

Trustees' Annual Report for the period



From 1/1/21 To 31/12/21

Charity name: Irvine Road Community Orchard

Charity registration number: 1183649

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To promote, for the benefit of the public, the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of the Irvine Road Orchard, Colchester
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>The CIO was registered in May 2019 in anticipation of taking on a fifty year lease for the Orchard. We expected to take on the lease in early 2020 but Brexit and Covid19 slowed building on the part of the Orchard allocated for development, and the lease was not enacted until 20/5/21.</p> <p>To fulfil its purpose, the charity will restore, manage, promote and celebrate this ancient orchard and its wildlife for the public benefit. Our aim is to engage the community in achieving its purpose and to rely on volunteers to undertake a range of activities including – site management, fundraising, education, community engagement, fruit harvesting, and communication.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p>Statutory Declaration</p> <p>The IRCO Trustees consider that they have complied with their duty under Section 4 of the 2006 Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Commission on charitable purposes and public benefit.</p>

Additional information (optional)

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	We do not intend to award grants.
Policy on social investment including program related	Para 1.38	We do not envisage having funds to make investments but have chosen our bank (co-op) based on its ethical credentials.

investment		
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>IRCO is run entirely by volunteers with an estimated annual contribution in 2021 of over 460 hours:</p> <p><i>[For reference, calculations were]</i> Site management: 3 events (Oct – Dec) x 8 people x 2 hours + 12 months x 6 hours (ST + RM) = 120 hours</p> <p>Open Day, interpretative panel, brochure = 60 hours</p> <p>Communication, fundraising and engagement: ½ hr per week (newsletters, FB) + wreath making = 40</p> <p>Trustee duties, Finance, Administration, fund raising: 30 hours (4 meetings x 6people x 2hrs + 4 hrs x 50 Chair) = 250</p>
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>We signed the lease for the Orchard in May (after 5 years of negotiations)</p> <p>Covid curtailed our activities until June when we held a very successful Open Day with 120 people attending and £650 raised. In the run-up we also:- setup a Local Giving fundraising website; produced an information leaflet brochure; and installed an interpretative panel.</p> <p>Soon after the Open Day, we received our first £500 grant (from the People's Postcode Lottery) and later in the year, with the help of volunteer, benefited from our two wreath making courses, our first in-aid-of events.</p> <p>We surveyed and labelled the trees in September with the help of a local expert to inform future management and planting.</p> <p>Work parties recommenced from October and we succeeded in clearing a pathway around the hedgerow edge to the site, removing ivy, freeing up some fruit trees from surrounding growth, preparing an area for new planting and knocking back the brambles.</p>

		During the year, we kept people informed of the state of play through the Residents' Association (newsletter, emails, noticeboard and Facebook page) and via the Orchard Facebook page.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	We raised over £1.5k during the year and incurred expenditure of £337 leaving our financial reserves at £2973 at the end of the year.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We will need to maintain financial reserves but do not expect our normal running costs to be greater than £1k per annum. We could run the operation, for a time, on considerably less if we had to. We will also fundraise for specific projects we wish to run. However, we do wish to grow our financial reserves to enable us to match funds raised through corporate donations or grants for the purpose of extending our lease from 50 to 999 years at a cost of £45k.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	We will do further work on what annual running costs may be and will review our financial reserves policy after we have had a year of normal operation ie during 2022.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	<p>We would expect to raise funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – through voluntary donations – through events (sometimes in partnership with the Residents' Association) – corporate sponsorship and donations – grants
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) We have yet to ascertain, beyond doubt, the long-term appetite of the community to get engaged in supporting and managing the Orchard – but evidence so far suggests that this risk is unlikely to materialise. 2) All the uncertainties and risks associated with land ownership – trespass, neighbourhood disputes, vandalism. The active engagement of the new residents abutting the

		<p>Orchard will minimise this risk.</p> <p>3) There is always a risk that the current landowner changes his current collaborative approach and looks to find ways to break the lease, returning the site to his control, or sells the land to someone who does likewise. Maintaining the relationship with him will be important for the Trustees to pay attention to</p> <p>4) As we take on the lease, we will want to increase the community engagement and continuing Covid restrictions continued to limit the extent to which we can do that. During the year, we continued to focus on our use of social media and newsletters to keep people involved and received a positive response to activities when restrictions eased.</p>
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution (based on the foundation model of a CIO)
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	We are constituted as a CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	The Irvine Road Area Residents' Association may appoint four charity trustees. Each appointment must be for a term of three years. The charity trustees can appoint three trustees for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	None
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Irvine Road Community Orchard
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1183649
Charity's principal address	17 Irvine Road Colchester Essex CO3 3TS

**Names of the charity
trustees who manage the
charity**

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Shaun Thomas	Chair	
2	Simon Amstutz		
3	Sarah Jane Carter		
4	Katherine Sandercock	Treasurer	
5	Gavin Sandercock		
6	Willi Otto Emrich		
7	Victoria Thomas	Secretary	
8			
9			
10			
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17			
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19			
20			

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

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CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Irvine Road Community Orchard

1183649

Receipts and payments accounts


CC16a

For the period from	01/01/21	To	Period end date
			31/12/21

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grant from local giving	500			500	-
fundraising	1,035			1,035	-
					-
					-
					-
					-
					-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,535			1,535	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,535	-	-	1,535	-
A3 Payments					
Insurance	160	-	-	160	-
Funding page set up	96	-	-	96	-
Orchard sundries (tarps, trees etc)	82	-	-	82	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	337	-	-	337	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	337	-	-	337	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,198	-	-	1,198	-
A5 Transfers between funds					
	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	1,774	-	-	1,774	-
Cash funds this year end	2,973	-	-	2,973	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,973	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Kate Sandercock	26/03/2022	