

Acumen Community Buildings Ltd

**Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2022**

Charity number 1177852

Company number 10780847

Acumen Community Buildings Ltd

Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2022

Contents	Pages
Directors' and Trustees' Report	3 - 6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9
Notes to the Financial Statements	10 - 15

Acumen Community Buildings Ltd

Directors and Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2022

Reference and administration details

Charity name:	Acumen Community Buildings Ltd
Registered charity number	1177852
Company number	10780847
Registered office address	The Old Rectory The Broadway Houghton-le-Spring DH4 4BB

The trustees under charity law, who were also the directors under company law, who served during the period and up to the date of this report were:

Katherine Welch OBE DL (from 17.05.2017)

Dr Joanna Berry (from 10.05.2018)

Anne Toms (from 06.07.2018)

Dr Ron Lawson (from 23.06.2021)

Independent Examiner	Mr A. Chorlton
----------------------	----------------

Structure, governance and management

Acumen Community Buildings is a company limited by guarantee (no. 10780847) and a registered charity (no. 1177852). The company was incorporated on 20th May 2017. It was registered as a charity on 6th April 2018. The company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The Directors are appointed by the members on a skills basis ensuring that all have a commitment to the area of work of the charity and the skills needed to deliver the strategic plan for the next period. There were no changes to the Trustees during this financial year. The trustees met virtually during the early part of the year and returned to face to face or hybrid meetings in the latter half. During 2021-2022 the charity was rebuilding following the Covid-19 lockdown periods and gradually recruited staff to fulfil the management and delivery of activities.

Objectives and activities

The charity's object (object) is the promotion for the benefit of the public of urban or rural regeneration in areas of social and economic deprivation (and in particular in Sunderland coalfields and surrounding area) by all or any of the following means:

- (a) the relief of financial hardship:
- (b) the relief of unemployment:
- (c) the advancement of education, training or retraining, particularly among unemployed people, and providing unemployed people with work experience:
- (d) the provision of financial assistance, technical assistance or business advice or consultancy in order to provide training and employment opportunities for unemployed people in cases of financial or other charitable need through help: (i) in setting up their own business, or (ii) to existing businesses:
- (e) the creation of training and employment opportunities by the provision of workspace, buildings, and/or land for use on favourable terms:
- (f) the provision of housing for those who are in conditions of need and the improvement of housing in the public sector or in charitable ownership provided that such power shall not extend to relieving any local authorities or other bodies of a statutory duty to provide or improve housing:
- (g) the maintenance, improvement or provision of public amenities:
- (h) the preservation of buildings or sites of historic or architectural importance:
- (i) the provision of recreational facilities for the public at large or those who by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances, have need of such facilities:
- (j) the protection or conservation of the environment:
- (k) the provision of public health facilities and childcare:
- (l) the promotion of public safety and prevention of crime:
- (m) such other means as may from time to time be determined subject to the prior written consent of the charity commissioners for England and Wales.

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Achievements and performance

This fifth year of our activity has continued to be challenging because of the Covid 19 restrictions which, still had an impact on our charitable income from co-working spaces and room hire.

The building has been fully operational for the period and we appointed a Centre Manager in August 2021 to become the executive lead for the charity at The Old Rectory. We were also successful in obtaining funding from the Social Enterprise Support Fund as part of Covid Recovery to help us employ an events and activities co-ordinator who also supports most of our volunteering and various activities such as weekly classes and larger events including The Big Lunch, Heritage Open Days and Houghton Feast.

We continued to support people in the area who were starting or had started social enterprises, encouraging them to become part of our co-working community. We now have most of our offices let to social enterprises and charities but need to grow the hot desking and fixed desk community of smaller and younger social enterprises. We were very fortunate to receive a final Covid business support grant as well the final part of a cultural recovery grant from the Architectural Heritage Fund. We have viewed these funds as grants for investment in the future of the charity to build our capacity and help us realise our strategic plans. We also recruited two young people under the Department for Work and Pensions Kickstart scheme. The first role was for IT support and as the six month contract came to an end we were able to support the young person to join Enterprise Place at the University of Sunderland so that they could start their own IT business. The second role was as a caretaker as our first caretaker has been so successful in running his own social enterprise he asked to reduce his hours to free up more time to work in his community interest company. It's a real delight seeing those young people grow in their confidence and skills and progress into careers that are fulfilling for them.

We were successful in our application to a UK Community Renewal Funded Social Enterprise support scheme and were awarded £10,000 to help us grow our mental health and wellbeing offer of yoga, one to one support, activities such as crafts, gardening, music, cycling and a drumming circle. We now have a regular programme of activities that are bringing the community together, reducing social isolation and increasing wellbeing. Our Bloomin' Marvellous group restarted as people started to go out and about again and tackled the huge task of weeding and tidying the planted areas of Rectory Park. We were pleased to receive some small grants for plants and tools from Arnold Clark Auto and the Stanley H Smith Horticultural Trust. We have continued our IT club and drop in as part of the On-Line Centres Network supported by the Good Things Foundation and have won a number of small delivery contracts which help to fund the club.

We aim to be a catalyst for local social action supporting social enterprises and local voluntary groups to start and grow as well as helping a small number of local organisations manage their funding as they start their work and struggle to open their own bank accounts. We now have regular children's activities in the Rectory Park during school holidays run by Houghton-le-Spring Residents CIC and a real partnership approach to events and activities with all of the local churches, Space4, HOPS and uniformed organisations in the area amongst those involved.

In October 2021 we had a tragic incident in Houghton-le-Spring when a young man was stabbed and died of his injuries. Ten young people aged 14-17 were charged and convicted of murder and the effect of this has spread through the community with a huge impact on young people and families. We decided to respond by starting an open access youth club with a small amount of initial funding from the Coalfields Area Committee of Sunderland City Council. We then bid for additional funding to employ a full time youth worker and were thrilled when the Sir James Knott Trust gave us three years of funding for part of the salary. With a graduate intern scheme from Sunderland University and our first contract for the Holiday, Activity and Food Programme we have been able create a permanent post.

We have been working on researching and sharing the heritage of The Old Rectory and the wider Houghton-le-Spring area by developing a heritage research group, taking part in the Sunderland Heritage Partnership, #lovesunderlandheritage and Heritage Open Days. We were awarded a National Heritage Lottery Fund bid for the Tales from The Old Rectory and started rehearsals ready for the first performance of the Tales at The Platinum Jubilee Big Lunch. This event was our third Big Lunch bringing the whole community together from babies to 96 year olds to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee and enjoy a huge party in the park. Around 3500 people attended and we had a great time with plenty of children's activities, entertainment and lots of picnics as well as a rendition of God Save the Queen by the lead guitarist of a local band from the roof of The Old Rectory. Our Chair of Trustees was named as one of the 490 Platinum Champions by the Royal Voluntary Service as an outstanding volunteer so even more to celebrate.

We continue to develop our ideas for The Old Rectory Building and, as we rebuild our income streams, will be working towards raising funding for a major heritage project for the building and surrounding area.

Financial review

The trustees' policy in relation to reserves is to establish sufficient financial reserves to support the charity for at least a three-month period. This has been challenging as we build back unrestricted funding so we are pleased to have achieved a surplus thereby adding to our reserves.

At the year end there was £71,354, in reserves of which £46,974 was restricted.

As this is the fifth year of operation of the Charitable Company this level of reserves is in line with the Trustees Reserves Policy of a minimum of three months operating costs with the small staffing levels at the end of the year.

Trustees' responsibilities in respect of the financial statements

Company law requires the trustees, who are the directors under company law, to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company at the year end and of the net incoming/outgoing resources of the company for the year then ending. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies;
- 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 financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Independent examiner

The trustees have taken advantage of the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 in respect of the audit requirements for small companies and opted to have an independent examination in accordance with the Charities Act.

Small company special provisions

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime as set out in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the trustees on 30 March 2022 and signed on their behalf by

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'K Welch', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Katherine Welch OBE DL
Director and Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

I report to the trustees of Acumen Community Buildings on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 30 June 2022 set out on pages 8 to 14

Respective responsibilities of trustees and 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 2011,
- 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 examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 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 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities 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



Date 30 March 2023

Name

Mr A Chorlton

Address

7 Aiskell Street, Sunderland, SR4 7UH

Acumen Community Buildings

Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 30 June 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021 £
Incoming resources	3				
Generated funds					
Voluntary income		2909		2909	1851
Activities for generating funds					
Investment income					1
Charitable activities		109130	71348	180478	179402
Other incoming resources		14291		14291	5400
<i>Total incoming resources</i>		<u>126330</u>	<u>71348</u>	<u>197678</u>	<u>1866531</u>
Resources expended	4				
Generation of voluntary income		-	-	-	
Charitable Activities		100486	44990	145476	169619
Governance costs					-
Other resources expended		16865		16865	3642
Depreciation		2027		2027	1854
<i>Total resources expended</i>		<u>119378</u>	<u>44990</u>	<u>164368</u>	<u>175115</u>
Net income/expenditure (-) for the year		<u>6952</u>	<u>26358</u>	<u>33310</u>	<u>11538</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		17428	20616	38044	26505
Net movement in funds throughout year		<u>6952</u>	<u>26358</u>	<u>33310</u>	<u>11538</u>
Prior Year adjustment					
<i>Total funds carried forward</i>		<u>24380</u>	<u>46974</u>	<u>71354</u>	<u>38044</u>

All the charitable company's operations are classed as continuing and recognised gains and losses and movement on reserves are shown above.

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form part of these accounts.

Acumen Community Buildings

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2022

	Note	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	7	8733	7008
Depreciation		2027	1854
<i>Total fixed assets</i>		6706	5154
Current Assets			
Debtors	8	5129	1117
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>61030</u>	<u>38439</u>
<i>Total current assets</i>		66159	39556
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>9</u>	<u>7958</u>
Payroll Taxation		<u>1502</u>	<u>1197</u>
Wages			<u>(1889)</u>
<i>Total current liabilities</i>		1511	7266
<i>Net current assets</i>		64648	32290
<i>Total assets less current liabilities</i>		71354	37444
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year			-
Provisions for liabilities and charges			-
<i>Net assets</i>		<u>71354</u>	<u>37444</u>
The funds of the charity	11		
Restricted income funds		46974	20616
Unrestricted income funds	12	24380	17428
Prior Year Adjustment			<u>(600)</u>
<i>Total charity funds</i>		<u>71354</u>	<u>37444</u>

For the financial year ended 30 June 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006; and no notice has been deposited under section 476.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirement of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small company's regime as set out in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



Kate Welch OBE DL
Director and Trustee

Date 28 March 2023

Acumen Community Buildings

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 1: Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown at market value) in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS102) as applicable to Charities (effective January 2016) comprising the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities ("SORP 2015").

Note 2: Accounting policies

2.1 Incoming resources

2.1.1 Recognition of incoming resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- The charity becomes entitled to the resource
- The trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

2.1.2 Incoming resources with related expenditure

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

2.1.3 Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

2.1.4 Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

2.1.5 Contractual income and performance related grants

This is only included in the SoFA once the related goods or services have been delivered.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2022

2.1.6 Gifts in kind

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.

2.1.7 Donated services and facilities

These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measureable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

2.1.8 Volunteer help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

2.1.9 Investment income

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

2.2 Expenditure and liabilities

2.2.1 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

2.2.2 Governance costs

Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and costs of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

2.2.3 Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

2.3 Assets

2.3.1 Tangible fixed assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 3 Analysis of incoming resources

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £
Grant Income			
Moto		150	150
Spacehive		11358	11358
Cheshire Community Trust		4600	4600
AHF Recovery	15780		15780
SSE	17392		17392
NLHF	8350		8350
Arnold Clark		2000	2000
Stanley H Smith		2000	2000
Sir James Knott		15000	15000
LGA Foundation		2000	2000
Sir James Knott		940	940
NHLF (Tales)		9950	9950
Community Foundation		5000	5000
Coalfields Regeneration Trust		10000	10000
Sunderland CC		332	332
Community Chest			
Sunderland City Council (Covid Restrictions)	15400		15400
DWP Kickstart	12693		12693
Total incoming resources	<u>69615</u>	<u>63330</u>	<u>132945</u>

Note 4 Analysis of resources expended

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £
Charitable activities			
Staffing	49590	16500	66090
Sessional staff/Consultant	7245	11000	18235
Administration/IT	7925	6415	14340
Refreshments	105	-	105
Consumables	2916	1275	4191
Building Costs	38757		38757
Charitable Expenditure	10712	9800	20512
Other Resources Expended			
Bank Interest/Charges	113		113
Depreciation	2027		2027
Bad Debts			
Total resources expended	<u>119379</u>	<u>44990</u>	<u>164369</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 5 Details of certain items of expenditure

5.1 Trustee expenses

There were no trustee expenses during 2022.

5.2 There no fees for the examination of the accounts

Note 6 Paid employees

During the year, the organisation employed two full time and two part time members of staff and bought in sessional time for administration and other activities

Note 7 Tangible fixed assets

The company owns kitchen and office equipment valued at £3579 at the start of the year with depreciation of £1193 during the year and a star tent valued in 2020 at £2501 with depreciation of £834 during the year.

Note 8 Debtors and prepayments

Analysis of debtors

	2022 £
Debtors as per Sales ledger	5129
<i>Total</i>	<u>5129</u>

Note 9 Creditors and accruals

Analysis of creditors

	2022 £
Creditors as per purchase ledger	9
<i>Total</i>	<u>9</u>

Note 10 Transactions and related parties

There were no transactions between related parties

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 11 Movements on funds

	Fund balance b/fwd	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfer between funds	Fund balance c/fwd
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
National Lottery	8500		8500	0	0
Community Fund					
Moto in the		150	150	0	0
Community					
Spacehive		11358	11358	0	0
NLHF		8350	8350	0	0
Cheshire Community		4600	4600	0	0
Foundation Assura					
Arnold Clark Auto		2000	2000	0	0
Stanley H Smith		2000	80	0	1920
Horticultural Fund					
Sir James Knott Trust		15000	2500	0	12500
LGA Foundation		2000	2000	0	0
Sir James Knott (Jubilee)		940	940	0	0
National Heritage		9950	2512	0	7438
Lottery (Tales)					
Community Foundation		5000	2000	0	3000
Coalfields Regeneration		10000	0	0	10000
Trust					
Total funds	<u>8500</u>	<u>71348</u>	<u>44990</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>34858</u>

Note 12 Net assets by fund

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £
Fixed assets	6706	-	6706
Net current assets	17674	46974	64648
Total assets	<u>24380</u>	<u>46974</u>	<u>71354</u>

Liability of Members

The liability of members is limited by guarantee. In the event of the charity being wound up during the period of membership, members would be required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.