



Trustees Report 2024

Charity number 1180169

Avon Valley Partnership Youth and Community Trust
Also known as Avon Valley Community Matters

Introduction

The charity had a very busy year in 2024. It reached many more people with support.

Families and Children's work

Our Children's and Families work has continued throughout this year. Our Superstars group in Fordingbridge has given regular support every Friday morning during term time, to young families in the community. Sadly our Families Befriender moved on in the middle of the year and we have not managed to replace her as yet. We are so grateful for all she managed to achieve. During the school holidays we ran free children and family days, engaging families with themed activities and providing a meal. In the summer holidays these consisted of outdoor activities and a picnic, and were held in the surrounding villages. Our Building Together Saturdays have continued to grow.

In November we ran lantern making workshops which culminated in a parade before the town Christmas light switch on event.

Charity Shop

Our Charity shop continues to generate income to fund our outreach projects in the community but does so much more. It is a warm, safe place for the lonely, somewhere they can come for a chat and a warm welcome and we have many regular visitors who just need to see a friendly face. We continue to support other charities; including Mencap, Dorset Mind Charity, the local homeless charities and run a voucher scheme, distributed by the Salvation Army, the New Life Church and the Food Bank.

We also run regular Jumble Sales which have proved very popular and are a good source of income for the charity.

Trustees

The Trustees continue to work hard for the charity. We have recruited two new Trustees to support us.

Fundraising

We secured a substantial Grant this year from Culture in Common, specifically to set up a Storytelling Circle. At the beginning of the year we ran free workshops to enable people to engage with storytelling and give them the tools to be able to become Storytelling Ambassadors in our community. The aim is to meet regularly to support each other and learn new stories and to be able to go out into the community, to the elderly, children and families, schools and other organisations, to tell stories and engage with them.

We hope to enable parents to tell stories to their children and others to enjoy the art of storytelling.

Bereavement Group

We continued to offer bereavement support through counselling, befriending and activities. We work with the GP practice and many of our referrals come from the surgery. We now have 5 trained counsellors who volunteer supporting the bereaved and have managed to recruit a new supervisor for them and someone to assist them with their admin.

Our Friendship Group continues to meet twice a month in a local pub and has between 30-40 people attending on a regular basis. This year the members summer outing was a river trip on the Kennet and Avon Canal. They also produced their own calendar for 2025 and had an enjoyable Christmas Lunch, all supported by grants.

Miscarriage Support Group

Sadly in the autumn we decided to close our Miscarriage Support Group. We did not managed to reach those people locally who would have benefited from this opportunity. Most of the people who attended were from further afield and not local to our community.

Volunteers

At the end of the year we held a Thank You Afternoon Tea Party for all our volunteers across the charity as none of our work could take place without them.

Avon Valley - Income and Expenses Summary

	1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024		1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023	
	£	£	£	£
Charity Shop		54,584		52,719
Shop Expenditure		56,039		45,514
		- 1,455		7,205
Grants	-		940	
Donations	8,329		8,638	
		8,329		9,578
		6,874		16,783
Little acorns expenses	-		143	
Childrens	4,215		1,200	
Toddler Group	-		325	
Daisy	-		3,141	
AVC Communication	2,361		-	
Holidays activ. (Messy Church)	896		546	
Other Projects	862		175	
Friendship	2,036		4,150	
Shed	-		1,254	
Story teller	3,359		-	
	13,729		10,934	
Administration, etc	322		9,534	
Solicitor	-		2,664	
		14,051		23,132
		- 7,177		- 6,349
b/fwd		8,723		15,072
		1,546		8,723
Bank		6,081		12,723
Loans	4,000		4,000	
Creditors	535	4,535	-	4,000
		1,546		8,723
Profit/Loss		1,546		8,723

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
AVON VALLEY PARTNERSHIP YOUTH AND COMMUNITY TRUST

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

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 this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the gross income for the year exceeds the amount provided in section 145(3) of the Act, I confirm that I am qualified to act as Independent Examiner under the provisions of that section of the Act and that my qualification is as shown below.

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

- The accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- The accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- The accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair" view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concern 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



Martin Rice FCMA CGMA

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22 September 2025