

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY AND SUPPORT (NOCS)

England & Wales · Charity number 1174878

Details

Other names	NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY AND SUPPORT NOCS
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2017-09-28
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address NOCS Charity
27
Salisbury Street
Blandford Forum
Dorset

Phone 01258480218

Email AWalter@nocscharity.com

Website nocscharity.com

Activities

Objects: THE PROMOTION OF SOCIAL INCLUSION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT OF PEOPLE IN DORSET WHO ARE SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY EXCLUDED ON GROUNDS OF THEIR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD), INCLUDING ASPERGER SYNDROME; OR MENTAL ILL-HEALTH, WHO EXPERIENCE HIGH LEVELS OF SOCIAL ANXIETY AND DIFFICULTIES WITH SOCIAL INTERACTION, BY PROVIDING:STRUCTURED OPPORTUNITIES TO DEVELOP AND GAIN SOCIAL AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF GAMES IN A RANGE OF WEEKLY CLUBS OPEN TO ALL. A DROP-IN CENTRE WITH FACILITIES TO SOCIALISE AND DEVELOP FRIENDSHIPS, AND FROM WHICH TO ACCESS INFORMATION ON LOCAL SERVICES AND SUPPORT WITH JOB SEEKING.VOLUNTEERING AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES. OUTREACH WORK IN THE COMMUNITY.FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS CLAUSE 'SOCIALLY EXCLUDED' MEANS BEING EXCLUDED FROM SOCIETY, OR PARTS OF SOCIETY, INCLUDING ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT, AS A RESULT OF DISABILITY (AUTISM SPECTRUM CONDITION) OR MENTAL ILL-HEALTH.

Activities: NOCS provides social support, facilities and development opportunities for people with high levels of social anxiety and difficulties with social interaction, particularly due to autism spectrum disorder (ASD),

mental ill-health and rural/social isolation. People in our community form lasting friendships, gain self-confidence and, over time, develop their skills and start to manage their anxiety.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Disability
- **Who:** People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Dorset

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-28	£56,798	£45,089	-	-
2024-03-28	£41,279	£45,393	-	-
2023-03-28	£34,212	£42,320	-	-
2022-03-28	£26,304	£38,779	-	-
2021-03-28	£55,862	£32,361	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Neil Stuart Kernon	Chair	2019-04-23
Anna Marie Walter		2025-02-20
Byron Quayle		2019-04-23
James Jeffrey Drew		2025-12-11
Kieanna Thysheem Nelson		2025-12-11
Sharon Cripps		2019-04-23

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY AND SUPPORT (NOCS)

England & Wales - Charity number 1174878

Accounts

Annual Report and Accounts

NOCS
For the year ended 27 March 2025

Prepared by CBA Services Limited

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Reference and Administrative Details

NOCS

For the year ended 27 March 2025

Registered Charity Number

1174878

Company Registration Number

CEO12364

Trustees

Neil Kernon, Chair

Jennie Fellowes, Secretary

Sharon Cripps

Byron Quayle

Anna Maria Walter (appointed 20 February 2025)

Angela Potter, Treasurer (resigned 31 August 2024)

Principal Address

27 Salisbury Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, GBR, DT11 7AU

Bankers

Lloyds Bank Plc

7 Carter Street, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, ST14 8HD

Independent Examiners

CBA Services Limited

45 East Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7DX

Trustees' Report

NOCS

For the year ended 27 March 2025

1. Objectives and Activities

- a. Structured opportunities to develop and gain social and communication skills through the medium of games in a range of weekly clubs open to all.
- b. A drop-in centre with facilities to socialise and develop friendships, and from which to access information on local services and support with job seeking.
- c. Volunteering and employment opportunities.
- d. Outreach work in the community.

2. Statement

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. Nothing in our constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

3. Public Benefit

The promotion of social inclusion for the public benefit of people in Dorset who are socially and economically excluded on grounds of their autism spectrum condition (ASC), including Asperger syndrome; or mental ill-health, who experience high levels of social anxiety and difficulties with social interaction, by providing the objectives and activities. In this context 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or parts of society, including access to employment, as a result of disability (autism spectrum condition) or mental ill-health.

4. Contribution made by volunteers

- a. Volunteers continue to make a significant contribution to the charity's ability to meet Objective 1.a as the clubs rely upon the support and contribution of our volunteers. They also all agree and partake in specialised training. A special mention needs to be given to Byron Staddon for his dedication and work for the charity. In addition to his main employment, Byron dedicates his free time to sessions.
- b. All clubs require at least 2 adults who have successfully completed enhanced DBS checks, have been certified in Health and Safety at Work, First Aid and Safeguarding Level 2. All volunteers complete the training ahead of volunteering.
- c. Online support continues to be important for the community to start taking first steps to independence whilst still having some support from us. A huge thank you to Neil Guest and Françoise Henon-Lees for their ongoing time and efforts to support and lead our various projects. The clubs continue to be the main setting for development and maintenance of social skills. This is done through the playing of games that require cooperation, competition, paired, small group or role playing rules. The rules ensure that everyone is clear about what is acceptable. During this financial period the clubs continued to run 4 times a week, including at the weekend and drop in, more one to one work has taken place throughout the remaining opening hours.
- d. Our links with local groups such as Blandford School and Treads have proved greatly beneficial for all parties and enabled collaborative working. We continue to have a high level of NEET engagement.
- e. Volunteers also supported the drop in sessions for Objective 1.b. Drop ins took place from Monday to Saturday inclusive throughout the day. Drop ins were an opportunity for new members to find a quiet time to start interacting safely with other people and for other members to come in, to talk, meet new people and develop new friendships increasing their social skills. Several members became volunteers through the development programme which led to employment and developed confidence, helping those NEETs move into employment, satisfying Objective 1.c.
- f. Outreach in the community, Objective 1.d., continued during this period with Françoise Henon-Lees playing a significant part in her role as coordinator for volunteers. We are pleased to have recruited six new volunteers during the course of this second year of the 'Rolling With the NOCS' project. All are from our membership including one female. All are keen and committed with only one still completing his training. Volunteering is essential to what we are all about.

5. Achievements and Performance

- a. This year we are again thrilled to announce that we have achieved the Charity Quality Mark, working with Charity Excellence. This has helped us to identify our strengths and those areas that need further development. We have had a fair amount of input from the Scottish Technical Army on the website and social media and expect to be able to build on this in this coming year. We were also awarded Charity of the Year at the Blandford Business awards which demonstrated our successful links with the broader community.
- b. This year our leaders have completed mental health training; a trustee has earned the Gaming City & Guilds, volunteers have completed high quality training and members have developed some impressive skills.
- c. Thanks to the hugely appreciated funding from UK Youth Pears, the Valentine Trust and the National Lottery Community Fund we have been able to ensure that the charity is open 6 days a week with the rent, Council Tax and utility bills paid. This means that members can come in whenever they need or want to, assured of a warm, safe and comfortable place with leaders and volunteers ready to listen, play and help.
- d. The generosity of Tesco's Stronger Starts Groundworks, Hays Travel and the National Lottery Community Fund enabled us to complete a second set of successful social skill development workshops, where the overall measurements demonstrated that all members made some progress and most made 45% progress, meaning that they improved on approximately half the skills involved in the progression and are now able to have significantly more effective and successful social interactions. Interestingly the same developmental aspects were found, with some becoming able to carry out a cooperative activity in a pair for the first time whereas others are now able to play an active role in a small group activity.
- e. The National Lottery Community Fund and Dorset Children's Services Youth Fund have enabled us to secure staff time to fully engage in carrying out development sessions for anxiety, self esteem, social interaction and mental health strategies. These still represent the hub of our work and whilst presented through non-threatening informal media and activities, develop vital and life-changing skills. We used development records we designed and trialled last year with confidence knowing they were based on secure evidential research and were also effective in being able to establish progress for our members. Additionally we designed a volunteer survey to pull out the benefits and challenges of volunteering with NOCS. The survey showed that in this year's cohort along with the already established volunteers, 2/3 had not been in full time education or employment prior to volunteering and that 100% are now in part/full time employment or education. The vast majority cite the reason for the change as being due to the development they experienced in the volunteer role. Every single one said they would recommend volunteering for NOCS with reasons ranging from "Yes the training helped me get a job" through "Yes, nice environment. Helped me grow" to "Yes it really helped me when I was in a dark place". Challenges included fearing talking to people, not being organised, being angry and lacking confidence. All could cite something they had gained and it was often confidence, learning leadership skills and being able to interact with other people.
- f. There has been a marked increase in the number of new female members, which is great news. According to our attendance records we have had over 3000 unique visits in the last year and supported 127 different people in year two of our main project Rolling With the NOCS. Last year we were thrilled to have 1/5 of our visitors classing themselves as female, and this year the proportion has risen to 1/4, with 1/12 who do not identify as either male or female. This is another positive step forward, and one that we intend to maintain and grow.
- g. The Noc's Box element continues to be an essential key gateway and route to ensure a good mix of both beneficiaries and the wider community. It has continued to enable development experience of punctuality, patience, clarity and general employment skills. Organisationally, the funding from the National Lottery Community Fund has enabled us to progress plans to incorporate our shop under the charity umbrella.
- h. Throughout, Noc, NOCS and NOC's Box have continued to engage with and signpost many other charities and facilities in the local community and they continued to return the favour. This ensures our beneficiaries can start developing interactions with the broader community, feeling more confident. For some this continues to be an opportunity to experience positive interaction with e.g. the police and felt safe enough to take part in activities in local pubs/restaurants and to include their family in their friendship group.
- i. We started the year with the continued and very welcome help of the National Lottery Community Fund and the support of Children in Need. These 2 funders have been particularly important in enabling us to use our premises, to employ our general manager, special needs facilitator hours and volunteer coordinator. Funding this year has been very different with a significant drop in income due to the change of funding focus both locally and nationally. Our charitable objectives, linking to emotional wellbeing and positive mental health, have not met the criteria for the majority of funders which has proved to be very difficult, especially considering the increased needs of our membership and other drop-in visitors.

6. Financial Review

Please refer to the End of Year Accounts to see our financial position and list of assets. We are not in deficit and all allocated funds will be/are in the process of being spent on the allocations specified.

7. Structure, Governance and Management

NOCS Charity is a CIO and is governed by its constitution which is available to read on the Charity Commission website. Trustees are selected by matching potential new trustees to the needs of the Charity. No one person is entitled to appoint one or more trustees. All undergo interview by a designated selection of current trustees, undergo a DBS check and the take up of references before being formally invited to the role if successful by resolution. This process is legal and outlined in our constitution. This year we lost one trustee to full time employment but gained another one who has settled into the role of Secretary brilliantly.

8. Names of the Charity Trustees Who Manage the Charity

Trustee name	Office	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person entitled to appoint trustee
Neil Kernon	Chairman		Jennie Fellowes, Neil Scott and Lesley Cleverton
Sharon Cripps	Bid Writer Lead		Jennie Fellowes, Neil Scott and Lesley Cleverton
Bryon Quayle	Social Media Profile Lead		Jennie Fellowes, Neil Scott and Lesley Cleverton
Angela Potter	Treasurer	resigned 31 August 2024	
Anne Maria Walter	Secretary	appointed 20 February 2025	Neil Kernon and Jennie Fellowes
Jennie Fellowes	Trustee		N/A

9. Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and accounts in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. In addition the trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and to disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. The 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.

10. Reference and Administrative Details

The Charity name is New Opportunities in Community and Support (NOCS) and is registered with the Charity Commission as such with the number 1174878. We also go by the name NOCS Charity. Our principal address is 27 Salisbury Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7AU.

11. Corporate Trustees

None.

12. Name of Trustees Holding Title to Property Belonging to the Charity

None.

13. Funds Held as Custodian Trustees on Behalf of Others

None.

14. Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

.....

Neil Kernon

Chair

Date.....

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of

NOCS

For the year ended 27 March 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Charity") for the year ended 27 March 2025 which are set out on pages 9 to 11.

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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all 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 no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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.

Signature.....

Catherine Chapman, ATT, MIAB

CBA Services Limited

45 East Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7DX

Date.....

Receipts and Payments

NOCS

For the year ended 27 March 2025

	NOTES	2025 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	2025 RESTRICTED FUNDS	2025 TOTAL FUNDS	2024 TOTAL FUNDS
Receipts					
Local Project Bids		16,388	36,506	52,894	39,135
Other Donations		3,904	-	3,904	2,144
Sub Total		20,292	36,506	56,798	41,279
Total Receipts		20,292	36,506	56,798	41,279
Payments					
Cost of Fundraising		216	-	216	216
Audit & Accountancy fees		1,008	-	1,008	932
Bookkeeping		734	-	734	547
Cleaning		-	610	610	363
Consulting		-	3,000	3,000	-
Employers National Insurance		-	(4)	(4)	128
General Expenses		43	-	43	-
Insurance		-	505	505	505
IT Software and Consumables		180	-	180	476
Legal Expenses		600	150	750	-
Light, Power, Heating		-	1,148	1,148	1,215
Pensions Costs		-	263	263	263
Printing & Stationery		15	83	98	39
Rates		-	541	541	557
Rent		-	10,000	10,000	10,000
Repairs & Maintenance		-	605	605	3,100
Resources		2	-	2	821
Salaries		-	23,962	23,962	25,281
Staff Training		-	300	300	-
Subscriptions		-	-	-	30
Telephone & Internet		1,127	-	1,127	919
Fund Transfer		-	-	-	-
Sub Total		3,926	41,162	45,089	45,393
Total Payments		3,926	41,162	45,089	45,393
Net of Receipts/(Payments)		16,366	(4,656)	11,710	(4,114)
Funds of The Charity					
Cash Funds Last Period End		1,776	10,194	11,970	16,084
Cash Funds This Period End		18,143	5,537	23,680	11,970

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

NOCS

As at 27 March 2025

	NOTES	27 MAR 2025	27 MAR 2024
Cash Funds			
Treasurers Account		23,604	11,894
Petty Cash		76	76
Total Cash Funds		23,680	11,970
Total Net Assets/(Liabilities)			
		23,680	11,970
Funds of the Charity			
Funds Last Period End		11,970	16,084
Net of Receipts/(Payments)		11,710	(4,114)
Total Funds of the Charity		23,680	11,970

These accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. The Receipts and Payments account recognises only money received and paid in the period and excludes the value of all other assets received in kind unless, and until, converted into money.

Fixed assets are expensed if they can be used for more than one year, are valued at cost and cost at least £500.

The CIO is registered for Gift Aid and is not registered for VAT.

	NOTES	27 MAR 2025	27 MAR 2024
1. Assets retained for own use			
Tables		504	504
Chairs		413	413
Fire Alarm System		845	845
Total Assets retained for own use		1,762	1,762

	NOTES	27 MAR 2025	27 MAR 2024
2. Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted funds		18,143	1,776
Restricted funds		5,537	10,194
Total Funds of the Charity		23,680	11,970

Approval

The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at the period end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on assets of the CIO.

Signed on behalf of all the trustees

.....

Neil Kernon, Chair

Date.....

Analysis of funds

NOCS

For the year ended 27 March 2025

Charity funds

	Balance at 28 March 2024 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 27 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
General	1,776	20,292	3,926	-	18,143
Restricted funds					
National Lottery Fund	122	-	83	-	39
Rolling with the NOCS	10,072	23,806	29,380	-	4,498
Childrens Services Youth Fund	-	6,700	6,700	-	-
Tesco Groundworks	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Valentine Trust	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
Total	10,194	36,506	41,163	-	5,537
Total funds	11,970	56,798	45,089	-	23,680

	Balance at 28 March 2023 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 27 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General	171	4,774	(3,169)	-	1,776
Restricted funds					
Children in Need	2,672	-	(2,672)	-	-
Groundwork UK	500	-	(500)	-	-
National Lottery Fund	5,604	-	(4,679)	(803)	122
Dorset Youth Fund	2,137	-	(2,137)	-	-
Alice Ellen Cooper-Dean	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Rolling with the NOCS	-	36,505	(27,236)	-	10,072
Total	15,913	36,505	(42,224)	-	10,194
Total funds	16,084	41,279	(45,393)	-	11,970

This page does not form part of the financial statements.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY AND SUPPORT (NOCS)

England & Wales - Charity number 1174878

Accounts

Annual Report and Accounts

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS)
For the year ended 27 March 2024

Prepared by CBA Services Limited

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Reference and Administrative Details

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2024

Registered Charity Number

1174878

Company Registration Number

CEO12364

Trustees

Neil Kernon, Chair

Jennie Fellowes, Secretary

Sharon Cripps

Byron Quayle

Angela Potter, Treasurer

Principal Address

27 Salisbury Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, GBR, DT11 7AU

Bankers

Lloyds Bank Plc

7 Carter Street, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, ST14 8HD

Independent Examiners

CBA Services Limited

45 East Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7DX

Trustees' Report

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2024

Objectives and Activities

Purpose

The promotion of social inclusion for the public benefit of people in Dorset who are socially and economically excluded on grounds of their autism spectrum condition (ASC), including Asperger syndrome; or mental ill-health, who experience high levels of social anxiety and difficulties with social interaction, by providing the objects. In this context 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or parts of society, including access to employment, as a result of disability (autism spectrum condition) or mental ill-health.

Activities

1. Structured opportunities to develop and gain social and communication skills through the medium of games in a range of weekly clubs open to all. This year this includes online games, support, advice and engagement for those who are still struggling with the impact of CoVid19 lockdowns in addition to their everyday needs. These were run as both one to one as well as group sessions, as needed. An on-demand service was provided for our most vulnerable members.
2. A drop-in centre with facilities to socialise and develop friendships, and from which to access information on local services and support with job seeking.
3. Volunteering and employment opportunities.
4. Outreach work in the community.

Public Benefit

The promotion of social inclusion for the public benefit of people in Dorset who are socially and economically excluded on grounds of their autism spectrum condition (ASC), including Asperger syndrome; or mental ill-health, who experience high levels of social anxiety and difficulties with social interaction, by providing the objects. In this context 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or parts of society, including access to employment, as a result of disability (autism spectrum condition) or mental ill-health.

Statement

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. Nothing in our constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

Additional Information

Contribution made by volunteers

Volunteers continue to make a significant contribution to the charity's ability to meet Object 1 as the clubs rely upon the support and contribution of our volunteers. They also all agree and partake in specialised training.

A special mention needs to be given to Joseph Hampson for his absolute dedication and work for the charity. Joe rarely missed a session and was the go-to for many members, volunteers and leaders alike.

All clubs require at least 2 adults who have successfully completed enhanced DBS checks, have been certified in Health and Safety at Work, First Aid and Safeguarding Level 2. All volunteers complete the training ahead of taking on the role. Online support through Facebook and Discord continues to be important for the community to maintain links out of hours whilst still recovering from the impacts of the CoVid19 lockdowns.

A huge thank you to Neil Guest, Françoise Henon-Lees and Keiran MacDonald for their ongoing time and efforts to monitor and oversee the social sites, help maintain and welcome newcomers to the community. And a particular thanks to Neil for his quiet, understated work on Learning how to Paint which caused a large influx of new members including our youngest and oldest to date.

There has been a marked increase in older members of the public finding a welcome place and purposeful hobby in the charity.

The clubs continue to be the main setting for development and maintenance of social skills.

Some of our volunteers lead campaigns in the skirmish section of the charity and we would like to express a huge thank you to Hernandez who, along with Neil's guidance, successfully initiated and led the Horus Heresy Campaign, which is a great development.

The social skill development is done through the playing of games that require cooperation, competition, paired, small group or role-playing rules. The rules ensure that everyone is clear about what is acceptable.

During this financial period the clubs ran 4 times a week, including at the weekend and drop in, more one-to-one work has taken place throughout the remaining opening hours.

Our links with local groups have allowed us to maintain our NEET engagement. Both the NEETs and those attending the drop in sessions have really benefited from the input, development and joint assessment of our volunteers which comes under Object 2. Drop ins took place from Monday to Saturday inclusive throughout the day. Drop ins are an opportunity for new members to find a quiet time to start interacting safely with other people and also for other members to come in, in order to talk, meet new people, develop new friendships etc...Four members and one interested local resident became new volunteers through the development programme which led to developed confidence, helping NEETs move into employment, satisfying Object 3.

There has been a notable increase in our female demographic, including 2 new female volunteers. Outreach in the community (Object 4) continued during this period with Françoise Henon-Lees playing a significant part in her role as coordinator for volunteers and joint oversight of those from local schools carrying out work experience.

Our local links this year have largely focused on Dorset schools, providing work experience especially for those with Asperger's Syndrome and anxiety.

Achievements and Performance

1. This year we are thrilled to announce that we have achieved the Charity Quality Mark 2023/4, working with the DYA and Charity Excellence. This has again helped us to identify our strengths and those areas that need further development. Our membership has continued to grow with a steady number of females included. The knock-on effect of Covid lockdowns can still be felt through the increased negative mental health and members reaching out in serious crisis. It has been a very difficult time for everyone but for those already struggling with social anxiety, deprivation and Asperger's it continues to be very difficult to adjust after such severe isolation. Using this information and the quality mark assessments, we agreed to run a 3-year project called Rolling With the NOCS to help us address some of the organisational elements as well as focusing on the mental and emotional needs of our members. The year began therefore with our two key leaders and a trustee completing training and risk assessing for Mental and Emotional health. Gaming in the sense of gambling has started to feature in conversations so a volunteer trustee has gained a City and Guilds in the emotional impact of gambling and gaming, thanks to UK Youth who provided free, certified training. We cannot thank National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund enough for being our main funders for the Rolling With the NOCS project.

2. One of the very special events at NOCS Charity is the return of old members. This year has again provided that pleasure. One old member came back and became a volunteer, having completed a degree and now wanting work in the youth sector. The volunteering will provide practical help to achieve that goal. Another member from the very start of the charity also called in to share life successes. This particular member really struggled with exceptionally low self-esteem. To hear the reports of how the support and opportunities by NOCS Charity, and especially Noc himself, have led to a happy full-time working adult with astonishing physical hobbies that have earned him both success and positive recognition. The bravery, diligence and emotional uplifting of our past members is inspiring and we thank them for wanting to come back and let us know how we helped them to start making safer and positive decisions.

3. Our Rolling With the NOCS project has been our main focus for this year and will continue to be so for the next 2 years. With the funding from the National Lottery, The Alice Ellen Cooper Dean Charitable Trust, Hays Travel Funding and UK Youth and Pears (to name but a few) we have been able to maintain our services 6 days a week throughout the year. We particularly thank UK Youth and Pears Cost of Living fund for helping us to cope with the cost of living crisis, covering our utilities so we have been able to maintain a comfortable and welcoming climate. In terms of the member numbers, we aimed to support 150 young people and adults during the course of this year, and in fact, we have fallen slightly short. According to our attendance records we have had over 3000 unique visits and actively supported 128 different people. This is very close to our target and more particularly, whilst our main beneficiaries are males, we have actually had 1/5 females and 1/5 who do not identify as either male or female. This is a really positive step forward, and one that we hope to maintain if not grow. In terms of the members' other needs related to reduced levels of anxiety, raised positive self-esteem, increased successful social interaction and strategies for positive, mental health and well-being, we have created progress records that are very much based upon sound research. We used role play games and a scenery workshops to complete a first set of very successful social skill development workshops, where the overall measurements suggest all members made some progress and most made 45% progress, meaning that they improved on approximately half the skills involved in the progression and are now able to have significantly more effective and successful social interactions. We noticed that all but one member were able to take turns and to listen by the end of the workshops. For some this has meant becoming able to carry out a cooperative activity in a pair for the first time whereas for others, they are now able to play an active role in a small group activity. We are still engaged in carrying out development sessions for anxiety, self esteem, further social interaction and mental health strategies. These represent the hub of our work and whilst presented through non-threatening informal media and activities, develop really important and life-changing skills. Moreover, members are able to identify and celebrate the progress they are making and our volunteers can now describe that progress in both quantitative and qualitative terms. The project also involves consideration of the viability of incorporating the shop with the charity. To this end we engaged James Evans of Tozers Solicitors in Exeter. The initial online meetings with him were very promising and we could see that there was a range of potential considerations to be made. James has liaised with our accountants to explore possible tax and employee impacts. We have made good progress in Year1 and look forward to continuing to do so in Year2.

4. NOCS has continued to provide community and support this year. The Noc's Box element is still an essential gateway and route to ensure a good mix of both beneficiaries and the wider community. It has continued to enable development experience of punctuality, patience, clarity and general employment skills. Because of the essential nature of the shop to achieving our objects, the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund have very kindly supported us with both funding and advice to formally explore the possibility of moving the shop under the umbrella of the charity. This has been very exciting and we hope it will be possible, not least because the demand for us to provide work experience has grown enormously. We are really pleased to be able to share that we facilitated work experience for more than 4 young people this year. Two from local schools and two

that were long term NEETs. One was a female, which is a first for NOCS Charity. The improvements made by all were positively significant with excellent feedback from their schools. One had been a selective mute and another struggled with groups of any size. All ended their work experience being able to communicate clearly and confidently with much less anxiety overall.

5. We are thrilled to report that our NEET members have continued to fare well, making choices that include engaging with their communities and exploring full time employment. We are thrilled to share that those NEETs that carried out work experience with us over the course of the year are now in full-time employment in their local communities. Our NEET focus continues to take place on Wednesdays and are well grounded with development of positive mental/emotional health and reduction of anxiety, thanks to the Rolling with the NOCS project. These continue to be areas that are most needed by our members.

6. In terms of the clubs we are very pleased to report that all of our clubs are thriving with volunteers and leaders actively engaged in face-to-face development. We have successfully maintained the Young Gamers' Role Play Club, Young Gamer' Skirmish Club and Young Gamers' Board and Card Game Club along side a family session and over 16s session. We have also opened two new clubs. One for Pokemon players and collectors, increasing our number of clubs and in response to member requests. The second is a Beginners' Club for D&D which has been welcomed by our new cohort. The role play clubs particularly excel in numbers and development. Thanks to the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund we are really thrilled to have developed new quantitative measures to complement our existing qualitative measures to demonstrate that development. The measures include successful social interactions, reducing anxiety, improving self-esteem and learning about successful strategies to help reduce negative mental health/emotional wellbeing. The progressions are based on sound academic research and are being used by members, with support from our leaders and volunteers. It has been so good to see members becoming aware of their successes and celebrating those. Users have reported a significant increase in mental resilience, directly coming from the support and communities developed through the charity. The workshops creating new scenery, painting armies etc... have been key within the skill development.

7. Our NOCS website took a seat on the back burner as we discovered the level of development required. We have started development, adding our policies to the site so everyone can access them and have the support of the Scottish Technical Army (STA) to improve our Trustee Platform. More to come next year.

8. Throughout, Noc, NOCS and Noc's Box continued to engage with and signpost many other charities and facilities in the local community and they continued to return the favour. This ensures our beneficiaries are able to start developing successful interactions with the broader community, feeling more confident. For some this continues to be an opportunity to experience positive interaction with e.g. the police and felt safe enough to take part in activities in local pubs/restaurants and to include their family in their friendship group. New partnerships have been established including a Pokemon club on Thursdays for our younger, and not so young, members. This club was generated by the members and is thriving.

9. We started the year with the continued and very welcome help of the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund and the support of the Alice Ellen Cooper Dean Charitable Foundation alongside the UK Youth and Pears Cost of Living Fund. These 3 funders have been particularly important in enabling us to use our premises, to employ our general manager, special needs facilitator hours and volunteer coordinator. Funding this year has continued to be hard to find due to the change of funding focus both locally and nationally. Our charitable objectives, linking to emotional wellbeing and positive mental health, have not met the criteria for the majority of funders which continues to be very difficult, especially considering the increased needs of our membership and other drop-in visitors.

Financial Review

Please refer to the End of Year Accounts to see our financial position and list of assets. We are not in deficit and all allocated funds will be/are in the process of being spent on the allocations specified.

Structure, Governance and Management

NOCS Charity is a CIO and is governed by its constitution which is available to read on the Charity Commission website. Trustees are selected by matching potential new trustees to the needs of the Charity. No one person is entitled to appoint one or more trustees. All undergo interview by a designated selection of current trustees, undergo a DBS check and are then formally invited to the role if successful by resolution. This process is legal and outlined in our constitution.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and accounts in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. In addition the trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and to disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. 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.

Reference and Administrative Details

The Charity name is New Opportunities in Community and Support (NOCS) and is registered with the Charity Commission as such with the number 1174878. We also go by the name NOCS Charity. Our principal address is 27 Salisbury Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7AU.

Names of the Charity Trustees Who Manage the Charity

Trustee name	Office	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person entitled to appoint trustee
Neil Kernon	Chairman		Jennie Fellowes, Neil Scott and Leslie Cleverton
Sharon Cripps	Bid Writer Lead		Jennie Fellowes, Neil Scott and Lesley Cleverton
Bryon Quayle	Social Media Profile Lead		Jennie Fellowes, Neil Scott and Lesley Cleverton
Angela Potter	Treasurer		Neil Kernon and Jennie Fellowes
Jennie Fellowes	Secretary		N/A

Corporate Trustees

None.

Name of Trustees Holding Title to Property Belonging to the Charity

None.

Funds Held as Custodian Trustees on Behalf of Others

None.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

.....

Neil Kernon

Chair

Date.....

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Charity") for the year ended 27 March 2024 which are set out on pages 11 to 13.

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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all 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 no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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.

Signature.....

Catherine Chapman, ATT, MIAB

CBA Services Limited

45 East Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7DX

Date.....

Receipts and Payments

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS)

For the year ended 27 March 2024

	NOTES	2024 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	2024 RESTRICTED FUNDS	2024 TOTAL FUNDS	2023 TOTAL FUNDS
Receipts					
Fundraising Activities		-	-	-	571
Local Project Bids		2,630	36,505	39,135	32,613
Other Donations		2,144	-	2,144	1,028
Sub Total		4,774	36,505	41,279	34,212
Total Receipts		4,774	36,505	41,279	34,212
Payments					
Cost of Fundraising		216	-	216	216
Audit & Accountancy fees		932	-	932	906
Bookkeeping		547	-	547	780
Cleaning		-	363	363	444
Employers National Insurance		-	128	128	790
Insurance		-	505	505	505
IT Software and Consumables		476	-	476	504
Light, Power, Heating		-	1,215	1,215	1,322
Pensions Costs		-	263	263	263
Printing & Stationery		39	-	39	178
Rates		-	557	557	890
Rent		-	10,000	10,000	10,000
Repairs & Maintenance		-	3,100	3,100	1,320
Resources		-	821	821	863
Salaries		9	25,272	25,281	22,367
Staff Training		-	-	-	210
Subscriptions		30	-	30	-
Telephone & Internet		919	-	919	762
Sub Total		3,169	42,224	45,393	42,320
Total Payments		3,169	42,224	45,393	42,320
Net of Receipts/(Payments)		1,605	(5,719)	(4,114)	(8,108)
Funds of The Charity					
Cash Funds Last Period End		171	15,913	16,084	24,192
Cash Funds This Period End		1,776	10,194	11,970	16,084

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) As at 27 March 2024

	NOTES	27 MAR 2024	27 MAR 2023
Cash Funds			
Treasurers Account		11,894	16,008
Petty Cash		76	76
Total Cash Funds		11,970	16,084
Total Net Assets/(Liabilities)			
		11,970	16,084
Funds of the Charity			
Funds Last Period End		16,084	24,192
Net of Receipts/(Payments)		(4,114)	(8,108)
Total Funds of the Charity		11,970	16,084

These accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. The Receipts and Payments account recognises only money received and paid in the period and excludes the value of all other assets received in kind unless, and until, converted into money.

Fixed assets are expensed if they can be used for more than one year, are valued at cost and cost at least £500.

The CIO is registered for Gift Aid and is not registered for VAT.

	NOTES	27 MAR 2024	27 MAR 2023
1. Assets retained for own use			
Tables		504	504
Chairs		413	413
Fire Alarm System		845	845
Total Assets retained for own use		1,762	1,762

	NOTES	27 MAR 2024	27 MAR 2023
2. Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted funds		1,776	171
Restricted funds		10,194	15,913
Total Funds of the Charity		11,970	16,084

Approval

The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at the period end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on assets of the CIO.

Signed on behalf of all the trustees

.....

Neil Kernon, Chair

Date.....

Analysis of funds

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2024

Charity funds

	Balance at 28 March 2023 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 27 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General	171	4,774	(3,169)	-	1,776
Restricted funds					
Children in Need	2,672	-	(2,672)	-	-
Groundwork UK	500	-	(500)	-	-
National Lottery Fund	5,604	-	(4,679)	(803)	122
Dorset Youth Fund	2,137	-	(2,137)	-	-
Alice Ellen Cooper-Dean	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Rolling with the NOCS	-	36,505	(27,236)	803	10,072
Total	15,913	36,505	(42,224)	-	10,194
Total funds	16,084	41,279	(45,393)	-	11,970

	Balance at 28 March 2022 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 27 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
General	19,595	2,099	(21,523)	-	171
Restricted funds					
Children in Need	2,672	8,824	(8,824)	-	2,672
Groundwork UK	-	500	-	-	500
National Lottery Fund	1,925	9,789	(6,110)	-	5,604
Dorset Youth Fund	-	3,000	(863)	-	2,137
Alice Ellen Cooper-Dean	-	10,000	(5,000)	-	5,000
Total	4,597	32,113	(20,797)	-	15,913
Total funds	24,192	34,212	(42,320)	-	16,084

This page does not form part of the financial statements.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY AND SUPPORT (NOCS)

England & Wales - Charity number 1174878

Accounts

Annual Report and Accounts

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS)
For the year ended 27 March 2023

Prepared by CBA Services Limited

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Reference and Administrative Details

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2023

Registered Charity Number

1174878

Company Registration Number

CEO12364

Trustees

Neil Kernon, Chair

Jennie Fellowes, Treasurer

Sharon Cripps

Byron Quayle

Angela Potter (appointed 9 November 2022)

Rebecca Dawson (resigned 31 March 2022)

Dr Neil Scott (resigned 31 March 2022)

Principal Address

27 Salisbury Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, GBR, DT11 7AU

Bankers

Lloyds Bank Plc

7 Carter Street, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, ST14 8HD

Independent Examiners

CBA Services Limited

45 East Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7DX

Trustees' Report

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2023

Objectives and Activities

Purpose

The promotion of social inclusion for the public benefit of people in Dorset who are socially and economically excluded on grounds of their autism spectrum condition (ASC), including Asperger syndrome; or mental ill-health, who experience high levels of social anxiety and difficulties with social interaction, by providing the objects. In this context 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or parts of society, including access to employment, as a result of disability (autism spectrum condition) or mental ill-health.

Activities

1. Structured opportunities to develop and gain social and communication skills through the medium of games in a range of weekly clubs open to all. This year this includes online games, support, advice and engagement for those who are still struggling with the impact of CoVid19 lockdowns in addition to their everyday needs. These were run as both one to one as well as group sessions, as needed. An on-demand service was provided for our most vulnerable members.
2. A drop-in centre with facilities to socialise and develop friendships, and from which to access information on local services and support with job seeking.
3. Volunteering and employment opportunities.
4. Outreach work in the community.

Public Benefit

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. Nothing in our constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

Additional Information

Volunteers

Volunteers continue to make a significant contribution to the charity's ability to meet Object 1 as the clubs rely upon the support and contribution of our volunteers. They also all agree and partake in specialised training.

A special mention needs to be given to Joseph Hampson for his absolute dedication and work for the charity. Joe rarely misses a session and is the go-to for many members, volunteers and leaders alike. We are thrilled to announce that Joe has recently started full time employment and wish him all the success he deserves, but we will really miss his tireless dedication and support in the charity. As Joe has been preparing to leave, another member in particular has been stepping up through his work experience into the training and hopefully the role of volunteer.

Most clubs require at least 2 adults who have successfully completed enhanced DBS checks, have been certified in Health and Safety at Work, First Aid and Safeguarding Level 2. All volunteers complete the training ahead of being awarded the volunteering role. Online support continues to be important for the community to maintain itself whilst still recovering from the CoVid19 pandemic.

A huge thank you to Françoise Henon-Lees, Neil Guest and Nocturin Lacey-Clarke for their ongoing time and efforts to support, inspire and facilitate the community.

The clubs continue to be the main setting for development and maintenance of social skills. This is done through the playing of games that require cooperation, competition, paired, small group or role playing rules. The rules ensure that everyone is clear about what is acceptable.

During this financial period the clubs ran 4 times a week, including at the weekends. More one to one work has taken place throughout the remaining opening hours.

Our links with local groups such as Blandford Youth Club ensured we continued to have NEET engagement.

Volunteers also supported the drop in sessions for Object 2. Drop ins took place from Monday to Saturday inclusive throughout the day. Drop ins continue to be an opportunity for new members to find a quiet time to start interacting safely with other people and also for other members to come in, in order to talk, meet new people, develop new friendships etc.... Several members became volunteers through the development programme which continues to lead to employment and developed confidence, helping NEETs and others move into employment, satisfying Object 3.

Outreach in the community continued during this period with Françoise Henon-Lees playing a significant part in her role as coordinator for volunteers.

Reserves

NOCS Charity currently has no unallocated reserves. We are considering developing reserves in order to cover planned commitments that cannot be met by future income alone, specifically with regard to providing 'matched funding'. Up to this point in our journey we have budgeted to spend all income received on the charity's activities. As we develop, and consider our funding diversity, we can see that we ought to instigate our reserves policy in the coming year in order to provide a level of accountability to our funders.

Achievements and Performance

1. This year we are thrilled to announce that we have again achieved and maintained our Charity Quality Mark, working with the DYA and Charity Excellence. This really helped us to identify our strengths and those areas where we need further development. We were thrilled to have been successful with our application to the Jubilee Fund from the National Lottery which enabled us to fully refurbish our premises to the colours chosen by our members, including those that were new. We had a brand new door fitted (in line with the Georgian conservation area in which we are sited) which was long overdue as the old one had a hole in the bottom and was steadily rotting. This has helped with our electric bills, the sound of the traffic outside and securing the premises. The funding also helped us to update our bathroom to a soft-close toilet and 'hands-free' soap and towel dispensers which have lifted issues with those with OCD and helped us to minimise the likelihood of infection. Children in Need provided us with an additional year's funding to cover the wages of our special needs facilitator, which has been invaluable, particularly for those struggling with social anxiety, deprivation and Asperger's who still continue to find it difficult to communicate, trust and make good decisions.
2. Our volunteers and leaders continue to work extremely hard to revitalise the charity following Covid changes and we are so glad that we are achieving this, not least as members and visitors continue to find us and make good use of the support and community provided.
3. NOCS continues to provide new opportunities and the Noc's Box element continues to be an essential key gateway and route to ensure a good mix of both beneficiaries and the wider community. We have had a very successful run of work experiencers during the year both from the local school and from our NEET community, who are no longer NEET. The skills developed include punctuality, patience, communication and general employment skills.
4. Thanks to funding from Tesco Groundworks we were also able to engage some new NEET members by providing some paint starter sets to use on the premises as a means to conversation. They continue to fare well and those that have moved into employment are still securely positioned. Our NEET focus now means that people can come in for help, community and development, as wanted/needed across the week.
5. In terms of the clubs we are very pleased to report that all of our clubs continue to thrive with volunteers and leaders actively engaged face to face. We have successfully maintained both Young Gamers' Role Play Club, Young Gamer' Skirmish Club and Young Gamers' Board and Card Game Club along side a family session and over 16s session. In addition, thanks to the Dorset Council Youth Fund we have been running some well attended Saturday workshops with members creating their own scenery whilst developing their social skills. The huge success of the first set of workshops was not just due to the materials we were able to secure with the funding but also thanks to the workshop leader who worked tirelessly to ensure success for all.
6. Two years ago we reported that we intended to develop our website and were making bids to set up a broader range of technologies. Sadly, but understandably, funding has not been made for this type of activity. Nonetheless we have continued to make developments and will continue to do so over the next year.
7. Throughout, NOCS and Noc's Box have continued, when possible, to engage with and signpost many other charities and facilities in the local community and they continued to return the favour. This ensures our beneficiaries are able to start developing successful interactions with the broader community, feeling more confident. For some this is the first time that they have experienced positive interaction with e.g. the police and felt safe enough to take part in activities in local pubs/restaurants and to include their family in their friendship group. Our partnerships that developed last year e.g. Pokemon group for our younger members which also encourages physical exercise, have continued to be successful in engaging new members.
8. Mid-year we had the very welcome funding help of the Alice Ellen Cooper Dean Charitable Foundation. Their huge generosity has been particularly important in enabling us to rent our premises through the rest of this financial year and into the next. This has been a lifeline, especially considering that funding this year has continued to be very different with a significant drop in income due to the change of funding focus both locally and nationally. Our charitable objectives, linking to emotional wellbeing and positive mental health, have not met the criteria for the majority of funders which has proved to be very difficult, especially considering the increased needs of our membership and other drop-in visitors.

Financial Review

Please refer to the End of Year Accounts to see our financial position and list of assets. We are not in deficit and all allocated funds will be/are in the process of being spent on the allocations specified. We do not yet have a reserves policy nor reserves but expect to develop these as part of our current organisational development.

Structure, Governance and Management

NOCS Charity is a CIO and is governed by its constitution which is available to read on the Charity Commission website. Trustees are selected by matching potential new trustees to the needs of the Charity. No one person is entitled to appoint one or more trustees. All undergo interview by a designated selection of current trustees, undergo a DBS check and are then formally invited to the role if successful by resolution. This process is legal and outlined in our constitution.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and accounts in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. In addition the trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and to disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. 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.

Reference and Administrative Details

The Charity name is New Opportunities in Community and Support (NOCS) and is registered with the Charity Commission as such with the number 1174878. We also go by the name NOCS Charity. Our principal address is 27 Salisbury Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7AU

Names of the Charity Trustees Who Manage the Charity

Trustee name	Office	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person entitled to appoint trustee
Neil Kernon	Chairman		Jennie Fellowes Neil Scott Lesley Cleverton
Sharon Cripps	Bid Writer Lead		Jennie Fellowes Neil Scott Lesley Cleverton
Bryon Quayle	Social Media Profile Lead		Jennie Fellowes Neil Scott Lesley Cleverton
Jennie Fellowes	Treasurer		N/A
Angie Potter	Secretary	09/11/2022	Neil Kernon Jennie Fellowes

Corporate Trustees

None.

Name of Trustees Holding Title to Property Belonging to the Charity

None.

Funds Held as Custodian Trustees on Behalf of Others

None.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Neil Kernon

Chair

Date.....

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS)

For the year ended 27 March 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Charity") for the year ended 27 March 2023 which are set out on pages 8 to 9.

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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all 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 no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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.

Signature..... *C Chapman* .

Catherine Chapman, ATT, MIAB

CBA Services Limited

45 East Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7DX

Date..... *20 December 2023* .

Receipts and Payments

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS)

For the year ended 27 March 2023

	NOTES	2023 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	2023 RESTRICTED FUNDS	2023 TOTAL FUNDS	2022 TOTAL FUNDS
Receipts					
Fundraising Activities		571	-	571	-
Grant Income		-	-	-	11,436
Local Project Bids		500	32,113	32,613	13,824
Other Donations		1,028	-	1,028	1,044
Sub Total		2,099	32,113	34,212	26,304
Total Receipts		2,099	32,113	34,212	26,304
Payments					
Cost of Fundraising		216	-	216	241
Audit & Accountancy fees		906	-	906	1,200
Bookkeeping		780	-	780	819
Cleaning		444	-	444	268
Employers National Insurance		790	-	790	-
General Expenses		-	-	-	24
Insurance		505	-	505	1,055
IT Software and Consumables		504	-	504	438
Light, Power, Heating		1,322	-	1,322	402
Pensions Costs		263	-	263	263
Printing & Stationery		-	178	178	67
Rates		890	-	890	492
Rent		5,000	5,000	10,000	10,000
Repairs & Maintenance		39	1,281	1,320	1,539
Resources		-	863	863	-
Salaries		8,893	13,474	22,367	21,471
Staff Training		210	-	210	132
Telephone & Internet		762	-	762	369
Sub Total		21,523	20,797	42,320	38,779
Total Payments		21,523	20,797	42,320	38,779
Net of Receipts/(Payments)		(19,424)	11,316	(8,108)	(12,475)

	NOTES	2023 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	2023 RESTRICTED FUNDS	2023 TOTAL FUNDS	2022 TOTAL FUNDS
Funds of The Charity					
Cash Funds Last Period End		19,596	4,597	24,192	36,668
Cash Funds This Period End		171	15,913	16,084	24,192

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) As at 27 March 2023

	NOTES	27 MAR 2023	27 MAR 2022
Cash Funds			
Bank Account		16,008	24,117
Petty Cash		76	76
Total Cash Funds		16,084	24,192
Total Net Assets/(Liabilities)			
		16,084	24,192
Funds of the Charity			
Funds Last Period End		24,192	36,668
Net of Receipts/(Payments)		(8,108)	(12,475)
Total Funds of the Charity		16,084	24,192

These accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. The Receipts and Payments account recognises only money received and paid in the period and excludes the value of all other assets received in kind unless, and until, converted into money.

Fixed assets are expensed if they can be used for more than one year, are valued at cost and cost at least £500.

The CIO is registered for Gift Aid and is not registered for VAT.

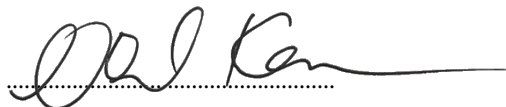
	NOTES	27 MAR 2023	27 MAR 2022
1. Assets retained for own use			
Tables		504	504
Chairs		413	413
Fire Alarm System		845	845
Total Assets retained for own use		1,762	1,762

	NOTES	27 MAR 2023	27 MAR 2022
2. Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted funds		171	19,595
Restricted funds		15,913	4,597
Total Funds of the Charity		16,084	24,192

Approval

The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at the period end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on assets of the CIO.

Signed on behalf of all the trustees



Neil Kernon, Chair

Date.....

Analysis of funds

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2023

Charity funds

	Balance at 28 March 2021 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 27 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
General	19,595	2,099	(21,523)	-	171
Restricted funds					
Children in Need	2,672	8,824	(8,824)	-	2,672
Groundwork UK	-	500	-	-	500
National Lottery Fund	1,925	9,789	(6,110)	-	5,604
Dorset Youth Fund	-	3,000	(863)		2,137
Alice Ellen Cooper-Dean	-	10,000	(5,000)		5,000
Total	4,597	32,113	(20,797)	-	15,913
Total funds	24,192	34,212	(42,320)	-	16,084

	Balance at 28 March 2021 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 27 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
General	17,646	9,044	(9,776)	2,681	19,595
Restricted funds					
Children in Need	4,542	8,824	(10,694)	-	2,672
Groundwork UK	1,166	-	(1,166)	-	-
Job Retention Scheme	103	3,436	(3,539)	-	-
National Lottery Fund	10,529	5,000	(13,604)	-	1,925
Other	2,681	-	-	(2,681)	-
Total	19,022	17,260	(29,003)	-	4,597
Total funds	36,668	26,304	(38,779)	-	24,192

This page does not form part of the financial statements.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY AND SUPPORT (NOCS)

England & Wales - Charity number 1174878

Accounts

Company registration number: CE012364

Registered charity number: 1174878

Annual Report and Accounts

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS)
For the year ended 27 March 2022

Prepared by CBA Services Limited

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Reference and Administrative Details

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2022

Registered Charity Number

1174878

Company Registration Number

CE012364

Trustees

Neil Kernon, Chair

Jennie Fellowes, Treasurer

Rebecca Dawson (resigned 31 March 2022)

Dr Neil Scott (resigned 31 March 2022)

Sharon Cripps

Byron Quayle

Angela Potter (appointed 9 November 2022)

Principal Address

27 Salisbury Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, GBR, DT11 7AU

Bankers

Lloyds Bank Plc

7 Carter Street, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, ST14 8HD

Independent Examiners

CBA Services Limited

45 East Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7DX

Trustees' Report

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2022

Objectives and Activities

Purpose

The promotion of social inclusion for the public benefit of people in Dorset who are socially and economically excluded on grounds of their autism spectrum condition (ASC), including Asperger syndrome; or mental ill-health, who experience high levels of social anxiety and difficulties with social interaction, by providing the objects. In this context 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or parts of society, including access to employment, as a result of disability (autism spectrum condition) or mental ill-health.

Activities

1. Structured opportunities to develop and gain social and communication skills through the medium of games in a range of weekly clubs open to all. This year this includes online games, support, advice and engagement for those struggling with CoVid19 lockdowns in addition to their everyday needs. These were run as both one to one as well as group sessions, as needed. An on-demand service was provided for our most vulnerable members.
2. A drop-in centre with facilities to socialise and develop friendships, and from which to access information on local services and support with job seeking.
3. Volunteering and employment opportunities.
4. Outreach work in the community.

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Volunteers

Volunteers continue to make a significant contribution to the charity's ability to meet Object 1 as the clubs rely upon the support and contribution of our volunteers. They also all agree and partake in specialised training.

A special mention needs to be given to Joseph Hampson for his absolute dedication and work for the charity. Joe rarely misses a session and is the go-to for many members, volunteers and leaders alike.

All clubs require at least 2 adults who have successfully completed enhanced DBS checks, have been certified in Health and Safety at Work, First Aid and Safeguarding Level 2. All volunteers complete the training ahead of volunteering. Online support continues to be important for the community to maintain itself whilst trying to recover from the CoVid19 pandemic.

A huge thank you to Neil Guest, Françoise Henon-Lees and Kieran MacDonald for their ongoing time and efforts to help re-establish the community.

The clubs continue to be the main setting for development and maintenance of social skills. This is done through the playing of games that require cooperation, competition, paired, small group or role playing rules. The rules ensure that everyone is clear about what is acceptable. During this financial period the clubs ran 4 times a week, including at the weekend and drop in, more one to one work has taken place throughout the remaining opening hours.

Our links with local groups such as Equine Assisted Learning ensured we continued to have NEET engagement. Volunteers also supported the drop in sessions for Object 2. Drop ins took place from Monday to Saturday inclusive throughout the day. Drop ins were an opportunity for new members to find a quiet time to start interacting safely with other people and also for other members to come in, in order to talk, meet new people, develop new friendships etc.... Several members became volunteers through the development programme which led to employment and developed confidence, helping NEETs etc... move into employment, satisfying Object 3.

Outreach in the community continued during this period with Françoise Henon-Lees playing a significant part in her role as coordinator for volunteers.

Achievements and Performance

- This year we are thrilled to announce that we have achieved the Charity Quality Mark, working with the DYA. This has really helped us to identify our strengths and those areas that need further development. We have also had a fair amount of input on the website and social media and expect to be able to make some useful changes to those in this coming year. The year began with our two key leaders completing training and risk assessing for Covid and other potential infections. Consequently we are applying for funding from the Jubilee Fund for 'hands-free' soap dispensers and towels to minimise infection potential. The application will also be made for refurbishment to help give ownership of the premises to our budding new members, who have been queuing out the door! There has also been a marked increase in the number of new female members, which is great news. Although lockdowns ended in the first half of the year, the knock on effect can still be felt through the increased negative mental health and members reaching out in serious crisis. It has been a very difficult time for everyone but for those already struggling with social anxiety, deprivation and Asperger's it continues to be very difficult to trust.
- Our volunteers and leaders have worked extremely hard to revitalise the charity following Covid changes and we are so glad that we are achieving this, not least as members and visitors continue to find us and make good use of the support and community provided.
- NOCS continues to provide new opportunities and the Noc's Box element continues to be an essential key gateway and route to ensure a good mix of both beneficiaries and the wider community. It has continued, when possible, to enable development experience of punctuality, patience, clarity and general employment skills. Work experience opportunities have necessarily dwindled whilst training and development have occurred but with our expected new hands free facilities we really look forward to this starting again in the new financial year.
- Our NEET members have had to deal with some difficult challenges this year, not least the loss of council support. NOCS are really pleased to report that our NEET members continued to fare well with another realising the importance of education and so joining further education. He reports that the as a result of the activities that he developed with the charity he has been able to create secure and positive links within education that are helping to motivate his continued learning. Another NEET member has started working and despite the unexpected demands, such as the company having to withdraw from their apprenticeship scheme, has successfully remained in post. It became clear that without the council support some NEET members struggled and so we are now available for NEET focus throughout the week.
- In terms of the clubs we are very pleased to report that all of our clubs continue to thrive with volunteers and leaders actively engaged face to face. We have successfully maintained the Young Gamers' Role Play Club, Young Gamer' Skirmish Club and Young Gamers' Board and Card Game Club along side a family session and over 16s session. In fact we have had to open a second young gamers role play club due to demand.
- Last year we reported that we intended to develop our website and were making bids to set up a broader range of technologies. Sadly, but understandably, funding has not been made for this type of activity. Nonetheless we have worked with the Dorset Youth Association to make developments and will continue to do so over the next year.
- Throughout, Noc, NOCS and Noc's Box have continued, when possible, to engage with and signpost many other charities and facilities in the local community and they continued to return the favour. This ensures our beneficiaries are able to start developing successful interactions with the broader community, feeling more confident. For some this is the first time that they have experienced positive interaction with e.g. the police and felt safe enough to take part in activities in local pubs/restaurants and to include their family in their friendship group. New partnerships have been established including a Pokemon group for our younger members, which also encourages physical exercise.
- We started the year with the continued and very welcome help of the National Lottery Community Fund and the support of Children in Need. These 2 funders have been particularly important in enabling us to use our premises, to employ our general manager, special needs facilitator hours and volunteer coordinator. Funding this year has been very different with a significant drop in income due to the change of funding focus both locally and nationally. Our charitable objectives, linking to emotional wellbeing and positive mental health, have not met the criteria for the majority of funders which has proved to be very difficult, especially considering the increased needs of our membership and other drop-in visitors.

Financial Review

Please refer to the End of Year Accounts to see our financial position and list of assets. We are not in deficit and all allocated funds will be/are in the process of being spent on the allocations specified.

Structure, Governance and Management

NOCS Charity is a CIO and is governed by its constitution which is available to read on the Charity Commission website. Trustees are selected by matching potential new trustees to the needs of the Charity. No one person is entitled to appoint one or more trustees. All undergo interview by a designated selection of current trustees, undergo a DBS check and are then formally invited to the role if successful by resolution. This process is legal and outlined in our constitution.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and accounts in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. In addition the trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and to disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. The 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.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Neil Kernon

Chair

Date.....19/12/2022.....

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2022

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Charity") for the year ended 27 March 2022 which are set out on pages 8 to 9.

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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all 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 no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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.

Signature.....*C. Chapman* .

Catherine Chapman, ATT, MIAB

CBA Services Limited

45 East Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7DX

Date.....*19 December 2022* .

Receipts and Payments

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS)

For the year ended 27 March 2022

	NOTES	2022 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	2022 RESTRICTED FUNDS	2022 TOTAL FUNDS	2021 TOTAL FUNDS
Receipts					
Grant Income		8,000	3,436	11,436	29,820
Local Project Bids		-	13,824	13,824	25,324
Other Donations		1,044	-	1,044	718
Sub Total		9,044	17,260	26,304	55,862
Total Receipts		9,044	17,260	26,304	55,862
Payments					
Cost of Fundraising		-	241	241	216
Audit & Accountancy fees		1,200	-	1,200	-
Bookkeeping		819	-	819	473
Cleaning		268	-	268	94
General Expenses		24	-	24	-
Insurance		555	500	1,055	-
IT Software and Consumables		313	125	438	-
Light, Power, Heating		402	-	402	359
Pensions Costs		-	263	263	264
Printing & Stationery		-	67	67	-
Rates		492	-	492	106
Rent		3,834	6,166	10,000	10,000
Repairs & Maintenance		1,500	39	1,539	290
Resources		-	-	-	(54)
Salaries		-	21,471	21,471	19,358
Staff Training		-	132	132	501
Subscriptions		-	-	-	50
Telephone & Internet		369	-	369	705
Fund Transfer		(2,681)	2,681	-	-
Sub Total		7,095	31,685	38,779	32,361
Total Payments		7,095	31,685	38,779	32,361
Net of Receipts/(Payments)		1,949	(14,425)	(12,475)	23,500
Funds of The Charity					
Cash Funds Last Period End		17,646	19,022	36,668	13,167
Cash Funds This Period End		19,596	4,597	24,192	36,668

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) As at 27 March 2022

	NOTES	27 MAR 2022	27 MAR 2021
Cash Funds			
Bank Account		24,117	36,568
Petty Cash		76	100
Total Cash Funds		24,192	36,668
Total Net Assets/(Liabilities)		24,192	36,668
Funds of the Charity			
Funds Last Period End		36,668	13,167
Net of Receipts/(Payments)		(12,475)	23,500
Total Funds of the Charity		24,192	36,668

These accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. The Receipts and Payments account recognises only money received and paid in the period and excludes the value of all other assets received in kind unless, and until, converted into money.

Fixed assets are expensed if they can be used for more than one year, are valued at cost and cost at least £500.

The CIO is registered for Gift Aid and is not registered for VAT.

	NOTES	27 MAR 2022	27 MAR 2021
1. Assets retained for own use			
Tables		504	504
Chairs		413	413
Fire Alarm System		845	845
Total Assets retained for own use		1,762	1,762

	NOTES	27 MAR 2022	27 MAR 2021
2. Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted funds		19,595	17,646
Restricted funds		4,597	19,022
Total Funds of the Charity		24,192	36,668

Approval

The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at the period end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on assets of the CIO.

Signed on behalf of all the trustees



Neil Kernon, Chair

Date.....19/12/2022.....

Analysis of funds

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2022

Charity funds

	Balance at 28 March 2021 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 27 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
General	17,646	9,044	(9,776)	2,681	19,595
Restricted funds					
Children in Need	4,542	8,824	(10,694)	-	2,672
Groundwork UK	1,166	-	(1,166)	-	-
Job Retention Scheme	103	3,436	(3,539)	-	-
National Lottery Fund	10,529	5,000	(13,604)	-	1,925
Other	2,681	-	-	(2,681)	-
Total	19,022	17,260	(29,003)	-	4,597
Total funds	36,668	26,304	(38,779)	-	24,192

	Balance at 28 March 2020 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 27 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
General	10,236	15,149	(7,739)	-	17,646
Restricted funds					
Children in Need	-			-	4,542
Groundwork UK	-	1,166	-	-	1,166
Job Retention Scheme	-	14,223	(14,120)	-	103
National Lottery Fund	-			-	10,529
Other	-			-	2,681
Total	2,931	40,713	(24,623)	-	19,022
Total funds	13,167	55,862	(32,361)	-	36,668

This page does not form part of the financial statements.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY AND SUPPORT (NOCS)

England & Wales - Charity number 1174878

Accounts



Annual Report and Accounts

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS)
For the year ended 27 March 2021

Prepared by CBA Services Limited



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Reference and Administrative Details

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2021

Registered Charity Number

1174878

Company Registration Number

CE012364

Trustees

Neil Kernon, Chair

Rebecca Dawson, Secretary

Jennie Fellowes, Treasurer

Dr Neil Scott

Sharon Cripps

Byron Quayle

Principal Address

27 Salisbury Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7AU

Independent Examiners

CBA Services Limited

45 East Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7DX

Trustees' Report

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2021

Objectives and Activities

Purpose

The promotion of social inclusion for the public benefit of people in Dorset who are socially and economically excluded on grounds of their autism spectrum condition (ASC), including Asperger syndrome; or mental ill-health, who experience high levels of social anxiety and difficulties with social interaction, by providing the objects. In this context 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or parts of society, including access to employment, as a result of disability (autism spectrum condition) or mental ill-health.

Activities

1. Structured opportunities to develop and gain social and communication skills through the medium of games in a range of weekly clubs open to all. This year this includes online games, support, advice and engagement for those struggling with CoVid19 lockdowns in addition to their everyday needs. These were run as both one to one as well as group sessions, as needed. An on-demand service was provided for our most vulnerable members.
2. A drop-in centre with facilities to socialise and develop friendships, and from which to access information on local services and support with job seeking.
3. Volunteering and employment opportunities.
4. Outreach work in the community.

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Volunteers

Volunteers continue to make a significant contribution to the charity's ability to meet Object 1 as the clubs rely upon the support and contribution of our volunteers. They also all agree and partake in specialised training. A special mention needs to be given to Joe Hampson for his absolute dedication and work for the charity. Joe rarely misses a session and is the go-to for many members, volunteers and leaders alike. All clubs require at least 2 adults who have successfully completed enhanced DBS checks, have been certified in Health and Safety at Work, First Aid and Safeguarding Level 2. All volunteers complete the training ahead of volunteering. Online support has been the main setting for the community to maintain itself whilst trying to survive CoVid19. The volunteers have been vital during lockdown, enabling us to maintain online contact for members. A huge thank you to Neil Guest, Françoise Henon-Lees and Kieran MacDonald for their time and support with this. The clubs are still the main setting for development and maintenance of social skills. This is done through the playing of games that require cooperation, competition, paired, small group or role playing rules. The rules ensure that everyone is clear about what is acceptable. During this financial period the clubs ran 4 times a week, including at the weekend and drop in, more one to one work took place throughout the remaining opening hours. Our links with local groups such as Equine Assisted Learning ensured we continued to have NEET engagement. As a result of CoVid19 the focus sessions were no longer possible but their needs were successfully met regardless. Volunteers also supported the drop in sessions for Object 2 when we were open to operate. Drop ins took place from Monday to Saturday inclusive throughout the day. Drop ins were an opportunity for new members to find a quiet time to start interacting safely with other people and also for other members to come in, in order to talk, meet new people, develop new friendships etc... Several members became volunteers through the development programme which led to employment and developed confidence, helping NEETs etc... move into employment, satisfying Object 3. Outreach in the community continued during this period with Françoise Henon-Lees playing a significant part in her role as coordinator for volunteers.



Achievements and Performance

- This year has been dominated by CoVid19 with long term lock downs, the necessary new practices (wearing of face masks, lateral flow testing, sanitising gel application and hand washing for set length of time), the inherent changes to family/home/work/school life and consequently the huge increase in negative mental health and members reaching out in serious crisis. It has been a very difficult time for everyone but for those already struggling with social anxiety, deprivation and Asperger's it has been extraordinarily difficult to see an end to the isolation and sadly not everyone has come through the year. Our major focus and achievement has been the number of members that we were able to maintain contact with and who therefore did reach out in crisis. Our volunteers and leaders have worked extremely hard to achieve this, despite their own needs and we are very thankful of their devotion and foresight.
- Despite CoVid19, NOCS has continued to provide community and support although this was electronic during lock downs. The Noc's Box element continues to be an essential key gateway and route to ensure a good mix of both beneficiaries and the wider community. It has continued, when possible, to enable development experience of punctuality, patience, clarity and general employment skills. Whilst working from home, many people used the shop as a way to reach out for contact and to learn about the electronic possibilities. Most of our members have also managed to maintain interaction with the community.
- We are thrilled to report that our NEET members have continued to fare well including two who have returned to education, and one that has, after much development and support, moved into worthwhile and full time employment, taking a previously unthinkable risk of signing up for agency work. Two members also made the enormous step of being able to talk about transitioning without fear. Our NEET focus day has moved to Wednesdays.
- In terms of the clubs we are very pleased to report that, regardless and outside of CoVid19 lockdowns, all of our clubs are still thriving with volunteers and leaders actively engaged face to face. We have successfully maintained the Young Gamers' Role Play Club, Young Gamer' Skirmish Club and Young Gamers' Board and Card Game Club along side a family session and over 16s session.
- Our NOCS website took a seat on the back burner as we discovered the need for a broader range of technologies but is on the agenda for development in 2021/22 along with bids to help us permanently set up a range of technological access for our members.
- Throughout, Noc, NOCS and Noc's Box have continued, when possible, to engage with and signpost many other charities and facilities in the local community and they continued to return the favour. This ensures our beneficiaries are able to start developing successful interactions with the broader community, feeling more confident. For some this is the first time that they have experienced positive interaction with e.g. the police and felt safe enough to take part in activities in local pubs/restaurants and to include their family in their friendship group. New partnerships have been established, not least the Equine School.
- We started the year with the continued and very welcome help of the National Lottery Community Fund and the support of Children in Need. These 2 funders continue to be essential in enabling us to use our premises for and employ our general manager, special needs facilitator hours and volunteer coordinator. Funding this year has been very different with the lion's share coming from the Government Job Retention Scheme, various Government grant opportunities and Tesco Groundworks. Our first set of CoVid19 face masks and gloves came from the very kind donation of a local business. During lockdown we were able to provide premises, facilities and advertising for the National Arts Scheme for children to express their feelings about lockdown in pictures which were sold as a book to raise money for the local food bank.

Financial Review

Financial Position

Please refer to the End of Year Accounts to see our healthy financial position and list of assets. We are not in deficit and all allocated funds will be/are in the process of being spent on the allocations specified. We are very pleased to say at this point that we are quietly confident that there are no uncertainties about the Charity continuing as a going concern.

Policy on Reserves

We retained a proportion of the unallocated funding to cover the rent of the new premises for the next three years until we have heard from The National Lottery Community Fund.

Going Concern

We are very pleased to say at this point that we are quietly confident that there are no uncertainties about the Charity continuing as a going concern.



Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

CIO - Foundation registered 28 September 2017 as amended on 5 May 2019 as amended on 5 May 2019

Constitution

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Trustees

Trustees are selected by matching potential new trustees to the needs of the Charity. No one person is entitled to appoint one or more trustees. All now undergo interview by a designated selection of current trustees, undergo a DBS check and are then formally invited to the role if successful by resolution. This process is legal and outlined in our constitution.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and accounts in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. In addition the trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and to disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. 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.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Neil Kernon

[Neil Kernon \(Jan 5, 2022 18:46 GMT\)](#)

Neil Kernon

Chair

Date.....

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2021

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Charity") for the year ended 27 March 2021 which are set out on pages 8 to 9.

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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all 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 no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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.

C. Chapman

Catherine Chapman

Accountant

ATT

45 East Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7DX

Date: *10 January 2022*

Receipts and Payments

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS)

For the year ended 27 March 2021

	NOTES	2021 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS £	2021 RESTRICTED FUNDS £	2021 TOTAL FUNDS £	2020 TOTAL FUNDS £
Receipts					
Donations & Grants					
Gift Aid Reclaimed		-	-	-	139
Grant Income		14,431	15,389	29,820	-
Local Project Bids		-	25,324	25,324	22,839
Other Donations		718	-	718	5,300
Total Donations & Grants		15,149	40,713	55,862	28,278
Fundraising Events		-	-	-	2,034
Total Receipts		15,149	40,713	55,862	30,312
Payments					
Cost of Fundraising		216	-	216	448
Accountancy & Legal fees		-	-	-	600
Bookkeeping		473	-	473	-
Cleaning		94	-	94	1,217
Resources		(54)	-	(54)	682
Entertainment-100% business		-	-	-	160
General Expenses		-	-	-	330
Insurance		-	-	-	500
IT Software and Consumables		-	-	-	449
Light, Power, Heating		359	-	359	493
Printing, Postage & Stationery		-	-	-	187
Rent & Rates		5,106	5,000	10,106	10,669
Repairs & Maintenance		290	-	290	4,410
Salaries & Pension Costs		-	19,622	19,622	20,238
Staff Training		501	-	501	963
Subscriptions		50	-	50	-
Telephone & Internet		705	-	705	546
Asset and Investment Purchases					
Fixed Assets	1	-	-	-	845
Total Payments		7,739	24,622	32,361	42,737
Net of Receipts/(Payments)		7,409	16,091	23,500	(12,425)
Funds of The Charity					
Cash Funds Last Period End		10,237	2,931	13,167	25,593
Cash Funds This Period End		17,646	19,022	36,668	13,167

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) As at 27 March 2021

	NOTES	27 MAR 2021	27 MAR 2020
Cash Funds			
Bank Account		36,568	13,067
Petty Cash		100	100
Total Cash Funds		36,668	13,167
Total Net Assets/(Liabilities)			
		36,668	13,167
Funds of the Charity			
Net of Receipts/(Payments)	2	36,668	13,167
Total Funds of the Charity		36,668	13,167

	NOTES	27 MAR 2021	27 MAR 2020
1. Assets retained for own use			
Tables		504	504
Chairs		413	413
Fire Alarm System		845	845
Total Assets retained for own use		1,762	1,762

	NOTES	27 MAR 2021	27 MAR 2020
2. Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted funds		17,646	10,237
Restricted funds		19,022	2,931
Total Funds of the Charity		36,668	13,168

Approval

The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at the period end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on assets of the CIO.

These accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. The Receipts and Payments account recognises only money received and paid in the period and excludes the value of all other assets received in kind unless, and until, converted into money.

Fixed assets are expensed if they can be used for more than one year, are valued at cost and cost at least £500.

The CIO is registered for Gift Aid and is not registered for VAT.

Signed on behalf of all the trustees

Neil Kernon

Neil Kernon (Jan 5, 2022 18:46 GMT)

Neil Kernon, Chair

Date.....

Analysis of funds

New Opportunities for Community and Support (NOCS) For the year ended 27 March 2021

	At 28 March 2020 £	Receipts £	Payments £	At 27 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	10,237	718		
Small Business Grant		5,000		
Local Restrictions Grant		9,431		
Total unrestricted Funds	10,237	15,149	(7,739)	17,646
Restricted funds				
BGC		25,324		
Groundwork UK		1,166		
Job Retentions Scheme		14,223		
Total restricted funds	2,931	40,713	(24,623)	19,022
Total Funds	13,167	55,862	(32,361)	36,338

	At 28 March 2019 £	Receipts £	Payments £	At 27 March 2020 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	22,106	7,473	(19,342)	10,237
Restricted funds				
BGC		18,839		
Dorset Community Action		4,000		
Total restricted funds	3,487	22,839	(23,396)	2,931
Total Funds	25,593	30,312	(42,737)	13,167

This page does not form part of the financial statements.