

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

FOR

CONNECTIONS GROUP EXETER

CONNECTIONS GROUP EXETER

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Page
Trustees Annual Report	1-3
Receipts and Payments Account	4
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	5
Independent Examiners Report	6

CONNECTIONS GROUP EXETER
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Aim and Purpose

To promote social inclusion for the public benefit and relieve the needs of people in Exeter (and the surrounding area), who require Health and Social Care services. We do this by providing access to community and leisure facilities with the aim of relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society. Socially excluded means being excluded from society or parts of society as a result of experiencing serious and enduring mental health problems.

Objectives and Activities

To reduce social isolation and improve quality of life, by enabling our members access to community facilities for leisure and social reasons. To include the following:

- One to One work, that breaks down barriers that might prevent participation.
- Activities that include walks, ten pin bowling, meals out, coach trips, quizzes and visiting the local area.

How our activities deliver public benefit

All our charitable activities focus on our objective to promote social inclusion for those people that experience serious and enduring mental health problems. The work that we undertake furthers our charitable purposes and in doing so the Trustees have paid special regard to the Charity Commission statement on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

During the year Connections had 54 members, with more interested in joining and accessing our services.

As the last of the lockdowns and restrictions ceased, Connections continued to open up the number of activities and events that it provided. These ranged from exploring the Exeter area and further afield, theatre and cinema trips, quizzes, walks, chats over coffee, meals out and yoga.

In October 2021 Ben Warren stood down as facilitator and after a few months of shadowing and learning the role, Alison Alker took his place. This changeover has for the most part been successful, but not surprisingly there have been a handful of members that have found this change difficult to cope with.

Alison has been working with members to find out what activities and events are the most popular, with coach, cinema and theatre trips, meals out and shorter local walks attracting the largest numbers. Many members are happy to do local trips and events, with others wanting to get out of Exeter.

CONNECTIONS GROUP EXETER
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Financial Review

Total receipts for the year to 31 March 2022 amounted to £15,394 (year ended 31 March 2021 £36,052).

Total payments for the year to 31 March 2022 amounted to £26,400 (year ended 31 March 2021 £26,458).

The charity holds £3,993 in their bank account.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees agree that the level of reserves to be held should be 2 months expenses, to include the facilitators salary.

Risk Management Policy

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, in particular those relating to the operations and finances of the Charity and are satisfied that there are systems in place to mitigate their exposure to major risks.

Plans for Future Periods

There have been a large amount of new referrals coming in, presumably from the impact of Covid. As well as all the activities, there is also an advocacy and 1 to 1 service available from the facilitator that members can access. These services are currently limited due to the number of hours available, and a new member of staff would be able to share this work load.

We have secured some grant funding to employ another part time support worker, and the recruitment process is currently ongoing. This will not only allow us to increase our membership numbers, but also we will be able to extend the services we provide and increase the variety and number of events.

New events for 2022/2023 include longer walks, tennis, yoga and golf.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity's objects and regulations are set out in the charity's Memorandum and Articles, which were first agreed in January 2018. The charity is a charitable incorporated organisation.

The method of identifying and appointing trustees is through recommendations by Connections' members. The Connections Group Exeter newsletter is also sent to care managers in the mental health team. This leads to potential trustees being found and invited to stand.

CONNECTIONS GROUP EXETER
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Reference and Administration Details

Registered Charity Number: 1176763

Elected Members:	A Clewes	-	Chairman (to Nov 2021)
	Miss S Hall	-	Chair (from Nov 2021)
	Miss J Curnow	-	Secretary (to Nov 2021)
	B Warren	-	Treasurer (to Oct 2021)
	A Alker	-	Treasurer (from Oct 2021)
	M Gardner	-	Trustee (to Nov 2021)
	K Fox	-	Trustee (from Nov 2021)

Administrator:	B Warren (to Oct 2021)
	A Alker (from Oct 2021)

Bankers:	Natwest Bank, 59 High Street, Exeter, EX4 3DL
	Lloyds, PO BOX 1000, Andover

Address:	1 Rosebarn Lane, Exeter, Devon, EX4 6EL
----------	---

Independent Examiner	G M Corby BSc FCA
	Merlin Accountancy Services Ltd
	2 nd Floor, 33 Longbrook Street, Exeter,
	Devon, EX4 6AW

CONNECTIONS GROUP EXETER

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	31 March 2022		31 March 2021	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Grant	15,288			36,052
Donations	106			-
		<u>15,394</u>		<u>36,052</u>
Payments				
Refreshments	3,368		2,414	
Telephone	522		880	
Post and Stationery	1,571		2,145	
Travelling	4,814		3,422	
Admissions	1,142		-	
Room Hire/Storage	230		90	
Rent	480		480	
Administrator	12,399		11,050	
Accountancy	965		549	
Insurance	433		312	
IT Costs	250		-	
Miscellaneous Expenses	15		1,616	
Training	165		-	
Loan Repayment	-		3,500	
Professional Fees	46		-	
		<u>26,400</u>		<u>26,458</u>
NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS		<u>(11,006)</u>		<u>9,594</u>
Cash Funds at 01 April 2021		<u>14,999</u>		<u>5,405</u>
Cash Funds at 31 March 2022		<u>3,993</u>		<u>14,999</u>

Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

During the year one of the trustees, Alison Alker, was paid for her role as the Administrator of the charity from November 2021. The total remuneration for this role was £4,530 (2021: £nil).

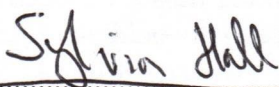
CONNECTIONS GROUP EXETER

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES 31 MARCH 2022

	31 March 2022		31 March 2021	
	£	£	£	£
ASSETS RETAINED FOR OWN USE				
Computer	-		510	
Printer	-		158	
		-		668
CASH FUNDS				
Bank Current Account	3,993		13,973	
Cash Held by Administrator	-		1,026	
		3,993		14,999
LIABILITIES				
Staff Expenses	161		-	
Accruals	590		576	
		751		576

The members declare that they approve the financial statements and confirm that they have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.

Signed on behalf of the members



Sylvia Hall - Chairman

Date: 16/08/2022

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CONNECTIONS GROUP EXETER

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022 which are set out on pages 3 to 4.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to these matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
 - proper accounting records are kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act; or
2. to which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

G M Corby BSc FCA
Merlin Accountancy Services Ltd
2nd Floor
33 Longbrook Street
Exeter
EX4 6AW

Signed: 

Date:17/8/22.....