

# Friends of Ashtead Youth Club Charity Annual Report 22/23

## An Inclusive Community

We are proud of our Club's inclusive ethos, where any young person who wants to come along is welcomed.

Many of our members are happy just ticking along and take a role in making our community inclusive. Other members need a little more support to feel happy and comfortable with us.

Whilst the opportunities we offer are there for everybody (a Universal Service), staff will naturally spend a little more time and energy with those youngsters who can most benefit from our expertise. This is so we are able to support them as they make their way through their transition from childhood to becoming a young adult (Early Help and Targeted Support).

## How we manage our money

Our income comes from groups who use the building, formal grants, local grants, fundraising and donations from individuals.

### **Between April 22 and March 23**

Our income amounted to £38523

Our expenditure amounted to £29818

Breaking down to:

Youth Work Staffing £12786

Youth Work Activities £7672

Buildings costs £5290

Cleaning materials £45

Minibus costs £740

Administration inc Insurance £3277

Our reserves as of 1/4/23 were £36,711

## Reflections from our Youth Worker

It has been an amazing year, where we have further established our weekly youth clubs, delivered School holiday schemes, seen our first D of E group complete their Bronze Award. The Rally Karting has been popular once again and all of this has taken place with the support of our local community who continue to generously support our work.

## Youth Clubs

We run two Youth Clubs on Thursday night every week. Both remain popular with a regular 60 plus young people attending each week. Young people enjoy the opportunity to socialise with their friends, enjoy team sports, craft, Lego, cooking, gaming and expand the programme in whatever direction they are interested in. Our Youth Workers are supported by a team of senior members who help run the evenings and work alongside other members.

## Working in Partnership with East Surrey YMCA

We are very fortunate to be teamed up with the well established Youth Work team at the YMCA. This partnership affords us the benefits of our youth work team being part of a much larger organisation, supporting professional standards, accountability and a connection with experienced and knowledgeable managers. We are looking forward to developing our partnership further over the next year.

## Recognising Young People's Achievements

It is a stated aim of our charity to actively deliver a programme that supports young people's growth and development in order that they become socially mature and ready for the workplace. We have a variety of approaches that range from positive encouragement on a day to day basis, certificates of achievement and formal recognition through the Duke of Edinburgh's Award run in partnership with Ashtead Rotary and the Pheonix Project.

## Our priorities for the next year.....

We are very happy with the way we have developed since taking over the Youth Club from Surrey County Council in 2021. Our priorities over the next year will include:

- 1) Continuing to deliver a stable developmental Youth Service with our young people. This will include weekly Youth Clubs, the D of E Award and Rally Karting Project.
- 2) Further develop the capacity of the Committee so we have the people resources to grow the charity and scope of services we offer.
- 3) Continue to improve the quality of the building fabric and range of community groups that can work with us to meet the wider needs of the Ashtead Community.

## Reflections from the Chair of our Charity

This year has been amazing! As well as the popular Thursday Club, there have been holiday trips, rally Karting and Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. Our local community has been incredibly supportive, in particular the Rotary Club and Ashtead Churches. It was fantastic to see our young volunteers recognised at the Surrey Youth Voice Awards.

## Developing Young Leaders

Our team of young leaders form a vital part of our staff team and are invaluable in delivering the work with our membership.

Two of our team participated in the Ashtead Rotary sponsored Rotary Youth Leadership Training Course, developing their skills and confidence which was demonstrated when they returned to us.

All of the team have recently been recipients of a Surrey Youth Voice Award, recognising their contribution to the well-being and development of other young people.

## Our Community Approach

We are living in a challenging social and financial context. Through supporting a range of groups from within the community, there is often something going on almost every day of the week. In addition to our own work, this would include, Martial Arts, Clubs for young people and young adults with additional needs, Young Carers, education for children with sensory needs, support for foster carers, out of school child care and we host groups offering wellbeing opportunities for our adult community.

## Our Supporters

We are very appreciative for the support of local organisations and individuals. Most recently this has included Ashtead Rotary Club, Active Surrey, Soundbytes Choir, Ashtead Churches Tea Tent, Cirrus Response and Howdens. Our Village Day Raffle was supported by many local businesses whom we are very grateful.

## Our Committee

### **Trustee's**

Glen Jordan – Chair & Finance  
Ian Parkinson – Premises & IT  
Richard Leary – Youth Work

### **Colleagues**

Chris Townsend – SCC  
Mary Cooper – MVDC  
Gareth Evans – Rotary  
Paul Barclay - Parent



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I report on the accounts of the Ashtead Youth Club for the year ended 31st March 2022 and 31st March 2023.

#### Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of Independent Examiners Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act, and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: *M. Robinson*

Name: Michael Robinson ACMA

Address: 59, Church Road, Catworth, Cambs. PE28 0PA

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024