

Charity Registration Number 1172784

LEVERSTOCK GREEN VILLAGE ASSOCIATION CIO

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2024**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

The Trustees present the annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2024. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and the requirements of the Charity's governing document.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects

The charity's objects, as detailed in the constitution, are:

To promote the benefit and protect the interests of the inhabitants of Leverstock Green and the neighbourhood without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions, by associating together the said inhabitants and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants.

Establish or secure the establishment of a community centre, The Village Hall, and to maintain and manage the same (whether alone or in co-operation with any local authority or other person or body) in furtherance of these objects.

Activities

In order to achieve these objectives, during the year the charity has:

Kept a watching brief on all planning and environment issues which affect residents and lobbied the appropriate authorities where necessary.

Ensured that the Village Hall is well maintained and appropriate for all hall users and drawn up plans to initiate refurbishment projects to keep the facilities to a standard expected by the local residents and users. In this connection the charity has liaised with the Leverstock Green Parish Trust for funding.

Raised funds by a variety of means to cover any shortfall between the hall-hire income and expenses; to pay for the refurbishment works

Maintained sub-committees and working parties as are necessary to address the aims and objectives of the Constitution. These currently comprise, Finance; Environment; and Fete/Fund raising (working party) all of which report back to the Main Committee.

Placed any surplus funds not needed for immediate running of the Village Hall, or other projects, on deposit to earn interest.

Public benefit

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in the planning and operations of all its current and future activities. In particular, the Trustees have given due regard to public benefit to ensure that all the activities have open access and are affordable.

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Hall hire bookings have remained fairly constant and provide varied activities for members of the community and for those from further afield. These have been supplemented with occasional bookings: children's birthday parties, family events etc, which have proved popular.

Environmental & Planning Issues

The Environmental & Planning Sub-Committee (ESC) is made up of members of the main committee and other local residents. Its function is to examine planning applications and proposals with the aim of protecting and preserving the local environment, amenities and Green Belt from encroachment or inappropriate development. The ESC also examines relevant National, Regional, County and Local Plans to establish the possible impact on the environment and amenities of Leverstock Green and the wider LGVA Area of Benefit.

The ESC has monitored closely the emerging St Albans and Dacorum Local Plans. Both plans have been delayed by a number of internal and external factors. The St Albans Plan, which holds the prospect of substantial housing developments in the East Hemel Area, is now not expected to be adopted until mid 2025 at the earliest.

The Poppy Fields Cemetery and the new Hemel Hempstead Crematorium are now fully operational.

Events provided in accordance with our aims:

Winter Fayre, Christmas Lights and Village Fete

The Winter Fayre and Christmas Lights Switch-on, held in Nov-23, has proved very popular, particularly the Christmas Grotto which was a first for us. It is intended that we should build on this for 2024.

The Summer Fete had many new and different stalls. Particular emphasis was placed on family entertainment and there were more children's rides this year. The Best Dressed Stall Rosette was won by Anne-Marie Webley, of Wibbly World, who was showing recycled plastics.

Additional Activities

The Village Voice, our revamped newsletter, has been well received by members of the community. The cost of printing is covered by the income from the advertising.

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds, which have not been designated for a specific use, should be maintained at a level equivalent of £60,000 or twelve months' hall expenditure whichever is the greater. The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

At 31 August 2024 the charity held free reserves of £118,015 (2023: £115,714). This equates to 19 months of running costs. The committee is aware of the excess reserves. Any investments will be made with caution due to the situation created by the rising costs of running expenses, in particular Utilities.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Leverstock Green Village Association CIO is governed by its constitution dated 27 April 2018.

15 individual trustees are elected at the Association's Annual General Meeting. Trustees representing local bodies are nominated by each individual body under its prevailing rules or constitution. At its first meeting after the Annual General Meeting the Management Committee elects from among its members the Officers of the charity to serve for the forthcoming year. Two members are appointed by our landlords, Dacorum Borough Council.

A Welcome Pack is in place to give to each new Trustee on joining the Main Management Committee. It is reviewed and updated each time it is needed so that the very latest information is included. In addition to the Constitution, latest accounts, minutes of last 2 months' meetings, the various Policies, a map of our Area of Benefit and information from the Charity Commission concerning Trustees, information such as contact details of staff and Trustees, a Who's-Who of those actively involved in the association, a history of the charity and the Village Hall, also of the Parish Trust and their Charity Scheme and any other material considered relevant, is given. All new Trustees are personally welcomed by the Chairman and encouraged to ask any questions and join any sub-committee in which they may have a particular interest and are assigned an experienced trustee to assist in familiarising themselves with the charity's activities.

Powers to invest the charity's funds for the benefit of the charity and its members are set out in the Constitution and are vested in the Management Committee.

The charity has no direct connection with any other charity or organisation, but the Leverstock Green Parish Trust provides the charity with donations towards the maintenance of the hall in accordance with its own Scheme of Arrangement.

With the exception of the paid staff, all Trustees are volunteers and all the work of the charity is undertaken by volunteers (not necessarily Trustees) without whom the charity would not be able to function.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

LEVERSTOCK VILLAGE ASSOCIATION CIO

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Leverstock Green Village Association CIO is an incorporated charity registered with the Charity Commission (number 1172784).

The principal operating address of the charity is:

Village Hall
Leverstock Green
Herts
HP3 8QG

The Trustees who served in the year and up to the date of this report were:

Elected Members

I Parish	Chairman
C B Gage	Vice-Chairman (also Holy Trinity Church Representative)
D Tang	Treasurer
M Rayner	Secretary (also Leverstock Green Womens' Institute Representative) resigned 19-Feb-24
B Makins	Secretary (also Leverstock Green Cricket Club Representative) resigned 8-Apr-24
J Baldwin	
H Bassadone	
S Brind	
R Goldstein	resigned 20-Nov-24
C Hill	
R Sutton	resigned 20-Nov-24
N Taylor	
J Walker	
A Weightman	

Representative Members

Leverstock Green Football Club	W Dawes
Leverstock Green Bridge Club	A Woof
1 st Leverstock Green Scouts	M Griffiths

Nominated Members

Dacorum Borough Council	Councillor C McArevey
Dacorum Borough Council	Councillor J Gale

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024**

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing accounts giving a true and fair view, the Trustees should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the provisions of the trust deed. 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.

By order of the Trustees

I Parish – Chairman

25 November 2024

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE LEVERSTOCK GREEN VILLAGE ASSOCIATION CIO**

I report to the trustees on the accounts of Leverstock Green Village Association Trust CIO (charity no: 1172784) for the year ended 31st August 2024 which are set out on pages 7 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of trustee and examiner

The trustees are responsible for 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 Charities Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

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

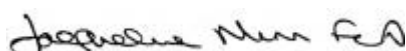
Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention to indicate that:

- accounting records have not been kept in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act;
- the accounts do not accord with such records
- where accounts are prepared on an accruals basis, whether they fail to comply with relevant accounting requirements of the Charities Act or are not consistent with the Charities SORP (FRS102)
- any such matter which the examiner believes should be drawn to the attention of the reader to gain a proper understanding of the accounts.



271 St Albans Road
Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire
HP2 4RP

Dated: 11 October 2024

LEVERSTOCK GREEN VILLAGE ASSOCIATION CIO
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	Restricted 2024 £	Unrestricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Restricted 2023 £	Unrestricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Income from:							
Donations & Grants		5,186	163	5,349	12,988	1,273	14,261
Charitable activities & events	2	1,179	14,342	15,521	642	9,385	10,027
Other trading activities			61,246	61,246		50,483	50,483
Investment income			3,609	3,609		438	438
Total income		6,365	79,360	85,725	13,630	61,579	75,209
Expenditure on:							
Charitable & Fund-raising costs	2	(1,179)	(8,431)	(9,610)	(642)	(4,446)	(5,088)
Staff costs	3		(42,346)	(42,346)		(41,294)	(41,294)
Light, heat & water	4	(2,689)	(17,327)	(20,016)	(1,685)	(20,854)	(22,539)
Insurances & Licences			(2,161)	(2,161)		(2,248)	(2,248)
Repairs & maintenance		(1,773)	(9)	(1,782)	(10,505)	(1,703)	(12,208)
Telephone, postage and stationery			(1,316)	(1,316)		(1,558)	(1,558)
Hall & Office equipment		(724)	(747)	(1,471)	(798)	(279)	(1,077)
Depreciation		(100)	(8,179)	(8,279)	(100)	(8,122)	(8,222)
Independent Examiner's Fee			(390)	(390)		(360)	(360)
Professional Fees			(80)	(80)		(60)	(60)
Sundry			(3,781)	(3,781)		(3,522)	(3,522)
Total expenditure		(6,465)	(84,767)	(91,232)	(13,730)	(84,447)	(98,177)
Net income/(expenditure)		(100)	(5,408)	(5,508)	(100)	(22,868)	(22,968)
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) after transfers		(100)	(5,408)	(5,508)	(100)	(22,868)	(22,968)
Reconciliation of funds							
Fund balances at beginning of year		536	184,587	185,123	636	207,455	208,091
Fund balances at end of year		436	179,179	179,615	536	184,587	185,123

The notes on pages 10 to 15 form part of these accounts.

LEVERSTOCK GREEN VILLAGE ASSOCIATION CIO**BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Notes	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	6		61,164		68,873
Current Assets					
Debtors	7	4,831		2,621	
Cash at bank and in hand		116,323		116,280	
Total Current Assets		121,154		118,901	
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	8	(2,703)		(2,651)	
Net Current Assets		118,451		116,250	
Total Assets less Current Liabilities			179,615		185,123
Represented by:					
Restricted Funds			436		536
Unrestricted Funds					
Designated funds			61,164		68,873
General funds			118,015		115,714
	9		179,615		185,123

Approved by the Trustees on 14th Oct 2024

I Parish – Chairman
Trustee

D Tang – Treasurer
Trustee

The notes on pages 10 to 15 form part of these accounts.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) effective 1 January 2015 and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trustee considers that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income recognition

Income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations, legacies and other forms of voluntary income are recognised as incoming resources when receivable, except insofar as they are incapable of financial measurement. All other forms of income are recognised on a receivable basis. Income relating exclusively to future accounting periods is deferred.

Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Hall Improvements	25 years straight line (lease term)
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	10 years straight line
Computer equipment	3 years straight line

Capitalisation limit of £250.

Funds structure

Restricted funds represent grants, donations and legacies received which are allocated by the donor for specific purposes.

Unrestricted income funds are those funds that are available to the trustees to apply to the general charitable purposes as laid out in the Trust Deed.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been put aside out of unrestricted funds at the discretion of the Trustees.

LEVERSTOCK GREEN VILLAGE ASSOCIATION CIO

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

2. Charitable activities and events & fundraising costs

	Income	Expenditure	Net Total
<i>Year to 31 August 2024</i>			
	£	£	£
Winter Fayre	1,119	(145)	974
Christmas Lights	1,179	(2,409)	(1,230)
Magic Show	582	(450)	132
Quiz Night	1,201	(145)	1,056
Fete	3,657	(412)	3,245
500 Club	2,830	(1,560)	1,270
Newsletter	4,831	(3,977)	854
Other	122	(512)	(390)
Totals	15,521	(9,610)	5,911
<i>Year to 31 August 2023</i>			
	£	£	£
Winter Fayre	1,054	(45)	1,009
Christmas Lights	642	(1,180)	(538)
Big Band Concert	-	-	-
Quiz Night	690	(60)	630
Fete	2,643	(415)	2,228
500 Club	3,059	(1,480)	1,579
Newsletter	1,815	(1,460)	355
Other	125	(448)	(323)
Totals	10,027	(5,088)	4,938

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

3. Staff costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	41,450	40,514
Social security costs	0	0
Pension costs	896	780
	42,346	41,294

Staff numbers

The average monthly number of employees (head count based on number of staff employed) during the year was:

5 5

Staff work part-time and the average number of employees (full time equivalent based on hours worked) during the year was:

2 2

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund

4. Light, heat & water

	2024	2023
	£	£
Electricity	8,406	7,251
Gas	8,727	13,595
Water	2,883	1,693
	20,016	22,539

5. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustee received any remuneration or expenses in the year.

The premium for the Village Hall insurance policy was a total of £1,163 (2023: £1,231) and includes Trustee indemnity insurance. This is provided by the Charity in order to indemnify the trustees or other officers against the consequences of any neglect or default on their part.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

6. Tangible fixed assets

	Hall Improvement £	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 September 2023	166,324	62,598	228,922
Additions		570	570
At 31 August 2024	166,324	63,167	229,492
Depreciation			
At 1 September 2023	106,448	53,601	160,048
Charged in year	6,653	1,626	8,279
At 31 August 2024	113,100	55,227	168,327
Net book value			
At 31 August 2023	59,877	8,997	68,873
At 31 August 2024	53,224	7,940	61,164

7. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Other debtors	313	463
Prepayments	1,730	1,788
Accrued income	2,788	370
	4,831	2,621

8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	1,340	770
Accruals and deferred income	1,363	1,881
	2,703	2,651

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

9a. Funds of the charity – Current Year

	At 31 Aug 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 Aug 2024 £
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Newsletter fund	-	-	-		0
500 Club	36	-	-		36
Christmas Lights Fund	-	1,179	(1,179)		0
Photocopier	-	724	(724)		0
Maintenance	-	1,773	(1,773)		0
Heat, Light & Water	-	2,689	(2,689)		0
Door Entry System	500	-	(100)		400
Total restricted	536	6,365	(6,465)	-	436
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
Designated					
Fixed Asset Fund	68,873	570	(8,279)	-	61,164
General	115,714	78,790	(76,488)	-	118,015
Total unrestricted	184,587	79,360	(84,767)	-	179,179
TOTAL FUNDS	185,123	85,725	(91,232)	-	179,615

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

9b. Funds of the charity – Prior Year

	At 31 Aug 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 Aug 2023 £
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Newsletter fund	-	-	-		-
500 Club	36	-	-		36
Christmas Lights Fund	-	642	(642)		-
Photocopier	-	798	(798)		-
Maintenance	-	10,505	(10,505)		-
Heat, Light, Water	-	1,685	(1,685)		-
Door Entry System	600	-	(100)		500
Total restricted	636	13,630	(13,730)		536
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
Designated					
Fixed Asset Fund	77,095	-	(8,222)		68,873
General	130,360	61,579	(76,225)		115,714
Total unrestricted	207,455	61,579	(84,447)		184,587
TOTAL FUNDS	208,091	75,209	(98,177)		185,123

10a. Analysis of net assets by fund – current year

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	61,164	-	61,164
Current assets	120,718	-	436	121,154
Creditors: amounts falling due within 12m	(2,703)	-	-	(2,703)
	118,015	61,164	436	179,615

10b. Analysis of net assets by fund – prior year

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	68,873	-	68,873
Current assets	118,365	-	536	118,901
Creditors: amounts falling due within 12m	(2,651)	-	-	(2,651)
	115,714	68,873	536	185,123

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

11. Financial Commitments

At the year end the Charity had commitments of £0 (2023: £0)

12. Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.