

Cross Green - Growing Together

Charity number 1178267

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024



Cross Green - Growing Together

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

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Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Cross Green - Growing Together

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2024

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

| Name | Position | Dates |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Cn. Darren Percival | Chair | |
| Jean Copley | | |
| Walter Lewis | Treasurer | Resigned 12th July 2023 |
| Mary Brennan | | |
| Paul Boyce | | Appointed 29 August 2023 |
| Pamela Boyce | | Appointed 29 August 2023 |

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------------------------|
| Charity number | 1178267 | Registered in England and Wales |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------------------------|

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Registered and principal address | Bankers |
| 9 Cross Green Crescent | Cooperative Bank |
| Leeds | PO Box 250 |
| LS9 0DD | Skelmerdale |
| | WN8 6WT |

Independent examiner

Sarah Coates MAAT

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) association formed on 8th May 2018 and is governed by a constitution.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are appointed by the members at the AGM.

Cross Green - Growing Together

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

To further or benefit the residents of Cross Green and neighbouring wards in the metropolitan district of Leeds, without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents.

In furtherance of these objects but not otherwise, the trustees shall have power:

To establish or secure the establishment of a community centre and to maintain or manage or co-operate with any statutory authority in the maintenance and management of such a centre for activities promoted by the charity in furtherance of the above objects.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular both 'Advancement of Education' and 'Other Purposes Beneficial To Society', specifically improvement and engagement with the local environment.

Achievements and performance

During this financial year we received £19,750, the remainder of our two-year National Lottery Platinum Jubilee Grant. We were able to complete the redevelopment of approximately 5,000 square metres of our community garden, to create a more productive growing and learning space and continue to trial and develop our 'Cook & Eat' sessions - we have delivered these sessions weekly term time throughout the remaining duration of the funded period. One session has been developed for adults to learn about batch cooking, to support local struggling families during the cost of living crisis; we will continue with our final group of adults into the early part of the next financial year as there was enough money remaining to do so and the Sessional Worker felt that the group was still benefiting from the sessions.

The other session has been developed as an Afterschool Cook & Eat session for local primary school aged children. It has been a great opportunity for the children to make friends within the community, learn about healthy nutritious homemade food and kitchen skills. Each week the group prepared and cooked a meal and sat together to eat what has been made. The children were involved in the whole process (apart from the shopping).

We have been able to deliver these as small group work sessions and develop these holistically for each group – in total 15 adults completed the batch cooking sessions and 24 children have enjoyed the Afterschool Cook & Eat Groups (most of these children had not participated in the Healthy Holidays provision as they were either new to the area or would have found the Healthy Holidays groups too overwhelming). All of the children who participated wanted to continue attending but we changed the cohorts approximately termly. We ran 4 groups of the adult batch cooking sessions.

We had always planned for a summer celebration event for the final completion of these works and we were able to do this in partnership with Opera North, who has had a residency in the ward where we are based. This took place on 3rd July 2023 and there were 42 attendees – we were hoping for more but the weather was particularly bad on this date and unfortunately it rained quite heavily for most of the event. Those who attended told us that they had a great time and it was really different having an Opera choir as part of the event. It was really positive to see a couple of the Eritrean families attend who had taken part in the Cook and Eat sessions.

Cross Green - Growing Together

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2024

Achievements and performance continued

Our lead gardening volunteer was not available during most of the year and we were able to sustain our core gardening group thanks to funding from Leeds City Council's Large Wellbeing Fund and HATCH LCP Funding. Although we have struggled to find volunteers to lead sessions for us we have seen an upturn over the summer in volunteer Community Gardeners coming to the Monday sessions at the garden – we were averaging 11 volunteers per session during this time and 29 individual volunteers benefitted from engaging in these sessions. 6 of these individual volunteers helped out over Christmas in the Cross Green ward by making up and delivering Christmas food hampers. These individuals were also involved in helping to distribute produce from the garden to local residents. We had a very good harvest of tomatoes and potatoes this year and these were both used to make meals for those in need at St. Hilda's Church - as well as distributing to local residents – in particular those we know are struggling including local families and asylum seekers.

Thanks to funding from Windmill Community Transport we were able to arrange a coach trip to the seaside to bring some of the volunteers and participants together from the different activities now taking part at the Hub and in July 2023, 29 individuals went together. The group included some older members of the community, some Eritrean families who had been involved in Cook and Eat sessions and some adults who are overcoming addictions who participate in the Community Gardening sessions.

Hyde Park Source delivered another successful Healthy Holidays programme enjoyed by 40 local children.

In total 192 individuals took part in activities at Cross Green Growing Together during this year.

Financial review

The net receipts for the year were £4,722, including net payments of £7 on unrestricted funds and net receipts of £4,729 on restricted funds after transfers.

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves, at the year end were £3,190.

A minimum of 6 months running costs and a budget to remove building on site if lease/ licence ends.

A target of between £1,500 - £3,000 in unrestricted funds will be kept in reserves.

Any other unrestricted funds above the £3,000 amount will be allocated in to an annual budget.

Approved by the board of trustees on 28/11/2024

Mary Brennan (Trustee)

Cross Green - Growing Together

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Cross Green - Growing Together

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 6 to 10.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the CIO you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act;
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Sarah Coates MAAT

06/01/2025

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Cross Green - Growing Together **Receipts and payments account** **for the year ended 31 March 2024**

| | Notes | 2024 Unrestricted funds £ | 2024 Restricted funds £ | 2024 Total funds £ | 2023 Total funds £ |
|--------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Receipts | | | | | |
| Grants and donations | (2) | 280 | 29,566 | 29,846 | 34,273 |
| Facilities hire | | 435 | - | 435 | 2,195 |
| Total receipts | | 715 | 29,566 | 30,281 | 36,468 |
| Payments | | | | | |
| Garden landscaping and redevelopment | | - | 3,700 | 3,700 | 15,458 |
| Garden plants and shrubs | | 365 | - | 365 | 377 |
| Garden repairs and maintenance | | 566 | - | 566 | 870 |
| Food purchased | | 150 | 63 | 213 | - |
| Hub repairs and maintenance | | 692 | 428 | 1,120 | 478 |
| Volunteers costs | | 161 | - | 161 | 467 |
| Insurance | | 144 | - | 144 | 144 |
| Administration and minor equipment | | 151 | 54 | 205 | 390 |
| Equipment | | - | - | - | 170 |
| Utilities | | 215 | 285 | 500 | - |
| Events and activities | | - | 97 | 97 | 2,763 |
| Marketing and website | | 139 | - | 139 | 480 |
| Project management costs | | - | 275 | 275 | 3,013 |
| Programme resources costs | | - | 1,975 | 1,975 | - |
| Programme delivery costs | | 25 | 15,706 | 15,731 | 24,133 |
| Independent examination | | 368 | - | 368 | 350 |
| Total payments | | 2,976 | 22,583 | 25,559 | 49,093 |
| Net receipts / (payments) | | (2,261) | 6,983 | 4,722 | (12,625) |
| Transfers between funds | | 2,254 | (2,254) | - | - |
| Net movement in funds | | (7) | 4,729 | 4,722 | (12,625) |
| Fund balances brought forward | | 3,197 | 1,544 | 4,741 | 17,366 |
| Fund balances carried forward | (3) | 3,190 | 6,273 | 9,463 | 4,741 |

Cross Green - Growing Together
Statement of assets and liabilities
as at 31 March 2024

| | 2024 | 2024 | 2024 | 2023 |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Unrestricted | Restricted | Total | Total |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Cash funds | | | | |
| Cash at bank | 3,185 | 6,273 | 9,458 | 4,738 |
| Cash in hand | 5 | - | 5 | 5 |
| Total cash funds | <u>3,190</u> | <u>6,273</u> | <u>9,463</u> | <u>4,741</u> |

Debtors and prepayments

| | 2024 |
|---------|------------|
| | £ |
| Debtors | 350 |
| | <u>350</u> |

Assets retained for the charity's own use

Zanussi electric cooker x2
Under counter fridge
Gala Gazebo Tent
Fridge Freezer
Ramp
Mud Kitchen
TV and stand

Liabilities

| | 2024 |
|-----------|--------------|
| | £ |
| Creditors | 3,422 |
| Accruals | 462 |
| | <u>3,884</u> |

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 28/11/2024

Mary Brennan (Trustee)

Cross Green - Growing Together

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The trustees have taken advantage of section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Taxation

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

Cross Green - Growing Together

Notes to the accounts continued

for the year ended 31 March 2024

| 2 Grants and donations | 2024 Unrestricted funds £ | 2024 Restricted funds £ | 2024 Total funds £ | 2023 Total funds £ |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Platinum Jubilee Grant | - | 19,750 | 19,750 | 30,250 |
| LCF Anchor Connecting Communities | - | - | - | 3,333 |
| Leeds City Council (LCC) Wellbeing Grant | - | 5,000 | 5,000 | 500 |
| LCC Welcome Space | - | 500 | 500 | - |
| Veolia | - | 1,166 | 1,166 | - |
| HATCH | - | 2,500 | 2,500 | - |
| Windmill Community Transport | - | 650 | 650 | - |
| Together for Peace | 250 | - | 250 | - |
| Other donations | 30 | - | 30 | 190 |
| | <u>280</u> | <u>29,566</u> | <u>29,846</u> | <u>34,273</u> |

| 3 Restricted funds | Balance b/f £ | Incoming £ | Outgoing £ | Transfers £ | Balance c/f £ |
|--|------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| LCC Welcome Space | - | 500 | 851 | - | (351) |
| Platinum Jubilee Grant | 394 | 19,750 | 13,520 | - | 6,624 |
| Veolia | - | 1,166 | 62 | (1,104) | - |
| HATCH | - | 2,500 | 2,500 | - | - |
| LCC Wellbeing | - | 5,000 | 5,000 | - | - |
| Windmill Community Transport | - | 650 | 650 | - | - |
| Leeds Community Foundation (LCF) Healthy Holidays | 1,150 | - | - | (1,150) | - |
| | <u>1,544</u> | <u>29,566</u> | <u>22,583</u> | <u>(2,254)</u> | <u>6,273</u> |

Fund name

Purpose of restriction

| | |
|--|--|
| LCC Welcome Space | Towards the additional costs related to providing an inclusive Welcome Space. The £351 overspend relates to grant funding received after the year end. |
| Platinum Jubilee Grant | Towards a development programme for garden facilities and a part-time project officer. £3,243.97 of the carry forward funding was for activity delivered in 2023-24 for which invoices were not received until after the year end. |
| Veolia | To build manure bays and rain water harvesting system to Improve the sustainability of Cross Green Growing Together Community Garden. The transfer relates to spend from the previous year. |
| HATCH | Towards the costs of a sessional worker to deliver Community Gardening sessions between 19 December 2023 and 31 March 2024. |
| LCC Wellbeing | Towards the costs of a sessional worker to deliver Community Gardening sessions between 27 June 2023 and 18 December 2023. |
| Windmill Community Transport | Towards the costs of transport for a trip to the coast for the volunteers. |
| Leeds Community Foundation (LCF) Healthy Holidays | Towards the costs of additional healthy holidays delivery. This relates to costs for holding the sessions at the centre. The transfer relates to agreed room hire charges and management charges for the previous year. |

Cross Green - Growing Together
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

4 Trustee expenses

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

Trustee remuneration and benefits

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.