

Alexandra Park Greenhouse Group

Registered company, number 1177523

Annual Report and Financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

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**Alexandra Park Greenhouse Group
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2021**

Full name Alexandra Park Greenhouse Group

Other names by which the charity is known APGG

Legal status Charitable Incorporated Organisation (foundation model)

Registered charity number 1177523

Principal address 45 St Helens Road, Hastings, TN34 2EL

Trustees Linda Pearson - Chair
Ann Hodgkinson - Treasurer
Adrian Penfold
Jill Penfold

Bankers NatWest, Hastings

Independent examiner

Pat Weaver, employee of Hastings voluntary Action, Jackson Hall, Portland Place,
Hastings, TN34 1QN

Governance and management

The charity is operated under the rules of its constitution registered with the Charity Commission on 13th March 2018. The charity's principal activity during the year continued to be the maintenance and upkeep of the Alexandra Park Greenhouse.

The methods adopted for the recruitment and appointment of new trustees are as laid down in the constitution. Trustees are elected on a 3 year rotational basis. Retiring trustees are eligible for re-election. All trustees give their time freely and no trustee remuneration was paid during the year.

Public Benefit

In writing their trustee report, the trustees of Alexandra Park Greenhouse Group have given due regard to the guidance of the charity Commission on public benefit.

Alexandra Park Greenhouse Group CN 1177523

Annual Report April 1st 2020 - March 31st 2021

The objectives of the CIO are:-

To provide facilities for recreation or our leisure time occupation by providing an area for use as a community garden and other activities for individuals residing in Hastings and the surrounding area, who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of said inhabitants. To advance educate for the public benefit in particular by providing opportunities for learning about horticulture.

Review year April 1st 2020-March 31st 2021

In a unprecedented year the trustees have striven to continue to provide the volunteers and the community a safe environment in which to enjoy and develop horticultural skills. Working together we have built a resourceful team which have continued to work on the restoration plan for the greenhouse, improving the site and holding plant sales and small events when covid restrictions have permitted.

In April we were coming to terms with the disappointing news that our Heritage Lottery funding application was not successful. As we formulated a new strategy the covid lock downs started forcing us to cancel plans for additional fund-raising and extending opportunities for community groups to use the greenhouse for their own horticultural and nature focus activities.

Undeterred, we developed a network of front garden plant sales to ensure much needed funds were still forthcoming for the restoration appeal. We were donated many bedding and vegetable plants by enthusiastic gardeners eager to support and pleased to see their well tended seedlings being sold to enhance new gardens where they would be tended with the same dedication. One new contact proved to be not only a brilliant gardener, but also a newly retired builder who offered his skills in both areas. He has volunteered to re-point the greenhouse brickwork reducing the restoration cost by £6,000 he has also made planters and bird boxes to sell along with the plants. Thank-you Paul Sleet.

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The garden sales resulted in meeting new volunteers with valuable skills. We now

have a web site manager Sue Kirby who has introduced new ideas and improvements to the web-site which needed updating. News letters are now regularly circulated, which keeps everyone updated on our progress.

Sue also headed our successful Crowd-Funding campaign which ran through July and August, raising well over the £10,000 target we set.

The campaign was linked to a very substantial donation from a member of the community who, impressed by our work was moved to give financial support after our disappointment with the National Lottery application. This was the most wonderful boost to the group and the communities moral.

We can now really start the restoration of the building.

Social Media has really taken off thanks to Debbie Quinn who manages our face book messaging. Weekly updates are resulting in many more plant donations from the community. Sainsbury's have kept us well stocked with plants some in need of TLC and a great selection of stylish plant holder's which have made our indoor plant offer really special. Lock down has increased the popularity of indoor gardening and bringing the outdoors in has become so important. Welcome back to spider plants and macramé hanging baskets.

Heather Collins joined our volunteer gardening team bringing not only her gardening skills but those of a professional artist making soft sculptural pieces displayed in many galleries. She has created new presentations using donated furniture to plant up for interesting new displays.

Community Activities organised at greenhouse April 2020 - March 31 - 2021.

Much of the planned events and gathering had to be cancelled not only because of covid but the failure of the roof cover we had erected in September 2019. Weather conditions stopped some events and community groups activities as the new polypropylene roof cover gave no protection from the rain. Nick Henessy from HBC swiftly erected two gazebos inside the greenhouse which gave us some shelter and have helped us to keep going. We did have to cancel the East Sussex College assisted learning groups, and Education Futures Trust pre school classes which was so disappointing.

We are all working on the community round bed in the park which continues to look lovely and is much admired.

In April we gave a talk on the history of greenhouses at St. Mary's in the Star in Hastings Old Town, but all other events were cancelled until September when we opened for Heritage Open Day with a special talks on apple growing by Peter May and a fabulous additional display of cactus brought by Alan Bromley.

We were also concluding our Crowd-funding Campaign so we had visits from the major Nigel Sindon, Councillor Maya Evans, Margie O'Halligan, Hastings Lions who donated £500. BBC Sussex covered our crowd-Funding with an interview.

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£15,000 was raised during the campaign. We are so grateful for the support of the community and East Sussex County Council who donated £2,500.00 as we hit our

£10,000 target. The money will be used to install the electricity so we are able to use power tools during the restoration and to erect a perimeter fence providing security extra space to work and to create extra growing space.

We are now working with Wild About Hastings and other green groups with the mission of improving the town with more green spaces .

Administration

New 25 year lease issued by HBC

Two bank accounts, restoration, running costs

New web site designed activated July 2020 now have over 500 subscribers.

Donation button on web site 2020

Health and Safety improvements Jan 2021

Water billing now APGG responsibility, water pipe repaired by HBC

Site Development during 2020/2021

New roof cover paid for from the proceeds of the Birdsong Concert .

Rear terracing fully planted a blaze of colour

Borders planted, yew hedge planted.

New Fence with fire gate erected in Feb 2021

New signage for the plant sales and the railings.

Pot storage completed in section four by our long time volunteer Joann Bell.

Action for 2021/22

Start and complete the greenhouse restoration

Application to Heritage Lottery for project workers salary linked with Groundwork

Friends of Alexandra Park Greenhouse Group

Plan a gardening group

New safety rails to be installed.

Develop work in partnership with Greener Futures.

Focus on key projects with the community

Feeding Growing Family's growing vegetables and fruit

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New Garden Features working with supported housing for adults

Developing horticultural working opportunities with Greener Futures and CHART.

We are looking forward to the future development of the greenhouse so we can all **GROW TOGETHER** in future years.

Alexandra Park Greenhouse Group Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31st March 2021 – cont'd

Financial review

The greenhouse finances all its activities with the sale of plants and produce grown by volunteers working in the greenhouse, the amount of revenue generated in the financial year demonstrates the success of the work being undertaken by the volunteers, and groups already using the greenhouse in it's current state.

The greenhouse is available for private hire, the community enjoy talks, demonstrations, practical workshops, art classes, parties and social gatherings. A varied scale of hire fees will be implemented. The greenhouse has only a temporary roof cover so the opportunities to increase these events are hampered by weather conditions, and seasonal light levels.

During the year the charity received £100,915 (2020: £8,360) in grants and fundraising activities, and spent £8,089 (2020: £4,371). The group goes forward into a new financial year with a surplus of £105,744 (2020: £12,918).

Accounting and reporting responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (UK generally accepted accounting practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and reports) Regulation 2008 and the provision of the governing document. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and

Alexandra Park Greenhouse Group

Statement of assets and liabilities

at 31st March 2021

31.03.20	Notes	31.03.21
£		£
	Current assets	
10,835	Current accounts	105,743
	Receipts not paid in at year end	
53.46	Cash in hand	
<u>12,918</u>		<u>105,743</u>
	less Current liabilities	
<u>12,918</u>		<u>105,743</u>
	Represented by:	
8,928	Accumulated fund b/f	12,918
3,990	Net receipts	92,825
<u>12,918</u>		<u>105,743</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed 
Ann Hodgkinson, Treasurer

Dated 1.11.2021

Signed 
Adrian Penfold, Trustee

Dated 1-11-21

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Alexandra park Greenhouse Group for the year ended 31st March 2021

I report on the accounts of Alexandra Park Greenhouse Group for the period ended 31st March 2021 which are set out on pages 2-11.

Respective responsibilities of committee & examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state 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 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 those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiners statement

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

1. which gives reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and 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.



Pat Weaver
Community Accountancy worker
Hastings Voluntary Action
Jackson Hall, Portland Place, Hastings. TN34 1QN

Dated:

Alexandra Park Greenhouse Group **Receipts & payments account** **for the year ended 31st March 2021**

31.03.20

Note	Receipts	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
1,521	Grants & Donations	93,008	-	93,008
1,040	Ticket sales	7,907	-	7,907
5,711	Plant sales & events	-	-	-
89	Miscellaneous	-	-	-
8,361	TOTAL RECEIPTS	100,915	-	100,915
	Payments			
2,798	Greenhouse restoration	2,869	-	2,869
405	Miscellaneous	240	-	240
438	Printing & Marketing	1,283	-	1,283
-	Health & safety	80	-	80
-	Independent Examination	-	-	-
298	Room hire & events	425	-	425
-	Membership	-	-	-
318	Insurance	318	-	318
114	Domain	1,285	-	1,285
-	Water rates	89	-	89
-	Crowdfunding	1,500	-	1,500
4,371	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	8,090	-	8,090
3,990	Net receipts	92,825	-	92,825
-	Movement in funds	500	-500	-
8,928	Fund balances carry forward 31st March 2021	12,418	500	12,918
12,918	Fund balances cd forward 31st March 2020	105,743	-	105,743

**Alexandra Park Greenhouse Group
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31st March 2021 – cont'd**

hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The charity's policy on reserves

The charity has no specific policy on reserves but will be formulating one in the coming year to accommodate their need to raise funds for the restoration of the greenhouse.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed _____
Adrian Penfold, Trustee



Date 1-11-21

Signed _____
Ann Hodgkinson, Treasurer



Date 1/11/2021

Alexandra Park Greenhouse Group
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31st March 2021

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the charity during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

2. Premises & staff

The premises belong to Hastings Borough Council, but the group has been granted a long term lease to enable them to raise funds for the restoration project.

The charity employs no staff

3. Trustees' remuneration

During the accounting period, Trustees received no expenses, remuneration or benefits.

4. Related party transactions

During the accounting period there were no related party transactions.

5. Previous period comparison

The previous period's figures have not been included for comparison because this is the charity's first accounting period.

6. Glossary of terms

Restricted funds: These are funds given to the charity, subject to specific restrictions set by the donor, but still within the general objects of the charity.