

Sliding Doors

Registered Charity No 1182432

Trustees' Report and Independently Examined Financial Statements

For the period ended 31st March 2021

Vision. "to give vulnerable and isolated people, in the Blackburn with Darwen area, access to opportunities, support and enjoyment."

Address 26 Plantation Road Blackburn BB2 4QA

Bankers Lloyd's Bank

Church St Blackburn

Independent Examiner – D Singh and Co

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Activity Report

2020-2021 will be remembered for all the wrong reasons. It was a year dominated by lockdowns, closures and socially distanced ways of working, and yet at the same time has brought everyone connected to Sliding Doors much closer together. We have adapted the way we have worked to support many people through very difficult time, helping them to get back to living a positive, happy life.

We have seen how people have pulled together, supported each and new friendships formed. We have lost some of our friends, seen the lives of some people change forever but we have also seen how people have put aside their own struggles to support strangers, neighbourhood & friends.

The year started with us in lockdown. We kept in close contact with many people by daily telephone calls, social media and delivered activities: including quizzes, colouring competitions, jigsaws etc. delivered food and prescriptions for the less mobile or shielding. We also prepared simple recipes for healthy meal and delivered them, along with the ingredients needed.

Our sewing volunteer continued to make masks that we distributed widely.

We used this time to look at different larger venues that we could use safely as some of the regular venues were unable to accommodate us with the social distancing rules.

The lockdown ended in September, and we were allowed to open, supporting groups for up to 20 people,

Due to the restrictions, we put in place an invite/booking system to ensure we did not exceed the numbers and took into account the number of carers and support bubbles, which enabled us to set out the rooms safely with all social distancing measures in place. We contacted people through Messenger, targeted leaflet drops and by telephone, we felt that we could not place a general advert on social media or in the local media as we would not be able to cope with the numbers of new people who would like to attend.

We were constantly receiving telephone calls from new people looking to join us, we felt our immediate priorities should be our regular users who are feeling very isolated, missing the sessions and their friends. We took the details of all the people who contacted us and kept in touch with them to and made sure they had any immediate support they needed and to keep them informed of our plans to accommodate them.

We opened a sports club which would normally accommodate 100 people, we ran extra sessions with the reduced number of people attending. It was lovely to see all everyone again, the sessions gave many people a place to meet others in a safe, friendly place, with familiar faces, rebuild friendships and mostly have fun. We also used the sessions to ensure people were coping and spent time with everyone individually discussing how they were feeling and getting them any support, they needed. It gave people the opportunity to chat to others who are experiencing the same feelings was a great help to many. Unfortunately, after 6 weeks another local lockdown was announced and we had to close once again, before we closed we gave everyone a contact whether it was a staff members a volunteer or friend to ensure everyone had someone checking in on them and also had to someone to talk to and if necessary get them help & support during the lockdown.

In mid-December Blackburn with Darwen went into Tier 3 and we could deliver support sessions however there was a maximum of 15 people at each session. To accommodate as many people as possible we ran 12 sessions per week rather than the usual 6 in a larger room in the sports club and a large church hall. Fortunately we were able to run sessions throughout Christmas & New Year a time many vulnerable people feel very isolated and lonely in a normal year but last year even more so, several people had lost loved ones, had people in hospital and had been dreading Christmas, although we could not make things right for these people we did have some fun, happy times and ensured everyone had a gift to open on Christmas day.

With the arrival of the 3rd lockdown in January we once again had to close.

Although we are unable to physically run the sessions, we continue to support many people with daily telephone calls from staff and volunteers, delivering activities, shopping and supporting people with medical appointments etc. We worked closely with other local agencies and community groups to ensure as many people as possible got support and to avoid duplication. Our young people helped to prepare food parcels once more and also worked on the flower planters outside the community centre, this not only gave these young people something to do it also improved the local area.

Monday Group

The sessions provide a range of social activities and support for a wide range of vulnerable people. We have increased our half day provision to full days for those who wish to stay we provide breakfast and lunch. We bring in outside agencies to offer advice and support when we feel it is needed. The sessions have gone from strength to strength with the numbers attending continuing to grow. The sessions are supported by our volunteers.

This group was unable to operate for much of the financial year and even when we were able to open, it was for smaller numbers and in restricted circumstances.



Tuesday Boredom Busters

This group was started by 2 of our volunteers and provides a range of interactive games and activities suitable to meet the needs and abilities of the users. A member of staff supports the group however the planning and structure of the sessions is all done by the volunteers themselves.

This group was unable to operate for much of the financial year and even when we were able to open, it was for smaller numbers and in restricted circumstances.



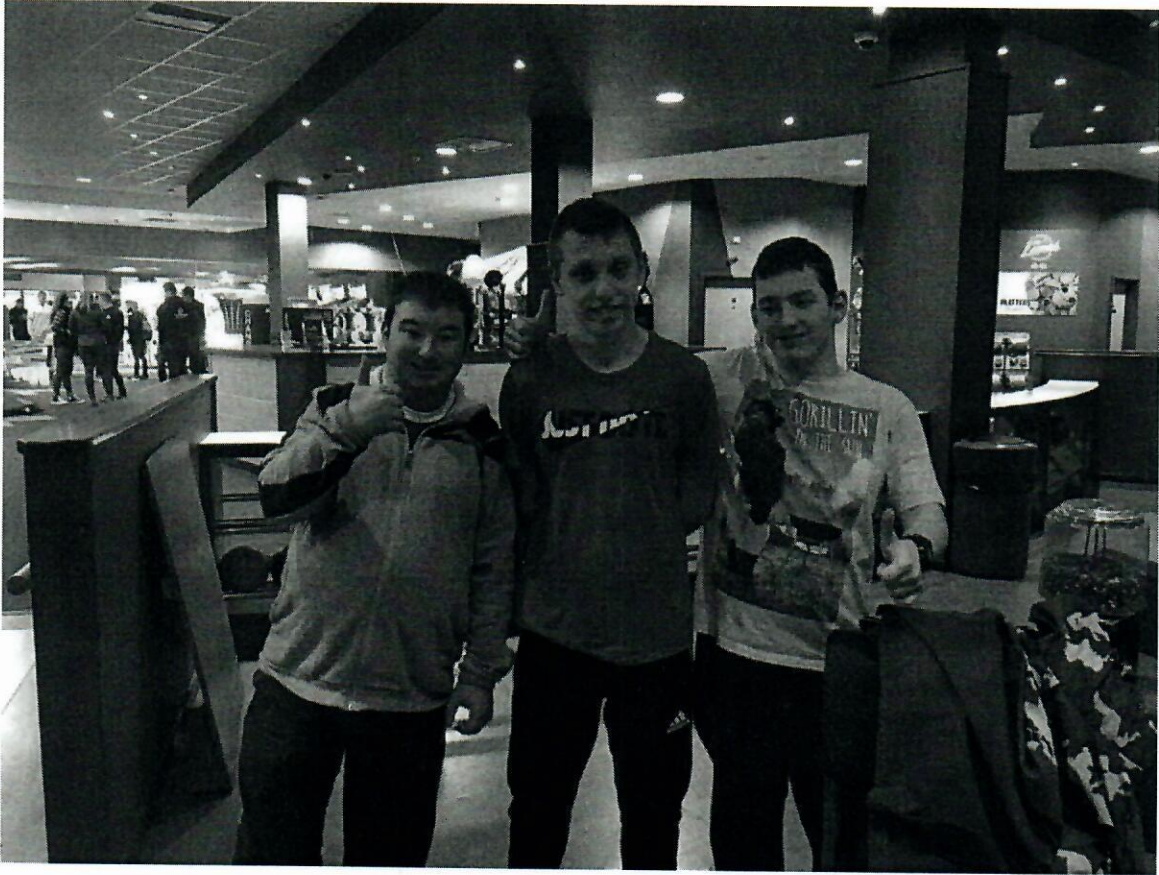
Tuesday Arts & Crafts

These sessions are delivered by a volunteer art & crafts tutor and supported by staff. The sessions are quite popular with a range of different ages and abilities attending all working together to produce some lovely artwork that is displayed in the centre.



Tuesday Youth Club

We established a youth group, which runs from the hub, we appointed a youth worker to work with a group of young people with additional needs who find it hard to fit in at mainstream clubs. It is proving to be a great success with the young people engaging in a range of activities and informal training, we have seen their confidence grow and several are now volunteering not only in the youth club but supporting other groups within the centre. . When the sessions can resume, and when funding allows, we intend to expand this much needed area of work.



Wednesday Men's Group

We started this group at the request of the Stroke Society who knew of several men who had suffered a stroke and were finding it difficult to get back into the community. The group is run by a volunteer who himself has health issues again supported by staff. The number attending is quite small which allows us to spend time listening to the individual and picking up on any potential issues. Friendships have been formed with some of the men meeting up outside the group. This group, also has not run at all during 2020/21.



Wednesday Happy Songs & Music Group

This session is very well attended by a wide range of people with of additional needs and/or lonely & isolated, it is a very fun and happy group. Some of the users sing for the group, we have group sing-a-longs and a volunteer teaches dance moves. We have found that music is a great way of bringing people together, making people happier and helps them forget their problems.

This group was unable to operate for much of the financial year and even when we were able to open, it was for smaller numbers and in restricted circumstances



Thursday Women's Group

This group is attended by a group of ladies who are over 50 many of which live alone and can be lonely and isolated. We have guest speakers attending giving information on other services and support available. We deliver a range of activities including Quizzes, Music, Aromatherapy, Art etc all activities are decided by the ladies themselves. We take the ladies out on trips and to the local theatre, we have also taken them on a weekend break. Many of the ladies meet up outside the group and several lasting friendships have been formed.

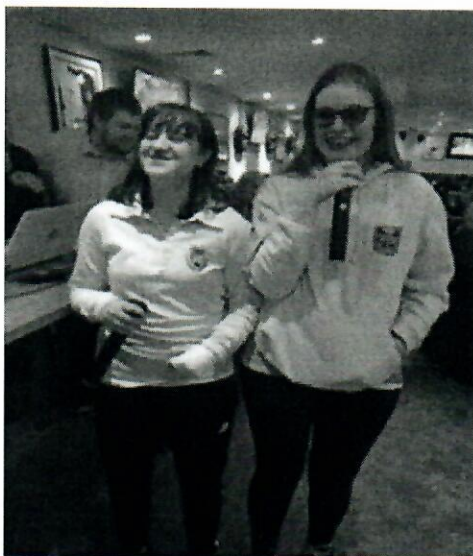
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Thursday Night Social Evening

Our flag ship social evening has been busier than ever during 18/19 and regularly attracts up to 150 people, including 90 service users, volunteers, carers and relatives who all come together to have a evening of music, dancing and lots of fun. The diversity of the users is incredible with ages from 17 to 80 + with a wide range of additional needs together with people who are lonely and isolated. We hope to restart the group in the Autumn and expect to back to pre-covid levels by summer 2021.

Unfortunately, this group was closed throughout the entire year.



Sewing

With funding from the Lottery Community Fund we have set up a sewing room giving people the chance to learn how to make soft furnishing, bags etc. some of the items made are sold to bring in some income to the charity. We hold group sessions, one to one sessions (adapted to meet the needs and abilities) also 6 weeks intensive sewing classes. We have a volunteer sewing instructor supporting the project.

As mentioned above, staff and volunteers adapted the ways they were working and continued to interact with service users, throughout the pandemic.



Financial Review

2020/21 has been a difficult year for all Charities and Sliding Doors is no exception.

However we have continued to receive superb support from the National Lottery and are very grateful to them and to a number of other grantgiving trusts who have supported us throughout the year.

We have received significant support from the Furlough Scheme and other Government grants

General position

Lottery Grant. We were successful in obtaining a grant from the Lottery Community Fund, which is for three years and will ensure that Sliding Doors can continue its work for the next three years. The funding will end in August 2022.

We are extremely grateful for the support of a number of charitable trusts, and organisations.

Group income. Before the pandemic, weekly group income had risen to its highest level ever, an average of £1700 per month. This reduced to practically nothing throughout the 3 lockdown periods and had just begun to recover by the end of the financial year.

Reserves Policy. The Trustees have decided that a sum of £5,000 should be placed in a special reserve account, to pay the redundancy costs for staff as well as other winding up costs. When determining the appropriate level of reserves each year, the trustees monitor the economic background including the current climate of significant public sector funding cuts and changes due to coronavirus

In accordance with our Reserves Policy, we aim to maintain unrestricted reserves equivalent to a minimum of three months unrestricted expenditure. We currently have 2 months' running costs in unrestricted reserves.

Going Concern statement

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements

Trustees' Responsibility Statement

Company Law requires the 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, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the "going concern basis" unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation. The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the

charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities

Structure, Governance and Management

Sliding Doors became a registered Charity on 19th March 2019 and is governed by a constitution and set of rules, which have been approved by the Charity Commission

The Board of Trustees is the body responsible for the government and management of the organisation. The trustees, who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Paul Fish

Sandra McNeil

Ian Parker

Darren Pilkington

Diane Turner

The trustees approximately every 8 weeks; they are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. Throughout the pandemic trustees have continued to meet remotely.

The Trustees have delegated the day-to-day running of the charity to the Director and staff team.

Approved by the board of trustees on 21st January 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Sandra McNeil

.....

Sandra McNeil

Trustee

SLIDING DOORS
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Sliding Doors

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2021, which are set out on pages 13 to 16.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act

to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 act

to state whether particular matter have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

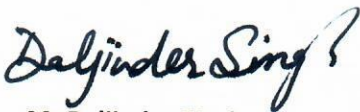
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as 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 next statement.

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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
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.



Mr Daljinder Singh

Date: 21st January 2022

D Singh & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
2 Wookey Close, Preston
PR2 9HE

SLIDING DOORS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

	Unrestrict ed	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	2021 £	2020 £
Income				
Income from activities/Groups	2,173	-	2,173	20,222
Grants Received	4,000	66,341	70,341	66,129
Covid Grants from the council	5,668	-	5,668	-
Job retention scheme payments received	14,648	-	14,648	-
Bank interest received	4	-	4	1
Donations	394	-	394	695
Total Income	26,887	66,341	93,228	87,047
Expenditure				
Accountants fee	975	-	975	250
Activities	197	86	283	1,753
Cleaning materials	-	-	-	67
Equipment expensed	-	1,763	1,763	2,461
Food	223	197	420	2,037
Grants made	-	-	-	1,300
Insurance	249	-	249	249
Telephone	384	-	384	384
Publicity	-	208	208	302
Raffle Prices	13	195	208	229
Repairs	-	-	-	2,299
Resources	367	101	468	935
Room Hire	-	-	-	5,450
Salary & Pensions	19,417	38,024	57,441	47,796
Stationery	265	124	389	198
Sundries	121	-	121	422
Training	-	-	-	-
Travelling Expenses	117	455	572	940
Volunteers Expenses	285	770	1,055	3,037
Total Expenses	22,613	41,923	64,536	70,109
Net of Income/ (expenditure)	4,274	24,418	28,692	16,938
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
Total Funds brought forward	3,941	30,523	34,464	17,526
Total Funds carried forward	8,215	54,941	63,156	34,464

SLIDING DOORS

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Current Assets:					
Bank balances	1	63,156		34,464	
Debtors & Prepayments	2	-		-	
		<u>63,156</u>		<u>34,464</u>	
Current Liabilities:					
Creditors and Accruals	3	-		-	
Net Current Assets			<u>63,156</u>		<u>34,464</u>
Total Assets			<u>63,156</u>		<u>34,464</u>
Represented by:					
Reserves					
Unrestricted Reserves		8,215		3,941	
Restricted Reserves		<u>54,941</u>	<u>63,156</u>	<u>30,523</u>	<u>34,464</u>

The notes on the appended pages form part of these financial statements.

Approved and signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees on 21st January 2022 by:

Sandra McNeil

..... Trustee

Date: 21st January 2022

SLIDING DOORS

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
1. Bank balances		
Current Account	16,151	21,963
Deposit account	47,005	12,501
	<u>63,156</u>	<u>34,464</u>
2. Debtors & Prepayments		
Prepayment	-	-
Grants receivable	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
3. Creditors and Accruals		
Accruals	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

SLIDING DOORS

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

4. Reserves

<u>Details</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Opening Balance (01/04/2020)</u>	<u>Receipt</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Transfer between reserves</u>	<u>Closing Balance (31/03/2021)</u>
Unrestricted						
Unrestricted	Reserves	3,872	26,886	(22,613)	-	8,145
Unrestricted	Sewing	<u>70</u>	-	-	-	<u>70</u>
Total unrestricted Reserves		<u>3,942</u>	<u>26,886</u>	<u>(22,613)</u>	=	<u>8,215</u>
Restricted						
Big Local		247	-	(247)	-	-
One Stop		23	-	-	-	23
Ianpac		185	-	(185)	-	-
FHWB		577	-	(577)	-	-
WO Street		1,587	-	(1,587)	-	-
CVS	Youth	558	-	(208)	-	350
RC		16,328	48,177	(34,786)	-	29,719
Progress		1,017	-	(72)	-	945
Baily		10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Co-op		-	1,577	(862)	-	715
CF Covid		-	3,136	(2,873)	-	263
Comic relief		-	1,880	(49)	-	1,831
Lottery-covid		-	9,126	-	-	9,126
Newground		-	495	(210)	-	285
Comic 2		-	<u>1,950</u>	<u>(266)</u>	-	<u>1,684</u>
Total unrestricted Reserves		<u>30,522</u>	<u>66,341</u>	<u>(41,922)</u>	=	<u>54,941</u>
Total Reserves		<u>34,464</u>	<u>93,227</u>	<u>(64,535)</u>	=	<u>63,156</u>