



**Blacon Beacon**  
Food • Advice • Support

**PANTRY FOR BLACON CIO (Known as Blacon Beacon)**

**Registered charity number 1183763**

# **Annual Report**

**for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022.**



Pantry for Blacon is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registration number 1183763

## **Governance and management**

There trustees of the charity in 2022 were as follows:

- Rev Christina Upton (Chair)
- Ms Sheila Little
- Mr Edwin Green
- Mrs Jenine de Leie (resigned August 2022)
- Mr John Reid (Treasurer)
- Ms Kerry Cook

Since April 2022 we replaced our Store Manager, by employing a General Manager initially for 16 hours per week, though these hours have increased through the year, to almost full-time. We also employ a Store Assistant for 16 hours per week, a Computer Mentor for 8 hours per week, and a Healthy Eating Coordinator for 12 hours per week.

Our work would not be possible without the great support of over 20 regular volunteers, who are involved with many different roles, including maintaining stock in the store, serving members when they attend, packing fruit and veg into bags ready for collection, sharing cooking skills in our classes, preparing and serving the food for families attending for holiday meals.

## **Objectives**

The charity exists to relieve food poverty in Blacon, Chester, and also to promote health, through the provision of good quality food at an affordable price, and encouraging healthy diet through education on food preparation.

## **Activities in 2022**

Wow – what a year. It has been great to move away from isolating Covid times, where we had to be careful about not meeting in groups, to a time where being community has become something that many Blacon residents strive after.



Over a 10 day period in December 2022 Blacon Beacon supported over 700 different Blacon residents through our community projects.

One of these community projects was our Christmas hot lunch and activities session where families (on low incomes) enjoyed a healthy turkey pasta, Christmas treats, fruit and the fun of a Pantomime. We ran 11 of these hot lunches in 2022, with the average number of people coming being over 100 per session.

In 2022 we started Blacon Beacon's own slow cooker project- where we give over 100 Blacon households monthly bags with ingredients and recipes that enable them to learn to cook healthy and nutritious meals that are low in cost. We also help households to eat healthy and less expensive meals by having face to face food preparation sessions. For



example, we have 'Chat, Chop and Chew' for adults where they prepare the contents of a slow cooker meal. We are also pleased to say we have regular family cooking sessions where children are helped by their parents to make healthy courses such as cottage pie and fruit crumble.



Our membership store scheme is extremely popular and makes a massive difference to the life of Blacon residents who are struggling with the cost of living. Even though food prices have gone up considerably we are proud to say that kind donations and funding has meant that our membership price has been able to stay the same.

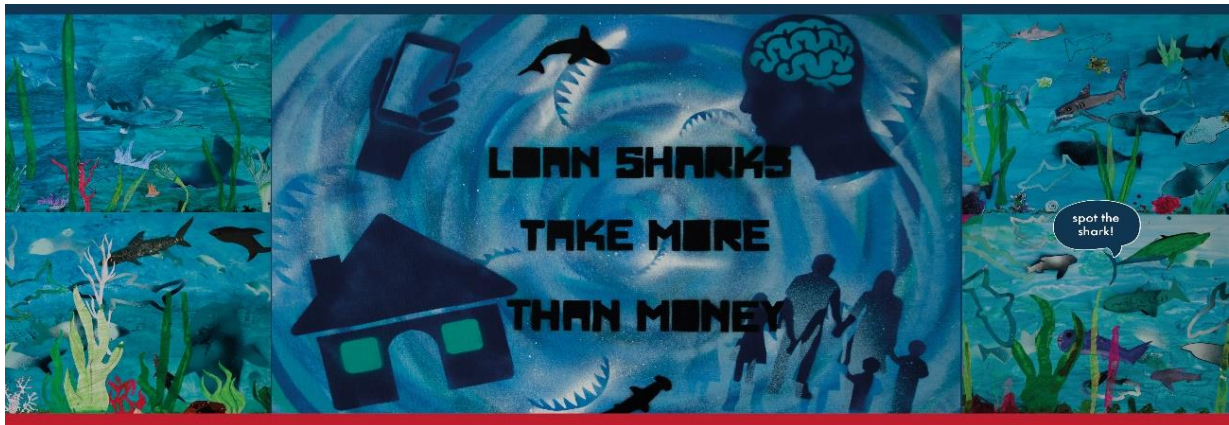
Dave our computer mentor is getting to a stage where he has regularly has three or four people working with him at once to improve their computer skills. It has been great to see people he has supported getting jobs after writing CV's with his help, getting benefits they are entitled to and feeling far more confident about their computer skills and feeling a strong sense of community and support.



In 2022 we started the 'Stop Loan Sharks' project involving Blacon

Primary schools and Blacon High School. The aim of this project was to make children, teenagers and their families aware of the threat of people offering loans who are not registered with the Financial Conduct Authority and who often use threatening ways to ensure their 'clients' pay excessive amounts of interest. Students worked on creating banners that will be displayed all over Blacon and at creating a drama performance based on true life loan shark experiences.





**STOP LOAN SHARKS**  
Intervention . Support . Education

**Call our 24-hr Helpline 0300 555 2222**

In 2022 the Blacon Beacon Foodbank hub was the 2<sup>nd</sup> most used Foodbank in Chester and the surrounding areas. We are pleased to say that many of our Foodbank users, who live in Blacon, have benefited from longer term support from Blacon Beacon - such as becoming Blacon Beacon store members, receiving monthly slow cooker bags, coming to regular face to face food preparation sessions and coming to our holiday activities and lunch sessions.

## FINANCIAL REPORTS

A summary of our income and expenditure, and the balance sheet for the year are on the following two pages. At the end of December 2022 our funds stood at £87807, of which £50,347 were restricted, and £37,460 unrestricted.

## GRANTS RECEIVED

We are very grateful for grants received from the following generous organisations in the year to December 2022:

Anne Duchess of Westminster Charity  
Arnold Clarke  
Asda Foundation  
Avenue Services (Holiday Activity Fund)  
Cheshire Community Foundation  
Cheshire West and Chester Council  
Cheshire West Voluntary Action (Household Support Fund)  
Chester Bluecoat Charity

Creative Lives  
Feeding Britain  
Michie Trust  
Steve Morgan Foundation  
Stop Loan Sharks  
Swansway  
Tesco Community Awards  
Welcome Network  
West Cheshire Foodbank  
Westminster Foundation

**Pantry for Blacon C.I.O.**

Trading &amp; Profit &amp; Loss Account to:

Charity Number: 1183763

**31st. December 2022**

			2022			2021		
			Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
			£'s	£'s	£'s	£'s	£'s	£'s
<b>INCOME:</b>								
Grants								
	Restricted		78109.99	0.00	78109.99	73437.70	0.00	73437.70
	Unrestricted		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3021.50	3021.50
Donations				9690.52	9690.52	0.00	12274.83	12274.83
Members Contributions			6941.87	0.00	6941.87	10624.81	0.00	10624.81
Prior Year Adj.				0.00	0.00		2305.30	2305.30
HMRC Refund				2751.09	2751.09		975.65	975.65
Interest & Other Income				90.45	90.45		4.97	4.97
Total Income			85051.86	12532.06	97583.92	84062.51	18582.25	102644.76
<b>Expenses</b>								
Purchases			27319.42	0.00		25622.21	0.00	
Direct Wages			31874.74	546.00		27377.44	0.00	
Promotion			0.00	164.99		0.00	0.00	
Educational Services				406.66		0.00	2782.84	
Emergency Support				0.00		0.00	1009.00	
Expensed Equipment			1007.99	0.00		1177.91	0.00	
Insurance Expense				282.80		0.00	260.40	
Motor Expense and Travel				199.75		0.00	149.17	
Office Expense				81.04		0.00	0.00	
Printing & Stationery				0.00		0.00	191.48	
HTB				1287.80		0.00	504.75	
Utilities				50.00		0.00	0.00	
Building Repairs & Maintenance				-8007.00		18823.03	0.00	
Special Events			8721.98	0.00		0.00	3821.79	
Training			100.56	0.00		32.92	0.00	
Miscellaneous Exp			0.00	2088.77		0.00	648.03	
			69024.69	-2899.19	66125.50	73033.51	9367.46	82,400.97

**Excess of Income over Expenditure**

£16,027.17

£15,431.26

£31,458.42

£11,029.00

£9,214.79

£20,243.79

Signed:



Harry Dobson.

Auditor.

Date:

31st. May 2023


# Pantry for Blacon C.I.O.

Charity Number: 1183763

## Balance Sheet @ 31st. December 2022

Current Assets:	2022	2021
Current Account	4354	6102
Savings Account	84095	50505
Monzo Account	1525	
Cash	158	0
Wages Control	211	0
Total Current Assets	90343	56607
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	360	260
Suspense	1500	0
PAYE & NI	767	0
Pensions	-91	0
Total Current Liabilities	2536	260
Nett Current Assets	£87,807	£56,347
Financed By:		
Capital Account	£87,807	£56,347

Signed:

  
Harry Dobson. Auditor.

Date: 31st. May 2023