



FELLING VOLUNTEER LIBRARY

58 High Street, Felling, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear NE10 9LT

Felling Volunteer Library Trustees'
Finance Report - 2022/23
to the Charities Commission.
Registered Charity Number: 1185205.

Felling Volunteer Library (FVL) is a small CIO run independently of, but with material support from, Gateshead Council; we have been autonomous since July 2017.

The Charities Commission has already received FVL's Annual Return from the year 2022/3, and this Report covers our activities for that specific period.

April 2022 to March 2023 was a challenging time for the Library; we had effectively been closed down from March the previous year until October 2021 when the building was requisitioned as a COVID Vaccination Centre.

During that time, one of our four 'public use' PCs was removed and re-purposed by the Council, and footfall and therefore usage of our facilities by the public had been reduced to zero.

Accordingly, re-building public awareness of FVL was our chief concern throughout the period of the 2022/2023 financial year.

As with many public amenities, restoring matters to a pre-COVID level of take-up has been and remains a continuing challenge for the library.

On the positive side, expenditure had been minimal, and so our financial position was relatively strong; we are effectively still existing on the back of the residue of those 'savings' (but we are now in the position of needing funding of circa. £10k, so as to be able to pay our Council re-charge in April 2025).

In October 2021 we had re-started operations on a slightly reduced basis of opening 4 days a week (Monday to Thursday, 10am-4pm), and this arrangement continues today.

A couple of our volunteers had dropped out from the Library during COVID, but we were soon recruiting, and quickly planning our Christmas Fayre '21 - and then almost immediately preparing for our Spring Fayre 2022, both of which were huge financial successes.

We have two prominent local patrons who are successful authors, and we generally receive the assistance of one as 'opener' of our events.

In the Summer holidays FVL participates in the Council-run scheme which encourages children to read a number of books, after which awards are given; 2022 was no exception.

In addition, that year, FVL had presented Falla Park, one of our local Primary Schools, with bags of donated books for the pupils and their families; in the Council ward of Felling, one of the most deprived in the North East of England, FVL pride ourselves in reaching out to offer amenities to the general public, a feature which continues today.

In late 2022, our Library joined Gateshead Council's 'Warm Spaces' initiative, a supportive and welcoming feature which quickly became popular with our users.

At the same time, late in 2022 and coordinated with the 'Warm Spaces' undertaking, FVL inaugurated a weekly 'Knit & Natter' group which was an instant success, attracting an average of twelve to fourteen men and women of all ages and diversity. This continues today.

Christmas 2022 saw our Annual seasonal Fayre nett FVL over £700 (see our accounts), and at the end of the financial year, March 2023, we were planning the May Spring Fayre, once more.

In March 2023 our previous Treasurer left the post suddenly, and, lacking a planned succession procedure, FVL encountered a number of organisational challenges, with our new Treasurer, Mrs K. Lavender taking up the reins from cold, without prior knowledge concerning precise detail of her remit. Suffice to say she has grown into her post commendably quickly.

Trustees' familiarity with and experience of the requisite procedure for rendering Accounts and reports to the Charities Commission, was also quickly learned and we have been 'on catch-up' since then. The matter is important for us, since we need to be compliant with the Commission's regulations in order to be able to apply for our next funding brief (of circa. £10k) in the immediate future.

I trust that this explains the regrettable delay in FVL's submission of accounts and report, and I that you will find our report acceptable; please let me know (timwilson300@googlemail.com) if you require more information. In the interim, I have found your telephone operatives to be immensely helpful on the two occasions very recently, when I have contacted them for advice on required compliance.

Kind regards,

Tim Wilson,
Trustee and Secretary
to
Felling Volunteer Library.

Felling Volunteer Library

Year ending 31/03/2023

Financial Position as at 10 Mar 2023

Unrestricted Funds as at 10 Mar 2023

Brought Forward from Previous Year	17,221.41	
Income from Library Transactions	794.15	
Income from Donations and Events	1,546.40	
Adjustment to xfr from Restricted to Unrestricted	8.75	
LESS: Expenses	9,230.41	note 1
LESS: Designated Funds	6.05	note 2
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	10,334.25	

Forecasts Year ending 31/03/2023

Income from Library Transactions (actual+forecast)	814.15	
Income from Donations and Events	0.00	
Expenses: General (Paper, Milk, Tea, Coffee)	70.00	
Expenses: Examination of Accounts	0.00	
Expenses: Service Charge Due November 2023	0.00	
Expenses: Service Charge Due May 2023	1,091.52	note 3

Forecast Position as at 31/03/2023 9,986.88

Restricted Funds - Balances as at 10 Mar 2023

Warm Spaces	843.26
Xmas 2022	0.00
Cost of Living	2,605.00
Clare's Crafts	320.01
Closed Funds Balances	8.75
Adjustment to xfr Closed Balances from R to U	-8.75
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	3,768.27

Designated Funds - Balances as at 10 Mar 2023

Rhyme Time Fund	6.05	note 2
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Current Assets/Liabilities

Bank Balance	14,077.91
Cash Balance	30.66
Current Liabilities (bills recvd but not paid)	0.00
Current Liabilities (outstanding loans)	0.00
LESS: Restricted Funds	3,768.27

Net Current Assets 10,340.30

note 1 - Inc Service Charges £2,055.83 (Sept 21 to Mar 22) and £5,908.48 (April 22 to Dec 22)

note 2 - Our own funds (not restricted) allocated to specific projects, e.g. Rhyme Time

note 3 - Saving of £4,908.48 on previous forecast as a result of successful negotiation

Felling Volunteer Library Unrestricted Income & Expenditure

Summary for year ending

31 March 2023

b/f 17,221.41

Month	Library Transactions	Other Unrestricted Income	Expenses	Net Gain / Loss
April	95.50	553.59	49.16	599.93
May	64.05	20.91	19.96	65.00
June	87.56	76.90	2,239.25	-2,074.79
July	85.34	10.00	48.23	47.11
August	128.50	10.00	22.50	116.00
September	87.30	23.00	51.81	58.49
October	66.30	10.00	26.60	49.70
November	87.10	76.96	69.20	94.86
December	38.60	707.98	476.00	270.58
January	37.80	31.00	219.79	-150.99
February	13.60	16.06	79.43	-49.77
March	2.50	10.00	5,928.48	-5,915.98
Totals	794.15	1,546.40	9,230.41	-6,889.86

Total Unrestricted Funds 10,331.55

Current Year: Income 2,340.55

Current Year: Expenditure 9,230.41

Current Year: Surplus or Deficit -6,889.86

ADD: Unrestricted Funds Brought Forward from Previous Year 17,221.41

Total Unrestricted Reserves 10,331.55

LESS: Designated Funds 6.05

Current Unrestricted Funds Available 10,325.50

Notes

Expenses in December include Donation of £200 to TFFN & Fiddlers Xmas Meal Balance & Tip £236