



CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT – 31 MARCH 2021

This first full year of operations at The Living Rooms – Northallerton (TLR) to 31 March 2021, has been dominated by navigating our way through the Covid-19 Pandemic.

TLR is a community hub in the centre of Northallerton established to help and support those in most need in our town and the surrounding area – particularly the lonely, isolated, socially excluded and those with poor wellbeing and mental health. Backed by the ONE Northallerton Churches, we also partner with other compatible organisations both statutory and voluntary including Jubilee Debt Advice, Hambleton FoodShare, the NHS and many more. At the core of TLR is our Renew Wellbeing service where it's 'ok not to be ok'.

When we opened our doors at TLR in December 2019 our wellbeing services were in great demand and from the start we were immediately accepted as a key part of the local community. However, in March 2020 just as we were in full swing the Covid-19 Pandemic hit which led to us closing and needing to pivot our support services. The only exception to this was the operation of Hambleton FoodShare. Over the following 12 months we operated a limited service to support our visitors as best as we could, many of whom were extremely anxious and vulnerable. This was achieved via telephone support and a telephone referral system, via social media and with Zoom video conferencing sessions. In addition, we operated a limited 'in person' service at the Secret Garden, which is outside space.

As a consequence of the pandemic the need for services to support and help those with poor wellbeing and mental health has grown dramatically. However, during this period we were very limited in what we could offer for reasons of safety and government regulations. At times we were open in a Covid secure way with booking systems and with social distancing in place and at other times we were closed and operated as previously described.

I would like to thank our team of volunteers - Hosts, Trustees and Support Staff for their dedication and commitment during these challenging times and for 'going the extra mile' in order to help those in need. Our team is in excess of 35 excluding Trustees, who are also volunteers and have done an amazing job for which we are all grateful and for which I give my personal thanks.

During this period we were supported by a grant from the Coronavirus Community Fund which enabled us to employ our first Development Coordinator on a part time basis. This had a significant and positive impact on our ability to deliver our services and to care for and manage our volunteers. We have been able to continue with this employment due to funding from the NHS, for which we were most grateful. Also, funding from individual donors grew via our 'Friends of The Living Rooms' initiative. I am pleased to report that as result of these funding streams we are in a very healthy financial position, for which I am extremely thankful.

We have added new Trustees to our Board during this period – a process which will continue as we wish to bolster our team.

Our aim is to position ourselves as originally planned pre-pandemic and develop our services from there. There is now an even greater need for our services, including the need for a youth program which is currently under development.

Our aspirations are fuelled by our faith in God and our desire to show his love through our actions in helping the growing number of people in need and to provide a safe space where it's 'ok not to be ok' in Northallerton. We have exciting plans to further develop our services in partnership with others, when we are able to do so post pandemic.

It continues to be an honour to serve you all and our community in my capacity as Chair of Trustees. On behalf of the Trustees, I wish to express my sincere thanks to all our volunteers, partners and staff.

I look forward to the future with eager expectation and anticipation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Cowie', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steve Cowie
Chair of Trustees

31 March 2021

THE LIVING ROOMS NORTHALLERTON

INCOME and EXPENSE REPORT

as at 31/03/21

Income

Grant Income NHS	60,000.00	
"Friends" Donations - Gift Aid	3,105.00	
Donations - Other	1,629.00	
Fund raising	0.00	
Churches & Partners	3,000.00	
In memory of Tom Boomsma	240.00	
Sale of books	97.50	
Community Fund Grant	<u>20,095.00</u>	
<u>Total Income</u>		88,166.50

Expenses

Refurb/Buildings/Property	(263.99)	
Equipment	(389.52)	
Repairs	(17.30)	
Staff Costs	0.00	
Training	(147.00)	
Rent / Rates	(6,650.00)	
Utility Costs	(1,803.57)	
Phone/mobile	(501.04)	
Insurance	(294.95)	
General Exp	(435.52)	
Prof Fees	-	
Member Fees	(244.00)	
Office/Admin exps	(96.64)	
Advertising	(160.00)	
Volunteer Exps	(47.50)	
Activity Costs	(154.22)	
Hospitality	(125.09)	
Household	(126.44)	
Website / Software	(360.00)	
Bank fee	(69.00)	
Furniture/fittings/carpets	<u>0.00</u>	
General expenses		(11,885.78)

Community Fund Grant exp:

Wages	(6,168.80)	
Add on Employer Costs	(80.00)	
Laptop/ Equipment	(1,850.00)	
Office Admin / wellbeing activities	(1,646.17)	
Premises Rent	(6,500.00)	
Insurance	(294.95)	
COVID Cleaning	(2,246.52)	
Utility Costs	<u>(696.95)</u>	
Community Fund Grant exp:		<u>(19,483.39)</u>
Surplus Income/(Loss)		<u>56,797.33</u>

The Living Rooms, Northallerton

Charity Reg No 1181883

Statement of Accounts for the Period Ending 31st March 2021

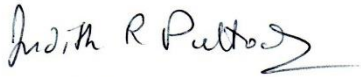
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the account. It included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and sought explanations concerning 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 accordance with my examination no matter has come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act of 2011 or
- The accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed 
Name Judith R Puttock
Address 3 Cottage Close, Northallerton. DL6 1EB
Date 27th November 2021