

Shiremoor Adventure Playground Trust
Registered Charity No. 1171407

**Trustees' Report
and
Financial Statement
for the year ended
30 June 2023**

Shiremoor Adventure Playground Trust

Name: Shiremoor Adventure Playground Trust

Charity no: 1171407

Structure: Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed by a constitution, and a registered charity

Trustees:

Lesley Godfrey	Chair
Victor Harlow	Vice Chair
Katherine Heason	Treasurer
Teresa Bromilow	
Una MacDermott	
Ingrid Wilson	
David Stocks	
Dawn Allan	
Dr Angela Brown	

Trustees are elected by the membership at each Annual General Meeting.

Address: Brenkley Avenue
Shiremoor
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE27 0PR

Bankers: Unity Trust Bank

Independent Examiner: Mark Thompson MAAT
VODA
Spirit of North Tyneside Wing
2nd Floor, Wallsend Customer First Centre
16 The Forum
Wallsend
NE28 8JR

Shriemoor Adventure Playground Trust

Review of activities and performance

After a turbulent time during the Covid pandemic, the playground settled into a routine again and projects that had been postponed due to lockdowns were started.

In early June we had embarked on a boat building project with the children and young people which culminated in the children launching the boat, now named Queen Mavis, and paddling her down the River Tyne from Newburn to Derwenthaugh Marina. The build and sailing adventure were captured on video for posterity and for our generous funders, and this year the video was edited and made available to funders as an example of the adventurous activities we offer.

Work on the pond area of the playground continued this year, with hardcore paths and a wide bridge being installed, to enable wheelchair users and children with mobility and visual difficulties to access the area. Some additional walls have also been built, and funding was found to purchase more fruit trees which will be bought and planted in the autumn colder weather.

Funding was also secured towards the end of last year from the Health Inequalities Fund to run a cycling project to teach children to ride and maintain a bike, and use the local wagonway, with a view to them becoming confident, independent cyclists. This year saw the project take off, and provide cycling lessons for 60 children across 7 cohorts during the 18 month funded programme. Children were surveyed before and after their involvement, and changes in their sense of self-esteem and well-being, confidence and increased use of outdoor space were explored. The results were overwhelmingly positive and a significant improvement in children's mental health and wellbeing was identified. In addition, several of the children who participated have started attending the playground on a regular basis.

This year we found funding to have two raku pottery sessions with the children, to decorate and fire tiles to adorn a doorway. Alongside the pottery theme, we funded Muddy Fingers Pottery to help the children build and decorate a pizza oven next to the fire pit which has been very popular and already very well used.

In this period, we funded a weekend residential in the North Pennines and our staff led regular cycle outings around North Tyneside. Sessions on Sundays and Mondays which are held only for children with additional needs and their families proved even more popular than ever with a total of 5,369 visits in those two days over the year. August was the busiest month by far, when Sunday and Monday sessions totalled an unprecedented 1,058 visits.

At the away day in January, we developed a strategy for the coming 5 years which would see the playground recognised as a centre of excellence. As part of this, we were able to access funding through a trustee who is also a training provider, to deliver a Level 3 Transition to Playwork qualification. Over 70 people enrolled on the programme, far exceeding our expectations. Learners have until the end of November 2023 to complete the qualification, a stipulation attached to the funding stream.

During the winter months we employed a former playground attendee, now grown up, to run a weekly session for young people 13+. There is little in the immediate area for teenagers, and it had been noted that there had been some challenging behaviour in the neighbourhood, which prompted the local authority to provide us with funding for these sessions. Starting small, they have grown over the months through word of mouth and are now proving successful, with 119 attendances in March and 86 in April. As is often the case, we also recruited an extra staff member for the summer playscheme, to help manage the Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF), which enables us to provide a free lunch for all those on free school meals during the school holidays.

In June we worked with the north east branch of Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) to deliver a one-day conference on site for school staff engaged in developing play in their school. Participants had the opportunity to climb the structures, sit at the fire pit eating pizza, play with water, discuss play in school and understand risk benefit assessment, all while the sun shone. Feedback from delegates was very positive and as a result, we have plans to hold another event in the coming year.

Overall, our number of visits has gone up this year, although comparison with the previous year is a little unfair. Lockdowns and the pandemic in itself caused people to be more cautious about circulating in public spaces in 2021-22, as the periods of lockdown were phased out. However, in that year we had a total of 33,433 visits, compared with 41,252 visits in this reporting year. Our efforts to engage more young people through the cycling project, the 13+ sessions, the additional needs sessions and special events such as the pizza oven build and raku tile-making have paid off and had a significant impact on our reach.

Risks, reserves and investments

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level equivalent to six months expenditure. This level would allow the charity to continue its activities for a reasonable period in the event of a sudden curtailment of funding. This would allow enough time for the charity to either obtain new funding sources or restructure its activities

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 1993. The Trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Signed:  Chair, on behalf of the Trustees, date: 6/3/24

Independent Examiners Report

Report to the
trustees of

Shiremoor Adventure Playground Trust

On accounts for
the year ended

30-Jun-23 Charity no 1171407

Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and
examiner

The trustees of the organisation are responsible for the preparation of accounts; they consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an Independent Examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act),
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act), and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of
independent
examiner's
statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent
examiner's
statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
 - proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 130 of the Act); and
 - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



12 February 2024

Name:
Address:

Mark Thompson MAAT
VODA
Spirit of North Tyneside Wing
2nd Floor, Wallsend Customer First Centre
16 The Forum
Wallsend
NE28 8JR

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 30 June 2023

		Unrestricted Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Receipts					
Grants	2	29773	2900	32673	51379
Donations and legacies		939		939	1869
Other Trading Activities		2807		2807	3250
Total Receipts		33519	2900	36419	56498
Payments					
Salaries		21617		21617	31346
Other Charitable Activities		2455	4416	6871	3545
Website				0	63
Payroll Fees		572		572	1349
Insurance		322		322	321
Governance		450		450	472
Miscellaneous		681		681	300
Total Payments		26097	4416	30513	37396
Surplus / deficit for the year		7422	-1516	5906	19102
Transfer between Funds				0	0
Funds at 1 July 2022		30836	13540	44376	25274
Funds at 30 June 2023		38258	12024	50282	44376

Shiremoor Adventure Playground Trust

Balance Sheet

30-Jun-23

	2023 £	2022 £
notes		
Current assets		
Debtor		
Cash at bank and in hand	50,282	44,376
Total Cash Balance	50,282	44,376
Current Liabilities		
Net Current Assets	50,282	44,376
Net Assets at 30 June 2023	50,282	23,801
Represented By		
Restricted Funds	12,024	13,540
Unrestricted Funds	38,258	30,836
	50,282	44,376

The financial statements were approved by the following members
of the Management Committee:

Signed.....

Position.....CHAIR.....

Signed.....

Position.....Treasurer.....

Date

Shiremoor Adventure Playground Trust
Notes to the accounts, 2023

1. Accounting Policies

- a The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006

Shiremoor Adventure Playground Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

- b Grants received are accounted for on a received basis and credited to income.
- c Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Receipts and Payments Account when received.
- d Freehold property is stated at value, depreciation only listed when applicable.
 Fixtures & Fittings are depreciated at 15% reducing balance.

2. Grants receivable

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funding
North Tyneside Council - Wages	10202		10202
North Tyneside Council - HAF Summer 2022	12650		12650
North Tyneside Council - HAF Christmas 2022	2375	200	2575
North Tyneside Council - HAF Easter 2023	3736		3736
North Tyneside Council	810	0	810
Woodward Trust - Summer Playscheme		2200	2200
Grow & Eat		500	500
Total	29773	2900	32673

3. Trustees, staff and related party transactions

The organisation employed four part-time members of staff during the period of the accounts. No payments were made to trustees. Total salary costs for the year £21,617

4 Analysis of Restricted Funds:

	Open Balanc 01/07/2022	Income	Expenditure	End Balance 30/06/2023
Sir James Knott Trust	335		160	175
North Tyneside Council - Fellwalking & Outdoor Activities	400		400	0
Arnold Clark Automation	600			600
Woodward Trust - Summer Playscheme	0	2200		2200
Health Inequalities Fund - The Wheel Deal	5360			5360
Charities Aid Foundation	400			400
North of Tyne Community Centres Grant	4445		2306	2139
Community Foundation - 1989 Willan Charitable Trust	2000		1350	650
North Tyneside Council - HAF Christmas 2022		200	200	0
Grow & Eat		500		500
Total	13540	2900	4416	12024