

F.A.N COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

England & Wales · Charity number 1185440

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-09-23

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Friends And Neighbours Centre
Maes-y-ffynnon Close
Neath
SA11 1HQ

Phone 01639698590

Email fancommunity@outlook.com

Website <https://www.facebook.com/BringingPeopleTogether.CreatingCommunity/>

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE: TO FURTHER OR BENEFIT THE RESIDENTS OF NEATH AND THE SURROUNDING AREA, WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RACE OR OF POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS OR OTHER OPINIONS BY ASSOCIATING TOGETHER THE SAID RESIDENTS AND THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES, VOLUNTARY AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN A COMMON EFFORT TO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND TO PROVIDE FACILITIES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR RECREATION AND LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THE RESIDENTS. IN FURTHERANCE OF THESE OBJECTS BUT NOT OTHERWISE, THE TRUSTEES SHALL HAVE POWER: TO ESTABLISH OR SECURE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMUNITY CENTRE AND TO MAINTAIN OR MANAGE OR CO-OPERATE WITH ANY STATUTORY AUTHORITY IN THE MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF SUCH A CENTRE FOR ACTIVITIES PROMOTED BY THE CHARITY IN FURTHERANCE OF THE ABOVE OBJECTS.

Activities: Providing events and activities to bring the community together, reducing loneliness, improving life experiences and protecting the local environment

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- Neath Port Talbot

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£137,081	£134,743	-	-
2024-07-31	£128,878	£102,292	-	-
2023-07-31	£77,980	£80,853	-	-
2022-07-31	£83,908	£67,848	-	-
2021-07-31	£86,957	£56,812	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Irene May Knight	Chair	2019-08-04
Alison Woodley		2025-09-27
Donna Marie Harris		2022-05-20
Elizabeth Bevan		2019-08-04
Elizabeth Jean Sharp		2019-08-04
Emma Sarah Anderson Knight		2019-08-04
John Woodley		2025-10-07
Louise Alison Elizabeth Rawlings		2019-08-04
Marcia Hughes		2023-03-01
Megan Lorraine Sparkes		2019-08-04
Paula Barry		2024-09-14
Rosemary Bennett		2023-08-12
Sarah Louise Tipping		2019-08-04
Tasha Louise Davies		2025-09-27

F.A.N COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

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Accounts



12 Ethel St, Neath, SA11 1BB
Charity No. 1185440

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT 1st August 2024- 31st July 2025

Officers:

Chairperson – Irene Knight

Vice-Chair – Emma Knight

Treasurer – Sarah Tipping

Secretary – Louise Rawlings

Gardening Lead – Mairead Finn

(Officers remain in post for 2 years and are appointed by the trustees following an AGM)

Additional Trustees:

Aline Valleron

Amy Morgan

Andrew Jenkins

Lillian Dawn Wilyeo – resigned 14.9.24

Donna Harris

Dorothy Phillips – resigned 14.9.24

Elizabeth Bevan

Elizabeth Jean Sharp

Marcia Hughes

Megan Sparkes

Paula Barry – joined 14.9.24

Rosemary Bennett

Sharon Rawlings

XX – Trustee with Dispensation

(Trustees are decided by the members at the Annual General Meeting, or may be co-opted by existing trustees if a vacancy arises.)

The trustees have had due regard to public benefit and consider that each of the activities that the charity is engaged within helps promote the aims of the charity in respect of the purposes as defined overleaf.

F.A.N Community Alliance is a CIO governed by a constitution adopted 15th September 2019.

OUR PURPOSE

“To further or benefit the residents of Neath and the surrounding area (without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions) by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents”

OUR VISION

We intend to create a community that is vibrant and bustling; where everyone feels included and able to participate; where people take responsibility and respect each other and their environment; where residents groups are encouraged to form; and where people have pride in, and ownership of, where they live.

We intend to create strong and resilient neighbourhoods where community spirit soars.

VALUES & BELIEFS

Everyone Can Be Included

There Is No Generation Gap

Collaboration Opens Opportunities

We acknowledge The Current Climate & Ecological Crises

We Only Run Projects We Believe We Can Sustain

We Do Things For Ourselves But Seek Help When Needed

Anti-Social Behaviour Reduces Further Through Fun Than Sanctions

METHODS of ACTIVITY (How we achieve our Objectives / Vision):

1. Holding community events and activities that give people the chance to come together, get to know each other, learn, have fun and remove barriers such as age, gender and background
2. Managing and developing the Friends And Neighbours Centre & grounds and “The Lane” Community Garden
3. Creating access to facilities and opportunities that people face barriers to
4. Providing ways for people to participate and volunteer in their local community
5. Supporting Mini FANs Youth Group to achieve their goals
6. Promoting environmental awareness, responsibility and sustainability
7. Promoting health and wellbeing activities

FINANCIAL SUMMARY – Income Sources 2024-25

Unrestricted - £81,044

Received from:

- Membership
- Donations (inc. online, business and individuals donations, donations received through surplus food projects, clothes)
- Weekly Fundraising (bonus ball, bingo takings)
- Services (FAN Fare surplus food club, community transport, printing, fitness classes, catering/training/hosting for partners)
- Sales (Ecohub, kitchen sales, surplus food packaging, bingo accessories, recycling schemes)
- Annual Raffles (Easter, Summer, Christmas)
- Events (Panto ticket sales, bus trips, event raffles etc)
- Core grant towards our organisational and community activities (Building Communities Trust - Community Anchor Development Programme)

Our unrestricted funds carried forward, total £91,979. Of this, £2,000 is currently kept in reserves to cover the cost of 6 months of bills for the Friends And Neighbours Centre.

Restricted - £57,187

Received from:

- £1348 raised for charity and local causes (MacMillan, WWF Cymru, Neath Little Theatre, Together for Good)
- £750 in donations from MADL (Nisa) Heart of the Community Award to support our youth activities and Food Bank
- £400 donation from the Borough Arms for Neath Gardening Group

Restricted GRANTS TOTAL

- Government funded grants (£41,688):
 - BSSG Fund – provision of community transport
 - Levelling Up Third Sector Growth Fund – installation of heat pump, expansion of rooftop solar and volunteer training
 - Climate Conversations – to host an event alongside Welsh Government’s climate consultations
 - NPTCBC Food Poverty – towards items supporting our food projects
 - NPTCBC Warm Spaces Fund – to enhance Warm Hub and winter support projects
 - 4TheRegion Community Growing Fund – Materials to install and fill planters, plus solar irrigation and composting equipment
 - UK Shared Prosperity Fund (NPTCBC Community Facilities Improvement Fund) – ceiling replacement and solar expansion
- Privately funded grants (£13,000):
 - WWF Cymru Community Grants – Great Big Green Week event
 - Climate Cymru - Great Big Green Week event food
 - Neighbourly – Cookery sessions for young people and food bank top-up
 - National Lottery – Solar expansion and renewed EPC

Restricted funds carried forward to the next financial year total £71,925.

GOING CONCERN ASSESSMENT

KEY POINTS:

- In 2024-2025 FAN has, again, successfully utilised grants without being dependent on them.
- The majority of our activities continue to operate with free, by donation / Pay-As-You-Feel options and, although donations fluctuate depending on the activity / event, collectively, they cover our basic running costs well. Even without the 4-year unrestricted CADP grant we secured in 2024, our unrestricted funds comfortably cover all our core costs, including our regular projects and events (estimated at £21,000 per annum).
- There has been a reduction in donations received, although this difference is largely accounted for due to less being received from MADL awards through a local business – which has now been sold and, whilst it was never guaranteed, the income stream has now been lost.
- We switched some kitchen provisions to sales rather than donation (things we purchase due to demand without reliance on incoming surplus food/drink). It appears that this has no impact on our incoming donations, but has increased our income in sales.
- The keep fit and bingo easily cover their own costs.
- FANFare Surplus Food Club does not quite cover the full cost of Fareshare membership, but it more than covers the third of the food it uses, which excess being redirected to our other food projects.
- Yoga is almost self-sustaining with plans to do a recruit drive and offer an alternative class.
- The EcoHub is not intended to break-even as we use the stock at the hall as well as for sales. However, grants have been utilised for tasters and starter kits this year, (so very little has been spent from our unrestricted budget) and sales are up.
- Community transport is the only project that does not sustain itself – currently only raising approx. 15% of the cost of running the car (largely due to the insurance). However, our unrestricted income is still able to cover this cost.

We are confident the charity will continue as a going concern.

HOW MONEY HAS BEEN SPENT IN 2024-2025

Goals outstanding from 2023-2024 AGM

1. Get a repair cafe up and running within the year

We carried this goal over again at last year's AGM, with a few people putting their names forward, to get it a repair café off the ground, on the understanding that this is the last year that we would try. Unfortunately, once again we have failed to achieve this goal, so this goal will now be removed.

Goals for 2024-2025 as decided in the last AGM

1. Make a start on the toilet area refurbishment

It was acknowledged that it may take some time for permissions etc to be in place for this project, but with funding now in place, the goal was to complete the 1st step of getting plans drawn up. We have appointed an architect to oversee the project and create designs – one of which has now been agreed with the committee. These plans are now with the council and we are waiting for feedback before we can proceed.

2. Encourage more men to join the committee

The 1st step towards this was to get more men to engage with FAN in general as our gender balance is still tipped heavily towards women – on the committee, amongst our volunteers, and users (including children / young people). It was hoped last year that by setting up a repair café more men may be encouraged to get involved, however, as the project did not start, this goal has fallen short. There are plans for an additional yoga class to be men only – we hope it will be successful and help towards this goal.

3. Improve volunteer support

Volunteer packs are still under construction, however, whilst working on that, a "FAN Manual" has been created so if key volunteers are absent, it contains all the information needed to ensure our regular activities can be run by others.

We now have a well-being officer in place who checks in on volunteers who have not been to the centre in a while. This has not yet been rolled out to all volunteers.

Key volunteers have worked hard on their delegation skills this year and we now have more volunteers able to step into their shoes and give them time off, even if they remain in the periphery! The introduction of teams into the organisation is working well so far.

Current teams include:

- Admin - sharing the load with paperwork, communication and advertising.
- Youth Engagement – organising and running activities for young people 11+ to give them a space to engage and become involved with FAN without parents
- Pantry team – prepping, managing and running our weekly surplus food share, and winter warm hub
- Management team – made up of our officers to enable quick decisions to be made, organisational planning and policy, dealing with contractors, bills etc
- Growing Project Leads – focussing on the management and development of the green spaces we are responsible for.

Although we still haven't managed monthly volunteer socials, we have fit in the following:

- 6 socials, including a wrap & chat, Christmas dinner (attended by 46), quiz night, Big Lunch breakfast & evening take-away, and a BBQ

- 41 weekly volunteer lunches, with an average of 8 volunteers attending each week
- 4 team socials (Youth, Pantry, Admin & Management teams), including meals, an escape room and an art exhibition
- 4 volunteer action days with a meal included

We acknowledge that many of these have only been possible due to the unrestricted CADP grant we are currently in receipt of, so it may not be sustainable in the long-term, but they are successful in strengthening the volunteer base and encourages to create the space and time to bond with each other. Once the funding ends we should be in a better position to carry them on, albeit in a cheaper format!

Progress Towards Charity Objectives Through Our Methods of Activity:

1. Community Activities & Events That Give People the Chance to Come Together

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

- **Bingo** averaging 45 people each week with hot, cold and take-away food plus drinks available on a Pay-As-You-Feel basis as well as for sale, and surplus food available to take. Our doorstep community transport service provides 1 or 2 return journeys each week to enable those less mobile to attend. This year £3666 was raised for Blood Cancer UK, with additional money raised for Marie Curie and local causes. 8+ volunteers are currently involved in running the sessions each week. (also links to Methods 3, 4 and 6)
- **Gentle Exercise Class** (see Method 7)
- **Chair-Based Yoga** (see Method 7)
- **FAN Pantry** runs every Friday through the winter, plus term-time April-November, for people to access surplus food but also provides a social space for people to have a drink, snack and chat whilst children play games together. The Pantry has been open 37 times this year, with surplus food accessed 1523 times. The Pantry was combined with our warm hub this year and has freely provided 424 grab bags (bags of cupboard items to create a meal with), 308 hot meals and 25 cleaning product refill starter packs to struggling families over the winter. 8-10 volunteers run the session each week. (also links to Methods 2, 3, 4 & 6)

OTHER REGULAR EVENTS

- **Eaglesbush Litter Pick** held monthly whenever the weather permits (12 out of 12 this year!) with an average of 5 volunteers collecting just under 5 bags of rubbish on each occasion. There is a slight reduction in the litter collected this year, so we hope this reflects a reduction in the littering of the woods (also links to Methods 4 & 6)
- **Monthly Surplus Café** follows our monthly litter pick. It is open to the public and usually sees 20-30 in attendance of all ages. (also links to Methods 3, 4 and 6)
- **Kids Crafts** now held just during school holidays but starting to see a slight increase in numbers compared to last year.

ANNUAL EVENTS

We have maintained the following events in 2024-25:

- **Summer Fun Day** – with stalls, games and refreshments, attended by over 75 people (50% more than last year) and raised over £900 combined with the summer raffle. Due to space, stalls etc are kept in house (also links to Methods 4 & 5)
- **MacMillan Bake Sale** – attended by 36 and raising £280 for the cause. (also links to Method 4)
- **Halloween Panto** – Talegate Theatre returned for another sold-out Halloween show with 93 attendees, and a second show at Easter attended by 84 people (also links to Methods 3 & 5)
- **Christmas Switch-On** – held on the evening of a major storm we decided not to cancel but kept festivities indoors and warned people not to travel unless safe. 44 people were in attendance, some who had been experience a power cut all day and were looking for somewhere to get hot food, drinks and charging facilities. (also links to Methods 2, 4 and 6.6)
- **Christmas Afternoon Tea** – Served to 22 individuals. With more youth activities available this year, we this event for adults only, in order to cater to more older individuals and people living alone (also links to Method 4 & 6)
- **Children’s Christmas Party** – featuring local party entertainer with a visit from Santa, gifts and food for the children. Once again, fully booked with a waiting list, attended by 39 children, (also links to Method 4)
- **Member’s Christmas Party** – 3-course Christmas dinner at a local venue followed by a disco. Attended by 69 people.
- **Pancake Funday** – Attended by over 67 individuals, more than double last year, and over 100 freshly made pancakes flipped in the kitchen. (also links to Method 4)
- **WWF’s Earth Hour** – not just powered by solar with no grid input this year, but our 1st event completely disconnected from the grid using our emergency back-up power system, so drawing power wasn’t even an option while hosting a 3-course dinner for 20 people. (also links to Methods 3 & 6)
- **Easter Egg Hunt** – a visit from the Easter Bunny, crafts, games and refreshments. Attended by 60 people. Easter eggs were also distributed to children through our food projects. (Also links to Method 4)
- **The Big Lunch** – we returned to a full day event this year, with a Big Full Breakfast to charge up 25 volunteers, before fun and games at our Disco-themed Big Lunch with 48 members of our community, then winding down the last 20 volunteers still standing with a take-away and karaoke night. (also links to Method 4)
- **Summer Trip** – following the disappointing turn out last year, we reduced to 1 coach for this year’s summer trip and, although the trip was free, took deposits that would be refunded on arrival. This approach appeared to work, and an almost full coach of 47 people enjoyed a day out in St Fagans. (also links to Method 3)

OTHER EVENTS

- **“The Planting of A Seed” Screening at the Gwyn & Senedd** – See Method 6 (also links to Method 4)
- **Bingo & Buffet** – When a planned 3 week closure for refurbishment had to be extended to 5 weeks, and people were missing each other (particularly older vulnerable individuals), we arranged a venue to host a bingo and buffet event to bring everyone together. It was

attended by 47 primarily older people. In addition, we organised a home delivery of 29 portions of fish and chips for those unable to attend, plus past regulars who had stopped attending sessions due to health issues. (Also links to Methods 7)

- **Climate Conversations – See Method 6**
- **Green Mingle – See Method 6**
- **New Year’s Eve Party** – In response to parents looking for somewhere quite to go with their children for New Year’s Eve, we hosted a simple gathering with games and shared food, attended by 20 people. (also links to Methods 3 & 4)
- **Fridays 4 Youth – See Method 5** (also links to Methods 2, 4, 7)

2. Managing & Developing The Friends And Neighbours Centre & The Lane Community

THE FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS CENTRE (links to all Methods)

The centre has continued to be utilised this year to help provide support for people during the cost of living crisis. The café is still run entirely on a Pay-As-You Feel basis, with the exception of the items that we are asked to keep in stock (cans, crisps) or that are pre-ordered (filled rolls for bingo). We have a constant supply of surplus food available for people to take on a regular basis alongside the more formal foodbank provision. We, once again, opened weekly as a warm space throughout the winter, providing both warmth and food in a social setting.

Approximately 185 unique individuals are currently benefitting from the activities provided through the centre each week.

Physical developments at the centre this year include:

- The heat pumps are now installed and in use. They have coped well with both the winter cold and summer heat so far and made the Centre more comfortable to attend, especially as an escape from the summer heat. We feel confident that we can now be disconnected from mains gas (also links to Methods 6 & 7)
- The electricity is now 3-phase, the rooftop solar array has been doubled in size and we have an additional 11kWh of battery storage, which is capable of running parts of the building off-grid - enabling a basic provision to both maintain the hall and provide emergency community support during a black-out (also links to Methods 3 & 6)
- The damaged main hall ceiling has been replaced with an insulated drop ceiling, making the space more aesthetically pleasing as well as improving the efficiency of the building and our ability to regulate temperature. (also links to Method 6 & 7)
- The “greening” of the grounds has continued with additional planters for food growing. We have cropped a range of food for use in the kitchen, food share projects and our cooking course, including: onions, artichokes, lettuce, rhubarb, tenderstem broccoli, pak choi and carrots. The space received its 1st Green Flag award this year. (also links to Methods 3, 4, 6 and 7).

THE LANE COMMUNITY GARDEN (also links to Methods 1, 3, 4, 6 & 7)

The Lane continues to be maintained as a forest garden and mini meadow although has not had the attention that we had hoped to give it, so is currently looking run down. We only managed 2 action days this year, with an average attendance of 6, on top of the days a few members of Neath Gardening Group could contribute. Water became an issue during the heat waves, which is something we are looking to address in the coming year, along more efficient onsite composting, and we have a grant in place to help with both as well as top up depleting soil levels. Despite the issues, we have still produced and shared crops of grapes and apples and the level of beneficial insects appears to have increased in both quantity and diversity. We have also replaced the

deteriorated Memorial and Big Lunch benches with long-lasting ones made from recycled plastic. The Lane has maintained its Green flag status for 2025.

THE GALV COMMUNITY ORCHARD & MEADOW

Neath Boys and Girls Club have now resumed management of the Galv Site.

3. Creating Facilities & Opportunities That People Face Barriers To

The facilities and opportunities we create fall into 2 categories:

I. BRINGING NEW EXPERIENCES TO THE AREA

- **Fridays 4 Youth – See Method 5**
- **Tempo Time Credits – See Method 4**
- **Adult Learning – (also links to Method 1)**
 - **Creative Cooking on a Budget** - working with Neath Port Talbot Food Partnership, we designed and delivered our 1st training course, to give people the skills to cook with what they have available and stretch their budget. A trial run was held with 7 volunteers before being delivered as a 4-week course for 5 individuals who between them created 16 unique and varied dishes using surplus food and items commonly received from a food bank (also links to Methods 1, 6 & 7)
 - **Online Safety Course** – This year we began working with NPT Adult Learning to have a range of courses delivered at the Friends And Neighbours Centre. 11 people attended the 1st course, with more courses planned through the summer and next year. (also links to Method 1)

II. IMPROVING EQUALITY OF ACCESS:

- **Warm Hub** (also links to Methods 1, 4 & 6)
Our Warm Space, returned through the Winter months, combine with our Pantry surplus food share to support people struggling with the cost of living crisis, but open to all. One day a week was dedicated to the project, the basis of which was self-funded, but included enhancements through funding from NPTCBC Food Poverty Grant, NPTCBC Warm Spaces Fund and Nisa Heart of the Community Award. Together, it included:
 - A warm meal from our surplus café serving 13-14 people on average each week
 - Unlimited self-serve drinks and snacks
 - Table-top games and colouring for children (and children at heart!)
 - FAN Pantry drop-in (see below) attended by 45 people on average per week through winter.
 - Free access to internet and charging
 - 25 sets of cleaning product refill starters provided free to regular attendees
 - The distribution of 424 free Grab Bags (cupboard items that can be used to create a

complete meal):

- **Emergency Food Bank**
Although it is used infrequently, we continue to operate an Emergency Food Bank, filling the gaps for those who will run out of food before being able to access a traditional food bank, or are unable to attend one in person. 18 substantial parcels were delivered to the recipients' doorstep, containing a mix of fresh, chilled, frozen and cupboard food.
- **Gardening** (also links to Methods 1, 2, 4, 6 & 7)
With more food growing planter on site, there is a greater opportunity for people to get involve with gardening, as well as to try freshly cropped fruit and veg, including things they may never have tried before.

Neath Gardening Group hasn't met much this year, but have helped to maintain the Lane community garden and have lead plant and seed swaps as part of larger events at the Friends And Neighbours Centre

- **Surplus Food Projects** (Also links to Methods 1, 2, 4 & 6)
These continue to run alongside each other to ensure they all remain sustainable. They are designed to focus on the issue and impacts of food waste, and remain open to all to ensure that anyone in need of food, but reluctant to reach out for help, is still able to access food comfortably. The projects also allow people to try new foods without worrying about spending money on something that will end up in the compost, and enable them to play a bigger part in reducing GHGs. Although the types and amounts of food received are unpredictable (and currently less than in previous years), the projects collectively sustain themselves financially & practically. We have received a higher amount of catering only food items this year which has been challenging for a kitchen of our size. However, by offering some items as loose refill products we are managing the change as best we can.

The projects currently consist of:

- The Surplus Café – used by 60+ per week on average on a PAYF basis, including at least 30 hot meals per week
- Surplus Food Club – for a nominal monthly fee, 21 members currently receive a weekly parcel with an additional 9 members benefitting when there is excess.
- FAN Pantry – usage varies between 23 and 51 individuals per week accessing ambient, fresh, chilled, frozen and cooked food, free or by donation. Regulars include families with children at a nearby school and local refugees.

Surplus food available to us has reduced again this year, yet despite this we have redistributed over 11 tonnes of food; the equivalent of approx. 22 tonnes of CO₂ (plus additional methane if it had gone to landfill), or around 26,400 meals!

- **Re-Homing** (Also links to Methods 4 & 6)
Our clothes rail and bookshelves operate for people to bring unwanted items and take as they feel. We have also utilised a "Take What You Want " table during the Pantry food share for non-food items that have been brought in.
- **Community EV Transport** (Also links to Methods 1, 4, 5 and 6)
Our eV Community Transport operates 2 runs each week for the bingo as well as for the occasional hire with and without drivers provided. In addition, the vehicle is used to deliver

12 food parcels each week to our Surplus Food Club members, along with any emergency food bank requests.

- **Litter-Picking Hub** (Also links to Methods 1, 4 & 6)
We continue to operate under Keep Wales Tidy's banner to facilitate people carrying out litter pick by offering free equipment hire and guidance. We have supported both individuals, and other organisations over the past year.
- **Local, National and International Representation** (Also links to Methods 1, 4, 6 & 7)
Locally we have attended a CVS networking event for local food banks to learn from each other and overcome challenges

We have been involved in a number of campaigns this year that helps give a voice to hard to reach communities, including Welsh Government's Climate Conversations consultation, the Warm This Winter Campaign, Global Justice Now's Fossil Fuel Treaty, and we remain the only Climate Cymru partner in Neath.

We have participated in the BCT Manifesto ahead of next year's Senedd election, to ensure the views of organisations like ours are put before parties and candidates.

In addition, our film, the Planting of a Seed has now been screened internationally, bringing the voices of our volunteers to film festival screens in both Europe and America, as well as closer to home in the Gwyn Hall and hosted at the Senedd by Sioned Williams, MS.

4. Providing Ways For People To Participate And Volunteer

FAN emphasises, promotes and facilitates community participation and responsibility. Everyone is involved in our organisation in a voluntary capacity – we have no paid staff. Without volunteers, FAN would not exist. However, at the same time, many members of our organisation do not consider themselves volunteers in the traditional sense. Volunteering with FAN is more of a mindset than a role, as our path is one of "active citizenship".

ROLES

Volunteer activities within FAN vary but could be anything from joining the board of trustees, cooking, litter-picking, gardening, organising events, cleaning or even becoming the Easter Bunny.

Most of our volunteering roles are fluid with people taking up whichever roles are needed at the time. However, we have:

- A pool of drivers who are able to pick up food donations, deliver, parcels and provide community transport
- Individuals trained to work the kitchen and café front of house
- Teams for management, youth engagement, admin, Pantry and gardening
- Individuals confident enough to lead our monthly litter-picks

BONDING

We have continued to put a great deal of time and effort into encouraging our volunteers to bond, strengthening both our organisation and their individual support networks, as described above in response to last year's goals

- Lunch that brought the information from the former event together, and a Fun Day prep day with chippy supper.

TRAINING

We have tried to support our volunteers to access any training they feel would benefit them or their roles, as well as encourage as many as possible to complete training we deem most important for all volunteers. This has included:

- First Aid (7 attendees)
- Organising a Climate Conversations event (2 attendees)
- Minute Taking (1 attendee)
- Safeguarding (8 attendees)
- Safeguarding Lead (3 attendees)
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (2 attendees)
- Data Protection (1 attendee)
- PAT Testing (1 attendee)

TEMPO TIME CREDITS

We have worked harder to promote Tempo Time Credits amongst the volunteers this year. We have had approx. 60 individuals volunteer at some point through the year, aged from 6-93 years old. Of these, 33 have signed up to receive Tempo Time Credits through us – an increase of 13 from last year. We now have Tempo cards to distribute, enabling people who are not online (particularly our volunteers who are still very young or of an older generation). Our younger volunteers have been excited to earn their own credits, whilst older individuals seem to like being able to gift them to others, plus the odd show here and there! We also arranged one of this summer's youth activities through Tempo, making it free for all attendees with no cost to FAN either.

5. Supporting Mini F.A.Ns Youth Group

Mini FANs have not met this year after losing a number of members and those remaining becoming disheartened. We felt that the best way to support Mini FANs, was to help them find a larger, more diverse pool of potential members, and encouraging older children and young people to get involved with FAN, where over the past few years there have predominantly been very young children involved and reliant on their parents.

We have continued to close the Pantry during school holidays from April to December (which were normally quieter periods), in order to keep that space and our volunteers' time available for our Fridays 4 Youth project. We are focussing on young people whose families are already part of our wider network, even if they themselves do not normally attend the centre. In the same way we do with all our other activities, by bringing them together we are hoping they will bond, feel at home at the centre and with our volunteers so that, when ready, Mini FANs could be re-established.

Our youth activities this year have included:

- **Fridays 4 Youth Summer Activities** – (also links to Methods 1, 3, 5 & 7)
A series of weekly activities, with something for everyone, held throughout the summer holidays, attended by 24 unique young people.
 - Film Night
 - Bushcraft
 - Raft Building

- o Wildflower Papermaking
 - o Games night
 - o Trip to Swansea for Laserzone, Ninja Warrior and Bowling
 - o Karaoke & Just Dance night (1st session of 2025)
- **Oakwood Theme Park** – an after dark Halloween event with 21 attendees, for some of whom it was their 1st time attending a trip with us without their parents.
 - **Youth Cooking Course**– requested by young people after a session at the start of summer. The 3-part course was run twice and saw them prepare and cook a main meal and a dessert to take home in the first 2 sessions, then in the final session they worked together to make a communal meal for themselves.
 - **Axe Throwing** – attended by 20 young people followed by a film and pizza back at the centre
 - **Cinema** - We hired the whole pod at the Gwyn Hall to see Minecraft The Movie, enabling young people to bring friends with them. Attended by 32 young people
 - **Pizza and Games** – Held as a relaxed consultation event with our newly instated Youth Engagement Team. We aimed to start to give the young people more ownership of our youth activities and start planning for the Easter and Summer holidays.
 - **Youth Engagement Team Meeting** – These are scheduled to be quarterly, with the 1st one held in May 2025. 3-4 youth representatives (rotating if there are more wanting to take part) are invited to join the meeting and give input into the detailed plans of upcoming youth activities, and raise any issues or requests with the team formally. 4 young people attended the 1st meeting, contributed well throughout and by the end had finalised half term details and created a schedule of activities for the summer. Over time we hope the representatives will take more of a leadership role.

All activities were free for young people to attend and included food to help prevent holiday hunger.

6. Promoting Environmental Awareness, Responsibility & Sustainability

Climate Declaration:

FAN acknowledges the connection between the climate and other environmental crises and the threat of current and future homelessness, disease, food and water shortages and poverty for millions of people around the world, as well as the major damage being caused to our natural ecosystems.

We recognise that we are in a climate & ecological emergency and it needs to be treated as such. We therefore identify that we have a responsibility to reduce our carbon footprint to net zero, along with any other harmful effects our activities have on both the local and global environment by 2025.

To do this we have 6 focus areas and in 2024-25 have taken the following action:

I. Reducing Carbon Emissions

****2024-2025 is the year that FAN's scope 1 & 2 emissions achieved beyond net zero****

meeting our 2019 climate target on time

We have exported 6500kwh more to the grid than we have consumed through both electricity and gas. In addition, our electricity consumption is slightly lower than last year despite the installation of heat pumps.

Our latest EPC report has rated the Friends And Neighbours centre as “B”, a huge improvement to the “E” rating that we started with, and now puts us on par to a new build of a similar property. Although we were a little disappointed not to receive the A+ that would show us as achieving net zero, we were advised that due to the formulas used for the EPCs we would never achieve higher as there is no heating in a third of the building so the calculation automatically fills it in as being gas heated. This is reflected in the fact that we have already carried out many of the recommendations the report generated.

- **ELECTRIC**

- Last year, the centre was 72% solar powered. As expected, with the installation of the heat pumps, this percentage has reduced. However, due to the switch to 3-phase electricity, the improved insulation in the ceiling and the expansion of our solar array and battery storage, we have only dropped by 4%. This is despite the fact we had 4 months in the winter with the heat pumps running, before the completion of the solar expansion. In addition, our solar export has increased by more than 350%, even with the completion of the solar expansion not occurring until March 2025. To translate into monetary terms, as of the end of July, our 2025 energy bill to date (electricity, gas and standing charges) will be approximately £-300. Even with winter coming, we are set to be owed money by the end of the year. (Also links to Method 2)

- **GAS**

As a whole, 2024-25 has seen a further 75% reduction in our gas use compared to 2023-24, and a 93% reduction compared to baseline. However, the vast majority of what remained occurred prior to the finalisation of the heat pump and solar expansion projects. The first 7 months of 2025 show a 93% reduction compared to the same months in 2024.

The gas is currently only in use for the hot water for the restroom sinks. Once the refurbishment of this area is complete, the water will be heated with electricity and the gas disconnected. (Also links to Method 2)

II. Reducing Waste & Recycling (in favour of re-use / rehome)

In order to help combat waste at the centre, we do the following:

- Have a range of Terracycle streams that are included in our public drop-point. (also links to Methods 2 & 3)
- Use a “Zero Waste” box for a variety of waste items generated at the centre that cannot be recycled through the council or free terracycle schemes
- Re-use boxes and bags through our food projects to ensure cardboard remains below 2 sacks per week (also links to Method 3)
- Have a volunteer that takes cans to crush and weigh in, keeping tins and plastic remain below 1 sack per week (although it goes out closer to once per fortnight)
- Use plastic free recycled toilet paper

- Offer a range of free reusable sanitary products, which has become more varied by working with NPT Period Poverty
- Use a supplier for our refill products who offers a closed loop system
- Run FAN Pantry and utilising the community fridge & freezer to minimise food waste (also links to Methods 3 & 4)
- Compost as much as possible on site (also links to Methods 2 & 4)
- Keep our general waste bin small and away from the public, who have a sorting crate (present at all events and activities) to ensure as much is recycled as possible without contamination.
- Utilise donations of books, cuddly toys, bric-a-brac and surplus food as prizes in our fun day activities.

In addition, our clothes re-homing rail and free to take bookshelves and kids bookcase remain popular. The Dragon Bags bin remains in place for clothing that is not taken from the rail. (also links to Method 3)

III. Reducing Water Usage

With the increase in food growing, we have had no option but to increase our water consumption this year. However, we have increased the number of water butts on site to help compensate for this next year. We now have 10 waterbutts either connected or waiting to be connected, plus 2 pumpable SuDS planters. (Also links to Method 2)

Behaviour changes in the kitchen continue to see improvements around saving water and energy when doing the dishes. (Also links to Method 4)

IV. Improving Local Biodiversity (preventing species loss)

- Cleaning products used at the Centre, and available through our Eco-Hub, are eco-friendly, vegan approved alternatives that are refillable on site. (also links to Methods 2, 3 & 4)
- Toiletries sold through our eco-hub and distributed with emergency parcels, and other forms of support, are all plastic free and eco-friendly. We promoted these along with the impact of commercial toiletries on biodiversity at this year's Great Big Green Week (Also links to Methods 1 & 3)
- Monthly woodland litter picks continue, helping to protect wildlife from the dangers associated with littering, as well as aquatic life by preventing it entering the waterways. (Also links to Methods 1, 4 & 7)
- We have been growing our food using permaculture methods and this year have spotted an increase in predatory insects this year that eat pests which, along with a dose of nematodes, have kept problematic species better under control. (Also links to Method 2)

V. Raising Awareness

- **Climate Conversations Event** - Family friendly event to bring community voices to the Welsh Government climate consultations. Attended this year by 41 people, an increase of 50% compared to last year. We helped people engage through photo

booth signs, a facilitated people's assembly, 1:1 interviews and a "Protect the House from Climate Change" challenge for the kids (Also links to Methods 1, 3 & 4)

- We repeated our Family friendly "Green Mingle" for Great Big Green Week 2025, funded by WWF and Climate Cymru, bringing together a number of local and national organisations to speak and share information with the public. The event included a "Cosy Speaker's Corner", "Cost of Being Clean" Challenge with freebies, eco-crafts, a potted woodland workshop, nature meditation and fully vegan buffet. (Also links to Methods 1, 3, 4 & 7)
- We continued promoting the Warm This Winter campaign until the end of January, encourage people to engage with politicians for a Green Transition where nobody gets left behind. They spoke at our Gwyn Hall Screening and were featured alongside all publicity. We held a tombola style prize draws through our winter Warm Hub for everyone that engaged with the campaign questionnaires. We also included a campaign stall at our Climate Conversations event. (Also links to Method 3)
- Along with our Earth Hour event, we held a raffle and online competition to help publicise the campaign and raise awareness of climate issues. (links to Method1)
- Our climate film "The Planting of A Seed" continues to make traction on the festival circuit, with a number of laurels now attached to its name. The YouTube video has now been viewed over 700 times (compared to just over 100 last year). Climate Cymru has also been promoting the film, screening it for their partners and sharing within their wider networks. We have also provided speakers for both their Ethnic Minorities group and Partner meetings to share our way of working, bringing climate issues to hard to reach communities.

VI. Prepare for Life on a Warmer Planet

- The extension to our solar array has enabled us to export much more power to the grid to help ease pressure.
- Our additional water harvesting capacity and the greening of the hall is helping to reduce run-over and local flooding.
- In addition to our portable batteries, the solar panel and storage we now have connected to the building will see us through black-outs. We are now able to operate a basic emergency community support provision, offering hot drinks, basic hot meals, light, charging facilities and more.
- Between the heat pumps and improved insulation, the hall was easily kept cool through the summer, offering respite from the heat. We are now in a position to offer a summer Cool Space as well as a winter Warm Space.

7. Promoting Health and Wellbeing Activities

- Gentle Exercise Classes (also links to Methods 1, 3 & 4)
Aimed at older people and those with limited mobility, this lively class is attended by an average of 15 per week. Our instructor and substitute instructor are both volunteers. Although it is advertised as a keep fit class, the sessions are just as much about preventing isolation and promoting friendship. The group have also organised 2 meals out together over the year, with

an average of 19 attending each.

- **Yoga with a Qualified Physio** (also links to Methods 1 & 3)
45 weekly chair-based yoga classes have been held with an average of 8 people per class. The class is no longer in receipt of funding, and although numbers remain steady, they are still not quite high enough to fully sustain the cost of the class (although we currently make this up from unrestricted funds). The classes are blended, so people have the opportunity to join virtually if they prefer. We also provide refreshments for before and after the class. Regulars of the class still express increasing improvements to their flexibility, mobility and overall health.

Yoga and meditation sessions with BetterWay2Be have also been included into a number of events.

DECLARATIONS

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees’ Report for 2024-2025 contained herein.

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees:

Signature(s)

Name(s)

Irene Knight

Sarah Tipping

Position(s)

Chair Person

Treasurer

Date

10th September 2025

10th September 2025

an average of 19 attending each.

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Yoga and meditation sessions with BetterWay2Be have also been included into a number of events.

DECLARATIONS

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report for 2024-2025 contained herein.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature(s)	<i>J. Knight</i>	<i>S. Tipping</i>
Name(s)	Irene Knight	Sarah Tipping
Position(s)	Chair Person	Treasurer
Date	10th September 2025	10th September 2025

Statement of Financial Activities For The Year Ended 31st July 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and Legacies	2	5,593	1,150	6,743	9,169
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES					
FAN Community Alliance	3	74,301	56,037	130,338	119,709
TOTAL		79,894	57,187	137,081	128,878
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable Activities					
FAN Community Alliance		63,503	21,240	134,743	102,292
NET INCOME		16,391	-14,053	2,338	26,586
RECONCILLATION OF FUNDS					
Total Funds Brought Forward		69,025	92,540	161,566	134,980
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARDS				163,904	134,980

Balance Sheet - 31st July 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds	2025 Total Funds	2024 Total Funds
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	6	0	42,863	42,863	56,360

CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	0	0	0	2,382
Cash at Bank		119,050	1,991	121,041	103,538
					105,920
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	0	0	0	-439
NET CURRENT ASSETS		119,050	1,991	121,041	105,206
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		119,050	44,854	163,904	161,566
NET ASSETS				163,904	161,566
FUNDS					
Unrestricted Funds				119,050	68,768
Restricted Funds				44,854	66,212
TOTAL FUNDS				163,904	134,980

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on

..... and were signed on its behalf by:

Irene Knight
 Irene Knight - Chair Person

St. Tippey

Sarah Tipping - Treasurer

Notes to the Financial Statements

2 DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025 - £	2024 - £
Donations	5966.99	9,169

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2025 - £	2024 - £
Activity		
General Fundraising	6043	4,871
Raffles	670	1,244
Community Events	4066	4,849
Services	7041	5,230
Sales	2595	577
External Charity Fundraising	1348	482
Grants	109351	102,436
TOTAL INCOME	137,080	128,858

Grants received, included in the above are as follows:

Community Foundation Wales		3,918
NPTCBC Food Poverty Grant	4952	3,000
National Grid Community Matters Fund		9,925
Bus Services Support Grant	3285	5,111
Neighbourly	1500	1,500
Third Sector Growth Fund - UKSPF	1141	22,822

Local Nature Partnership		7,390
Climate Conversations	1900	390
Third Sector Discretionary Cost of Living Grant Scheme		8,868
Uplift / Warm This Winter		10,000
Community Anchor Development Programme	54662.5	29,013
4TheRegion	3400	
National Lottery Community Fund	10300	
NPTCBC CFIF - UKSPF	24725	
NPTCBC - Warm Spaces Fund	2285	
WWF Cymru - GBGW	1000	
Climate Cymru - GBGW	200	
	109,351	101,937

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures & Motor vehicles	Computer equipment	Totals
COST			
At 1 August 24	41,922	47,536	87,897
Additions	2,017	0	2,017
At 1 August 2025	43,939	47,536	89,914
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 August 2024	19,422	16,243	27,846
Charge for year	8,788	4,754	15,514
At 31 July 2025	28,210	20,997	58,470
NET BOOK VALUE			0
At 31 July 2025	15,729	26,539	42,863

At 31 July 2024	22500	31293	2567	56,360	0
					0
7 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			2025	2024	
			0	2,382	
8 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			2025	2024	
			0	714	
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS			2025	2024	
Donations and legacies					
donations			5967	9169	
Charitable Activities					
general fundraising			6043	4891	
raffles			670	1244	
community events			4066	4849	
services			7041	5230	
sales			2595	577	
external charity fundraising			1348	482	
grants			109351	102436	
		TOTAL charitable acti	131114		
Totals			137081	128,878	
EXPENDITURE			2025	2024	

Charitable Activities				
2 Community events			16494	8737
3 charity donations		166	1860	4192
4 cleaning & refuse			735	443
5 Licenses & subscriptions	295		1301	1124
6 repairs & equipment renewals			15382	5204
7 equipment purchased (tangible assets removed)			5098	1826
8 catering & food projects			6388	6271
9 (PPE)			145	
10 Youth			7864	299
11 Gardening			3961	8551
12 Community Car			1403	717
13 Volunteer Appreciation			3580	1199
14 Climate			40457	28015
15 Eco/Warm Hub			2859	11717
16 Fitness Activities			2295	1517
Depreciation of Tangible Fixed Assets			15514	15,110
			125336	94922
Support Costs				
Management				
22 rents, rates & water	41	190	483	581
23 Insurance	2046	133	4105	3908
24 light & heat		225	896	875
25 phone & internet			524	457
26 office			899	280
27 sundries & training			1352	1148
	2382	714		7249
			8259	
Finance				
28 Bank charges			83	121

(Governance Costs)
(Accountancy & legal fees)

Total Resources Expended

135346

102292

NET INCOME

1735

26586

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
F.A.N. Community Alliance

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of F.A.N Community Alliance

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of F.A.N. Community Alliance (the Trust) for the year ended 31st July 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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").

I report in respect of the examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

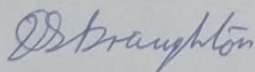
Independent examiner's statement

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 13 of the Act; or
- 2 The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 D S Broughton



2 Geoffrey Street

NEATH

SA11 1HU

Date:

02/04/2026

F.A.N COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

England & Wales - Charity number 1185440

Accounts



12 Ethel St, Neath, SA11 1BB
Charity No. 1185440

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT 1st August 2023- 31st July 2024

Officers:

Chairperson – Irene Knight

Vice-Chair – Emma Knight

Treasurer – Sarah Tipping

Secretary – Louise Rawlings

Gardening Lead – Mairead Finn

(Officers remain in post for 2 years and are appointed by the trustees following an AGM)

Additional Trustees:

Aline Valleron

Amy Morgan

Andrew Jenkins

Cheryl Murphy (resigned 10th Nov 2023)

Lillian Dawn Wilyeo

Donna Harris

Dorothy Phillips

Elizabeth Bevan

Elizabeth Jean Sharp

Louise Penny (resigned 17th Jan 2024)

Marcia Hughes

Megan Sparkes

Rosemary Bennett

Sharon Rawlings

XX – Trustee with Dispensation

(Trustees are decided by the members at the Annual General Meeting, or may be co-opted by existing trustees if a vacancy arises.)

The trustees have had due regard to public benefit and consider that each of the activities that the charity is engaged within helps promote the aims of the charity in respect of the purposes as defined overleaf.

F.A.N Community Alliance is a CIO governed by a constitution adopted 15th September 2019.

OUR PURPOSE

“To further or benefit the residents of Neath and the surrounding area (without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions) by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents”

OUR VISION

We intend to create a community that is vibrant and bustling; where everyone feels included and able to participate; where people take responsibility and respect each other and their environment; where residents groups are encouraged to form; and where people have pride in, and ownership of, where they live.

We intend to create strong and resilient neighbourhoods where community spirit soars.

VALUES & BELIEFS

Everyone Can Be Included

There Is No Generation Gap

Collaboration Opens Opportunities

We acknowledge The Current Climate & Ecological Crises

We Only Run Projects We Believe We Can Sustain

We Do Things For Ourselves But Seek Help When Needed

Anti-Social Behaviour Reduces Further Through Fun Than Sanctions

METHODS of ACTIVITY (How we achieve our Objectives / Vision):

1. Holding community events and activities that give people the chance to come together, get to know each other, learn, have fun and remove barriers such as age, gender and background
2. Managing and developing the Friends And Neighbours Centre & grounds, “The Lane” Community Garden, and “The Galv” Community Orchard and Meadow
3. Creating access to facilities and opportunities that people face barriers to
4. Providing ways for people to participate and volunteer in their local community
5. Supporting Mini FANs Youth Group to achieve their goals
6. Promoting environmental awareness, responsibility and sustainability
7. Promoting health and wellbeing activities

FINANCIAL SUMMARY – Income Sources 2023-24

Unrestricted - £52,224

Received from:

- Donations (inc. online, business and individuals donations received during surplus food projects)
- Weekly Fundraising (bonus ball & raffle, bingo takings, clothes donations etc)
- Services (FAN Fare surplus food club, community transport, fitness classes)
- Sales (Ecohub, tuck, recycling schemes)
- Annual Raffles (Easter, Summer, Christmas)
- Events (Panto ticket sales, bus trips, coffee mornings etc)
- Core grants towards our organisational and community activities (Community Anchor Development Project)

Our unrestricted funds carried forward, total £75,588. Of this, £2,000 is kept in reserves to cover the cost of 6 months of bills for the Friends And Neighbours Centre.

Restricted - £76,654

Received from:

- £719 raised by the Gentle Exercise group to enable social activities together
- £482 raised for charity (MacMillan & British Heart Foundation & comic relief)
- £2000 in donations from MADL (Nisa) Heart of the Community Award to support our community activities and Food Bank
- £30 donation towards Easter Egg Hunt
- Government funded grants (£47,581):
 - BSSG Fund – provision of community transport
 - Levelling Up Third Sector Growth Fund – installation of heat pump, expansion of rooftop solar and volunteer training
 - Local Nature Partnership – creation of mini habitats around the FAN Centre
 - Climate Conversations – to host an event alongside Welsh Government’s climate consultations
 - NPTCBC Food Poverty – towards items supporting our food projects
 - Discretionary Cost of Living Fund – to enhance Warm Hub and winter support projects
- Privately funded grants (£25,843):
 - Community Foundation Wales Older Person Grant – Support & activities for older members of the community
 - Neighbourly – fresh fruit & veg provision with tips for using surplus food for struggling families
 - National Grid – Warm packs for elderly & vulnerable, warm hub support and expansion of off-grid power system
 - LocalGiving Magic Little Grant – installation of under sink water heater
 - Uplift / Warm This Winter – promotion of the Warm This Winter Campaign and hosting of 2 climate events

Restricted funds carried forward to the next financial year total £66,192.

In 2023-2024 FAN has successfully utilised grants without being dependent on them.

The majority of our activities (food in particular) continue to operate on a donation / Pay-As-You-Feel basis and, although donations fluctuate depending on the activity / event they collectively, cover our basic

running costs well. Even without the 5 year CADP grant we secured in 2024, our unrestricted funds comfortably cover our core cost, including our regular projects and events. We are confident the charity will continue as a going concern.

HOW MONEY HAS BEEN SPENT IN 2023-2024

Goals outstanding from 2022-2023 AGM

1. Increase community use of EV (links to Methods 1, 3, 4 & 6)
We now have a smart lock on the gate which has greatly improved “managed” accessibility to the site and vehicle. The car continues to be used well for transport to and from our weekly bingo, primarily supporting older people to socialise. It has been used for groups of people to attend birthday meals and outings together, as well as for individuals attending medical appointments. It has also been used by members for school runs and getting to work etc when their own vehicles have not been available. Our pool of drivers is still small and public requests for transport have been difficult to accommodate between the availability of the vehicle for this purpose and the availability of volunteers. With this in mind, we have decided that, for the time being, our community transport provision will be for people who engage regularly with our organisation and emergency referrals, so it will not be advertised to the wider public.
2. Install a reversible heat pump & under-sink water heater(s) (links to Methods 1, 2, 3 & 6)
Funding for the heat pump has been secured through the Levelling Up Third Sector Growth Fund, planning permission received, equipment purchased and installation is imminent. The kitchen under-sink water heater has been installed and is being used successfully. We secured funding through Local Giving’s Magic Little Grant to purchase a second under sink heater, part of the CADP funding will be allocated to redesign the toilets. Once this is done, the hot water in the toilet sinks will also be powered from electricity.

Goals for 2023-24 as decided in the last AGM

1. Get a repair cafe up and running within the year
No progress made
2. Grow more food around the FAN Centre & in The Lane
We have increased the growing spaces around the centre with additional planters and a living wall. Although this has been done for biodiversity purposes, we have increased the number of fruit and nut trees on site and in the space between the centre and the park, included a number of edible plants in the living wall and started a kitchen herb garden. We now have a volunteer dedicated to maintaining the site and hope that it will continue to grow and flourish.
Aside from action days for maintenance, very little has been done in the Lane Community Garden this year. Our previous lead volunteer on the project has decided to step down and only recently members of Neath Gardening Group have taken up the mantle. However, despite little attention, the garden has grown well, including the grapes, which we expect a bumper crop from this year.
3. Monthly get-togethers for volunteers
We have not achieved regular monthly get-togethers well over the past 12 months, although they have occurred intermittently. The importance of these socials was highlighted in a recent volunteer day and people have put their names forward to organise activities for the group through the coming 12 months. We have however, started a weekly volunteer lunch, which is usually attended by 6-10 individuals, although we are conscious that most are unable to join in with this. We hope to have more success getting everyone together next year.

Progress Towards Charity Objectives Through Our Methods of Activity:

1. Community Activities & Events That Give People the Chance to Come Together

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

- **Bingo** for up to 60 people each week with hot, cold and take-away food plus drinks available on a Pay-As-You-Feel basis, and surplus food available to take. Our doorstep community transport service provides 2 return journeys to enable those less mobile to attend. The sessions raise approximately £95 per week for Blood Cancer UK. 7-8 volunteers are currently involved in running the sessions each week. (also links to Methods 3, 4 and 6)
- **Gentle Exercise Class** (see Method 7)
- **Chair-Based Yoga** (see Method 7)
- **FAN Pantry** runs every Friday for people to access surplus food but also provides a social space for people to have a drink, snack and chat whilst children play games together. The Pantry was used to distribute grab bags of food, toiletries and cleaning products to struggling families over the winter. It is also the main session where people access the EcoHub for refill products (also links to Methods 2, 3, 4 & 6)

REGULAR EVENTS

- **Climate Café** held monthly up until winter 2023 to alleviate climate anxiety. The session stopped in order to run the Warm Hub and, as numbers had been low, did not return in spring so that the weekly volunteer lunch could take place. We will restart the café, should the need become apparent (also links to Methods 3 & 6)
- **Eaglesbush Litter Pick** held monthly whenever the weather permits (11 out of 12 this year) with between 5 and 6 volunteers collecting approximately 5.5 bags of rubbish on each occasion. Additional issues with burning in the woods have been highlighted by the community and we have supported the Old Rd group in their campaign on this. (also links to Methods 4 & 6)
- **Surplus Café** follows our monthly litter pick and runs alongside Neath Gardening Group meet-ups. It is open to the public and usually sees 20-30 in attendance of all ages. (also links to Methods 3, 4 and 6)
- **Neath Gardening Group** maintains its online presence and meets monthly at the Friends And Neighbours Centre / The Lane to share plants, seeds, crops, and gain tips & advice, with on average 5-6 attendees at each gathering. They also provide assistance with the greening of the Centre and helped with the maintenance of the The Lane. The group has help workshops, including hanging baskets which they sold to help keep their activities sustainable (also links to Methods 2, 3, 4 & 6)
- **Kids Crafts** has now returned as a monthly volunteer led session for children aged 5 and up. Although attendance numbers are low at the moment, it has a Whatsapp chat to help it grow and plan.

ANNUAL EVENTS

We have maintained the following events in 2023-24, bringing some back from previous years:

- **Summer Fun Day** – with stalls, games and refreshments, attended by over 50 people and raised over £1000 combine with the summer raffle. Due to space, stalls etc are kept in house, although Mini FANs were permitted to run a number of fundraising activities for themselves. (also links to Methods 4 & 5)
- **MacMillan Bake Sale** – Due to a clash with Great Big Green Week the bake sale was combined with our surplus café. £305 was raised for the cause. (also links to Method 4)
- **Halloween Panto** – Talegate Theatre returned for a sold-out show Halloween show with 97 attendees, and a second show at Easter attended by 84 people (also links to Methods 3 & 5)
- **Christmas Switch-On** – small and simple event with 20 attendees. It also included an Elf Walk around town with 15 fabulous elves and the Grinch, and Elf school for the children back at the Centre (also links to Methods 2 & 4)
- **Christmas Afternoon Tea** - utilising predominantly surplus food to serve 24 individuals (also links to Method 4 & 6)
- **Children's Christmas Party** – featuring local party entertainer with a visit from Santa, gifts and food for the children. Originally fully booked with a waiting list, but due to last minute cancellations attended by 34 children, (also links to Method 4)
- **Member's Christmas Party** – held at the Briton Ferry Workingman's Club and featuring a local band and buffet. Attended by 54 people.
- **Pancake Funday** – Attended by over 30 individuals and over 80 pancakes flipped in the kitchen. (also links to Method 4)
- **WWF's Earth Hour** – an off-grid vegan meal attended by approximately 19 people. It followed a local election hustings event and gave people the opportunity to interact further with the candidates, whilst also raising awareness of the importance to take action against climate change (also links to Methods 3 & 6)
- **Easter Egg Hunt** – returned to the hall this year with a visit from the Easter Bunny, crafts, games and refreshments. Attended by 49 people. Easter eggs were also distributed to children through our food projects and members. (Also links to Method 4)
- **The Big Lunch** – 55 people attended our games themed event with activities for all ages. For the 1st time, we decided to outsource the catering so that volunteers could spend more time enjoying the event (also links to Method 4)
- **Summer Trip** – 2 free coaches were run to Aberystwyth, however only 66 people attended. We believe it was the choice of destination that put people off, however those that attended appeared to enjoy despite very poor weather on the day (also links to Method 3)

OTHER EVENTS

- **Birthday AGM** – featuring memories of the last 15 years and planning for the next 5 years.
- **Bat Walk** – Educational talk and walk through Eaglesbush Woods attended by 11 (Also links to Methods 3, 4, 6 & 7)
- **Climate Conversations** – See Method 6
- **Green Mingle** – See Method 6
- **FAN Family BBQ** – Attended by 62 individuals and primarily serving surplus food. The event

was a great success in bringing people together and helping them feel comfortable getting involved. We gained some new volunteers as a result. (Also links to Method 4)

- **Fridays 4 Youth** - We initiated weekly youth activities through the 2024 summer holidays, the 1st being a cookery session with Cook Stars. It was oversubscribed, with 11 attendees joining in. They also received breakfast before the class. (also links to Methods 2, 4, 5,7)

2. Managing & Developing The Friends And Neighbours Centre, The Lane Community Garden & The Galv Community Meadow and Orchard

THE FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS CENTRE (links to all Methods)

The centre has continued to be utilised this year to help provide support for people during the cost of living crisis. The café is still run entirely on a Pay-As-You Feel basis and we have a constant supply of surplus food available for people to take on a regular basis alongside the more formal foodbank provision. We, once again, opened weekly as a warm space throughout the winter, providing both warmth and food in a social setting.

Although we still do not hire the hall, we have now increased the number of activities we hold on a regular basis through the inclusion of Neath Gardening Group, and days set aside for Mini FANs use.

Approximately 200 people per week are currently benefitting from the activities provided through the centre.

Physical developments at the centre this year include:

- Heat pumps have been purchased and planning permission received, installation is imminent. (also links to Method 6)
- Electrics upgraded and ready for 3-phase (also links to Method 6)
- Additional EV charger installed, although not yet fully functional due to connectivity issues. Once resolved, it should allow for remote bidirectional charging, capable of powering the building from the car as well as charging the vehicle. (also links to Methods 3, 6 and 7)
- Under-sink water heater installed in the kitchen and a 2nd purchased ready for the toilet sinks. (also links to Method 6)
- Continuation of the “greening” of the grounds for both biodiversity and food growing. Including a, disabled access planters, living wall, potted hedge and raised ponds (also links to Methods 3, 4, 6 and 7)

THE LANE COMMUNITY GARDEN (also links to Methods 1, 3, 4, 6 & 7)

The Lane continues to be maintained as a forest garden and mini meadow. Apples and grapes are producing well this year. Many plants in the forest garden area continue to self-generate. Engagement continues to be a problem for the space and we lost our lead gardener. However, Neath Gardening Group will be taking on the challenge, so we hope to see improvement in this area over the next year. We held quarterly action days, at key points in the year to plant, tidy up etc, and on average 5 people have attended each.

The Lane has maintained its Green flag status for 2024.

THE GALV COMMUNITY ORCHARD & MEADOW (also links to Methods 1, 3, 4, 6 & 7)

Working with Neath Boys and Girls Club, we continue to help manage a large piece of land between Neath Canal and Neath River. We have planted additional hedging fruit and nut trees, but have lost a number of the original orchard trees due to damage (although some may yet bounce back).

3. Creating Facilities & Opportunities That People Face Barriers To

The facilities and opportunities we create fall into 2 categories:

I. BRINGING NEW EXPERIENCES TO THE AREA

- **Fridays 4 Future** (also links to Methods 1, 4, 5 & 7)
Although we had only run the 1st summer holiday session by the end of year, a further 5 weeks have been planned, bringing a range of opportunities for fun, learning and community building to the younger members of our network. We felt the younger members of our community were not feeling as big a part of the community as they used to, so decided to halt FAN Pantry (see below) through the holidays to enable us to offer youth focussed activities. Although these sessions are not directly linked to Mini FANs Youth Group, we hope that by enabling our wider community of children and young people to get to know and spend time with each other it will ultimately benefit Mini FANs too.
- **Chair Based Yoga with a Qualified Physio** (see Method 7)

II. IMPROVING EQUALITY OF ACCESS:

- **Warm Hub** (also links to Methods 1, 4 & 6)
Our Warm Space, returned through the Winter months to support people struggling with the cost of living crisis, but open to all. One day a week was dedicated to the project, the basis of which was self-funded, but included enhancements through funding from National Grid Community Matters Fund, NPTCBC Food Poverty Grant, Third Sector Discretionary Cost of Living Fund and Nisa Heart of the Community Award. Together, it included:
 - A warm lunch from our surplus PAYF café for 8-9 people on average each week
 - FAN Pantry drop-in (see below) attended by 35 people on average per week through winter.
 - Free access to internet and charging
 - 120 Free warm packs for elderly and disabled members of the community through Nation Grid.
 - A free “Grab Bag” provision utilised by 44 households, containing:
 - Food Bags – available weekly, containing cupboard staples through NPTCBC Food Poverty and topped up with fresh veg through Nisa
 - Toiletry Bags - available monthly, containing environmentally friendly products through DCoL
 - Cleaning Bags – Starter bottles of eco-friendly household cleaning products that could be refilled monthly with us with 50% off
 - £50 voucher for goods available from our EcoHub (see Method 7)
- **Emergency Food Bank**
Although it is used infrequently, we continue to operate an Emergency Food Bank, filling the gaps for those who will run out of food before able to access a traditional food bank or are unable to attend one in person. Parcels are substantial and delivered to the doorstep.
- **Gardening** (also links to Methods 2, 4, 6 & 7)
We now have 2 wheelchair accessible planters in place on the grounds of the FAN Centre, currently containing both wildflowers and food. This enables people with physical disabilities to get their hands dirty with Neath Gardening Group, as well as to give them some ownership of the site.

- **Surplus Food Projects** (Also links to Methods 1, 2, 4 & 6)
These continue to run alongside each other to ensure they all remain sustainable. They are designed to focus on the issue and impacts of food waste, and remain open to all to ensure that anyone in need of food, but reluctant to reach out for help, is still able to access food comfortably. The projects also allow people to try new foods without worrying about spending money on something that will end up in the compost, and enables them to play a bigger part in reducing GHGs. Although the types and amounts of food received are unpredictable, the projects collectively sustain themselves financially & practically. They currently consist of:
 - The Surplus Café – used by 60+ per week on average on a PAYF basis and utilising food grown on site when available.
 - Surplus Food Club – for a nominal monthly fee, 22 members currently receive a weekly parcel with an additional 9 members benefitting when there is excess. 33 households have benefitted from this scheme over the year and there is currently a waiting list.
 - FAN Pantry – usage varies between 12 and 40 individuals per week accessing ambient, fresh, chilled, frozen and cooked food, free or by donation. Regulars include families with children at a nearby school and local refugees.

Surplus food available to us has remained low this year, yet despite this we have redistributed over 15 tonnes of food; the equivalent of approx. 37.5 tonnes of CO₂ (plus additional methane if it had gone to landfill), or around 42,000 meals!

- **Re-Homing** (Also links to Methods 4 & 6)
Our clothes rail and bookshelves operate for people to bring unwanted items and take as they feel.
- **Community EV Transport** (Also links to Methods 1, 4, 5 and 6)
Our eV Community Transport operates 2 runs each week for the bingo as well as for the occasional hire with and without drivers provided. In addition, the vehicle is used to deliver between 14 and 18 food parcels each week to our Surplus Food Club members, along with any emergency food bank requests.
- **Litter-Picking Hub** (Also links to Methods 1, 4 & 6)
We continue to operate under Keep Wales Tidy's banner to facilitate people carrying out litter pick by offering free equipment hire and guidance. We have supported individuals, schools and other organisations over the past year.
- **Local & National Representation** (Also links to Methods 1, 4, 6 & 7)
We have been involved in a number of campaigns this year that helps give a voice to hard to reach communities, including Welsh Government's Climate Conversations consultation, the Warm This Winter Campaign, and we remain the only Climate Cymru partner in Neath. We also organised a relaxed hustings event for a Town Council and Borough Council election to enable people to meet and get to know the candidates. However, we cancelled the one planned for the UK Parliamentary election due to lack of response, and safety concerns around hustings, from the candidates.
- **Neath Boys And Girls Club** (Also links to Method 4)
We continue to support Neath Boys And Girls Club and their mission to refurbish and open the club for local young people. We donated £3600 to the cause this year, including the proceeds of our Easter Raffle.

4. Providing Ways For People To Participate And Volunteer

FAN emphasises, promotes and facilitates community participation and responsibility. Everyone is involved in our organisation in a voluntary capacity – we have no paid staff. Without volunteers, FAN would not exist. However, at the same time, many members of our organisation do not consider themselves volunteers in the traditional sense. Volunteering with FAN is more of a mindset than a role, as our path is one of “active citizenship”.

ROLES

Volunteer activities within FAN vary but could be anything from joining the board of trustees, cooking, litter-picking, gardening, organising events, cleaning or even becoming the Easter Bunny.

Most of our volunteering roles are fluid with people taking up whichever roles are needed at the time. However, we have:

- A pool of drivers who are able to pick up food donations, deliver, parcels and provide community transport
- Individuals trained to work the kitchen and café front of house
- A team of gardeners
- Individuals confident enough to lead our monthly litter-picks

BONDING

Due to the level of community support and activities we have delivered in recent years, volunteers had not having the quality time together that formed the bond at the core of our organisation. This year we have sought to readdress that in the following ways:

- **Monthly Volunteer Social** – we haven’t quite hit our monthly target yet, but we have held a few “volunteer only” events, including a games evening, a quiz night and our 15th Halloween Birthday Party. (Also links to Method 1)
- **Weekly Volunteer Surplus Lunch** – this took the place of the Warm Hub café once winter was over. It has been attended by approximately 8 volunteers each week, with 23 volunteers attending at least once. (Also links to Methods 1 & 6)
- **Working Events** – we have held 3 volunteer work days, including a full day with buffet lunch and chippy supper to get to know each other and work on FAN’s 5 year goals, a Sunday Lunch that brought the information from the former event together, and a Fun Day prep day with chippy supper.

TRAINING

We have tried to support out volunteers to access any training they feel would benefit them, and through the Levelling Up 3rd Sector Growth Fund, this has included:

- Carbon Literacy Training (1 attendee)
- Funding and Bid Writing Courses (5 attendees)
- Minute Taking (2 attendees)
- Charity Finance (1 attendee)
- Safeguarding (2 attendees)
- Food Hygiene (6 attendees)
- Allergy Awareness (1 attendee)
- Emergency 1st Aid (9 attendees)

- RHS Gardening (1 attendee)

We have had approx.. 60 individuals volunteer at some point through the year, aged from 6-93 years old. Of these, 20 have signed up to receive Tempo Time Credits through us – an increase from 2 last year.

5. Supporting Mini F.A.Ns Youth Group

Mini FANs have floundered a bit this year and it has been difficult trying to give them autonomy whilst simultaneously providing guidance. They tried to organise a few events, but they were cancelled due to lack of interest and availability come the time. Similarly, they currently have very few members, with many failing to attend the group meetings this year.

We will continue to support Mini FANs however we can, but we are refocussing energy on the young people in our wider community. By doing this we may be able to help regrow the Mini FANs group.

6. Promoting Environmental Awareness, Responsibility & Sustainability

Climate Declaration:

FAN acknowledges the connection between the climate and other environmental crises and the threat of current and future homelessness, disease, food and water shortages and poverty for millions of people around the world, as well as the major damage being caused to our natural ecosystems.

We recognise that we are in a climate & ecological emergency and it needs to be treated as such. We therefore identify that we have a responsibility to reduce our carbon footprint to net zero, along with any other harmful effects our activities have on both the local and global environment by 2025.

To do this we have 6 focus areas and have in 2023-24 have taken the following action:

I. Reducing Carbon Emissions

- **ELECTRIC**
 - In 2023, the centre was 72% solar powered and exported twice as much to the national grid than we consumed from it. Overall electricity consumption (including power generated from our solar panels) was approx. 25% lower than in 2022, which we believe is due to behaviour change through use of the portable batteries, utilising hot water from flasks to do dishes, and using low energy lamps rather than the large overhead lights. The volunteers should be commended on this reduction despite the ongoing electrification of the building. In addition, our electricity is sourced 100% from renewables, so the power we have used from the grid is already produced with net zero emissions. (Also links to Methods 2 & 4)
 - We have expanded our portable power system to include an additional emergency battery, so we do not need to worry about empty batteries during power cuts. We have also added a number of smart plugs which can be used to switch the fridges / freezers onto the portable system at times of high consumption or low power generation. (Also links to Method 2)
 - We took part in all 15 of Octopus Energy's Winter "Saving Sessions" aimed at providing evidence that, if given energy information, the public are able to shift their consumption pattern to prevent blackouts (or the need for fossil fuel back-up energy). We were ranked in the top 4% of participants for the energy reduction savings we made during the sessions, with 6.95kWh of power saved prevented 2383g

of CO2 from entering the atmosphere. We have just started taking part in their Summer Free electricity scheme which, conversely, aims to show that, given the information, people are able to make use of extra power when the grid is cleanest (and therefore use less when it is using fossil fuels).

- **GAS**

Winter 2023-24 was mild but long, and operating as a warm hub through the winter meant our heating was on longer than it would otherwise have been. However, compared to last year we achieved a 35% drop in our gas consumption, equivalent to a 70% reduction from our 2019 baseline. Whilst weather may have played a part, this is also the result of:

- Installation of the under-sink water heater in the kitchen, which has reduced our summer gas consumption by 75%. (Also links to Method 2)
- EWI and triple glazing installed last year has now been put to the test and is keeping the hall warmer on cold days, and cooler on hot ones. The heat is also holding better, so the hall stays warmer for longer after the heating has turned off.
- A portable room thermostat has been connected to the boiler, enabling us to better control the heating and prevent the hall from overheating when people are in and out of the front door. (Also links to Method 2)

As of March 24, our combined gas and electricity consumption show an 80% reduction from our 2019 baseline (36% from 2022-23), without taking our 100% green energy tariff into consideration. With that added in, we are 93% along our net zero carbon journey for scopes 1 and 2.

II. **Reducing Waste & Recycling** (in favour of re-use / rehome)

The council removed trade waste sacks this year. For those with low waste presentation, they were replaced with a slimline wheelie bin, which we qualified for. We present the bin for collection roughly every 3 months. In order to help combat waste at the centre, we have maintained the following:

- Having range of teracycle streams that are included in our public drop-point. (also links to Methods 2 & 3)
- Using a “Zero Waste” box for a variety of waste items generated at the centre that cannot be recycled through the council or free teracycle schemes
- Re-using boxes through our food projects to ensure cardboard remains below 2 sacks per week (also links to Method 3)
- Using plastic free recycled toilet paper
- Offering a range of reusable sanitary products
- Using a supplier for our refill products who offers a closed loop system
- Running FAN Pantry and utilising the community fridge & freezer to minimise food waste (also links to Methods 3 & 4)
- Composting as much as possible on site (also links to Methods 2 & 4)
- Reducing the size of our internal general waste bin and have a sorting crate(s)

present at all events and activities to ensure as much is recycled as possible.

In addition, our clothes re-homing rail and free to take bookshelves remain popular. The Dragon Bags bin remains in place for clothing that is not taken from the rail. (also links to Method 3)

III. Reducing Water Usage

We haven't made a great deal of progress in this area, but despite higher plant watering needs, we have more or less remained steady with our overall water consumption by:

- Utilising 5 water butts in use around the centre with an additional 2 waiting to be connected. (Also links to Method 2)
- Behaviour changes, e.g. checking hot water canisters for water left over at the end of events / activities, before running the tap to do the dishes. (Also links to Method 4)

IV. Improving Local Biodiversity (preventing species loss)

- Mini habitats have been installed around the Centre through the Local Nature Partnership Grant. This includes raised ponds and wetland, a living wall, mini woodland meadow and potted hedge. (Also links to Methods 2, 4 & 7)
- Cleaning products used at the Centre, and available through our Eco-Hub, are eco-friendly, vegan approved alternatives that are refillable on site. (also links to Methods 2, 3 & 4)
- Toiletries sold through our eco-hub and distributed with emergency parcels, and other forms of support, are all plastic free and eco-friendly. (Also links to Method 3)
- Monthly woodland litter picks continue, helping to protect wildlife from the dangers associated with littering, as well as aquatic life by preventing it entering the waterways. (Also links to Methods 1, 4 & 7)

V. Raising Awareness

- **Climate Conversations Event** - Family friendly event to bring community voices to the Welsh Government climate consultations. Attended by 27 people, with 4 generations participating. (Also links to Methods 1, 3 & 4)
- We hosted a Family friendly "Green Mingle" for Great Big Green Week 2024, funded by Warm This Winter, bringing together a number of local and national organisations to speak and share information with the public. The event included a photo booth for people to leave a message for UK Government relating to the climate crisis and/or cost of living crisis. (Also links to Methods 1, 3 & 4)
- We have been promoting the Warm This Winter campaign with a range of flyers, social media posts and conversations through out the year to encourage people to engage with politicians for a Green Transition where nobody gets left behind. (Also links to Method 3)
- Although we didn't fundraise this year, we still hosted an event for Earth Hour, highlighting our ability to go off-grid whilst running an event, generating discussions

around Net Zero. (Also links to Methods 1 & 2)

- Our Eco-Hub includes a range of items to improve energy efficiency and support off-grid needs. We also have a selection of planet-friendly toiletries that can be purchased, which are also utilised in food bank parcels when donations are low. We regularly run eco-themed competitions, offers and Cost of Living projects that help people to get started with refills and to try out various products. (Also links to Methods 3 & 4)
- Our climate film “The Planting of A Seed” has been working the film festival circuit this year! It was selected for the Activist Without Borders Film Festival, WOW Wales One World Film Festival, and a finalist in the South London Film Festival. It was also shown in Yale, USA as part of their environmental film festival circuit.

VI. Prepare for Life on a Warmer Planet

- Funding through the Levelling Up 3rd Sector Growth Fund, planning permission and equipment is all in place for the installation of 3 small heat pumps. They should be functional by the end of 2024, not only helping to reduce our emissions from heating, but also providing a way to keep the Centre cool in the summer. The funding also includes an extension to our solar panels which will keep the additional burden on the national grid low. (Also links to Method 2)

7. Promoting Health and Wellbeing Activities

- **Gentle Exercise Classes** (also links to Methods 1, 3 & 4)
Aimed at older people and those with limited mobility, this lively class is attended by approximately 15-20 people per week. Our instructor and substitute instructor are both volunteers. Although it is advertised as a keep fit class, the sessions are just as much about preventing isolation and promoting friendship. The group have also organised 3 meals out together over the year.
- **Chair Based Yoga with a Qualified Physio** (also links to Methods 1 & 3)
Our yoga class has now been running for a year with steady numbers and a slight increase in weekly participants, currently with 10 attendees per session. The class has been funded by The Community Foundation’s Older Persons Grant, however, despite the costs of hiring an instructor for this session, it is close to sustaining itself. The classes are blended, so people have the opportunity to join virtually if they prefer. We also provide refreshments for after the class, but few have taken us up on this to date. The presence of a physio has helped reassure people who would not normally consider yoga as an option for them, even though they are often the most in need of it. Many have expressed improved mobility, flexibility and balance, enabling to do things that they had lost the ability to do before starting the class.

DECLARATIONS

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees’ Report for 2023-2024 contained herein.

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees:

J M Knight

SL Tipping

Signature(s)

Name(s)

Irene Knight

Sarah Tipping

Position(s)

Chair Person

Treasurer

Date

13th September 2024

13th September 2024

FAN Community Alliance

Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year Ended 31st July 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and Legacies	2	7,139	2,030	9,169	11,738
Charitable Activities	3				
FAN Community Alliance		45,085	74,624	119,709	66,242
Total		52,224	76,654	128,878	77,980
EXPENDITURE ON Charitable Activities					
FAN Community Alliance		45,424	56,868	102,292	80,853
NET INCOME		6,800	19,786	26,586	(2873)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total Funds Brought Forward		68,788	66,192	134,980	137,853
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARDS		75,588	85,978	161,566	134,980

FAN Community Alliance

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 July 2024

	Note s	Unrestricted Funds £	Restrict ed Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	6	-	56,360	56,360	60,051
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	441	1,941	2,382	1,476
Cash at bank		69,131	34,407	103,538	73,892
Total Current Assets		69,572	36,348	105,920	75,368
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(547)	(167)	(714)	(439)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		69,025	36,181	105,206	74,929
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		69,025	92,541	161,566	134,980
NET ASSETS		69,025	92,541	161,566	134,980
FUNDS	9				
Unrestricted funds				75,588	68,768
Restricted Funds				85,978	66,212
TOTAL FUNDS				161,566	134,980

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on

..... and were signed on its behalf by:

.....

Irene Knight - Chair Person

.....

FAN Community Alliance

Sarah Tipping - Treasurer

(SEE PHOTO BELOW FOR SIGNATURES)

The notes form part of these financial statements

FAN Community Alliance

Balance Sheet
31 July 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
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NET ASSETS		69,025	92,541	161,566	134,980
FUNDS	9				
Unrestricted funds				75,588	68,768
Restricted Funds				85,978	66,212
TOTAL FUNDS				161,566	134,980

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on

5th MAY 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

I. Knight

Irene Knight – Chair Person

S. Tipping

Sarah Tipping – Treasurer

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is charged at the following rates in order to write off the value of each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings - 20% of cost price

Motor Vehicles - 10% of cost price

Computer equipment - 20% of cost price

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

FAN Community Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the Year Ended 31 July 2024

2	DONATIONS AND LEGACIES		
.			
		2024	2023
		£	£
	Donations	9,169	11,378
3	INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		
.			
		2024	2023
	Activity	£	£
	Weekly fundraising Alliance	4,891	5,325
		1,244	323
	Raffles Alliance	4,849	3,578
		5,230	2,377
	Community events Alliance	577	398
		482	1,106
	Services Alliance	102,436	53,135
		119,709	66,242
	Sales Alliance		
	External Charity Fundraising Alliance		
	Grants Alliance		
	Grants received, included in the above are as follows:		
		2024	2023
		£	£
	Community Foundation Wales - Older Peoples Fund	3,918	3,918
	NPTCBC Food Poverty Grant	3,000	7,435
	National Grid Community Matters Fund	9,925	9,644
	Magic Little Grant	500	500
	NPTCBC Bus Services Support Grant	5,111	2,008
	NPTCBC Third Sector Grant (Core)	-	11,000
	National Lottery Community Fund	-	10,000
	Regional HSC&W Small Grants	-	5,000
	NPTCBC Warm Hub	-	2,400
	Co-Op Local Community Fund	-	1,230
	Neighbourly	1,500	-
	Levelling Up Third Sector Growth Fund	22,822	-
	Local Nature Partnership Fund	7,390	-
	Climate Conversations	390	-
	Third Sector Discretionary Cost of Living Grant	8,868	-
	Uplift / Warm This Winter	10,000	-
	Community Anchor Development Programme	29,013	-
	TOTAL	102,437	53,135

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the Year Ended 31 July 2024

4	TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS			
·	There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 July 2024 (31 July 2023 - Nil)			
	Trustees' expenses			
	There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 July 2024 (31 July 2023 - Nil)			
5	COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES			
		Unrestrict ed Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
	INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
	Donations and legacies	7,438	4,300	11,738
	Charitable Activities			
	FAN Community Alliance	22,339	43,903	66,242
	Total	29,777	48,203	77,980
	EXPENDITURE ON			
	Charitable Activities			
	FAN Community Alliance	16,352	64,501	80,853
	NET INCOME	13,425	(16,298)	(2,873)
	RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
	Total funds brought forward	55,363	82,490	137,853
	TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	68,788	66,192	134,980

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the Year Ended 31 July 2024

6	TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS				
		Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipmen t £	Totals £
	COST				
	At 1 August 2023	30,503	47,536	9,858	87,897
	Additions	11,419	-	-	11,419
	At 1 August 2024	41,922	47,536	9,858	99,316
	DEPRECIATION				
	At 1 August 2023	11,038	11,489	5,319	27,846
	Charge for year	8,384	4,754	1,972	15,110
	At 31 July 2024	19,422	16,243	7,291	42,956
	NET BOOK VALUE				
	At 31 July 2024	22,500	31,293	2,567	56,360
	At 31 July 2023	19,465	36,047	4,539	60,051

7	DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2024 £ 2,382	2023 £ 1,476
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8	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2024 £ 714	2023 £ 439
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The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the Year Ended 31 July 2024

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

Purposes of Restricted Funds:

Community Foundation Wales - Older People's Fund

Support and activities for older members of the community

NPT Food Poverty Grant

Part 1 to fund a series of food growing workshops. Part 2 to fund the continuation and development of our food projects.

National Grid (Weston Power) Community Matters Fund

To fund warm packs for the elderly and vulnerable, improve comfort, privacy and safety of attending our warm hub, and the expansion of our off-grid power system

LocalGiving Magic Little Grant

2022: towards cost of running our food projects

2023: towards installation of an under-sink water heater

NPTCBC Bus Services Support Grant

Towards the cost of operating our community transport service

National Lottery Community Fund

Funding towards the installation of wall insulation for the FAN Centre

Regional Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Small Grants

Funding to pilot a Yoga for Balance project

NPTCBC Warm Hub

Funding towards the costs of running our winter warm hub & associated activities

Co-Op Local Community Fund

Funding to increase food-growing and the use of home-grown produce around the FAN Centre

Neighbourly

Provision of fresh fruit and vegetables and surplus food tip cards to struggling families

Levelling Up Third Sector Growth Fund

Installation of a heat pump, expansion of solar PV system and volunteer training

Local Nature Partnership

Installation of mini habitats to support biodiversity around the Friends And Neighbours Centre

	<p>Climate Conversations To host a public event to promote engagement with Welsh Government climate consultation</p> <p>Third Sector Discretionary Cost of Living Grant To enhance our Warm Hub, introduce a grab bag scheme, and towards the cost of our community car insurance and winter power bills</p> <p>Uplift / Warm This Winter To help promote the Warm This Winter campaign, including hosting two climate themed events</p> <p>Air Conditioning Fund Funding towards the purchase of air conditioning equipment for the FAN Centre</p> <p>Gentle Exercise Group Money raised to support the group and enable social events together</p> <p>S&A Electrical Carbon Offsetting Donation provided to support FAN's reduction of carbon emissions</p> <p>Making A Difference Locally Award given to support our food bank</p> <p>External Charity Fundraising Money raised in order to donate to: British Heart Foundation and Macmillan</p> <p>Easter Donation Private donation given towards the costs of running an Easter Egg Hunt</p>
10.	<p>RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES</p> <p>Trustee Mairead Finn is married to our paid Yoga instructor. However, Mairead Finn was not present for, nor a part of, the discussion around his appointment or the agreed fee. In addition, Mairead Finn has no role in relation to our financial procedures, accounting or payments.</p>

FAN Community Alliance

The notes form part of these financial statements

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year Ended 31 July 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	9,169	11,738
Charitable activities		
Weekly fundraising	4,891	5,325
Raffles	1,233	323
Community events	4,849	3,578
Services	5,230	2,377
Sales	577	398
External Charity Fundraising	482	1106
Grants	102,436	53,135
	<u>128,858</u>	<u>77,980</u>

FAN Community Alliance

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year Ended 31 July 2024

EXPENDITURE	2024 £	2023 £
Charitable Activities		
Community Events	8,737	8,125
Charity Donations	4,129	1,407
Cleaning & Refuse	443	1,007
Licenses & Subscription	1,124	1036
Repairs & Equipment Renewals	5,204	1,913
Equipment Purchased	1,826	1,445
Catering & Food Projects	6,271	8,894
Youth	299	4,495
Gardening	8,551	3,653
Community Car	717	1,528
Volunteers	1,199	681
Climate	28,015	14,857
Eco / Warm hub	11,717	5,865
Fitness Activities	1,517	5,768
Depreciation of Tangible Fixed Assets	15,110	12,826
	94,922̄	73,500̄
Support Costs		
Management		
Rent, Rates & Water		
Insurance	581	726
Light & Heat	3,908	2,982
Phone & Internet	875	1,259
Office	457	509
Sundries & Training	280	1,073
	1,148	683
Finance	7,249̄	7,232̄
Bank Charges		
	121	121
Total Resources Expended	102,292̄	80853̄
Net Income	26,586	(2,873)

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of

F.A.N. Community Alliance

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of F.A.N Community Alliance

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of F.A.N. Community Alliance (the Trust) for the year ended 31st July 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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").

I report in respect of the examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

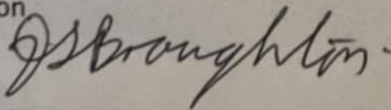
Independent examiner's statement

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 13 of the Act; or
- 2 The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 D S Broughton



2 Geoffrey Street

NEATH

SA11 1HU

Date:

05/05/2025

F.A.N COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

England & Wales - Charity number 1185440

Accounts



12 Ethel St, Neath, SA11 1BB
Charity No. 1185440

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT **1st August 2022- 31st July 2023**

Officers:

Chairperson – Irene Knight

Vice-Chair – Lillian Dawn Wilyeo

Treasurer – Sarah Tipping

Secretary – Louise Rawlings

Environment & Sustainability Officer– Emma Knight

Woodland / Garden Lead – Amy Morgan

(Officers remain in post for 2 years and are appointed by the trustees following an AGM)

Additional Trustees:

Cheryl Murphy

Donna Harris

Dorothy Phillips

Elizabeth Bevan

Elizabeth Jean Sharp

Linda Downman

Mair Gill (Passed away 11th August 2022)

Megan Sparkes

Sharon Rawlings

Aline Valleron (New Trustee appointed 11th Jan 2023)

Marcia Hughes (New Trustee appointed 11th Jan 2023)

XX – Trustee with Dispensation

(Trustees are decided by the members at the Annual General Meeting, or may be co-opted by existing trustees if a vacancy arises.)

The trustees have had due regard to public benefit and consider that each of the activities that the charity is engaged within helps promote the aims of the charity in respect of the purposes as defined overleaf.

F.A.N Community Alliance is a CIO governed by a constitution adopted 15th September 2019.

OUR PURPOSE

“To further or benefit the residents of Neath and the surrounding area (without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions) by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents”

OUR VISION

We intend to create a community that is vibrant and bustling; where everyone feels included and able to participate; where people take responsibility and respect each other and their environment; where residents groups are encouraged to form; and where people have pride in, and ownership of, where they live.

We intend to create strong and resilient neighbourhoods where community spirit soars.

VALUES & BELIEFS

Everyone Can Be Included

There Is No Generation Gap

Collaboration Opens Opportunities

We acknowledge The Current Climate & Ecological Crises

We Only Run Projects We Believe We Can Sustain

We Do Things For Ourselves But Seek Help When Needed

Anti-Social Behaviour Reduces Further Through Fun Than Sanctions

METHODS of ACTIVITY (How we achieve our Objectives / Vision):

1. Holding community events and activities that give people the chance to come together, get to know each other, learn, have fun and remove barriers such as age, gender and background
2. Managing and developing the Friends And Neighbours Centre and “The Lane” Community Garden
3. Creating access to facilities and opportunities that people face barriers to
4. Providing ways for people to participate and volunteer in their local community
5. Supporting Mini FANs Youth Group to achieve their goals
6. Promoting environmental awareness, responsibility and sustainability
7. Helping to facilitate the formation of residents groups

FINANCIAL SUMMARY – Income Sources 2022-23

Unrestricted - £29,777

Received from:

- Members' regular contributions (inc. bonus ball, weekly raffle, Localgiving direct debits, Keep Fit)
- Donations for surplus food & café
- Community Transport charges
- FANFare Food Club service charge
- Sales (Ecohub, tuck)
- Recycling schemes (Dragon Bags, Terracycle)
- Annual Raffles (Easter, Christmas)
- Events (Panto ticket sales, bus trips, bingo)
- Online fundraising (Localgiving, Easyfundraising)
- Other donations (birthday fundraisers on Facebook)
- NPTCBC Third Sector Core Grant - towards our organisational and community activities

Our unrestricted funds carried forward, total £61,564. Of this, £2,000 is kept in reserves to cover the cost of 6 months of bills for the Friends And Neighbours Centre.

Insulation work is almost complete and will require £26306 to be taken from reserves at the start of our next financial year.

Restricted - £48,202.70

Received from:

- £661.75 raised by the Gentle Exercise group to enable social activities together
- £1106 raised for charity (WWF Cymru, MacMillan, Fairtrade Foundation, Neath Boys & Girls Club, British Heart Foundation)
- £1300 donation from S&A Electrics in lieu of formal carbon offsetting (to be used for carbon reduction)
- £3000 MADL (Nisa) Heart of the Community Award towards the expansion of Warm Hub support & back-up power
- **Government funded grants (£16,843.08):**
 - BSSG Fund – provision of community transport
 - NPTCBC Food Poverty – towards items supporting our food projects
 - NPTCBC Food Poverty – food growing workshops & creation of community growing space
 - Regional Health Board – Yoga for balance pilot
 - NPTCBC Warm Spaces – towards the costs of running a warm space

(plus additional £11,000 unrestricted NPTCBC Third Sector Core Funding)

- **Privately funded grants (£25,291.87):**
 - National Grid – Energy efficiency packs & off-grid battery system
 - Co-op Community Fund – Food growing project support
 - LocalGiving Magic Little Grant – food project sundries
 - Community Foundation Wales Older Person Grant – Support & activities for older members of the community
 - The National Lottery Community Fund – towards the cost of installing EWI

Restricted funds carried forward to the next financial year total £66,212

In 2022-2023 FAN has once again successfully utilised grants without being dependent on them. The majority of our activities (food in particular) continue to operate on a donation / Pay-As-You-Feel basis after last year's trial. Donations fluctuate depending on the activity / event but, collectively, cover our running costs well. Our unrestricted income remains significantly reduced compared to pre-covid when the hall was regularly hired, but despite this our finances remain stable and sustainable. We are confident the charity will continue as a going concern.

HOW MONEY HAS BEEN SPENT IN 2022-2023

Goals outstanding from 2021-22 AGM

1. Hold Communal Cooking Sessions (links to Methods 1 & 4)
We held weekly community cooking sessions throughout the winter, however this was not well attended. It was felt that stand-alone evening sessions that we have done in the past were the better option.

Goals for 2022-23 as decided in the last AGM

1. Increase community use of EV (links to Methods 1, 3, 4 & 6)
This is ongoing. We have now created a pricing structure for car hire by members, part of which is eligible to be paid in exchange for Time Credits. We also have a small pool of drivers in place with a range of availability to accommodate community transport requests. However, we are reluctant to increase the driver pool or advertise the service more widely until access to the facility has been solved (i.e how the drivers get on site to obtain the vehicle). We currently have a grant application submitted to purchase a smart lock for the gate, if this is not successful we will need to consider allocating unrestricted funds for this purpose.
2. Increase building insulation (links to Methods 1, 2, 3, & 6)
External wall insulation (EWI) was installed in June / July along with triple glazing to replace the old windows. Although we obtained a £10,000 grant from the National Lottery Community Fund, the majority of the project has been funded from our reserves. Due to the timing of the works, we are yet to determine how successful it will be against both the heat and the cold (having missed winter and the June heatwave), although it does seem to be cooler indoors on the few warm days we've had since completed.
3. Install a split heat pump & under-sink water heater(s) (links to Methods 1, 2, 3 & 6)
The heat pump installation was dependent on the EWI being in place, so we have not yet started work on it. We currently have a funding application submitted to cover the cost and the outcome is due imminently. We are hoping to redesign the toilets so have held off on water heaters in that area, however we have had the unit and labour priced for the kitchen where we will trial it before fitting the in the toilets. The kitchen water heater will be funded through a donation from S&C Electric Company in lieu of carbon offsets.

Progress Towards Charity Objectives Through Our Methods of Activity:

1. Community Activities & Events That Give People the Chance to Come Together

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

- **Bingo** for up to 60 people each week with hot, cold and take-away food plus drinks available on a Pay-As-You-Feel basis, and surplus food available to take. Our doorstep community transport service now has 2 return journeys to enable those less mobile to attend. The sessions raised £4557 in 2022 for Blood Cancer UK. 9-10 volunteers are currently involved in running the sessions each week. (also links to Methods 3, 4 and 6)

- **Gentle Exercise Classes** are attended by approximately 20 people per week. We now have a substitute instructor so classes are not cancelled due to volunteer illness or holidays. The group have also organised a number of meals out together. (also links to Methods 3 & 4)
- **Chair-Based Yoga** started in June and is currently attended by approximately 10 people per week. This is partially funded by The Community Foundation's Older Persons Grant, however, despite the costs of hiring an instructor for this session, it is close to sustaining itself. We provide the opportunity for people to stay for a cuppa and a chat after the session although few have taken us up on this to date. (links to Methods 3)
- **FAN Pantry** runs every Friday for people to access surplus food but also provides a social space for people to have a drink, snack and chat whilst children play games together. This had been operating as Free Food Friday since summer 2022 but without the social aspect (also links to Methods 2, 3, 4 & 6)

REGULAR EVENTS

- **Climate Café** held monthly to alleviate climate anxiety. Attendance is low but the session is highly valued by participants who struggle to talk about the issue in their regular circles. (also links to Methods 3 & 6)
- **Supper Club** (see Warm Hub below)
- **Eglesbush Litter Pick & Café** held monthly whenever the weather permits for the woodland litter picks with between 3 and 20 volunteers collecting a minimum of 3 bags of rubbish on each occasion. Although dumping remains a problem, litter has followed recent trends and remained low compared to previous years. The surplus café following the litter pick is now open to the public and usually sees 20-30 in attendance of all ages. (also links to Methods 3, 4 and 6)
- **Neath Gardening Group** maintains its online presence but now has now met at both the Friends And Neighbours Centre and The Lane to share plants, seeds, crops, tips & advice. They have also provided vital assistance with the greening of the Centre and the helped with the maintenance of the The Lane. (also links to Methods 2, 3, 4 & 6)

ANNUAL EVENTS

We have maintained the following annual events in 2022-23:

- **Halloween Panto** – Talegate Theatre returned for the 1st time since before the Pandemic to an audience of approximately 80. (also links to Methods 3 & 5)
- **MacMillan Bake Sale** – Due to a clash with Great Big Green Week the bake sale was combined with our surplus café. £250 was raised for the cause. (also links to Method 4)
- **Christmas Shopping Trip** – Following a number of destination issues beyond our control, this year's trip took approximately 70 people to Bristol. (also links to Method 3)
- **Christmas Afternoon Tea** - utilising predominantly surplus food to serve 15 individuals (also links to Method 4 & 6)
- **Children's Christmas Party** - attended by approximately 45 children, featuring local party entertainers with a visit from Santa, gifts and buffet boxes for the children. (also links to Method 4)
- **Member's Christmas Party** – Featuring a predominantly surplus food buffet and local band

with an ex-Mini FAN member. (also links to Method 4)

- **Fairtrade Fortnight** – In lieu of our usual coffee morning, we hosted a Fairtrade & Surplus Dinner. Only 12 people attended but, combined with a raffle, this raised £202 which was more than the previous year's event. (also links to Methods 4 & 6)
- **Pancake Funday** – Attended by 30-40 individuals with close to 100 pancakes flipped in the kitchen. (also links to Method 4)
- **WWF's Earth Hour** – The VIP premiere of our climate film "Planting of a Seed" (see below) along with Q&A with Dr Jennifer Rudd. Amongst the 36 attendees, we had representation from all levels of government in Wales. A 2nd public screening was held about a month later. £64 was collected for WWF (also links to Methods 4 & 6)
- **The Big Lunch** – Around 50 people attended our Wonderland themed event with activities for all ages and the 1st crops for our new growing space. The event was almost entirely solar powered – including the bouncy castle and outdoor cooking demo. (also links to Methods 2, 4, 5 and 6)
- **Summer Trip** – 2 coaches were run to Weston-Super-Mare, however only 70 people attended so there were a lot of empty seats this year – we do not know if this was due to the destination, the current financial crisis or due to the number of other local community trips now being organised. (also links to Method 3)

OTHER EVENTS

- **Neath Green Festival** – The 1st of its kind in the centre of Neath. The money-free event brought around 200 members of the community together for fun, learning, sharing and participatory democracy as part of Great Big Green Week. There was representation from all levels of government within Wales as well as a number of local organisations and businesses. (also links to Methods 3, 4 & 6)
- **Seed Library Talk** – Educational talk plus Q&A with The Incredible Seed Library, 12 attendees learnt about the collecting and sharing of open pollinated seeds. (also links to Methods 2, 3 & 6)

2. Managing & Developing The Friends And Neighbours Centre & The Lane Community Garden

The Friends And Neighbours Centre (links to all Methods)

The centre has been utilised this year to help provide support for people during the cost of living crisis. The café is now run entirely on a Pay-As-You Feel basis and we have a constant supply of surplus food available for people to take on a regular basis alongside the more formal foodbank provision. We opened weekly as a warm space throughout the winter, providing both warmth and food in a social setting.

Although we still do not hire the hall, we have now increased the number of activities we hold on a regular basis through the inclusion of Neath Gardening Group, and days set aside for Mini FANs use.

In excess of 200 people per week are currently benefitting from the activities provided through the centre.

Physical developments at the centre this year include:

- A new more efficient boiler following the breakdown of the old one. The replacement was powerful enough to enable us to remove the hot water boiler and combine the heating and hot water into one system. (also links to Method 6)
- Windows replaced with triple glazing and removal of the metal grills (also links to Method 6)
- External Wall Insulation (EWI) installed (also links to Method 6)
- Continuation of the "greening" of the grounds for both biodiversity and food

growing. Additional water butts and an outdoor tap have also been installed to assist with this (also links to Methods 3, 4, 5 and 6)

We now have an agreement in place with NPTCBC to manage the small strip of land between the centre and the play park. We supported Mini FANs to build and fill 2 planters in this space and have planted 3 apple tree and 2 fruit bushes. We will gradually expand on this.

The Lane (also links to Methods 1, 3, 4 and 6)

The Lane continues to be maintained as a forest garden and mini meadow. Apples and grapes are producing well this year. Many plants in the forest garden area are now self-generating. Engagement continues to be a problem for the space, with just 1 family involved with regular maintenance. However, additional people do get involved during events, including:

- Open Day as part of Neath Green Week events - this included the unveiling of the 2022 Green Flag Award and Thank You celebration for the Head Gardener.
- Autumn and Winter action days (summer action day pending)
- Visit from Seed2Plate project participants
- 2 x Neath Gardening Group meet-ups.

The Lane has maintained its Green flag status for 2023.

The Galv (also links to Methods 1, 3, 4 & 6)

Working with Neath Boys and Girls Club, we have a team managing a large piece of land between Neath Canal and Neath River. With funding from Keep Wales Tidy we have started to plant what we hope will eventually grow into a community orchard. 12 heritage fruit trees, including apple, cherry and pear, were planted at the start of the year, with 9 currently surviving. The space is currently an MG5 hay meadow with high diversity of species. We plan to maintain this below the orchard and enhance it by increasing diversity further.

Our annual Easter Egg hunt was held at the Galv this year with 30-40 attendees. It had the dual purpose of give us a big area for the hunt whilst also introducing people to the largely unknown space.

3. Creating Facilities & Opportunities That People Face Barriers To

The facilities and opportunities we create fall into 2 categories:

I. Bringing new experiences to the area:

- **Summer of Fun Weekends** (also links to Methods 1, 2, 4, 5 & 6)
Utilising the NPTCBC Children And Families Summer of Fun Grant, we held 15 activities over 3 weekends with over 60 children and young people – from rodeo bulls and gaming vans to one-man theatrical performances and science workshops in the summer holiday, plus bug hunting, gardening and family yoga during Great Big Green Week.
- **Yoga for Balance** (also links to Methods 1, 3 & 4)
Funded by the Regional Health and Social Care Partnership, we hosted an 8 week pilot course with a yoga instructor / physiotherapist featuring both floor and chair-base versions of the class. Feedback from this was extremely positive and we have now secured the instructor for a weekly chair-based yoga session.

II. Improving equality of access:

- **Warm Hub** (also links to Methods 1, 4 & 6)

Funded through NPTCBC Warm Spaces, we opened as a warm space through the Winter months to support people suffering from fuel poverty, but open to all. One day a week was dedicated to the project and included:

- A community surplus cooking session to help people learn basic skills, ways to bulk up meals and how to use unusual items – this was only attended by 6 people in total so discontinued.
- FAN Pantry drop-in session where people could select a range of food from our surplus provisions, attended by around 30-40 people per week through winter. The session continued after the project ended in March but with a slight reduction in numbers.
- Supper Club to bring people together socially, provide hot meals and a warm environment. This continued on a monthly basis after March and has consistently been attended approximately 20 people per session.

Thanks to funding from The National Grid and Nisa's Making A Difference Locally Fund, we were also able to provide over 50 households with tailor-made "Warm Packs" up to the value of £100 containing energy saving devices, items useful during black-outs and things to keep people warm.

- **Emergency Food Bank**

Although it is used infrequently, we continue to operate an Emergency Food Bank, filling the gaps for those who will run out of food before able to access a traditional food bank or are unable to attend one in person.

- **Seed2Plate** (also links to Methods 1, 2, 4 & 6)

Funded by the NPTCBC Food Poverty grant we provided a series of basic food growing workshops, providing participants with everything they needed to start growing at home, as well as the opportunity to be part of creating a new community growing space at the FAN Centre. Attended by 38 individuals, many of whom also became more deeply involved through a community WhatsApp chat and later integrated into Neath Gardening Group.

- **Surplus Food Projects**

These continue to run alongside each other to ensure they all remain sustainable. They are designed to focus on the issue and impacts of food waste and remain open to all to ensure that anyone in need of food, but reluctant to reach out for help, is still able to access food comfortably. The projects also allow people to try new foods without worrying about spending money on something that will end up in the compost, and enables them to play a bigger part in reducing GHGs. Although the types and amounts of food received are unpredictable, the projects collectively sustain themselves financially & practically. They currently consist of:

- The Surplus Café – used by 60+ per week on average on a PAYF basis and utilising food grown on site.
- Surplus Food Club – for a nominal monthly fee, 23 members currently receive a weekly parcel with an additional 9 members benefitting when there is excess. 39 households have benefitted from this scheme over the year and there is currently a waiting list.
- FAN Pantry – usage varies between 12 and 40 individuals per week accessing ambient, fresh, chilled, frozen and cooked food, free or by donation. Regulars include families with children at a nearby school and local refugees.

Surplus food available to us has dropped significantly this year, yet despite this we have redistributed over 11 tonnes of food; the equivalent of approx. 27.5 tonnes of CO2 plus additional methane if it had gone to landfill.

- **Re-Homing** (Also links to Methods 4 & 6)
Our clothes rail and bookshelves still operate for people to bring unwanted items and take as they feel. We have also facilitated a Swap Chat on WhatsApp for local families.
- **Community EV Transport** (Also links to Methods 1, 4, 5 and 6)
Our eV Community Transport now operates 2 runs each week for the bingo as well as for the occasional hire with and without drivers provided. Mini FANs have also made use of it for a number of excursions. In addition, the vehicle is used to deliver between 13 and 21 food parcels each week to our Surplus Food Club members, along with any emergency food bank requests.
- **Litter-Picking Hub** (Also links to Methods 1, 4 & 6)
We continue to operate Keep Wales Tidy's banner to facilitate people carrying out litter pick by offering free equipment hire and guidance. We have supported individuals, schools and other organisations over the past year.
- **Neath Boys And Girls Club** (Also links to Method 4)
We continue to support Neath Boys And Girls Club and their mission to refurbish and open the club for local young people. We organised a raffle this year to help the cause, raising almost £500.

4. Providing Ways For People To Participate And Volunteer

FAN emphasises, promotes and facilitates community participation and responsibility. Everyone is involved in our organisation in a voluntary capacity – we have no paid staff. Without volunteers, FAN would not exist. However, at the same time, many members of our organisation do not consider themselves volunteers in the traditional sense. Volunteering with FAN is more of a mindset than a role, as our path is one of “active citizenship”.

Volunteer activities within FAN vary but could be anything from joining the board of trustees, cooking, litter-picking, gardening, organising events, cleaning or even becoming the Easter Bunny.

Most of our volunteering roles are fluid with people taking up whichever roles are needed at the time. However, we are gradually developing:

- A pool of drivers who are able to pick up food donations, deliver, parcels and provide community transport
- Individuals trained to work the kitchen and café front of house
- A team of gardeners
- Individuals confident enough to lead our monthly litter-picks.

We have also:

- Been part of an NPT Volunteer Exhibition, invited by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant as part of the local celebration of the King's Coronation. We created “An Experience of FAN” featuring a pop up lounge, solar powered hot drinks & surplus snacks, knitting, face painting and more, alongside photo albums and displays. (Also links to Method 6)
- Organised a meal out for around 42 of our volunteers both as a thank you and also to help them get to know each other. (also links to Method 1)

Our volunteers have been recognised publicly in a number of ways this year, including:

- Shortlisted for “The Circular Economy Innovation” and the “Caru Cymru Business” Keep Wales Tidy Awards.
- An invite to Afternoon Tea with the Mayor of Neath Port Talbot as part of the Queen’s Jubilee Celebrations
- Trustees also received personal awards – one receiving a Neath Town Council Citizens Award, and another receiving an extremely prestigious “Coronation Champions” Award!
- Case studies for Fareshare Cymru, The Big Lunch (including a 2nd one about the Big Lunch for The National Lottery Fund), Tempo Time Credits and Great Big Green Week.

We have had over 70 individuals volunteer at some point through the year, aged from 7-92 years old. Of these, 18 have signed up to receive Tempo Time Credits through us – an increase from 7 last year.

5. Supporting Mini F.A.Ns Youth Group

We have supported Mini FANs to re-establish themselves formally as an organisation in their own right this year. They were supported to hold an AGM, elect officers and alter their constitution according to their needs.

We provided access to the Friends And Neighbours Centre twice per month where possible so they can hold their meetings and a social event if they choose to. (also links to Method 1)

We allocated them space for them to have planters of their own on the land we have taken management of behind the centre. (also links to Method 6)

Where we had been planning events for them, we have now supported them to organise their own activities again, such as swimming, and have more trips planned for over the summer. (also links to Method 1)

They remain active volunteers and work alongside FAN in the vast majority of our events and projects. (also links to Method 4)

6. Promoting Environmental Awareness, Responsibility & Sustainability

Climate Declaration:

FAN acknowledges the connection between the climate and other environmental crises and the threat of current and future homelessness, disease, food and water shortages and poverty for millions of people around the world, as well as the major damage being caused to our natural ecosystems.

We recognise that we are in a climate & ecological emergency and it needs to be treated as such. We therefore identify that we have a responsibility to reduce our carbon footprint to net zero, along with any other harmful effects our activities have on both the local and global environment by 2025.

To do this we have 6 focus areas and have in 2022-23 have taken the following action:

1. Reducing Carbon Emissions

- **ELECTRIC**
 - In 2022, the centre was 59% solar powered and exported more to the national grid than we consumed. Electricity consumption was higher than in 2021, however this is

expected as we decarbonise the building by switching from gas to electric. Despite the increase, emissions from electricity are minimal compared to gas, more so because our electricity is sourced 100% from renewables.

- We have purchased portable batteries and solar panels, to protect us against black-outs and to power outdoor / off-site activities. However, we also make use of them in the centre, particularly on dark days or when our main solar storage battery is likely to run out before dawn. This has resulted in a 28% decrease in electricity consumption compared to average.
- Through the donation received from C&S Electric we added a unit to our off-grid system that allows us to put a small amount of power into the building itself. We use this at times of high consumption and although it hasn't been in use long, it appears to reduce electricity consumption a further 20% - 50%.
- We took part in 12 of 13 Octopus Energy Winter "Saving Sessions" aimed at providing evidence that, if given energy information, the public are able to shift their consumption pattern to prevent blackouts (or the need for fossil fuel back-up energy). We were ranked in the top 10% of participants for the energy reduction savings we made during the sessions.

- **GAS**

A cold December and operating as a warm hub through the winter dramatically increased our gas consumption, resulting in a rise in emissions compared to last year (although still 54% below our 2019 baseline). This is likely to continue happening beyond our control until we can electrify our heating systems. However, we have made significant progress towards that this year:

- Breakdown of gas central heating boiler in November 2022 resulted in a more efficient replacement. Comparable months show this reduced consumption by 17%
- Removal of gas hot water boiler (resulting in a combined system run off the single new boiler) has reduced consumption related to the hot water by 83%
- EWI and triple glazing have now been installed which completes the building insulation recommended prior to the installation of a heat pump. We are now ready to electrify the heating so next year should see our biggest reductions, and hopefully our scope 1 & 2 net zero goal.

2. **Reducing Waste & Recycling** (in favour of re-use / rehome)

We have managed to reduce the waste presented for landfill collection to approximately 1 bag every 3 months. We have done this by:

- Broadening the range of teracycle streams that are included in our public drop-point.
- Purchasing a "Zero Waste" box for a variety of waste items generated at the centre that cannot be recycled through the council or free teracycle schemes
- Encourage reuse of boxes through our food projects to ensure cardboard remains below 2 sacks per week
- Switching to recycled toilet paper
- Offering a wider range of reusable sanitary products
- Using a supplier for our refill products who offers a closed loop system

- Continuing the FAN Pantry and utilising the community fridge & freezer to minimise food waste

In addition, our clothes re-homing rail and free to take book shelves remain popular (also featured in Neath Green Festival). The Dragon Bags bin remains in place for clothing that is not taken from the rail.

3. Reducing Water Usage

- We have 2 new water butts installed at the Friends And Neighbours Centre and an additional one yet to be positioned (making 5 in total).
- Water requirements have increased with the new growing spaces at the centre, requiring an outdoor tap, however this has a shut-off valve and will soon have a lock on the tap itself too to ensure playful water waste is prevented.
- We have started implementing a washing up procedure to reduce the amount of water required while doing dishes (initial gas data logs suggest this also reduces gas requirements of washing up by around 50%)

4. Improving Local Biodiversity (preventing species loss)

- All of our growing spaces are managed with pollinators in mind and have received NPT Biodiversity Bee Friendly Communities signs.
- Almost all cleaning products used at the centre and available through our Eco-Hub have now been switched to eco-friendly and vegan approved alternatives.
- Monthly woodland litter picks continue, helping to protect wildlife from the dangers associated with littering, as well as aquatic life by preventing it entering the waterways.

5. Raising Awareness

- Climate Film: “The Planting Of A Seed – Sustaining Community in a Time of Climate & Ecological Emergency” (LINK: <https://youtu.be/INBAJ16m2ss>)

Funded as part of our series of Together for Our Planet grant projects, we worked with a film maker and researcher from Swansea University to produce a film about FANs reaction and response to the climate & ecological crisis, with the aim of encouraging councils, groups and individuals to increase their own climate action. (also linked to Methods 1, 3, 4 & 6)

- Working with Climatarian Kitchen, we regularly produced Climatarian menu’s that showed the emissions associated with the food available from the café. We promoted their “Climate Cost of Food Week” through our social media networks and ran a competition in association with it.
- We hosted 2 film screenings as part of Great Big Green Week – a virtual performance of Theatr na nOg’s “We Need Bees” for our younger audience, plus “Ants & The Grasshopper” as part of our Neath Green Festival event.

- Our Eco-Hub has grown to include a range of items to improve energy efficiency and support off-grid needs. We also have a selection of planet-friendly toiletries that can be purchased, but are also utilised in food bank parcels when donations are low.
- Our teracycle station now has on-table advertising to increase usage by people attending the centre.

6. Prepare for Life on a Warmer Planet

- The insulation improvements to the centre are recent, but it is anticipated it will make the building cooler in the summer as well as warmer in the winter.
- We have started putting together a small library of books that can help with resilience – including topics like eco-gardening and off-grid DIY survival projects.
- The continuation of the monthly climate cafe provides a supportive space for people suffering from climate anxiety and helps them process their emotions. Attendees also produced the latest update to our Climate & Ecological Emergency Action Plan
- We have maintained pressure on both the Town and Borough Councils to ensure they keep to their climate commitments.



7. Helping to Facilitate the Formation of Residents Groups

Although we still have good links to residents in Ethel St and more recently Old Rd, we have not carried out any activity using this Method, with the exception of helping to promote the Eden Project’s Big Lunch.

DECLARATIONS

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees’ Report for 2022-2023 contained herein.

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees:

Signature(s)		
Name(s)	Irene Knight	Sarah Tipping
Position(s)	Chair Person	Treasurer
Date	12th August 2023	12th August 2023

FAN Community Alliance

Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year Ended 31st July 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and Legacies	2	7,438	4,300	11,738	14,878
Charitable Activities					
FAN Community Alliance	3	22,339	43,903	66,242	69,030
Total		29,777	48,203	77,980	83,908
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable Activities					
FAN Community Alliance		16,352	64,501	80,853	67,848
NET INCOME		13,425	(16,298)	(2,873)	16,060
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total Funds Brought Forward		55,363	82,490	137,853	121,793
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARDS		68,788	66,192	134,980	137,853

FAN Community Alliance

The notes form part of these financial statements

FAN Community Alliance

Balance Sheet
31 July 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	6	-	60,051	60,051	63,746
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	274	1,202	1,476	1,377
Cash at bank		61,333	12,559	73,892	74,781
		61,607	13,761	75,368	76,158
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(323)	(116)	(439)	(2051)
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		61,248	13,645	74,929	74,107
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		61,248	73,696	134,980	137,853
NET ASSETS					
		61,248	73,696	134,980	137,853
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	9			68,768	55,363
Restricted Funds				66,212	82,490
TOTAL FUNDS					
				134,980	137,853

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on

..... and were signed on its behalf by:

Irene Knight

Irene Knight – Chair Person

Sarah Tipping

Sarah Tipping – Treasurer

The notes form part of these financial statements

FAN Community Alliance
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 July 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is charged at the following rates in order to write off the value of each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings – 20% of cost price
Motor Vehicles – 10% of cost price
Computer equipment – 20% of cost price

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

FAN Community Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the Year Ended 31 July 2023

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES			
		2023	2022
		£	£
	Donations	11738	14,878
3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES			
		2023	2022
	Activity	£	£
	Weekly fundraising FAN Community Alliance	5,325	7,652
	Raffles FAN Community Alliance	323	468
	Community events FAN Community Alliance	3,578	3,905
	Services FAN Community Alliance	2,377	-
	Sales FAN Community Alliance	398	-
	External Charity Fundraising FAN Community Alliance	1106	-
	Grants FAN Community Alliance	53,135	57,005
		66,242	69,030
	Grants received, included in the above are as follows:		
		2023	2022
		£	£
	Community Foundation Wales - Older Peoples Fund	3,918	3,919
	Winter of Wellbeing (NPTCVS)	-	4,976
	NPTCBC Food Poverty Grant	7435	4,609
	WWF Cymru Earth Hour Wales	-	500
	National Lottery – Together for our Planet	-	10,000
	NPTCBC Seed Funding	-	3,100
	National Grid Community Matters Fund	9,644	1,790
	Magic Little Grant	500	500
	Community Cupboard	-	400
	NPTCBC Bus Services Support Grant	2,008	4,418
	Winter of Wellbeing (Youth Service)	-	6,993
	Neighbourly Seeds of Change	-	400
	Summer of Fun (Youth Service)	-	5,400
	NPTCBC Third Sector Grant (Core)	11,000	10,000
	National Lottery Community Fund	10,000	-
	Regional HSC&W Small Grants	5,000	-
	NPTCBC Warm Hub	2,400	-
	Co-Op Local Community Fund	1,230	-
		53,135	57,005

The notes form part of these financial statements

FAN Community Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the Year Ended 31 July 2023

4.	TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS			
	There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 July 2023 (31 July 2021 – Nil)			
	Trustees' expenses			
	There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 July 2022 (31 July 2021 – Nil)			
5.	COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES			
		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
	INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
	Donations and legacies	14,878	-	14,878
	Charitable Activities			
	FAN Community Alliance	22,025	47,005	69,030
	Total	36,903	47,005	83,908
	EXPENDITURE ON			
	Charitable Activities			
	FAN Community Alliance	32,456	35,392	67,848
	NET INCOME	4,447	11,613	16,060
	RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
	Total funds brought forward	50,916	70,877	121,793
	TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	55,363	82,490	137,853

FAN Community Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the Year Ended 31 July 2023

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS					
		Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1 August 2022		22,287	47,536	8,943	78,766
Additions		8,216	-	915	9131
At 1 August 2023		30,503	47,536	9,858	87,897
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 August 2022		4,938	6,735	3,347	15,020
Charge for year		6,100	4,754	1,972	12,826
At 31 July 2023		11,038	11,489	5,319	27,846
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 July 2023		19,465	36,047	4539	60,051
At 31 July 2022		17,349	40,801	5,596	63,746

7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		2023 £ 1,476	2022 £ 1,377
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8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		2023 £ 439	2022 £ 2,051
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The notes form part of these financial statements

9.	MOVEMENT IN FUNDS Purposes of Restricted Funds: Community Foundation Wales – Older People’s Fund Support and activities for older members of the community Winter of Wellbeing (NPTCVS) Funding for the provision of community wellbeing activities through winter as part of covid recovery NPT Food Poverty Grant Part 1 to fund a series of food growing workshops. Part 2 to fund the continuation and development of our food projects. WWF Cymru Earth Hour Wales Funding towards Earth Hour Activities National Lottery Together for Our Planet Funding to enable and support a series of climate awareness raising events & activities NPTCBC Seed Funding Funding for Climate Café start-up costs National Grid (Weston Power) Community Matters Fund 2021: Funding for the funding of the pilot of the energy section of the Transition Streets Programme 2022: Funding for black-out preparation for our warm hub & users LocalGiving Magic Little Grant 2021: Funding for the resurfacing of our entrance ramp 2022: Funding for food and sundries to support our food redistribution projects Aldi Community Cupboard Funding for items to support our food projects NPTCBC Bus Services Support Grant Winter of Wellbeing (NPTCBC Youth Service) Funding for the provision of activities for young people through the winter as part of covid recovery Seeds of Change Funding for the development of The Lane Community Garden Summer of Fun (NPTCBC Youth Service) Funding for the provision of activities for young people through the summer as part of covid recovery National Lottery Community Fund Funding towards the installation of wall insulation for the FAN Centre
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	<p>Regional Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Small Grants Funding to pilot a Yoga for Balance project</p> <p>NPTCBC Warm Hub Funding towards the costs of running our winter warm hub & associated activities</p> <p>Co-Op Local Community Fund Funding to increase food-growing and the use of home-grown produce around the FAN Centre</p> <p>Air Conditioning Fund Funding towards the purchase of air conditioning equipment for the FAN Centre</p> <p>Gentle Exercise Group Money raised to support the group and enable social events together</p> <p>S&A Electrical Carbon Offsetting Donation provided to support FAN's reduction of carbon emissions</p> <p>Making A Difference Locally Award given to support and enhance our Winter Warm Hub</p> <p>External Charity Fundraising Money raised in order to donate to: British Heart Foundation, Macmillan, Fairtrade Foundation, WWF Cymru, Neath Boys & Girls Club and Comic Relief</p>
10.	<p>RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES</p> <p>There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 July 2023.</p>

FAN Community Alliance

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

For the Year Ended 31 July 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	11,738	14,878
Charitable activities		
Weekly fundraising	5,325	7652
Raffles	323	468
Community events	3,578	3,905
Services	2,377	-
Sales	398	-
External Charity Fundraising	1106	-
Grants	53,135	57,005
	<hr/> 77,980	<hr/> 83,908

FAN Community Alliance

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

For the Year Ended 31 July 2023

EXPENDITURE	2023 £	2022 £
Charitable Activities		
Community Events	8,125	13,098
Charity Donations	1,407	2,292
Cleaning & Refuse	1,007	336
Equipment Leasing	-	418
Licenses & Subscription	1036	1,432
Repairs & Equipment Renewals	1,913	29,041
Equipment Purchased	1,445	945
Catering & Food Projects	8,894	100
PPE	-	1,121
Youth	4,495	-
Gardening	3,653	-
Community Car	1,528	-
Volunteer Appreciation70	681	-
Climate	14,857	-
Eco / Warm hub	5,865	-
Fitness Activities	5,768	-
Depreciation of Tangible Fixed Assets	12,826	10,020
	73500	58,803
Support Costs		
Management		
Rent, Rates & Water	726	283
Insurance	2982	2689
Light & Heat	1259	(149)
Phone & Internet	509	568
Office	1073	648
Sundries & Training	683	2713
	7232	6,922
Finance		
Bank Charges	121	83
Governance Costs		
Accountancy & Legal Fees	-	2040
Total Resources Expended	80853	67,848
Net Income	(2,522)	10,060

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of

F.A.N. Community Alliance

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of F.A.N Community Alliance

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of F.A.N. Community Alliance (the Trust) for the year ended 31st July 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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").

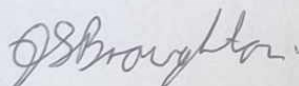
I report in respect of the examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 13 of the Act; or
- 2 The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 D S Broughton

2 Geoffrey Street

NEATH

SA11 1HU

Date:

05/05/2024

F.A.N COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

England & Wales - Charity number 1185440

Accounts

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 July 2022
for
F.A.N Community Alliance

Ashmole & Co
151 Windsor Road
NEATH
SA11 1NU

F.A.N Community Alliance

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 July 2022

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F.A.N Community Alliance

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 July 2022

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1185440

Principal address

12 Ethel Street
NEATH
SA11 1BB

Trustees

I Knight
L D Wilyeo
L A E Rawlings
S L Tipping
E S A Knight
A J Morgan
M L Sparks
D Phillips
E Bevan
C Murphy
E J Sharp
J Gill (deceased 26/4/22)
M Gill
L Downman
S E Rawlings
S Rawlings (resigned 20/5/22)
D Harris (appointed 20/5/22)

Independent Examiner

Ashmole & Co
151 Windsor Road
NEATH
SA11 1NU

F.A.N Community Alliance

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 July 2022

Approved by order of the board of trustees on2 JUNE 23..... and signed on its behalf by:

J M Knight
I Knight - Trustee



12 Ethel St, Neath, SA11 1BB
Charity No. 1185440

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

Officers:

Chairperson – Irene Knight

Vice-Chair – Lillian Dawn Wilyeo

Treasurer – Sarah Tipping

Secretary – Louise Rawlings

Environment & Sustainability Officer – Emma

Woodland / Garden Lead – Amy

(Officers remain in post for 2 years and are appointed by the trustees following an AGM)

Additional Trustees:

Cheryl Murphy

Donna Harris (New Trustee appointed 20th May 2022)

Dorothy Phillips

Elizabeth Bevan

Elizabeth Jean Sharp

John Gill (Passed away 26th April 2022)

Linda Downman

Mair Gill

Megan Sparkes

Shannon Rawlings (Resigned 20th May 2022)

Sharon Rawlings

XX – Trustee with Dispensation

(Trustees are decided by the members at the Annual General Meeting, or may be co-opted by existing trustees if a vacancy arises.)

The trustees have had due regard to public benefit and consider that each of the activities that the charity is engaged within helps promote the aims of the charity in respect of the purposes as defined overleaf.

F.A.N Community Alliance is a CIO governed by a constitution adopted 15th September 2019.

OUR PURPOSE

“To further or benefit the residents of Neath and the surrounding area (without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions) by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents”

OUR VISION

We intend to create a community that is vibrant and bustling; where everyone feels included and able to participate; where people take responsibility and respect each other and their environment; where residents groups are encouraged to form; and where people have pride in, and ownership of, where they live.

We intend to create strong and resilient neighbourhoods where community spirit soars.

VALUES & BELIEFS

Everyone Can Be Included

There Is No Generation Gap

Collaboration Opens Opportunities

We acknowledge The Current Climate & Ecological Crises

We Only Run Projects We Believe We Can Sustain

We Do Things For Ourselves But Seek Help When Needed

Anti-Social Behaviour Reduces Further Through Fun Than Sanctions

METHODS OF ACTIVITY (How we achieve our Objectives / Vision):

1. Holding community events and activities that give people the chance to come together, get to know each other, learn, have fun and remove barriers such as age, gender and background
2. Managing and developing the Friends And Neighbours Centre and “The Lane” Community Garden
3. Creating access to facilities and opportunities that people face barriers to
4. Providing ways for people to participate and volunteer in their local community
5. Supporting Mini FANs Youth Group to achieve their goals
6. Promoting environmental awareness, responsibility and sustainability
7. Helping to facilitate the formation of residents groups

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Unrestricted income - £36,903.00

- Members’ regular contributions (inc. bonus ball, weekly raffle, Localgiving direct debits, Keep Fit)
- Donations for surplus food & café
- Community Transport charges
- FANFare Food Club service charge
- Sales (Ecohub, tuck)
- Recycling schemes (Dragon Bags, Terracycle)
- Annual Raffles (Easter, Christmas)
- Events (Panto ticket sales, bus trips, bingo)
- Online fundraising (Localgiving, Easyfundraising,)
- Other donations (Nisa, Arnold Clark, Aquaholics, Amazon, Neath Town Council, Co-op Community Fund)

Our Unrestricted funds totalled £55,363.00 at the end of the year. Of this, £2000.00 is kept in reserves to cover the cost of 6 months of bills for the Friends And Neighbours Centre.

In the coming year we aim to improve the insulation of our building and it is anticipated that we will need to utilise our unrestricted funds for this purpose.

Restricted income - £47,005.00

- £5968.95 raised by the Gentle Exercise group to enable social activities together
- £518.72 raised for charity (WWF Cymru, MacMillan, Fairtrade Foundation, Comic Relief, Neath Boys & Girls Club, Melin Christmas Lights)
- **Government funded grants:**
 - BSSG Fund – provision of community transport
 - Food Poverty – towards items supporting our food projects
 - Seed Funding – Climate Café start-up costs
 - Winter of Wellbeing (Youth) – provision of activities for young people through winter as part of covid-recovery
 - Winter Wellbeing (CVS) – provision of community wellbeing activities through winter as part of covid-recovery
 - NPTCBC Third Sector Core Funding – Core funding for our organisation and activities
 - Summer of Fun – provision of activities for young people through summer as part of covid-recovery
- **Privately funded grants:**
 - Wester Power – Pilot of the energy section of a Transition Streets programme
 - Aldi Community Cupboard – items to support our food projects
 - LocalGiving Magic Little Grant – resurfacing of entrance ramp
 - Neighbourly Seeds of Change – development of The Lane Community Garden
 - Community Foundation Wales Older Person Grant – Support & activities for older members of the community
 - WWF Cymru – Towards Earth Hour activities
 - The National Lottery Together For Our Planet Fund – creation of a programme of community events and projects raising awareness of the Climate & Ecological Emergency

Restricted funds carried forward to the next financial year total £82,490.00

Since the pandemic, FAN has significantly altered the way we operate and the way we fund ourselves. We have successfully utilised grants but are not dependent on them. This year, we have stopped charging for the vast majority of activities (food in particular) and have opted instead to trial operating on a donation / Pay-As-You-Feel basis. In addition, once covid-19 restrictions were lifted, we decided we would not revert back to hiring the hall for private use or to other organisations, to enable us to continue with the community support projects we had established during lockdown. This was a difficult decision not only due to the disappointment it brought to many past users, but also due to the risk of losing what had become a significant source of our income. However, despite these actions, and a large outlay to resurface the carpark, FAN Community Alliance has remained in a good financial position and continues to be both stable and sustainable. We are confident it will continue as a going concern.

HOW MONEY HAS BEEN SPENT IN 2021-2022

Goals for 2021-22 as decided in the last AGM

1. **Resurface Carpark** (links to Methods 2, 3, 4 & 6)
This has been completed and greatly improved the accessibility of the centre for people with disabilities as well as the aesthetics of the exterior.
2. **Hold Communal Cooking Sessions** (links to Methods 1 & 4)
Although we have not yet arranged regular sessions, we have held 2 stand-alone events; a foraging and cooking event, and the Big "Surplus" Lunch.
3. **Open The Surplus Café On Saturdays** (links to Methods 1, 3, 4 & 6)
We have done this in conjunction with the Eaglesbush Litter-pick each month so people can have a sit-down meal rather than a cuppa and snack. Despite a few teething problems, it seems to be working well so far with a mix of litter-pick volunteers and other centre regulars attending.
4. **Organise Events For Mini FANs** (links Methods 1, 3, 5 & 6)
With Mini FANs unable to get together the previous year as an organisation in their own right, and with our priorities shifted due to the pandemic, we had provided very little in person support to them in 2020-2021. To help them re-bond and take control of their group, we aimed to ensure we provided opportunities for them to spend time together. This included, a sleep-over in the Yurt, film night, confidence / performance workshop, yoga, swimming, rock-climbing, hiring the local cinema, and trips to join in activities with Climate & Community and Cleaner, Greener Neath Port Talbot. The members of Mini FANs now seem more comfortable at the hall again and ready to start organising themselves.
5. **Host an Open Day for the Lane Community Garden** (links to Methods 1, 2, 4 & 6)
This was done as part of our Great Big Green Week activities. The new design was well received by both past users and new-comers, however it did not result in new volunteers which was the ambition. We held a number of action days over the year to help with maintenance but a long-term solution for community engagement is yet to be found.

Other Progress Towards Charity Objectives Through Our Methods of Activity:

1. Community Activities & Events That Give People the Change to Come Together

- Bingo is now back in full swing every Monday fundraising for Blood Cancer UK (along with the odd one for the Melin Christmas Lights and Neath Boys And Girls Club) and is almost at full capacity. Between June 2021 and March 2022 we have raised £2547 for Blood Cancer UK. Food and drinks are now provided on a Pay-As-You-Feel basis for the session, and surplus food is available for people to take. We also offer doorstep community transport service to enable less mobile people to attend.
- Melin Keep Fit For Fun Club wound up in August 2021 and now their gentle exercise class is run under FAN's remit. The class is well attended and gaining members.
- Events are not as frequent as they had been in the past (largely due to everything else we are now doing), however, we have held:
 - A Halloween Party
 - Kids Christmas Party, Christmas Coffee Morning, and Wreath Making

- Great Big Green Week events – “Discover FAN” event, The Lane Open Day, Pop-Up Cinema showing David Attenborough’s: A Life On Our Planet
- Green Wellbeing week events including, therapies, ghost walks, wellbeing writing, Foraging workshops, willowcraft, open mic afternoon, chair & floor yoga, and more
- Kids Winter of Wellbeing events: including 3 family bus trips, kite flying, circus skills, mad science workshop, nature activities and more
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Big “Surplus” Lunch
- Summer Trip (2 buses to Weston-Super-Mare)

2. Managing & Developing The Friends And Neighbours Centre & The Lane Community Garden

- The decision to end hiring of the Friends And Neighbours Centre has enabled us to permanently utilise areas within the hall itself for our use, Aside from the carpark, the majority of developments this year have been within the hall making different use of the space.
 - We have increased the number of fridges and freezers at the centre and created a semi-permanent “front-of-house” for the café.
 - There is an area with sofas, comfy chair, coffee table and blankets which acts as a small meeting space, waiting area and place for people (largely the kids) to relax.
 - More recently we installed our “EcoHub” (see below).

By the end of the reporting year around 150-200 people are benefitting from the Centre weekly; either through direct attendance or a project based at the hall that delivers to them.

- The lane continues its transformation, with the installation of a potted forest garden. We have put Head Gardener Clare through Forest Garden training and she has created a plan that is now taking shape in the garden. Amongst the flowers you can find a variety of edibles and we now have enough fruit trees to be considered an orchard! Insect life is visibly increasing, a squirrel has visited and there are reports of a hedgehog in the vicinity that we hope to encourage to pop by. Clare has created a false stream to assist wildlife. We have recycled paving slabs to create an accessible and decorative entrance to the garden. Bird and bat boxes have been installed. We are honoured to have received a 2nd Green Flag Award for our quirky space at the end of this year.

3. Creating Facilities & Opportunities That People Face Barriers To

The facilities and opportunities we create fall into 2 categories:

I. Bringing new experiences to the area:

- Thanks to 2 grants coinciding with each other we were able to create a jam-packed start to 2022 with a range of wellbeing events for all ages. This consisted of a number of activities that people had been asking for, from ghost walks and Mad Science to foraging and willowcraft. We also hired a yurt for the duration and for many it was the 1st time they had even heard of them. It created an unforgettable venue loved by almost all that used it.
- Neath Gardening Group is a local support network for gardeners that was set up online during lockdown. We have now adopted them to support and enable physical meet ups for gardening action days, seed and plant swaps or simply a cuppa and a chat.

II. Improving equality of access:

- Our surplus food projects are designed to focus on the issue and impacts of food waste and are open to all. This ensures that anyone in need of food but reluctant to reach out for help is still able to access food comfortably. The projects also allow people to try new foods without worrying about spending money on something that will end up in the compost, and enables them to play a bigger part in reducing GHGs. Although the types and amounts of food received are unpredictable, the project collectively sustain themselves. They currently consist of:
 - The Surplus Café – used by 30+ per week on average on a PAYF basis
 - Surplus Food Club – consisting of 34 members receiving a weekly parcel for a nominal monthly fee.
 - Free Food Friday – used by approximately 25 people per week to access ambient, fresh, chilled and frozen food.
- Although it is used infrequently, we continue to operate an Emergency Food Bank, filling the gaps for those who will run out of food before able to access a traditional food bank or is unable to attend on in person.
- Our clothes rail has returned, although it is now limited to one to conserve space. We encourage donations, but no longer charge for clothing. As will our surplus food, we focus on encouraging recycling and it is open to all so those in need can access it with dignity.
- Our eV Community Transport now operates weekly for the bingo as well as for the occasional hire with and without drivers provided. Mini FANs have also made use of it for a number of excursions. In addition, the vehicle is used to deliver over 20 food parcels each week.
- At the request of local residents, we hosted a “Quiz the Candidates” evening prior to the local elections to help them meet the candidates and have a more informed choice when voting.
- At the onset of the Ukraine war, we acted as a collection point for donations from the community. Being open in the evenings, we were one of the few locations working people could drop to.
- We continue to operate as a Keep Wales Tidy Litter-Picking Hub and have supported individuals, schools and other organisations over the past year.
- We continue to support Neath Boys And Girls Club and their mission to refurbish and open the club. We were active on social media during their recent crowdfunding campaign, provided our own donation to the cause and held a bingo night fundraiser for them.

4. Providing Ways For People To Participate And Volunteer

FAN emphasises, promotes and facilitates community participation and responsibility. Everyone is involved in our organisation in a voluntary capacity – we have no paid staff. Without volunteers,

FAN would not exist. However, at the same time, many members of our organisation do not consider themselves volunteers in the traditional sense. Volunteering with FAN is more of a mindset than a role, as our path is one of “active citizenship”.

Volunteer activities within Fan vary but could be anything from joining the board of trustees, cooking, litter-picking, gardening, organising events, cleaning or even becoming the Easter Bunny.

Most of our volunteering roles are fluid with people taking up whichever roles are needed at the time. However, we are gradually developing our pool of drivers who are able to pick up food donations, deliver parcels and provide community transport, as well as those who can work the kitchen and café front of house and lead our monthly litter-picks.

Although we haven't had a volunteer celebration this year, as part of our Winter Wellbeing activities we arranged a yoga solely for our volunteers and provided childcare to enable them to attend. Our volunteers have been recognised externally though. We received an NPTCBC Covid-19 Award for our community support during the pandemic and 2 volunteers also attended the Queen's Garden Party on our behalf.

We have had over 70 individuals volunteer at some point through the year, aged from 7-92 years old. Of these, 7 have signed up to receive Tempo Time Credits through us – we hope to increase this number so we can give a little back to them.

5. Supporting Mini F.A.Ns Youth Group

Nothing carried out in addition to “Goal 4” above. However, they still remain active volunteers and work alongside FAN in the vast majority of our events and projects.

6. Promoting Environmental Awareness, Responsibility & Sustainability

Climate Declaration:

FAN acknowledges the connection between the climate and other environmental crises and the threat of current and future homelessness, disease, food and water shortages and poverty for millions of people around the world, as well as the major damage being caused to our natural ecosystems.

We recognise that we are in a climate & ecological emergency and it needs to be treated as such. We therefore identify that we have a responsibility to reduce our carbon footprint to net zero, along with any other harmful effects our activities have on both the local and global environment by 2025.

To do this we have 6 focus areas and have in 2021-22 have taken the following action:

- I. Reducing carbon emissions
 - Switched from gas to electric cooker
 - Developed a habit of using hot water containers for events to prevent unnecessary boiling of the kettle

- II. Reducing waste & recycling (in favour of re-use / rehome)
 - Set up a Terracycling drop off point at the FAN Centre to support the wider community to join us in recycling difficult items
 - Held an open-house clear-out to re-home accumulated items
 - Introduced Free Food Friday, along with a community fridge & freezer to minimise food waste
 - Purchased a dehydrator to help preserve gluts of fresh produce

- III. Reducing our water usage
 - Connected up storage tanks to the roofs of the green house and container in The Lane for rainwater harvesting which, along with basic irrigation have given us the 1st growing year without the need for mains water.
- IV. Improving local biodiversity (preventing species loss)
 - Volunteer trained in level 2 forest gardening
 - Monthly woodland litterpicks
 - Gradually switching to eco-friendly cleaning products as existing stocks run out
- V. Raise awareness
 - Signed FAN up as a Climate Cymru Partner, strengthening our voice in government
 - Initiated a pilot "Transition Streets" group to help people reduce consumption (particularly important with the current energy crisis)
- VI. Prepare for life on a warmer planet
 - Started a monthly Climate Café giving a discussion and support space for people suffering from climate anxiety and worries
 - SuDS carpark resurfacing
 - Took part in NPTCBC Local Development Plan consultation highlighting potential flood risks

Climate Team

We now have a dedicated climate team who have been supported by Renew Wales to create a Climate Action Plan. They also held an exchange visit with Swansea's Environment Centre to share knowledge and inspiration.

We have just set up an EcoHub area at the Friends And Neighbours Centre which features a wider selection of refill options, energy saving and monitoring items identified as useful by the Transition Streets group and will be stocked with more in the coming months.

Impact

- As of March 2022 we have reduced our overall scope 1 & 2 emissions by 66% compared to our 2019 baseline (down to 1.67 tonnes from 3.725 tonnes). This is a slight increase on the previous year as the centre is now more in used following lockdown, however, we have not rebounded to pre-covid emissions levels. We have offset 2 tonnes through Ecologi to compensate for our remaining emissions. Our electricity consumption has increased by 47% but this is expected due to the greater use of the eV and more recently the switch to electric cooking. We anticipate it will continue to rise as we continue to electrify the building.
- We have added 1670kWh of renewable energy into the national grid energy mix (almost the same amount as gas and electricity we consumed). We have now changed energy supplier and are able to receive credits for our exports.
- Redistributed over 22 tonnes of surplus food; the equivalent of approx. 70 tonnes of CO2 plus additional methane if it had gone to landfill

7. Helping to Facilitate the Formation of Residents Groups

We have not made any progress using this method of activity, although have developed a good relationship the existing group of residents active in "Old Rd".

DECLARATIONS

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report for 2021-2022 contained herein.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature(s) *Irene Knight*

Name(s) Irene Knight

Position(s) Chair Person

Date 02/06/2023

S. Tipping

Sarah Tipping

Treasurer

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
F.A.N Community Alliance

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of F.A.N Community Alliance

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of F.A.N Community Alliance (the Trust) for the year ended 31 July 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 D S Morgan FCCA

Ashmole & Co
151 Windsor Road
NEATH
SA11 1NU

Date: 05/06/2023

F.A.N Community Alliance

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 July 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	14,878	-	14,878	10,314
Charitable activities	3				
Community Alliance		22,025	47,005	69,030	76,643
Total		<u>36,903</u>	<u>47,005</u>	<u>83,908</u>	<u>86,957</u>
 EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Community Alliance		32,456	35,392	67,848	56,812
NET INCOME		4,447	11,613	16,060	30,145
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		50,916	70,877	121,793	91,648
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>55,363</u>	<u>82,490</u>	<u>137,853</u>	<u>121,793</u>

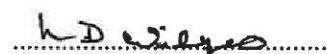
The notes form part of these financial statements


F.A.N Community Alliance

Balance Sheet
31 July 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	6	-	63,746	63,746	64,560
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	1,377	-	1,377	919
Cash at bank		56,037	18,744	74,781	57,791
		<u>57,414</u>	<u>18,744</u>	<u>76,158</u>	<u>58,710</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(2,051)	-	(2,051)	(1,477)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>55,363</u>	<u>18,744</u>	<u>74,107</u>	<u>57,233</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		55,363	82,490	137,853	121,793
NET ASSETS		<u>55,363</u>	<u>82,490</u>	<u>137,853</u>	<u>121,793</u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	9			55,363	50,916
Restricted funds				82,490	70,877
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>137,853</u>	<u>121,793</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on and were signed on its behalf by:


L D Wilyeo - Trustee


L A E Rawlings - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is charged at the following rates in order to write off the value of each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings - 20% of cost price
Motor vehicles - 10% of cost price
Computer equipment - 20% of cost price

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

F.A.N Community Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2022

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Donations	14,878	10,314
	<u>14,878</u>	<u>10,314</u>

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		2022	2021
	Activity	£	£
Weekly fundraising	Community Alliance	7,652	8,329
Raffles	Community Alliance	468	847
Fundraising events	Community Alliance	3,905	1,088
Grants	Community Alliance	57,005	66,379
		<u>69,030</u>	<u>76,643</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

		2022	2021
		£	£
Older Persons Grant		3,919	-
Winter Of Wellbeing		4,976	-
Voluntary Service Emergency Fund		-	4,849
NPTCBC Food Poverty Grant		4,609	3,310
Third Sector Integrated Care Fund		-	13,070
Building Safe and Resilient Communities-Innovate & Create Fund		-	39,065
Virgin/O2 Neighbourly Grant		-	1,000
Earth Hour Wales		500	485
Voluntary Service Emergency Fund		-	2,000
Neath Town Council Grant		-	100
Fareshare Local Giving Foundation Grant		-	2,500
Together For Our Planet Fund		10,000	-
Climate Cafe		3,100	-
Transition Streets Program		1,790	-
Ramp		500	-
Community Cupboard		400	-
Community Transport		4,418	-
Winter Of Wellbeing (Youth)		6,993	-
Seeds Of Change		400	-
Summer Of Fun		5,400	-
Core Grant Third Sector		10,000	-
		<u>57,005</u>	<u>66,379</u>

F.A.N Community Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2022

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 July 2022 (31 July 2021 - Nil).

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 July 2022 (31 July 2021 - Nil).

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	10,314	-	10,314
Charitable activities			
Community Alliance	10,364	66,279	76,643
Total	<u>20,678</u>	<u>66,279</u>	<u>86,957</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Community Alliance	6,221	50,591	56,812
NET INCOME	14,457	15,688	30,145
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	36,459	55,189	91,648
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>50,916</u>	<u>70,877</u>	<u>121,793</u>

F.A.N Community Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2022

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 August 2021	13,848	47,536	8,176	69,560
Additions	8,439	-	767	9,206
	<u>22,287</u>	<u>47,536</u>	<u>8,943</u>	<u>78,766</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 August 2021	1,384	1,981	1,635	5,000
Charge for year	3,554	4,754	1,712	10,020
	<u>4,938</u>	<u>6,735</u>	<u>3,347</u>	<u>15,020</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 July 2022	<u>17,349</u>	<u>40,801</u>	<u>5,596</u>	<u>63,746</u>
At 31 July 2021	<u>12,464</u>	<u>45,555</u>	<u>6,541</u>	<u>64,560</u>

7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Prepayments	<u>1,377</u>	<u>919</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2022

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other creditors	2,051	1,477
	<u>2,051</u>	<u>1,477</u>

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

Purposes of Restricted Funds:

Neath Town Council

Funding for a karaoke system.

Air Conditioning Fund

Funding for the purchase of air conditioning equipment for the premises.

Virgin/O2 Together Fund (Neighbourly)

Funding for a volunteer awards celebration combined with the creation of biodiversity patches.

Voluntary Services Emergency Fund

Funding for the purchase of fridges.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Voluntary Service Emergency Fund

Funding to contribute towards the cost of resurfacing the car park.

Gentle Exercise Group

Money raised to enable social activities together.

The National Lottery Together For Our Planet Fund

The creation of a program of community events and projects raising awareness of the Climate & Ecological Emergency.

Community Foundation Wales Older Person Grant

Support and activities for older members of the community.

Western Power Community Matters Grant

Funding for the pilot of the energy section of a Transition Streets Program.

LocalGiving Magic Little Grant

Funding for the resurfacing of entrance ramp.

Aldi Community Cupboard

Funding for items to support the food projects.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Seed Funding

Funding for Climate Cafe start-up costs.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Bus Services Support Grant

F.A.N Community Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2022

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funding for the provision of Community Transport.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Food Poverty Grant

Funding towards items supporting the food projects.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Winter Of Wellbeing (Youth) Grant

Funding for the provision of activities for young people through the winter as part of Covid recovery.

Neighbourly Seeds Of Change Grant

Funding for the development of The Lane Community Garden.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Winter Of Wellbeing (CVS) Grant

Funding for the provision of community wellbeing activities through winter as part of Covid recovery.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Summer Of Fun Grant

Funding for the provision of activities for young people through the summer as part of Covid recovery.

WWF Cymru Earth Hour Wales Grant

Funding towards Earth Hour activities.

10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 July 2022.

F.A.N Community Alliance

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 July 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	14,878	10,314
Charitable activities		
Weekly fundraising	7,652	8,329
Raffles	468	847
Fundraising events	3,905	1,088
Grants	57,005	66,379
	69,030	76,643
Total incoming resources	83,908	86,957
 EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Fundraising event expenditure	13,098	1,422
Donations	2,292	1,629
Cleaning & refuse collection	336	496
Equipment leasing	418	250
Licences & subscriptions	1,432	489
Repairs & equipment renewals	29,041	30,635
Equipment purchased	945	3,017
Food & delivery costs	100	3,424
PPE purchased	1,121	1,116
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	10,020	5,001
	58,803	47,479
 Support costs		
Management		
Rent rates and water	283	166
Insurance	2,689	1,500
Light and heat	(149)	1,800
Telephone	738	2,415
Postage and stationery	568	952
Carried forward	4,129	6,833

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

F.A.N Community Alliance

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 July 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Management		
Brought forward	4,129	6,833
Sundries and staff training	2,713	263
Computer costs	80	797
	<u>6,922</u>	<u>7,893</u>
Finance		
Bank charges	83	-
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	2,040	1,440
	<u>67,848</u>	<u>56,812</u>
Total resources expended		
	<u>16,060</u>	<u>30,145</u>
Net income		

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

F.A.N COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

England & Wales - Charity number 1185440

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1185440

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 July 2021
for
F.A.N Community Alliance

Ashmole & Co
151 Windsor Road
NEATH
SA11 1NU

F.A.N Community Alliance

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 July 2021

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F.A.N Community Alliance

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 July 2021

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 31 May 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

J Knight

I Knight - Trustee

F.A.N Community Alliance

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 July 2021

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1185440

Principal address

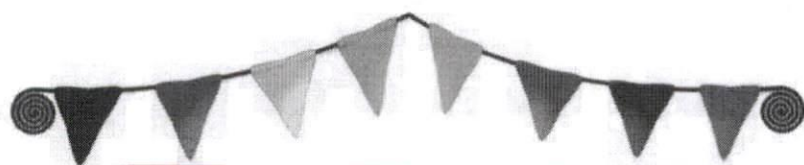
12 Ethel Street
Neath
West Glamorgan
SA11 1BB

Trustees

I Knight
L D Wilyeo
L Rawlings
S Tipping
E Knight
A Morgan
M Sparks
D Phillips
E Bevan
C Murphy
E J Sharp
J Gill
M Gill
L Downman
S Rawlings
M Taylor (resigned 18/5/21)
S Rawlings

Independent Examiner

Ashmole & Co
151 Windsor Road
NEATH
SA11 1NU



F.A.N

Community Alliance

Charity No. 1185440

12 Ethel St, Neath, SA11 1BB



TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

August 2020-July 2021

Your Trustees 2020 - 2021

(Extended duration due to AGM shift to May)



Officers

Irene Knight - Chair Person

Lillian Dawn Wilyeo - Vice Chair

Louise Rawlings - Secretary

Sarah Tipping - Treasurer

Emma Knight - Environment Officer

Amy Morgan - Woodland & Garden Lead

(Officers remain in post for 2 years and are appointed by the trustees following an AGM)

Megan Sparkes

John Gill

Mair Gill

Dorothy Phillips

Elizabeth Bevan

Linda Downman

Elizabeth Jean Sharp

Sharon Rawlings

Cheryl Murphy

Shay Rawlings (appointed Jan 2020)

Michele Taylor (resigned May 2021)

New trustee appointed May 2021 (exempt from being named publicly)

Trustees are decided by the members at the Annual General Meeting, or may be co-opted by existing trustees if a vacancy arises.

The trustees have had due regard to public benefit and consider that each of the activities that the charity is engaged within helps promote the aims of the charity in respect of the purposes as defined overleaf.

F.A.N Community Alliance is a CIO governed by a constitution adopted 15th September 2019

Our Vision

We intend to create a community that is vibrant and bustling; where everyone feels included and able to participate; where people take responsibility and respect each other and their environment; where residents groups are encouraged to form; and where people have pride in, and ownership of, where they live.

We intend to create strong and resilient neighbourhoods where community spirit soars.

Our Purpose:

"To further or benefit the residents of Neath and the surrounding area (without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions) by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents."

We do this by:

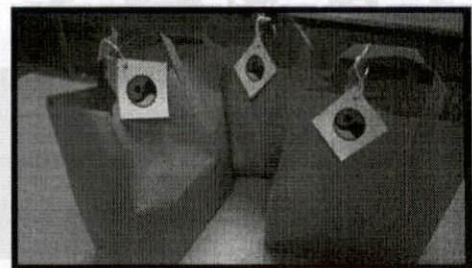
- Holding community events and activities that give people the chance to come together, get to know each other, learn, have fun and remove barriers such as age, gender and background
- Managing and developing the Friends And Neighbour Centre & "The Lane" Community Garden
- Creating access to facilities and opportunities that people face barriers to
- Providing ways for people to participate and volunteer in their local community
- Supporting Mini F.A.Ns Youth Group to achieve their goals
- Promoting environmental awareness, responsibility and sustainability
- Helping to facilitate the formation of residents groups

Covid-19

Although shielding ended at the beginning of the year, 2020-21 was still overshadowed by Covid-19. With restrictions continuously easing and tightening our priority was to remain flexible.



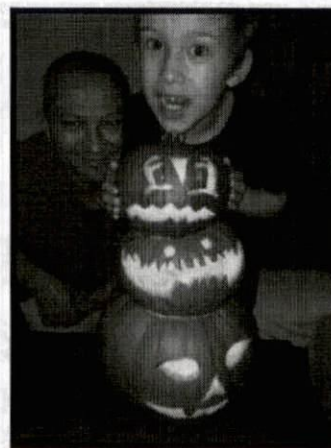
We adapted our food projects that were established during shielding, in order that we could continue to reduce food waste and create a more sustainable model for our activities going forward:



- We created a food club with 26 members, in order to help us redistribute surplus food from Fareshare, whilst ensuring our food bank remained well stocked in case of emergencies.
- With shielding coming to an end, we began offering those who had been receiving meals on wheels from us, the opportunity to come to the FAN Centre for hot food and help them feel comfortable venturing out again. Gradually this opened to the public and became a pop-up pay-as-you-feel surplus café.

With the need to protect our most vulnerable eased, we increased focus on our younger members and families, who had also been suffering the impacts of isolation. Although running children's events at the centre wasn't practical at this point, we regularly delivered free family friendly activity packs to around 20 households (approx. 35 children), along with some zoom sessions, and ran play challenges via social media for National Play Day, National Teddy Bear Day, Halloween, Pancake Day, Earth Hour and Easter, to engage with a wider audience.

Our annual community events restarted and were adapted to the restrictions in place at any given time, to help reconnect (and introduce) people with the FAN that they knew pre-covid.



Financial Summary

Income in 2020-2021 came from the following sources:

Unrestricted - £20,678

- Weekly fundraising with our members and supporters (inc. bonus ball, raffles, local giving)
- Food Club membership - monthly fee which covers Fareshare costs
- Café PAYF donations
- Sales (refills, tuck)
- General donations including from: Nisa (MADL), Amazon and Neath Town Council
- Events - Table top sale & bingo

Our unrestricted funds total £50,916 at the end of the year. Of this, £2000 is kept in reserves to cover the cost of 6 months of bills for the Friends And Neighbours Centre.

Funds will be allocated from this towards the resurfacing of the car park.

Restricted - £66,279

Grants:

- ~Fareshare / Sainsburys £2500 towards food projects
- ~VSEF(2) towards a range of covid adaptations and distanced activities
- ~NPTCBC Food Poverty
- ~ICF & Building Safe & Resilient Communities to purchase an adapted EV
- ~WWF Cymru towards Earth Hour activities
- ~Virgin Media O2 Together Fund for a volunteer "Thank You" celebration & biodiversity project ("Queen Jean's Gardening Party")

Restricted funds carried forward to the next financial year total £70,877.

Charity £564.50 for good causes (see over)

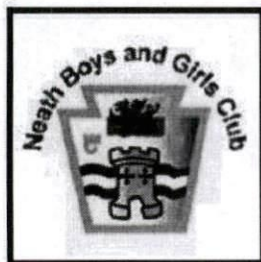
Despite the challenges caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, at the end of our 2020-2021 financial year, F.A.N Community Alliance remained in a good position and continues to be both stable and sustainable. We are confident it will continue as a going concern.

PLEASE REQUEST FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Supporting Neath Boys And Girls Club

In addition to the money we held as custodians, grant funding totalling £21069.96 received by the club was transferred to FAN as their account difficulties had not been resolved.

This grant was spent from our account as authorised by the Neath Boys And Girls Club Committee.



Neath Boys and Girls Club now has access to its own bank account and money FAN held as custodians has now been transferred. In addition, FAN received authorisation from Nisa to donate £1000 of the Heart of the Community Award to the Club.

We remain in support of the project and will help the club's committee in any way we can as it moves forward.

Details of transactions between FAN and Neath Boys and Girls Club along with any expenditure is available on request.

Community Events & Activities

We continued to run events throughout 2020-21, adapting as necessary to the various Covid-19 restrictions in place, whether that meant a smaller than usual capacity and by invite only, events delivered to the doorstep, or engaging virtually.

We were pleased to be able to carry out 3 of our annual charity fundraisers:
 Macmillan (£225)
 Fairtrade Foundation (£83.50)
 WWF Cymru (£256)

This Year We Held:

Table Top Sale
 Regular kids activity packs
 National Play Day Challenge
 Halloween Challenge
 Christmas Biscuit deliveries
 Christmas Pallet Tree Decorating
 Pancake Competition
 Virtual Eco-Challenge
 Earth Hour Candle Lit Dinner Delivery
 & Virtual Quiz
 Pledge Tree
 Easter Activity Hampers
 Macmillan Coffee Morning
 Fairtrade Goody Bag Deliveries
 Virtual Film Screenings:
 "Father Christmas Needs A Wee"
 & "2040"
 Virtual Pancake Flipping Contest
 Neath Town Talk "Take-Over"
 Pop-Up Surplus Cafés
 Eaglesbush Litter-picks
 Charity bingo
 Gentle Exercise Classes
 Queen Jean's 90th Birthday
 Volunteer Thank You Awards
 "Mini" Big Lunches

The FAN Centre was closed over the Christmas and New Year period, but we encouraged the community to decorate Christmas "pallet trees" on the front fence - cared for by our youngest volunteer, age 5, as our Christmas Tree Warden.

We couldn't bring the panto to us this year, but instead paid to have it available for people to watch at home.

Our annual Big Lunch was split into Mini Big lunches and held in the carpark. However, we did all manage to come together to celebrate the 90th birthday of our eldest volunteer, to host the 1st of 3 volunteer "thank you" ceremonies with awards created in her honour!

Towards the end of the year we were finally in a position to restart our desired charity bingo nights and bring back a gentle exercise class.



Friends And Neighbours Centre

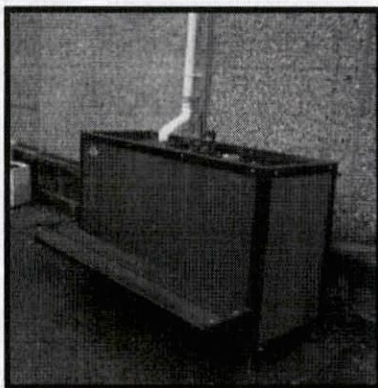
The transformation of the Friends And Neighbours Centre has continued this year and with a focus on environmental sustainability.

The whole of the roof has been replaced with insulated panelling, making the hall noticeably warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer.

Solar panels and storage battery have been installed and from Feb-July have provided over 90% of the FAN Centre consumption.

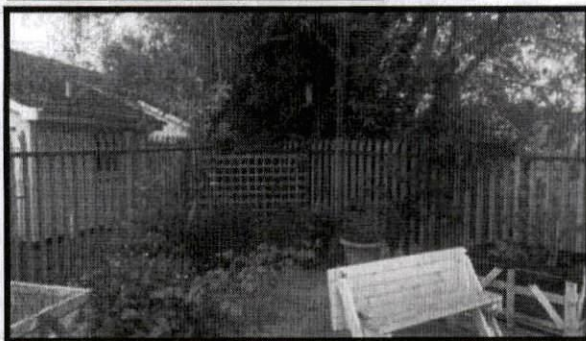
We have purchased an 7-seater electric vehicle, adapted for wheelchair access and installed a charge point. Our solar PV system is not capable of the output required to charge the car, however, it does contribute significantly to it and reduces the costs of charging dramatically.

Two Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) planters, raised beds (currently for wildflowers), and a biodiversity area have been added to the site.

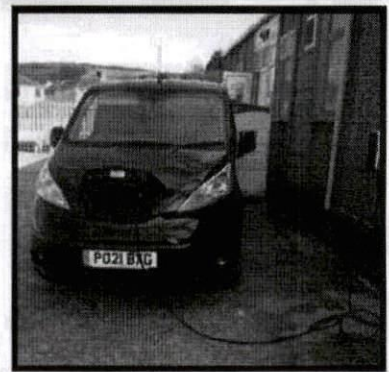


Inside, we have opened our pop-up “pay-as-you-feel” surplus café, which was test run by with a visit from the Lieutenant of West Glamorgan for afternoon tea, who then nominated us for The Queen’s Award (although we weren’t successful).

The FAN Centre is now a Keep Wales Tidy Litter-picking Hub, loaning equipment to the public.



With all the changes we have undergone and covid-19 giving us a new outlook, we have made the decision to end the hiring of the FAN Centre in order to both ensure flexibility and availability for our own projects and also to ease pressures on our volunteers.



Facilities & Opportunities

The facilities and opportunities we create fall into 2 categories.

1. Bringing new experiences to the area:

- In addition to using it for our food projects, our EV is utilised as a low carbon community transport option. It is yet to become fully operational, however has been used on a number of occasions to assist largely with medical appointments.

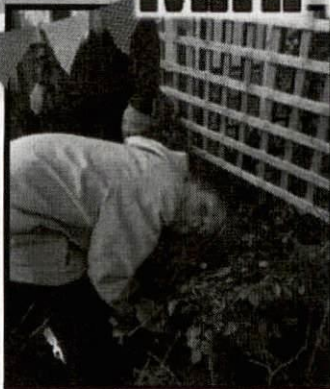
2. Improving equality of access:

- We continue to maintain a 7 day/week food bank provision for Neath East. Although it is used less frequently than at the start of the pandemic, it is still there in case of emergency.
- Our new surplus food club and PAYF surplus café both help to alleviate food poverty, encourage people to try new things (particularly veggie / vegan) and enables them to play a part in reducing GHGs
- We now provide budget friendly, plastic free cleaning product refills as well as menstrual cups to sustainably assist in the alleviation of period poverty.



- We have been fundraising to have the carpark resurfaced, which will improve access for those with mobility problems, amongst other things. Work is due to start imminently.
- Melin Keep Fit For Fun Club has decided to wind up it's organisation and instead sessions will be run by FAN from this point on.

Mini F.A.Ns Youth Group



The current members of Mini F.A.Ns are keen volunteers with an interest in the environment. Although they have not met formally this year, they have been invited to join in with a few activities exclusive to them. This has included:

- * Creating the biodiversity patch at the FAN Centre
- * Space and donated items for them to have a fundraising stall at our table top sale.
- * Virtual group panto screening

We acknowledge we have not done as much as we would have liked with them, but hope they have felt included and able to volunteer alongside FAN in the vast majority of our activities and projects.

Volunteering

F.A.N emphasizes, promotes and facilitates community participation and responsibility. Everyone is involved in our organisation in a voluntary capacity – we have no paid staff. Without volunteers F.A.N would not exist. However, at the same time, many members of our organisation do not consider themselves volunteers in the formal or traditional sense. Volunteering with F.A.N is more of a mindset than a role, as our path is one of “active citizenship”.

Volunteer roles with FAN vary, but could be anything from trustee, cook, litter picker, gardener, event organiser, cleaner, even Santa!

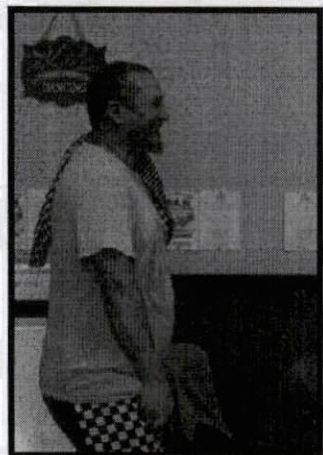
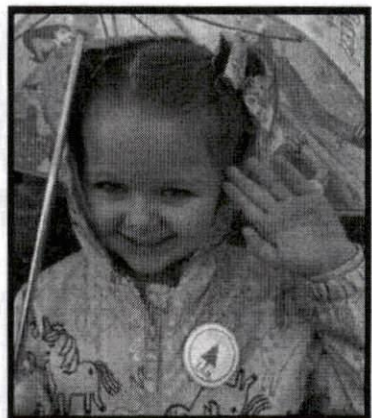
Most of our volunteering roles are fluid with people taking up whichever roles are needed at the time. However, with the introduction of the EV and cafe we now have key volunteer roles that need to be filled on a regular basis.

We have maintained roughly 50 active volunteers throughout the pandemic although there is a risk that this will drop when furlough ends.

We were pleased to be able to celebrate volunteering by giving 90 “Jean Sharp” awards to local volunteers - shining the light on small acts that make the world of difference!

This year, we are signed up with Tempo Time Credits, so for every hour of volunteering, people can now receive access to a range of activities and services.

“Volunteering gives us the opportunity to give back to the community, to make a difference. But also to instil such values in our son and encourage him to continue to volunteer in the future” - Clare



Environment & Sustainability

CLIMATE DECLARATION

"FAN acknowledges the connection between the climate and other environmental crises and the threat of current and future homelessness, disease, food and water shortages and poverty for millions of people around the world, as well as the major damage being caused to our natural eco-systems.

We recognise that we are in a climate & ecological emergency and it needs to be treated as such. We therefore identify that we have a responsibility to reduce our carbon footprint to net zero, along with any other harmful effects our activities have on both the local and global environment by 2025."

To do this we are taking action in 6 areas:

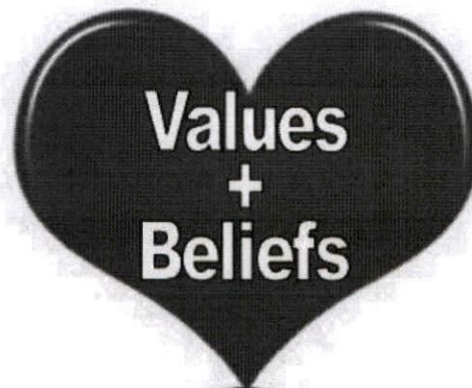
- Reducing Carbon Emissions
- Reducing Water Consumption
- Raise Awareness
- Recycling & Waste Reduction
- Improve Local Biodiversity
- Prepare For A Warmer World

Despite the pandemic, in 2020-2021 we have ensured that dealing with one crisis has not prevented us from making progress on another.

2020-21 has been a busy year for us environmentally. We have made progress on improving local biodiversity both at the FAN Centre and in "The Lane" Community Garden. We now have a new insulated roof, solar PV panels, battery storage and, thanks to the success of 2 additional grants, we now own a Electric Vehicle. We are encouraging the use of our electric car as much as possible to help FAN's volunteers and our members to reduce the use of petrol/diesel vehicles. Our surplus food projects have helped prevent over 24 tonnes of CO2 emissions.

PLEASE SEE ENVIRONMENT OFFICER REPORT FOR MORE INFO & STATS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insulated Roof • Solar PV & Battery • Electric Car 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surplus Food Club • Surplus Café
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional water butts (inc. SuDS Planter reservoirs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Patch at FAN Centre • Wildflower Turf laid in The Lane • Jean Sharp Awards—wildflower patch gift pots
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairtrade Fortnight • Earth Hour activities, inc. 2040 screening • Climate Coalition Declaration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Growing • (insulated roof) • (SuDs Planters)



Community Is At The Heart Of Everything We Do

Everyone Can Be Included

There Is No Generation Gap

Collaboration Opens Opportunities

We Acknowledge The Current Climate And Ecological Crises

We Only Run Projects We Can Believe We Can Sustain

We Do Things For Ourselves, But Seek Help When Needed

Anti-social Behaviour Reduces Further Through Fun Than Sanctions

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report contained herein.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s):

Irene Knight

Sarah Tipping

Name(s):

Irene Knight

Sarah Tipping

Position:

Chair Person

Treasurer

Date:

20th May 2022

20th May 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
F.A.N Community Alliance

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of F.A.N Community Alliance

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of F.A.N Community Alliance (the Trust) for the year ended 31 July 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 D S Morgan
FCCA
Ashmole & Co
151 Windsor Road
NEATH
SA11 1NU

Date: 30 May 2022

F.A.N Community Alliance

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 July 2021

				YEAR ENDED 31/7/21	PERIOD 23/9/19 TO 31/7/20
	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	10,314	-	10,314	1,123
Charitable activities	3				
Community Alliance		10,364	66,279	76,643	95,001
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total		20,678	66,279	86,957	96,124
 EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Community Alliance		6,221	50,591	56,812	24,621
		-----	-----	-----	-----
NET INCOME		14,457	15,688	30,145	71,503
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		36,459	55,189	91,648	20,145
		-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>50,916</u>	<u>70,877</u>	<u>121,793</u>	<u>91,648</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

F.A.N Community Alliance

Balance Sheet
31 July 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	6	-	64,560	64,560	8,176
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	919	-	919	-
Cash at bank		<u>51,474</u>	<u>6,317</u>	<u>57,791</u>	<u>88,697</u>
		52,393	6,317	58,710	88,697
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(1,477)	-	(1,477)	(5,225)
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>50,916</u>	<u>6,317</u>	<u>57,233</u>	<u>83,472</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		50,916	70,877	121,793	91,648
NET ASSETS					
		<u>50,916</u>	<u>70,877</u>	<u>121,793</u>	<u>91,648</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

F.A.N Community Alliance

Balance Sheet - continued
31 July 2021

FUNDS	9		
Unrestricted funds		50,916	36,459
Restricted funds		<u>70,877</u>	<u>55,189</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>121,793</u>	<u>91,648</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 31 MAY 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

J Knight
I Knight - Trustee

S L Tipping
S Tipping - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

F.A.N Community Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 July 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is charged at the following rates in order to write off the value of each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings - 20% reducing balance method
Motor vehicles - 10% of cost price
Computer equipment - 20% reducing balance method

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

F.A.N Community Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2021

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	YEAR ENDED 31/7/21	PERIOD 23/9/19 TO 31/7/20
	£	£
Donations	<u>10,314</u>	<u>1,123</u>

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		YEAR ENDED 31/7/21	PERIOD 23/9/19 TO 31/7/20
	Activity	£	£
Weekly fundraising	Community Alliance	8,329	5,168
Hall hire & parties	Community Alliance	-	5,062
Raffles	Community Alliance	847	240
Fundraising events	Community Alliance	1,088	9,173
Grants	Community Alliance	<u>66,379</u>	<u>75,358</u>
		<u>76,643</u>	<u>95,001</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	YEAR ENDED 31/7/21	PERIOD 23/9/19 TO 31/7/20
	£	£
Covid Grant	-	10,000
Moondance Foundation	-	18,378
Comic Relief Virtual Reality Grant	-	8,280
Neath Town Council	-	200
Community Foundation in Wales	-	2,000
Tesco Bags of Help	-	500
Greggs Bakers	-	500
Welsh Government	-	35,000
Voluntary Service Emergency Fund	-	500
Voluntary Service Emergency Fund	4,849	-
NPTCBC Food Poverty Grant	3,310	-
Third Sector Integrated Care Fund	<u>13,070</u>	-
Carried forward	21,229	75,358

F.A.N Community Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2021

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - continued

	YEAR ENDED 31/7/21	PERIOD 23/9/19 TO 31/7/20
	£	£
Brought forward	21,229	75,358
Building Safe and Resilient Communities-Innovate & Create Fund	39,065	-
Virgin/O2 Neighbourly Grant	1,000	-
Earth Hour Wales	485	-
Voluntary Service Emergency Fund	2,000	-
Neath Town Council Grant	100	-
Fareshare Local Giving Foundation Grant	<u>2,500</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>66,379</u>	<u>75,358</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 July 2021 (31 July 2020 - Nil).

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 July 2021 (31 July 2020 - Nil).

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	1,123	-	1,123
Charitable activities			
Community Alliance	30,143	64,858	95,001
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total	31,266	64,858	96,124
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Community Alliance	13,258	11,363	24,621
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NET INCOME	18,008	53,495	71,503

F.A.N Community Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2021

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	18,451	1,694	20,145
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>36,459</u>	<u>55,189</u>	<u>91,648</u>

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 August 2020	-	-	8,176	8,176
Additions	<u>13,848</u>	<u>47,536</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,384</u>
At 31 July 2021	<u>13,848</u>	<u>47,536</u>	<u>8,176</u>	<u>69,560</u>
DEPRECIATION				
Charge for year	<u>1,384</u>	<u>1,981</u>	<u>1,635</u>	<u>5,000</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 July 2021	<u>12,464</u>	<u>45,555</u>	<u>6,541</u>	<u>64,560</u>
At 31 July 2020	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,176</u>	<u>8,176</u>

F.A.N Community Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2021

7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2021	2020
	£	£
Prepayments	<u>919</u>	<u>-</u>
8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	240
Other creditors	<u>1,477</u>	<u>4,985</u>
	<u>1,477</u>	<u>5,225</u>

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

Purposes of Restricted Funds:

Comic Relief Virtual Reality Fund

To fund the purchase of a Virtual Reality Arcade (computers, head sets, sensors, etc).

Neath Town Council

Funding for a karaoke system.

Roof & Solar Panel Fund

To enable the repair of existing roof and purchase of Solar Panels.

Moondance Fund

Funding to create and operate our main covid-19 support services (street champion network, digital communication & upgrades to the kitchen).

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Voluntary Service Emergency Fund

Funding to contribute towards the cost of resurfacing the car park.

Tesco Bags of Help

Funding to support groups to continue providing services during the pandemic.

Community Foundation in Wales Fund

Funding to get Meals on Wheels service up and running for people shielding.

Air Conditioning Fund

Funding for the purchase of air conditioning equipment for the premises.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Food Poverty Grant

Funding for the development of food projects, including the weekly food club and surplus food cafe.

F.A.N Community Alliance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2021

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Integrated Care Fund Grant

Funding for the "Green Wheels" project, which was the purchase of an electric vehicle for community transport and food deliveries.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Resilient Communities Fund Grant

Funding for the "Green Wheels" project, which was the purchase of an electric vehicle for community transport and food deliveries.

WWF Cymru Earth Hour Wales Grant

Funding towards activities promoting and participating in WWF's Earth Hour, including a film showing, virtual quiz, candlelit meal deliveries, children's activity packs and a creation of a pledge tree.

Virgin/O2 Together Fund (Neighbourly)

Funding for a volunteer awards celebration combined with the creation of biodiversity patches.

10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 July 2021.

F.A.N Community Alliance

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 July 2021

	YEAR ENDED 31/7/21 £	PERIOD 23/9/19 TO 31/7/20 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	10,314	1,123
Charitable activities		
Weekly fundraising	8,329	5,168
Hall hire & parties	-	5,062
Raffles	847	240
Fundraising events	1,088	9,173
Grants	<u>66,379</u>	<u>75,358</u>
	<u>76,643</u>	<u>95,001</u>
Total incoming resources	86,957	96,124
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Fundraising event expenditure	1,422	6,065
Donations	1,629	600
Cleaning & refuse collection	496	1,383
Equipment leasing	250	-
Licences & subscriptions	489	237
Repairs & equipment renewals	30,635	1,621
Equipment purchased	3,017	5,232
Food & delivery costs	3,424	3,095
PPE purchased	1,116	1,040
Tshirts	-	639
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>5,001</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>47,479</u>	<u>19,912</u>
Support costs		

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

F.A.N Community Alliance

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 July 2021

	YEAR ENDED 31/7/21 £	PERIOD 23/9/19 TO 31/7/20 £
Support costs		
Management		
Rent rates and water	166	325
Insurance	1,500	-
Light and heat	1,800	1,414
Telephone	2,415	1,590
Postage and stationery	952	63
Sundries	263	18
Computer costs	<u>797</u>	<u>219</u>
	7,893	3,629
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	<u>1,440</u>	<u>1,080</u>
Total resources expended	<u>56,812</u>	<u>24,621</u>
Net income	<u>30,145</u>	<u>71,503</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements