

STOGURSEY ARTS TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1175827

Details

Other names STOGURSEY ARTS FESTIVAL

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2017-11-21

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 31 Castle Street
Stogursey
Bridgwater
Somerset
TA5 1TG

Phone 07368554982

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE APPRECIATION AND PRACTICE OF THE ARTS BY THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF A FESTIVAL AND OTHER PERFORMANCES AND EXHIBITIONS

Activities: no change

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Somerset

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-30	£6,074	£6,115	-	-
2024-04-30	£1,242	£850	-	-
2023-04-30	£1,057	£1,948	-	-
2022-04-30	£2,151	£1,450	-	-
2021-04-30	£6,330	£73	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Colin Pye		2025-04-01
IAN MICHAEL ELENOR		2017-06-07
Jenny Nicholson		2022-06-23
SUE SPICER		2017-06-07
Sukey Elstob		2022-06-23

STOGURSEY ARTS TRUST

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STOGURSEY ARTS TRUST

Trustees' Annual Report For the year ended 30 April 2025

Charity number: 1175827 Reference: AR25-CIO-REM-11a-1175827-A

1. Reference and Administrative Details

Charity name: Stogursey Arts Trust Charity number: 1175827 Principal address: 31 Castle Street, Stogursey, Somerset, TA5 1TG Legal status: Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) Date of registration: 21 November 2017 Governing document: Constitution adopted on registration and amended on 2 February 2018 Financial year end: 30 April 2025 Trustees serving during the year: Sue Spicer (appointed 7 June 2017) Ian Michael Elenor (appointed 7 June 2017) Jenny Nicholson (appointed 23 June 2022) Sukey Elstob (appointed 23 June 2022) Colin Pye (appointed 1 April 2025) Helga Staddon Mike Bradshaw Jill Newton Graham McLeod John James No trustees declared any disclosable interests during the year.

2. Structure, Governance and Management

Stogursey Arts Trust is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its constitution. The trustees are responsible for the charity's strategic direction, compliance with charity law, safeguarding of assets, and oversight of activities undertaken in furtherance of the charity's objects. Trustees are appointed in accordance with the constitution and work collaboratively to ensure effective governance, financial stewardship, and the continued delivery of the Trust's charitable purposes. Operational and financial matters are reviewed regularly to support sound management of the charity.

3. Objectives and Public Benefit

Charitable Object: To advance the education of the public in the appreciation and practice of the arts by the establishment and maintenance of a festival and other performances and exhibitions. Public Benefit: The trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The Trust provides accessible arts events, exhibitions, performances and participatory opportunities that encourage engagement with the arts within Stogursey and surrounding rural communities. These activities benefit a wide cross-section of the public, including local artists, volunteers, schoolchildren and visitors, thereby promoting creativity, cultural enrichment and community cohesion.

4. Achievements and Performance

During the year, the Events Subgroup continued to provide significant energy and momentum for the Trust. The group supported fundraising initiatives, including a successful Welsh-themed evening, and undertook preparatory work to welcome The Rude Mechanical Theatre Company to Fairfield House, Stogursey, scheduled for summer 2025. A major highlight of the year was the Stogursey Arts Festival, widely regarded as a great success. The festival showcased an exceptional mix of local talent alongside artistic contributions from further afield. The principal exhibition was once again hosted in St Andrew's Church, providing a striking backdrop. A notable feature was a loaned display from HATCH, a Somerset-based arts collective presenting contemporary art in rural environments. Their costume sculptures from the fashion show 'The Void', featuring mythical creatures, offered visitors an innovative visual experience. Local artisans contributed high-quality work to an exhibition of flowers and textiles themed 'Coastline', while children from the local school produced imaginative sea-creature artworks, ensuring strong intergenerational participation. Alongside the main exhibition, the Stogursey Arts Photographic Society presented a warmly received exhibition in the Jubilee Rooms, reflecting local life in and around Stogursey. The festival programme was further enriched by clay workshops, food-related events, and a continuous musical presence throughout the week, including choir

performances, shanty singing, open mic sessions and ukulele gatherings. Collectively, these activities created a vibrant and inclusive cultural event with strong community engagement. The trustees wish to place on record that everything the Trust produces relies extensively upon a significant group of volunteers whose commitment, skills and enthusiasm are essential to the successful delivery of its activities.

5. Financial Review

Balance brought forward: £11,123.76 Total income: £6,074.19 Total expenditure: £6,115.03 Net movement in funds: (£40.84) Funds carried forward: £11,082.92 Income was derived from grants, events, donations, and support from local organisations including the Parish Council. Expenditure primarily supported festival activity, events, equipment, insurance, and operational costs necessary to deliver the charity's objectives. The trustees consider the charity's financial position to remain stable, with reserves at a level sufficient to support ongoing activities.

6. Reserves Policy

The trustees have adopted a reserves policy designed to balance financial resilience with the active use of funds to support charitable activities. A flexible reserve target of £1,500 was agreed at a meeting of the trustees on 12 January 2026. This level is considered appropriate for a charity of the Trust's size, providing a modest financial buffer while allowing resources to be directed towards the delivery of arts programmes and community events. Reserves are reviewed periodically to ensure they remain appropriate in light of the charity's activities and financial commitments.

7. Plans for Future Periods (2025–26)

- Explore potential grant funding opportunities, including those associated with Hinkley Point.
- Establish a dedicated group committed to the effective planning and delivery of the next Stogursey Arts Festival.
- Pursue further fundraising initiatives and deliver The Rude Mechanical Theatre Company's production at Fairfield House.
- Develop the Trust's digital presence through the creation of a website and Facebook page, improving communication and audience engagement.

8. Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. The trustees must select suitable accounting policies, apply them consistently, observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP, make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates, and prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in operation. The trustees are responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records and safeguarding the assets of the charity.

9. Approval

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf. Name: Colin Pye (chair)
Position: Trustee Date: 12th January 2026

Stogursey Arts Trust
Treasurer's Report
 1 February 2024 to 31 January 2025

	2025	
Bank Balance Brought Forward		£11,123.76
INCOME		
Stogursey Parish Council	100.00	
Soap Factory	1,139.46	
Events	1,199.92	
Grants	3,370.00	
Donations received	264.81	
Total Income		£6,074.19
EXPENDITURE		
Insurance	80.64	
SAPS	2,362.14	
C/Tree Festival	185.58	
Computer	1,779.30	
Flowers	50.00	
Soap Factory	1,321.77	
Events	115.80	
Miscellaneous expenses	219.80	
Total Expenditure		£6,115.03
		-£40.84
Bank Balance Carried Forward		£11,082.92
Balance at Bank 31/1/2025	11,398.72	
Less Unpresented Paymets	315.80	
Balance as per Cash Book 31/1/2025	11,082.92	

Sue Spicer
 Treasurer - Sue Spicer

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(Draft 2) Stogursey Arts Trust annual report for 2023-24

Early challenges in 23-24 were resolved through the hard work of trustees and the year finished by celebrating ten successful years of the Arts in Stogursey with two festivals and some new ideas leading to fundraising events.

At the start of 2023-24 we experienced some costly technical problems with the equipment used by the Soap Factory Cinema. This popular community cinema had been running for seven years with no upgrades to equipment. The team of volunteers sought a replacement projector, but with limited contingent funds, the replacement was not ideal and technical difficulties continued, with poor sound quality. Over the course of the year key members of the Trust worked alongside the cinema team, looking at strategies to maintain the running costs. Over time it became clear that with out a significant outlay to update and replace equipment, the audience numbers, which had started to diminish, would not be able sustain the outgoings (from ticket sales) for film hire and licences. The future of the cinema is now under review, with a break in screening for three months at the start of 24-25.

To promote the past ten years of the Arts Festival and to illustrate what we had achieved to new comers to the village, we ran a retrospective slide show of past events to regenerate interest and encourage new members to take part. This turned out to be a timely strategy, as we had several resignations from the Trust including the Chair and the Secretary mid year. The retrospective event for the Chair, celebrated several years of voluntary service, having been with the Trust since it was formed and he decided it was time to stand down at allow others to take things forward. We were left with the task of initiating our action plan for succession, recruiting and introducing some new trustees at short notice. Our homework on seeking new volunteers for the vacant roles (Strategy Document 22-23) paid off, but there is still further work to do in helping the new officers get up to speed. We have been very fortunate in establishing a new treasurer in post, who has been a trustee for many years and continues to act as our licensee. This has been a huge help in stabilising the situation with the Cinema, but also, she along with other 'new' and established Trustees, has set up a very effective fund raising group, to establish contingent funding for Festival events going forward.

The new trustees bring valuable skills to complement the work of the Trust. We are now seeing a new look to publicity, community music skills and for the future; one of our groups is keen to introduce amateur dramatics. Through the strategy discussions (22-23), the Trust had established the need to look to change. With this new team, there is now renewed interest to develop positive ideas for the future, where these new members are taking ownership for areas such as planning and organisation to coordinate the contributions of the many creative groups around the village. Previously referred to as affiliated groups, these groups are better described as contributing Festival participants. This enables us to distinguish our strategic role and for them to maintain creative autonomy. In line with our ethos as a steering group for the Arts in the community, Trustees still provide mentoring support where requested, but we are also working on a better communication structure, to keep everyone in the loop and encourage wider participation (see ongoing strategy action ref the Festival Committee).

Our continued issues with the hanging system in the Church were resolved by focusing on exhibiting sculpture and freestanding textile panels. We worked with an artists' cooperative from Langport known as Hatch, and Festival participants: The Artisans, The Flower Group, the School and the Stogursey Arts Photographic Society as well as independent artists who approached us during the year. The Visual Arts continue to be curated by experienced members of the team, to ensure all work is presented and in doing so supportive of individual endeavour, demonstrating inclusivity and representing diversity through the creative outcomes. With a more comprehensive offer on the music programme this year, there was greater variety for audiences to choose from and it was noted that we had many more people

from across the village attending events. This outcome is indirectly supported by the work of the Music Director who started up new music workshop groups throughout the year. The example has seen other musicians following suit with their own unique contributions providing social regeneration opportunities in venues such as the local Pub. A ceramics workshop introduced this year by our local potter was a great success and saw many new faces attending. The workshop was well organised and there was a good atmosphere to enable individual creativity with a mix of on hand support and imaginative freedom. It was great to see younger people getting involved.

The year finished with The Christmas Tree Festival, coordinated by the former Chair of the Arts Trust and the former Secretary. There were more participants this year for this popular Festival event and the Tree Festival provided a brilliant festive backdrop for other programmed music events as well as the Church's, scheduled calendar services. There were fewer made/constructed trees than last year, but many participants had opted to 'make' their own decorations. It was again good to see increased numbers of younger contributors including the School and the Youth Club.

As we move into 2025 there is still some unfinished work to be planned following the Strategy Group's findings. General operational communications, the roles of new Trustees in relation to policy and induction, contingent fund raising and the conclusion of funded projects and new partnerships; are all part of our agenda going forward. We also need to build on the Festival's vision established ten years ago and promote the work of the newly established Village photographic archive through the use of new technology. This archive has the potential to represent the work of the Trust through the visual record of contributions by all Festival participating groups. With QR codes situated at various venues around the village, the ability for visitors to download images of past Festivals and events, will bring to life the best of what we have achieved so far.

Stogursey Arts Trust Strategic action ongoing for 2025

An 'aid memoir'

The findings from the 'strategy groups' were circulated to all Trustees in 2023, in a discussion paper: 'Strategic Action 2023 onwards'.

Action

Trust members who have not identified areas that they can contribute to, should review the action points and offer their expertise to initiate action identified.

The future of the Festival and events

'There is a need for good ideas and creative direction, but you don't need fixed venues, you can work with pop up ones and be flexible'.

Continued action

H&S should be reviewed on all events and built into the initiation of activities: *project leaders to identify and do risk assessments using the SAT proforma*

Action

Identify and publish methods for communication: following discussions, *SE to rationalise elements of the discussion paper produced in 2024 and put together a revised operational communication methodology*

Action

Identify and publish project leaders for all events: *Project leaders report to the Trust via email*

Continued action

The Stogursey Arts Festival (SAF) Committee or a new form of communication/planning group needs to be convened and meet regularly. Meetings of this group in 2024 needed proper coordination and feedback. The objective of these meetings is to brainstorm ideas, agree themes and deadlines and establish an operational planning cycle, so projects can happen in good time: *Chair of SAF Committee/or Planning Coordinator and overseen by project leaders.*

Continued action

We should continue with our aims to recruit project participants, including volunteers, to create a critical mass of like-minded interest to support the Festival(s): *All trustees*

Our identity, as noted in the constitution

'The Trust is an enabling organisation, which links artists, performers, makers, crafts people, media and creative community groups'.

Continued action

As the Trust facilitates across all of the areas above, it needs to regularly remind itself, that it is a steering group for 'The Arts' in Stogursey: *A forum to discuss this maybe useful at an early stage in 2025. All trustees*

Continued action

The Trust needs to be clear on its definition of inclusivity through 'the Arts' locally: *A forum to discuss this maybe a useful reminder at an early stage in 2025. All trustees*

Promoting our public image

'To reset 'how we are seen' in the community and wider social media, we need to revisit our confidence in what we do, before we embark on promoting it'.

Continued action

Promote ourselves, by word of mouth, through collective discussion and through project activity, which has been seen to be a proven starting point: *A forum to discuss this maybe useful at an early stage in 2025. All trustees*

Continued action

Follow up on the QR code project, establish funds for implementation and begin the roll out of positioning these QR codes at/in the Festival venues, to establish an ongoing accessible, digital visual presence through the use of archive images, to convey that we are not just a once a year Festival: *Arts Director with SAPS*

Outreach and knowledge support

Continued action

Wider expertise needs to be sourced from organisations such as the Engine Room in Bridgwater, The Bridgwater Arts Centre (the funded partnership project with BAC is now live) and the 'Arts Forum' (to be convened): *Arts Director*

Continued action

Continue to develop meaningful School links with teachers, pupils and parents: *Trustees with established school links*

Resources & venues

Continued action

The Trust should seek new opportunities and negotiate community rates with heads of local venues (SE has already initiated funding support for local groups through the 'warm spaces' grant) : *Identified trustees*

Continued action

Review the ongoing use of our demountable exhibition system in the Church with the Vicar and the PCC: *Arts Director*

Continued action

Allocate contingency to repair the exhibition's digital projector. *Arts Director*

Continued action

Review current viability issues of the Soap Factory Cinema and discuss appropriate action: *Chair and Trustees*

Funding, links and finance

Action

Complete outstanding work on Bank mandate and enable new signatories and online banking. *Chair and Treasurer*

Continued action (for information)

Presentation of accounts should now follow a pro-forma, identifying individual ring fenced 'project' grant funds, money available through donations, individual group/society transactions (SAPS, Craft Group, Festival Committee, Soap Factory cinema etc.). *Chair and Treasurer*

Continued action

Establish an annual plan for fund raising events: *The Fund raising committee*

Continued action

Investigate potential networks available to the Trust, which we can consider working with in the future: *Arts Director*

Succession and planning

'As members of the teams retire, leave and move on, we need strategies for Succession Planning and replacement'.

Continued action

Recruit/encourage new volunteers as appropriate, to engage with the Festival and ascertain their interest to eventually take on some of the areas of responsibility, which become vacant. *Chair assisted by all trustees*

Having appointed new trustees in 2024 we will agree a time scale for completion of the strategic action tasks during 2025.

STOGURSEY ARTS TRUST#

Profit & Loss year ending 31st January 2024

Revenue

Sales of paintings	925
Scarecrow	161
Tree Festival	157

Total income 1,242

Expenditure

Film Night	286
Insurance	81
Jubilee Rooms	114
Flower Festival	286
Artisans	83

Total 850

PROFIT 392

Sue Spicer
Treasurer to Stogursey Arts Trust

STOGURSEY ARTS TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1175827

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Stogursey Arts Trust annual report for 2022-23

The Stogursey Arts Trust (SAT) started its work for 22-23 identifying key action areas, which resulted from discussions; developing and revising a strategic plan, towards future sustainability to meet its aims,. With a new team of trustees appointed during the year, a series of groups were set up to discuss key questions and establish a list of action points to act as an 'aid memoire' for future planning. Action points identified are included with this report.

The new membership not only bought complementary expertise to these discussions, but also took action during the year to set up new creative groups and establish fund raising events.

The 'Tree of Life' Exhibition was a great example of where the Strategic Action document was put into practice. From the question: 'how do we support new additional creative groups, including mentoring support, and how do we develop meaningful school links'(?); the group leader identified and set up a new craft group (now named the Artisans). The group identified a theme that worked for people as a common endeavour; deliberately making it accessible to as many people as possible. The more skilled experts within the group helped and advised those who were new or beginners. In setting a long time line to produce work for an exhibition, which provided a clear completion date, more people were enabled to join in as the project progressed towards this final goal.

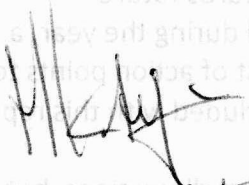
The end result was a great exhibition combining many different skills together with the beautiful floral arrangements from the Flower Group. It also highlighted how much some people are still carrying, with a sense of loss and grief from the difficult years that had preceded the event. Other positives identified, included children from the school being involved and the group establishing a momentum towards the next project.

The Strategy had identified the merits of maintaining support for affiliated groups to the SAT such as the Flower Group, the Morris Travellers (Stogursey's resident Morris side), The Soap Factory Cinema, The Arts Group Stogursey (TAGS) and the Stogursey Arts Festival. In addition to the Artisans joining the affiliated groups, the Stogursey Arts Photographic Society was mentored through out the year by the SAT. This mentorship has resulted in the group identifying community-focused aims, where they have started to build an archive of past and present images of the village. The archive will be exhibited in 2024, for the benefit of residents and community groups and then toured to various venues illustrating the benefits of the archive.

The Artisans have benefitted from donations from the general public and funding from the Artists fund. SAPS have been successful in a grant application to support the Photographic Archive (receipt pending) and the Stogursey Arts Festival chair ran a successful music event as a fundraiser to enable future Festival events.

Towards the end of the year a group of trustees approached the new Rector of St Andrews church with the idea of running a Christmas Tree Festival. In the light of the programme of exhibitions, which were introduced by new trustees, the concept had been discussed as a 'late' Arts Festival to run in December. The Christmas Festival ran in the week running up to Christmas. All villagers and village groups were invited to take part and given an open brief, to decorate or create/make their own Christmas tree. The SAT provided trees and stands for the exhibition in the church, which was a huge success. The event brought together over twenty contributions from Artists, village groups and individuals; all who have expressed an interest to

see the event repeated for 2024. Once costs had been covered, in part from donations granted by the Parish Council, the team identified a healthy start up fund for next year's event.



T. L. KAYE

28.05.24

approved at meeting 28.05.24

PROFIT & LOSS

Year ending January 2023

INCOME

Film Nights	743
Scarecrow Festival	197
Open Mic Night	83
Donations	33

Total Income

 1,057

EXPENDITURE

Artists fees	1,800
Insurance	73
Jubilee Rooms	75

TOTAL EXPENDITURE

 1,948

NET PROFIT LOSS (892)



T. L. KAYE Chairman

28.05.24

approved at meeting 28.05.24

STOGURSEY ARTS TRUST

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Stogursey Arts Trust annual report for 2022

The Arts Trust was successful in replacing four key trustees, who had left the area or resigned after long service. The new members of the team provide significant new expertise and insight in specific areas of the Arts, as well as skills, which have already proved helpful in running this community enterprise as we opened up again following the pandemic 'lockdowns' in 2020/21.

In 2019, the Stogursey Arts Trust had been successful in obtaining a grant from the Fairfield Trust to support local artists in putting together a sculpture project.

Due to the pandemic, this project was postponed, but given the knowledge gained from the 'Outside Gallery' project run during the Festivals of 2020 and 2021, it was felt that a modified 'Garden Sculpture Project' would provide a fantastic opportunity to support the 'reopening' of the village, by getting people to talk about the sculptures exhibited.

It was hoped that the 2022 Arts Festival would promote social discourse and bring back some normality after the 'lock downs' of the Pandemic and encourage audiences to re-engage with the Arts and importantly each other.

Having maintained our regular monthly information bulletins on the Arts during the Pandemic, in the local Stogursey News Magazine, it was felt the need for a change in strategy coming out of the Pandemic. The Arts Trust needed to affirm its identity through events, rather than the default position (adopted during the pandemic) of promoting itself and ideas in the local 'news', so we began to work on organising an Arts Festival Event for 2022.

The resulting Festival, which ran during October, was promoted through an initial press release, which was picked up by BBC local radio and also by BBC TV local Network News. We had a total of 30mins air-time on radio and a charming film was produced by the film crew and TV news team at Points West. The radio interviews and the film featured the work and exhibits of sculpture by local artists and children at the local school, and helped to promote 'chat' about the festival itself.

For the 'opening up' Arts Festival, it was decided to coincide this with the opening of the village Flower Show. One of the Arts Trust's affiliated groups, the Morris Dancing Side; known as the Morris Travellers, opened the event with some variations on traditional folk dancing. The local Parish Council supported the 'Light up Stogursey' project by putting the municipal Christmas light decorations up early, encouraging other residents of the village and parish to do the same. There was an Artist talk by one of the sculptors and a very successful 'Open Mic' night, where many local performers contributed to an entertaining evening of music and poetry readings. The Flower arranging group, decorated the church with the help of money raised from a funding event by the Trust earlier in the year. Stogursey's Arts Trust's - Soap Factory Cinema ran a special 'themed evening', along with the screening of its regular film of the month.

Retrospectively the 2022 Arts Festival was positively featured in the 2023 February edition of Somerset Life.

Towards strategic action for future sustainability, Stogursey Arts Trust have revised the key questions, previously identified in 2021 with the new team of trustees appointed in 2023,

In forming discussion groups to address the revised questions, it was important to have the best possible representation, in order to get a broad input to contribute to the discussion of the topics in each of the groups. Some of the key topics/questions were run consecutively to save on time and venue organisation.

The revised strategy group questions identified in 2021 are listed below. These will be reported on and identified in strategic action for 2023.

The Festival

- What have we learnt through running the Arts Festivals during pandemic restrictions?
- What are the new ideas for events not already considered?
- How will the Arts Festival year look in the future?

Our identity: who we are and what we do?

- What do we want the Arts Trust to look like in the future?
- How can we get more people involved, bringing new ideas and maybe re vamping old ones that worked well?

Promoting the public image

- How do we want 'to be seen' in the community and wider social media?
- What other methods of communication and marketing should we consider, both in reaching out and providing information?

Outreach and knowledge support

- How do we support new, additional creatives groups, including mentoring support: such as grant application writing?
- How do we develop meaningful School links with teachers, pupils and parents?

Resources & venues

- How do we improve and inform our working relationships with venues in the village?

Funding, links and finance

- Fundraising: what is our strategy for future development?
- What potential networks are available for the Trust to consider working with in the future?

Succession and planning

- As members of the teams retire, leave and move on, what is our strategy for Succession Planning and replacement?

Having appointed new trustees and co-opted ex-officio members to support the actions to be taken, we have agreed and identified time scales for completion of tasks during 2023. The exercise is finite and once the work has been completed, we will move forward with succession and sustainability strategies for Stogursey Arts Trust.

Profit & Loss
Year Ending January 22

INCOME

Film Nights	207
Sale of Paintings	1,750
Coffee Mornings	162
Open Mic Night	11
Donation	20

Total Income

 2,151

EXPENSES

Insurance	146
Coffee machine	54
Paintings	1,250

Total Expenses

 1,450

NET PROFIT **701**

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Stogursey Arts Trust annual report for 2021

The Stogursey Arts Trust has continued to support local artists, but mainly those who had been in contact throughout the year. Given the pandemic, the enquiries were far less than in previous years, but we have maintained and made available regular monthly information on the Arts via the local Stogursey News Magazine. Most enquiries were accompanied with questions as to how artists could exhibit and perform given the restrictions placed in response to the pandemic, such as our 'scaled down' annual Arts Festival, which ran from the 10th to the 17th of September this year.

The Arts Festival Committee took the decision to make compromises, given the uncertainties of the pandemic by restricting activities, reducing the numbers at performances and screenings and making more of the outside venues it had identified in 2020.

Despite the compromises, the Arts Trust still managed to enable support for contributing artists and performers during the Arts Festival week. We were fortunate to benefit from collaborations with other groups in the village and the fantastic support of the Trust's team of volunteers. For example; the local Parish Council got involved in the 'Lighting up Stogursey' project by putting up the Christmas lights early, encouraging other residents of the village and parish to do the same. The Stogursey Lunches created a special Somerset themed Festival Menu which they served in the Church Rooms venue, where the Trust had curated an exhibition of paintings by the late John Hilliard. The Stogursey Flower Show shared the opening date of the Festival, attracting a new audience to the events on offer and the Flower Arranging Group took on a traditional approach to making the Well Dressing this year.

The Flower Arranging Group, are an affiliated group to the Trust and this year they were able to recruit new volunteers whose expertise in Cumbrian Well Dressing will be invaluable in continuing this tradition for future years.

Residents also joined in making their front windows into 'pictures', as part of 'The Outside Galley', which offered a safe environment in which 'viewers' could circulate observing the legislated social distancing rules. We were fortunate to be offered a new large-scale work; 'The Weather Report' by the artist Alison Jacobs, which we displayed in the centre of the village above the old market square.

The programme of performances and live events supporting the Arts throughout the Festival week were made up of a broad range of contributions including: The Burnham & Highbridge Band (setting the scene with a visit to a Beer Keller and topped off with a rousing flag waving 'Last Night at the Proms' finale), The Stogursey 'Morris' Travellers who performed an 'unusual' version of traditional folk dances, Craft Spinning Demonstrations were available with Tea/Coffee and homemade cakes, a presentation with music and readings, linked to the theme of 'Wells and Water' was performed in St Andrews Church by Chris Moorsom (voice & violin) and Miles Quick (organ/keyboard - Director of music at St. Mary Magdalen church, Taunton). Chris Moorsom also put together a platform lecture titled 'Music in a Pandemic' (an hour of discussion and recordings of music created virtually during the lockdowns). Stogursey's Arts Trust's - Soap Factory Cinema ran a special 'themed evening' along with screening the film of the month, and the Arts Festival concluded with an Open Mic Night, where many local performers contributed to an entertaining evening of music and poetry.

Working on the success of teaming up with other active groups in the village and in response to given perceptions that communication in the parish had been fractured as a result of the pandemic; The Arts Trust facilitated a Coffee, Cake & Networking Event in the Autumn, with

the aim of sharing feedback and ideas for future collaborations and voluntary supporting events. Despite a successful attendance and over fifteen local groups participating, no one from these village organisations has yet to develop a strategy to take forward the findings from feedback compiled by the Arts Trust.

As the Arts Trust seeks to replace trustees who have left the area or resigned after long service, we also need to take stock and consider the Trust's future and the role it has adopted with respect to its aims and objectives. With the recent announcement ending the Covid regulations, we are intending to re activate our discussions, which were curtailed at the start of the pandemic.

Our key areas for exploration going forward are listed in the questions we have identified towards establishing a Strategic Action statement for 2022.

Stogursey Arts Trust: Key questions towards strategic action in 2022

Review and redefinition

Are the Trusts aims still valid or do they need updating/contextualising post pandemic? What have we learnt through running the Arts Festivals during restrictions and do we want the Arts Trust to look like in the future? Review our relationship with external relationships and partners.

Community involvement and Communications

How can we get more people involved/interested? New ideas and re vamping old ones that worked. How do we develop meaningful School links with teachers, pupils and parents? How do we want 'to be seen' in the community and wider social media? Does our existing Website do what we want it to and how should it look? What other methods of communication and marketing should/could we consider practically in reaching out or just providing information?

Our base assets, volunteers, equipment etc and affiliated 'Creatives Groups'

Resolutions to current operational and equipment problems? Working relationships with venues and the management of assets? Ideas and feasibility of offering support for additional Creatives Groups? Volunteers skills, contributory roles and questions relating to responsibilities and accountability? Shared resources, collaborations and interested groups?

Planning the framework of events and Fundraising

How will the Festival year look in the future? Working in conjunction with other groups how/who will establish an annual events calendar and implement it. Do we want a fixed or a fluid plan in moving forward? New ideas for events not already considered. Fundraising, what is our strategy for future development? Mentoring support for other groups eg. grant application writing. The importance of networking, fundraising etc: who wants to help out with this? Succession planning?

Notes regarding strategy meetings

- *Strategy meetings will be held by sub groups, working to the headings above during Spring 2022.*
- *Meetings will be facilitated in the form of subgroups made up of lead trustees and other interested parties, to enable informal/creative discussion and to report back to the next formal meeting of the Stogursey Arts Trust*
- *Meetings will only have two topics for discussion and last no longer than an hour and a half.*
- *Notes from the sub group meetings will be circulated in advance of the next opportunity for a scheduled meeting of the Arts Trust. This meeting will formally consider the subgroup findings, agree identified action points and establish time scales for completion of tasks if this is appropriate.*
- *We will co-opt new members to support the actions to be taken as appropriate*
- *This exercise is finite and once the strategy group has completed this task it will be stood down.*

STOGURSEY ARTS FESTIVAL
Profit & Loss Year Ending January 2021

Revenue

Film Night	91	
Fairfield Trust	6,000	
Vintage teas	174	
Donations	65	6,330

Expenditure

Insurance	73	73
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Profit **6,257**