.

HAF funding has enabled us to hire the additional staff and secure the resources we need to be able to open five days a week in the four main school holidays. Despite facing challenging weather conditions, we joyfully welcomed 6,792 visitors through our gates last summer. Holiday sessions are incredibly fun, brimming with new memories, friendships, and skill-building activities aswell as enabling parents the chance to connect, take 5 and be signposted and supported into other organisations.

Community engagement is always at the heart of our efforts. We celebrated National Playday once again with a variety of play opportunities, attracting over 1,100 attendees. Despite heavy rain, our Fright Night event saw impressive attendance.

We also participated in local networking events, fostering collaboration with other organisations dedicated to children and families. Our work with YO (Young Opportunities) Solihull enables us to support other local voluntary organisations working with children and young people in Solihull.

Although our partnership with CAMHS psychologists concluded, we have remained committed to our essential self-directed therapeutic play sessions and have secured some funding to support this. These sessions are crucial in helping children express their emotions and develop self-management skills. Our dedicated therapeutic playworker, and wider team continue to make a significant impact by supporting children with additional emotional, sensory or learning needs.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

Youth nights have been bustling with activity, thanks to funding that allowed us to organise trips and adventurous activities including some day trips and a residential. Regular sessions have provided invaluable support to young people dealing with exams, school, college, job searches, and relationship issues. We've offered a diverse range of activities, from crafts and cookery to drama and important discussions on topics like drugs and exploitation.

Our Forest School programmes have continued to flourish, benefiting children not attending school, pre-schoolers, older children, and families. These sessions, which include foraging, shelter-building, camp cooking, and woodworking crafts, help children to thrive through outdoor exploration whatever their interests.

Site development remains a priority as we work to enhance our facilities and create an even better environment for our activities and this year has seen the biggest changes for a while with the installation of a slide thanks to support from the Airport Community Trust.

We've welcomed new casual staff and volunteers, who are essential to our operations, particularly for community events and maintenance work. Our volunteers have been invaluable, ensuring the smooth running of events,

Key Achievements

Our main programme is busier than ever and people are returning/accessing the playground more than ever. We have begun to change focus a little as we recognise the value in the 'work around the play' which we have always done but which, as an organisation, we haven't really recognised or explored.

Over the course of the last year, we have trialled a variety of new sessions:

- Coffee Mornings for parents/carers
- Women's walks to connect and be active during the day
- Family Forest School on Saturdays enabling those who aren't available in the week to attend.
- 'Parents not Allowed' Forest School sessions targeted at 11-13's

ALL of our trials have been successful in meeting different needs and will continue to rotate into the programme wherever we can and where funding allows.

We are reaching out to connect people with other organisations and many of our parent events have invited/partnered with a whole host of other agencies/support such as Menopause Knowledge, SEN Parent support agencies and Solihull College.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

Our Team

This year we have had a total of 25members of staff and 14 volunteers(including 3 young volunteers) support the work that we do and we are very proud of our team.

Not only did we win an award from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner as the West Midlands 'Outstanding Community Project' of the Year but we are equally very proud that our Therapeutic Playworker Clair received the Professional Development Award at the14th Annual Playwork Awards.

Our team and trustee's are so passionate about the playground that a number of them even climbed Snowdon to raise funds for the playground. On a scorching hot day, they raised a huge total of £1,933.

At MAPA we are proud to have a team that includes:

- 3 JNC qualified youth and community workers (including 2 at MA Level)
- 2 Youth workers at L2/3
- 7 Qualified playworkers at L2-5
- 2 Early Years & Childcare staff
- 1 qualified social worker
- 12 x First Aiders
- 10 people with Food Hygiene at Levels 1&2
- 1 SEN Specialist (MA in Education -
- Inclusion & Special Educational Needs and Disability)
- 3 qualified Forest School leaders at L2/3
- 5 Walk leaders with Active Solihull

Additionally, 2 of our team are Family Support Workers with SMBC, and we have staff qualified in Mentoring through Intentional Relationships (L3) Coaching (PGDip) as well as someone who is an Accredited Practitioner with the Institute for Outdoor Learning.

Our Supporters

Here at MAPA we have to raise every penny to fund our staff, pay our bills and buy whatever resources and equipment we need to run all our different sessions and we plan our use of resources carefully to ensure the greatest impact.

It is our ethos and policy not to charge for public open sessions because we believe that play is children's birthright, but we are hugely grateful for everyone who does help us via donations or gifts in kind – if everyone who came put just a pound or two in our 'spinner' at each visit, it would make an even bigger difference!

We are very lucky at MAPA to be supported by a very wide range of businesses, organisations and individuals. Some of them fundraise for us, others donate resources, raffle prizes or gifts for Easter/Christmas and some support our teams at events or by bringing a team for a work day on-site and helping with our repairs and maintenance.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

We would like to extend our huge thanks to:
Taj - The Simla Restaurant & Cocktail Bar Linda and John Williams, Stellantis, The Co op, Bear Grylls, Hollywood Bowl , Cineworld, Gourmet Burger, JLR , Brian Miles, NEC, Seeds of Hope, Bishop Wilson School , Relax and Unwind with Penny, Morrisons, MADL (Making a Difference Locally - NISA), Barston Association Jane - Barston Association, Birmingham Business Park, Co -Op University Locks, Caleb (Youth night attendee), Lola (Young Volunteer), Penny Clarke & Family, Caroline Middleton, Tony Woods, Solar (CAMHS) T Gascoigne and C Clayton (young fundraisers).

We absolutely couldn't do it without them.

Financial Overview

As shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 12, the Charity's total amounted to £346,106 for the year (2022-23: £316,029). The Charity's total expenditure amounted to £350,245 (2022-23: £353,187), resulting in a deficit of £4,139 (2022-23: £37,158 deficit).

At 31 March 2024 total funds were £290,186 (2022-23: £294,323) including £200,106 of unrestricted funds (2022-23: £198,972) and £90,080 of restricted funds (2022-23: £95,531).

Reserves Policy

A charity's free reserves are its general unrestricted funds (excluding any element represented by fixed assets) less any funds which have been designated for specific future projects by the Trustees. Details of designated funds are given in note 13 of these financial statements.

The charity's reserves policy is to hold a minimum level of free reserves equivalent to between three and six months expenditure, in order to ensure that any delay in the receipt of income by the charity, caused by the actions of third parties, does not affect the ability of the charity to meet its obligations to its beneficiaries.

As indicated on page 19, note 12, the level of unrestricted reserves as at 31 March 2024 was £200,106 (2022-23: £198,792) which represents approximately 7 months total expenditure. The Trustees regularly review the appropriateness of the reserves policy with regard to the current environment in which the Charity operates and believe the level of reserves to be appropriate.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

Looking Ahead

Play at MAPA should always involve changing, immersive and engaging activity and environments driven by the ages, interests and needs of the children, young people and communities we serve. To achieve this we need to enable our team the time and space to explore and develop our play spaces and this needs to be built into our programming and well resourced; something we are beginning to achieve. Play at MAPA should always involve changing, immersive and engaging activity and environments driven by the ages, interests and needs of the children, young people and communities we serve. To achieve this we need to enable our team the time and space to explore and develop our play spaces and this needs to be built into our programming and well resourced; something we are beginning to achieve.

In terms of delivery, we have a number of areas for development over the coming year. Firstly we would like to get out more! We would like to develop an outreach service to support play outside the playground and to be able to offer therapeutic play and Forest Schools in other area's. Engaging in and supporting well thought out and well resourced partnerships will also be key to reaching as many people as possible and sharing what we know.

Our youth team is hugely qualified and experienced and our sessions well attended; we need to better support this through some long term sustainable funding whilst continuing to develop our team to better meet the needs of our communities - by developing skills in outreach and detached youth work amongst other things.

Our SEN specific Inclusion Fusion sessions have continued to be a huge hit this year and the additional term-time session has had fabulous feedback from parents who have not only loved having this dedicated space for their children but who have also reported on the fantastic milestones some of their children have achieved. Moving forward, we need to work to secure these sessions in the longer term as well as finding them a winter home - for many children and young people with SEN-specific needs, the additional change and uncertainty that the weather brings alongside the additional sensory input can be too high for them to manage.

We need to plan and resource for bad weather and enable alternative spaces and activities and shelter. Enabling space outside the main playground will also help us to develop activities alongside our main play sessions and widen our reach.

Underpinning all of this is a need to develop a robust fundraising strategy to sit alongside our forward- thinking budget. Having spent the last 12 months consolidating all of our functions and thinking and establishing a true picture of MAPA, we now need to maximise our fundraising and funding opportunities to enable us to not only continue what we do but to grow it and to reach places we haven't reached before.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
1171350

Registered office
Meriden Adventure Playground Association
Moorend Avenue
Chelmsley Wood
Birmingham
B37 5TE

Bankers
The Co-operative Bank PLC
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

Trustees
Alison Wood
David Wood
Jeanette Burrows
John Freeman
Lisa Edwards (resigned 18 December 2023)
Marcus Brain
Mark Wilson
Mccallmont Clarke

Accountants
SAB Accountancy Services Ltd
102 Hamstead Road
Great Barr
Birmingham
B43 5BN

Independent Examiner
Samantha Jackson
Pearl Accountancy Services Limited
61 Bridge Street
Kington
HR5 3DJ

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the report of the trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom accounting standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 10 September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Alison Wood
Trustee

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages' 12 to 24.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charity are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:
1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3)the accounts do 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.
4) the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for 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).

I have no concerns and have come across no 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.

Samantha Jackson
Pearl Accountancy Services Limited
61 Bridge Street
Kington
HR5 3DJ

18 September 2024

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

	Notes	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	2023-24 Total funds	2022-23 Total funds
		£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	13,849	-	13,849	6,076
Charitable activities	3	30,489	296,676	327,165	306,636
Other trading activities	4	5,092	-	5,092	3,317
Total income		**49,430**	**296,676**	**346,106**	**316,029**
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5	47,119	301,934	349,053	351,063
Raising funds	6	997	195	1,192	2,124
Total expenditure		**48,116**	**302,129**	**350,245**	**353,187**
Net income/-expenditure		1,314	- 5,451	**- 4,139**	- 37,158
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	12	**1,314**	**- 5,451**	**- 4,139**	**- 37,158**
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	12	**198,792**	**95,531**	**294,323**	**331,480**
Total funds carried forward		**200,106**	**90,080**	**290,186**	**294,323**

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Balance Sheet
At 31 March 2024

	Notes	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	2023-24 Total funds	2022-23 Total funds
FIXED ASSETS		£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	15	52,204	-	**52,204**	58,307
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank and in hand		116,816	90,080	**206,896**	211,725
Debtors	8	38,010	-	**38,010**	33,625
		154,826	**90,080**	**244,906**	**245,349**
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	6,924	-	**6,924**	9,333
NET CURRENT ASSETS / - LIABILITIES		**147,902**	**90,080**	**237,982**	**236,017**
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**200,106**	**90,080**	**290,186**	294,323
NET ASSETS		**200,106**	**90,080**	**290,186**	**294,323**
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY	12				
Unrestricted funds		**200,106**	**-**	**200,106**	198,792
Restricted funds		**-**	**90,080**	**90,080**	95,531
		200,106	**90,080**	**290,186**	**294,323**

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities with respect to the accounting records and the preparation of the accounts.

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year, under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) - in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner whose report appears on page 11;

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 10 September 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

Alison Wood
Trustee

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Legal Status

The charity was entered onto the Register of Charities of the Charity Commission of England and Wales on 27 January 2017, with registered charity number 1171350.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the charitable entity have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 ' The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis using the historic cost concept.

Going Concern assumption

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the charity will continue to operate. The charity's business plan shows that the charity will be able to operate in the foreseeable future. Based on this understanding the director trustees believe that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. The financial statements do not include any adjustments, which would result from the basis of preparation being inappropriate.

Charitable Status

Meriden Adventure Playground Association (MAPA) is a registered charity and is exempt from corporation tax and capital gains tax provided its income and gains are applied for charitable purposes.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then the income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Income from grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Income from trading activities includes income earned from the sale of food and drinks. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods, in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement occurs.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs relating to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to a particular heading they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Expenditure is classified under the following heading:

Expenditure on charitable activities comprise the direct costs of activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity, including grants payable and all associated support costs.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which expenditure was incurred.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event where it is probable that there will be an outflow of economic resources to settle the obligation and where creditors can be estimated or measured reliably.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of each asset, less its residual value, over its estimated useful economic life. The depreciation charge recognised each year relates to the class of the asset, the rates and classes are as follows:

Playground Equipment - *5 years straight line*
Container Structure - *15 years straight line*
Computer Equipment - *3 years straight line*

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor the year ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor the year ended 31 March 2023 except for reasonable out of pocket expenses.

2 INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£
Donations	13,849	-	**13,849**	6,076

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£
Events	19,773	-	**19,773**	16,833
Grants	10,716	296,676	**307,392**	289,803
	30,489	**296,676**	**327,165**	306,636

4 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£
Other sales	1,255	-	**1,255**	1,796
Café sales	3,837	-	**3,837**	1,521
	5,092	**-**	**5,092**	3,317

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

5 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£
Accountancy	2,572	1,555	4,127	3,858
Casual Labour	-	4,623	4,623	7,421
Consultancy support	2,978	8,564	11,542	11,475
Depreciation	6,102	-	6,102	6,102
Insurance	19,891	1,526	21,417	20,119
Legal & professional	1,313	2,157	3,470	2,968
Low value tools & equipment	-	409	409	1,254
Office supplies & sundries	773	15,935	16,708	14,788
Play Resources	712	5,965	6,677	17,969
Site Development	1,136	6,463	7,599	5,394
Staff costs	10,190	254,594	264,784	250,270
Training	118	-	118	9,199
Travel	1,334	143	1,477	246
	47,119	**301,934**	**349,053**	351,063

6 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£
Cost of goods sold	997	195	**1,192**	2,124

7 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£
Trade creditors	813	659
Accrued expenditure	1,450	1,430
Deferred income	225	-
Taxes and social Security	4,436	7,244
	6,924	9,333

8 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£
Trade debtors	13,896	13,700
Prepaid expenditure	23,371	19,925
Accrued Income	743	-
	38,010	33,625

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

9 STAFF COSTS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENSES

	Total 2023-24 £	Total 2022-23 £
Wages and salaries	264,784	250,270

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023-24	2022-23
Full time	4	3
Part time	12	15

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000

10 COMMITMENTS

There were no operating lease payments committed beyond the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

10 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no transactions with related parties in this reporting period.

11 CONTROLLING INTEREST

The Charity is controlled by its Trustees.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

12 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at beginning of year £	Income £	Exp-enditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at end of year £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General funds					
General Funds	91,094	49,430	42,319	3,573	101,779
Designated funds					
Fixed assets	57,697	-	5,797	- 3,573	48,327
Site dilapidation	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
Service development	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
	107,697	-	5,797	- 3,573	98,327
Total Unrestricted funds	**198,792**	**49,430**	**48,116**	**-**	**200,106**
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Airport Community Trust	-	5,000	2,189	-	2,811
Bleed Box	-	500	500	-	-
Children In Need - Next Steps	2,158	-	2,158	-	-
Eveson Trust	-	5,000	2,808	-	2,192
Extractor Fan Fund	-	1,605	1,605	-	-
Grantham Yorke	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Grimmitt Trust	-	1,200	1,200	-	-
HAF Programme	18,449	52,285	65,364	-	5,370
Heart of England	-	2,500	2,500	-	-
Henry Smith	22,139	50,000	52,664	-	19,475
ICS Fund	-	8,000	2,171	-	5,829
Inclusion Fusion	-	5,130	3,820	-	1,310
LGBTQ+	-	3,135	3,135	-	-
Masonic Charitable Trust	-	5,000	5,000	-	- 0
National Lottery Reaching Communities	44,890	37,033	70,070	-	11,853
Playday	-	2,003	2,003	-	-
Sheldon Trust	-	8,867	8,867	-	-
SMBC Online System	7,896	-	7,896	-	-
Sport Solihull	-	750	-	-	750
Stellantis	-	493	493	-	-
Trusthouse	-	23,176	23,176	-	-
Tudor Trust	-	80,000	39,509	-	40,491
Total Restricted funds	**95,531**	**296,676**	**302,127**	**-**	**90,080**
TOTAL FUNDS	**294,323**	**346,106**	**350,243**	**-**	**290,186**

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

12 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Our **Unrestricted funds** come from public donations or income we generate via a) sale of refreshments, b) entry fees at seasonal community events we run, c) our community swapshop and d) hiring out the playground and our staff to other organisations, including running targeted sessions for groups who cannot access the site in open busier sessions.

Unrestricted funds cover our bills, our day to day expenses and the ongoing repair and maintenance of the site and buildings.

We have **Designated funds** for service development – which includes strategic planning and development and also for site dilapidation so that there are sufficient funds to cover the costs of electricians, plumbers or roofers as required.

The fixed asset fund within **Designated funds** represents funds utilised for the purpose of capital expenditure, depreciation is charged against the designated fund for each asset purchased. Transfers relate to restricted funding used for the purchase of fixed assets.

Funds from **Airport Community Trust** were utilised to to change our playspace and install a slide on-site.

The **Bleed Box** fund was a restricted donation to install a bleed box on the building linked to the site.

Funding from **Children In Need** was used to pay for staffing to support therapeutic, sensory & environmental play.

A grant provided by **Eveson Trust** was used to develop short four week pilots with young people.

The **Extractor Fan Fund** was provided by Solihull MBC to install a much needed extractor in our kitchen.

Grantham Yorke provided fundings towards our youth sessions.

A grant provided by **Grimmitt Trust** contributed towards the running costs of the charity.

Funding for the **HAF Programme** was holiday activity funding from Solihull MMB & Bring it on Brum towards our Summer, Easter & Christmas provision (23-24 days in total).

Heart of England provided a grant to pay towards resources for playday.

Funding from **Henry Smith** is part of a three year grant towards the running costs of the charity.

ICS Funding was provided to the charity towards community connections development work.

Funding for **Inclusion Fusion** was provided to support our specialist SEN sessions.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

12 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

LGBTQ+ funding was provided to MAPA as part of partnership work to support small LGBTQ youth groups.

Funding from the **Mason Charitable Trust** was provided in order to fund our sessional youth work over a three year period.

National Lottery Reaching Communities funding is part of a five year grant towards salaries and other running costs.

Playday funding is a contribution from YO Solihull (YOBS at the time) for the development and management of Playday 2023.

A grant from the **Sheldon Trust** contributed towards our youth sessions and paid towards the salaries of two of our youth workers.

Funding from Solihull MBC which is referred to in the accounts as **SMBC Online System** was provided to develop our registration system to enable us to report on HAF and access the

Funding from **Sport Solihull** paid for some canoeing sessions for youth to take place before the end of 2024.

Stellantis was a restricted donation for circus skills & play equipment.

Funding from **Trusthouse** is part of a three year grant which contributes towards staff salaries.

The **Tudor Trust** awarded MAPA a grant toward the charity's operating costs for a period of three years.

13 EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The pension costs charged to the Statement of Financial Activities represent the amount of the contributions payable to the schemes in respect of the accounting period.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

14 COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022-23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	6,076	-	6,076
Charitable activities	19,799	286,837	306,636
Other trading activities	3,317	-	3,317
Total income	**29,192**	**286,837**	**316,029**
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities	47,074	303,989	351,063
Raising funds	2,124	-	2,124
Total expenditure	**49,198**	**303,989**	**353,187**
Net movement in funds	**- 20,006**	**- 17,152**	**- 37,158**
Transfer between funds	4,866	- 4,866	-
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	**213,931**	**117,549**	**331,480**
Total funds carried forward	**198,792**	**95,531**	**294,323**

15 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Container Structure £	Office Equipment £	Playground Equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1st April 2023	66,087	3,137	3,253	72,477
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	66,087	3,137	3,253	72,477
Depreciation				
At 1st April 2023	11,865	1,046	1,259	14,170
Charge for the year	4,406	1,046	651	6,103
At 31 March 2024	16,271	2,092	1,910	20,273
Net Book Value				
At 31 March 2024	**49,816**	**1,045**	**1,343**	**52,204**
At 31 March 2023	54,222	2,091	1,994	58,307

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

17 COMPARATIVE MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Balance at beginning of year £	Income £	Exp-enditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at end of year £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General funds					
General Funds	105,303	29,192	43,401	-	91,094
Designated funds					
Fixed assets	58,628	-	5,797	4,866	57,697
Site dilapidation	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
Service development	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
	108,628	-	5,797	4,866	107,697
Total Unrestricted funds	**213,931**	**29,192**	**49,198**	**4,866**	**198,792**
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Trusthouse	7,413	23,176	30,589	-	-
Active Wellbeing	1,000	-	1,000	-	-
National Lottery	-	71,749	26,859	-	44,890
Henry Smith	26,258	50,000	54,120	-	22,139
Tudor Trust	20,034	-	20,034	-	-
Sport England	9,185	-	8,279	- 906	-
Grantham Yorke	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Children In Need - Next Steps	23,548	53,333	74,724	-	2,158
HS2	464	5,774	4,101	- 2,137	-
VRU	3,695	-	3,695	-	-
HAF Programme	19,070	54,042	52,840	- 1,823	18,449
Masonic CT	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Harry Payne Fund	-	2,000	2,000	-	-
SMBC Online System	-	7,896	-	-	7,896
Ironmongers	5,000	-	5,000	-	-
Sheldon Trust	1,882	8,867	10,749	-	-
Total Restricted funds	**117,549**	**286,837**	**303,989**	**- 4,866**	**95,531**
TOTAL FUNDS	**331,480**	**316,029**	**353,187**	**-**	**294,323**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1171350

Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 for Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Meriden Adventure Playground
Moorend Avenue
Chelmsley Wood
Birmingham
B37 5TE

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Message from Our Chair

It has been another busy and fruitful year of growing numbers, professional consolidation, and

We are definitely still feeling the emotional impact of COVID-19 in terms of children and young people's ongoing anxiety and delayed development, due to reduced opportunities for self-directed play, particularly outdoors.Parents, too, have needed a safe place to chat and find support, knowing their children are safe playing.

We often see them visibly relax as they come on site, knowing this is also some personal time for them.

We know from both our observations and from feedback we have received throughout the year, that our sessions and services have had a significant positive impact on our community, providing essential support and enriching the lives of children, young people, and families. We are really glad but also humbled by this -supporting and serving our community has always been MAPA's mission and we are always striving to do that as well as we can.

Funding our work is becoming an ever-increasing challenge and whilst this report is a healthy and positive one, it is only due to some significant savings and work on the part of our amazing team and we are already working hard to secure what we need for the next few years.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported us and helped out this year – and if any of you reading this want to know more about volunteering with us, please do get in touch!

Ali Wood
Chair of Trustees

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The trustees who present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

To provide, maintain and develop facilities at Meriden Adventure Playground for children, young people and families resident in Chelmsley Wood and its' surrounding areas, through the provision of safe and stimulating play opportunities so as to develop their physical, social and mental skills.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

What we do at MAPA

Meriden Adventure Playground is an immersive and engaging outdoor adventure playground serving the communities of Chelmsley Wood and surrounding areas as well as offering specialist provision across Birmingham and beyond.

Strongly rooted in our local community, what MAPA offers is much broader than 'Adventure Play'. We offer open access youth sessions, enabling positive engagement with young people from across the area. Our youth group is well attended with over 200 members.

In addition to our youth work, we offer 4 fully staffed open play sessions a week - these are after school Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and on Saturdays 1-5.30pm. Open play will often be attended by parents and family members and is a fantastic opportunity for community based work. Many parents come to MAPA as a first port of call due to the positive relationships we have. At MAPA, staff can support with referring to a wide range of agencies including Multi-Agency Safeguarding, Social Care, Foodbanks, debt advice and we also we have our own 'Swap Shop' Community resource for helping families out with clothing, toys and equipment.

We hold three Forest School sessions a week for pre-school and home educated children and have an 'Adventure Tots' play session and 'Home Educators' session which regularly has 50 people attending.

During the school holidays, we are open Tuesday - Saturdays 1-5.30pm and feed all children on-site regardless of HAF coding because we know that many families are struggling regardless of their eligibility. This Easter alone there were 822 visits by children and young people to MAPA and 397 parent/guardian visits.

We deliver specialist high ratio 'Inclusion Fusion' sessions for those with complex needs and this year we started a session outside the school holidays with thanks to funding form Short Breaks.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

MAPA believe that quality play experiences for children and young people at this site can:

- Help them to express themselves and to just be in unique and varied ways,
- Support Children and Young People to feel sufficiently secure to explore and extend their physical, social and emotional capabilities,
- Create Opportunities for Children and young people to navigate changes and differences in themselves and others,
- Build children and young people's confidence to make their own decisions and to question the truth of things as it may first be presented,
- Help children and young people explore and feel part of the playground and local community,
- Help children, young people and communities to grow together,
- Create lasting individual and community resilience.

Overview of the year

In response to the growing number of parents staying on site, we've expanded our family events and support services. The Adventure Tots program continues to thrive, fostering independence and outdoor exploration for young children. We've also provided essential second-hand clothes, emergency food parcels, and other necessities to families in need. Our 'Being a Parent' courses and weekly coffee mornings, complete with homemade soup and heartfelt discussions, have been a hit.

Additionally, expanding our Forest School programme to include some new family sessions at weekends and for unaccompanied 11-13 year olds immense popularity, offering enriching experiences for both children and parents.

HAF funding has enabled us to hire the additional staff and secure the resources we need to be able to open five days a week in the four main school holidays. Despite facing challenging weather conditions, we joyfully welcomed 6,792 visitors through our gates last summer. Holiday sessions are incredibly fun, brimming with new memories, friendships, and skill-building activities aswell as enabling parents the chance to connect, take 5 and be signposted and supported into other organisations.

Community engagement is always at the heart of our efforts. We celebrated National Playday once again with a variety of play opportunities, attracting over 1,100 attendees. Despite heavy rain, our Fright Night event saw impressive attendance.

We also participated in local networking events, fostering collaboration with other organisations dedicated to children and families. Our work with YO (Young Opportunities) Solihull enables us to support other local voluntary organisations working with children and young people in Solihull.

Although our partnership with CAMHS psychologists concluded, we have remained committed to our essential self-directed therapeutic play sessions and have secured some funding to support this. These sessions are crucial in helping children express their emotions and develop self-management skills. Our dedicated therapeutic playworker, and wider team continue to make a significant impact by supporting children with additional emotional, sensory or learning needs.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

Youth nights have been bustling with activity, thanks to funding that allowed us to organise trips and adventurous activities including some day trips and a residential. Regular sessions have provided invaluable support to young people dealing with exams, school, college, job searches, and relationship issues. We've offered a diverse range of activities, from crafts and cookery to drama and important discussions on topics like drugs and exploitation.

Our Forest School programmes have continued to flourish, benefiting children not attending school, pre-schoolers, older children, and families. These sessions, which include foraging, shelter-building, camp cooking, and woodworking crafts, help children to thrive through outdoor exploration whatever their interests.

Site development remains a priority as we work to enhance our facilities and create an even better environment for our activities and this year has seen the biggest changes for a while with the installation of a slide thanks to support from the Airport Community Trust.

We've welcomed new casual staff and volunteers, who are essential to our operations, particularly for community events and maintenance work. Our volunteers have been invaluable, ensuring the smooth running of events,

Key Achievements

Our main programme is busier than ever and people are returning/accessing the playground more than ever. We have begun to change focus a little as we recognise the value in the 'work around the play' which we have always done but which, as an organisation, we haven't really recognised or explored.

Over the course of the last year, we have trialled a variety of new sessions:

- Coffee Mornings for parents/carers
- Women's walks to connect and be active during the day
- Family Forest School on Saturdays enabling those who aren't available in the week to attend.
- 'Parents not Allowed' Forest School sessions targeted at 11-13's

ALL of our trials have been successful in meeting different needs and will continue to rotate into the programme wherever we can and where funding allows.

We are reaching out to connect people with other organisations and many of our parent events have invited/partnered with a whole host of other agencies/support such as Menopause Knowledge, SEN Parent support agencies and Solihull College.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

Our Team

This year we have had a total of 25members of staff and 14 volunteers(including 3 young volunteers) support the work that we do and we are very proud of our team.

Not only did we win an award from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner as the West Midlands 'Outstanding Community Project' of the Year but we are equally very proud that our Therapeutic Playworker Clair received the Professional Development Award at the14th Annual Playwork Awards.

Our team and trustee's are so passionate about the playground that a number of them even climbed Snowdon to raise funds for the playground. On a scorching hot day, they raised a huge total of £1,933.

At MAPA we are proud to have a team that includes:

- 3 JNC qualified youth and community workers (including 2 at MA Level)
- 2 Youth workers at L2/3
- 7 Qualified playworkers at L2-5
- 2 Early Years & Childcare staff
- 1 qualified social worker
- 12 x First Aiders
- 10 people with Food Hygiene at Levels 1&2
- 1 SEN Specialist (MA in Education -
- Inclusion & Special Educational Needs and Disability)
- 3 qualified Forest School leaders at L2/3
- 5 Walk leaders with Active Solihull

Additionally, 2 of our team are Family Support Workers with SMBC, and we have staff qualified in Mentoring through Intentional Relationships (L3) Coaching (PGDip) as well as someone who is an Accredited Practitioner with the Institute for Outdoor Learning.

Our Supporters

Here at MAPA we have to raise every penny to fund our staff, pay our bills and buy whatever resources and equipment we need to run all our different sessions and we plan our use of resources carefully to ensure the greatest impact.

It is our ethos and policy not to charge for public open sessions because we believe that play is children's birthright, but we are hugely grateful for everyone who does help us via donations or gifts in kind – if everyone who came put just a pound or two in our 'spinner' at each visit, it would make an even bigger difference!

We are very lucky at MAPA to be supported by a very wide range of businesses, organisations and individuals. Some of them fundraise for us, others donate resources, raffle prizes or gifts for Easter/Christmas and some support our teams at events or by bringing a team for a work day on-site and helping with our repairs and maintenance.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

We would like to extend our huge thanks to:
Taj - The Simla Restaurant & Cocktail Bar Linda and John Williams, Stellantis, The Co op, Bear Grylls, Hollywood Bowl , Cineworld, Gourmet Burger, JLR , Brian Miles, NEC, Seeds of Hope, Bishop Wilson School , Relax and Unwind with Penny, Morrisons, MADL (Making a Difference Locally - NISA), Barston Association Jane - Barston Association, Birmingham Business Park, Co -Op University Locks, Caleb (Youth night attendee), Lola (Young Volunteer), Penny Clarke & Family, Caroline Middleton, Tony Woods, Solar (CAMHS) T Gascoigne and C Clayton (young fundraisers).

We absolutely couldn't do it without them.

Financial Overview

As shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 12, the Charity's total amounted to £346,106 for the year (2022-23: £316,029). The Charity's total expenditure amounted to £350,245 (2022-23: £353,187), resulting in a deficit of £4,139 (2022-23: £37,158 deficit).

At 31 March 2024 total funds were £290,186 (2022-23: £294,323) including £200,106 of unrestricted funds (2022-23: £198,972) and £90,080 of restricted funds (2022-23: £95,531).

Reserves Policy

A charity's free reserves are its general unrestricted funds (excluding any element represented by fixed assets) less any funds which have been designated for specific future projects by the Trustees. Details of designated funds are given in note 13 of these financial statements.

The charity's reserves policy is to hold a minimum level of free reserves equivalent to between three and six months expenditure, in order to ensure that any delay in the receipt of income by the charity, caused by the actions of third parties, does not affect the ability of the charity to meet its obligations to its beneficiaries.

As indicated on page 19, note 12, the level of unrestricted reserves as at 31 March 2024 was £200,106 (2022-23: £198,792) which represents approximately 7 months total expenditure. The Trustees regularly review the appropriateness of the reserves policy with regard to the current environment in which the Charity operates and believe the level of reserves to be appropriate.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

Looking Ahead

Play at MAPA should always involve changing, immersive and engaging activity and environments driven by the ages, interests and needs of the children, young people and communities we serve. To achieve this we need to enable our team the time and space to explore and develop our play spaces and this needs to be built into our programming and well resourced; something we are beginning to achieve. Play at MAPA should always involve changing, immersive and engaging activity and environments driven by the ages, interests and needs of the children, young people and communities we serve. To achieve this we need to enable our team the time and space to explore and develop our play spaces and this needs to be built into our programming and well resourced; something we are beginning to achieve.

In terms of delivery, we have a number of areas for development over the coming year. Firstly we would like to get out more! We would like to develop an outreach service to support play outside the playground and to be able to offer therapeutic play and Forest Schools in other area's. Engaging in and supporting well thought out and well resourced partnerships will also be key to reaching as many people as possible and sharing what we know.

Our youth team is hugely qualified and experienced and our sessions well attended; we need to better support this through some long term sustainable funding whilst continuing to develop our team to better meet the needs of our communities - by developing skills in outreach and detached youth work amongst other things.

Our SEN specific Inclusion Fusion sessions have continued to be a huge hit this year and the additional term-time session has had fabulous feedback from parents who have not only loved having this dedicated space for their children but who have also reported on the fantastic milestones some of their children have achieved. Moving forward, we need to work to secure these sessions in the longer term as well as finding them a winter home - for many children and young people with SEN-specific needs, the additional change and uncertainty that the weather brings alongside the additional sensory input can be too high for them to manage.

We need to plan and resource for bad weather and enable alternative spaces and activities and shelter. Enabling space outside the main playground will also help us to develop activities alongside our main play sessions and widen our reach.

Underpinning all of this is a need to develop a robust fundraising strategy to sit alongside our forward- thinking budget. Having spent the last 12 months consolidating all of our functions and thinking and establishing a true picture of MAPA, we now need to maximise our fundraising and funding opportunities to enable us to not only continue what we do but to grow it and to reach places we haven't reached before.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
1171350

Registered office
Meriden Adventure Playground Association
Moorend Avenue
Chelmsley Wood
Birmingham
B37 5TE

Bankers
The Co-operative Bank PLC
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

Trustees
Alison Wood
David Wood
Jeanette Burrows
John Freeman
Lisa Edwards (resigned 18 December 2023)
Marcus Brain
Mark Wilson
Mccallmont Clarke

Accountants
SAB Accountancy Services Ltd
102 Hamstead Road
Great Barr
Birmingham
B43 5BN

Independent Examiner
Samantha Jackson
Pearl Accountancy Services Limited
61 Bridge Street
Kington
HR5 3DJ

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the report of the trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom accounting standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 10 September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Alison Wood
Trustee

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages' 12 to 24.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charity are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:
1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3)the accounts do 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.
4) the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for 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).

I have no concerns and have come across no 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.

Samantha Jackson
Pearl Accountancy Services Limited
61 Bridge Street
Kington
HR5 3DJ

18 September 2024

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

	Notes	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	2023-24 Total funds	2022-23 Total funds
		£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	13,849	-	13,849	6,076
Charitable activities	3	30,489	296,676	327,165	306,636
Other trading activities	4	5,092	-	5,092	3,317
Total income		**49,430**	**296,676**	**346,106**	**316,029**
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5	47,119	301,934	349,053	351,063
Raising funds	6	997	195	1,192	2,124
Total expenditure		**48,116**	**302,129**	**350,245**	**353,187**
Net income/-expenditure		1,314	- 5,451	**- 4,139**	- 37,158
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	12	**1,314**	**- 5,451**	**- 4,139**	**- 37,158**
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	12	**198,792**	**95,531**	**294,323**	**331,480**
Total funds carried forward		**200,106**	**90,080**	**290,186**	**294,323**

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Balance Sheet
At 31 March 2024

	Notes	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	2023-24 Total funds	2022-23 Total funds
FIXED ASSETS		£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	15	52,204	-	**52,204**	58,307
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank and in hand		116,816	90,080	**206,896**	211,725
Debtors	8	38,010	-	**38,010**	33,625
		154,826	**90,080**	**244,906**	**245,349**
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	6,924	-	**6,924**	9,333
NET CURRENT ASSETS / - LIABILITIES		**147,902**	**90,080**	**237,982**	**236,017**
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**200,106**	**90,080**	**290,186**	294,323
NET ASSETS		**200,106**	**90,080**	**290,186**	**294,323**
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY	12				
Unrestricted funds		**200,106**	**-**	**200,106**	198,792
Restricted funds		**-**	**90,080**	**90,080**	95,531
		200,106	**90,080**	**290,186**	**294,323**

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities with respect to the accounting records and the preparation of the accounts.

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year, under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) - in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner whose report appears on page 11;

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 10 September 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

Alison Wood
Trustee

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Legal Status

The charity was entered onto the Register of Charities of the Charity Commission of England and Wales on 27 January 2017, with registered charity number 1171350.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the charitable entity have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 ' The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis using the historic cost concept.

Going Concern assumption

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the charity will continue to operate. The charity's business plan shows that the charity will be able to operate in the foreseeable future. Based on this understanding the director trustees believe that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. The financial statements do not include any adjustments, which would result from the basis of preparation being inappropriate.

Charitable Status

Meriden Adventure Playground Association (MAPA) is a registered charity and is exempt from corporation tax and capital gains tax provided its income and gains are applied for charitable purposes.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then the income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Income from grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Income from trading activities includes income earned from the sale of food and drinks. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods, in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement occurs.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs relating to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to a particular heading they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Expenditure is classified under the following heading:

Expenditure on charitable activities comprise the direct costs of activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity, including grants payable and all associated support costs.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which expenditure was incurred.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event where it is probable that there will be an outflow of economic resources to settle the obligation and where creditors can be estimated or measured reliably.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of each asset, less its residual value, over its estimated useful economic life. The depreciation charge recognised each year relates to the class of the asset, the rates and classes are as follows:

Playground Equipment - *5 years straight line*
Container Structure - *15 years straight line*
Computer Equipment - *3 years straight line*

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor the year ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor the year ended 31 March 2023 except for reasonable out of pocket expenses.

2 INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£
Donations	13,849	-	**13,849**	6,076

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£
Events	19,773	-	**19,773**	16,833
Grants	10,716	296,676	**307,392**	289,803
	30,489	**296,676**	**327,165**	306,636

4 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£
Other sales	1,255	-	**1,255**	1,796
Café sales	3,837	-	**3,837**	1,521
	5,092	**-**	**5,092**	3,317

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

5 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£
Accountancy	2,572	1,555	4,127	3,858
Casual Labour	-	4,623	4,623	7,421
Consultancy support	2,978	8,564	11,542	11,475
Depreciation	6,102	-	6,102	6,102
Insurance	19,891	1,526	21,417	20,119
Legal & professional	1,313	2,157	3,470	2,968
Low value tools & equipment	-	409	409	1,254
Office supplies & sundries	773	15,935	16,708	14,788
Play Resources	712	5,965	6,677	17,969
Site Development	1,136	6,463	7,599	5,394
Staff costs	10,190	254,594	264,784	250,270
Training	118	-	118	9,199
Travel	1,334	143	1,477	246
	47,119	**301,934**	**349,053**	351,063

6 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£
Cost of goods sold	997	195	**1,192**	2,124

7 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£
Trade creditors	813	659
Accrued expenditure	1,450	1,430
Deferred income	225	-
Taxes and social Security	4,436	7,244
	6,924	9,333

8 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£
Trade debtors	13,896	13,700
Prepaid expenditure	23,371	19,925
Accrued Income	743	-
	38,010	33,625

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

9 STAFF COSTS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENSES

	Total 2023-24 £	Total 2022-23 £
Wages and salaries	264,784	250,270

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023-24	2022-23
Full time	4	3
Part time	12	15

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000

10 COMMITMENTS

There were no operating lease payments committed beyond the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

10 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no transactions with related parties in this reporting period.

11 CONTROLLING INTEREST

The Charity is controlled by its Trustees.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

12 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at beginning of year £	Income £	Exp-enditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at end of year £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General funds					
General Funds	91,094	49,430	42,319	3,573	101,779
Designated funds					
Fixed assets	57,697	-	5,797	- 3,573	48,327
Site dilapidation	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
Service development	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
	107,697	-	5,797	- 3,573	98,327
Total Unrestricted funds	**198,792**	**49,430**	**48,116**	**-**	**200,106**
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Airport Community Trust	-	5,000	2,189	-	2,811
Bleed Box	-	500	500	-	-
Children In Need - Next Steps	2,158	-	2,158	-	-
Eveson Trust	-	5,000	2,808	-	2,192
Extractor Fan Fund	-	1,605	1,605	-	-
Grantham Yorke	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Grimmitt Trust	-	1,200	1,200	-	-
HAF Programme	18,449	52,285	65,364	-	5,370
Heart of England	-	2,500	2,500	-	-
Henry Smith	22,139	50,000	52,664	-	19,475
ICS Fund	-	8,000	2,171	-	5,829
Inclusion Fusion	-	5,130	3,820	-	1,310
LGBTQ+	-	3,135	3,135	-	-
Masonic Charitable Trust	-	5,000	5,000	-	- 0
National Lottery Reaching Communities	44,890	37,033	70,070	-	11,853
Playday	-	2,003	2,003	-	-
Sheldon Trust	-	8,867	8,867	-	-
SMBC Online System	7,896	-	7,896	-	-
Sport Solihull	-	750	-	-	750
Stellantis	-	493	493	-	-
Trusthouse	-	23,176	23,176	-	-
Tudor Trust	-	80,000	39,509	-	40,491
Total Restricted funds	**95,531**	**296,676**	**302,127**	**-**	**90,080**
TOTAL FUNDS	**294,323**	**346,106**	**350,243**	**-**	**290,186**

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

12 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Our **Unrestricted funds** come from public donations or income we generate via a) sale of refreshments, b) entry fees at seasonal community events we run, c) our community swapshop and d) hiring out the playground and our staff to other organisations, including running targeted sessions for groups who cannot access the site in open busier sessions.

Unrestricted funds cover our bills, our day to day expenses and the ongoing repair and maintenance of the site and buildings.

We have **Designated funds** for service development – which includes strategic planning and development and also for site dilapidation so that there are sufficient funds to cover the costs of electricians, plumbers or roofers as required.

The fixed asset fund within **Designated funds** represents funds utilised for the purpose of capital expenditure, depreciation is charged against the designated fund for each asset purchased. Transfers relate to restricted funding used for the purchase of fixed assets.

Funds from **Airport Community Trust** were utilised to to change our playspace and install a slide on-site.

The **Bleed Box** fund was a restricted donation to install a bleed box on the building linked to the site.

Funding from **Children In Need** was used to pay for staffing to support therapeutic, sensory & environmental play.

A grant provided by **Eveson Trust** was used to develop short four week pilots with young people.

The **Extractor Fan Fund** was provided by Solihull MBC to install a much needed extractor in our kitchen.

Grantham Yorke provided fundings towards our youth sessions.

A grant provided by **Grimmitt Trust** contributed towards the running costs of the charity.

Funding for the **HAF Programme** was holiday activity funding from Solihull MMB & Bring it on Brum towards our Summer, Easter & Christmas provision (23-24 days in total).

Heart of England provided a grant to pay towards resources for playday.

Funding from **Henry Smith** is part of a three year grant towards the running costs of the charity.

ICS Funding was provided to the charity towards community connections development work.

Funding for **Inclusion Fusion** was provided to support our specialist SEN sessions.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

12 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

LGBTQ+ funding was provided to MAPA as part of partnership work to support small LGBTQ youth groups.

Funding from the **Mason Charitable Trust** was provided in order to fund our sessional youth work over a three year period.

National Lottery Reaching Communities funding is part of a five year grant towards salaries and other running costs.

Playday funding is a contribution from YO Solihull (YOBS at the time) for the development and management of Playday 2023.

A grant from the **Sheldon Trust** contributed towards our youth sessions and paid towards the salaries of two of our youth workers.

Funding from Solihull MBC which is referred to in the accounts as **SMBC Online System** was provided to develop our registration system to enable us to report on HAF and access the

Funding from **Sport Solihull** paid for some canoeing sessions for youth to take place before the end of 2024.

Stellantis was a restricted donation for circus skills & play equipment.

Funding from **Trusthouse** is part of a three year grant which contributes towards staff salaries.

The **Tudor Trust** awarded MAPA a grant toward the charity's operating costs for a period of three years.

13 EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The pension costs charged to the Statement of Financial Activities represent the amount of the contributions payable to the schemes in respect of the accounting period.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

14 COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022-23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	6,076	-	6,076
Charitable activities	19,799	286,837	306,636
Other trading activities	3,317	-	3,317
Total income	**29,192**	**286,837**	**316,029**
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities	47,074	303,989	351,063
Raising funds	2,124	-	2,124
Total expenditure	**49,198**	**303,989**	**353,187**
Net movement in funds	**- 20,006**	**- 17,152**	**- 37,158**
Transfer between funds	4,866	- 4,866	-
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	**213,931**	**117,549**	**331,480**
Total funds carried forward	**198,792**	**95,531**	**294,323**

15 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Container Structure £	Office Equipment £	Playground Equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1st April 2023	66,087	3,137	3,253	72,477
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	66,087	3,137	3,253	72,477
Depreciation				
At 1st April 2023	11,865	1,046	1,259	14,170
Charge for the year	4,406	1,046	651	6,103
At 31 March 2024	16,271	2,092	1,910	20,273
Net Book Value				
At 31 March 2024	**49,816**	**1,045**	**1,343**	**52,204**
At 31 March 2023	54,222	2,091	1,994	58,307

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

17 COMPARATIVE MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Balance at beginning of year £	Income £	Exp-enditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at end of year £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General funds					
General Funds	105,303	29,192	43,401	-	91,094
Designated funds					
Fixed assets	58,628	-	5,797	4,866	57,697
Site dilapidation	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
Service development	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
	108,628	-	5,797	4,866	107,697
Total Unrestricted funds	**213,931**	**29,192**	**49,198**	**4,866**	**198,792**
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Trusthouse	7,413	23,176	30,589	-	-
Active Wellbeing	1,000	-	1,000	-	-
National Lottery	-	71,749	26,859	-	44,890
Henry Smith	26,258	50,000	54,120	-	22,139
Tudor Trust	20,034	-	20,034	-	-
Sport England	9,185	-	8,279	- 906	-
Grantham Yorke	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Children In Need - Next Steps	23,548	53,333	74,724	-	2,158
HS2	464	5,774	4,101	- 2,137	-
VRU	3,695	-	3,695	-	-
HAF Programme	19,070	54,042	52,840	- 1,823	18,449
Masonic CT	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Harry Payne Fund	-	2,000	2,000	-	-
SMBC Online System	-	7,896	-	-	7,896
Ironmongers	5,000	-	5,000	-	-
Sheldon Trust	1,882	8,867	10,749	-	-
Total Restricted funds	**117,549**	**286,837**	**303,989**	**- 4,866**	**95,531**
TOTAL FUNDS	**331,480**	**316,029**	**353,187**	**-**	**294,323**

SPARC TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1171350

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1171350

Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023 for Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Meriden Adventure Playground
Moorend Avenue
Chelmsley Wood
Birmingham
B37 5TE

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

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Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

To provide, maintain and develop facilities at Meriden Adventure Playground for children, young people and families resident in Chelmsley Wood and its' surrounding areas, through the provision of safe and stimulating play opportunities so as to develop their physical, social and mental skills.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Holiday Playschemes

HAF funding has proved essential in most school holidays as these are our busiest times and we need extra playwork staff as well as food and play resources. This year we had funding for the summer, Christmas, February half-term and Easter. (At Whitsun, we used our own reserves to pay extra staff and feed children). We cater for up to 200 children a day – sometimes more – thanks to the hard work of our cook and assistant cooks in our tiny hot kitchen. The extreme heat in the summer did mean we had to close a couple of times sadly, but we are working on ways to more easily create larger areas of shade.

Family work

For a range of reasons more parents stay on site now than they ever used to before Covid, but this gives more opportunity for parents to chat and have a cuppa (one mum was overheard recently saying coming to the playground was also her 'me-time'!) both with each other and often for 1-1 conversations with staff when life is tough and either support or signposting is needed. We have continued to support families with second-hand clothes, bedding and other items as and when required, as well as emergency food parcels. Having both been trained by Barnados, Ellen and Jo ran the first 'Being a Parent' course on site, which was a resounding success and has evolved into wider spontaneous drop-in support. A second course is arranged and we hope that these will run regularly and continue to build up parents' confidence and networks. Adventure Tots goes from strength to strength and it is a joy to see the little ones growing competencies and capabilities when they have the site to themselves, as well as parents having the time to make new friends, chat and network.

Therapeutic play

Our weekly sessions alongside CAMHS psychologists continues and we have also invited parents to 'stay and play' sessions each quarter, to join in, chat and eat with us. So many have commented on what a difference it has made to their children to come here and how much better they sleep and cope with their anxiety and other strong feelings.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

This is also replicated over and over at open sessions, where sensory materials are now regularly available for children with a whole range of needs to use in whatever way they like. It does involve getting very messy at times(!) but children seriously and instinctively know what they need and where else could they do this?

Youth

Youth nights continue to be busy and this year the staff team have also taken time to plan in a whole range of activities young people want, which include craft, cookery, go-kart making and focussed discussions on drugs, exploitation and sexuality, as well as all the regular opportunities to make their own fun and games like build-up and tug o'war. The circus kit including the trapeze bar and silks were introduced and come out regularly with a healthy mix of hilarity and skill-gaining for some! There have been a number of safeguarding referrals and 1-1 support given for particular young people. We managed to obtain funding to run trips off site to Beaumanor Centre to do climbing, team challenges, canoeing and high ropes course/zip line – this was done jointly with the Police and Youth Offending team and was a fabulous project – we hope to do more of these in the future.

Outdoor Learning

Forest School programmes are now a regular feature in term-time and Andy and Paula have been running these both for children not attending school (for a range of reasons) and for preschoolers, as well as one-off sessions for school groups. We are now using the neighbouring woods for this which gives much more scope and includes foraging, shelter-building, camp cooking and woodcraft. Children who find school really difficult seem to really thrive when more naturally learning outdoors.

Community Events

This year we celebrated National Playday in style with a circus-themed playday which was attended by hundreds of families and it was great to see adults also joining in (hats off to the grandmother in her seventies who was a star on the silk trapeze!). Thanks to Circus Mash for all their support over the year in making circus activities part of our regular offer. Fright Night at Hallowe'en was really busy and even more daft and scary than usual. We also had a 'community catch-up' evening in January showcasing activities and statistics of everyday life at MAPA which included a quiz and a discussion with a panel of trustees – it was a great opportunity to get together and talk and find out what local families need, want and think about the playground. We have also gone to other local networking/showcasing events to meet others working with children, young people and families locally and to see how we can all co-operate rather than compete and share ideas and resources.

Staffing

We have been super-fortunate to gain Patrycja as a Finance Officer – her attention to detail is wonderful and she has sorted out many issues for us with great enthusiasm and commitment. We have also been incredibly lucky to gain Zoe as our General Manager. This is a brand new much needed post finally taking on work that has to date been done voluntarily by trustees as well as so much more in terms of management and strategic oversight. She comes with years of relevant experience and has hit the ground running and is already making an enormous difference with new insights and initiatives – we look forward to the coming year!

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Overview

As shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 8, the Charity's total amounted to £316,029 for the year (2021-22: £394,612). The Charity's total expenditure amounted to £353,187 (2021-22: £280,382), resulting in a deficit of £37,158 (2021-22: £114,230 surplus).

At 31 March 2023 total funds were £294,322 (2021-22: £331,480) including £198,792 of unrestricted funds (2021-22: £213,931) and £95,531 of restricted funds (2021-22: £117,549).

Reserves Policy

A charity's free reserves are its general unrestricted funds (excluding any element represented by fixed assets) less any funds which have been designated for specific future projects by the Trustees. Details of designated funds are given in note 13 of these financial statements.

The charity's reserves policy is to hold a minimum level of free reserves equivalent to between three and six months expenditure, in order to ensure that any delay in the receipt of income by the charity, caused by the actions of third parties, does not affect the ability of the charity to meet its obligations to its beneficiaries.

As indicated on page 15, note 13, the level of unallocated reserves as at 31 March 2023 was £91,094 (2021-22: £105,303) which represents approximately 3 months total expenditure. The Trustees regularly review the appropriateness of the reserves policy with regard to the current environment in which the Charity operates and believe the level of reserves to be appropriate.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
1171350

Registered office
Meriden Adventure Playground
Moorend Avenue
Chelmsley Wood
Birmingham
B37 5TE

Bankers
The Co-operative Bank PLC
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

Trustees

Alison Wood	
David Wood	
Jeanette Burrows	(appointed 10 November 2022)
John Freeman	
Lisa Edwards	(appointed 20 February 2023)
Marcus Brain	(appointed 10 November 2022)
Mark Wilson	
Mccallmont Clarke	

Accountants
SAB Accountancy Services Ltd
102 Hamstead Road
Great Barr
Birmingham
B43 5BN

Independent Examiner
Samantha Jackson
Pearl Accountancy Services Limited
61 Bridge Street
Kington
HR5 3DJ

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the report of the trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom accounting standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 18 September 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Alison Wood
Trustee

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages' 8 to 20.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charity are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:
1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3) the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4) the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for 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).

I have no concerns and have come across no 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.

Samantha Jackson
Pearl Accountancy Services Limited
61 Bridge Street
Kington
HR5 3DJ

19 September 2023

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

	Notes	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	2022-23 Total funds	2021-22 Total funds
		£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	6,076	-	6,076	41,540
Charitable activities	3	19,799	286,837	306,636	348,822
Other trading activities	4	3,317	-	3,317	4,249
Total income		**29,192**	**286,837**	**316,029**	**394,612**
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5	47,074	303,989	351,063	279,617
Raising funds	6	2,124	-	2,124	765
Total expenditure		**49,198**	**303,989**	**353,187**	**280,382**
Net income/-expenditure		- 20,006	- 17,152	**- 37,158**	114,230
Transfers between funds		4,866	- 4,866	-	-
Net movement in funds	13	**- 15,139**	**- 22,018**	**- 37,158**	**114,230**
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	13	**213,931**	**117,549**	**331,480**	**217,250**
Total funds carried forward		**198,792**	**95,531**	**294,323**	**331,480**

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Balance Sheet
At 31 March 2023

	Notes	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	2022-23 Total funds	2021-22 Total funds
FIXED ASSETS		£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	16	58,307	-	**58,307**	59,542
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank and in hand		116,194	95,531	**211,725**	256,300
Debtors	8	33,625	-	**33,625**	26,237
		149,818	**95,531**	**245,349**	**282,536**
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	9,333	-	**9,333**	10,599
NET CURRENT ASSETS / - LIABILITIES		**140,486**	**95,531**	**236,017**	**271,937**
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**198,792**	**95,531**	**294,323**	331,480
NET ASSETS		**198,792**	**95,531**	**294,323**	**331,480**
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY	13				
Unrestricted funds		**198,792**	**-**	**198,792**	213,931
Restricted funds		**-**	**95,531**	**95,531**	117,549
		198,792	**95,531**	**294,323**	**331,480**

For the year ended 31 March 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors / Trustees responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 - however, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner who's report appears on page 7;
- The director trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the Trustees on 18 September 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Alison Wood
Trustee

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Company Status

The charity was entered onto the Register of Charities of the Charity Commission of England and Wales on 27 January 2017, with registered charity number 1171350.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 ' The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis using the historic cost concept.

Going Concern assumption

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the charity will continue to operate. The charity's business plan shows that the charity will be able to operate in the foreseeable future. Based on this understanding the director trustees believe that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. The financial statements do not include any adjustments, which would result from the basis of preparation being inappropriate.

Charitable Status

Meriden Adventure Playground Association (MAPA) is a registered charity and is exempt from corporation tax and capital gains tax provided its income and gains are applied for charitable purposes.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then the income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Income from grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Income from trading activities includes income earned from the sale of food and drinks. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods, in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement occurs.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs relating to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to a particular heading they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Expenditure is classified under the following heading:

Expenditure on charitable activities comprise the direct costs of activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity, including grants payable and all associated support costs.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which expenditure was incurred.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event where it is probable that there will be an outflow of economic resources to settle the obligation and where creditors can be estimated or measured reliably.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of each asset, less its residual value, over its estimated useful economic life. The depreciation charge recognised each year relates to the class of the asset, the rates and classes are as follows:

Playground Equipment - *5 years straight line*
Container Structure - *15 years straight line*
Computer Equipment - *3 years straight line*

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor the year ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor the year ended 31 March 2022 except for reasonable out of pocket expenses.

2 INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
	£	£	£	£
Donations	6,076	-	**6,076**	41,540

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
	£	£	£	£
Events	16,833	-	16,833	2,533
Grants	2,966	286,837	289,803	333,508
Schools	-	-	-	12,782
	19,799	**286,837**	**306,636**	348,822

4 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
	£	£	£	£
Other sales	1,796	-	1,796	530
Café sales	1,522	-	1,522	3,719
	3,317	**-**	**3,317**	4,249

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

5 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
	£	£	£	£
Accountancy	3,429	430	3,858	3,939
Depreciation	6,102	-	6,102	4,711
Insurance	20,119	-	20,119	2,766
Legal & professional	2,644	324	2,968	500
Low value tools & equipment	198	1,056	1,254	3,342
Consultancy support	-	11,475	11,475	31,200
Casual Labour	985	6,436	7,421	984
Play Resources	421	17,549	17,969	16,138
Office supplies & sundries	7,328	7,460	14,788	21,407
Site Development	712	4,682	5,394	7,253
Staff costs	695	249,574	250,270	180,349
Training	4,197	5,003	9,199	5,953
Travel	246	-	246	1,075
	47,074	**303,989**	**351,063**	279,617

6 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
	£	£	£	£
Cost of goods sold	2,124	-	**2,124**	765

7 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
	£	£
Trade creditors	659	9,299
Accrued expenditure	1,430	1,300
Taxes and social Security	7,244	-
	9,333	10,599

8 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
	£	£
Trade debtors	13,700	1,500
Prepaid expenditure	19,925	18,362
Accrued Income	-	6,375
	33,625	26,237

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

9 STAFF COSTS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENSES

	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
	£	£
Wages and salaries	250,270	180,349

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2022-23	2021-22
Full time	3	3
Part time	15	12

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000

During the year the CIO employed the full time equivalent of 2 Senior Playworkers (2021-22: 1), 1 Site and Play Team Manager. In the prior reporting period the Trust employed 1 full time Playworker and 1 Deputy Senior Playworker.

Part time staff include 1 Youth Team Manager (2021-22: 0), 1 Admin & Fundraising Officer (2021-22: 1), 1 Therapeutic Playworker (2021-22: 0), and 12 part-time playworkers or sessional youth workers (2021-22: 12).

The CIO also employs 6 casual staff to work in busy periods.

Reconciliation of records held by HMRC
During the preparation of the accounts for this (and the prior) reporting period, Meriden Adventure Playground Association discovered that there was a discrepancy between the payroll records held by HMRC and the records submitted through the charity's payroll software. Since making this discovery, the charity has been in touch with HMRC on a number of occasions to identify the cause of the discrepancy which now seems to be due to a technical error by HMRC and will require a rerun of the payroll for that year. In the meantime, the charity are still awaiting information from HMRC to enable this to happen so that all records are in agreement and a full reconciliation can be performed. The trustees conclude that the result of the reconciliation exercise when completed will not change one's view of the charity's performance based on these financial statements.

All charges to the Statement of Financial Activities in relation to wages paid during the financial are based on the informaton to submitted to HMRC.

10 COMMITMENTS

There were no operating lease payments committed beyond the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

11 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no transactions with related parties in this reporting period.

12 CONTROLLING INTEREST

The Charity is controlled by its Trustees.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

13 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at beginning of year £	Income £	Exp-enditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at end of year £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General funds					
General Funds	105,303	29,192	43,401	-	91,094
Designated funds					
Fixed assets	58,628	-	5,797	4,866	57,697
Site dilapidation	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
Service development	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
	108,628	-	5,797	4,866	107,697
Total Unrestricted funds	**213,931**	**29,192**	**49,198**	**4,866**	**198,792**
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Trusthouse	7,413	23,176	30,589	-	-
Active Wellbeing	1,000	-	1,000	-	-
National Lottery	-	71,749	26,859	-	44,890
Henry Smith	26,258	50,000	54,120	-	22,139
Tudor Trust	20,034	-	20,034	-	-
Sport England	9,185	-	8,279	- 906	-
Grantham Yorke	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Children In Need - Next Steps	23,548	53,333	74,724	-	2,158
HS2	464	5,774	4,101	- 2,137	-
VRU	3,695	-	3,695	-	-
HAF Programme	19,070	54,042	52,840	- 1,823	18,449
Masonic CT	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Harry Payne Fund	-	2,000	2,000	-	-
SMBC Online System	-	7,896	-	-	7,896
Ironmongers	5,000	-	5,000	-	-
Sheldon Trust	1,882	8,867	10,749	-	-
Total Restricted funds	**117,549**	**286,837**	**303,989**	**- 4,866**	**95,531**
TOTAL FUNDS	**331,480**	**316,029**	**353,187**	**-**	**294,323**

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

13 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Our **Unrestricted funds** come from public donations or income we generate via a) sale of refreshments, b) entry fees at seasonal community events we run, c) our community swapshop and d) hiring out the playground and our staff to other organisations, including running targeted sessions for groups who cannot access the site in open busier sessions.

Unrestricted funds cover our bills, our day to day expenses and the ongoing repair and maintenance of the site and buildings

We have **Designated funds** for service development – which includes strategic planning and development and also for site dilapidation so that there are sufficient funds to cover the costs of electricians, plumbers or roofers as required.

The fixed asset fund within **Designated funds** represents funds utilised for the purpose of capital expenditure, depreciation is charged against the designated fund for each asset purchased. Transfers relate to restricted funding used for the purchase of fixed assets.

Funding from **Children in Need** was awarded to cover staff salaries, some staff training and particularly to support therapeutic play

Funding from **Sport England** supported a circus project - training staff in supporting children and young people with a whole range of circus kit and equipment.

Funding from **Active Wellbeing** was awarded to MAPA so that we could take children and young people on trips off site to do a range of other physical activities.

Funding from **Trust House** is an ongoing grant towards staff salaries including the admin team.

Funding from the **National Lottery** is an ongoing grant which is primarily for staff salaries, some core costs and supported the development of our forest school programme.

Funding from **Grantham Yorke** was a grant towards sessional youthworker's salaries on youth nights.

Funding from **Henry Smith** is an ongoing grant paying for the salaries of two key staff heading up the Play Team and the Youth Team

Funding from the **Tudor Trust** is an ongoing grant towards key staff salaries and some core costs.

Funding from **HS2** was a capital grant that enabled us to buy bespoke shipping containers to use as offices and for community activities/meetings/training etc. and to furnish and resource these spaces.

Funding from **VRU** was a one-off grant that paid for a youth mentoring project working 1-1 with young people at risk.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

13 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funding from the **Harry Payne** Trust was for much needed sand and consumable play resources.

Funding from **Ironmongers** was a grant that paid for our ongoing Adventure Tots project to give under 5's the run of the playground without older children present.

Funding from the **Sheldon Trust** enabled us to employ two sessional youthworkers.

Funding from the **Masonic CT** contributed towards the salaries of our part-time staff.

The **HAF Programme** includes multiple grants received via Solihull MBC and Birmingham City Council to support holiday activities and food during most school holidays and so were used to pay our extra casual holiday staff (including cooks), and to buy food and play resources.

14 EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The pension costs charged to the Statement of Financial Activities represent the amount of the contributions payable to the schemes in respect of the accounting period.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

15 COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021-22 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	41,540	-	41,540
Charitable activities	20,566	328,256	348,822
Other trading activities	4,249	-	4,249
Total income	**66,356**	**328,256**	**394,612**
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities	14,405	265,211	279,617
Raising funds	765	-	765
Total expenditure	**15,170**	**265,211**	**280,382**
Net movement in funds	**51,185**	**63,045**	**114,230**
Transfer between funds	20,290	- 20,290	-
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	**142,456**	**74,794**	**217,250**
Total funds carried forward	**213,931**	**117,549**	**331,480**

16 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Cost	Container Structure £	Office Equipment £	Playground Equipment £	Total £
At 1st April 2022	66,087	-	1,524	67,611
Additions	-	3,137	1,729	4,866
At 31 March 2023	66,087	3,137	3,253	72,477
Depreciation				
At 1st April 2022	7,459	-	610	8,069
Charge for the year	4,406	1,046	650	6,102
At 31 March 2023	11,865	1,046	1,259	14,170
Net Book Value				
At 31 March 2023	**54,222**	**2,091**	**1,994**	**58,307**
At 31 March 2022	58,628	-	914	59,542

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

17 COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	2021-22 Total funds	2020-21 Total funds
FIXED ASSETS	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	59,542	-	**59,542**	43,963
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at bank and in hand	147,859	108,441	**256,300**	172,416
Debtors	7,875	18,362	**26,237**	3,690
	155,734	**126,803**	**282,536**	176,106
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	1,345	9,254	**10,599**	2,819
NET CURRENT ASSETS / - LIABILITIES	**154,389**	**117,549**	**271,937**	173,287
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	**213,931**	**117,549**	**331,480**	217,251
NET ASSETS	**213,931**	**117,549**	**331,480**	217,251
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY				
Unrestricted funds	**213,931**	**-**	**213,931**	142,456
Restricted funds	**-**	**117,549**	**117,549**	74,794
	213,931	**117,549**	**331,480**	217,251

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

18 COMPARATIVE MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Balance at beginning of year £	Income £	Exp-enditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at end of year £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General funds					
General Funds - all funds	49,711	66,356	10,764	-	105,303
Designated funds					
Container structure	42,744	-	4,406	20,290	58,628
Site dilapidation	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
Service development	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
	92,744	66,356	4,406	20,290	108,628
Total Unrestricted funds	**142,456**	**66,356**	**15,170**	**20,290**	**213,931**
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Trusthouse	-	23,176	15,763	-	7,413
Comic Relief	-	3,400	3,400	-	-
Active Wellbeing	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Eveson Trust	1,880	-	1,880	-	-
National Lottery	-	26,899	26,899	-	-
UK Youth Fund	-	18,300	18,300	-	-
Henry Smith	-	50,000	23,742	-	26,258
Tudor Trust	17,435	20,000	17,402	-	20,034
Sport England	9,185	-	-	-	9,185
Grantham Yorke	7,531	-	7,531	-	-
Heart of England - Coronavirus RF	5,000	-	5,000	-	-
Garfield Weston	15,000	-	15,000	-	-
Children In Need - Next Steps	15,366	63,940	55,757	-	23,548
HS2	-	31,300	10,546	- 20,290	464
VRU	2,397	7,344	6,046	-	3,695
Heart of England - CSW	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
HAF Programme	-	63,904	44,834	-	19,070
Heart of England - Winter Wellbeing	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Ironmongers	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Sheldon Trust	-	8,994	7,112	-	1,882
					-
Total Restricted funds	**74,794**	**328,256**	**265,211**	**- 20,290**	**117,549**
TOTAL FUNDS	**217,250**	**394,612**	**280,382**	**-**	**331,480**

SPARC TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1171350

Accounts

MERIDEN ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION

GOING STRONG SINCE 2008

ANNUAL REPORT

September 2022

This photo says a lot about this last year – hot, busy, hard work but great fun! We say it every year – 'so much has happened' but it really has. The best thing has been able to be open again without restricting numbers and giving children every opportunity to rebuild their confidence and resilience post-Covid. We have become more aware than ever at how naturally therapeutic self-directed play is and to see how

children are working out their feelings in their playing and instinctively doing what they need to do to 'feel better'. It has also been a year of internal upheaval and change. We have been lucky to a) have proper office and meeting space for the first time (courtesy of HS2) and b) to have Janet Down working with us as a consultant and enabling us to do all those 'backroom' jobs that have needed doing, like policy review, strategic planning, improved employment procedures and so on. This has meant changing a lot of the way we have done things in the past which has been both tough and exciting and we are now looking to recruit a General Manager so that the playground continues to be well managed going forward. Having invested in more time for staff to talk and reflect and undertake training has also been enormously beneficial for everyone and has definitely improved the quality of all our work with children, young people and families. Big thanks to all our staff – especially Ellen and Penny – for hard work, staying power, energy, diligence, conscientiousness and big hearts.

Trustees are currently:

Ali Wood **John Freeman** **Mark Wilson**
Mac Clarke **David Wood** **Marcus Brain**

We have sadly lost three trustees this year – Sarah Evans, whose free time got much reduced by her job and studies, Mary Painting, who has retired after being our hard-working and wonderful treasurer for ten years and Tracey Brant, whose new job and grandparenting duties have really decreased her time. We wish them all well and will miss them greatly for all contributions over the years. We are therefore recruiting – we need both a treasurer and a secretary – please get in touch if you want to know more and/or can work with us!

Staff over the last year have been:

Ellen Delaney – Play Team & Site Manager
Paula Madden – Senior Playworker
Clair Meares – Therapeutic Playworker
Patrycja Nedza – Finance Officer
Kevin Johnson - Playworker
Hannah Aziz – Part-time Playworker/Youthworker
Dionne Morrison – Sessional Youthworker
Ozzy Morgan – Sessional youthworker
Courtney Milburn – Sessional Youthworker
Rachel Symonds – Holiday playworker
Molly Delaney – Holiday playworker
Luke Walford – Holiday playworker
Jack Madden – Holiday playworker
Darcey Aziz – Holiday playworker
Leighanne Thacker - Holiday playworker
Lynette Osbourne- Holiday playworker
Jenny Robinson – Playscheme cook
Linda Grinnell – Assistant cook
Penny Keeling – Youth Team Manager
Andy Matthews – Senior Playworker
Jo Battista – Admin/Finance Officer
Ashley Bagnall – Playworker
Sharron Elliott – Sessional Playworker
Adrian Blissett-Rose – Sessional Youthworker
Matt Lyon – Sessional Youthworker
Sarah Hulbert – Adventure Tots playworker
Hattie McDevitt-Smith - Holiday playworker
Sam Simmons – Holiday playworker
Misha Keeling – Holiday playworker
Jason Hulme – Holiday playworker
Katie Corbett - Holiday playworker
Angela Rainbow - Holiday playworker
Tasha Williams - Holiday playworker
Naomi Taylor – Assistant cook
Claire Lesley – Assistant cook

We couldn't fully operate without our remarkable volunteers in either the kitchen, the swapshop, behind the desk or out on the playground watching children or doing maintenance work – they are all wonderful and over the last year have included:

Sarah Hulbert	Claire Lesley	Rebekah Rebolo	Nikki Brady
Ella Sollis	Lynette Osborne	Mac Clarke	Katie Corbett
Natasha Williams	Debbie Johnson	Sue Weston	Bradley Hargraves
Lewis Hill	Debbie Cashmore	Helen Gorski	Brendan O'Gara
Danny Cashmore	Jenny Robinson	Tracey Johnson	Olivia Lowe

We are also grateful to:

Sainsburys for their wonderful help with donating food, Easter eggs, equipment and money
Steve Breese our accountant who has stepped into the breach many times with advice and help
Rick Graney from CAMHS for working with us in recognising the therapeutic benefits of play
Greggs for their ongoing donations of unsold food for youth sessions
James Eckloff of Birmingham Water Solutions for free monthly water monitoring
Matt and Lewis from Magic Square Systems for their patience in developing our registration system
HS2 for funding and furnishing our converted containers
Phoenix Roofing who repaired the vandalised Swapshop roof for free
Mark Bates for organising Go Fund Me which has paid for family day trips to the seaside this summer
Mayflex, Kallik and Business Volunteers for coming to do corporate volunteering and helping with much needed repair and maintenance jobs on site
Gary at Pied Piper for continuing to deal with wasps & hornets nests free of charge
Tracey Johnson and her dad for raising £500 for us to help with resources
Simon and Kayleigh from R & J Whippy for their donation and support
Steve Poole for organising and bringing regular school groups during term-time
SMBC for organising an emergency call-out to connect a new cooker on Day 1 of playscheme
All those local businesses who sponsored our calendar pages or who house collection boxes for us and all those wonderful people who have donated raffle prizes, wood, food and a host of other items – thanks!

Highlights of 2021-2022

Playschemes

We have continued to have HAF funding in school holidays which enables us to take on extra seasonal staff, offer a wider range of activities and to provide food for all those who come. Our very willing and seemingly unphased cook and assistant are getting a reputation for great vegan meals that children really like! The whole staff team have been amazing this summer finding creative ways to cope with the extreme heat on an unshaded outdoor site. Holidays have continued to be hugely busy whatever the time of year and for the first time we have had to turn people away (which we hate doing). We are the only adventure playground for miles in all directions and so people come from further afield in holiday times and there is no sign of this abating as families tell other families about us. We need more community playgrounds!

Indoor Space

However did we operate without our converted containers?! We now have desks and filing cabinets and somewhere warm to talk! We just need to improve our wifi going forward and are researching how to do this. The downstairs space has also been very popular with young people to chill out, to chat, play music, pool and other games and to house working lunches with our CAMHS colleagues and it will no doubt encourage more parents of pre-schoolers to continue to come to Adventure Tots and to our parent training workshops this coming winter.

Therapeutic play

On top of our regular sessions with CAMHS, our therapeutic playworker Clair (rechristened by staff as the Queen of Gloop!) has been offering and encouraging greater use of sensory materials like paint, foam, slime and water beads and it has been amazing watching children – of all ages – naturally respond to this and instinctively use these in a way that clearly forges emotional expression and brings about greater inner calm. Clair has been slowly documenting the stories and images from all this and has now presented these at two national playwork conferences which has provoked great interest. We do keenly feel a sense of responsibility to record and share the evidence of how deeply therapeutic and necessary self-directed play is.

Swapshop

Our community swapshop survived a break-in before Christmas – both local businesses and the community stepped into the breach and raised both funds and replacement Christmas presents and we had enough left over to take four coaches of families for free to Barry Island for the day in the summer – where huge fun was had by all. The lovely volunteers who run Swapshop have simultaneously been making and selling hotdogs and cuppas and quietly raising extra funds for us whilst meeting the needs of families wanting to swap or cheaply purchase school uniforms, clothes, books, shoes and toys.

Youth

Twice-weekly Youth Nights have continued all year and have been at capacity. We have both lost and gained some sessional staff but currently have a vibrant and committed youth team who go the extra mile in supporting young people. This year has seen an increase in sensory and art activities and in ongoing discussions around mental health, as well as giving young people the opportunity to just play and be themselves.

We don't tend to associate play with young people, but they need it just as much and have been having a ball! We also began a third night for specific young people at risk who were in need of greater 1-1 support. This has been a new project involving staff from MAPA, Fitcap, Gro-Organic and the Youth Offending Service which in itself has improved sharing information and best practice as well as making a real difference for the smaller number of young people who have been referred to the project.

Forest School – John Muir award

Gaining Andy has enabled us to run forest school programmes and to pilot the John Muir Environmental Award with incoming school groups which have been a resounding success. Paula is about to start her forest school leadership training too and so these projects are now an ongoing part of each week's activities in both the playground and the bowling green and woods next door. This has also enabled greater tool use by children in open sessions to make all manner of things – mallets, pool cues, reindeers, wands, bird boxes and benches – all great fun but also gaining real skills in the process and a greater understanding of wildlife and biodiversity too.

Online registration platform

Courtesy of HAF funding, we were able to work with Magic Square Systems to develop a bespoke online registration system, which has been life changing after years of a clunky manual system that took hundreds of hours of staff time and meant long queues to get in. The new system enables people to register either before or at a first-time visit and then use a QR code to sign in and out thereafter. It is now almost fully tweaked to do everything we need it to do and we absolutely love it.

Training

This year we were able to finally run our Play/Physical Literacy project funded by Sport England. This entailed working alongside Circus Mash in Kings Heath, Birmingham, with our staff undertaking a brilliant (and hysterically funny) couple of days training in circus skills and buying in a pile of circus 'kit' including unicycles, stilts, a trapeze and silks, which has increased play possibilities on site and been great fun.
We have also run a new playwork course for junior staff and volunteers to equip them to have paid work during school holidays – thanks to Children in Need for funding this.
Staff have been busy doing more in depth courses on safeguarding and trauma informed practice and Makaton workshops, as well as updating their first aid and food safety certificates. The play team has also been working their way through 'Quality in Play' - Play England's quality assurance scheme, which has really improved reflective practice.

Special Events

At last we have been able to start up community events again and this year we have had several. Most notable were Fright Night at Hallowe'en - attended by hundreds of families who declared it simultaneously terrifying and hilarious (the lake of blood in the sandpit said it all) and Mrs Klaus's grotto (Santa was too busy!) giving out presents to all and hampers for those most in need.

Playwork Plus Award

And last but not least we won the prestigious 'Playwork Plus Award' at the National Playwork Conference in Eastbourne! This was a new award for playwork providers who have gone above and beyond in supporting children and families and we were thrilled to get it – there was much merriment on the night!

Partnerships

- Our ongoing alliances with SoLO, Inclusive Sports, Square Peg and North Solihull Additional Needs Group who all regularly bring groups of disabled children on site with either their keyworkers or their parents
- Children's Quarter – for co-staffing 'Inclusion Fusion' sessions in the holidays and for ongoing sharing of funds and ideas.
- B37 Project – who have wonderfully continued to voluntarily do garden maintenance on site after all their replanting last year. We look forward to some future joint projects with them…..
- CAMHS – their child psychologists bringing groups of children to targeted therapeutic play sessions
- YOBS (Youth Opportunities Board Solihull) – this is a new organisation that MAPA helped found that exists to support all voluntary organisations in Solihull working with children and young people. This has increased regular intra-support and swapping of ideas and information, which is invaluable for all of us.
- We continued our partnerships with Sainsbury's and Greggs who regularly provide us with food and drink so that we can offer healthy food as often as possible to children and young people who are hungry and continue to give out emergency food parcels to families in need.

Finance

MAPA's income for the financial year 2020-2021 was **£394,612.01.** This was made up of:-

Unrestricted funds: £62,655.61

Income from group visits	**14,683.65**
Donations at the gate & via local people/orgs	**37,840.24**
Community fund-raising events	**1,160.40**
Café and other sales income	**3,719.32**
Small grants/gifts towards core costs	**5,252.00**

Key grants received/restricted funds: £331,956.40

Tudor Trust	20,000.00
Children in Need	63,940.00
Henry Smith Charity	50,000.00
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation	23,176.00
Sheldon Trust	8,994.00
UK Youth	18,300.00
HAF (Holiday Activities Fund)	63,904.00
Ironmonger's	5,000.00
HS2 CEF Fund	31,300.00
National Lottery	26,898.65

We have also been lucky to receive small grants from the following funders:- *Heart of England, Harry Payne Trust, WMPCC Violence Reduction Unit, Woodward Trust, Cole Trust and Dumbreck Charity*

The majority of our expenditure is on staff salaries as without our qualified playworkers and youthworkers the playground could not be open for the hundreds of children, young people and families who come.

Thank you everyone for all your contributions and support, especially our local community – who are the reason and heart of our existence

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1171350

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022
for
Meriden Adventure Playground Association

C/O Enterprise Centre
1 Hedingham Grove
Chelmunds Cross
Chelmsley Wood
Birmingham
B37 7TP

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1171350

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

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Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

To provide, maintain and develop facilities at Meriden Adventure Playground for children, young people and families resident in Chelmsley Wood and its' surrounding areas, through the provision of safe and stimulating play opportunities so as to develop their physical, social and mental skills.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Playschemes

We have continued to have HAF funding in school holidays which enables us to take on extra seasonal staff, offer a wider range of activities and to provide food for all those who come. Our very willing and seemingly unphased cook and assistant are getting a reputation for great vegan meals that children really like! Holidays have continued to be hugely busy whatever the time of year and for the first time we have had to turn people away (which we hate doing). We are the only adventure playground for miles in all directions and so people come from further afield in holiday times and there is no sign of this abating as families tell other families about us. We need more community based adventure playgrounds!

Indoor Space

However did we operate without our converted containers?! We now have desks and filing cabinets and somewhere warm to talk! We just need to improve our wifi going forward and are researching how to do this. The downstairs space has also been very popular with young people to chill out, to chat, play music, pool and other games and will no doubt encourage more parents of pre-schoolers to continue to come to Adventure Tots and to our parent training workshops this coming winter.

Therapeutic play

On top of our regular sessions with CAMHS, our therapeutic playworker Clair (rechristened by staff as the Queen of Gloop!) has been offering and encouraging greater use of sensory materials like paint, foam, slime and water beads and it has been amazing watching children – of all ages – naturally respond to this and instinctively use these in a way that clearly forges emotional expression and brings about greater inner calm. Clair has been slowly documenting the stories and images from all this and has now presented these at two national playwork conferences which has provoked great interest. We do keenly feel a sense of responsibility to record and share the evidence of how deeply therapeutic and necessary self-directed play is.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

Swapshop

Our community swapshop survived a break-in before Christmas – both local businesses and the community stepped into the breach and raised both funds and replacement Christmas presents and we had enough left over to take four coaches of families for free to Barry Island for the day in the summer – where huge fun was had by all. The lovely volunteers who run Swapshop have simultaneously been making and selling hotdogs and cuppas and quietly raising extra funds for us whilst meeting the needs of families wanting to swap or cheaply purchase school uniforms, clothes, books, shoes and toys.

Youth

Twice-weekly Youth Nights have continued all year and have been at capacity. We have both lost and gained some sessional staff but currently have a vibrant and committed youth team who go the extra mile in supporting young people. This year has seen an increase in sensory and art activities and in ongoing discussions around mental health, as well as giving young people the opportunity to just play and be themselves. We don't tend to associate play with young people, but they need it just as much and have been having a ball! We also began a third night for specific young people at risk who were in need of greater 1-1 support. This has been a new project involving staff from MAPA, Fitcap, Gro-Organic and the Youth Offending Service which in itself has improved sharing information and best practice as well as making a real difference for the smaller number of young people who have been referred to the project.

Forest School – John Muir award

Gaining Andy has enabled us to run forest school programmes and to pilot the John Muir Environmental Award with incoming school groups which have been a resounding success. Paula is about to start her forest school leadership training too and so these projects are now an ongoing part of each week's activities in both the playground and the bowling green and woods next door. This has also enabled greater tool use by children in open sessions to make all manner of things – mallets, pool cues, reindeers, wands, bird boxes and benches – all great fun but also gaining real skills in the process and a greater understanding of wildlife and biodiversity too.

Online registration platform

Courtesy of HAF funding, we were able to work with Magic Square Systems to develop a bespoke online registration system, which has been life changing after years of a clunky manual system that took hundreds of hours of staff time and meant long queues to get in. The new system enables people to register either before or at a first-time visit and then use a QR code to sign in and out thereafter. It is now almost fully tweaked to do everything we need it to do and we absolutely love it.

Special events

We have been able to start up community events again and this year we had several. Most notable were Fright Night at Halloween - attended by hundreds of families who declared it both terrifying and hilarious (the lake of blood in the sandpit said it all) and Mrs Klaus's grotto (Santa was too busy!) giving out presents to all and hampers for those most in need.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

Training

This year we were able to finally run our Play/Physical Literacy project funded by Sport England. This entailed working alongside Circus Mash in Kings Heath, Birmingham, with our staff undertaking a brilliant (and hysterically funny) couple of days training in circus skills and buying in a pile of circus 'kit' including unicycles, stilts, a trapeze and silks, which has increased play possibilities on site and been great fun. We have also run a new playwork course for junior staff and volunteers to equip them to have paid work during school holidays – thanks to Children in Need for funding this. Staff have been busy doing more in depth courses on safeguarding and trauma informed practice and Makaton courses, as well as updating their first aid and food safety certificates. The play team has also been working their way through 'Quality in Play' - Play England's quality assurance scheme, which has realty improved reflective practice.

Playwork plus award

And last but not least we won the prestigious 'Playwork Plus Award' at the National Playwork Conference in Eastbourne! This was a new award for playwork providers who have gone above and beyond in supporting children and families and we were thrilled to get it – there was much merriment on the night!

Feedback

Feedback continues to be extremely positive in our comments book, on the periodic questionnaires or surveys we send out, and on our Facebook page as well as in the regular and spontaneous conversations had with both adults and children/young people. We continue to be amazed at the power of play to build confidence, resilience and to make all our lives much better all round, especially after this stressful and difficult year.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Overview

As shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 8, the Charity's total income rose to £394,612 for the year (2020-21: £246,075). The Charity's total expenditure amounted to £280,382 (2020-21: £144,791), resulting in a surplus of £114,230 (2020-21: £101,284). At 31 March 2022 total funds were £331,480 including £213,931 of unrestricted funds and £117,549 of restricted funds.

Reserves Policy

A charity's free reserves are its general unrestricted funds (excluding any element represented by fixed assets) less any funds which have been designated for specific future projects by the Trustees. Details of designated funds are given in note 16 of these financial statements.

The charity's reserves policy is to hold a minimum level of free reserves equivalent to between six and nine months expenditure, in order to ensure that any delay in the receipt of income by the charity, caused by the actions of third parties, does not affect the ability of the charity to meet its obligations to its beneficiaries.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW - continued

As indicated on page 15, note 14, the level of unallocated reserves as at 31 March 2022 was £105,303 which represents approximately 7 months unrestricted expenditure. The Trustees regularly review the appropriateness of the reserves policy with regard to the current environment in which the Charity operates and believe the level of reserves to be appropriate.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
1171350

Registered office
C/O Three Trees Community Centre
Hedingham Grove
Chelmunds Cross
Chelmsley Wood
Birmingham
B37 7TP

Bankers
The Co-operative Bank PLC
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

Trustees

Alison Wood	
David Wood	
John Freeman	
Mark Wilson	
Mary Painting	(resigned 28th June 2022)
Mccallmont Clarke	
Sarah Evans	(resigned 23rd February 2022)
Tracey Beasley	
Tracey Brant	(resigned 10th October 2022)

Accountants
SAB Accountancy Services Ltd
102 Hamstead Road
Great Barr
Birmingham
B43 5BN

Independent Examiner
Sajjad Jaffer
Harris Accountancy Services Ltd
83 Hagley Road
Birmingham
B16 8QG

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the report of the trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom accounting standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 19 March 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Alison Wood
Trustee

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2022 which are set out on pages' 8 to 18.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charity are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or

3) the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or

4) the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for 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).

I have no concerns and have come across no 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.

Sajjad Jaffer
Harris Accountancy Services Ltd
83 Hagley Road
Birmingham
B16 8QG

25 April 2023

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

	Notes	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	2021-22 Total funds	2020-21 Total funds
		£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	41,540	-	41,540	18,675
Charitable activities	3	20,566	328,256	348,822	225,233
Other trading activities	4	4,249	-	4,249	2,166
Total income		**66,356**	**328,256**	**394,612**	246,075
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5	14,405	265,211	279,617	144,072
Raising funds	6	765	-	765	719
Total expenditure		**15,170**	**265,211**	**280,382**	144,791
Net income/-expenditure		51,185	63,045	**114,230**	101,284
Transfers between funds		20,290	- 20,290	-	-
Net movement in funds	13	**71,475**	**42,755**	**114,230**	101,284
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	13	**142,456**	**74,794**	**217,250**	115,966
Total funds carried forward		**213,931**	**117,549**	**331,480**	217,250

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Balance Sheet
At 31 March 2022

	Notes	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	2021-22 Total funds	2020-21 Total funds
FIXED ASSETS		£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	16	59,542	-	**59,542**	43,963
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank and in hand		147,859	108,441	**256,300**	172,416
Debtors	8	7,875	18,362	**26,237**	3,690
		155,734	**126,803**	**282,536**	176,106
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	1,345	9,254	**10,599**	- 2,819
NET CURRENT ASSETS / - LIABILITIES		**154,389**	**117,549**	**271,937**	173,287
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**213,931**	**117,549**	**331,480**	217,251
NET ASSETS		**213,931**	**117,549**	**331,480**	217,251
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY	13				
Unrestricted funds		**213,931**	-	**213,931**	142,456
Restricted funds		-	**117,549**	**117,549**	74,794
		213,931	**117,549**	**331,480**	217,250

For the year ended 31 March 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors / Trustees responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 - however, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner who's report appears on page 7;
- The director trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the Trustees on 19 March 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Alison Wood
Trustee

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Company Status

The charity was entered onto the Register of Charities of the Charity Commission of England and Wales on 27 January 2017, with registered charity number 1171350.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 ' The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis using the historic cost concept.

Going Concern assumption

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the charity will continue to operate. The charity's business plan shows that the charity will be able to operate in the foreseeable future. Based on this understanding the director trustees believe that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. The financial statements do not include any adjustments, which would result from the basis of preparation being inappropriate.

Charitable Status

Meriden Adventure Playground Association (MAPA) is a registered charity and is exempt from corporation tax and capital gains tax provided its income and gains are applied for charitable purposes.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then the income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Income from grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Income from trading activities includes income earned from the sale of food and drinks. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods, in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement occurs.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs relating to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to a particular heading they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Expenditure is classified under the following heading:

Expenditure on charitable activities comprise the direct costs of activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity, including grants payable and all associated support costs.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which expenditure was incurred.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event where it is probable that there will be an outflow of economic resources to settle the obligation and where creditors can be estimated or measured reliably.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of each asset, less its residual value, over its estimated useful economic life. The depreciation charge recognised each year relates to the class of the asset, the rates and classes are as follows:

Equipment - *5 years straight line*
Container Structure - *15 years straight line*

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor the year ended 31 March 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor the year ended 31 March 2021 except for reasonable out of pocket expenses.

2 INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	£	£	£	£
Donations	41,540	-	**41,540**	18,675

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	£	£	£	£
Events	2,533	-	2,533	891
Grants	5,252	328,256	333,508	213,046
Schools	12,782	-	12,782	11,296
	20,566	**328,256**	**348,822**	225,233

4 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	£	£	£	£
Other sales	530	-	530	1,111
Café sales	3,719	-	3,719	1,055
	4,249	-	**4,249**	2,166

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

5 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	£	£	£	£
Accountancy	2,863	1,076	3,939	1,781
Depreciation	4,711	-	4,711	3,358
Insurance	-	2,766	2,766	2,134
Legal and professional	70	32,614	32,684	1,436
Low value tools & equipment	8	3,334	3,342	1,059
Materials and consumables	252	15,886	16,138	9,482
Office supplies and sundries	1,552	19,856	21,407	1,510
Site Development	44	7,209	7,253	-
Staff costs	4,868	175,481	180,349	121,186
Training	-	5,953	5,953	2,126
Travel	37	1,037	1,075	-
	14,405	**265,211**	**279,617**	144,072

6 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	£	£	£	£
Cost of goods sold	765	-	**765**	719

7 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	£	£
Trade creditors	9,299	-
Accrued expenditure	1,300	750
Taxes and social Security	-	2,069
	10,599	2,819

8 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	£	£
Trade debtors	1,500	1,250
Prepaid expenditure	18,362	2,087
Accrued Income	6,375	-
Other debtors	-	353
	26,237	3,690

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

9 STAFF COSTS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENSES

	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	£	£
Wages and salaries	180,349	121,186

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2021-22	2020-21
Full time	3	3
Part time	12	14

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000

During the year the CIO employed the full time equivalent of 1 Senior Playworker (1 in 2020/21), 1 Deputy Senior Playworker (1 in 2020/21) and 1 Playworker (1 in 2020/21).

Part time staff include 1 Youth Development worker (1 in 2020/21), 1 part-time Finance & Admin worker (1 in 2020/21) and 12 part-time playworkers or sessional youth workers (12 in 2020/21).

Reconciliation of records held by HMRC (Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs)
During the preparation of the accounts for this reporting period, Meriden Adventure Playground Association discovered that there was a discrepancy between the payroll records held by HMRC and the records submitted through the charity's payroll software. Since making this discovery, the charity has been in touch with HMRC on a number of occasions to identify the cause of the discrepancy which now seems to be due to a technical error by HMRC and will require a rerun of the payroll for that year. In the meantime, the charity are still awaiting information from HMRC to enable this to happen so that all records are in agreement and a full reconciliation can be performed. The trustees conclude that the result of the reconciliation exercise when completed will not change one's view of the charity's performance based on these financial statements.

10 COMMITMENTS

There were no operating lease payments committed beyond the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

11 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no transactions with related parties in this reporting period.

12 CONTROLLING INTEREST

The Charity is controlled by its Trustees.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

13 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at beginning of year £	Income £	Exp-enditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at end of year £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General funds					
General Funds - all funds	49,711	66,356	10,764	-	105,303
Designated funds					
Container structure	42,744	-	4,406	20,290	58,628
Site dilapidation	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
Service development	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
	92,744	66,356	4,406	20,290	108,628
Total Unrestricted funds	**142,456**	**66,356**	**15,170**	**20,290**	**213,931**
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Trusthouse	-	23,176	15,763	-	7,413
Comic Relief	-	3,400	3,400	-	-
Active Wellbeing	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Eveson Trust	1,880	-	1,880	-	-
National Lottery	-	26,899	26,899	-	-
UK Youth Fund	-	18,300	18,300	-	-
Henry Smith	-	50,000	23,742	-	26,258
Tudor Trust	17,435	20,000	17,402	-	20,034
Sport England	9,185	-	-	-	9,185
Grantham Yorke	7,531	-	7,531	-	-
Heart of England - Coronavirus RF	5,000	-	5,000	-	-
Garfield Weston	15,000	-	15,000	-	-
Children In Need - Next Steps	15,366	63,940	55,757	-	23,548
HS2	-	31,300	10,546	- 20,290	464
VRU	2,397	7,344	6,046	-	3,695
Heart of England - CSW	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
HAF Programme	-	63,904	44,834	-	19,070
Heart of England - Winter Wellbeing	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Ironmongers	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Sheldon Trust	-	8,994	7,112	-	1,882
					-
Total Restricted funds	**74,794**	**328,256**	**265,211**	**- 20,290**	**117,549**
TOTAL FUNDS	**217,250**	**394,612**	**280,382**	**-**	**331,480**

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

13 **MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Our **Unrestricted funds** come from public donations or income we generate via a) sale of refreshments, b) entry fees at seasonal community events we run, c) our community swapshop and d) hiring out the playground and our staff to other organisations, including running targeted sessions for groups who cannot access the site in open busier sessions.

Unrestricted funds cover our bills, our day to day expenses and the ongoing repair and maintenance of the site and buildings

We have **Designated funds** for service development – which includes strategic planning and development and also for site dilapidation so that there are sufficient funds to cover the costs of electricians, plumbers or roofers as required.

Funding from **Trusthouse, Tudor Trust and Children in Need** was awarded to cover the salaries of key full-time or substantial part-time playworkers, most specifically our Forest School workers and our Therapeutic Playworker together with some running costs.

Funding from **Comic Relief** was awarded to pay for one year, the salaries of our playworkers who run our weekly Adventure Tots session, together with resources and equipment for this session. Funding from the **Ironmonger's** Company has been awarded to keep this successful project going.

Funding from **Active Wellbeing** was awarded to MAPA so that we could take children and young people on trips off site to do a range of other physical activities.

Funding from **Eveson Trust** was awarded to pay for holiday playworkers during half-terms.

Funding from the **National Lottery**, the **UK Youth Fund** and **Sheldon Trust** was awarded to cover the salaries of our youth workers and some running costs and resources.

Funding from the **Henry Smith** Charity was awarded to cover the salaries of the two most senior members of staff who manage the play team and the youth team.

Funding from **Sport England** was awarded for a play and physical literacy project run in partnership with Circus Mash. It funded the costs of circus trainers for our staff and circus kit such as stilts, unicycles, diablos, trapezes, plates and flower sticks etc.

Funding from **Grantham Yorke** was awarded to cover the salaries of our two Saturday playworkers.

Funding from the **Heart of England Coronavirus Resilience Fund** was awarded in the early days of the pandemic to pay for sessional youth workers

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

13 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funding from **Garfield Weston** was awarded to cover the salary of our part-time administrative and finance officer.

Funding from the **HS2** Community & Environment Fund was awarded to MAPA to design and purchase some converted shipping containers that would give us space for an office, for meetings and training workshops and indoor activity space for children and young people. This funding also meant we could purchase office furniture and equipment, art and craft and sensory equipment, locks and signage.

Funding from the **VRU** was awarded to MAPA to cover a) the costs of an additional detached youth worker project in neighbouring Kingshurst while numbers on youth nights had to be restricted, and b) a multi-agency project supporting specific young people deemed most at risk.

Funding from the **Heart of England CSW** (Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Fund) was awarded to MAPA to enable us to buy tools and equipment for our forest school and environmental sessions.

Funding from the **HAF Programme** (Holiday Activities and Food) was awarded to MAPA to enable us to pay for extra playworkers and a cook and assistant cook in the main school holidays, as well as food for a hot or cold packed lunch for the hundreds of children who come in the holidays, and playscheme resources and equipment.

Funding from the **Heart of England - Winter Wellbeing** and Recovery fund was awarded to help with MAPA's running costs.

14 EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The pension costs charged to the Statement of Financial Activities represent the amount of the contributions payable to the schemes in respect of the accounting period.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

15 COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020-21 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies		18,675	-	18,675
Charitable activities		42,495	182,739	225,233
Other trading activities		2,166	-	2,166
Total income		**63,336**	**182,739**	**246,075**
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable activities		17,884	126,187	144,072
Raising funds		719	-	719
Total expenditure		**18,603**	**126,187**	**144,791**
Net movement in funds		**44,733**	**56,551**	**101,284**
Transfer between funds		40,926	- 40,926	-
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward		**56,797**	**59,169**	**115,966**
Total funds carried forward		**142,456**	**74,794**	**217,250**

16 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Container Structure £	E-quipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1st April 2021	45,797	1,524	47,321
Additions	20,290	-	20,290
At 31 March 2022	66,087	1,524	67,611
Depreciation			
At 1st April 2021	3,053	305	3,358
Charge for the year	4,406	305	4,711
At 31 March 2022	7,459	610	8,069
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2022	**58,628**	**914**	**59,542**
At 31 March 2021	42,744	1,219	43,963

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1171350

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022
for
Meriden Adventure Playground Association

C/O Enterprise Centre
1 Hedingham Grove
Chelmunds Cross
Chelmsley Wood
Birmingham
B37 7TP

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1171350

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

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Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

To provide, maintain and develop facilities at Meriden Adventure Playground for children, young people and families resident in Chelmsley Wood and its' surrounding areas, through the provision of safe and stimulating play opportunities so as to develop their physical, social and mental skills.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Playschemes

We have continued to have HAF funding in school holidays which enables us to take on extra seasonal staff, offer a wider range of activities and to provide food for all those who come. Our very willing and seemingly unphased cook and assistant are getting a reputation for great vegan meals that children really like! Holidays have continued to be hugely busy whatever the time of year and for the first time we have had to turn people away (which we hate doing). We are the only adventure playground for miles in all directions and so people come from further afield in holiday times and there is no sign of this abating as families tell other families about us. We need more community based adventure playgrounds!

Indoor Space

However did we operate without our converted containers?! We now have desks and filing cabinets and somewhere warm to talk! We just need to improve our wifi going forward and are researching how to do this. The downstairs space has also been very popular with young people to chill out, to chat, play music, pool and other games and will no doubt encourage more parents of pre-schoolers to continue to come to Adventure Tots and to our parent training workshops this coming winter.

Therapeutic play

On top of our regular sessions with CAMHS, our therapeutic playworker Clair (rechristened by staff as the Queen of Gloop!) has been offering and encouraging greater use of sensory materials like paint, foam, slime and water beads and it has been amazing watching children – of all ages – naturally respond to this and instinctively use these in a way that clearly forges emotional expression and brings about greater inner calm. Clair has been slowly documenting the stories and images from all this and has now presented these at two national playwork conferences which has provoked great interest. We do keenly feel a sense of responsibility to record and share the evidence of how deeply therapeutic and necessary self-directed play is.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

Swapshop

Our community swapshop survived a break-in before Christmas – both local businesses and the community stepped into the breach and raised both funds and replacement Christmas presents and we had enough left over to take four coaches of families for free to Barry Island for the day in the summer – where huge fun was had by all. The lovely volunteers who run Swapshop have simultaneously been making and selling hotdogs and cuppas and quietly raising extra funds for us whilst meeting the needs of families wanting to swap or cheaply purchase school uniforms, clothes, books, shoes and toys.

Youth

Twice-weekly Youth Nights have continued all year and have been at capacity. We have both lost and gained some sessional staff but currently have a vibrant and committed youth team who go the extra mile in supporting young people. This year has seen an increase in sensory and art activities and in ongoing discussions around mental health, as well as giving young people the opportunity to just play and be themselves. We don't tend to associate play with young people, but they need it just as much and have been having a ball! We also began a third night for specific young people at risk who were in need of greater 1-1 support. This has been a new project involving staff from MAPA, Fitcap, Gro-Organic and the Youth Offending Service which in itself has improved sharing information and best practice as well as making a real difference for the smaller number of young people who have been referred to the project.

Forest School – John Muir award

Gaining Andy has enabled us to run forest school programmes and to pilot the John Muir Environmental Award with incoming school groups which have been a resounding success. Paula is about to start her forest school leadership training too and so these projects are now an ongoing part of each week's activities in both the playground and the bowling green and woods next door. This has also enabled greater tool use by children in open sessions to make all manner of things – mallets, pool cues, reindeers, wands, bird boxes and benches – all great fun but also gaining real skills in the process and a greater understanding of wildlife and biodiversity too.

Online registration platform

Courtesy of HAF funding, we were able to work with Magic Square Systems to develop a bespoke online registration system, which has been life changing after years of a clunky manual system that took hundreds of hours of staff time and meant long queues to get in. The new system enables people to register either before or at a first-time visit and then use a QR code to sign in and out thereafter. It is now almost fully tweaked to do everything we need it to do and we absolutely love it.

Special events

We have been able to start up community events again and this year we had several. Most notable were Fright Night at Halloween - attended by hundreds of families who declared it both terrifying and hilarious (the lake of blood in the sandpit said it all) and Mrs Klaus's grotto (Santa was too busy!) giving out presents to all and hampers for those most in need.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

Training

This year we were able to finally run our Play/Physical Literacy project funded by Sport England. This entailed working alongside Circus Mash in Kings Heath, Birmingham, with our staff undertaking a brilliant (and hysterically funny) couple of days training in circus skills and buying in a pile of circus 'kit' including unicycles, stilts, a trapeze and silks, which has increased play possibilities on site and been great fun. We have also run a new playwork course for junior staff and volunteers to equip them to have paid work during school holidays – thanks to Children in Need for funding this. Staff have been busy doing more in depth courses on safeguarding and trauma informed practice and Makaton courses, as well as updating their first aid and food safety certificates. The play team has also been working their way through 'Quality in Play' - Play England's quality assurance scheme, which has realty improved reflective practice.

Playwork plus award

And last but not least we won the prestigious 'Playwork Plus Award' at the National Playwork Conference in Eastbourne! This was a new award for playwork providers who have gone above and beyond in supporting children and families and we were thrilled to get it – there was much merriment on the night!

Feedback

Feedback continues to be extremely positive in our comments book, on the periodic questionnaires or surveys we send out, and on our Facebook page as well as in the regular and spontaneous conversations had with both adults and children/young people. We continue to be amazed at the power of play to build confidence, resilience and to make all our lives much better all round, especially after this stressful and difficult year.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Overview

As shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 8, the Charity's total income rose to £394,612 for the year (2020-21: £246,075). The Charity's total expenditure amounted to £280,382 (2020-21: £144,791), resulting in a surplus of £114,230 (2020-21: £101,284). At 31 March 2022 total funds were £331,480 including £213,931 of unrestricted funds and £117,549 of restricted funds.

Reserves Policy

A charity's free reserves are its general unrestricted funds (excluding any element represented by fixed assets) less any funds which have been designated for specific future projects by the Trustees. Details of designated funds are given in note 16 of these financial statements.

The charity's reserves policy is to hold a minimum level of free reserves equivalent to between six and nine months expenditure, in order to ensure that any delay in the receipt of income by the charity, caused by the actions of third parties, does not affect the ability of the charity to meet its obligations to its beneficiaries.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW - continued

As indicated on page 15, note 14, the level of unallocated reserves as at 31 March 2022 was £105,303 which represents approximately 7 months unrestricted expenditure. The Trustees regularly review the appropriateness of the reserves policy with regard to the current environment in which the Charity operates and believe the level of reserves to be appropriate.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
1171350

Registered office
C/O Three Trees Community Centre
Hedingham Grove
Chelmunds Cross
Chelmsley Wood
Birmingham
B37 7TP

Bankers
The Co-operative Bank PLC
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

Trustees

Alison Wood	
David Wood	
John Freeman	
Mark Wilson	
Mary Painting	(resigned 28th June 2022)
Mccallmont Clarke	
Sarah Evans	(resigned 23rd February 2022)
Tracey Beasley	
Tracey Brant	(resigned 10th October 2022)

Accountants
SAB Accountancy Services Ltd
102 Hamstead Road
Great Barr
Birmingham
B43 5BN

Independent Examiner
Sajjad Jaffer
Harris Accountancy Services Ltd
83 Hagley Road
Birmingham
B16 8QG

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the report of the trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom accounting standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 19 March 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Alison Wood
Trustee

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2022 which are set out on pages' 8 to 18.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charity are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or

3) the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or

4) the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for 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).

I have no concerns and have come across no 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.

Sajjad Jaffer
Harris Accountancy Services Ltd
83 Hagley Road
Birmingham
B16 8QG

25 April 2023

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

	Notes	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	2021-22 Total funds	2020-21 Total funds
		£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	41,540	-	41,540	18,675
Charitable activities	3	20,566	328,256	348,822	225,233
Other trading activities	4	4,249	-	4,249	2,166
Total income		**66,356**	**328,256**	**394,612**	246,075
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5	14,405	265,211	279,617	144,072
Raising funds	6	765	-	765	719
Total expenditure		**15,170**	**265,211**	**280,382**	144,791
Net income/-expenditure		51,185	63,045	**114,230**	101,284
Transfers between funds		20,290	- 20,290	-	-
Net movement in funds	13	**71,475**	**42,755**	**114,230**	101,284
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	13	**142,456**	**74,794**	**217,250**	115,966
Total funds carried forward		**213,931**	**117,549**	**331,480**	217,250

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Balance Sheet
At 31 March 2022

	Notes	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	2021-22 Total funds	2020-21 Total funds
FIXED ASSETS		£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	16	59,542	-	**59,542**	43,963
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank and in hand		147,859	108,441	**256,300**	172,416
Debtors	8	7,875	18,362	**26,237**	3,690
		155,734	**126,803**	**282,536**	176,106
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	1,345	9,254	**10,599**	- 2,819
NET CURRENT ASSETS / - LIABILITIES		**154,389**	**117,549**	**271,937**	173,287
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**213,931**	**117,549**	**331,480**	217,251
NET ASSETS		**213,931**	**117,549**	**331,480**	217,251
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY	13				
Unrestricted funds		**213,931**	-	**213,931**	142,456
Restricted funds		-	**117,549**	**117,549**	74,794
		213,931	**117,549**	**331,480**	217,250

For the year ended 31 March 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors / Trustees responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 - however, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner who's report appears on page 7;
- The director trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the Trustees on 19 March 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Alison Wood
Trustee

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Company Status

The charity was entered onto the Register of Charities of the Charity Commission of England and Wales on 27 January 2017, with registered charity number 1171350.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 ' The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis using the historic cost concept.

Going Concern assumption

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the charity will continue to operate. The charity's business plan shows that the charity will be able to operate in the foreseeable future. Based on this understanding the director trustees believe that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. The financial statements do not include any adjustments, which would result from the basis of preparation being inappropriate.

Charitable Status

Meriden Adventure Playground Association (MAPA) is a registered charity and is exempt from corporation tax and capital gains tax provided its income and gains are applied for charitable purposes.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then the income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Income from grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Income from trading activities includes income earned from the sale of food and drinks. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods, in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement occurs.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs relating to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to a particular heading they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Expenditure is classified under the following heading:

Expenditure on charitable activities comprise the direct costs of activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity, including grants payable and all associated support costs.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which expenditure was incurred.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event where it is probable that there will be an outflow of economic resources to settle the obligation and where creditors can be estimated or measured reliably.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of each asset, less its residual value, over its estimated useful economic life. The depreciation charge recognised each year relates to the class of the asset, the rates and classes are as follows:

Equipment - *5 years straight line*
Container Structure - *15 years straight line*

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor the year ended 31 March 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2022 nor the year ended 31 March 2021 except for reasonable out of pocket expenses.

2 INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	£	£	£	£
Donations	41,540	-	**41,540**	18,675

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	£	£	£	£
Events	2,533	-	2,533	891
Grants	5,252	328,256	333,508	213,046
Schools	12,782	-	12,782	11,296
	20,566	**328,256**	**348,822**	225,233

4 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	£	£	£	£
Other sales	530	-	530	1,111
Café sales	3,719	-	3,719	1,055
	4,249	-	**4,249**	2,166

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

5 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	£	£	£	£
Accountancy	2,863	1,076	3,939	1,781
Depreciation	4,711	-	4,711	3,358
Insurance	-	2,766	2,766	2,134
Legal and professional	70	32,614	32,684	1,436
Low value tools & equipment	8	3,334	3,342	1,059
Materials and consumables	252	15,886	16,138	9,482
Office supplies and sundries	1,552	19,856	21,407	1,510
Site Development	44	7,209	7,253	-
Staff costs	4,868	175,481	180,349	121,186
Training	-	5,953	5,953	2,126
Travel	37	1,037	1,075	-
	14,405	**265,211**	**279,617**	144,072

6 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	£	£	£	£
Cost of goods sold	765	-	**765**	719

7 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	£	£
Trade creditors	9,299	-
Accrued expenditure	1,300	750
Taxes and social Security	-	2,069
	10,599	2,819

8 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	£	£
Trade debtors	1,500	1,250
Prepaid expenditure	18,362	2,087
Accrued Income	6,375	-
Other debtors	-	353
	26,237	3,690

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

9 STAFF COSTS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENSES

	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	£	£
Wages and salaries	180,349	121,186

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2021-22	2020-21
Full time	3	3
Part time	12	14

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000

During the year the CIO employed the full time equivalent of 1 Senior Playworker (1 in 2020/21), 1 Deputy Senior Playworker (1 in 2020/21) and 1 Playworker (1 in 2020/21).

Part time staff include 1 Youth Development worker (1 in 2020/21), 1 part-time Finance & Admin worker (1 in 2020/21) and 12 part-time playworkers or sessional youth workers (12 in 2020/21).

Reconciliation of records held by HMRC (Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs)
During the preparation of the accounts for this reporting period, Meriden Adventure Playground Association discovered that there was a discrepancy between the payroll records held by HMRC and the records submitted through the charity's payroll software. Since making this discovery, the charity has been in touch with HMRC on a number of occasions to identify the cause of the discrepancy which now seems to be due to a technical error by HMRC and will require a rerun of the payroll for that year. In the meantime, the charity are still awaiting information from HMRC to enable this to happen so that all records are in agreement and a full reconciliation can be performed. The trustees conclude that the result of the reconciliation exercise when completed will not change one's view of the charity's performance based on these financial statements.

10 COMMITMENTS

There were no operating lease payments committed beyond the year ended 31 March 2022 nor for the year ended 31 March 2021.

11 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no transactions with related parties in this reporting period.

12 CONTROLLING INTEREST

The Charity is controlled by its Trustees.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

13 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at beginning of year £	Income £	Exp-enditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at end of year £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General funds					
General Funds - all funds	49,711	66,356	10,764	-	105,303
Designated funds					
Container structure	42,744	-	4,406	20,290	58,628
Site dilapidation	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
Service development	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
	92,744	66,356	4,406	20,290	108,628
Total Unrestricted funds	**142,456**	**66,356**	**15,170**	**20,290**	**213,931**
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Trusthouse	-	23,176	15,763	-	7,413
Comic Relief	-	3,400	3,400	-	-
Active Wellbeing	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Eveson Trust	1,880	-	1,880	-	-
National Lottery	-	26,899	26,899	-	-
UK Youth Fund	-	18,300	18,300	-	-
Henry Smith	-	50,000	23,742	-	26,258
Tudor Trust	17,435	20,000	17,402	-	20,034
Sport England	9,185	-	-	-	9,185
Grantham Yorke	7,531	-	7,531	-	-
Heart of England - Coronavirus RF	5,000	-	5,000	-	-
Garfield Weston	15,000	-	15,000	-	-
Children In Need - Next Steps	15,366	63,940	55,757	-	23,548
HS2	-	31,300	10,546	- 20,290	464
VRU	2,397	7,344	6,046	-	3,695
Heart of England - CSW	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
HAF Programme	-	63,904	44,834	-	19,070
Heart of England - Winter Wellbeing	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Ironmongers	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Sheldon Trust	-	8,994	7,112	-	1,882
					-
Total Restricted funds	**74,794**	**328,256**	**265,211**	**- 20,290**	**117,549**
TOTAL FUNDS	**217,250**	**394,612**	**280,382**	**-**	**331,480**

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

13 **MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Our **Unrestricted funds** come from public donations or income we generate via a) sale of refreshments, b) entry fees at seasonal community events we run, c) our community swapshop and d) hiring out the playground and our staff to other organisations, including running targeted sessions for groups who cannot access the site in open busier sessions.

Unrestricted funds cover our bills, our day to day expenses and the ongoing repair and maintenance of the site and buildings

We have **Designated funds** for service development – which includes strategic planning and development and also for site dilapidation so that there are sufficient funds to cover the costs of electricians, plumbers or roofers as required.

Funding from **Trusthouse, Tudor Trust and Children in Need** was awarded to cover the salaries of key full-time or substantial part-time playworkers, most specifically our Forest School workers and our Therapeutic Playworker together with some running costs.

Funding from **Comic Relief** was awarded to pay for one year, the salaries of our playworkers who run our weekly Adventure Tots session, together with resources and equipment for this session. Funding from the **Ironmonger's** Company has been awarded to keep this successful project going.

Funding from **Active Wellbeing** was awarded to MAPA so that we could take children and young people on trips off site to do a range of other physical activities.

Funding from **Eveson Trust** was awarded to pay for holiday playworkers during half-terms.

Funding from the **National Lottery**, the **UK Youth Fund** and **Sheldon Trust** was awarded to cover the salaries of our youth workers and some running costs and resources.

Funding from the **Henry Smith** Charity was awarded to cover the salaries of the two most senior members of staff who manage the play team and the youth team.

Funding from **Sport England** was awarded for a play and physical literacy project run in partnership with Circus Mash. It funded the costs of circus trainers for our staff and circus kit such as stilts, unicycles, diablos, trapezes, plates and flower sticks etc.

Funding from **Grantham Yorke** was awarded to cover the salaries of our two Saturday playworkers.

Funding from the **Heart of England Coronavirus Resilience Fund** was awarded in the early days of the pandemic to pay for sessional youth workers

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

13 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funding from **Garfield Weston** was awarded to cover the salary of our part-time administrative and finance officer.

Funding from the **HS2** Community & Environment Fund was awarded to MAPA to design and purchase some converted shipping containers that would give us space for an office, for meetings and training workshops and indoor activity space for children and young people. This funding also meant we could purchase office furniture and equipment, art and craft and sensory equipment, locks and signage.

Funding from the **VRU** was awarded to MAPA to cover a) the costs of an additional detached youth worker project in neighbouring Kingshurst while numbers on youth nights had to be restricted, and b) a multi-agency project supporting specific young people deemed most at risk.

Funding from the **Heart of England CSW** (Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Fund) was awarded to MAPA to enable us to buy tools and equipment for our forest school and environmental sessions.

Funding from the **HAF Programme** (Holiday Activities and Food) was awarded to MAPA to enable us to pay for extra playworkers and a cook and assistant cook in the main school holidays, as well as food for a hot or cold packed lunch for the hundreds of children who come in the holidays, and playscheme resources and equipment.

Funding from the **Heart of England - Winter Wellbeing** and Recovery fund was awarded to help with MAPA's running costs.

14 EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The pension costs charged to the Statement of Financial Activities represent the amount of the contributions payable to the schemes in respect of the accounting period.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

15 COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020-21 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies		18,675	-	18,675
Charitable activities		42,495	182,739	225,233
Other trading activities		2,166	-	2,166
Total income		**63,336**	**182,739**	**246,075**
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable activities		17,884	126,187	144,072
Raising funds		719	-	719
Total expenditure		**18,603**	**126,187**	**144,791**
Net movement in funds		**44,733**	**56,551**	**101,284**
Transfer between funds		40,926	- 40,926	-
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward		**56,797**	**59,169**	**115,966**
Total funds carried forward		**142,456**	**74,794**	**217,250**

16 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Container Structure £	E-quipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1st April 2021	45,797	1,524	47,321
Additions	20,290	-	20,290
At 31 March 2022	66,087	1,524	67,611
Depreciation			
At 1st April 2021	3,053	305	3,358
Charge for the year	4,406	305	4,711
At 31 March 2022	7,459	610	8,069
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2022	**58,628**	**914**	**59,542**
At 31 March 2021	42,744	1,219	43,963

SPARC TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1171350

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1171350

Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021 for Meriden Adventure Playground Association

C/O Enterprise Centre
1 Hedingham Grove
Chelmunds Cross
Chelmsley Wood
Birmingham
B37 7TP

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

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Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

To provide, maintain and develop facilities at Meriden Adventure Playground for children, young people and families resident in Chelmsley Wood and its' surrounding areas, through the provision of safe and stimulating play opportunities so as to develop their physical, social and mental skills.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Strategic sessions with Colebridge Trust

Sue and Jeanette came and facilitated some sessions with the board of trustees in early March 2020 to help us do the groundwork for a 5-year strategic plan. Lockdown did interrupt this work, but as things have eased we have continued to work on this with the great start they gave us and are about to produce a spanking new business plan.

First Lockdown

There were some highlights for us during lockdown. We furloughed nearly all the staff, but those who stayed on, worked in partnership with local volunteers (now called the Rainbow Alliance) to pick up food from supermarkets and deliver food parcels and play packs to those families in real need locally, which also helped us stay in touch with them. It also gave the opportunity to get lots of development and maintenance work done on site and together with the help of several volunteers who were desperate to get out of the house, we managed to build a stage, extend and revamp the garden, install a real donated boat and completely clear out and reorganise all our storage containers – all much-needed tasks.

Summer 2020

We reopened the playground in the first week of July and had to use an online booking system to ensure that numbers were limited in a specific number of daily sessions with lots of disinfectant spraying and hand sanitising everywhere. This worked well considering the limitations (and frustrations with the booking system!) and we continued to use it for several months but we are looking forward to reverting to normal open access as soon as we can – especially to rebuild relationships and communication with those children who regularly turned up unaccompanied.

We were thrilled to set up and build a growing partnership with child psychologists from Barnardo's who over the summer brought groups of children on site twice a week for 'therapeutic play sessions'. We all know that play is nature's therapy for kids and it helps them face and conquer their fears, play out their worries and start to build the confidence and resilience they so need – it was wonderful to see this happening in front of us and also continuing into the autumn term.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

Sadly with the second lockdown in October this ceased but we look forward to growing this partnership once restrictions finally ease.

Autumn and Spring lockdowns

We were able to stay open after discussions with both Public Health and with the police, albeit for much smaller numbers – initially only 15 per session, which was very tough when so many wanted to come. We had to keep the online booking system going for months in order to try and manage things as fairly as possible.

In order to therefore increase local access, we expanded our daytime targeted sessions for home educated children, disabled children and those under five, as well as offering extra sessions for visiting pupil referral units. Play sessions after school and on Saturdays continue although in order to ensure that local children who would find it difficult or impossible to attend open access sessions, we are now having 'closed' sessions for particular groups once or twice a week.

Youth Nights

Twice-weekly Youth Nights continued after the first lockdown and we also set up a detached youth work project in Kingshurst with funding from the Police Violence Reduction Unit. Many of these young people now come over to the playground each week. Lots of individual young people have been supported on a range of mostly mental health issues and there have been plenty of conversations about these and the effects of the pandemic. We look forward to picking up and starting projects and trips off site that were all cancelled due to lockdowns.

Site Development

The wonderful B37 Project managed to complete their community environmental project on and around the site which has revolutionised our garden area and given us loads of growing flowers, fruit, vegetable and newly planted trees, as well as new habitats for hedgehogs, insects, butterflies and bats, all of which has excited and involved children.

Training

We don't have a big training budget, but the pandemic has enabled plenty of free online training for charities and we have been able to take advantage of many of these. Staff have therefore taken workshops in Trauma-informed practice, safeguarding with particular groups, food hygiene, Team Teach and various other subjects which has been really useful.

Lease

We finally signed the lease with Solihull MBC for use of the land and kitchen/toilets building, which has enabled us to draw down the funding from HS2 for installation of the converted shipping containers on site and to date, the concrete foundations for these have been completed and we look forward to the containers arriving in early summer 2021.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

Feedback

Feedback continues to be extremely positive in our comments book, on the periodic questionnaires or surveys we send out, and on our Facebook page as well as in the regular and spontaneous conversations had with both adults and children/young people. We continue to be amazed at the power of play to build confidence, resilience and to make all our lives much better all round, especially after this stressful and difficult year.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Overview

As shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 8, the Charity's total income rose to £249,446 for the year, representing an increase of 18% from 2019-20. The Charity's total expenditure fell from £186,867 to £144,791, resulting in a surplus of £104,655. At 31 March 2021 total funds were £220,621, of this £145,827 was unrestricted and £74,794 restricted.

Reserves Policy

A charity's free reserves are its general unrestricted funds (excluding any element represented by fixed assets) less any funds which have been designated for specific future projects by the Trustees. Details of designated funds are given in note 15 of these financial statements.

The charity's reserves policy is to hold a minimum level of free reserves equivalent to approximately six months' expenditure, in order to ensure that any delay in the receipt of income by the charity, caused by the actions of third parties, does not affect the ability of the charity to meet its obligations to its beneficiaries.

As indicated on page 15, note 14, the level of unallocated reserves as at 31 March 2021 was £53,083 which represents 6 months expenditure. The Trustees regularly review the appropriateness of the reserves policy with regard to the current environment in which the Charity operates and believe the level of reserves to be appropriate.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1171350

Registered office

C/O Enterprise Centre
1 Hedingham Grove
Chelmunds Cross
Chelmsley Wood
Birmingham
B37 7TP

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS - continued

Independent Examiner
SAB Accountancy Services Ltd
102 Hamstead Road
Great Barr
Birmingham
B43 5BN

Bankers
The Co-operative Bank PLC
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

Trustees
Alison Wood
David Wood
Johanna Battista (resigned 20 January 2021)
John Freeman
Mark Wilson
Mary Painting (Treasurer)
Mccallmont Clarke
Sarah Evans
Tracey Beasley
Tracey Brant

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the report of the trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom accounting standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 29 October 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Mary Painting
Trustee

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2021 which are set out on pages' 8 to 16.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charity are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or

3) the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or

4) the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for 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).

I have no concerns and have come across no 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.

Stacey Willis ACMA, CGMA
SAB Accountancy Services Ltd
102 Hamstead Road
Great Barr
Birmingham
B43 5BN

21 October 2021

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

	Notes	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	2020-21 Total funds	2019-20 Total funds
		£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	18,675	-	18,675	12,914
Charitable activities	3	42,495	182,739	225,233	196,290
Other trading activities	4	2,166	-	2,166	2,486
Total income		**63,336**	**182,739**	**246,075**	211,690
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	6	17,884	126,187	144,072	185,440
Raising funds	7	719	-	719	1,427
Total expenditure		**18,603**	**126,187**	**144,791**	186,867
Net income/-expenditure		44,733	56,551	**101,284**	24,823
Transfers between funds		40,926	- 40,926	**-**	**-**
Net movement in funds	14	**85,659**	**15,625**	**101,284**	24,823
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	14	**56,797**	**59,169**	**115,966**	91,143
Total funds carried forward		**142,456**	**74,794**	**217,250**	115,966

CONTINUING OPERATIONS
The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Balance Sheet
At 31 March 2021

	Notes	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	2020-21 Total funds	2019-20 Total funds
FIXED ASSETS		**£**	**£**	**£**	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	16	43,963	-	**43,963**	-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank and in hand		97,622	74,794	**172,416**	115,790
Debtors	9	3,690	-	**3,690**	2,510
		101,312	**74,794**	**176,106**	118,300
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	- 2,819	**-**	**- 2,819**	- 2,334
NET CURRENT ASSETS / - LIABILITIES		**98,492**	**74,794**	**173,287**	115,966
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**142,456**	**74,794**	**217,251**	115,966
NET ASSETS		**142,456**	**74,794**	**217,251**	115,966
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY	14				
Unrestricted funds		**142,456**	**-**	**142,456**	56,797
Restricted funds		**-**	**74,794**	**74,794**	59,169
		142,456	**74,794**	**217,250**	115,966

For the year ended 31 March 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors / Trustees responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 - however, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner who's report appears on page 7;
- The director trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the Trustees on 29 October 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Mary Painting
Trustee

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Company Status

The charity was entered onto the Register of Charities of the Charity Commission of England and Wales on 27 January 2017, with registered charity number 1171350.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 ' The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis using the historic cost concept.

Going Concern assumption

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the charity will continue to operate. The charity's business plan shows that the charity will be able to operate in the foreseeable future. Based on this understanding the director trustees believe that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. The financial statements do not include any adjustments, which would result from the basis of preparation being inappropriate.

Charitable Status

Meriden Adventure Playground Association (MAPA) is a registered charity and is exempt from corporation tax and capital gains tax provided its income and gains are applied for charitable purposes.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then the income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Income from grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Income from trading activities includes income earned from the sale of food and drinks. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods, in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement occurs.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs relating to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to a particular heading they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Expenditure is classified under the following heading:

Expenditure on charitable activities comprise the direct costs of activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity, including grants payable and all associated support costs.

Cost of raising funds comprise the costs of commercial trading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which expenditure was incurred.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event where it is probable that there will be an outflow of economic resources to settle the obligation and where creditors can be estimated or measured reliably.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of each asset, less its residual value, over its estimated useful economic life. The depreciation charge recognised each year relates to the class of the asset, the rates and classes are as follows:

Equipment - *5 years straight line*
Container Structure - *15 years straight line*

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor the year ended 31 March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor the year ended 31 March 2020 except for reasonable out of pocket expenses.

2 INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020-21	Total 2019-20
	£	£	£	£
Donations	18,675	-	**18,675**	12,914

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020-21	Total 2019-20
	£	£	£	£
Events	891	-	891	4,497
Grants	30,307	182,739	213,046	188,539
Schools	11,296	-	11,296	3,254
	42,495	**182,739**	**225,233**	196,290

4 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020-21	Total 2019-20
	£	£	£	£
Other sales	1,111	-	1,111	819
Café sales	1,055	-	1,055	1,666
	2,166	**-**	**2,166**	2,486

5 CONTROLLING INTEREST

The Charity is controlled by its Trustees.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

6 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020-21	Total 2019-20
	£	£	£	£
Accountancy	1,781	-	1,781	1,137
Depreciation	3,358	-	3,358	-
Insurance	2,134	-	2,134	2,029
Legal and professional	1,436	-	1,436	878
Low value tools & equipment	1,059	-	1,059	2,180
Materials and consumables	1,017	8,466	9,482	15,380
Office supplies and sundries	1,112	399	1,510	2,970
Site Development	-	-	-	28,439
Staff costs	4,557	116,629	121,186	131,201
Training	1,431	695	2,126	1,151
Travel	-	-	-	75
	17,884	**126,187**	**144,072**	185,440

7 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020-21	Total 2019-20
	£	£	£	£
Cost of goods sold	719	-	**719**	1,427

8 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Total 2020-21	Total 2019-20
	£	£
Accrued expenditure	750	630
Taxes and social Security	2,069	1,704
	2,819	2,334

9 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Total 2020-21	Total 2019-20
	£	£
Trade debtors	1,250	500
Prepaid expenditure	2,087	2,010
Other debtors	353	-
	3,690	2,510

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

10 STAFF COSTS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENSES

	Total 2020-21 £	Total 2019-20 £
Wages and salaries	121,186	131,201

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2020-21	2019-20
Full time	3	3
Part time	14	14

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000

During the year the CIO employed the full time equivalent of 1 Senior Playworker (1 in 2019/20), 1 Deputy Senior Playworker (1 in 2019/20) and 1 Playworker (1 in 2019/20).

Part time employees include 1 Youth Development worker (1 in 2019/20), 1 part-time Finance & Admin worker (1 in 2019/20) and 12 part-time playworkers or sessional youth workers (12 in

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees, Senior Playworker, Deputy Senior Playworker and Youth Development Worker. Trustees receive no remuneration or other benefits from the charity. The remuneration of key management personnel for the year was £69,169 (£41,802 in 2019-20)

11 COMMITMENTS

There were no operating lease payments committed beyond the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

12 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no transactions with related parties in this reporting period.

13 PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES

At the date that these accounts were approved there was a liability arising in relation to water and electricity usage at the site of Meriden Adventure Playground Association.

The liability is expected to result in an outflow of resources (expenditure) within 12 months of the approval of the accounts and is a present obligation as a result of past events.

These financial statements do not include a provision since the amount owing cannot be reliably measured. At the time of approving the accounts early discussions with the lessor suggest that the liability may be in the region of £10,000 for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

14 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at beginning of year £	Income £	Exp-enditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at end of year £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds					
General Funds - all funds	56,797	63,336	15,550	- 54,871	49,711
Designated funds					
Container structure	-	-	3,053	45,797	42,744
Site dilapidation	-	-	-	20,000	20,000
Service development	-	-	-	30,000	30,000
	-	-	3,053	95,797	92,744
Total Unrestricted funds	**56,797**	**63,336**	**18,603**	**40,926**	**142,456**
Restricted funds:					
Awards For All	3,261	-	3,261	-	-
Children In Need	4,215	2,500	6,715	-	-
Active Wellbeing	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Eveson Trust	3,000	-	1,120	-	1,880
National Lottery	25,758	55,056	80,814	-	-
Birmingham Airport	3,000	-	-	- 3,000	-
Pocket Parks	500	-	500	-	-
Tudor Trust	9,250	32,000	23,814	-	17,435
Sport England	9,185	-	-	-	9,185
Grantham Yorke	-	10,000	2,469	-	7,531
Heart of England - Coronavirus	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
HS2	-	37,926	-	- 37,926	-
Garfield Weston	-	15,000	-	-	15,000
Children In Need - Next Steps	-	16,060	695	-	15,366
Heart of England - Rainbow Alliance	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
VRU	-	4,196	1,799	-	2,397
Total Restricted funds	**59,169**	**182,739**	**126,187**	**- 40,926**	**74,794**
TOTAL FUNDS	**115,966**	**246,075**	**144,791**	**-**	**217,250**

Meriden Adventure Playground Association

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

15 COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	Notes	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2019-20 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies		12,914	-	12,914
Charitable activities		7,751	188,539	196,290
Other trading activities		2,486	-	2,486
Total income		**23,151**	**188,539**	**211,690**
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable activities		9,979	175,461	185,440
Raising funds		1,427	-	1,427
Total expenditure		**11,406**	**175,461**	**186,867**
Net movement in funds		**11,745**	**13,078**	**24,823**
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward		**45,052**	**46,091**	**91,143**
Total funds carried forward		**56,797**	**59,169**	**115,966**

16 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Container Structure £	E-quipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1st April 2020	-	-	-
Additions	42,426	1,524	43,950
At 31 March 2021	42,426	1,524	43,950
Depreciation			
At 1st April 2020	-	-	-
Charge for the year	3,053	305	3,358
At 31 March 2021	3,053	305	3,358
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2021	**39,373**	**1,219**	**40,592**
At 31 March 2020	-	-	-