

Friends of Whitburn Library

Registered Charity Number: 1174421

Annual Report & Financial Statement

31st August 2021

Whitburn Community Library
Hedworth Terrace
Whitburn
SR6 7EN

Friends of Whitburn Library

Legal and Administrative Information

Name: Friends of Whitburn Library

Charity No: 1174421

Trustees: R Thomson (Chair)
M Harding (Secretary)
E Milne (Treasurer)
R Day
K Fail
W Gilchrist
W Quigley
J Warren

Governing Document: The charity operates under its governance document as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered 30th August 2017

Address: Hedworth Terrace,
Whitburn,
Sunderland
Tyne & Wear
SR6 7EN

Bank: Reliance Bank Ltd,
Faith House,
23-24 Lovat Lane,
London.
EC3R 8EB

Friends of Whitburn Library

Trustees Report

Friends of Whitburn Library completed its third year of operation as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 31st August 2020 and is governed by the constitution dated 30th August 2017.

1. Objectives and activities:

a. The objectives of the CIO are

- i) To advance education of the public in Whitburn, by the running and management of a community library for the benefit of the said residents and within which to educate the public about the history and heritage of Whitburn through educational displays and such other means as the trustees deem fit; and
- ii) To promote for the benefit of the residents of Whitburn and its environs 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. The activities of the CIO are focussed on the areas of:

- Education & training
- Arts/culture/heritage/science
- Recreation
- The advancement of health and reduction of social isolation
- Provides opportunities to support the vulnerable and those with disability
- Economic/community development/employment
- Other charitable purposes

c. Who the charity helps:

- Children & young people
- Elderly and/or vulnerable people
- People with disabilities
- The general public

d. How the charity helps:

- Provides buildings/facilities and spaces
- Provides services
- Provides advocacy/advice/information
- Provides an increasing range of recreational activities

2. Main achievements during the year

The library continues to operate under the management of the trustees and is well supported by volunteers who provide a wide range of support for the community. Recruitment of both trustees and volunteers remains strong. The trustees meet regularly to review the success of the library and plan its development.

Volunteers operate on a rota basis to welcome visitors who require books or other services, some provide specialist support e.g. in the form of IT expertise, language and signing courses, other arrange activities for groups who meet regularly or raise funds through coffee mornings etc. Without our volunteers the library would not be such a vibrant and welcoming place.

The community managed library continues to receive support from the local council in the form of new stock, access to the library management software, inter library loans service with support and advice from its employees. The council have also provided year 3 of the tapered funding set out in the transfer document to help ensure the library has a sustainable future. This is the final payment from the council. In order to fund activities, resources, running costs and maintenance our volunteers and trustees work hard to raise funds through donations, fund-raising events/activities and through grant applications. Trustees are aware that the Covid restrictions have had a significant impact on fund raising. Further work will be needed to re-establish income streams to ensure a healthy financial future for the library.

During the reporting period the trustees have been successful in securing grants to extend the activities and services available to the public. This success has led to the provision of traditional board and card games, improved seating and other furniture, installation of sound and video equipment to exhibit films, a Christmas celebration for the elderly and vulnerable and the operation of a telephone delivery service during Covid restrictions.

In addition to the regular recreational activities provided for the community, trustees are pleased to report it has been possible to enhance the provision of services and activities.

- i) A weekly music night was introduced which attracted an increasing number of amateur musicians who were keen to improve their skills collaboratively.
- ii) Educational opportunities to learn a foreign language and signing became weekly meetings.
- iii) A bridge group meeting each week
- iv) Grant funding enabled trustees to provide resources to establish a cinema in the library for all ranges with the appropriate licensing in place. A number of age-appropriate film shows took place before Covid restrictions forced closure in March. The costs of maintaining and operating the cinema will be kept under review.
- v) Talks and discussions became well established during the year, with expertise provided by local experts in their field. Other information evenings were held to provide additional services for the community.
- vi) Wine tastings have become very popular during the year.
- vii) Trustees established formal arrangements with other local organisations to provide support for the vulnerable and unemployed e.g. WEA to provide drumming sessions

- viii) Local school children were regular participants in activities in the last year. Secondary pupils were based in the library to help support the completion of the Duke of Edinburgh scheme, while groups from the local primary visited to listen to stories, participate in craft sessions and borrow books.

The library has continued to provide services in the form of book borrowing, advice, access to computers, printing facilities, and recreational or learning opportunities ranging from reading groups, mat making, board games, knitting groups and others in addition to the more recent innovations described above.

Trustees are aware of the challenges that we face which include but are not limited to:

- a) Financial Risks
 - Developing sustainable income streams to meet the costs associated with opening and operating an aging building
 - Planning for the replacement of a building which is not environmentally friendly and will come to end of its useful life within the term of the lease
 - Recovering from Covid restrictions. These restrictions have been in place since March 2020 and have severely impacted on income
 - The identification and access to funding/grants to support the introduction of activities and provide capital improvements to the building.
- b) Operational risks
 - Succession planning for trustees and volunteers. Whilst this is not a short-term matter, it should not be neglected

Trustees are confident these challenges will be met with the continuing support of volunteers and the wider community.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Signed: 

Date: 19-6-22

Notes

No Trustees or persons connected with the charity received any remuneration during the year

The charity has no employees

There are no debtors/creditors at the end of the accounting period



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Friends of Whitburn Library

1174421

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/09/2020

To

31/08/2021

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	915	-	-	915	1,575
Printing/copying/refreshments	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising activities	1,876	-	-	1,876	7,434
Room rentals	500	-	-	500	200
Grants	3,196	500	-	3,696	26,585
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	6,487	500	-	6,987	35,794
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	6,487	500	-	6,987	35,794
A3 Payments					
Utilities	2,898	-	-	2,898	4,113
Licenses & subscriptions	491	-	-	491	849
Insurances	1,159	-	-	1,159	1,052
R&M, cleaning and PPE	5,468	500	-	5,968	1,407
Telecoms & website	1,285	-	-	1,285	746
Printing	232	-	-	232	216
Charitable events/activities	505	-	-	505	1,398
Catering supplies	28	-	-	28	392
Equipment	-	-	-	-	7,631
Other expenses	303	-	-	303	662
Prof charges & bank charges	147	-	-	147	20
Sub total	12,516	500	-	13,016	18,488
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	12,516	500	-	13,016	18,488
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 6,029	-	-	- 6,029	17,306
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	29,895	340	-	30,235	12,929
Cash funds this year end	23,866	340	-	24,206	30,235

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories

Details

Unrestricted funds
to nearest £

Restricted funds
to nearest £

Endowment funds
to nearest £