

Let's Get Growing Ltd.

Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements

1 December 2021 to 30 November 2022

Let's Get Growing Ltd.**Company Information****Directors**

Mrs Eileen Ewen
Mrs Elizabeth Hume
Ms Nuala O'Brien
Mrs Jane Torday

Secretary

Katrina Padmore

Company Number

7287776

Charity Registration Number 1172662

Registered Office

Steel Farm Cottage
Steel
Hexham
Northumberland
NE47 0LG

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank
PO Box 250
Delf House
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

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Let's Get Growing Ltd.

Directors' Report 1 December 2021 – 30 November 2022

The Directors present their report and the financial statements for 1 December 2021 to 30 November 2022

Objectives and activities

Purposes

The purposes of Let's Get Growing, as set out in our Articles of Association are:-

- To assist in the treatment and care of persons suffering from physical and mental illness of any description or in need of rehabilitation as a result of such illness, in Hexham and the surrounding areas, by the provision of therapeutic gardening and horticulture.
- To advance the education of the public, in particular, but not exclusively, young people in the subject of horticulture and related practices.

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when setting our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities.

Activities

In the financial year ending 30 November 2022, Let's Get Growing provided the following services:-

- Our regular twice weekly gardening therapy sessions at Minsteracres Peace Garden (working with adults aged 22 – 85 yrs experiencing a range of physical and mental health difficulties, including depression, anxiety, PTSD, bi-polar disorder, dementia and mild learning difficulties) remained open throughout the period..
- Additional one-off therapeutic garden workshops for a range of groups of all ages, including addicts in recovery, homeless people, carers, refugees and asylum seekers were back to pre-covid levels

Achievements and Performance

- 2022 was another positive year, when our gardening therapy sessions were largely fully subscribed. New participants included those with a variety of mental health issues and autism. We continued to see significant benefits for those who attended and this was reflected in feedback from participants themselves, carers and family members. Despite a significant variation in age and background, the level of trust, open-ness and caring for others amongst the group is notable and very much part of the healing process in attending, which we work hard to nurture
- We appreciated the continuing support of a very skilled and committed team of volunteers. Two new volunteers joined during this period, bringing with them very relevant skills from their work as a GP and as a psychiatrist specialising in working with dementia respectively. As well as formal volunteer meetings and an informal space before gardening sessions, when volunteers can chat and raise concerns, the co-ordinators also provided one-to-one time for each volunteer to discuss how they are getting along and any further guidance or training needed. In response to these discussions, we have organised a mental health training day for our volunteers in 2023, to promote a deeper understanding of the issues that our gardening therapy participants face and to explore helpful strategies for supporting them.

- We continued to prioritise teaching organic growing skills and planting to create bio-diversity. We are monitoring a new no-dig area to see how this compares with other dug areas over the next few years. We successfully experimented with growing some new vegetables, including carrots, celeriac and garlic and plan to continue to increase the range of what we grow. We once again combined a small subsidised veg box scheme open to those attending gardening sessions, with selling produce to the Angel Inn in Corbridge.
- The whole garden, including the extensive ornamental areas, were lovingly maintained to provide a beautiful, therapeutic space, not just for those attending gardening therapy sessions, but also for the local community at large. In May we had an Open Day, which was a great opportunity to connect with local residents from County Durham and Northumberland and to introduce them to the garden and to our project.
- Additional one-off sessions in the garden for a range of other beneficiary groups of all ages, from children to adults, were well subscribed. New staff member, Holly Clay, brought lots of nature-inspired arty ideas to share with these groups, as well as a warm, sensitive and inclusive welcome for all.
- In 2022 we set up an instagram account, enabling participants, volunteers and staff to share photos of memorable moments in and around the garden, which captured something of the diversity of what happens here. It also gave us an increased ability to stay connected with all our friends and supporters.

Financial review

The principal income sources for Let's Get Growing are from participant contributions for regular gardening therapy sessions, produce sales and additional one-off therapeutic workshops, as well as from funding from charitable trusts and private donations. The breakdown by percentage of all our income sources in this accounting period is shown below.

INCOME SOURCE	%
Participant contributions	61
Produce sales	7
Additional one-off workshops	4
Private donations and GiftAid	7
Charitable grants	21

In this reporting period, our regular gardening group met twice weekly and additional one-off workshops for a range of other beneficiary groups were back to pre-covid levels.

Produce sales brought in £4,331 which represented approximately 7% of our total income. There was an Open Day for the local community, which involved members of the gardening therapy group in selling tea and cake and in providing tours of the garden to raise funds both for Ukraine and for refugees everywhere. This enabled us to make a donation of £140 to support the Red Cross Ukrainian Crisis appeal and £140 to support Minsteracres Retreat Centre in their work with refugees from all areas of the world.

We are very grateful for the generosity of individual donors. During this period, one of our volunteers offered to sell donated second-hand items on ebay, which raised a further ~~£155~~. This is an ongoing project.

We remain committed to providing free or subsidised places to those who can benefit from the project, but who are unable to access statutory funding and do not have private means. Mostly this seems to be those with mental health difficulties who are living on benefits and are not eligible for a personal budget. We anticipate that we shall therefore require some charitable funding into the future to accommodate this aim, as well as to support the work of the organisation as a whole.

At the end of the reporting period, Let's Get Growing carried forward £24,813 restricted charitable funding allocated to the Minsteracres gardening therapy project, to be spent during the next financial year.

Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 17 June 2010 and registered as a charity on 20 April 2017. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10.

There are currently three directors on the board, after one of our trustees stepped down during this period. The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and, under the company's Articles, are known as members of the Management Committee. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, one third of the members of the Management Committee must retire at each Annual General Meeting and may stand for re-election if desired.

The Management Committee seeks to ensure that the needs of this group are appropriately reflected through the diversity of the trustee body, which now includes a retired head teacher, a retired social worker and a retired communications manager. Educational, social care and PR skills are currently well represented. We are looking for the right individual to approach to take on the newly-available role of fourth trustee and to further broaden the skill mix from which we already benefit.

All members of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity.

The directors who served during the year are as stated below:-

Mrs Eileen Ewen Ms Nuala O'Brien
Mrs Elizabeth Hume Mrs Jane Torday Bates

The directors who stepped down during this period are:-

Mrs Jane Torday Bates

This report was approved by the Board on 10 May 2023 and signed on its behalf by

..... E. Hume

Elizabeth Hume

Chair

..... E.H. Ewen

Eileen Ewen

Director

Let's Get Growing Ltd.

Statement of Financial Activities From 1 December 2021 to 30 November 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021/2022	2020/2021
INCOME	2,955.00	63,772	66,727	47,295
Direct expenditure	2,610	55,442	58,052	38,500
	345	8,330	8,675	8,795
Administrative Expenses	313	5,614	5,927	5,359
Building Costs	0	0	0	1,876
Charitable Donations (Ukraine)	0	280	280	0
	32	2,436	2,468	1,560
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	0	0	0	0
Unpaid wages	0	0	0	0
Net income	32	2,436	2,468	1,560
Funds b/f as at 1 Dec 2021	1,149	22,377	23,526	21,966
Total funds carried forward	1,181	24,813	25,994	23,526

Y. Andrew Poley
12/2/2023

Let's Get Growing Ltd.
Balance Sheet as at 30 November 2022

	2021/2022 £	2020/2021 £
Current assets		
Bank Current Account	25,994	23,526
Total current assets	<u>25,994</u>	<u>23,526</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	0	0
Total net assets	<u>25,994</u>	<u>23,526</u>

Capital and reserves

	2021/2022	2020/2021
Called up share capital	0	0
Income and expenditure account	25,994	23,526
Total members funds	<u>25,994</u>	<u>23,526</u>

V. Wootley 12/2/2023

Directors' Statements

For the accounting period ended 30 November 2022, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions and delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

E. Hume
 Elizabeth Hume
 Chair

E. H. Ewen
 Eileen Ewen
 Director

Let's Get Growing Ltd.**Notes to the financial statements
For the period 1 December 2021 to 30 November 2022****1. Accounting policies****1.1. Accounting convention**

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities 2015.

1.2. Turnover

Turnover represents the total invoice value, excluding value added tax, of sales made during the year and derives from the provision of services falling within the company's ordinary activities, wholly undertaken within the UK.

2. Company limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee. Every member of the Company undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required (not exceeding £10) to the Company's assets if it should be wound up while they are a member, or within one year after ceasing to be a member, for payment of the Company's debts and liabilities contracted before ceasing to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves. If the Company is wound up or dissolved and after all its debts and liabilities have been satisfied there remains any property it shall not be paid to, or distributed among the members of the Company, but shall be given or transferred to some other Company or charities having similar objects which prohibit the distribution of its income and property, directly or indirectly, by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise by way of profit, to members of the Company

3. Controlling interest

In the opinion of the directors the company is under no controlling interest.

Let's Get Growing Ltd.

4. Detailed income and expenditure account for the period 1 December 2021 to 30 November 2022

Income	1 Dec 2021 - 30 Nov 2022		
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
Grants:			
National Lottery Community Fund	8,898.00	0.00	8,898.00
Boundary Lane Wind Farm Community Benefits Fund	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
Total Grants	13,898.00	0.00	13,898.00
Donations	3,850.99	0.00	3,850.99
Participant contributions	40,544.04	0.00	40,544.04
Produce sales:			
Veg box scheme	993.00	0.00	993.00
Other produce sales	3,338.17	0.00	3,338.17
Total Produce sales	4,331.17	0.00	4,331.17
Garden project fees	0.00	2,655.00	2,655.00
Building rental	40.00	0.00	40.00
Sundry	115.28	300.00	415.28
GiftAid	992.21	0.00	992.21
TOTAL INCOME	63,771.69	2,955.00	66,726.69
Expenditure			
Direct Expenditure:			
Project management fees	40,154.00	2,393.20	42,547.20
Garden materials	5,689.43	216.63	5,906.06
Participant transport	9,549.68	0.00	9,549.68
Participant outings	49.45	0.00	49.45
	55,442.56	2,609.83	58,052.39
Administration Expenses :			
Admin/accounting fees	4,620.00	0.00	4,620.00
Printing	0.00	0.00	0.00
Stationery/Postage	127.75	0.00	127.75
Companies House	0.00	13.00	13.00
Insurance	490.28	0.00	490.28
Sundry	375.77	300.00	675.77
	5,613.80	313.00	5,926.80
Charitable Donations (Ukraine)	280.00	0.00	280.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	61,336.36	2,922.83	64,259.19
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	0.00	0.00	0.00
Retained surplus from period	2,435.33	32.17	2,467.50
Funds b/f as at 1 Dec 2021	22,377.30	1,148.99	23,526.29
Total funds carried forward	24,812.63	1,181.16	25,993.79

H. [Signature]
12/2/2023