



Wild about our Woods CIO

Charity Number 1173958

Report of the trustees for the year ending 31 October 2021

We have been set up as a Charity Incorporated Organisation

OUR AIMS

To create more social opportunities for people to engage with, enjoy and enhance our local woods for mutual wellbeing.

OUR OBJECTIVES

(a) to promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of the London Boroughs of Barnet and Haringey and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances, or for the public at large, in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants;

(b) to advance the education of the public in the use and conservation of natural resources, and in the role of woodlands in promoting emotional, social and physical wellbeing and cognitive development;

(c) to promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment; in particular by encouraging and facilitating access to woodlands and by organising recreational, educational, therapeutic and social activities within woodlands.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

In the last year we have worked directly with 519 people across Barnet and Haringey to support their well-being via nature connection activities. This is down on last year but all of these includes face-to-face session that ran for more than 6 sessions. Of them 42 were adults engaging in Forest School Training which will mean that if they all went onto to work with 10 people this impact would be a massive 420 more forest school connections. We know that many of them are working regularly with others offering nature connection opportunities, so it is likely to be more than this rudimentary figure so this really is spreading our mission wide and far..

Of the 519 we worked with 62 adults offering either adult only sessions or mixed sessions. Four of these were volunteers who not only offered some invaluable support to our programmes but also feedback that they had gained so much themselves.

All the programme offered were new and developing pilots we have run or were piloting a new area of work for us. Two programmes were funded as a direct result of funders being impressed with work, they have seen us do so approached us to develop work with them. We also brought in associates to deliver some of the programmes.

We have forged new contacts and worked in new areas. We were pleased to be able to work in the East part of Haringey and also in the East of Barnet. We offered more smaller group, focused and therapeutic which allowed us to offer targeted support to these those who had been affected more by the pandemic and lockdown restrictions.

We were invited to join a corporate gathering of creative movers and shakers, Join the Dots, to present our work and have them get into break out groups to work through some of our issues. They come up with some very plausible solutions which we now need to work through.

Forest School Training

Forest School training was very popular last year. 4 courses were delivered. Two were open courses and 2 were commissioned closed courses. 42 people were trained and an income of £14,884.51 was gained, almost 60% increase on last year. 3 places were heavily subsidized to support those who can't afford to train to be part of the growth.

WAOW were again successful in getting commissioned by Haringey Education Partnership (HEP) to deliver the Level 2 assistant training. Seven people started the programme in October 2021 with 5 training days to be completed in January 2022. One of the delivery days took place in the financial year but all payments from HEP will be received in the new accounting year.

Programmes undertaken

Fairway School – Nature nurturing education

The year long programme at Fairway started in March 2021 due to Covid 19 restrictions allowing us to work in the school. **£8950** was awarded in 2020/21. We will run it until February Half term 2022. We have been able to pilot a therapeutic programme based in nature to support children's wellbeing across the Fairway community: from parent and toddler, primary years to transition to secondary school. In the woodlands attached to the school we created social opportunities for pupils at Fairway Primary school and pre-school children and their parents to attend 12 'bubble' nature-based sessions. We were able to delivery the full 42 days and 114 sessions as planned offering many children across the school community valuable nature connection time. 122 participants have been able to engage, enjoy and enhance the woodlands while making better connections to each other and in turn themselves. They have been able to form positive relationships with others, to develop growing awareness of their emotional needs and the needs of others, to learn to cooperate and work with their peers and adults and develop strategies in order to take risks within the boundaries of safety.

We were able to train up 2 members of staff in Forest School, one as a Forest School Leader and one as a Forest School Assistant who now deliver a Forest

School Programme to the rest of the school. We have been able to facilitate physical, educational, therapeutic and social activities to support their emotional wellbeing, helps to build resilience and self esteem beyond the programme. Participants fed back that they were able to engage, enjoy and enhance the woodlands while making better connections to each other and in turn themselves.

As the largest single grant we received, it was also funded by London Borough of Barnet Family Services & NHS North Central London Clinical Commissioning Group to support Mental Health Support Teams within the community. This was pleasing as we were wanting to be commissioned by Health based teams as part of the years funding strategy.

CommUnity Barnet Giving Covid-19 Emergency Fund

£5060 was granted for Waow to work with 2 groups of 12 children (24 children in total) for 12 weeks at an after-school group at Martin School.

Our aim was to run a weekly post-lockdown recovery programme with wellbeing focused Forest School sessions after school club for:

- Children with no direct access to outdoor space during lockdown - no garden
- BAME Children
- Children that have returned to school in March that are anxious, not themselves or struggling to settle back in
- Children that are currently not doing Forest School as part of their school day - we suggest working with Year 3 (or another Key Stage 2 age group)
- Children from lower-income groups

This was led by Charlotte Broadribb and assisted by Lavinia in the first 12 weeks and Tim in the second 12 weeks. The year 5 participants in the first cohort brought with them a few emotional issues which Charlotte, Lavinia and Janine supported, while the second cohort, made up year 3s, were more settled and engaged better with the programme. 216 children were engaged with for this programme

Young Barnet Foundation – Holiday Activity and Food Fund

We ran 2 holiday schemes in Barnet offering a free woodland holiday club. The **£2850** funding of was for school age children aged 5-16 years old. The primary beneficiaries of the programme were intended to be Free School Meal eligible children, but the programme included the support for children and young people facing hardship and to target geographical hotspots showing high levels of economic disadvantage, obesity and deprivation. It allowed us to widen our reach of working with children in Barent and 10 sessions were offered in the summer and October holidays to 15 children each time. There was a shortfall of money needed to run this programme so we access the Co-op Local Community Fund to do this. 150 children's spaces were booked up, Referrals coming from local schools.

Barnet Wellbeing Community Chest agreed that the money it awarded us of **£1,770.00** last year could be carried forward but because of Covid to this year. Our Deep Shoots, New Roots ran a pilot programme bringing children or young people

and older adults together with the aim of improving intergenerational relationships. We ran this in partnership with Nature Explorers Barnet. It provided a variety of explorative play, walking trails, music and nature discovery sessions for adult of grandparent age, and 10 children in Year 1 class to enjoy together from May 2021 until the summer holidays. It was a joyful programme bringing the two age groups together, 6 older people joining us to learn alongside the children. From this programme we were funded to run another 6 week session from another funding pot.

We ran a **Weekend Wild things programme**, running for 10 weeks through the summer term, May to July, for young people in years 7/8/9 who attended the sessions to support their communication and emotional issues. It ran out of Coppetts Wood with 8 young people attending. We used the funding from the Co-op Local Community Fund to run it as well as the £500 from Magic Little Stars via Local Giving

We were successful in gaining **£2000** to provide support services to people affected by domestic violence and abuse in a woodland setting. This will be led by another Forest School Leader with experience of working with survivors of abuse. With an emphasis on eco-therapy and well being she delivered nature based outdoor activities, learning traditional skills, and experiencing Barnet's green spaces in a safe setting. With an aim to improve self confidence and change dynamics to a group of 6-10 individuals (including their children). Activities ran for a whole (3 hour) morning once a week, for a period of 6 weeks. £1500 was awarded in October 2020 and the rest in this accounting year.

Haringey Giving Together We Can COVID-19 Fund offered us £4991 to delivery a free, engaging and adventurous Woodland Holiday club (once a week during Easter, Whitsun and Summer holidays – 10 in total) for 18 BAMER (Black, Asian minority ethnic and refugee) children aged 5 – 11 years, living in Tottenham N17 in and around the Broadwater Farm Estate. They were also offered a free nutritious lunch. And an after school club running in the summer term (12 sessions) for 18 children aged 5 – 11. **Woodland adventures in Fox Forest** had 3 staff supporting its development and work and was a huge success. The culture of Forest School has flourished at Willow Primary School. The forest is now well maintained and often visited. The school is now equipped with waterproof PPE for the children and different tools and equipment like hammocks, ropes, mallets etc for more children to enjoy. This was led by Gladys with Simone and Meme supporting her.

The Grange Big Local

We were awarded £3,594 to run 12 well being sessions for adults aged 55 plus to gather in a community woodland in East Finchley, Barnwood, during the summer term. This was commissioned out to Linda Royles who worked with Tim Young on the programme. 12 people attended this regularly

Live Unlimited

A local charity working with children and young people who are looked after asked us to run a 6 week pilot for them on a Saturday in Barnet. It ran from May to July and

was well attended in Martin's woods. We had between 8-12 children and young people attend from 3-5 each week. Janine ran this programme with Simone.

Ongoing programmes

Fairway Nature Nurturing

We were funded run the Fairway programme (above) which ends in February 2022. We are on track to spend all the money offered and also engage with the groups agreed. Janine runs this with school staff and volunteers

Deep Roots, New Shoots 2

This was funded for £1890 from the big Lottery community fund. Working in the same woods with another group of Year 1s and many of the same older people. It will run 10 sessions. Janine ran this with Tim.

OUR FINANCES

We successful obtained £47857.41, up 56% from last year. Of this money £20,694 remained in the account and has been allocated to current programmes running after 31st October 2021. The Full end of year accounts can be accessed as well.

Funding obtained

	The funders	Amount in £	month	Project name	completed or to be completed
Training	various	14884.5			both
Grants	YOUNG BARNET FOUNDATION	570	Oct-21	HAF	completed
	Community Barnet	500	sep	surviours of domestic abuse	completed
	TNL communities	1890	sep	deep roots 2	completing in December
	YOUNG BARNET FOUNDATION	2280	aug	Haf	completed
	community barnet	10397	may	GBL	completed
	community barnet	1410	june	fst and deep roots	completed
	community barnet	1797	may	GBL	completed
	community barnet	4554	april	Martin school	completed
	bridgehouse -	4991	marc h	haringey	completed

	YOUNG BARNET FOUNDATION	8950.50	dec	Fairway	completing in Feb 2022
	YBF	2163.41	Oct-20	Space to grow 10	completed March 2020
		31937.91			
Other	Live Unlimited	1035	july		

Total income 47,857.41

There were other trusts that we were not successful in gaining from and as you can see most of our funding came from local sources. We were pleased that the largest single grant came from London Borough of Barnet Family Services & NHS North Central London Clinical Commissioning Group to support Mental Health Support Teams within the community. Diversifying our funding streams was aspired to last year, with more than 1/3rd of it being realised.

FUTURE PLANS

We still want to diversify our funding streams beyond one-year grants programmes. We have made new contacts and possible avenues for collaborative work in both Barnet and Haringey which we would like to develop. Janine has been working closely with a school and the John Lyons Trust to develop such programmes to establish themselves with staff and impact.

We are developing a relationship with Haringey Council to access core funding to work in the East of the borough in an adventure playground rather than woodland but using the same skills and Forest School Philosophy.

Janine undertook a train-the-trainer Wild Passport course develop outdoor learning skills rather than conventional Forest School which may open up more nature connection activities across the boroughs as it doesn't rely on being based in the woods.

We would like to develop and explore some of the ideas formulated by the Join the Dots gathering as a mean to develop sustainability in projects and programmes in the future.

CHARITY TRUSTEES

Natasha Walter (Treasurer),

Alison Stafford (Safeguarding Lead)

Simon Davies (Chair)

CONTACT DETAILS

Charity: wild about our woods. Email; waowcio@yahoo.com

Bank: Santander account: Wild about our woods CIO

Insurance: Axa Policy

SALSALIA/J178979/0332/20



Receipts and payments account

For the period from	01.11.2020	To	
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £
A1 Receipts			
Forest School Training	14,885	-	-
vaious grants	-	32,972	-
refunds	116	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	15,001	32,972	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-
Total receipts	15,001	32,972	-
A3 Payments			
forest school training associates	7,506	-	-
grant associate expenses	-	19,555	-
grant running expenses	-	951	-
forest school training running costs	897	-	-
charity running costs	180	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Sub total	8,583	20,506	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-
Total payments	8,583	20,506	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	6,418	12,466	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-

<i>Cash funds this year end</i>	6,418	12,466	-
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Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		-
		-
		-
	Total cash funds	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates

Signed by one or two trustees on
behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print N




Natasha Alison C

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ounts

31.10.2021

CC16a



Total funds

Last year

to the nearest £

to the nearest £

14,885	-
32,972	21,074
116	5,760
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
47,973	26,834

-	
-	-
-	-

47,973	26,834
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7,506	8,295
19,555	4,456
951	976
897	3,317
180	351
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
29,089	17,395

-	
-	
-	-

29,089	17,395
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18,884	9,439
-	-
-	-

18,884	9,439
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the period

Restricted funds	Endowment funds
to nearest £	to nearest £
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
Agreement Error	OK

Restricted funds	Endowment funds
to nearest £	to nearest £
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
-	
-	

-	
-	
-	

name	Date of approval
Walter	27.4.22
Garvin	27.4.22



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

WILD ABOUT OUR WOODS CIO

On accounts for the year
ended

2021

Charity no
(if any)

1173958

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD/MM/YYYY.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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").

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

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

24/08/2022

Name:

MR OLIVER MORETON

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

N/A