



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)
- **Eaglesbush 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 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 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 | 3 | | | | |
| FAN Community Alliance | | 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 |
| | | | | | |
| RECONCILLIATION 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 | 9 | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | | | | 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:

I. Knight

Irene Knight – Chair Person

S. 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 |
| | | <hr/> 66,242 | <hr/> 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 | - |
| | | <hr/> 53,135 | <hr/> 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 | 50,916 | 70,877 | 121,793 |
| | Total funds brought forward | | | |
| | | | | |
| | 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 |
|----|--|--------------------|--------------------|
|----|--|--------------------|--------------------|

| 8. | CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR | 2023 £ 439 | 2022 £ 2,051 |
|----|--|------------------|--------------------|
|----|--|------------------|--------------------|

The notes form part of these financial statements

| | |
|----|--|
| 9. | <p>MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</p> <p>Purposes of Restricted Funds:</p> <p>Community Foundation Wales – Older People’s Fund Support and activities for older members of the community</p> <p>Winter of Wellbeing (NPTCVS) Funding for the provision of community wellbeing activities through winter as part of covid recovery</p> <p>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.</p> <p>WWF Cymru Earth Hour Wales Funding towards Earth Hour Activities</p> <p>National Lottery Together for Our Planet Funding to enable and support a series of climate awareness raising events & activities</p> <p>NPTCBC Seed Funding Funding for Climate Café start-up costs</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>Aldi Community Cupboard Funding for items to support our food projects</p> <p>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</p> <p>Seeds of Change Funding for the development of The Lane Community Garden</p> <p>Summer of Fun (NPTCBC Youth Service) Funding for the provision of activities for young people through the summer as part of covid recovery</p> <p>National Lottery Community Fund Funding towards the installation of wall insulation for the FAN Centre</p> |
|----|--|

| | |
|------------|---|
| | <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 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 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 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 7232 | 6,922 |
| Finance | | |
| Bank Charges | 121 | 83 |
| Governance Costs | | |
| Accountancy & Legal Fees | - | 2040 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Total Resources Expended | 80853 | 67,848 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| 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").

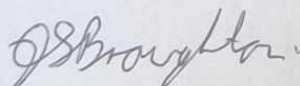
I report in respect of the examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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