

# 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 £
<b>Receipts</b>					
<b>Donations &amp; Grants</b>					
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
<b>Total Donations &amp; Grants</b>		<b>15,149</b>	<b>40,713</b>	<b>55,862</b>	<b>28,278</b>
Fundraising Events		-	-	-	2,034
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>15,149</b>	<b>40,713</b>	<b>55,862</b>	<b>30,312</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
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
<b>Asset and Investment Purchases</b>					
Fixed Assets	1	-	-	-	845
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>7,739</b>	<b>24,622</b>	<b>32,361</b>	<b>42,737</b>
<b>Net of Receipts/(Payments)</b>		<b>7,409</b>	<b>16,091</b>	<b>23,500</b>	<b>(12,425)</b>
<b>Funds of The Charity</b>					
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
<b>Cash Funds</b>			
Bank Account		36,568	13,067
Petty Cash		100	100
<b>Total Cash Funds</b>		<b>36,668</b>	<b>13,167</b>
<b>Total Net Assets/(Liabilities)</b>		<b>36,668</b>	<b>13,167</b>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>			
Net of Receipts/(Payments)	2	36,668	13,167
<b>Total Funds of the Charity</b>		<b>36,668</b>	<b>13,167</b>

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

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

### 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 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
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
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
BGC		25,324		
Groundwork UK		1,166		
Job Retentions Scheme		14,223		
Total restricted funds	2,931	40,713	(24,623)	19,022
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>13,167</b>	<b>55,862</b>	<b>(32,361)</b>	<b>36,338</b>

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

*This page does not form part of the financial statements.*