

Chairmans report for The South Stanley Partnership 2023

We have had quite a successful year at St. Stephen's during 2022 and 2023. Some of our regular community groups are still with us, but sadly some have left due to lack of funding. We will continue to advertise for more people to use our facilities which will help towards us once again being self-supporting.

The café continues to do well, but as with most things some days are busier than others. Our new Autumn Winter menu started last week and that has helped to increase sales. We have more people eating in now than in previous years, but we would still even more people to eat in rather than take out or ask for deliveries.

Since Zoe started working for us in September last year, she has arranged many successful courses, which has also brought us some income through room hire, and has also increased café sales as many learners will have breakfast or lunch while they are here.

We have had some really good grants over the past year, including one to pay for a new stairlift as the old one was beyond repair. The new stairlift has now been installed and is used frequently by people accessing the reading room.

We have had a lot of support from our local AAP. They have enabled us to provide breakfast and lunch for local children during school holidays, and activities for our School Holiday Club.

Due to all the courses that have been running during the early part of this year, there hasn't been much time for events. However, we did have a ladies Pamper night last month which was very successful. We have many more events planned between now and Christmas.

Our community shop is popular with local people who are in need of food support. We work closely with local schools to make sure we are reaching families who are most in need. We also work with pact house and Craghead village hall, to make sure food parcels are not being duplicated to the same people.

I would like to thank all the Staff, Volunteers and Trustees for all their hard work over the past year. Recovery from the pandemic has been a slow process, and is still ongoing, but with such a great hard-working team, and new projects planned for the coming year, we will get there.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2023.

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

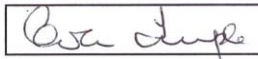
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

I have no concerns and have come across no other 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.

Signed



Date

2/10/2023

Name

Owen Temple

Qualification(s) (if any)
or Professional Body

Retired Chartered Financial Planner

Address

300 Medomsley Road, Consett, DH8 5JP

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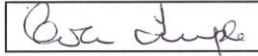
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